

**YOUNG MEN'S BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION
COLOMBO – SRI LANKA
2558 – DHAMMA EXAMINATION – 2014**

Grade – Higher Diploma
Subject – Dhamma

Date: 29th June 2014
Time: 3 hours

(Answer any Five questions)

1. Outline the religious background of India at the time of the Buddha.
2. Briefly discuss the political system of India at the time of the Buddha.
3. Examine the factors that persuaded the Buddha to promulgate Vinaya rules.
Why did the Buddha hesitate despite proposals of the Senior Arahats?
4. Discuss the Buddhist approach to material wealth.
5. Buddhism is described by writers as a “System of Ethical Earnestness”.
Discuss the validity of this statement.
6. Discuss the place of Gods (Deva) in Buddhism.
7. Summarise the content of ONE of the following Suttas:
 - (a) Brahmajala Sutta
 - (b) Agganna Sutta
 - (c) Kutadanta Sutta
 - (d) Dhammika Sutta
8. Discuss the main differences between Theravada and Mahayana doctrines.
9. Write an account of the Buddhist Ritual of Paritta.
10. Write short notes on any THREE of the following:
 - (a) Koan (in Zon Buddhism)
 - (b) Dalai lama (in Tebetan Buddhism)
 - (c) Bodhisata Bhumi (in Mahayana Buddhism)
 - (d) Sotapanna (the Stream Winner)
 - (e) Nagarjuna (Madhyamika philosopher)
 - (f) Parajika (Vinaya rule)