



The 36th International Morals and Ethics Contest (IMEC)

“Path of Progress” 2017

For Students from Grade 3-12 as well as Undergraduates

1. Synopsis

Due to the lack of ethics among youths that result from the advancement of technology and the spread of materialism and consumerism, other social problems arise; e.g. drugs issues, family issues, crime and many other issues, which have been increasing in seriousness overtime. The solution to these problems cannot achieve a sustainable result without the development of juvenile ethics as well.

Therefore, the International Buddhist Society, under the patronage of Most Ven. Somdej Phra Maharatchamangalajarn – The Member of the Thai Sangha Council, collaborating with the World Buddhist Sangha Youth (WBSY), set a policy to organize the International Morals and Ethics Contest (IMEC) - “Path of Progress” - to encourage students, teachers, academic staff, and other people to study Buddhist principles in order to be able to walk on the right path of life. Through this, the aforementioned issues will be reduced and the social issues of our day resolved. The nation will truly be covered under the peaceful shade of the Lord Buddha’s teachings.

2. Objectives

- To encourage students, teachers, academic staff and other people to develop an interest and seek knowledge in Buddhism.
- To boost the capability of students, teachers, academic staff and other people to apply the Lord Buddha’s teachings in their daily lives, begetting a peaceful society, in which objective and moral prosperity achieves sustainable results.
- To promote the strong bond of the family unit and the reconciliation of society.

3. Organizing Committee

- The International Buddhist Society (IBS) under the patronage of Most Ven. Somdej Phra Maharatchamangalajarn – The Member of the Thai Sangha Council
- The World Buddhist Sangha Youth (WBSY)



4. Duration of the Program

- July 2017-March 2018

5. Format and Method

The “Path of Progress” Ethics Contest is designed to have participants study the Lord Buddha’s teachings and participate in the contest, which is divided into several different levels, i.e. elementary school, middle school, high school and college level, with the final round at the national level.

The program provides awards to encourage participants to read the precious teachings of the Lord Buddha and be able to apply them in their daily lives.

The test books comprise of:

1. Mangala Sutta and its explanation
2. The Law of Kamma
3. The Life of the Lord Buddha
4. The Journal of Goodness

These books aim to provide knowledge in the Dhamma and promote these understandings:

- Instill ethics for the contestants to walking on the right path of life
- Instill Right View and conscience
- Set the right goals of life
- Study role models’ good conduct
- Have faith and motivation to practice good deeds

6. Procedures

- Schools and institutes apply to this program
- The participating schools and institutes will receive books or media content for the contest and distribute them to contestants.
- The contestants study the content.
- The contestants take the test at the test centers



- The schools check the answers, arrange the scores and announce the results to the contestants.
- The program bestows awards, i.e. certificates of achievement, scholarships, gifts, and souvenirs upon the contestants, school administrators, coordinating teachers and all of the school's program supporters.

7. Expected Results

- Contestants will read Dhamma books about Mangala Sutta, the Life of the Lord Buddha and the Law of Kamma. They would successively comprehend the principles of Buddhism, which are the basic ethics that can boost their skills to live on the right path.
- Contestants will develop capabilities on the foundation of the Universal Goodness Theory (UG5)
- Increase Contestants' Intelligence Quotient (IQ) and Moral Quotient (MQ)
- The school administrators and teachers can apply the Lord Buddha's teachings in instilling ethics to youths

8. Implementation

Procedure

- The contest will be organized nationally in one round on the same date and time.
- Schools apply to the program
- The International Buddhist Society (IBS) distributes the IMEC "Path of Progress" books, the Life of the Lord Buddha and the Law of Kamma to the contestants.
- The schools encourage every contestant to study the content of the books to prepare themselves for the test.
- The contestants take the test.
- The schools submit the list of names of the program's sponsors to the International Buddhist Society to have those names printed on certificates.
- The schools check the answer sheets, evaluate the scores and arrange the awards for the contestants according to their scores.



- The schools submit the test results and confirm their attendance to the award ceremony, in which honorary plaques, certificates and scholarships will be bestowed, through **www.vstarproject.com** or the program's domestic coordinators.
- Remarks: Throughout the program, the main coordinating teachers shall be the school's representatives in the program's coordination.

Test levels and qualifications

Code	Test Level	Qualifications
01	Elementary School	Students in grade 3-6
02	Middle - High School	Students in grade 7-12
03	Undergraduate	Students in Undergraduate

Remarks: Contestants must not be studying in non-formal education and not carrying any monastic status.

Contents and Tests

Number of questions, answer sheets and test duration	
Multiple Choice / Objective Test	100 Questions
Written Exam / Subjective Test	1 Question
Duration	1 Hour 20 Minutes
Test Features	Memorization and Application
Answer Sheet	Computerized

Contents of the Multiple-Choice Test

1. Mangala Sutta
2. The Life of the Lord Buddha
3. The Law of Kamma



Date, Time, Place, and Test Method

- Group Testing on a date and time that complies with school availability. The test date and time will be scheduled later.
- In the case where a contestant cannot take the, replacement by another person is prohibited.

9. Implementation

- In order to be qualified for the top 3 winners, the contestants must have at least 60% of goodness points in the Journal of Good Conducts.
- Score from the 100-point multiple choices is considered first.
- After the evaluation of the multiple choice test, the committee shall find the top 3 winners by evaluating the subjective test (10 points) of the top 10 highest multiple choice scorers.
- In case the score is tied, duplicate awards shall not be bestowed and the next award shall be skipped, e.g. if 2 people win the 2nd place, the 3rd place will be skipped.
- The result of the national-level final round will be announced via www.vstarproject.com **on Money, January 1st, 2018**

10. Awards

- National Grand Prize
 - One Award
 - 500 USD Scholarship
 - Honorary Plaque and Certificate
 - 5 days 4 nights trip to Thailand including plane tickets, food and accommodation for the winner and 1 parent or guardian
- 2nd prize
 - 300 USD Scholarship
- 3rd prize
 - 200 USD Scholarship
- 4th – 10th prize
 - 100 USD Scholarship



- Certificate of Achievement
 - Certificate for student
 - The top 3 national winners
 - The 1st Consolation Prize (scoring at 70 points)
 - The 2nd Consolation Prize (scoring at 60 points)
 - The 3rd Consolation Prize (scoring at 50 points)
 - Remark: In order to meet the decision criteria, the contestant must score at least 60% in the Journal of Goodness
 - Certificate for school
 - The Participating Schools
 - Remark: Names and detail will be printed on certificates.

11. Announcement of test result and receiving awards and scholarship

- The International Buddhist Society will provide awards for each country.
- Except the Grand Prize winner will receive the award at Wat Phra Dhammakaya, Thailand.

12. Programme Schedule

	Activities	Schedule
1	Apply for the program	July-August 2017
2	The program distributes the test books to the participating schools	October 2017
3	The participating schools encourage all contestants to study the test books as proper preparation	October-November 2017
4	The National Test	By December 10, 2017
5	Schools can check the results of the National-Level Final Round through www.vstarproject.com	January 1 st , 2018
6	Award Ceremony	Magha Puja Day, March 1st, 2018
7	The program bestows honorary plaques and prize money to each country	TBA