



Class : VI

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Subject : SSt (History)

Ls 6: New Questions And Ideas

Answer the following questions:

Q1. Describe the ways in which the Buddha tried to spread his message to the people.

Ans. The Buddha tried to spread his message to the people in the following ways:

1. He preached the teachings in Prakrit, the language of common people so that everyone could understand his message.
2. He also encouraged people to think by themselves, rather than to simply accept what he said.
3. He taught people to be kind and to respect the lives of others.

Q2. Write whether True or False.

1. The Buddha encouraged animal sacrifices. (False)
2. Sarnath is important because it was the place where Buddha taught for the first time. (True)
3. The Buddha taught that karma has no effect on our lives. (False)
4. The Buddha attained enlightenment at BodhGaya. (True)
5. Upanishadic thinkers believed that atman and barman were ultimately one. (True)

Q 3. What were the questions that Upanishadic thinkers wanted to answer?

Ans. The questions which Upanishadic thinkers wanted to answer were the following:

1. They wanted to know about life after death.
2. They wanted to know why sacrifices should be performed.
3. They believed that there was something permanent in the universe that would last even after death.
4. They described this as “atman” or “individual soul” and the “brahman” or the “universal soul”.
5. They believed that ultimately both the atman and the Brahman were one.

Q 4. What were the main teachings of Mahavira?

Ans. The main teachings of Mahavira are:

1. He taught a simple doctrine : men and women who wished to know the truth must leave their homes.
2. One must follow very strictly the rules of ahimsa (nonviolence).
3. To be absolutely honest, and were specially asked not to steal.
4. To observe celibacy.

Q 5. Do you think it would have been easy for slaves to join the sangha? Give reasons for your answer.

Ans. It was very difficult for slaves to join sangha as he has to take permission from his master for that. And the masters would not give permission easily, because slaves worked very hard and did not get wages.

Q6. Discuss the reasons why the Chinese pilgrims came to India?

Ans. The Chinese pilgrims came to India to visit places associated with the life of Buddha as well as famous monasteries. They procured Buddhist religious books. Also they carried some books with them.

Extra Questions:

Q1. Write a short note on Buddha's teachings?

Ans. The Buddha said that life is full of suffering and unhappiness. He said that its cause lies in our unfulfilled desires and craving for more. The Buddha described this as thirst or tanha. He suggested moderation in everything as solution. He told people to be kind and to respect each and every life. Our actions (karma) affect us in this life and next life.

Q2. Explain the system of the ashramas and who were expected to follow the ashramas?

Ans. The word ashram was used for a stage of life. Brahmin, Kshatriya, Vaishya men were expected to follow the system of ashramas. The various stages of life (ashramas) are:

- (i) Brahmacharya - They were to lead a simple life and study Vedas during the early years of their lives.
- (ii) Grihastha – They get married and live as householders.
- (iii) Vanaprastha - They had to live in forest and meditate.

(iv) Samnyasa - They had to give up everything and become samnyasins.

The system of ashramas allowed men to spend some part of their lives in meditation.

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