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*(Knowledge for Development)*

**KIBABII UNIVERSITY**  
**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS**  
**2021/2022 ACADEMIC YEAR**  
**THIRD YEAR SECOND SEMESTER**  
**SPECIAL/SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION**  
**FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION AND**  
**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE**

**COURSE CODE: MAP 323**

**COURSE TITLE: RING THEORY**

**DATE: 24/11/2022**

**TIME: 2 PM -4 PM**

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INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES  
Answer Question One and Any other TWO Questions

TIME: 2 Hours

This Paper Consists of 3 Printed Pages. Please Turn Over.

**Question 1 (30 marks)**

- a) Explain the meaning of the following terms as used in ring theory.
- i) Nilpotent element in a ring
  - ii) Idempotent element in a ring
  - iii) Principal Ideal Domain
  - iv) A commutative ring (8 marks)
- b) State any three examples of noncommutative rings (3 mks)
- c) Show that a Boolean ring  $\mathcal{B}$ ,  $x^2 = x$  for each  $x \in \mathcal{B}$  implies  $2x = 0$  (3 mks)
- d) Let  $x$  be a non zero element of a ring  $R$  with unity. Suppose there exists a unique  $y \in R$  such that  $xyz = x$ , show that  $xy = 1 = yx$ . (5 mks)
- e) Determine the idempotents, nilpotent elements and the units of the ring of integers modulo 10 ( $Z_{10}$ ) (6 mks)
- f) Find all cyclic subgroups of the group of units of the ring of integers modulo 24 ( $Z_{24}$ ) (5 mks)

**Question two**

- a) Let  $R$  be the ring of real numbers with unity, and let  $R[x]$  be the polynomial ring over  $R$ . Let  $J = (x^2 + 1)$  be the ideal in  $R[x]$  consisting of the multiples of  $x^2 + 1$ . Show that the quotient  $R[x]/J$  is the field of complex numbers. (12 mks)
- b) Let  $f: R \rightarrow S$  be a homomorphism of the ring  $R$  into a ring  $S$ . Show that the set  $\{f(a) | a \in R\}$  is a subring of  $S$  (8 mks)

**Question three**

- a) Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with identity.
- i) Show that if  $e$  is an idempotent element of  $R$ , then  $1 - e$  is also idempotent. (6 mks)
  - ii) Show that if  $e$  is an idempotent element of  $R$  then  $R \cong Re \oplus R(1 - e)$  (14 mks)

**Question four**

- a) Show that the ring of Gaussian integers  $R = \{m + n\sqrt{-1} | m, n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  is a Euclidean ring if we set  $\phi(m + n\sqrt{-1}) = m^2 + n^2$  (12 mks)
- b) Let  $A$  and  $B$  be ideals in  $R$  such that  $B \subseteq A$ . Show that  $R/A \cong (R/B)/(A/B)$  (8 mks)

**Question five**

- a) Find  $q(r)$  and  $r(x)$  in  $Z_5[x]$  if  $g(x) = 2x^3 + 3x^2 + 4x + 1$  is divided by  $f(x) = 3x + 1$ . (8 mks)
- b) Determine whether or not the following polynomials are irreducible over  $Z_5$
- i)  $f(x) = x^3 + 2x^2 - 3x + 4$  (6 mks)
  - ii)  $g(x) = x^2 + 3x + 4$  (6 mks)