

ESO-15

**Bachelor Degree Programme
(BDP)**

**Assignment for students admitted in
July 2025 and January 2026 Sessions**

**Elective Course in Sociology-15
(Society and Religion)**



**School of Social Sciences
Indira Gandhi National Open University
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110068**

ASSIGNMENT

Dear Student,

You will have to complete one assignment for an eight-credit elective course in Sociology. This is a Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA).

It is important that you write answer to all TMA questions in your own words. Your answer should be within the approximate range of the word-limit set for a particular section. Remember, the constant practice while writing answers to assignment questions help you to write better answers to questions in term-end examination.

The TMA is designed to enable you to write answers to different categories of questions. The Assignment is divided into three sections. Section 1 comprises 2 descriptive questions of 20 marks each. Descriptive Category Questions are meant for writing essay type answers, with an introduction and a conclusion. Here, the evaluators have been asked to judge your ability to describe that you know about the topic in a systematic, to-the-point and coherent manner.

Section 2 comprises 4 questions that of 12 marks each. Here, you are requested to first analyse the topic in terms of arguments and explanations and then write the answers in a concise as well as precise manner. The evaluator shall assess your ability to distinguish, compare and contrast, or, present clear understanding of concepts and processes.

Section 3 comprises 2 questions of 6 marks each. These are meant to enhance your skill of recall in brief the relevant/precise information about persons, writings, events, exact definition to terms, or clear understanding of concepts and processes.

The completed assignment should be sent to the Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you as per the schedule given below:

No. of Assignment	Date of Submission	To be sent
July 2025 Batch	31st March, 2026	To The Coordinator of the Study Centre allotted to you
January 2026 Batch	30th September, 2026	

You **a** must **obtain receipt from the Study Centre for the assignments submitted and retain it**. If possible, keep a xerox copy of the assignments with you. The Study Centre will have to return the assignments to you after they are evaluated. Please insist on this. The Study Centre has to send the marks to the SED Division at IGNOU, New Delhi.

Indira Gandhi National Open University
Elective Course in Sociology: ESO-15
Society and Religion
Tutor Marked Assignment (TMA)

Maximum Marks: 100
Weightage 30%

Programme Code: BDP
Course Code: ESO-15
Assignment Code: ESO-15/AST/TMA/2025-26

Answer all the questions.

Section-I

Answer the following questions in about 500 words each. Marks

- | | |
|--|----|
| 1. Explain the evolutionary theories of religion. | 20 |
| 2. Discuss Evans-Pritchard's approach to religion. | 20 |

Section-II

Answer the following questions in about 250 words each.

- | | |
|--|----|
| 3. Discuss the role played by cults in bringing social change. | 12 |
| 4. Discuss Weber's understanding of religion and economy. | 12 |
| 5. Differentiate between secularism and secularization. | 12 |
| 6. Explain the social context of Bhakti movement in north India. | 12 |

Section-III

Answer the following questions in about 100 words each.

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|---|----|
| 7. Who is a priest? | 06 |
| 8. What, according to Van Gennep, are rites of passage? | 06 |