

**REPUBLIC OF RWANDA**



**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

***NATIONAL CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT CENTER  
P.O.BOX 622 KIGALI***

# ORDINARY LEVEL RELIGION PROGRAMME

Kigali, August 1998

## **I. INTRODUCTION:**

After a deep discussion about this subject the commission decided that the subject can be named as RELIGION. This subject of religion is to contribute in the formation of an integral person.

It will give the student the sense of being and it will also assist in the formation of his conduct so that he may be in close relationship with his creator and the community.

Furthermore it is clear that due to the tragic event of genocide and massacres that took place in our country this subject becomes imperative and a necessity with a special mission in• the formation of conscience especially in the culture of peace, justice and national solidarity.

Lastly this present programme done by teachers and technicians in educational area from different religious beliefs has been prepared in order w harmonizes the structure of previous different religious programmes.

## **II. GENERAL ORIENTATION**

Religious programme has the objective of deepening into the students of ordinary level the fundamentals of their faith, in order w prepare them into the mission of their Religious Faith and so developing their social sense. this programme should contribute progressively in forming an integral person, bringing together faith and cultural values in a social, political and economical life.

In the preparation of this programme the major themes which are in different programmes of different beliefs have been identified and brought together in a unified programme of Religious Education.

The major themes form the structure of this programme. From these major themes we have formulated minor themes according to Christian and Moslem orientation.

So the structure is the same in one programme. But internally the content wi11 be different according to doctrinal belief. But in case of schools offering Christian Religious Education programme they will take it as on programme with the same content and approach, Time will be there to present specific themes which will be integrated in present programme.

## **III.GENERAL OBJECTIVES**

1. To develop into the student the fundamentals of their faith so that they can be at good relationship with God and to adopt an attitude of responsibility in their practical life as believers.

2. To cultivate into the students, positive values helping them to live harmoniously with his community and participating actively in the installation and maintenance of peace and social justice.
3. To help the student to grow in God's LOVE and LOVE of neighbour and to be able to fill free in his faith.
4. To lead the students to understand and accept that the different religious convictions, natural differences (ethnicity, race, sex, religion etc...) and ideological differences are not an obstacle to development, but a source of values which allow man w overcome and build a better society everyday.

### **SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES FOR SENIOR I:**

1. The student should be able to give and communicate in different ways how God has been revealing himself to mankind.
2. The student should be able to understand and explain the mission and life of JESUS / MOHAMED.
3. The student should be able to distinguish different attributes of God from human actions.
4. The student should recognise the position and the responsibilities of man in creation and to fight against selfishness and egoism
5. He should be able to choose and also be able to do God's will in relationship to God and his fellow man.

#### **I. Major Theme: THE REVELATION OF GOD**

- Sub-Themes :** A .Creation  
 B. The word of God in the BIBLE/Q'ORAN  
 C. Jesus Christ.

#### **II. Who is Jesus Christ**

- Sub-Themes :**A. His Birth  
 B. His Life  
 C. His Mission  
 D. His Death and Resurrection

N.B. Moslems MOHAMED : The seal of Prophets

### III. MAN'S RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

- Sub-Themes:** A. The Trinity  
B. Attributes of God  
C. The Law; The ten commandments

N.B. Moslems : The Unity of God, Shahabad attributes of God.

### IV. The Relationship between man and creation

- Sub-Themes :** A. Ail created in his own image.  
B. The dignity of human beings  
C. Man's Responsibility over creation  
D. God's law in relationship with each other  
E. An Introduction about war and peace.

## **SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES FOR SENIOR II**

1. He/She should be able to. enumerate the major religious groups in Rwanda and be able to describe their doctrinal differences.
2. The student should be able to identify and show the major points and elements which make up the mission of the church or Islam and these should, assist him/her in his/her daily life as a believer.
3. This student should grow and try to acquire spiritual growth and good morals in his life as a believer
4. The student should be able to describe the family according to the religious conception and the Rwandese society conception.
5. The student should be able to show the rote and importance of the family in the religious community and in the Rwandese society.

**I. Major-Theme:** Different Religious Doctrines

- A. Christianity : i) Catholicism
  - ii) Protestantism
  - iii) Orthodox
- B. Islam
- C. Religious Denominations/SECTS
- D. Ecumenism
- E. Rwandese Traditional Religion.

**II. The mission of the Church / Islam**

**Sub-themes:**

- A. Foundation of the church's mission in Jesus and the Apostles
- B. The mission of the early church from the day of Pentecost.
- C. The present church and its mission
  - N.B. Moslems: A. Message of Islam in MUHAMED
  - B. Islam and its mission.

**III. Spiritual growth and continual conversion:**

- Sub-themes:**
- A. Repentance and forgiveness
  - B. God's love and love for your neighbour
  - C. Reconciliation

**IV. The family and the society**

**Sub-themes:** A. The Family

- i) The Family as God's plan
  - ii) The Responsibility of family members
  - iii) Problems of the Rwandese family today
  - N.B.: Orphans and widows of genocide and LAIDS
- B) The society
- j) The organisation of a society

- ii) Unity in diversity as represented in the society
- iii) Solidarity in a society.

## **SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES FOR SENIOR III**

1. The student should be able to explain and identify' the different types of calls and vocations in the way of God, their impact in the community and make his personal community.
2. He/She should be able to-explain the nature and purpose of marriage from the religious and traditional point of view.
3. The student should be able to explain human sexuality in general, its consequences, in order to adopt a responsible attitude and behaviour.
4. The student should be able to draw out justice as revealed in the holy scriptures; He/She should deepen God' s justice and make h part of him so that he can manage to practice it in relation to God, neighbours and to the creation at large.
5. He/She should be able to single out different types of violence and their causes and should be able to propose means of resolving conflicts and contribute positively and actively to the restoration of durable peace.
6. The student should be able to describe the eschatological events and live in hope consequently preparing himself /'herself to inherit eternal life.

### **SENIOR III**

#### **I. Major-theme:** Vocation and call

- A. Examples of calls and vocation from the Bible.
- B. Charisms and church ministries
- C. Consecration

- N.B.: Moslems: A. The prophetic mission: The call DA'AWAH
- B. The obligation and recommendation to punish evil.

#### **II. Marriage:**

- A. Knowledge behaviour and respect for human sexuality.
  - N.B.: Psychological attitudes, ASTDS and a strong emphasis on AIDS
- B. Steps leading to marriage
  - i) The choice of a partner
  - ii) Steps to marriage
  - iii) Taboos in marriage

### C. Marriage

- i) Marriage as God's Plan
- ii) Marriage celebration - Traditional
  - Civil
  - Religious
- iii) Rights and duties of partners
- iv) Polygamy + Divorce.

### III. Justice

- A. Divine justice
- B. Human and social justice
- C. Respect for truth and righteousness
  - N.B. Moslems: An introduction to the sharriah.

### IV. Violence and peace

- A: i) Causes of violence
- ii) Types of violence: - Moral
  - Psychological
  - Physical
- iii) Resolving conflicts
- iv) Fighting against corruption and injustices
- v) Peace

- B. i) Internal peace
- ii) Social peace

### V) Eschatology/Unending life.

- i) Death
- ii) The resurrection
- iii) The coming of Jesus Christ
- iv) Judgement.

## **METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH.**

The religious programme of ordinary level has been prepared according to two orientations: Christian and Moslem FAITH

It gives a certain liberty to every religious belief and religious education teacher to orient his teaching in order to reach the same objective as defined in the present programme.

In this programme we have two methodological approaches which have been proposed;

1. Firstly from the unknown situation and human experience which would be clarified by a word of God from the Bible or Quoran.
2. Secondly from the word of God in order to extract the application to daily life eg. political, social and economic.
3. Thirdly before starting a new lesson the teacher is advised to review the major ideas reflected in the previous major themes due to the interdependence of themes.
4. Last but not least leaving alone. Individual work as per student it is imperative that the teacher should try to value group discussion and individual work.
5. Lastly the teachers of religious in the same school should meet regularly to organise themselves into a group in order to harmonize the system of teaching this subject and the method of evaluation.

## **E VALUATION**

In the subject of Religion two types of evaluation or examination are proposed.

- There will be an evaluation of individual work and then testing of team work usually a written work or on the other hand an oral work.
- Every type of evaluation may be predicative, formative and sommative.
- For every theme it is recommended to the teacher to proceed at least at one evaluation in the type and form of his choice.

## **PARTICULAR FACTORS.**

In order to reach the objective assigned for this course of Religious Education a minimum schedule of 2 hours per week is indispensable. Thirdly the fact that religion is a subject which involves theory and practice the teacher and the students should belong to the same religion.

Fourthly from the view that some students have been following a mixed Christian teaching ( ie. CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION).

Which is independent from Religious beliefs the Religious course will be taught by one teacher who has qualified in this field of Religious Education.

Secondly there should be another seminar to perfect this work.

Last but not least this programme should be applicable during the next academic program 1996 - 1997.

Lastly the moral (Ethics) course programme should be prepared to students who do not identify themselves as religious oriented.

## **REFERENCE BOOKS (Bibliographie)**

### ***L SAINTES ECRITURES***

1. La Bible de Jérusalem, CERF 1973
2. Le Coran (Essai d'interprétation de D. MASSON) Gallimard 1980

### ***IL AUTRES DOCUMENTS***

1. Christian living to day, Oxford University 1990
2. Comprendre l'Islam, par Abul'Ma Alrnawdudi, SIP, Coweit 1980
3. Eglise - Mystère, Eglise - Religion, CER 1993
4. Etat de vie : Engagement. Quelques problèmes actuels confrontés à la foi, CER 1993

5. The fulfilment, Oxford University 1990
6. Initiation à la Bible, CER 1990
7. Initiation à l’Islam par Muhammad Hamidullah, Ed Ernst 1977 (Allemagne)
8. Programme de catéchèse pour les écoles secondaires, CER 1992
9. Programme de religion dans les écoles secondaires adventistes
10. The promise, Oxford University 1990
- li. Réconciliation, Programme des cours de religion, BNEP, Kigali; février 1993
12. La voie du musulman, Aslim Edition, Paris 1986 en Kinyarwanda (pour le Tron Commun)
13. “Mwebwe se muvuga ko ndi nde 2” CER 1993
14. “Agaciro k’ikiremwa muntu mu mugambi w’Imana CER 1993
15. Imana yaremye Muntu kubana n’abandi CER 1993.

#### **MEMBERS OF RELIGIOUS COMMISSION**

Chairman : UWIMANA Gabrielle  
 Secretary : Sister NYIR.A.BAGANWA Vénantie  
 Members: RWAMBONERA Francois  
           DUSHIMIMANA Daniel  
           BARINGE Idrissa  
           SEFU WA KWELI  
           NKIZINGABO Jacques  
           RUHAMYA Innocent

# Appendix

## Ordinary level leaver's profile

Upon completion of the O'level of secondary Education, the student should have acquired basic knowledge, skills and attitudes which:

- i) will enable him/her to reason scientifically and logically,
- ii) will enable him/her to reason objectively without succumbing to undue influence on his/her thinking.
- iii) will enable him/her to understand and use the official languages (English, French and Kinyarwanda)
- iv) will help him/her to possess basic knowledge of Mathematics, Science and Technology.
- v) will help him/her to acquire appropriate civic, religious or moral values and physical fitness.
- vi) will develop in him/her a sense of curiosity and creativity.
- vii) will enable the student to fit in the international community.
- viii) will enable him/her to acquire artistic skills and aesthetic values.
- ix) will familiarize him/her with good habits of hygiene with particular emphasis on dangers associated with unsafe sex-for example AIDS.
- x) help him /her to acquire basic knowledge of elementary accounts commerce and agriculture.

**Weekly time-Allocation for Ordinary Level (Tronc commun)**

SUBJECT	1 <sup>st</sup> form	2 <sup>nd</sup> form	3 <sup>rd</sup> form
1. Religion or Ethics	1	1	1
2. Kinyarwanda	2	2	2
3. French	6	6	6
4. English	6	6	6
5. Maths	6	6	6
6. Physics	2	2	2
7. Chemistry	2	2	2
8. Biology	2	2	2
9. Geography	2	2	2
10. History	2	2	2
11. Artistic Initiation	1	1	1
- Music			
- Drawing			
12. Initiation to Economy	2	2	2
- Commerce and accounts			
- Domestic Economy			
- Agri livestock			
13. Political Education	2	2	2
14. S.P.E.	1	1	1
<b>TOTAL : 14 SUBJECTS</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>37</b>

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## ORDINARY LEVEL COMPLEMENT TO RELIGION PROGRAMME

National Curriculum Development Center  
Kigali, Avril 1996

PROGRAMME FOR THE COURSE OF RELIGION IN ORDINARY LEVEL OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

SPECIFIC THEMES COMPLETING PROGRAMME FOR RELIGION

### Specific Objectives and Contents

#### ***A. Protestant Churches***

##### I. Specific Objectives

###### **Senior 1**

The student will be able to

- Give and explain the Ecclesiastical calendar for the year.
- Give the importance of prayer and describe the relationship between to pray and to act.

###### **Senior 2**

The student will be able to

- describe the experiences of the people of Israel and their faith putting into consideration their experiences in our Faith
- describe and accept the usefulness and obstacles of following Jesus Christ.

### **Senior 3**

The student will be able to:

- explain the ministry of the Deacon in the church and its impact in the society.
- describe the different doctrines in the protestant churches in Rwanda and compare them with the tradition of the church and with the early church.
- to show the role of the holly spirit in the growth of the church and describe the spiritual gifts.

## **II. CONTENTS**

### **Senior 1:**

#### **1. ECCLESIASTICAL YEAR.**

- The calendar : - Advent, Time of Noël, Epiphany
  - Time for passion, holy Friday
  - Holy week; Ascension
  - Pentecost; feast of Holy Trinity anniversary of the reformation
  - Feast of the reformation
  - The eternal Sunday
- The difference between the civil calendar and the church calendar
- The importance of Sunday and Sabbath, the seventh day and the first day of the week:

#### **2. THE PRAYER**

- To describe the situations when man should pray
- Acceptance of prayer
- The prayer of Jesus
- To understand that prayer and actions should go together.
- How can we pray

### **Senior 2:**

#### **1.THE EXPERIENCES AND FAITH IN THE OLD TESTAMENT**

- God saves the people of Israel from slavery to basic experiences of the people of Israel.
- Yahweh, Holy and unchangeable God.
- The experience with God in the daily life of the Jews.

## 2. TO FOLLOW CHRIST

What do we understand by following Christ?

To recognize that following Christ means to take risk in life, To recognize that following Christ implies suffering.

### Senior 3

#### 1. THE MINISTRY OF DEACONATE

- The deaconate as a response to the actual needs
- The deaconate in the new testament
- To understand the limited possibilities of handicaps
- How to live with others
- The church and the ministry of Deaconate
- The organisation of small Deaconate projects.

#### 2. THE PROTESTANT CHURCHES IN RWANDA

- To know better the church you belong to
- The tradition of the protestant churches in Rwanda
- The life of Christians in the early church in relation to the life of our parishes today

#### 3. RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT! PENTECOST

- Who is the Holy Spirit?
- The revelation of the Holy Spirit
- The gifts of the Holy Spirit
- The feast of Pentecost
- The Holy Spirit in the profession of faith.

## **B. The Catholic Church.**

### **I. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:**

#### **Senior 1:**

The student will be able to:

- Explain the characteristics of the important periods of the liturgical year and their relationship with the mystery of incarnation.
- To describe the meaning of the sacraments of Baptism and Reconciliation in the Christian life and to live their reality.

#### **Senior 2**

The student will be able to: j

- Show the importance of the lent period and Easter mystery in the Redemption of man and its impact in Christian faith.
- Explain the significance of Eucharist as a sacrament of communion in the church and in personal life.

#### **Senior 3**

The student will be able to:

Identify the different feasts in the Easter period and their messages enabling us to live as witnesses of the Risen Christ.  
Show as a confirmed Christian in the faith how to participate in the construction of the Christian family,

### **II. CONTENTS**

**Senior I:** 1. The liturgical year from advent to Christmas (the period of nativity)  
2. Sacraments: - Baptism  
                  - Reconciliation Penance

**Senior II:** 1. Liturgical year: Lent Easter (Easter period)  
2. Sacrament: Eucharist

**Senior III:** 1. Liturgical year: Liturgical feasts, Ordinary time  
2. Sacrament: Confirmation.