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LEMBAGA PEPERIKSAAN AGAMA BUDDHA MALAYSIA
MALAYSIAN BUDDHIST EXAMINATION SYNDICATE
182, Burmah Road, 10050 Penang,
Malaysia.

Tel: 04-2262690

Fax: 04-2263024 Email: mybuddhistexams@gmail.com

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182, Burmah Road, 10050 Penang.

Tel: 04-2262690 Fax: 04-2263024

Email: mba.hq@mbahq.my

Website: www.mbahq.my

Facebook: www.facebook.com/malaysianbuddhistassociation

Operation Hours:

9am – 5pm (Mon - Fri);

9am – 1pm (Sat)

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182, Burmah Road, 10050 Penang.
Tel: 04-2262690 Fax: 04-2263024

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129, Seang Tek Road, 10400 Penang.

Tel: 04-2287146

Email: ybbmhq@gmail.com

Operation Hours:

9.30am – 6pm (Mon - Fri)□

9.30am – 1pm (Sat)

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Malaysian Buddhist Examination - Scope of Exam (English) PRELIMINARY STAGE

PAPER CODE 01

1. There will be ONE paper of ONE hour duration.
2. The paper consists of 50 questions of the OBJECTIVE type.
3. The questions will be set on the recommended text incorporating the Life of the Buddha, the Dhamma and the Sangha and Buddhist Practices.
 1. **The Life of the Buddha**
From His Birth to His Enlightenment.
 2. **The Dhamma and the Suttas:**

1. A knowledge of:
 - Tisarana (The Three Refuges).
 - Vandana (Homage to the Buddha, the Dhamma, and the Sangha).

- A basic knowledge of:
 - Panca Sila (The Five Precepts).
 - Dasa Kusala Kamma (The Ten Meritorious Actions).

- **The Sangha:**

Brief biographies of the Arahants:

Sariputta, Moggallana, Maha Kassapa, Angulimala, Rahula, Ananda.

- Recommended Textbooks

1. **Buddhism for Beginners:**
Parts I to III by Ven. Narada Thera.
2. **The Way to the Buddha:**
by Ven. P. Pamaratana Nayaka Thera.

3. Textbooks are available at: Penang Mahindarama Buddhist Temple (Free Distribution)
2, Kampar Road, 10460 Penang.
Tel: 04-2825944

JUNIOR STAGE

PAPER CODE 03

1. There will be ONE paper of 1½ hours duration.
2. The paper consists of 75 questions of the OBJECTIVE type.
3. The questions will be set on the text recommended incorporating the Life of the Buddha, the Dhamma, the Sangha and the Suttas, and Lay Disciples and questions on Buddhism and Buddhist Practices.
4. Candidates for the Junior Stage are expected to know the subject matter for the Preliminary Stage in addition to the following:-
 1. **The Life of the Buddha:**
From His Birth to the Mahaparinibbana.
 2. **The Dhamma and the Suttas:**
 1. Atthangha Sila (The Eight Precepts)

2. Dasa Paramita (The Ten Perfections), with at least ONE Jataka Story illustrating each Paramita.
3. Cattari Ariya Sacchani (The Four Noble Truths) - only a superficial knowledge is required.
4. Mangala Sutta (The Discourse on Blessings).
5. **The Sangha and Lay Disciples: (Upasaka/Upasika)**
(as in the Preliminary Stage)
6. Recommended Textbooks
 1. **A Manual of Buddhism:**
only Chapters 1 to 10 by Ven. Narada Thera.
 2. **The Way to the Buddha:**
by Ven. P. Pamaratana Nayaka Thera.
 3. Textbook (a) **only available** at
Sukhi Hotu Sdn. Bhd.
1-T, Jln Gottlieb, 10350 Penang, Malaysia
Tel & Fax: 604-229 4811
Email: shpg@sukhihotu.com / sukhihotu.penang@gmail.com Textbook (b) available at
Penang Mahindarama Temple (Free Distribution)

SENIOR STAGE

PAPER CODE 05

1. There will be ONE paper of TWO hours duration.
2. The paper consists of two sections:
 - Section I: OBJECTIVE TYPE (20 Questions)
 - Section II: LONG QUESTIONS (4 Questions)

Questions will be set on each of the following groups:-

1. The Life of the Buddha and the History of Buddhism.
2. The Dhamma and the Suttas.
3. The Sangha (Arahants) and Lay followers.
4. General Buddhist Practices.

Candidates have to answer ONE question from each group.

5. In addition to the syllabus for the Preliminary and the Junior Stages, candidates for the Senior Stage are expected to know the following:-

1. The Life of the Buddha:

From the Birth to the Mahaparinibbana (in details).

2. The Dhamma and the Suttas:

1. Cattari Ariya Sacchani (The Four Noble Truths) - in details.
2. Kusala/Akusala Kamma (Meritorious/Demeritorious Actions)
3. Kamma and Vipaka (Action and reaction).
4. Panca Nivarana (The Five Hindrances).
5. Rebirth.
6. Karaniya Metta Sutta (Sutta of Loving Kindness).

7. The Dhammapada:

Selections according to the book 'The Way to the Buddha'. Passages for the examination may be changed from time to time. Text used is 'The Way to the Buddha'.

8. The History of Buddhism:

The text used for this section of the syllabus is 'A Manual of Buddhism' by Ven. Narada Thera.

Questions will be set on The Three Councils.

9. RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOKS

1. **A Manual of Buddhism:** by Ven. Narada Thera.
2. **The Way to the Buddha:** by Ven. P. Pamaratana Nayaka Thera.

3. Textbook (a) only available at Sukhi Hotu Sdn. Bhd.

1-T, Jln Gottlieb, 10350 Penang, Malaysia

Tel & Fax: 604-229 4811

Email: shpg@sukhihotu.com / sukhihotu.penang@gmail.com

Textbook (b) available at Penang Mahindarama Temple (Free Distribution)

HIGHER STAGE

PAPER CODE 07

1. There will be ONE paper of THREE hours duration.
2. The paper consists of Six Parts grouped under Three Sections namely:-

- Section A:

1. **The Life of the Buddha.**
2. **The History of Buddhism in India.**

3. Section B:

1. **The Dhamma and Suttas.**
2. **The Sangha (Arahants) and Lay followers.**

3. **Section C: General Buddhist Practices.**

4. Candidates are expected to answer SIX questions, with TWO questions from each section.

5. All questions for this paper will be LONG QUESTIONS and candidates are expected to know, in addition to the above, the material in the syllabuses for the previous three stages.

Details of Syllabus:

- **Section A:**

1. **The Life of the Buddha:**

From Birth to the Mahaparinibbana - in detail.

2. **The History of Buddhism:**

Emperor Asoka and his Missions - in detail.

3. **Section B:**

1. **The Dhamma and the Suttas:**

1. Dhamma (The Teachings);
1. What is Buddhism?
2. Is it a Philosophy?
3. Is it a Religion?
4. Is it an Ethical System?

5. Kamma (Action):

1. What is Kamma?
2. How Kamma works?
3. The nature of Kamma.
4. Kamma Descent and Ascent.

5. Bhava (Life):

1. The Origin of Life.
2. Reasons for believing in Rebirth.
3. How Rebirth takes place.

4. Paticca-samuppada (The Law of Dependent Origination):

1. The Wheel of Life based on this Law.

2. Okasa-Loka: The Planes of Existence.

3. Anatta (The Doctrine of No Soul):

1. Anatta Doctrine.

2. Moral Responsibility.

3. Nibbana (The Departure From Craving):

1. What is Nibbana?

2. Characteristics of Nibbana.

3. The Way to Nibbana:

1. Morality (Sila).

2. Concentration (Samadhi) of Samatha by the method of Meditation.

3. Insight (Vipassana) by the method of Meditation.

4. The Arahant and the Bodhisatta Ideal.

5. Attha-loka-dhamma (The Eight Worldly Conditions).

6. The problems of Life.

7. RATANA SUTTA (The Discourse on Jewels).

8. The Sangha and Lay followers:-

1. Brief knowledge of biographies of all leading arahants in detail.

2. Knowledge of biographies of all leading lay followers in detail.

3. Section C: General Buddhist Practices.

4. Recommended Textbooks

1. **The Buddha and His Teachings:** by Ven. Narada Thera.

2. Textbook (a) **only available** at Sukhi Hotu Sdn. Bhd.

1-T, Jln Gottlieb, 10350 Penang, Malaysia

Tel & Fax: 604-229 4811

Email: shpg@sukhihotu.com / sukhihotu.penang@gmail.com

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