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Preliminary Exam  
Religion in Pre-Modern Society

There are three sections to this exam. Please answer one question per section. You have a total of 5 hours in which to complete the exam.

SECTION I. Religion and society in 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century England

1. How much, and how, did the "Reformation" in England affect the monarch's authority as a semi-sacred personage in his/her realm? (Consider the Reformation era as ending c. 1650.)
2. What made it so difficult for the traditional and even the 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> century church in England to draw a clear line between magic and religion?
3. One of Elizabeth I's first proclamations was against iconoclasm. What was the historical and ideological background to iconoclasm in England, and why would the monarchs have been particularly worried by it?

SECTION II. Church and state in 20<sup>th</sup> century Ethiopia

4. Discuss the intersection between nationalism and Orthodoxy in Ethiopia from the late 1920s to 1974. To what extent was religion a component of Ethiopian nationalism in these years? To what extent was it an impediment to the emergence of an inclusive national identity?
5. How much has the fate of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church in the 20th century been shaped by competition with indigenous Protestant and Catholic churches? What have been some of the effects of that competition?
6. Discuss the interaction between Orthodoxy and Revolution in Ethiopia from 1974 to 1991. To what extent did the EOC Patriarchate engage with popular Orthodoxy? To what extent was it in conflict with those sentiments?

SECTION III. Comparative of 16<sup>th</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> England and Ethiopia.

7. How useful are the terms "Protestant" and "Orthodox" to describe, respectively, the 17<sup>th</sup> century Church of England and the 19<sup>th</sup> century church in Ethiopia?
8. For your purposes and research, what are the most interesting approaches to the history of religion in 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> century England or traditional Ethiopian church history? Discuss at least two authors for each area.
9. Compare and contrast the role of "sacred geography" (sacred places, processions) in the religious practice of early modern England and Ethiopia.