

CHUKA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE OF MASTERS OF ARTS

LITT 706: READING MAJOR WRITERS

STREAMS: MA (SB)

TIME: 3 HOURS

DAY/DATE: THURSDAY 7/12/2017

11.30 A.M - 1.30 A.M.

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INSTRUCTIONS:

- Answer **THREE** Questions
- Question **ONE** is compulsory

1. Referring to various issues such as authorship audience, locale, identity issues and the place of women in patriarchal societies in African Literature, discuss the problematic of defining Women Literature from Africa as a field of study. [24 Marks]
  2. Discuss the nature of gender conflict and its impact on character portrayal in Margaret Ogola's *The River and the Source* and Marjorie Oludhe Macgoye's *Coming to Birth*. [18 Marks]
  3. Francis Imbuga's *Aminata* highlights social concerns normally articulated by women writers. Evaluate the efficacy of using a female character as a mouthpiece of his social vision on gender and whether the book can be considered feminist. [8 Marks]
  4. Discuss the conceptual interrelationship of patriarchy and gender oppression in literature by women with reference to any TWO texts studies in this course. [18 Marks]
  5. *So Long a Letter* by Mariama Ba is a literary commentary on "ideal with women who break away from oppression but find themselves caught in social and cultural dilemmas". Discuss the validity of this statement with adequate textual illustration. [18 Marks]
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