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NEW QUESTIONS AND IDEAS

CHAPTER - 6 (question – answer)

<u>Exercises</u>

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

Ans:



Buddha

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The Buddha preached about life being full of suffering and unhappiness. He spoke of 'tanha' the desire to have more. He taught about 'Karma 'our actions which affect us in the current life and also in the later lives. He taught people to be kind and to respect the lives of others. He used the language of the ordinary people, Prakrit, to talk to them.

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Q2. Write whether true or false:

(a) The Buddha encouraged animal sacrifices.

(b) Sarnath is important because it was the place where the Buddha taught for the first time.

(c) The Buddha taught that 'Karma' has no effect on our lives.

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(d) The Buddha attained enlightenment at Bodh Gaya.

(e) Upanishadic thinkers believed that the 'atman' and 'brahman' were ultimately one.

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Ans: (a) False, (b) True, (c) False, (d) True, (e) True.

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Q3. What were the questions that Upanishadic thinkers wanted to answer?

Ans: Upanishadic thinkers wanted to know about life after death. Some wanted to know why sacrifices should be preformed. They felt there had to be something permanent in the universe that lasted even after death. Their ideas are recorded in the Upanishads.

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Q4. What were the main teachings of the Mahavira?

Ans: The main teachings of the Mahavira are:

i. He taught a simple doctrine, men and women who wished to know the truth must leave their homes.



<u>Mahavira</u>

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ii. They must follow rules of ahimsa,which means not hurting or killing living beings, very strictly.

iii. Lead a simple and pure life.

iv. Do not steal and lead a simple life.



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Mahavira was against caste system. He questioned the superiority of Brahmins.

vi. He laid stress on Triratna or three jewels of life.(a) Right Conduct(b) Right Belief and(c) Right Knowledge.

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Q5. Why do you think Anagha's mother wanted her to know the story of the Buddha?

Ans: Buddha was the founder of Buddhism and he was the Wise One. His stories could be inspirational and motivational to students. So Anagha's mother wanted her to know his story.



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Q6. Do you think it would have been easy for slaves to join the 'sangha'? Give reasons for your answer.

Ans: Slaves were allowed to join 'sanghas'. Those who followed Buddhism did not believe in dividing the society and Buddha taught that all humans are equal.

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Q7. Make a List of at least five ideas and questions mentioned in this lesson. Choose three from the List and discuss why you think they are important even today.

Ans: The five ideas are:

- 1. Life is full of sufferings.
- 2. People should be kind to other and respect all lives.
- 3. People should be taught in their own language.
- 4. People should know about life after death.
- 5. People should lead simple lives.

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These ideas have great importance even today. We should give importance to kind ness and ahimsa or non-violence. These ideas can change our life and prevent the unrest in our society.

Q8. Find out more about men and women who renounce the world today. Where do they live, what kinds of clothes do they wear, what do they eat? Why do they renounce the world?

Ans: Religious saints, monks, nuns, philosophers, Jain munnies (rien as well as women), men and women who have joined the Buddha - Sangha renounce the world even today.

They live in ashrams, vihars, sanghas, dargahas or lonely places of meditation or worship.

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Some of them even live in remote forests or near some permanent rivers or on the peak of mountains. They meditate for the most of the time. They wear very simple clothes or clothes of particular color and design.

Generally they eat vegetarian food, simple rice or chapattis along with milk, fruit, vegetables and pulses. They renounce the world because they feel that only those who leave their homes can gain true knowledge.