

2025

M.A. 3rd Semester Examination

PAPER : M250314 (MOOCS)

HISTORY OF INDIAN BUDDHISM

Full Marks : 100

Time : Three Hours

*The figures in the margin indicate full marks.
Candidates are required to give their answers
in their own words as far as practicable.*

Group - A

Answer any *nine* questions : $2 \times 9 = 18$

1. How did earlier scholars explain the material and social background of Buddhism?
2. How many *mahajanapadas* existed during Gautama Buddha's lifetime? Name five.
3. What is meant by *mahaparinirvana*?
4. Name five major sources of the Buddha's previous births.
5. To whom did the Buddha preach first and where? How many men and women did he convert there?
6. What are the venerable 'triple gems' in Buddhism?
7. What are the three components of the early Buddhist canon (*tripitaka*)?

P.T.O.

8. What are the 'Four Noble Truths' of Buddhism?
9. Name three female followers of the Buddha famous for their learning.
10. What were the three integral parts of Indian society at the time of the Buddha?
11. Who decided to convene the first Buddhist Council, when and where?
12. Who was Ananda?
13. Who was Devadatta?
14. What were the last words of the Buddha?

Group - B

Answer any *five* questions : 4×5=20

15. What is the recent view regarding the material, social, and cultural circumstances of the rise of Buddhism?
16. Write briefly about Magadha and Kashi *mahajana-padas*.
17. Write a note on the formation of the *Bhikkhu-samgha*.
18. Write briefly on the eight-fold path of Buddhism.
19. What was the Buddha's attitude towards women?
20. Why was the first Buddhist Council convened?
21. What were Ananda's confessions in the first Buddhist Council?

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22. What was the nature of Devadatta's opposition to the Buddha?

Group - C

Answer any *four* questions : $8 \times 4 = 32$

23. How would you explain the material and socio-economic background of the rise of Buddhism?
24. Write an essay on the Buddhist concept of 'no-soul' (*anatman/anatta*).
25. Write an essay on the Buddhist doctrine of non-violence (*ahimsa*).
26. Show how a misogynistic attitude appeared in Buddhism after the death of Gautama Buddha.
27. What was Gautama Buddha's attitude towards, and teachings regarding, socio-economic inequality in Indian society?
28. Write an essay on dissent and protest in early Buddhism, with special reference to Devadatta.

Internal Assessment : 30 marks
