

The Sacred Journey - Third Exam - Take Home Question

13 May 2020

Send as an email attachment by 12:00 noon on May 13 to rfrey@uidaho.edu Late submissions will be docked.

Assume the role of an elder from the Buddhist tradition. You have been asked by the Secretary General of the United Nations to join a special committee and assist the UN in forming a “Declaration of War on Global Warming.” Specifically, the UN wants your views as an elder Buddhist person on “how to address and solve the catastrophic consequences of global warming.”

As an elder, integrate the **key ideas and concepts** of your tradition into your responses. Where appropriate, cite specific references from the associated readings assigned in class, e.g., the *Dhammapada*. As you develop your thoughts, consider and respond to the following:

1. As an elder, why would you agree to assist?
2. As an elder, is there a better way to re-phrase the key issue or issues as expressed in the title of the initiative and that underlie what the UN is really asking you to address? If so, how would you re-phrase the issue(s), and why?
3. As an elder, what are the underlying causes of the issue(s) you are addressing?
4. As an elder, what are the solutions to the issue(s) you are addressing?
5. As an elder, what are some of the implications of those solutions on the ways human societies engage one another and the environment, and how society would have to change?
6. And someone on your committee asks you, what is the meaning of *paticcasamuppada*, *karuna*, and *Nirvana/Sunyata*? And you respond, with illustrative examples, by saying
7. What are some of the key significant attributes of the Buddhist traditions? Discuss.
8. Given the attributes you have identified in response to #7, reflect on your own personal life’s journey and identify any shared attributes with your own personal values, teachings and/or practices. Discuss.
9. Given the Integrative Approach from “When We Walk the Halls of a Hospital” and as applied in “Empathy of the Spokes and Hub,” reflect on how this integrative approach might be applicable in your own personal and professional lives. Make references to the “Empathy of the Spokes and Hub” essay and provide hypothetical examples from your own personal and professional lives.

Make your case as compelling as possible, utilizing any and all devices are your disposal.