

**THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL STUDIES  
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAMME- LEVEL III  
FINAL EXAMINATION 2024/2025 (SEMESTER II)  
DSU3298 – INTRODUCTION TO SRI LANKAN SOCIETY**



**DURATION: TWO HOURS (02 HOURS)**

**Date: 25. 11. 2024**

**Time: 09.30 a. m. -11.30 a. m.**

**Answer four (04) questions only. Each question carries 25 marks.**

01. Discuss how colonialism influenced the political, social and economic structures of Sri Lankan society, and elaborate on the colonial legacies that continue to affect contemporary Sri Lanka.
02. Describe the impact of ethnic diversity on Sri Lankan national identity and discuss how historical and political factors shape ethnic relations in Sri Lanka.
03. What is the role of caste in modern Sri Lankan society? Do you think caste-based inequalities have diminished or transformed in the current socio-economic context? Provide examples to support your answer.
04. "Religion plays a central role in shaping both unity and division in Sri Lanka." Discuss this statement with reference to the influence of major religions on social cohesion and conflict in Sri Lanka.
05. Describe the structure and role of family and kinship in Sri Lankan society. How are they changing due to globalization and urbanization?
06. Discuss the effectiveness of Sri Lanka's education system in promoting social mobility. Consider both historical development and present-day challenges
07. "Cultural heritage is a double-edged sword in Sri Lanka's development process." discuss this statement with reference to the role of traditional values and practices in shaping contemporary Sri Lankan society.
08. With reference to Sri Lanka's post-independence economic policies, discuss the relationship between economic development and social inequality. Has economic growth translated into better social equity?
09. Write short notes on any four (04) of the following:
  - a. The 1956 Sinhala Only Act
  - b. The role of NGOs in Sri Lanka
  - c. Collective responsibility
  - d. The role of women in Sri Lankan society
  - e. Buddhism and political power in Sri Lanka
  - f. Sri Lanka's diaspora and its influence on local politics

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