

1. Mention four places associated with the life of the Buddha.

Ans. 1. Lumbini (birthplace of the Buddha)

2. Kapilvastu (the Buddha was brought up here)

3. Bodh Gaya (the Buddha attained enlightenment here)

4. Sarnath- (the Buddha delivered his first religious discourse here).

2. What do you mean by Tri -ratna?

Ans. According to Jainism, Moksha or salvation can be attained by observing Tri-ratna or three jewels. This are-

1. Right knowledge

2. Right faith

3. Right action.

3. What do you mean by “Dharma Chakra Pravartana”?

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 Mrig dav or Deer Park of Sarnath near Varanasi, is known as 'Maha chakra Pravartana'.

4. Mention the various incarnations of Vishnu according to Vaishnavism.

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

5. Mention the teachings of Mahatma Buddha?

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".

6. What was the Budha Sangha? Discuss its characteristics.

Ans. 1. Budha 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 joined the 'Sangha', later on the women were allowed for admission to the Sangha.

5. All the members were regarded as equal

in the Sangha.

7. How Buddhist text were prepared and preserved?

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 compilations 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.

8. Discuss how and why Stupas were built?

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.

6. Bhikkhus and bhikkhunis also contributed towards building these monuments.

Stupas were built for many reasons –

1. There were other places too 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.

THEME-4

THINKERS, BELIEFS AND BUILDINGS (MAP WORK)

MAJOR BUDDHISTS SITES

1. <u>LUMBINI (NEPAL) - BIRTH PLACE OF GAUTMA BUDDHA</u>	2. <u>BODH GAYA (BIHAR)-ATTAIN ENLIGHTENMENT</u>
3. <u>SARNATH (UP)- GIVEN FIRST SERMON</u>	4. <u>KUSHINAGAR (UP)- DEATH PLACE(MAHAPRINIRVANA)</u>
5. <u>BHARHUT (MP)- STUPA</u>	6. <u>SANCHI (MP)- STUPA</u>
7. <u>NAGARJUNKONDA (ANDHRA PRADESH)</u>	8. <u>AMARAVATI (ANDHRA PRADESH)</u>
9. <u>AJANTA (MAHARASHTRA)- DEPICT STORIES FROM THE JATAKAS</u>	10. <u>NASIK (MAHARASHTRA)-</u>
11. <u>SHRAVASTI (UP)-</u>	

