



**COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, THEOLOGY, HUMANITIES & EDUCATION**

**NHIR 426: Government and Politics in Global Perspective**

**END OF SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS**

**NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2025**

**LECTURER: DR A.M. RUSERO**

**DURATION: 3 HOURS**

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***INSTRUCTIONS***

1. This paper contains **TWO** sections (A and B).
  2. Section A is **COMPULSORY**.
  3. Answer **ANY TWO (2) questions** from Section B.
  4. Start each question on a new page in your booklet.
  5. Do not repeat material.
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## SECTION A: COMPULSORY

### INSTRUCTION: *Answer Question 1.*

#### Question 1

Ibrahim Traoré is a Burkinabé military officer and politician who has served as the interim President of Burkina Faso since 2022. Traoré took control of Burkina Faso in September 2022, ousting interim president Paul-Henri Sandaogo Damiba in a coup d'état. Traoré has invoked the legacy of Thomas Sankara in his anti-colonial rhetoric—renaming streets, inaugurating Sankara's mausoleum, and spotlighting local culture (e.g., fasodanfaniattireincourts). He's sharply rejected Western influence, expelling French troops, cutting ties with France's media (RFI, France 24), and turning to self-reliance. His administration has aggressively nationalized gold mining, created a state-owned mining company (SOPAMIB), and is building a gold refinery to capture more domestic value. Beyond mining, significant local industrial development is underway—factories for tomato processing, a cement plant, a flour mill, and a pharmaceutical plant producing essential medicines.

Traoré's government distributed tractors, pumps, tillers, and motorcycles to farmers. Production surged: tomatoes from 315,000 to 360,000 t, millet from 907,000 to 1.1 million t, rice from 280,000 to 326,000 t between 2022–2024. Rural communities gained land rights and recognition. He's also initiated anti-desertification programs and malaria campaigns—planting trees and distributing mosquito nets. Burkina Faso—aligned with Mali and Niger—formed the Alliance of Sahel States, rejecting ECOWAS and fostering military cooperation with Russia and Turkey. The creation and expansion of the Volunteers for the Defense of the Homeland (VDP) bolstered internal security—recruiting tens of thousands to support counter-insurgency efforts.

The country's GDP reportedly rose from \$18.8 billion to \$22.1 billion, showing some economic growth. However, violence has surged: jihadist-related fatalities and attacks have sharply increased since Traoré took power. In 2024 alone, militant attacks nearly doubled from earlier years, with thousands killed and over 3,000 violent events reported. Some sources estimate territory outside government control remains as high as 60%, with millions displaced, and 6 million in need of humanitarian aid. Traoré has deferred elections until 2029, suspended the constitution, and suppressed dissent—stifling media, civil society, trade unions, and opponents. These efforts are largely viewed as indicators of Africa's decolonial turn.

You have been invited by the Institute of Pan African Narratives (IPAN) to give a public lecture entitled Ibrahim Traore of Burkina Faso – Africa's moment of *a Decolonial Turn*. Provide the outline of your presentation focusing on the following sub themes:

- i. Context
- ii. Africa and the legacies of colonialism
- iii. Africa and the ongoing geo-political reconfigurations
- iv. Ibrahim Traore and the radical transformation of Burkina Faso

- v. Burkina Faso – In the colonial matrix of power
- vi. Conclusion [40 marks]

## **SECTION B**

**INSTRUCTION: Answer ANY TWO (2) questions.**

### **Question 2**

Examine ways in which South Africa's G20 leadership will revitalize Africa's agency. [30 marks]

### **Question 3**

With reference to the DRC, evaluate SADC's preparedness in resolving interstate conflicts in the region. [30 marks]

### **Question 4**

Analyse the implications of social media to government and politics in global perspective. [30 marks]

### **Question 5**

Explain the link between religion and conflict in Africa. [30 marks]

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**END OF PAPER**