

Ⅲ期（一般）

令和2年度

武蔵野大学大学院 仏教学研究科 仏教学専攻 修士課程 入学試験問題（3月8日）

[英語]

次の英文を和訳しなさい。

At the age of eighty, while spending the summer retreat at a village near Vaiśālī, Śākyamuni realized that he was aging physically, and knowing that he did not have much longer to live, he set out for Kapilavastu, probably wishing to pay a final visit to his hometown. But on the way food offered to him by one of the faithful caused a severe gastric upset and he eventually passed away at Kuśinagara in the presence of his attendant Ānanda and other followers.

Śākyamuni's death is referred to as *parinirvāṇa* 般涅槃. This term, meaning “complete Nirvāṇa,” implies that by discarding the physical body at death Śākyamuni completely entered the perfect and ideal state of peace and tranquility, namely, *nirvāṇa* 涅槃. Having already become a Buddha, he had not of course suffered any further mental anguish while alive, but the limitations concomitant with human physical existence had remained. The moment he was freed through death of these human restrictions, he became a being of yet a higher plane of existence. In later years Śākyamuni's disciples, loath to consider that he had succumbed to illness just like another ordinary human being and wishing to extol his greatness, were to conclude that he had “discarded his life of his own accord” since he had “completed his task of guiding and teaching others.” Still later, it was further believed that the historical Buddha who had died at the age of eighty was but a manifestation of the eternal Buddha.

（出典表記 : AN INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM By Takasaki Jikido, Rolf W. Giebel 翻訳）