



## Buddhist Traditions in South and South East Asia

**Semester: III**  
**Paper: XI**  
**Course Code: BS 601**

**Credit Hour: 3**  
**Teaching Hour: 48**  
**Full Mark: 100**

### Course Description

This course examines the historical development, sub-schools, and cultural contributions of Theravāda Buddhism in South and Southeast Asia, with a focus on Sri Lanka, Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia, Bangladesh, Indonesia, and Laos. Through an exploration of major Buddhist sites, key traditions, and regional characteristics, students will gain insight into the rich diversity of Buddhist practices and their influence on local cultures.

### Objective

It intends to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the historical evolution, sub-schools, and cultural significance of Buddhism in South and Southeast Asia, fostering an appreciation for its regional diversity and contributions to the global Buddhist heritage

### Unit I: Buddhism in Sri Lanka

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- 1.1 History and development Buddhism in Sri Lanka
- 1.2 Buddhist sub-schools: Mahaviharavasi, Abhayagiri, Dharmaruchi Nikaya and Jetavana Nikaya
- 1.3 Major Buddhist sites in Sri Lanka: Anuradhapur, Polonaruwa, Sigiria, Candy and Dhambulla Cave.
- 1.4 Contribution of Sri Lanka in Theravada Buddhism
- 1.5 Chief features of Buddhism in Sri Lanka

### Unit II: Buddhism in Thailand

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- 2.1 History and development of Buddhism in Thailand
- 2.2 Buddhist sub-schools: Dhammayoktika nikaya and Mahanikaya
- 2.3 Contribution of Thailand in Theravada Buddhism
- 2.4 Major Buddhist sites: Sukhothai Historical Park, Wat Phra Kaew in Bangkok (Emerald Buddha) Ayutthaya/historic Park and Ching Mai
- 2.5 Chief features of Thai Buddhism

### Unit III: Buddhism in Myanmar

8 TH

- 3.1 History and development of Buddhism in Myanmar
- 3.2 Buddhist sub-schools: Mhrahma sangha, Sihala Sangha
- 3.3 Contribution of Myanmar in Theravada Buddhism
- 3.4 Major Buddhist sites: Pagan/Bagan, Swedgon Pagoda, Pyu Ancient cities, and Ancient Cities around Mandaley

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3.5 Chief features of Buddhism in Myanmar

**Unit IV: Buddhism in Cambodia**

**8 TH**

- 4.1 History and development of Buddhism in Cambodia
- 4.2 Buddhist sub-schools: Thammayunikāi ( Dhammayuttika Nikaya) and Mahanikāi ( Mahanikaya)
- 4.3 Contribution of Cambodia Buddhism
- 4.4 Major Buddhist sites in Cambodia: Ankor War, Bayon Temple, Wat Langka, Wat Ounalom
- 4.5 Chief features of Buddhism in in Cambodia

**Unit V: Buddhism in Bangladesh**

**6 TH**

- 5.1 History of Buddhism in Bangladesh
- 5.2 Buddhist communities in Bangladesh
- 5.3 Major Buddhist sites: Sompura Mahavihara, Jagaddala Mahavihara, Mainamati Shalban Vihara and Vikrampura)
- 5.4 Chief features of Buddhism in Bangladesh

**Unit VI: Buddhism in Indonesia and Laos**

**10 TH**

- 6.1 History of Buddhism in Indonesia
- 6.2 Buddhist traditions in Indonesia
- 6.3 Borobudur
- 6.4 Chief features of Buddhism in Indonesia
- 6.5 History of Buddhism in Laos
- 6.6 Buddhist sites in Laos: Temple of the golden city (Wat Xieng Thong), Vat Phou/ Wat Phou, Pha That Luang

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## Eastern Religion and Philosophy

**Semester: III**  
**Paper: XII**  
**Course Code: BS 602**

**Credit Hour: 3**  
**Teaching Hour: 48**  
**Full Mark: 100**

### Course Description

This course explores the foundational concepts of Eastern religions and philosophies, including Vedic traditions, six systems of Vedic philosophy, non-Vedic philosophies, and Far Eastern religious systems such as Taoism, Confucianism, Shinto, and Bon. The course delves into their historical origins, core teachings, practices, and philosophical frameworks, offering students an integrative understanding of their spiritual and cultural contributions.

### Objectives

The main objective of the course is to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the diverse religious and philosophical traditions of the East, emphasizing their principles, practices, and influence on the development of human thought and culture.

### Unit I: Basics of Eastern Religion and Philosophy

5 TH

- 1.1 Introduction to Eastern Religion
- 1.2 Concept of dharma in Eastern religion
- 1.3 Definition of religion in eastern concept
- 1.4 Religious theism:
  - 1.4.1 Theism and Atheism
  - 1.4.2 Monotheism
  - 1.4.3 Henotheism
  - 1.4.4 Polytheism
- 1.5 Definition of philosophy and its types:
  - 1.5.1 Theistic Philosophy
  - 1.5.2 Atheistic philosophy

### Unit II: Vedic Literature and Vedic Way of Life

10 TH

- 2.1 Vedic literatures
  - 2.1.1 Definition of Veda
  - 2.1.2 Development of Vedic Samhita, Bhramana Grantha, Aranyaka and Upanisad
  - 2.1.3 Types of Samhita
- 2.2 Essence of Samhitas
  - 2.2.1 Rig VedaSamhita.
  - 2.2.2 Sam VedaSamhita

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- 4.1.2 Concept of *Jeeva* and *Atma*
- 4.1.3 *Saptavhangi syadvada*
- 4.1.4 *Panca-mahavarta*
- 4.1.5 Sects: *Digamvara* and *Svetamvara*
- 4.1.6 *Kaivalya*
- 4.2 *Carvaka*
  - 4.2.1 Meaning
  - 4.2.2 Founder
  - 4.2.3 Theory of knowledge and metaphysics

#### Unit V: Far Eastern Religion and Philosophy

7 TH

- 5.1 Taoism:
  - 5.1.1 Origin and meaning of Tao
  - 5.1.2 life of Lao Tsu
  - 5.1.3 Tao Te Ching
  - 5.1.4 Basic Teachings of Tao and Longevity of life
- 5.2 Confucianism
  - 5.2.1 Origin of Confucianism
  - 5.2.2 Life of Confucius
  - 5.2.3 Confucius Philosophy on Education
  - 5.2.4 The five teachings of Confucius

#### Unit VI: Shinto and Bon

5 TH

- 6.1 Meaning and origin of Shinto
- 6.2 Philosophy and practices of Shinto
- 6.3 Introduction to Bon
- 6.4 Bon practices

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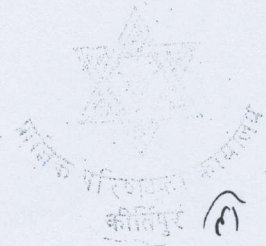
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## Buddhist Traditions in North, East, and Central Asia

Semester: III  
Paper: XIII  
Course Code: BS 603

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

### Course Description

This course provides an in-depth exploration of the historical development, spread, and distinctive features of Buddhism across North Asia, East Asia, Central Asia, and beyond, including Pakistan, Afghanistan, China, Japan, and Russia. It examines the influence of Buddhism on archaeological sites, cultural practices, and texts, emphasizing the interplay of local traditions with Buddhist philosophy and practice.

### Objectives

Its objectives of the course is to analyze the historical, cultural, and philosophical development of Buddhism across diverse regions, understanding its role in shaping cultural identities and spiritual practices globally.

### Unit I: Buddhism in Pakistan, Afghanistan and Central Asian Countries 8 TH

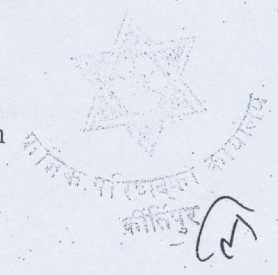
- 1.1 Buddhism in Pakistan
  - 1.1.1 Spread of Buddhism in Pakistan
  - 1.1.2 Survey of the Buddhist Archaeological and Cultural Sites in Pakistan
- 1.2 Buddhism in Afghanistan
  - 1.2.1 Spread of Buddhism in Afghanistan
  - 1.2.2 Survey of the Buddhist Archaeological and Cultural Sites in Afghanistan
- 1.3 Silk Road traders and spread of Buddhist Culture
- 1.4 Buddhism in Central Asian countries
  - 1.4.1 Spread of Buddhism in Central Asian Countries
  - 1.4.2 Survey of the Buddhist Archaeological and Cultural Sites in Central Asia: Asoka's Edicts, Texts Translated in Silk- road

### Unit II: Buddhism in China 10 TH

- 2.1 History of Buddhism in China
- 2.2 Prominent Buddhist Sects in China
  - 2.2.1 Han Buddhism: Introduction, Schools of Popular practice (Pure land, Chan, and Others)
  - 2.2.2 Tibetan Buddhism

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- 2.2.3 Theravada Buddhism
- 2.3 Major Buddhist Grottoes: Dunhuang, Maijishan, Yungang, and Longmen
- 2.4 Sacred Mountains: Wutai Shan and Others
- 2.5 Chief features of Han Buddhism: Influence of Platform Sutra and Lotus Sutra

### **Unit III: Buddhism in Korea and Vietnam**

8 TH

- 3.1 Buddhism in Korea
  - 3.1.1 History of Buddhism in Korea
  - 3.1.2 Prominent Buddhist Sects in Korea: Hwaom, and Son
  - 3.1.3 Chief features of Korean Buddhism
- 3.2 Buddhism in Vietnam
  - 3.2.1 History of Buddhism in Vietnam
  - 3.2.2 Prominent Buddhist Sects in Vietnam: Pure Land, Chan and Theravada
  - 3.2.3 Chief features of Vietnamese Buddhism

### **Unit IV: Buddhism in Japan**

6 TH

- 4.1 History of Buddhism in Japan
- 4.2 Prominent Buddhist Sects in Japan: Tendai, Shingon, Jodo Shu, Jodo Shinshu, Zen, Soto Zen and Nichiren
- 4.3 Chief features of Japanese Buddhism

### **Unit V: Buddhism in Bhutan and India**

8 TH

- 5.1 Buddhism in Bhutan
  - 5.1.1 History of Buddhism in Bhutan
  - 5.1.2 Prominent Buddhist Sects in Bhutan: Drukpa Kagyupa and Nyingma-pa
  - 5.1.3 Chief features of Bhutanese Buddhism
- 5.2 Buddhism in India
  - 5.2.1 History of Buddhism in Ladakh, Himanchal Pradesh, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh and Jammu Kashmir
  - 5.2.2 Present Condition of Buddhism in Ladakh, Himanchal Pradesh, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, and Jmmu Kashmir

### **Unit VI: Buddhism in Mongolia and Russia**

8 TH

- 6.1 Buddhism in Mongolia
  - 6.1.1 History of Buddhism in Mongolia
  - 6.1.2 Prominent Buddhist Sect in Mongolia: Gelugpa
  - 6.1.3 Chief features of Mongolian Buddhism
- 6.2 Buddhism in Russia
  - 6.2.1 History of Buddhism in Russia
  - 6.2.2 Prominent Buddhist Sect in Russia: Gelugpa
  - 6.2.3 Chief features of Russian Buddhism

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## Western Religion and Philosophy

Semester: III  
Paper: XIV  
Course Code: BS 604

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

### Course Description

This course delves into the intersection of metaphysics, religion, and philosophy, tracing their evolution from ancient Greek thought to the beliefs and practices of Abrahamic traditions. It further explores critical and socio-cultural theories of hermeneutical discourses.

### Course Objectives

Its objective is to develop a nuanced understanding of metaphysical concepts, religious philosophies, and critical theories, enabling students to critically analyze and contextualize diverse intellectual and cultural traditions.

- |   |              |
|---|--------------|
| <b>Unit I: Metaphysics and Religion</b>   | <b>8 TH</b>  |
| 1.1 Introduction to Metaphysics: definition, nature of Metaphysics (Philosophy) |              |
| 1.2 Introduction to Western Religion: Definition and Nature                     |              |
| 1.3 Concept of Pantheism and Theism   |              |
| <b>Unit II: Greek Philosophy and Philosophers</b>                               | <b>10 TH</b> |
| 2.1 Socrates' life and his theory of Concept                                    |              |
| 2.2 Plato's life and Theory of Idea   |              |
| 2.3 Aristotle's life and theory of Evolution                                    |              |
| <b>Unit III: Abrahamic Religion</b>   | <b>10 TH</b> |
| 3.1 Moses and the Children's of the Gods  |              |
| 3.2 Origin of the Hebrews   |              |
| 3.3 Introduction to Judaism: Beliefs and Practices                              |              |
| 3.4 Introduction to Christianity: Beliefs and Practices                         |              |
| 3.5 Introduction to Islam: Beliefs and Practices                                |              |
| <b>Unit IV: Criticism and Critical Theories</b>                                 | <b>10 TH</b> |
| 4.1 Mimesis: Ancient Greek literary theory                                      |              |
| 4.2 Hermeneutics: Interpretation  |              |
| 4.3 Modernism and Postmodernism   |              |
| 4.4 Deconstruction  |              |
| <b>Unit V: Socio-Cultural Theories</b>  | <b>10 TH</b> |
| 5.1 Interdisciplinary/Anti-disciplinarily                                       |              |
| 5.2 Feminism: the essentialism debate   |              |
| 5.3 Toward a Theory of Cultural Trauma  |              |
| 5.4 Environmentalism  |              |
| 5.5 Eco criticism   |              |

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## Research Methodology and Art of Translation

Semester: III  
Paper: XV  
Course Code: BS 605

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

### Course Description

This course provides a comprehensive introduction to research methodologies, data collection techniques, and practical aspects of thesis and report writing, with a special focus on applications of information technology. It also explores the art and significance of translation, emphasizing the challenges of translating Buddhist philosophical texts and reconstructing lost Sanskrit manuscripts.

### Objective

The main objective is to equip students with advanced research skills, including data analysis, academic writing, and the use of Information Technology tools, while fostering an understanding of translation practices essential for Buddhist Studies.

### Unit I: Introduction

5 TH

- 1.1 Meaning and importance of research
- 1.2 General survey of various methods of research including: survey, observation, interview, questionnaire, documentary, library, and historical-method
- 1.3 Types of research: descriptive and analytical, and quantitative and qualitative
- 1.4 Content analysis
- 1.5 Defining, identifying and selection of the research problems

### Unit II: Research Evidences/Information

5 TH

- 2.1 Meaning and importance of information/evidence
- 2.2 Types of information/evidence: mute and verbal
- 2.3 Sources of evidences
  - 2.3.1 Primary and secondary sources
  - 2.3.2 Literary, archaeological, archival, documents, coins, inscriptions, and art-objects
  - 2.3.3 Contemporary records, papers, and periodicals
  - 2.3.4 Devotional songs, lore and legends

### Unit III: Methods of Collection of Data/Information

5 TH

- 3.1 Consultation of published and unpublished documents, and records
- 3.2 Questionnaire/schedule
- 3.3 Interviews

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- 3.4 Observation.
- 3.5 Developing of research tools

**Unit IV: Research Proposal and Practical Aspects of Thesis/Report Writing** 9 TH

- 4.1 Research proposal
  - 4.1.1 Meaning and importance of research proposal
  - 4.1.2 Component of research proposal: title, introduction/context, statement of the problem, research questions, hypothesis (if any), objectives, delimitation, review of literature, conceptual framework, research methodology, organization of the study/chapter division and works cited/references
  - 4.1.3 Arrangement of component of research proposal
  - 4.1.4 Proposal writing (practical/assignment)
- 4.2 Practical aspects of thesis/report writing
  - 4.2.1 Meaning and importance of thesis/report
  - 4.2.2 Structure of thesis: the preliminary/front matter, the body or the chapters, and the reference materials
  - 4.2.3 Uniformity of chapter division, title, sub title
  - 4.2.4 Rules of footnote citation, paper margin, spacing, pagination
  - 4.2.5 Abbreviation and glossary, classification and arrangement of bibliography/references
  - 4.2.6 Arrangement/Presentation of appendix, maps, tables, chart and photographs
  - 4.2.7 Use of bold, italics, underline, single inverted and double inverted commas
  - 4.2.8 Plagiarism and ethical requirements

**Unit V: Computer Application and Internet for Research** 16 TH

- 5.1 Applications of Information Technology for research
  - 5.1.1. Word Processor: Introduction of word processor, creating, saving, and formatting documents, Unicode fonts (Kokila) and diacritical marks, headings, generating table of contents, references, footnotes
  - 5.1.2. Spreadsheet: introduction of worksheet, and workbook, formatting worksheet using formula and functions, creating charts and graphs
  - 5.1.3. Presentation software: introduction of presentation software, creating, saving and formatting presentation, inserting pictures, sound and videos.
  - 5.1.4. Web tools for research
- 5.2 Internet
  - 5.2.1 Introduction, World Wide Web (www), URL (Uniform Resource Location)
  - 5.2.2 Evaluating internet resources: authority, accuracy and objectivity
  - 5.2.3 Brief note on e-Books and virtual library

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## Unit VI: Art of Translation

8 TH

- 6.1 Definition, meaning, significance and scope of translation
- 6.2 Types of translation: literary, professional and technical translation
- 6.3 Theory, principles, techniques of translation
- 6.4 Problems in translating Buddhist philosophical texts
- 6.5 Reconstruction of lost Sanskrit text
- 6.6 Translator and translation
- 6.7 Translation process: translating, editing, proof reading
- 6.8 Importance of translation in Buddhist studies in context of Nepal

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