



UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR

JKSET/LASET – 2026

SYLLABUS

Subject: BUDDHIST, JAINA, GANDHIAN AND PEACE STUDIES

Code No.: 08

UNIT-I

- 1) Life of Gautama the Buddha and the Origin of Buddhism (From the birth to Mahāparinirvāṇa and the events happened thereafter)
- 2) Buddhist Councils (From first to fourth) and the contribution of great emperor Aśoka and Kaniṣka to the spread of Buddhism in India, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand, China and Tibet.
- 3) Schools of Buddhism: Theravāda and four Philosophical Schools (Vaibhāṣika, Sautrāntika, Vijñānavāda and Mādhyamika)
- 4) Pali and Sanskrit Canonical Buddhist Literature (Pāli Tipiṭaka and Sanskrit Vaipulya Sūtras)
- 5) Life and Works of Buddhaghosa, Nāgārjuna, Vasubandhu and Dharmakīrti.

UNIT-II

- 1) Three modes of Teachings of the Buddha: Sīla, Samādhi and Prajñā
- 2) (i) Philosophical Concepts: Trilakṣaṇas : Anitya, Duḥkha and Anātma
(ii) Noble Truths
(iii) Pratītya-samutpāda
(iv) Citta-santati and Ālaya-vijñāna
(v) Śūnyatā and Nirvāṇa
- 3) Buddhist Meditation: Samatha and Vipassanā
- 4) Six heretical thinkers, contemporary to the Buddha and their Philosophy.

UNIT-III

- 1) Ancient Buddhist Educational Institutions (Mahāvihāras): Nālandā, Valabhi, Vikramaśilā, Udantapurī, Somapurī and Jagaddala.
- 2) Buddhist sculpture and Architecture: Nālandā, Bodhagayā Temple, Ajantā Caves, Sāncī Stūpa, Sāranātha
- 3) Places of Buddhist Pilgrimage: Lumbinī, Bodhagayā, Sāranātha and Kuśīnārā
- 4) Revival of Buddhism and Contribution of Anāgarika Dharmapāla, Mahāthera, Kṛpāśaraṇa, Candramaṇi Mahāthera and Bhikṣhu Jagadīśa Kāśyapa.
- 5) Impact of Buddhism on Social and Economic life.

UNIT-IV

- 1) History of Jainism : Kālacakra (cycle of time) and the tradition of Tīrthaṅkaras - Life-sketch of Lord Rṣabhadeva, Pārśvanātha and Mahāvīra
- 2) Jain Sects and their sub-division : Digambara and Śvetāmbara and their sub-sects.
- 3) Namokāra Mahāmantra, Five Preceptor (Pañca Parameṣṭhi), Prayer, Bhakti, Upāsana; Three Jewels : Samyakdarśana-Jñāna-Cāritra.
- 4) Prakrit Canonical (Āgama) Literature and their VĀCANĀS (councils).
- 5) Prominent Ācāryas of Jainism : Life and works of Ācārya Kundakunda, Ācārya Umāsvāmi(tī), Ācārya Siddhasena, Ācārya Akalaṅka svāmi, Ācārya Haribhadra Sūri, Ācārya Vīrasena Svāmi, Ācārya Jinasena, Ācārya Hemchandra Sūri and Ācārya Yaśovijay.

UNIT-V

- 1) Vows : vows of Householders- Aṇuvratas, Guṇavratas and Śikṣāvratas; Great Vows (Mahāvratas) of Monks- Ahimsā (non-violence), Satya (truth), Asteya (non-stealing), Brahmacharya (celibacy) and Aparigraha (non-possessiveness).
- 2) Seven elements and six substance; Theory of Karma and its classification, Puruṣārtha.
- 3) The concept of Knowledge and its classification.
- 4) Anekāntavāda and Syādvāda; Jain Yoga and Dhyāna.
- 5) The concept of Liberation in Jainism.

UNIT-VI

- 1) Jain Art (Śilpa) and Architecture : Jain caves and temples of Southern India, Jain Temples of Khajurāho, Devagarha, Pālitānā and Mount-Ābu.
- 2) Jain Sculptures, Paintings and Jain Iconography : important Jain Sculptures available in India, Idols received from Śravaṇabelagolā and Mathurā.
- 3) Impact of Jain Religion on Society : Vegetarianism (Śakāhāra) and Charity (Dāna); Status of women in Jain Religion.

- 4) Environmental and Ecological thoughts in Jainism; Jainism and Science.
- 5) Main Centres of Jaina Learning: Sravanabelagolā, Jesalamera, Ahmedabad, Varanasi, Vaishali, Koba, Ladnun, Jaipur, Delhi; Jainism in abroad.

UNIT-VII

1) Mahatma Gandhi:

- (i) Family background
- (ii) Early life and education in India and England
- (iii) Impact of various Religions and their Scriptures

2) Gandhi in South Africa:

- (i) The origin of Satyagraha
- (ii) Struggle against Racial discrimination, injustice and exploitation
- (iii) Impact of Leo Tolstoy, John Ruskin, Henry David Thoreau, Raichandra Bhai etc.

Unit-VIII

1) Foundations of Gandhi's Social, Political, Economic and Religious Thought:

- (i) Views on Social Justice, Social inequalities, Caste System and Untouchability.
- (ii) Women's Problems and Empowerment
- (iii) Gandhi's views on Truth, Non-Violence, Satyagraha and the Theory of ends and means

2) State and Democracy:

- (i) Panchayat Raj
- (ii) Parliamentary Democracy, Sovereignty, Freedom, Spiritualization of politics
- (iii) Human Rights and Duties.

3) Fundamentals of Gandhian Economics:

- (i) Critique of Modern Western Civilization, Labour – Capital Relations
- (ii) Small-Scale Cottage Industries
- (iii) Constructive Programme and Sustainable Development.

Unit-IX

1) Gandhi's Role in Freedom Movement:

- (i) Champaran
- (ii) Non-Cooperation
- (iii) Ahmedabad Mill Strike, Dandi March
- (iv) Bardoli and Kheda Satyagrahas
- (v) His Role in Vykom Satyagraha and Quit India Movement.

2) Gandhi and Partition of India.

Unit-X

1) Peace Studies:

- (i) Understanding Peace – Coercive and Non-Coercive Approaches, Culture of Peace.
- (ii) The problem of War: Causes, Types, Attributes and Theories of War.

2) Major Peace Movements:

- (i) Pacifism, Civil Rights Movement in U.S.A. Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament by various Agencies.
- (ii) Green Peace Movement.
- (iii) The contemporary Global Issues regarding World War and Quest for Peace.
- (iv) Legacy of Peace Builders: Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King (Jr.), Daisaku Ikeda and Nelson Mandela.

3) Conflicts:

- (i) Concept, Nature and Causes, Methods of Conflict Resolution.
- (ii) Agencies of Conflict Resolution, UN Peace Keeping, Peace Building, Peace Education, Adjudication, Role of Shanti Sena, Track-II Diplomacy, etc.

4) Human Security and Terrorism:

- (i) The problem of Terrorism
- (ii) Structural and State Violence