

Subject Code: 07

31 August 2017

MALAYSIAN BUDDHIST EXAMINATION SYNDICATE

44th MALAYSIAN BUDDHIST EXAMINATION

(Higher Stage)

THE LIFE OF THE BUDDHA, THE DHAMMA, THE SANGHA

Time: 3 hours

1. There are 9 questions in this paper, divided into Sections A, B and C.
2. Candidates are required to answer 2 questions from each section.
3. Answers should be to the point.

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SECTION A

1. The Buddha is often mentioned in the commentaries as the “Unique Being”.
What are the unique qualities and virtues of the Buddha that make Him excel above all other beings. Support your answer with evidence from the Pali Canon.
2. The Buddha was also known as the Physician (Abhissako).
In what way was he a physician or doctor? Illustrate your answer with details from the Suttas.
3. Explain fully what the Buddha had achieved in His 45 years of Sasana work.
Explain clearly how His effort had paved the way for the spread of the Dhamma after His Mahaparinibbana to the present day.

SECTION B

4. What are the Four Noble Truths?
Explain how the end of suffering of birth, old age, sickness and death is brought about through an understanding and penetration of these Truths.
5. In the Sigalovada Sutta, the six directions of North, South, East, West, Nadir and Zenith are mentioned representing the various duties and responsibilities of a man.
Explain clearly these duties and responsibilities.
6. What are the Seven Factors of Enlightenment?
Explain clearly how these Seven Factors of Enlightenment can lead us to enlightenment and the realization of Nibbana.

SECTION C

7. What are the nine virtues of the Sangha?
Explain clearly these nine virtues with illustrations from the Pali Texts.
8. Describe clearly how the Venerable Sariputta Thero came to realize and accept the Buddha’s teaching as uttered in verse by Venerable Assaji Thero.
Describe a major incident in his life to illustrate that he was a very filial son and show how he repaid his parents’ kindness before he attained Parinibbana.
9. Explain in detail the qualities and virtues of Venerable Ananda Thero that enabled him to serve the Buddha as His “Upathayaka” (attendant monk) until the Buddha’s Mahaparinibbana.

THE END