

CHUKA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE OF MASTERS OF ARTS

LITT 711: THEORIES AND CRITICISM OF LITERATURE

STREAMS: MA (SB)

TIME: 3 HOURS

DAY/DATE: WEDNESDAY 6/12/2017

11.30 A.M - 1.30 A.M.

INSTRUCTIONS:

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

1. Literacy criticism is central to our critical understanding of the nature and function of literature as an aspect of our intangible cultural heritage. Discuss the validity of this statement by focusing on at least **TWO** theories of literature studied in this course. [24 Marks]
 2. What are the major tenets of psychoanalytic literary theory and how can they be used to bring out the thematic and social visions of Bessie Head in her novel, *A Question of Power*? [18 Marks]
 3. To what extent can one apply the major concerns of Marxist literary theory to highlight the character portrayal of the major figures in *God's Bits of Wood* by Sembene Ousmane? [18 Marks]
 4. *God dies by the Nile* by Nawal El Saadawi is a novel that can be classified as feminist. Using aspects of Feminist Literary Theory argue for or against this assertion. [18 Marks]
 5. Evaluate how narratology as a literary theory can be applied to comment on the narrative design of Ngugi wa Thiong's, *Petals of Blood*. [18 Marks]
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