CLASS VIII

MID-TERM EXAMINATION – 2025 – ANSWER KEY

1. CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANSWER (10 x 0.5 = 5 marks)

1. How are the chapters of Isaiah generally divided?
   (a. Law and grace b. **Judgement and salvation** c. Faith and works)
2. Which Gospel describes Jesus' genealogy from Abraham to Joseph?
   (a. St. Mark b. St. Luke c. **St. Matthew**)
3. Which book is traditionally associated with Jeremiah?
   (a. Isaiah b. Psalms c. **Lamentations**)
4. What is the primary theme of the Easter festival?
   (a**. Peace** b. Repentance c. Salvation)
5. During the reign of which king was Daniel taken captive to Babylon?
   (a. Cyrus b Josiah c. **Nebuchadnezzar**)
6. Which Gospel is considered as the first written Gospel?
   (a. St. Mathew b. **St. Mark** c. St. Luke)
7. What is the primary message in Jeremiah's prophecy?
   (a. Political reform b. **Trust in God and repentance**
   c. Return to Babylon)
8. Which prophecy was fulfilled by Jesus' entry into Jerusalem?
   (a. Isaiah 53:3 b. **Zechariah 9:9** c. Daniel 7:13)
9. Where are the holy remains of His Holiness Moran Mor Elias III buried?
   (a. Kothamangalam b. **Manjinikkara** c. Kottayam)
10. Which Gospel does not include the parables of Jesus?
    (a. St. Mathew b. St. Mark c. **St. John**)

II. FILL UP THE BLANKS (10 x 0.5= 5 marks)

1. The vision of a man clothed with a belt of gold in Daniel's vision is similar to the vision of Jesus in the book of **Revelation.**
2. The word "Gospel" is derived from the Greek word "**Evangelion**" which means "Good News"
3. "Hosanna" is a Hebrew word meaning "**Lord Save us**."
4. **St. John** proves that Jesus is the Complete God and Complete Man.
5. The document which was submitted by the members of the Church to His Holiness at the Holy Synod of Mulanthuruthy is known as **Mulanthuruthy Padiyola.**
6. Jeremiah is often referred to as the **Weeping** Prophet.
7. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him **Immanuel"** (Isaiah 7:14).
8. Chapter 17 in the Gospel of St. John is known as the '**High Priestly Prayer'**.
9. Jesus, in the presence of his **disciples,** instituted the New Testament Pesaha.
10. The Gospel of **St. Luke** is also known as the 'Prayer Gospel'

III. MATCH THE FOLLOWING (5 x 0.5 =2.5 marks)

1. Amos -	**C**	A. Levi
2. St. Luke -	**E**	B. Passover
3. St. Matthew -	**A**	C. Isaiah
4. Pessaha -	**B**	D. Kymtha
5. Easter -	**D**	E. Theophilus

IV. STATE TRUE or FALSE (5 x 0.5 =2. 5 marks)

1. St. John records seven allegories that Jesus had said about himself. which are also recorded in the Synoptic Gospels. - **FALSE**
2. Prophet Isaiah has clearly prophesied about the two phases of the redemption plan of Christ. – **TRUE**
3. His Holiness Moran Mor Elias III visited India on the invitation of the Viceroy Lord Irwin. - **TRUE**
4. Passover and Good Friday are the two most important incidents in the life of our Lord in this world. - **TRUE**
5. The phrase 'Kingdom of Heaven' is only seen in St Luke and is used 42 times in this gospel. - **FALSE**

V. SHORT NOTES (3 or 4 SENTENCES) (5 x 2 = 10 marks)

1. What was the Vision of Christ according to the Gospel of St. Matthew?

(1 mark for each point)

   a. **As the new Moses and Teacher: Jesus is revealed as the new Moses by St. Matthew. Like Moses, who gave them the Commandments of God at Mount Sinai, Jesus through the Sermon on Mount, teaches these Laws in their fullness.**
   b. **As Messiah, the King: In this Gospel, Jesus is depicted as Messiah the King, the hope of Israel. The phrase 'Kingdom of Heaven' is used 32 times in this gospel. There are 40 quotations from the Old Testament to prove that Jesus Christ is the fulfilment of the Law and prophecies.**

2. Pen on the hardships faced by Prophet Jeremiah.

(Any 4 points,0.5 marks each)

   a. **Jeremiah had to face very severe hardships and had to suffer ridicule and contempt even in service at his native place.**
   b. **They caught him and put him in prison.**

c. **The king and the kinsmen sought to kill him. Still, he was steadfast in his ministry of prophecy.**
d. **They put him in a cistern of mud.**
e. **He was deported forcibly to Egypt. At the end of 40 years of prophesying, he was stoned to death.**

3. Why did Jesus select a young donkey for his journey to Jerusalem and what was he trying to demonstrate? *(1 mark for each point)*

a. **This journey of Jesus on the young donkey was the fulfilment of the prophecy of Zechariah 9:9.**
b. **In those days, it was believed that a king coming on a horse is for war and on a donkey is for peace. Jesus rode on a donkey, the symbol of humility, to testify that the Kingdom of God is not a worldly one as others had expected.**

4. What are the main thoughts in the prophecy of Daniel?

(0.5 marks for each point)

a. **The book, having 12 chapters, can be divided into two parts. <u>The first part, chapters 1- 6 contains unshakable trust in God and adherence to the traditional rituals of Jews, shown by Daniel and his friends</u>**
b. **<u>Chapters 7-12 is a narration of the visions of Daniel</u>. The vision of Daniel reveals that all <u>colonialist powers against God and His plans will be destroyed and the kingdom of God will survive.</u>**
c. **<u>The references about son of God</u> (Jesus Christ) makes this book noteworthy.**
d. **<u>Indications about resurrection</u> makes this book different from others**

5. Describe 'Synoptic Problem'? *(2 marks)*

- **The first three Gospels, i.e. St. Matthew, St. Mark and St. Luke are known as Synoptic Gospels. The similarity in the contents, narration of the events, and order of incidents in these three Gospels forced theologians to have a detailed study. There are also clear differences between them. These similarities and differences are still a point of debate among theologians. This is known as the Synoptic Problem.**

VI. WRITE LONG ANSWERS (Answer any TWO (2 x 5 = 10 marks)

1. What are the differences between the Synoptic Gospels and the Gospel of St. John? *(Any 5 points, 1 mark each)*

1. **St. John has written six miracles of Jesus which are not recorded in the Synoptic Gospels. They are water turned into wine; healing of the official's son, healing at the pool of Bethesda; healing of the man born blind, raising of Lazarus, the miraculous fishing.**
2. **In the Synoptic Gospels many parables are included whereas in the Gospel of St. John there are no parables. Instead, allegories are used. eg. Living Water, Bread of Life, True Vine, and so on.**
3. **Birth from a Virgin, Baptism, Temptation, Transfiguration, establishment of the Holy Qurbana which appears in the Synoptic Gospels are not found in the Gospel of St. John. Washing of the feet of the Apostles is found only in the Gospel of St. John.**
4. **Synoptic Gospels gives more emphasis to the activities of Jesus in Galilee and nearby places, whereas St. John gives more importance to His activities in Jerusalem.**
5. **Synoptic Gospels mention about only one Passover feast. St. John records that Jesus celebrated three Passover feasts (2:13, 6:4, 12:1). So we can assume that the public ministry of Jesus lasted at least three years.**

6. **The farewell speech of Jesus at the Mansion is elaborately explained by St. John. (Chapters 14-17). This is not found in the Synoptic Gospels.**

2. Explain the two circumambulations during the Good Friday observance?

(1 mark each)

- **There are two circumambulations (Pradakshinam) in Good Friday observance - <u>the first one is conducted after 3rd hour prayers</u>.**
- **<u>It starts by going out through the southern door of the church, moving westwards, completing one revolution and entering the church through the northern door.</u>**
- **<u>Umbrellas and flags are not permitted in this circumambulation</u>. It <u>symbolises the journey of Jesus to Golgotha carrying the cross.</u>**
- **<u>The second circumambulation is conducted after the cross-adoration service</u> This also leaves the church through the southern door and after completing one circuit around the church, enters the church through the northern door. In some churches the 2nd circumambulation is conducted inside the church**
- **Black umbrellas and flags that shows grief are permitted for this circumambulation. It <u>commemorates the carrying of the body of Jesus for burial by Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus.</u>**

3. Why did the theologians consider the book of Isaiah a "Miniature Bible"?

(1 mark each)

- **The book of <u>Isaiah has 66 chapters same as the total books in the Bible</u>.**
- **The <u>first 39 chapters are prophesies about the punishment for idolatry and injustice. This is compared to the 39 books</u> in the Old Testament.**

- **The last 27 chapters are messages of salvation. Isaiah gives hope that the Lord will come and save the whole mankind by removing all the sins of mankind through the cross. It is similar to the 27 books in the New Testament.**

- **Some theologians are of the opinion that the prophesies of Isaiah were written in two periods. According to them the first 1-39 chapters of the book were written before the Babylon exile and chapters 40-66 were written during the exile. This again give a similarity to the division of the Bible as Old Testament & New Testament in relation to Christ.**
- **Isaiah concludes his prophesies by giving hope of a new earth and a new heaven in his last chapter. We can see this hope also in Book of Revelations which is the last book in the New Testament.**

4. Elucidate on the Synod of Mulanthuruthy

(Any 5 points1 mark for each point)

- **The Synod of Mulanthuruthy which was an important event in the History of the Malankara Jacobite Syrian Church was summoned by His Holiness Ignatius Peter III to discuss and decide on the general spiritual matters of the Church.**
- **The Holy Synod met at Mar Thoman Church Mulanthuruthy in Kanayannoor Thaluk of Ernakulam District and was held on 30th of June 1876 and lasted for 3 days - 28, 29 and 30.**
- **Two metropolitans, His Grace Abdulla Mar Gregorious of Jerusalem (Later H.H. Patriarch Ignatious Abdulla) and Joseph Mar Dionysius from Malankara Church along with 130 priests and 144 laymen from 103 churches attended the Synod.**
- **The arrangements for the Synod were done by the secretary to His Holiness, Very Rev. Geevarghese Ramban Chathuruthil of the Mulanthuruthy parish.**

- **On the first day of the Holy Synod, the registration of the representees took place and the agreement papers brought by the Church Representatives were submitted before the Holy Father. The inaugural speech by His Holiness also took place on the same day.**
- **The Apostolic Bull of the Patriarch was read on the second day. The consequences of the ordination of Palakunnath Mathews Mor Athanasius in the Malankara Church and the measures taken by His Holiness to eliminate them were narrated by His Holiness in detail. The bull also mentioned on the need of a powerful administrative machinery to avoid such occurrence in the future. A detailed discussion took place to give a suitable reply to the bull.**
- **The reply that was submitted by the Holy Synod on the 3rd day to the Holy Father declared the following:**
- **The members of the Malankara church shall unitedly stand behind the Holy See of Antioch. Accordingly, those who violate that Holy faith shall have no position either in the congregation or in the Church.**
- **It was decided to provide the printed canon law of the Church to all the congregations.**
- **It was decided to keep separate registers for baptism, marriage, and burial in all congregations.**
- **It was decided to create a permanent fund for the common use of the church.**
- **It was also decided to constitute a committee of priests and lay men under the Chairmanship of Metropolitan to look after the general administrative system of the Church.**
- **The minutes of the decisions of the Holy synod was recorded and undersigned by all the members who attended the meeting of the Holy Synod. A copy of the same was submitted to His Holiness and another copy was kept at the Headquarters of the Church.**

- **An affidavit (a written statement confirmed by oath) recording all these decisions was submitted by the members of the Church to His Holiness. This famous document is known as the Mulanthuruthy Padiyola.**