

MALAYSIAN BUDDHIST EXAMINATION SYNDICATE

48th MALAYSIAN BUDDHIST EXAMINATION

(Senior Stage)

THE LIFE OF THE BUDDHA, THE DHAMMA, THE SANGHA

Time: 2 hours

1. There are **20** objective questions in **Section 1** and **12** essay type questions in **Section 2**.
2. For **Section 1**, answer **all** questions. Choose only **1** answer for each question. Mark the correct answer on the separate answer sheet provided. If you wish to change your answer, erase completely the choice you have made earlier and mark your new answer.
3. For **Section 2**, answer only **4** questions. Choose only **1** question from each part.

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

SECTION 1

1. “This royal lineage is yours, O King; mine is the Buddha lineage.” The Buddha said this to _____.
 - A. King Suddhodana
 - B. King Pasenadi
 - C. King Bimbisara
 - D. King Kosala
2. Every Sutta of the Pali Canon begins with “Evam me sutam....” meaning “Thus have I heard...” Whom does the “I” refer to?
 - A. Venerable Ananda
 - B. Venerable Mahakassapa
 - C. Venerable Sariputta
 - D. Venerable Upali
3. Who was the last convert of the Buddha?
 - A. Venerable Sati
 - B. Venerable Sariputta
 - C. Venerable Subhadda
 - D. Venerable Sivali
4. Which disciple exchanged his robe with the Buddha?
 - A. Venerable Anuruddha
 - B. Venerable Moggallana
 - C. Venerable Sariputta
 - D. Venerable Mahakassapa
5. Prince Siddhattha renounced his princely life in search of _____.
 - A. the meaning of life
 - B. freedom from suffering
 - C. supernormal power
 - D. love and peace
6. According to Theravada Buddhism, there are _____ planes of existence.
 - A. 6
 - B. 16
 - C. 31
 - D. 32
7. The Buddha preached that the individual is composed of the Five Aggregates. The Pali term of Five Aggregates is _____.
 - A. Panca Sila
 - B. Panca Khandha
 - C. Panca Nivarana
 - D. Panca Indriya
8. If there is no self, that which reaps one’s kamma is _____.
 - A. Cetana
 - B. Sanna
 - C. Sankhara
 - D. Vedana
9. One who practises the Viriya Paramita is very _____.
 - A. diligent
 - B. generous
 - C. honest
 - D. selfless
10. The practice of loving-kindness meditation will help to eradicate _____.
 - A. greed and hatred
 - B. anger and hatred
 - C. ignorance and stupidity
 - D. sense desire and greed
11. In the Paticcasamuppada, what conditions Viññana to arise?
 - A. Avijja
 - B. Sankhara
 - C. Namarupa
 - D. Salayatana
12. The practice of Dana will help to eradicate _____.
 - A. jealousy
 - B. ill-will
 - C. greed
 - D. delusion

13. During the First Buddhist Council who recited the Dhamma?
 A. Venerable Upali
 B. Venerable Ananda
 C. Venerable Kassapa
 D. Venerable Anuruddha
14. “He who does not support his parents, he is the cause of his own downfall” This is taught in the _____.
 A. Kalama Sutta
 B. Mangala Sutta
 C. Parabhava Sutta
 D. Vasala Sutta
15. The Buddha always referred to Himself as _____.
 A. Araham
 B. Bhante
 C. Bhagava
 D. Tathagata
16. A Sotapanna has eradicated _____.
 I. self-illusion
 II. adherence to wrongful rites and rituals
 III. doubt about the Triple Gem
 IV. Nibbana
17. The First Buddhist Council was held to _____.
 I. settle dispute of 10 unlawful Vinaya points
 II. recite the Dhamma
 III. recite the Vinaya
 IV. identify bogus monks
18. What is the essence of the Buddha’s teaching?
 I. Do Good
 II. Avoid Evil
 III. Purify the Mind
 IV. Meditate on loving kindness
19. What is taught in the Mangala Sutta?
 I. To associate with the wise
 II. To have much learning
 III. To be righteous in conduct
 IV. To support father and mother
20. Which of the following are NOT teachings of the Buddha?
 I. Cause and Effect
 II. Ignorance is the third cause
 III. Three Characteristics of Life
 IV. Nibbana is the highest plane of existence

For Questions 16 to 20, choose

SECTION 2

PART A

1. Describe clearly the major events that happened in the life of the Buddha to illustrate that he had served humanity selflessly during his forty-five years of ministry.
2. In the Nava Guna Gatha (Nine Virtues Stanza), explain briefly the nine virtues of the Buddha. Elaborate on two incidents which illustrate his quality as “Satha Devamanussanam”.
3. What are the Four Sights? What is their impact on the Buddha’s view of life?

PART B

4. What are the virtues of the Dhamma? How does the practice of the Dhamma lead to Self-realization of the Truth?
5. What is the Buddha’s teaching on Cause and Effect? How does this teaching relate to our lives?
6. What is the Law of Dependent Origination? Explain clearly how this leads to the Cessation of Suffering.

PART C

7. Explain the nine virtues of the Sangha. Elaborate on the role of the Sangha as a field of merit.
8. Who is Venerable Mahakassapa? Describe his role in the First Buddhist Council and highlight its importance in the history of Buddhism.
9. Who nursed the infant Bodhisatta after his mother, Queen Maha Maya passed away? What role did she play in the formation of the Bhikkhuni Sangha?

PART D

10. What are the Five Precepts? What are the conditions for breaking the fourth precept? Why is it difficult to uphold this precept?
11. What are the 11 benefits of loving kindness meditation? Explain clearly how to practise loving-kindness meditation to a beginner.
12. What is the Buddhist teaching on gratitude? Support your answer with examples from the Suttas.

THE END