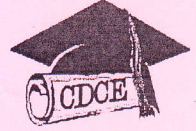




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GENERAL DEGREE EXAMINATION IN ARTS (EXTERNAL) – DECEMBER 2018  
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BUDDHIST PHILOSOPHY - I / බෞද්ධ දර්ශනය I - (BPG-1)  
(Ethics and Psychology)

Answer **FIVE** questions only,

Selecting at least **two questions** from each section.

(The total number of questions in this paper is 10)

(Three Hours)

**PART - I**

1. 'Discuss the Buddha's moral critique regarding the religious practices that prevailed in pre-Buddhist India.
2. Explain the role of ethics in Buddhism with reference to the specific terms in Buddhism having an ethnical meaning.
3. "Morality purifies wisdom and wisdom purifies morality" clarify this statement.
4. Is it proper to say that Buddhism approves of a hedonistic theory of ethics? Give reasons for your answer.
5. Examine whether it is possible to explain Buddhist ethics in terms of the philosophical theories of ethics called utilitarian and deontological theories.

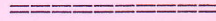
**PART - II**

6. "It is to a psychological account of human life that the Four Noble Truths of Buddhism are primarily relevant." Discuss.

PTO ...



7. Discuss the psychological significance of the Buddhist concept of *papañca*.
8. Is it possible to comprehend the nature of the human mind in terms of the analysis of 'mind and matter' (nāma-rūpa) in Buddhist philosophy. Discuss.
9. Examine psychological characteristics in classification of persons in Buddhist teachings.
10. Write an account on the nature of emotions from the Buddhist perspective.







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BUDDHIST PHILOSOPHY - II / බෞද්ධ දර්ශනය- II - (BPG - 2)  
**(History of Buddhist Philosophy: Comparison and Application)**

Answer **five** questions only.

(The total number of questions in this paper is 10.)

(Three Hours)

1. "The advent of Buddhism was a critical response to the contemporary religious and philosophical views." Examine.
2. Compare and contrast the moral causation of the teachings of the Buddha with that of the pre-Buddhist teachings.
3. "All the teachings of the Buddha are expounded based on suffering and the way out of suffering." Discuss.
4. Elucidate the practical implications of the Four Noble Truths shown in the teachings of the Buddha.
5. "Buddhism does not justify either strict determinism or extreme free-will." Comment.
6. Discuss with reference to early Buddhist discourses the significance of understanding the relationship between mind and body in the process of eradicating defiling tendencion.

PTO ...



7. "What Ācārya Nāgārjuna explained by śūnyatā philosophy is dependent arising (pratīyasamutpāda) taught by the Buddha." Examine critically.
8. Make an inquiry into the development of momentariness depicted in the history of Buddhist Philosophy.
9. Discuss to which extent the fundamental teachings of the Yogācāra philosophical tradition are compatible with those of early Buddhist teachings.
10. Write short notes on any **four** of the following:
- I. antarābhava
  - II. bhavaṅgacitta
  - III. trikāya concept
  - IV. bodhisatva concept
  - V. sammuti-sacca and paramattha-sacca
  - VI. ālayavijñāna

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BUDDHIST PHILOSOPHY - III / බෞද්ධ දර්ශනය III - (BPG III)  
(Metaphysics and Epistemology)

Answer **FIVE** questions,

Select at least **two questions** from each section.

(The total number of questions in this paper is 10.

(Three Hours).

**Part - I**

1. Examine the Buddhist critique of God and ultimate reality.
2. Explain how the Theravādins used *Sammuti* (conventional) and *paramattha* (ultimate) analysis to explain the meaning (*attha*) and truth (*sacca*).
3. Explain why both the sensory and the extra-sensory spheres are included in the Buddhist analysis of experience.
4. Examine how Buddhism reveals the no-soul (*anatta*) without resorting to an everlasting element like the concept of *ātman* in the *Upaniṣadic* philosophy.
5. Is *Nibbāna* taught in Buddhism a metaphysical reality? Discuss.

**Part – II**

6. Can *saññā*, *viññāna* and *paññā* be considered as forms of knowledge? Clarify if there are any differences among them.

PTO ...



7. “Buddha is neither a traditionalist (*anussavika*) nor a rationalist (*takkī /vīmamsī*).” Explain.
8. Does early Buddhism draw a distinction between knowledge and belief? Discuss.
9. Discuss the importance of the early Buddhist analysis of the concept of a person in terms of five aggregates.
10. Explain the *abhiññā* (extra-sensory knowledge) mentioned in the Buddhist teachings and discuss the epistemological problems that arise in connection with them.

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