

**MALAYSIAN BUDDHIST EXAMINATION SYNDICATE**

**50<sup>th</sup> MALAYSIAN BUDDHIST EXAMINATION**

**(Higher Stage)**

**THE LIFE OF THE BUDDHA, THE DHAMMA, THE SANGHA**

Time: 3 hours

1. This paper consists of **12 Questions** divided into **Sections A, B, C and D**.
2. Candidates are required to answer **5 Questions**.
3. It is compulsory to answer **1 Question from each Section**.
4. For your **5<sup>th</sup> Question**, you can choose from **any Section**.
5. Answers should be relevant to the question.

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## Section A

1. What are the ten paramitas that a Bodhisatta has to cultivate to achieve perfect Buddhahood?  
Illustrate with a story from the Jatakas on how the Buddha cultivated the paramita of patience.  
Choose 1 paramita that you like and explain how to practise it in your life.
2. Describe in brief the 4 major events in the life of the Buddha.  
Explain the event that is most significant and led to the Buddha's 45 years of selfless missionary work.  
Link the 4 places of pilgrimage significant to these 4 major events.
3. Give a brief account of the Third Buddhist Council and highlight its importance in the history of Buddhism.  
State in your answer when and where the Third Buddhist Council took place.  
Who initiated this Council and the reason why it was held.

## Section B

4. What are the Six Virtues of the Dhamma?  
Explain the purpose of recollecting these virtues in our daily practice.  
Which virtue of the Dhamma is most important and why is it so important?
5. What are the Four Noble Truths? Explain in detail the Fourth Noble Truth.  
How does the Fourth Noble Truth benefit our lives?
6. Do no evil  
Cultivate Merit  
Purify one's mind  
This is the teachings of the Buddhas.  
Explain this Dhammapada verse from the perspective of kamma.

## Section C

7. What are the nine virtues of the Sangha?  
Explain briefly these virtues and the purpose of recollecting these virtues in our daily practice.  
Pick one virtue that will help you to enhance your faith in the Sangha and explain how.
8. What are the special qualities and virtues of Venerable Ananda which led to his becoming the Chief Attendant of the Buddha.  
What is Venerable Ananda's role in the formation of the Bhikkhuni Order or Nuns Order?
9. Describe the virtues and qualities of Visakha which qualified her as the chief female lay disciple of the Buddha.  
What significant role did she play in the dispensation of the Buddha?

## Section D

10. Explain clearly the 5 Precepts.  
How should we practise when we break the precepts?  
In your opinion which precept is most significant and explain why.
11. Illustrate the importance of filial piety and gratitude in Buddhism.  
How should we repay our parents according to the Suttas?  
Describe an event that illustrated this virtue either expressed by the Buddha or by his chief disciple.
12. What are the 2 types of meditation taught in Buddhism?  
Explain briefly Vipassana meditation.  
How does this type of meditation help us overcome suffering?

**THE END**