



UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA
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CENTRE FOR DISTANCE AND CONTINUING EDUCATION
දුරස්ථ හා අඛණ්ඩ අධ්‍යාපන කේන්ද්‍රය



GENERAL DEGREE EXAMINATION IN ARTS (EXTERNAL) - DECEMBER 2018
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BUDDHIST CULTURE - I / බෞද්ධ සංස්කෘතිය I - (BCG-1)
(Prescribed Texts)

Answer **any FIVE** questions.

The total number of questions in this paper is 10.

(Three Hours)

1. Examine the Buddhist principles depicted in the Aggañña Sutta.
2. Explain with reference to the Aggañña Sutta how the advent of social institutions took place in a causally related manner.
3. Discuss with reference to the Kūṭhadanta Sutta the characteristics of the Buddhist Path to the Nibbana.
4. Examine the social and spiritual lives illustrated in the Kakacūpama Sutta.
5. Explain with examples the consequences of anger and benefits of loving kindness with reference to the Kakacūpama Sutta.
6. Critically discuss the spiritual and social characteristics of the Buddhist monk that the Sandaka Sutta contains.

PTO ...

7. Explain with reference to the Sandaka Sutta the salient features of the Buddhist practice of holy life.
8. "The Bodhisatva concept included in the Sukhāvativyūha Sūtra is a focal point of devotion." Examine.
9. "The description of the realm of Sukhāvati inspires the human mind towards the realm of pure-land (Sukhāvati)." Discuss.
10. Write short notes on any **four** of the following topics:
 - a. Similes in the Kakacūpama Sutta
 - b. Sukhāvātī realm
 - c. Sacrifice and Giving
 - d. Tolerance
 - e. Monastic life

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BUDDHIST CULTURE -II / බෞද්ධ සංස්කෘතිය II - BCG-2
Schools of Buddhism

Answer any FIVE questions.

The total number of questions in this paper is 10.

(Three Hours)

1. "Various reasons for holding the early Buddhist councils were extant during the very life time of the Buddha." Comment.
2. "The intended outcome of the Buddhist councils was the purification and systematization of dissemination of the Buddha's teachings." Discuss.
3. Compare and contrast the points of view of the Theravāda and the Sarvāstivāda about arahatship.
4. Discuss the basic teachings of the Sarvāstivāda.
5. Explain the main teachings of the Sautrāntika tradition and examine the representative perception (bāhyārtha-anumeyavāda).
6. Justify that the philosophy of śūnyatā taught by the Venerable Nāgārjuna is not nihilism but Dependent Arising (pratītyasamutpāda).
7. Elucidate the imaginary, dependent and consummated natures taught in the Yogācāra tradition and show their relationship with the early teachings of the Buddha.

PTO.....

8. "The concept of the three bodies (tri-kāya) of the Buddha developed gradually in the Mahāyāna tradition." Discuss.
9. Explain the nature and development of the Sarvāstivāda Abhidharma.
10. Write short notes on **four (4)** of the following teachers of the history of Buddhist Philosophy.
- I. Buddhaghosa
 - II. Nāgārjuna
 - III. Vasubandhu
 - IV. Dinnāga
 - V. Asaṅga
 - VI. Dharmakīrti

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BUDDHIST CULTURE -III / බෞද්ධ සංස්කෘතිය III - (BCG - 3)
(Buddhist Culture in Sri Lanka)

Answer any **FIVE** questions.

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

(Three Hours)

1. "The discourses selected by Mahinda thero for preaching Dhamma to the natives of Sri Lanka were sutiable to the religious beliefs of that period." Examine.
2. Critically examine with historical evidences why the Mahāsaṅgha introduces itself as the guardian of the nation.
3. Cite the evidences to justify that the ancient Sri Lanka had a just governance based on the Buddhist state policies.
4. "The aim of the classical Sinhala literature is to uplift the human values upheld by Buddhism." Examine with examples.
5. Introduce the traditional beliefs associated with Buddhist culture in Sri Lanka.
6. Examine the new trends of Buddhist culture that developed during the Polonnaruwa period.
7. Examine the manner of state intervention in resolving the inertricable confusions among the Sangha in Sri Lanka.

PTO ...

8. Explain the Buddhist teachings used by monks in the community development activities in ancient Sri Lanka.

9. Introduce the moral values represented in Buddhist wall painting in Sri Lanka.

10. "The Life pattern of Sinhalese people was fashioned after the Buddhist idea before the colonial period." Discuss.

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