

LAIKIPIA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF
ARTS IN RELIGION

REST 719: AFRICAN CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY

STREAM: MA RELIGIOUS STUDIES

TIME: 3 HRS

DAY: MONDAY [12.30 P.M-3.30 P.M]

DATE: 2/02/2026

THIS QUESTION PAPER CONSISTS OF THREE (3) PAGES

PLEASE DO NOT OPEN UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR SAYS SO.

QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY – 30 MARKS)

Answer ALL parts. Each sub-question is 10 marks.

QUESTION ONE

- a) African Christian Theology claims to be both authentically African and fully Christian. Critically analyze how theologians in Africa balance loyalty to Scripture with sensitivity to African cultural worldviews. Provide concrete examples to support your argument. **(10 marks)**
- b) Discuss how Scripture and African cultural experience can work together as sources of Christian theology. Use at least **two specific African cultural practices** to illustrate your points. **(10 marks)**
- c) Evaluate how African images of Jesus—such as Healer, Ancestor, Elder Brother, or Liberator—respond to African concerns about suffering, community life, death, and the afterlife. Give practical examples from African communities. **(10 marks)**

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS ONLY

Each question has **two sub-questions**, and **each sub-question carries 10 marks**.

QUESTION TWO

- a) Analyse the African understanding of community and explain how it can enrich the Christian vision of the Church as the Body of Christ. **(10 marks)**
- b) Discuss how African family structures and communal values can shape a contextual model of Christian Church leadership in Africa today. **(10 marks)**

QUESTION THREE

- a) Compare and contrast the approaches of **inculturation theology** and **liberation theology** in addressing African social and religious realities. **(10 marks)**
- b) Explain how African traditional spiritual practices, such as storytelling, communal rituals, and respect for elders, can contribute positively to Christian spirituality. Provide examples. **(10 marks)**

QUESTION FOUR

- a) Choose one contemporary moral issue affecting African societies and show how African Christian Theology can offer a constructive and culturally grounded response. **(10 marks)**
- b) Discuss the role of African Christian Theology in promoting peace, reconciliation, and healing in communities affected by political instability or ethnic conflict. **(10 marks)**

QUESTION FIVE

- a) Examine the major challenges and opportunities facing Christian–Muslim relations in Africa today. Provide relevant examples. **(10 marks)**
- b) Assess the strengths and weaknesses of interpreting Jesus Christ through African cultural images such as Chief, Elder Brother, or Great Ancestor. **(10 marks)**

QUESTION SIX

- a) Discuss African Christian perspectives on death, judgment, and the afterlife. Explain how these perspectives relate to or differ from traditional African beliefs about the dead. **(10 marks)**
- b) Identify and evaluate any two emerging trends shaping the future of African Christian Theology. Explain their impact on the African Church. **(10 marks)**