## Vinaya Class Questions Series 'B'

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## **CONTENTS**

B. Introduction	1
1.B. Killing and Harming	3
2.B. Stealing	5
3.B. Sexual Conduct	7
4.B. Lustful Conduct	9
5.B. Women 1	11
6.B. Attainments	13
7.B. False Speech	15
8.B. Robes 1	17
9.B. Kiccavaṭṭa	19
10.B. Misc 1	21
11.B. Food 1	23
12.B. Food 2	25
13.B. Money	27
14.B. Arguments 1	29
15.B. Arguments 2	31
16.B. Arguments 3	33
17.B. Dwellings	35
18.B. Bowls	37
19.B. Women 2	39
20.B. Misc 2	41
21.B. Sekhiyas 1	43
22.B. Excuses	45
23.B. Sekhiyas 2	<b>4</b> 7
24.B. Robes 2	49
25.B. Misc 3	51

1.

A bhikkhu is afflicted with sleepwalking, community members have seen him walk about at night, while he doesn't remember it in the morning. This bhikkhu is disgruntled with another bhikkhu, they have frequent clashes and arguments. One morning, the other bhikkhu is found dead in his kuti in a pool of blood, with a stab wound on his chest. A knife which matches the size of the wound is found in the kuti of the bhikkhu known for sleepwalking, his robes have tears from a struggle and blood stains. Community members have seen him walk about at the previous night, but he doesn't remember anything.

Is the bhikkhu pārājika?

(a) Yes

(b) No

2.

An elderly relative of a bhikkhu falls into a comatose state and is taken to the hospital. On previous occasions he used to speak against his life being extended by life-support equipment. In the hospital, the doctor informs the bhikkhu that there is not much chance of recovery, and asks the bhikkhu whether they should turn off the life-support. He replies, 'Turn if off. That seems to be what he wanted in such a situation'. The doctor turns off the equipment and the person dies shortly thereafter.

Is the bhikkhu pārājika?

(a) Yes

(b) No

3.

A bhikkhu is talking to himself in his kuti, "How could that evil man X steal from the Sangha. He would be better as dead."

Can such indirect statements qualify as commands or recommendations under Pr 3?

(a) Yes

(b) No

**4.** A bhikkhu is sweeping off insects from the porch while lay visitors are standing nearby. He drops a hint, "It might be a good idea to get rid of these ant colonies."

Can such indirect statements qualify as commands or recommendations under Pc 61?

(a) Yes

(b) No

5.

A bhikkhu is cleaning up on the monastery grounds after a festival. A paper plate with leftover food is swarming with ants, he picks it up and throws it all in a rubbish bag, knowing that with no way out, the ants will undoubtedly die in the bag.

Did the bhikkhu commit an offense?

(a) Yes, because he acts intentionally.

- (b) No, because he is not directly aiming at killing them.
- (c) Yes, because intentionally or unintentionally taking the life of any living being is immoral.
- (d) No, because his intention is to clean up.

1.

A bhikkhu sees a shiny new phone sitting on a bench in a park. He assumes that it has been left behind by its owner and perceives it as ownerless. Without making any effort to find the owner, he puts the phone in his yarm with the intention of keeping it for himself. The owner returns to the bench a few minutes later, looking for their phone. The bhikkhu pretends he hasn't seen anything. The owner becomes distressed as he keeps searching the area around the bench. After a few minutes, the bhikkhu tosses the phone on the bench and scolds him, 'Here, that should teach you a lesson, be more mindful next time.'

Did the bhikkhu commit an offense?

- (a) The bhikkhu did commit an offense under this rule, but the severity of the offense depends on the value of the phone.
- (b) Yes, because the bhikkhu took an object without making any effort to determine its ownership or find the owner, which violates the factor of effort in the rule against theft.
- (c) Yes, because the bhikkhu perceived the phone as ownerless without any basis for this perception, which violates the factor of perception in the rule against theft.
- (d) Yes, because the phone was not discarded or unclaimed, but belonged to someone else and was guarded, protected, claimed, or possessed by them, which qualifies it as "not given" under the rule against theft.

2.

How does perception play a role in stealing?

- (a) If a bhikkhu sincerely believes that the object is ownerless or thrown away, taking it is not an offense.
- (b) Stealing is always an offense regardless of one's perceptions, which may be unreliable.
- (c) (Wrong) Perception only matters if the thief is aware that the object is not borrowed with permission.
- (d) (Wrong) Perception only matters if the thief is aware that the object is not given on trust.
- (e) (Wrong) Perception only matters if the thief is aware that the object is not something he found by chance.
- (f) (Wrong) Perception only matters if the thief is aware that the object is not something he is entitled to take.

## 3.B. SEXUAL CONDUCT

Kim nāmo si:

**1.** A bhikkhu gets involved in a party at a lay friend's apartment, gets drunk and has sex with a woman, but he can't remember whether he disrobed or not before it happened.

The lay friend who hosted the party realizes that the bhikkhu is distressed and informs him that he was his witness for disrobing before he took the woman to bed. The bhikkhu, having been drunk, still can't remember a thing.

Is the disrobing valid?

(a) Yes

(b) No

1.

On the uposatha day, four bhikkhus are staying at the monastery, but one of them is sick and cannot get up from his bed.

Mark all correct procedures for the uposatha.

- (a) They avoid all contact with the sick one to prevent infections. The other three meet and one recites the  $p\bar{a}timokkha$ , since there are four bhikkhus in the monastery.
- (b) A bhikkhu visits the sick one for confessions and conveys his *pārisuddhi* and *chanda* to the gathering of three bhikkhus. After this, one of them recites the *pāṭimokkha*.
- (c) A bhikkhu visits the sick one for confessions and conveys his *pārisuddhi* and *chanda* to the gathering of three bhikkhus. After this, they do *pārisuddhi-uposatha*.
- (d) All the bhikkhus go to the sick one's kuti, and do sangha-kamma with pāṭimokkha recitation there.
- (e) They bring the sick bhikkhu on a bed to the uposatha-hall, and do *saṅgha-kamma* with *pāṭimokkha* recitation there.
- (f) They move the sick bhikkhu outside the monastery sīma (as previously determined, e.g. the property, local county area, etc.), and the three bhikkhus do *pārisuddhi-uposatha*.

## **DISCUSSION**

A bhikkhu makes arrangements for his residence for the Vassa at the house of three different lay supporters. He spends one month at each residence.

Is this a suitable arrangement for him?

Does this break his determination made at the beginning of the Vassa?

What would be the minimum procedure he should carry out at each residence?

A bhikkhu wishes to spend the Vassa outside in a tent, but still within the monastery  $s\bar{\imath}ma$ .

What would be required to make this a suitable Vassa residence for him?