



History of Buddhism

Semester: I
Paper: I
Course Code: BS 501

Credit Hour: 3
Teaching Hour: 48
Full Marks: 100

Course Description

This course aims to impart the knowledge of Buddhist history from the time of its evolution in chronological order. It incorporates the origin of Sakya clan, Buddha's brief biography, Buddhist councils, and development of Buddhism during Maurya, Pre-Kushana, Kushana and post-Kushana, Pala and Gupta periods. The course also links the history of Buddhism to the particular areas of the history of Buddhism in Nepal.

Objectives

The main objective of this course is to provide chronological history of the evolution of Buddhism and its expansion in medieval India and Nepal.

Unit I: Introduction

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- 1.1 Nepal: homeland of three Buddhas
- 1.2 Contemporary major states (Buddha's Time): Kapilvastu, Maghada, Kosal, Vaisali and Koliya

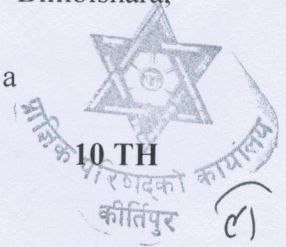
Unit II: Life Events of Shakyamuni Buddha

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- 2.1 Life of the Buddha: Birth to *Mahaparinirvāna*
- 2.2 Major discourses of Buddha in Mrigadavana, Gridhakuta and Dhannyakataka Parvat
- 2.3 Formation of Buddhist sangha
- 2.4 Establishment of *vinaya* in the sangha
- 2.5 The main disciples of the Buddha and their contributions: Ananda, Upali, Sariputta, Mahamaudgalyayana, Mahakasyapa and Mahaprajapati Gautami
- 2.6 Supporters of the early Buddhist sangha: King Sudhodana, Bimbishara, Anathapindaka, Prasenjeet, Jeevaka, Visakha and Syamavati
- 2.7 Opponents of the Buddha: Devadatta, six Tirthikas and Rishi Bharadvaja

Unit III: Buddhism After the *Mahaparinirvāna* of the Buddha

- 3.1 Impact of Buddha's *mahaparinirvāna* in the sangha and society
- 3.2 First Buddhist Council: collection of Sutras and Vinaya
- 3.3 Second Buddhist Council: Split in the sangha
- 3.4 Growth and divergence: development of *astadasha-nikāya* (eighteen early Buddhist sects)



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Unit IV: Buddhism During Maurya Period

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- 4.1 Asoka and his conversion into Buddhism
- 4.2 The third Buddhist Council
- 4.3 *Dhammavijaya* mission
- 4.4 Asoka's *dhamma* edicts

Unit V: Buddhism During Kusan, Pre and Post Kushan Ruler

5 TH

- 5.1 Greeks: King Menandar and his contribution to Buddhism
- 5.2 Kushan Ruler: Kaniska and the Buddhist Council of Sarvastivadian
- 5.3 Further development of Bodhisattva concept: the way of the Mahayana

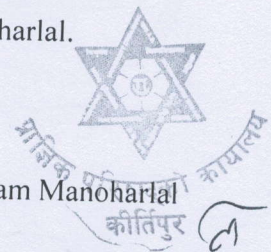
Unit VI: Buddhism in Gupta and Pala Period

10 TH

- 6.1 Chinese travelers accounts on the state of Buddhism
- 6.2 Buddhism under Harsha-Vardhana
- 6.3 Contribution of Pala Rulers: Gopal, Dhammapala, Devapala and Mahipala in Buddhism
- 6.4 Development of Tantric Tradition: the way of Vajrayana
- 6.5 Academic Centers: Taxasila, Nalanda, Vikramsila, Odantapuri and Vallabhi
- 6.6 Crisis of Buddhism in India
- 6.7 Preservation of Buddhism in Nepal

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Basic Teachings of the Buddha and Buddhist Religion

Semester: I

Paper: II

Course Code: BS 502

Credit Hour: 3

Teaching Hour: 48

Full Marks: 100

Course Description

This course introduces socio-cultural and religious background of the evolution of Buddhism in the contemporary society. It also imparts the foundational teachings of the Buddha and the developments of Buddhism as a religion in three *yānas* and their core concepts and teachings aimed at attaining theoretical knowledge of liberation.

Objective

The main objective of this course is to impart the courses of evolution of Buddhism, its basic teachings and development of Buddhism as a religion and three *yānas* in later period.

Unit I: Introduction

TH 8

- 1.1 Religious and philosophical background of the evolution of Buddhism
- 1.2 Socio-cultural conditions
- 1.3 Concept and essential features of religion
- 1.4 Teachings of the Buddha
- 1.5 Buddhism as a religion
- 1.6 Tri-ratna: Buddha, Dharma and Sangha

Unit II: Basic Teachings of the Buddha

TH 10

- 2.1 *Chaturāryasatya* (Four Noble Truths)
 - 2.1.1 *Āryāstangika Mārga* (Noble Eight-Fold Path)
- 2.2 *Pratityasamutpada* (Law of Dependent Origination)
- 2.3 Trilakshna: Anitya, Dukha and Anatma
- 2.4 *Nirvana* (Buddhist concept of liberation)
- 2.5 Sila: Pancha-sila, Ashta-sila and Dasa-sila
- 2.6 *Chatu-bramhavihāra* (the four sublime state)

Unit III: Sravakayāna

- 3.1 Etymology, concept and objectives of Sravakayana
- 3.2 Sravakayāna and Pratekbuddhayāna
- 3.3 Bodhisattva concept in Sravakayāna



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- 3.4 Arhat and its stages: Shrotapanna, Skridagami, Anagami and Arhat
- 3.5 Dasa Samyojana (Ten Fetters)
- 3.6 Sapta-Bodhyanga (Seven factors for attainment of Nirvana)
- 3.7 Meditation: Samatha and Vipassana
- 3.8 Concept of nirvana in Sravakayāna

Unit IV: Mahayana

TH 10

- 4.1 Etymology, Concept, Meaning and Objectives of Mahayana (Bodhisattvayana)
- 4.2 Bodhicittva and its methods of development
- 4.3 *Sata-paramita* (Six Perfections)
- 4.4 Ten Bodhisattva *bumis* (Ten Stages of *Bodhisattva*)
- 4.5 Bodhisattva *samvara* (Precepts)
- 4.6 *Kleshavarana* and *Jneyavarana*; discernment of *Pudgala Niratma* and *Dharma Nairatma*.
- 4.7 *Tri-kāya*: *Dharmakāya*, *Sambhogakāya* and *Nirmanakāya*
- 4.8 Concept of nirvana in Mahayana

Unit 5: Vajrayana

TH 10

- 5.1 Etymology, concept and objectives of Vajrayana
- 5.2 Mantra, Tantra and Mandala
- 5.3 *Abhiseka* (ordination)
- 5.4 Panca-Buddha and its symbolism of Vajrayana
- 5.5 Vajrayana meditation
- 5.6 Four Systems of tantric thought's and their goals:
 - (i) *Kriyā Tantra*
 - (ii) *Caryā Tantra*
 - (iii) *Yoga Tantra*
 - (iv) *Annuttarayoga Tantra*
- 5.7 Concept of nirvana in Vajrayana

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Buddhist Pali Literature

Semester: I
Paper: III
Course Code: BS 503

Credit Hour: 3
Teaching Hour: 48
Full Marks: 100

Course Description

The course introduces Buddhist literature written in Pali Languages and how Pali is being used in Buddhism. The course imparts the knowledge on some selected Pali Buddhist texts and textual study on selected Sutra Pitaka, Vinaya Pitaka, Abhidharma Pitaka, Pali Gātha and Anupitaka, Attakathā and other Pali literature.

Objective

Its objective is to impart fundamentals of Buddhist Pali literature and textual study on selected portion of various Pali texts viz., *Tripitaka*, *Anupitaka*, *Atthakatha* and other texts of Theravada Buddhism.

Unit I: Background of Buddhist Pali Literature

8 TH

- 1.1 Evolution of Buddha *vacana* to Buddhist Pali literature: Buddha, Buddha *vacana/dhamma*, Eighty-four thousand *dhamma-skanda*, *navanga* (Nine *angas*) of Buddha *vacana* and Buddhist Pali literature
- 1.2 Theravada Nikaya and Pali language: Theravada Nikaya, introduction to Pali language and historical development of use of Pali language in Buddhism
- 1.3 Buddhist Pali literature: Introduction
- 1.4 Variety of Buddhist Pali literature: Tri-Pitaka, Anu-Pitaka, Attakatha and other Pali literature
- 1.5 Introduction to textual study

Unit II: Textual Study on Pali Sutta Pitaka

8 TH

- 2.1 Sutta Pitaka: Introduction
- 2.2 Digha Nikaya: Introduction, Aggaganna Sutta
- 2.3 Majjhima Nikaya: Introduction, Saccavibhanga Sutta
- 2.4 Samyutta Nikaya: Introduction, Akkosa Sutta
- 2.5 Anguttara Nikaya: Introduction, Vassakara Sutta



Unit III: Textual Study on Pali Vinaya Pitaka

8TH

- 3.1 Vinaya Pitaka: Introduction
- 3.2 Bhikkhu Patimokha: Introduction, Parajika and Sanghadisesa
- 3.3 Bhikkhuni Patimokha: Introduction, Parajika and Sanghadisesa





- 3.4 Khhudraka Skhandaka: Vihar-nirmana
- 3.5 Saptasatika-Skhandaka

Unit IV: Textual Studies on Abhidhamma Pitaka

8 TH

- 4.1 Abhidhamma Pitaka: Introduction
- 4.2 Dhammasangani Matika: Introduction, Tika matika and duka matika
- 4.3 Katha-Vatthu: Introduction, introduction of the existence of a personal entity: the eight refutations
- 4.4 Patthana: Introduction, Paccayaniddeho

Unit V: Textual Study on Pali Gātha and Anupitaka

8 TH

- 5.1 Khuddakha Nikaya: Introduction
- 5.2 Thera Gatha: Introduction, Maha Kotthika Thera Gatha and Walliya Thera Gatha
- 5.3 Theri Gatha: Introduction, Dhamma Theri Gatha and Avaya Theri Gatha
- 5.4 Anu Pitaka: Introduction
- 5.5 Milinda Panha: Introduction, Lakhana Panha (Pratisandhi, Arhat Sukha-Dukha and Vedagu)

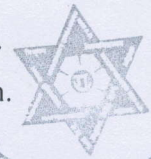
Unit VI: Textual Study on Atthakatha and Other Pali Literature

8 TH

- 6.1 Jatakathakatha: Introduction
- 6.2 Nidanakatha: Introduction, Abidure Nidana (Devata Yachan to Laksankathana)
- 6.3 Dhammapada Attakatha: Introduction
- 6.4 Atthakatha of Yamakabaggo Verse No. 5 Nahi verena verani...; Kalayakkhinibatthu
- 6.5 Saddhmmasangaho: Introduction, Pitakalekhanabanna, 6th Chapter
- 6.6 Visuddhi Magga: Introduction, Brahmavihara Niradesh 9th Chapter

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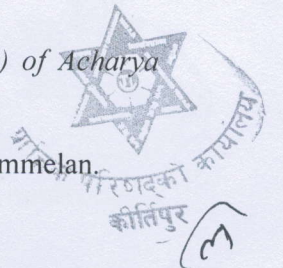
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Buddhist Architecture and Archaeology

Semester: I

Paper: IV

Course Code: BS 504

Credit Hour: 3

Teaching Hour: 48

Full Marks: 100

Course Description

This course familiarizes the students in Buddhist architecture and archeology. The course imparts the knowledge of origin and development of Vihara; Nepalese Vihara, Stupa, Multi-roofed temples, major Buddhist archeological sites in Nepal and how these architectures and archeological sites are being conserved and preserved.

Objective

The main objective of this course is to study the Buddhist architectural structures on the basis of its style, symbol, motifs, and patterns in existing monuments. The study focus on Stupas, Caityas and Vihara from historical monuments and Buddhist archaeological sites of Nepal.

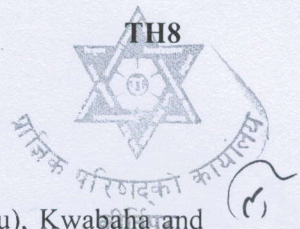
Unit I: Buddhist Architecture

TH 8

- 1.1 Meaning and definition of architecture
- 1.2 Sources of Buddhist architecture: literary and archeological
- 1.3 Origin and development of Vihara
- 1.4 Features of Vihara, *prasad*, *addhayoga*, *guha* (cave) and *harmya*
- 1.5 Vihara's of Buddha's time: Veluvanaram, Jetavanaram, Purvaram and Nigrodharam
- 1.6 Features of ancient *mahaviharas*: Nalanda and Vikramsila

Unit II: Viharas of Nepal

- 2.1 Architectural remains in the archaeological sites of Nepalese Tarai
- 2.2 Historicity of pre-ancient and ancient Vihara, Mahavihara in Nepal
- 2.3 *Baha* and *Bahil* of Medieval Period in Nepal Mandala
 - 2.3.1 Architectural features of Itumbaha and Laganbaha (Kathmandu), Kwabaha and Okubaha (Patan) and Tadhichhenbaha (Bhaktapur)
 - 2.3.2 Architectural features of Cabahi and Thambahi (Kathmandu), Yampibahi and Ibahabahi (Patan) and Thathubahi (Bhaktapur)
- 2.4 Gonpa and Vihara (Theravada) Architectural of Nepal
 - 2.4.1 General architectural features of Gonpa
 - 2.4.2 General architectural features of Vihara (Theravada)



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Unit III: Stupa/Caitya, Pillar and Multi-roofed (Sikhara) Temple

TH 8

- 3.1 Origin and Development of Stupa
- 3.2 Legendary Dhamma Stupa of Asoka in Patan (Lagan, Pulchok, Pimbaha and Imadole of Patan)
- 3.3 Features of Svayambhu *caitya*, Khasti *caitya*, Srighal, Pimbaha (Patan), Chilanchu (Kirtipur), Namobuddha (Kavre), Patharnauli (Dullu) and Kuchi (Achham)
- 3.4 Architectural features of eight auspicious Chorten
- 3.5 Architectural features of Ashok Pillar.
- 3.6 Architectural features of Multi-roofed and Sikhara temple
 - 3.6.1 Multi-roofed temple of Janabaha (Kathmandu), Phampibahi (Pharping), Gunbaha (Sankhu) and Laskadyobaha (Bhaktapur)
 - 3.6.2 Sikhara temple of Pratapur (Kathmandu), Mahabauddha (Patan), Kankre Vihar (Surkhet)

Unit IV: Buddhist Archaeological Sites in Terai, Kathmandu Valley and Northern Nepal

TH 10

- 4.1 Meaning and definition of archaeology
- 4.2 Origin, types, steps and goals of archaeology
- 4.3 Identification of Buddhist sites from literary and archaeological evidences
- 4.4 Archaeological evidences in Terai and Western Nepal: Lumbini and its surroundings, Tilaurakot (Kapilavastu), Sagarhawa, Rāmagrāma, Kudān, Punditpur, Surkhet, Dullu, and Luri (Mustang).
- 4.5 Role of cultural history and Religious Studies in Buddhist archeology of India and Nepal.
- 4.6 Buddhist archaeological artifacts of Handigaun, Dhando *Caitya*, Tukanbaha (Kathmandu) and Usnishvijaya-*Caitya* (Mustang).

Unit V: Conservation and Preservation of Arts and Ritual Objects

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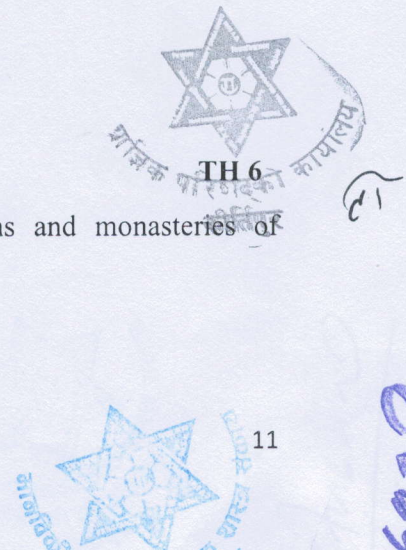
- 5.1 History of conservation and preservation of art objects
- 5.2 *Busādhan/Tisavicā guthi* and preservation of monuments
- 5.3 Causes of decaying: clay, wood, metal art objects and paintings
- 5.4 Preservation of liturgical art objects

Unit VI: Related Site Visits and Report Writing

Visit of the architectural and archaeological sites, museums and monasteries of Kathmandu Valley and writing the field visit report.

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History of Buddhism in Nepal



Semester: I
Paper: V
Course Code: BS 505

Credit Hour: 3
Teaching Hour: 48
Full Marks: 100

Course Description

This course imparts the chronological knowledge of Nepalese Buddhist History from the time of the Buddha, Kirat Period, Lichhavi Period, Early and Later Medieval periods, and in Modern Nepal. It also incorporates the mythological account of the Buddha in Kathmandu Valley.

Objective

The main objective of this course is to impart historical Knowledge on Nepalese Buddhist history from Kirat Period to Modern Nepal.

Unit I: Introduction

7 TH

- 1.1 Nepal: The birth place of three Buddhas
- 1.2 Sources of Nepalese Buddhist History: Literary, Archeological and Mythological
- 1.3 Three Buddhist Traditions: Theravada, Buddhism in the Himalayan region and Buddhism of Nepal Mandala
- 1.4 Mythological accounts in Nepalese Buddhism with reference to Svoyambhu Purana

Unit II: Buddhism in Kirat Period

7 TH

- 2.1 Visits of Sakyamuni Buddha to his homeland
- 2.2 Arrival of Sakya and Koliya to Kathmandu Valley
- 2.3 Visit of Shakyamuni Buddha and Ananda to Kathmandu Valley
- 2.4 Asoka's Dhamma mission to Himavanta Region
- 2.5 Asoka's contribution to Lumbini and Kapilvastu area
- 2.6 Visit of Asoka to Kathmandu Valley



Unit III: Buddhism in Lichhavi Period

8 TH

- 3.1 Lichhavi Period
- 3.2 Vrishadeva a Buddhist King of Nepal
- 3.3 Buddhist Viharas in Lichhavi Period (Kathmandu)
- 3.4 Nepal was the supplier of Buddhism to Tibet: Contribution of Narendradeva, Amshu Varma and Bhrikuti
- 3.5 Visit of Chinese Travelers (Fa Hien- 4th century and Hieun Tsang- 7th century) to Lumbini, Kapilvastu and Ramagram area
- 3.6 Guthi system and status of Buddhism in Lichhavi Period



Unit IV: Buddhism in Early Medieval Period

8 TH

- 4.1 Early Medieval period
- 4.2 Buddhism in Medieval Nepal with reference to Shivadeva II, Rudradeva and Bhaskaradeva
- 4.3 Nepalese Buddhist *acharyas*: Surat Vajra (*acarya*) and Lila Vajra
- 4.4 Medieval Nepal as a transit of Buddhist scholars from India and Tibet
- 4.5 Contribution of: Atisa Dipankara, Shantarakshita, Padmasambhava and Kamalasila in Nepalese Buddhist History
- 4.6 Nepal was the supplier of Buddhist artisans: Work of Nepalese artisans Arniko in spread of Buddhism in Tibet and China.
- 4.7 Influence of *Shivism* in Nepalese Buddhism
- 4.8 Nathapantha (AD 850-940) and Nepalese Buddhism
- 4.9 Social reformation of Sthiti Malla and its impact in Buddhist society

Unit V: Buddhism Under Later Medieval Malla Kings

6 TH

- 5.1 Later Medieval Period
- 5.2 Buddhism in later medieval Nepal with reference to: Ratna Malla, Pratap Malla, Vim Mall and Jayaprakash Malla of Kathmandu
- 5.3 Buddhism in later medieval Nepal with reference to: Sidhinarasimha Malla and Srinivas Malla of Lalitpur
- 5.4 Buddhism in later medieval Nepal with reference to: Jitamitra Malla, Bhupatindra Malla and Ranjit Malla of Bhaktpur

Unit VI: Spread of Buddhism in Western Nepal

6 TH

- 6.1 Khasa Kingdom
- 6.2 Position of Buddhism in Khasa Kingdom during medieval Nepal
- 6.3 Contributions of Khasa Kings: Prithvi Malla, Punya Malla, and Jitari Malla for the promotion of Buddhism in Western Nepal
- 6.4 Lumbini during Khasa Empire: Visit of Ripu Malla

Unit VII: Buddhism Under Modern Period (1769- onwards)

6 TH

- 7.1 Prithi Narayan Shah and Samyak Mahadana of Kathmandu
- 7.2 Rediscover Lumbini
- 7.3 King Tribhuvan and revival of Theravada Buddhism
- 7.4 Role of Bridgen Hudson in the Nepalese Buddhist history

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