

YOUNG MEN'S BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION
COLOMBO – SRI LANKA
2557 – DHAMMA EXAMINATION – 2013

Name:..... Index No:.....

Grade – Diploma

Date: 30th June 2013

Subject – Dhamma

Time: 3 hours

Answer any FIVE questions.

(20 marks for each question)

1. Enumerate the Four Foundations of Mindfulness (Sati patthana) and explain ONE of them.
2. “All living beings have actions (kamma) as their own, their inheritance, their congenital cause, their kinsman, their refuge. It was Kamma that differentiates beings into low and high states.” (culla kamma vibhanga Sutta). Elaborate and explain this statement.
3. “Buddhism stands unique in the history of religions in denying the existence of a Soul, Self or Atman.” Explain this statement in relation to the Buddhist Doctrine of “No-soul” (Anatta).
4. Discuss how Morality consisting in the Purity of Livelihood (Ajiva parisuddha Sila) may be practised, respectively, by a Bhikkhu and a lay householder.
5. Identify the main differences between Mahayana and Theravada Buddhism.
6. What are the Seven Stages of Purity (Satta Visuddhi)? Explain ONE of them.
7. Discuss the qualities and achievements of the Buddha as a Social Reformer.
8. Write short notes on any FOUR of the following.
 - (i) Bodhisatva (Aspirant to Buddhahood)
 - (ii) Personality View (Sakkaya ditthi)
 - (iii) Parami or Paramita (Perfection)
 - (iv) Volition (Cetana)
 - (v) Tranquility meditation (Samatha Bhavana)
 - (vi) Aggregates (kandha)
9. Explain the meaning of the following Dhammapada stanza and comment on the Moral contained therein:

239. Anupubbena medhavi – thoka thokam khane khane

Kammaro raja tassa eva – niddhme malam attano

10. Discuss the importance of Insight Meditation (Vipassana Bhavana) as the last step of the path to Nibbana.

(20 marks for each answer)