

Q8. How Buddhist text were prepared and preserved?

5

Ans. The Buddha used to give teachings through debate and discussion. Men, Women and children attended these discussions and discussed what they heard. None of his teachings were written down during his life time. After his death, his followers called a council of elders at Vaishali. This council compiled all of his teachings. These complications were known as Tripitaka which literally means the tree baskets to hold different types of text. Firstly they were transmitted orally and then written and classified according to their subject matter and length. When Buddhism spread to new lands like Srilanka, other texts like Mahavamsa and Dipavamsa were written. Many Pilgrims like FaXian and Xuan Zang carried Buddhist texts with them to disseminate the teachings of Buddha.

Q9. Discuss how and why Stupas were built?

(6+4)=10

Ans.

1. Inscription found on the railings and pillars of stupas record donations made for building and decorating them.
2. Some donations were made by kings such as the Satavahanas; others were made by guilds.
3. Such as that of the ivory workers who financed part of one of the gateways at Sanchi.
4. Hundreds of donations were made by women and men who mention their names.
5. Sometimes adding the name of the place from where they came, as well as their occupations and names of their relatives.
5. Bhikkhus and bhikkhunis also contributed towards building these monuments.

**Stupas were built for many reasons -**

1. There were other placestoo that were regarded as sacred. This was because relics of the Buddha such as his bodily remains or object used by him were buried there. These were mounds known as stupas.
2. The tradition of erecting stupas may have been pre- Buddhist, but they came to be associated with Buddhism.
3. Since they contained relics regarded as sacred, the entire stupa came to be venerated as an emblem of both the Buddha and Buddhism.
4. By the second century, a number of stupas, including those at Bharhut , Sanchi and Sarnath had been built.

**Q4. What do you mean by "Dharma Chakra Pravartana"? 2**

**Ans-** Dharma Chakra Pravartana means 'sitting in motion the wheel of Dharma'. The first religious discourse or sermon delivered by Mahatma Buddha after attaining enlightenment at Migadava or Deer Park of Sarnath near Varanasi, is known as 'Maha chakra Pravartana'.

**Q5. Mention the various incarnations of Vishnu according to Vaishnavism. 2**

**Ans.** According to Vaishnavism there are ten incarnations of Vishnu. These are: Matsya, Kurma, Varsha, Narsimha, Vamana, Parsurama, Rama, Krishna, Buddha, and Kalki.

**Q6. Mention the teachings of Mahatma Buddha? 5**

**Ans -** According to Buddhist philosophy the world is transient (anicca) and constantly changing it is also soulless (anatta) as there is nothing permanent or eternal in it. Within this transient world, sorrow is intrinsic to human existence. It is by following the path of moderation between severe penance and self indulgence that human beings can rise above these worldly troubles. The Buddha regarded the social world as the creation of humans rather than of divine origin. According to Buddhist tradition, his last words to his followers were: "Be lamps unto yourselves as all of you must work out your own liberation".

**Q7. What was the Buddha Sangha? Discuss its characteristics. 5**

**Ans. 1.** Buddha founded organization of monks called "Sangha".

2. These monks served as teachers of "Dhamma". They believed a simple life.

3. They possessed only the essential things which were required for their survival.

4. Earlier only men were allowed to join the 'Sangha', later on the women were allowed for admission to the Sangha.

5. All the members were regarded as equal in the Sangha.

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Question 11.

How did Sutta Pitaka reconstruct the philosophy of Buddhism? Mention about Buddhist Tipitaka. (HOTS; All India 2015)

Answer:

After the death of Buddha, his teachings were compiled by his disciples and were known as Tipitaka. Sutta-Pitaka was one of the Tipitaka.

The main features of Sutta Pitaka are:

1. The Buddha's teachings have been reconstructed from stories found mainly in the Sutta Pitaka. Some stories describe his miraculous powers and other stories suggest that the Buddha tried to convince people through reason and persuasion, rather than through displays of supernatural power. Sometimes, through stories, the teachings of the Buddha were narrated in the language spoken by common men, so that individual effort was expected to transform social relations.
2. The Buddha emphasised individual agency and righteous action as the means to escape from the cycle of rebirth and attain self-realisation and nibbana. By extinguishing ego and desire, individual could end the cycle of his sufferings and renounce the world.

Tipitaka literally means three baskets to hold different types of texts.

The main features of it are:

- The Vinaya Pitaka included rules and regulations for those who joined the Sangha or monastic order.
- The Sutta Pitaka included the teachings of the Buddha.
- The Abhidhamma Pitaka dealt with philosophical matters. Each pitaka comprised a number of texts.
- According to Buddhist philosophy the world is transient (anicca) and constantly changing. The world is soulless (anatta) as there is nothing permanent or eternal in it.
- Within this transient world, sorrow (dukkha) is intrinsic to human existence. It is by following the path of moderation between severe penance and self-indulgence, the human beings can rise above these worldly troubles.
- The Buddha regarded the social world as the creation of humans rather than of divine origin. Therefore, he advised kings and gahapatis to be humane and ethical.

Question 12.

Discuss how and why were stupas built? (All India 2013,2008)



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