



THE ASIAN CLASSICS

INSTITUTE

COURSE VIII

Death and the Realms of Existence

Name:
Date:
Grade:

Final Examination

1) Give the name of the principal text which we used for our study of the realms of existence, along with the name of its author, and his approximate dates. (Tibetan track answer in Tibetan and Sanskrit.)

2) Explain how the desire realm can be divided into twenty different parts. (Tibetan track in Tibetan.)

3) Why do the four levels of the form realm consist of seventeen different sections?

4) According to the highest school of Buddhism, what ultimately causes each of the different realms and types of birth?

5) Explain how the location of the formless realm is determined.

(Please see the next page)

6) Name the four ways of taking birth. (Tibetan track in Tibetan.)

a)

b)

c)

d)

7) Name the one general cause, and then the three specific causes that can lead us to a birth as a craving spirit. (Tibetan track in Tibetan.)

a)

b)

c)

d)

8) Name one general cause, and then two specific causes, for birth as an animal.

a)

b)

c)

9) Name and describe briefly the six kinds of suffering that we must undergo. (Tibetan track name in Tibetan and describe in English.)

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

10) Describe the example of seeds for crops of grain, used to explain why intermediate beings must logically exist.

11) The existence of intermediate beings is also proven by statements of the Buddha. Describe the three conditions under which, according to the Buddha, a child will form in the mother's womb. (Tibetan track answer in Tibetan.)

a)

b)

c)

12) How does an intermediate being enter the state of a human womb birth?

13) What is the function of the four types of sustenance?

14) Name and describe the eight hot hells. (Tibetan track name in Tibetan, describe in English.)

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

15) Name the four different kinds of kalpas (eons). (Tibetan track in Tibetan.)

a)

b)

c)

d)

16) Describe the events that open and close the eon of destruction. (Tibetan track in Tibetan, from the root text.)

17) Describe the length of a great eon.

18) What is the length of time that a person must accumulate the collections of merit and wisdom to become a Buddha? (Tibetan track in Tibetan, from the root text.)

19) Name the four steps in the contemplation of death. (Tibetan track in Tibetan.)

a)

b)

c)

d)

20) Describe the awareness of death which is not the one which we seek to develop through meditation.

21) Describe the awareness of death which is the one which we seek to develop through meditation.

22) Name the three reasons behind the second principle of death meditation: contemplating that there is no certainty when we will die. (Tibetan track in Tibetan.)

a)

b)

c)

23) State the three resolutions that we should make after understanding the nine reasons for the three principles.

a)

b)

c)

Please PRINT your name clearly, exactly as you would like it to appear on your certificate, and the address to which the certificate should be sent.

Please circle one or specify other: Mr. Ms. Mrs. Miss Venerable

Name as you would like it to appear on the certificate: _____

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