

Chapter-4

Thinkers, Beliefs and Buildings

MCQ QUESTIONS :

Q1) Sanchi Stupa is situated?

- (a) Near to Bhopal
- (b) Near to Indore
- (c) Near to Delhi
- (d) Near to Agra

Q2) Which of these was not the Begum of Bhopal?

- (a) Shahjehan Begum
- (b) Sultanjehan Begum
- (c) Noorjehan Begum
- (d) A and B both

Q3) 24 great teachers of Jainism are known as ?

- (a) Tirthankars
- (b) Jataks
- (c) Jinas
- (d) Vardhmanas

Q4)..... is the birth place of Gautama Buddha?

- (a) Kalinga
- (b) Sarnatha
- (c) Lumbini
- (d) Kushinagara

Q5) At which place Lord Buddha attained true enlightenment?

- (a) Lumbini
- (b) Kushinagara
- (c) Sarnath
- (d) Bodhgaya

Q6) New tradition of Buddhism was called as?

- (a) Shwetambar
- (b) Digambar
- (c) Hinayana
- (d) Mahayana

Q7) The most splendid stupa was at?

- (a) Amravati

- (b)Sanchi
- (c)Bhoomra
- (d)Shahjidheri

Q8) New tradition of Buddhism was called as ?

- (a) Shwetambar
- (b) Digambar
- (c) Hinayana
- (d) Mahayana

Q9) Choose the correct option:

- (a) Sanchi Stupa situated near to Bhopal
- (b) Sanchi Stupa was preserved by the Beghums of Bhopal
- (c) Sanchi Stupa belongs to Buddhism
- (d) All of these

Q10) Consider the following statements:

1. Jainism was started by Rishabhdev.
2. Lord Mahavira was 24th tirthankar of Jainism
3. Teachings of Jainism are given in Angar
4. Jainism started Sanghas to spread its message.

Which of the given statements is/are correct?

- (A) 1,2,3,4
- (B) 1,2,3
- (C) 2,3,4
- (D) 1,3,4

Q11) What do you mean by Kutagarshala?

- (a) A place where philosophical debated took place
- (b) A hut with pointed roof
- (c)Both are correct
- (d)Both are wrong

Q12) How many Theerthankaras are recorded in the History of Jainism?

- (a) 21
- (b) 22
- (c) 23
- (d)24

Q13) Which religious script is called Tripitaka?

- (a) Jainism
- (b)Buddhism

- (c) Hinduism
- (d) Sikhism

Q14) Hagiography is the biography of?

- (a) Saints
- (b) Kings
- (c) Priests
- (d) None of the above

Q15) In which structure is the term Harmika is associated?

- (a) Chatya
- (b) Vihara
- (c) Stupa
- (d) None of the above

Q16) In which section Buddha's teaching are included?

- (a) Sutta Pitaka
- (b) Abhidhamma Pitaka
- (c) Vinaya Pitaka
- (d) All the above

Q17) Who was Maharajapati Gautami?

- (a) Mother of Buddha
- (b) Step Mother of Buddha
- (c) Sister of Buddha
- (d) Disciple of Buddha

Q18) Which among the following can be identified with the term Mahayana?

- (a) Lesser Vehicle
- (b) Greater Vehicle
- (c) Both A and B
- (d) None of the above

Q19) Buddha's group disciples are called?

- (a) Sangha
- (b) Ohammamahamatra
- (c) Bhikkhus
- (d) Brikkhuni

Q20) Which of these Buddhist texts dealt with philosophical matters?

- (a) Vinaya Pitaka
- (b) Sutta Pitaka
- (c) Abhidhamma Pitaka
- (d) Tipitaka

- Q21) Which of these is the most wonderful ancient building in the state of Bhopal?
- (a) Gohar Mahal
 - (b) Sanchi Kanakhera
 - (c) Tai ul Masid
 - (d) None of these
- Q22) In which of the following countries was Dipavamsa written?
- (a) Sri Lanka
 - (b) China
 - (c) Nepal
 - (d) All of the above
- Q23) The Rigveda was compiled between:
- (A) c 1500 to 1000 BCE
 - (B) c 1200 to 1100 BCE
 - (C) c 1400 to 1200 BCE
 - (D) c 900 to 1100 BCE
- Q24) Buddhism grew rapidly both during the lifetime of the Buddha and after his death as:
- (a) Buddha and his disciples taught in Prakrit
 - (b) Importance was given to rituals in Buddhism
 - (c) People were dissatisfied with existing social practices.
 - (d) Only men were allowed into the Sangha.
- Q25) Which of these principles of Jainism left its mark on Indian thinking as a whole?
- (a) Equality
 - (b) Sovereignty
 - (c) Respect for teacher/guru
 - (d) Ahimsa
- Q26) Which one of these is a core/foremost teaching of Buddha?
- (a) Right Actions
 - (b) Non-violence
 - (c) The world is animated
 - (d) All of the above
- Q27) Who among the following became the first woman to be ordained as a bhikkhuni?
- (a) Prabhavati Gupta
 - (b) Mahapajapati Gotami
 - (c) Draupadi
 - (d) None of these
- Q28) How has Buddha been depicted by many early sculptors?
- (a) Human form

- (b) Through Symbols
- (c) Almighty
- (d) Both (b) and (C)

Q29) What human attribute did an 'elephant' represent in the sculpture found at Sanchi?

- (a) Happiness
- (b) Greed
- (c) Laziness
- (d) Strength and wisdom

Q30) Which of these is a temple with a single doorway for the worshipper to enter and offer worship to the image?

- (a) Gopuram
- (b) Garbhagriha
- (c) Mandap
- (d) Swagatam

Q31) The paintings at Ajanta caves depict stories from the:

- (a) Rig Veda
- (b) Sutta Pitaka
- (c) Mahabharata
- (d) Jatakas

Q32) in which year was Sanchi declared a World Heritage Site?

- (a) 1988
- (b) 1889
- (c) 1898
- (d) 1989

Q33) Tirthankaras are those who guide men and women across the river of existence. Mahavira was preceded by?

- (a) 10 thirtankaras
- (b) 20 thirtankaras
- (c) 23 thirtankaras
- (d) 25 thirtankaras

Q35) Which of the following statements is/are correct

- (a) Buddhist texts mention as many as 66 sects or schools of thought
- (b) Debates about the validity of the philosophy or the way these sects understood the world, took place in the kutagarashalas in villages.
- (c) Many teachers of these sects such as Mahavira and Buddha questioned the authority of the Vedas

(d) They also emphasised individual agency- suggesting that men and women could strive to attain liberation from the trials and tribulations of worldly existence

- (a) (A). (B).(D)
- (b) (A), (B).(C)
- (c) (B). (C).(D)
- (d) (A).(C).(D)

Q36) There were several pre-existing traditions of thought, religious belief and practice, including the early Vedic tradition, known from the Rigveda. Which of the following statement is incorrect regarding the sacrificial tradition of Rigveda?

1. The Rigveda consists of hymns in praise of a variety of deities, especially Agni, Indra and Varuna.
 2. Many of these hymns were chanted when sacrifices were performed, where people prayed for cattle, sons, good health, long life, etc.
 3. At first, sacrifices were performed by the heads of households for the well-being of the domestic unit.
 - 4 More elaborate sacrifices, such as the rajasuya and ashvamedha, were performed by chiefs and kings who depended on Brahman priests to conduct the ritual.
- (a) 1,2
 - (b) 2,3
 - (c) 3, 4
 - (d) 1, 3

Q37) Mahavira and Buddha questioned the authority of?

- (a) The Jatakas
- (b) The Vedas
- (c) The Ganas
- (d) The Yaina

Q38) Which one of the following statements is incorrect according to the principles of Jainism?

- (a) According to Jainism, the cycle of birth and rebirth is shaped through Karma
- (b) If one is to escape this cycle of Karma, one must practice asceticism and penance.
- (c) There is no need to live in a monastery to attain salvation
- (d) The principle of ahimsa, emphasised within Jainis , has left its mark on Indian thinking .

Q40) What does the symbol of 'empty seat' symbolise?

- (a) First Sermon of the Buddha
- (b) An event in the life of Buddha

- (c) Wisdom of the Buddha
- (d) Meditation of the Buddha

Q41) New tradition of Buddhism was called as:

- (a) Shwetambar
- (b) Digambar
- (c) Hinayana
- (d) Mahayana

Q42) Which one of the following statements is incorrect about Goutama Buddha?

- (a) Goutama Buddha was born in 623 B.C in the famous gardens of Lumbini in Nepal
- (b) Bodh Gaya contains one of the holiest of Buddhist sites: the location where, under the sacred peepal Gautama Buddha attained enlightenment and became the Buddha
- (c) Buddha preached his first sermon in a deer forest at Sachi, north of Bodhgaya.
- (d) Lord Buddha attained Nirvana at the age of 35 when he was alive at Bodh Gaya He is known to have attained Parinirvana after his death at Kushinagar.

Q43) Inscriptions found on the railings and pillars of stupas record donations made for building and decorating them. Which one of the following statements is incorrect regarding the donations of Stupas?

- (a) Hundreds of donations were made by women and men who mention their names
- (b) Bhikkhus and bhikkhunis also contributed to building these monuments.
- (c) Guilds such as the ivory workers financed part of one of the gateways at Sanchi.
- (d) The kings of Mauryas also made some donations.

Q45) What was the balcony-like structure in a stupa called?

- (a) Anda
- (b) Harmika
- (c) Yashti
- (d) Chhatri

Q46) Identify the archaeologist who has written these words: "It seems to me a suicidal and indefensible policy to allow the country to be looted of original works of ancient art."

- (a) H.H Cole
- (b) Walter Elliot
- (c) Colin Mackenzie
- (d) John Marshall

Q47) By the first century CE, there is evidence of changes in Buddhist ideas and practices. Identify the statement included in the ideas and practices of the new Buddhist tradition.

- (a) Buddhist teachings had given great importance to self-effort in achieving nibbana.

(b) The Buddha was regarded as a human being who attained enlightenment or nibbana through his own efforts.

(c) As the concept of the Bodhisatta also developed he was perceived as deeply compassionate beings who accumulated merit through their efforts but used this not to attain nibbana and thereby abandon the world, but to help others.

(d) However, the worship of images of the Buddha and Bodhisattas became an unimportant part of this tradition

Q48) Vaishnavism is a part of religion.

- (a) Hinduism
- (b) Jainism
- (c) Buddhism
- (d) Vaishnav religion.

Q49) Which of the following is not correctly match?

- (a) Vishnu: The Varaha or boar avatar
- (b) Shiva: Linga
- (c) Mahabalipuram: Kerala
- (d) Vasudeva: Krishna Mathura

Q50) What is Shikhara in temple architecture?

- (a) A single doorway for the worshipper to enter and offer worship to the image
- (b) The rising tower in the Hindu temple architecture of North India
- (c) A central hall, with small cells connected to it sometimes with beds carved from the stone
- (d) An open court surrounded by open cells accessible through an entrance porch

Q51) What is the meaning of Theravadins?

- (a) The oldest surviving branch of Buddhism.
- (b) Major movement in the history of Buddhism.
- (c) "white-clad", and refers to its ascetics practice of wearing white clothes.
- (d) None of these

Q52) What is Sangha ?

ans. Sangha is an organisation of the monks who too became teachers of Dhamma.

Q53) Read the information given below:

Identify and name the Buddhist text.

This unique Buddhist text, part of the Sutta Pitaka, is a collection of verses composed by bhikkhunis. It provides an insight into women's social and spiritual experiences.

Q54) Match the following :

1. Metta	a) soulless
2. Karuna	b) Fellow feeling
3. Anatta	c) sorrow
4. Dukkha	d) Compassion

Choose the correct option

- (a) i - b, ii - d, iii - a, iv - c
- (b) i - c, ii - a, iii - b, iv - d
- (c) i - c, ii - b, iii - a, iv - d
- (d) i - d, ii - a, iii - b, iv - c

Q55) What was the name of the gana to which Buddha belonged to?

- (a) Licchavi
- (b) Sakya
- (c) Koliyas
- (d) Kamboj

Q56) What does the symbol of 'empty seat' symbolise?

- (a) First Sermon of the Buddha
- (b) An event in the life of Buddha
- (c) Wisdom of the Buddha
- (d) Meditation of the Buddha

Q57) What was the balcony-like structure in a stupa called?

- (a) Anda
- (b) Harmika
- (c) Yashti
- (d) Chhatri

Q58) Who provided money for the preservation of the Sanchi Stupa?

- (a) John Marshall
- (b) Begums of Bhopal
- (c) Alexander Cunningham
- (d) None of the above

Q59) Which of the following is the most important idea in Jainism?

- (a) Observing celibacy

- (b) Entire world is animated
- (c) Belief in non-violence
- (d) Asceticism and penance are required to free oneself from the cycle of Karma.

Q60) What is the meaning of 'Three baskets'?

- (a) Tirthankara
- (b) Triratna
- (c) Tipitaka
- (d) Trishula

Q61) Name the Begum of Bhopal who provided manely for the preservation of Sachi Stupa?

Q62) Which thinkers emerged in the world during the mid-first millennium BCE ? .

Q63) What is Rigveda consist of ? .

Q64) Who performed rajasuya and ashvamedha sacrifices? .

Q65) Who questioned the authority of the Vedas ?

Q66) Name the religious texts of Jainism.

Q67) Where did Buddhism spread?

Q68) What was the name given to Buddha at the time of his birth? .

Q68) What are stupas ?

Q69) Which sources are used by the historians to reconstruct the exciting world of ideas and believes from 600 B.C.E. up to 600 C.E. ? .

Q70) Except Sanchi , where was another stupa of Buddhism?

ASSERTION AND REASONS :

Directions : In the following questions, a statement of Assertion (A) is followed by a statement of Reason (R). Mark the correct choice as:

- (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (B) Both A and R are true but R is NOT the correct explanation of A.
- (C) A is true but R is false.
- (D) A is false and R is true.

Q71) Assertion (A): Today the Great Stupa at Sanchi stands testimony to the successful restoration and preservation of a key archaeological site by the Archaeological Survey of India.

Reason (R): The rulers of Bhopal, Shahjehan Begum and her successor Sultan Jehan Begum, provided money for the preservation of the ancient site.

Q72) Assertion (A): The mid first millennium BCE is still regarded as major turning point in world history.

Reason (R): Emergence of various thinkers like Socrates, Plato and Aristotle in Greece, Zarathustra in Iran, Kong Zi in China and Buddha & Mahavira in India.

Q73) Assertion (A): Mahavira and the Buddha, questioned the authority of the Vedas. They also emphasise individual agency – suggesting that men and women could strive to attain liberation from the trials and tribulations of worldly existence.

Reason (R): In Brahmanical position, an individual's existence was not thought to be determined by his or her birth in a specific caste or gender but by their deeds.

Q74) Assertion (A): Hagiographies often praise the saint's achievements, and may not always be literally accurate, although those are important.

Reason (R): They tell us about the beliefs of the followers of that particular tradition. .

Q75) Assertion (A): Buddhism grew rapidly both during the lifetime of the Buddha and after his death.

Reason (R): It appealed to many people dissatisfied with existing religious practices and confused by the rapid social changes taking place around them. It was a simple religion that had no place for superstitions and other rituals. .

Q76) Assertion (A): Initially, only men were allowed into the sangha, but later women also began to be admitted.

Reason (R): According to Buddhist texts, this was made possible through the mediation of Ananda, one of the Buddha's dearest disciples, who persuaded him to allow women into the sangha..

Q77) Assertion (A): The Therigatha, a unique Buddhist text is a part of Vinaya Pitaka, is a collection of verses composed by *bhikkhunis*.

Reason (R): It provides an insight into women's social and spiritual experiences.

Q78) Assertion (A): When a grief-stricken woman whose child had died came to the Buddha, he gently convinced her about the inevitability of death rather than bring her son back to life.

Reason (R): Buddha tried to convince people through reason and persuasion rather than through displays of supernatural power.

Q79) Assertion (A): Sculptures like the shalabhanjika motif were used in the stupas. According to popular belief, this was a woman whose touch caused trees to flower and bear fruit.

Reason (R): It is likely that this was regarded as an auspicious symbol and integrated into the decoration of the stupa. The *shalabhanjika* motif suggests that many people who turned to Buddhism enriched it with their own pre-Buddhist and even non-Buddhist beliefs, practices, and ideas.

Q80) Assertion (A): The paintings at Ajanta depict stories from the Jatakas. One such motif is that of a woman surrounded by lotuses and elephants, which seem to be sprinkling water on her as if performing an abhisheka or consecration.

Reason ©: Historians identify the figure as Gotami, the mother of the Buddha, others identify her with a popular goddess mother earth.

CASE BASED MCQ:

Q. Read the following excerpt carefully and answer the following questions:

A prayer to Agni

Here are two verses from the Rigveda invoking Agni, the God of Fire: "Bring, O strong one, this sacrifice of ours to the Gods, O wise one, as a liberal giver. Bestow on us, O priest, abundant food. Agni, obtain, by sacrificing, mighty wealth for us." Procure, O Agni, for ever to him who pays to you (the gift of) nourishment the wonderful cow. May a son be ours, offspring that continues our line... "Verses such as these were composed in a special kind of Sanskrit, known as Vedic Sanskrit. They were taught orally to men belonging to priestly families.

Q. 1. Vedic Sanskrit is considered to be important because:

- (A) It was the language of common people
- (B) The Vedic verses were written in Sanskrit
- (C) Sanskrit was not spoken by Brahmins
- (D) Sanskrit was the major language of South India

Q. 2. Why were sacrifices performed during the Vedic Period?

- (A) For the birth of daughters
- (B) For the birth of sons
- (C) For spiritual satisfaction
- (D) For seeking the blessings of Buddha

Q. 3. Choose the correct option.

Assertion (A): Agni was the God of Fire in the Vedic tradition.

Reason ©: Therefore, offerings were made to Agni so that in form of smoke they would reach the Gods living in the sky and invoke their blessings

(A) Both A and R are correct and R is the correct explanation of A.

(B) Both A and R are correct but R is not the correct explanation of A.

© A is incorrect but R is correct.

(D) R is incorrect but A is correct.

Q. 4. Consider the following statements:

(a) Rig Veda consists of hymns in praise of Agni, Indra, Soma etc.

(b) Many of these hymns were chanted when sacrifices were performed.

Choose the correct option:

1. Only (a) is correct.
(B) Only (b) is correct.
(C) Both (a) and (b) are correct.
(D) Neither (a) nor (b) is correct

II. Read the following excerpt titled “Buddhism in Practice” carefully and answer the following questions:

This is an excerpt from the Sutta Pitaka and contains the advice given by Buddha to a wealthy householder named Singala: In five ways should a master look after his servants and employees ... by assigning them work according to their strength, by supplying them with food and wages, by tending them in sickness; by sharing delicacies with them and by granting leave at times ... In five ways should the clansmen look after the needs of Samanas (those who have renounced the world) and Brahmanas; by affection in act and speech and mind, by keeping open house to them and supplying their worldly needs. There are similar instructions to Singala about how to behave with his parents, teacher and wife.

Q. 1. Which of these advices was given by Buddha to Singala regarding relationship between a master and his servants / employees?

- (A) Tending them in sickness
- (B) Sharing delicacies with them
- (C) Granting leave at times
- (D) All of these

Q. 2. Which of these was instructions given by Buddha to the clansmen for Samanas and Brahmanas?

- (A) Being affectionate in act and speech towards the master.
- (B) Being regular in payment of salaries.

- (C) By assigning them work according to their strength.
- (D) All of these

Q. 3. What did Buddha advocate regarding duties towards parents and teachers?

- (A) Assigning work according to their strengths.
- (B) Being regular in payment of salaries.
- (C) Love and care for them.
- (D) None of these

Q. 4. Which of these is an aspect of Buddhist philosophy?

- (A) Righteous actions
- (B) Follow caste system diligently
- (C) Penance is essential
- (D) All of these

III. Read the following excerpt titled “Rules for Monks and Nuns” carefully and answer the following questions:

These are some of the rules laid down in the *Vinaya Pitaka*:

When a new felt (blanket/rug) has been made by a bhikkhu, it is to be kept for (at least) six years. If after less than six years he should have another new felt (blanket/rug) made regardless of whether or not he has disposed of the first, then—unless he has been authorised by the *bhikkhus* it is to be forfeited and confessed.

In case a bhikkhu arriving at a family residence is presented with cakes or cooked grain-meal, he may accept two or three bowlfuls if he desires. If he accepts more than that, it is to be confessed.

Having accepted two or three bowlfuls and having them from there, he has to share them among the bhikkhus. This is the proper course here.

Should any bhikkhu, having set out bedding in a lodging belonging to the Sangha or having had it set out and then on departing neither put it away nor have it put away or should he go without taking leave, it is to be confessed.

Q. 1. What did ‘Vinaya Pitaka’ include?

- (A) Rules for samanas
- (B) Rules for monks and nuns
- (C) Rules for righteous actions
- (D) Rules for transient world

Q. 2. Why were these rules framed?

- (A) To inculcate the habit of leading a simple life
- (B) To inculcate the habit of being selfish
- (C) To inculcate the habit of worshipping one god
- (D) None of these

Q. 3. What was the Sangha?

- (A) Institution to keep a check on activities of monks and nuns.
- (B) Institution to organise religious gatherings of Buddhists.
- (C) Institution to teach Dhamma
- (D) Institution to encourage more and more people to follow Buddhism

Q. 4. The Buddhist monks were called bhikkus. The Buddhist nuns were names as

- (A) bhikkis
- (B) bhikkunis
- (C) bhikununs
- (D) bhikks

