

UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO – SRI LANKA

FACULTY OF ARTS

FIRST YEAR EXAMINATION IN ARTS – SEMESTER II – 2023/2024

PSC 1202 – Aspects of Sri Lanka's Government and Politics

Time: Two (02) Hours

Answer only **four (04)** questions.

Each answer will carry a maximum of **fifteen (15)** marks.

01. "The Soulbury Constitution of 1947 failed to meet the political aspirations of both the Sinhala and Tamil communities of this country." Critically examine this statement.
02. Discuss the following:
 - a. The impact of the United National Party (UNP) on Sri Lanka's political trajectory during the dominion status period.
 - b. The contribution of the Citizenship Act of 1948 to the institutionalization of ethnic division in Sri Lanka.
03. Critically examine the political and social changes during 1950s and 1960s in Sri Lanka with reference to the following:
 - a. The rise of the intermediate class.
 - b. Post-colonial Sinhala nationalism and the Tamil sub-nationalism.
04. "The 1972 Constitution led to 'political control' over 'public administration' in Sri Lanka." Explain your opinion on this statement.
05. "The changes that took place under the 1978 Constitution were driven by the need for political stability, economic reforms, and a more centralized leadership." Critically evaluate this statement.
06. Explain the following in relation to Sri Lankan political party system:
 - a. Two-party system from 1951 to 1977
 - b. Coalition party system from 1994-2010
 - c. Recent trends in party politics.

07. Either

- A. Examine the factors that led to the transformation of Tamil grievances from conventional politics to violent political activism.

Or

- B. Critically analyze the root causes of the Sri Lankan ethnic conflict.

08. Write notes on any two (02) of the following:

- a. Fundamental Rights in the 1972 Constitution
- b. 13th Amendment to the constitution
- c. Leftist movements in Sri Lanka
- d. The people's struggle of 2022
- e. The general election of 2024
