

MALAYSIAN BUDDHIST EXAMINATION SYNDICATE

47th 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 a total of **6 questions**, by choosing 2 questions from each section.
3. Answers should be to the point.

DO NOT TURN OVER THE PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO

SECTION A

1. The Buddha was known as “Amatassa Data” (Giver of Deathlessness). Explain clearly the nine virtues of the Buddha and elaborate why He is known as “Giver of Deathlessness” with support from the Jatakas.
2. Explain fully what the Buddha had achieved in His 45 years of Ministry. How did His efforts pave the way for the spreading of the Dhamma after His Mahaparinibbana until the present day?
3. The Buddha was once asked why he had not explained the origin of the world. He gave his reply in the Culamalunkya Sutta in the Majjhima Nikaya. Discuss the reply given by the Buddha in the context of this Sutta.

SECTION B

1. What is the Law of Dependent Origination?
Describe clearly how the Dependent Origination explains the suffering of birth, old age, sickness and death.
2. In the Sigalovada Sutta, there are six directions: North, South, East, West, Nadir and Zenith. Explain briefly the meaning of these six directions.
In the Eastern direction is the son’s duties towards his parents.
What are these duties? Explain in detail with support from the Jatakas.
3. What are the Seven Factors of Enlightenment?
Explain how these Factors of Enlightenment will lead us to the realization of Nibbana.

SECTION C

1. Describe how the Venerable Sariputta came to realize and accept the Buddha’s teaching as uttered in the short verses by the Venerable Assaji.
Describe a major incident to illustrate that he was a filial son in repaying his parents’ kindness before he attained Nibbana.
2. Explain clearly the principle life event of Arahant Sivali when he went on almsround with the Buddha.
What parami had he cultivated in his past life? Illustrate your answer with support from the Jatakas.
3. What are the nine virtues of the Sangha?
Elaborate on each of these nine virtues of the Sangha with evidence from the Jatakas.

THE END