**Cover Page** 

AC 111. 5 . 17 Item No. 4.166

# **UNIVERSITY OF MUMBAI**



# **Syllabus for Approval**

Sr. No.	Heading	Particulars
1	Title of the Course	M. A. Buddhist Studies
2	Eligibility for Admission	Students with a bachelors degree from any discipline would qualify for admission
3	Passing Marks	40
4	Ordinances / Regulations ( if any)	
5	No. of Years / Semesters	Semesters 2
6	Level	P.G. / U.G./ Diploma / Certificate (Strike out which is not applicable)
7	Pattern	Yearly / Semester (Strike out which is not applicable)
8	Status	New / Revised (Strike out which is not applicable)
9	To be implemented from Academic Year	From Academic Year 2017- 2018

Date: 09.05.2017

Signature: Keenal Name of BOS Chairperson / Dean: Dr. Meenal Kedarnikar

# SEM - I

#### **Buddhist Ethics**

The Dhammapada says "Not to do any evil, to cultivate the good and to purify one's mind—this is the teaching of the Buddhas" (183). This paper will introduce the student to the principles of Buddhist ethics, examining them in the context of later devel opments in Buddhist doctrine as well. Ethical principles in Buddhism ar e not based on a code of obedience and punishment/reward. The Buddha explains the consequences of action and the teachings are directed to training the mind, so that it does not fall into unskillful states in which actions cause harm to oneself and to others. Students will also be familiarized with the Buddhist view on some modern issues such as euthanasia and abortion, as well as economics and the environment. Three case studies will be included, of Tibet, Thailand and Burma, where the monastic community has been actively engaged in a struggle for justice and humane governance.

#### UNIT I

- 1) Overview of Buddhist Ethics arising from the Buddhist world view; the key concepts of karma and rebirth.
- 2) Ethics in Theravada Buddhism: Vinaya, the Arahat ideal.
- 3) Ethics in Theravada Buddhism: concepts and approach for laity. *SigalovadaSutta*, *VyagghapajjaPutta*.

#### **UNIT II**

- 4) Mahayana Ethics: implications of the Bodhisattva ideal.
- 5) The Vajrayana Path and transcending ethics
- 6) Buddhist view on violence: war and vegetarianism.

#### **UNIT III**

- 7) Buddhist view on the right to life: abortion, suicide, euthanasia.
- 8) Buddhist perspective on gender and sexuality.
- 9) Buddhist perspective on economics, environment and modern living.

#### **UNIT IV**

- 10) Buddhist perspective on human rights and political activism.
- 11) Activist monks: The case of Tibet Thailand.
- 12) Activist monks: Thailand and Burma.

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This paper aims to take an overview\_of vast Buddhist litrature. It comprises of Pali Canonical, Non Cannonical, Biographical literature as well as Vaipulya Sutras and Later Buddhist literature.

## Review of Buddhist Literature

# 1. Pali Cannonical & Non- Cannoniac Literature

- A. Tripitakas & Commentaries
- B. Chronology of Commentaries
- C. Non- Cannoniacl Literature Milind-panha ,Visuddhimagga, Vansa literature

# 2. Biographical Literature

- A. Jatakas & Avadana Cariapitaka, dasaparamita
- B. Lalitvistara
- C. Buddhacharita

# 3. Vaipulya Sutras

- A. Introduction to Vaipulya Sutras
- B. Content & Chronology of Vaipulya Sutras
- C. Religious Geography of Vaipulya Sutras

# 4. Later Buddhist Literature

- A. Chinese Canon
- B. Tibetan Canon
- C. Tantra Text

- 1. Adikaram, E.W. *Early History of Buddhism in Ceylon*, Sri Lanka: Dehiwala-The Buddhist Cultural Centre, 1994.U KO Lay Guide to Tipitaka.New Delhi: Sri Satguru Publications, 1990.
- 2. Banerjee, A.C. Sarvastivada Literature. Calcutta: Oriental Press, 1957
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- 6. Cabezon, J. I. and Roger R. Jackson. *Tibetan Literature: Studies in Genre*. Ithaca, N. Y.: Snow Lion, 1996.
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- 28. Heine, Steven, Dale S. Wright. *The Koan: Texts and Contexts in Zen Buddhism.* Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000.
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Semester II: Core Paper 3

Key Concepts of Buddhism

Course Content:

This course will be provide an introduction to the fundamental ideas of Buddhism and discuss their specific meanings in the Buddhist context. Early Buddhist ideas and later

developments will be explored in comparative light,

Course Objectives:

This course is designed to equip the student with a firm foundation in Buddhist principles and ideas, so that they make a meaningful transition to further study of Buddhist philosophy, textual study and criticism, social and cultural anthropology, art history etc.

Unit I: The Four Noble Truths

a) Suffering: the human condition.

b) Cause and Cessation: the notion of self, desire and clinging leading to suffering. Cessation as freedom. Noble Eightfold Path: threefold division into

ethical conduct, meditation and insight.

Unit II: Fundamental Philosophical Concepts

a) Three marks of existence: Anitya, Duḥkha, Anātman

b) Dependent Origination

c) Karma and Rebirth

# Unit III: Mahāyānā Concepts

- a) Bodhisattva: in early Buddhist literature and Mahāyānā development.
- b) Marga: Stages on the Path to Liberation in early Buddhist literature
- c) Marga: Stages on the Path to Liberation in Mahāyānā

# Unit IV: Meditation and Cosmology

- a) Meditation: Samatha and Vipasyanā
- b) Visualisation as a meditation technique in Pure Land Buddhism; mandalas in Vajrayāna.
- c) Buddhist Cosmology: Kāma-, Rūpa- and Ārūpya Dhātu,

- Anderson, Carol S. Pain and its Ending: The Four Noble Truths in the Theravāda Buddhist Canon. Edited by Charles S. Prebish and Damien Keown. Curzon Critical Studies in Buddhism Series. Richmond, UK: Curzon, 1999.
- 2. Bodhi, Bhikkhu. *The Noble Eightfold Path: The Way to the End of Suffering*. Kandy: Buddhist Publication Society, 1984.
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- 5. Katz, Nathan. *Buddhist Images of Human Perfection: The Arahant of the Sutta Pitaka Compared with the Bodhisattva and the Mahasiddha.* Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, 2nd ed., 1990.

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This paper offers a survey of Development of Religious Thought and historical perspective on the different Religious thought which emerged in ancient India. This gives a glimpse of concept of religion, historical background of Buddhism, the six systems and the Sramana tradition, cosising of Lokayata, Kriyvada represented by Buddhism, Jainism, and akriyavada represented by Ajivakas.

#### **Development of Religious Thought**

# 1. Concept and components of Religion

- A. Mythology, Rituals and Ethics
- B. Religion as understodd by Anthropological –Archaeological Model
- C. Sociology of Religion

#### 2. <u>Historical background of Buddhism</u>

- A. Religion in Harappan
- B. Indo-Iranian Religion
- C. Vedic Age

#### 3. Doctrine of Karma and Transmigration

- A. Purva-Uttara Mimamsa
- B. Nyaya-Vaisheshika
- C. Samkhya-Yoga

## 4. Shramana Tradition

- A. Lokayata
- B. Kriyavada Jainism/Buddhism
- C. Akriyavada -Ajivikas

- 1. Dasgupta, S. N., *History of Indian Philosophy*, London: Cambridge University Press, 1940.
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- 25. Chatterji, J. C. Kashmir Shaivism. Albany: State University of New York, 1986.

# $\underline{\mathbf{SEM} - \mathbf{II}}$

#### M.A (I): SUBJECT: ENGAGED BUDDHISM

- I. Introduction to Engaged Buddhism
  - (a) Engaged Buddhism: Conceptual analysis
  - (b) History of Engaged Buddhism
- II. Relevance of Engaged Buddhism
  - (a) Conversion to Buddhism: Socio-political response to the Caste system with reference to Dr.B.R.Ambedkar
  - (b) From Transition to transformation: Present challenges to Dr.B.R.Ambedkar's initiative in India.
- III. Impact of Engaged Buddhism
  - (a) Impact of Engaged Buddhism in the Eastern countries
  - (b) Reflections on Engaged Buddhism in the Western countries
- IV. Engaged Buddhsim: Future perspective
  - (a) Engaged Buddhism: perspective on Economy and Environment
  - (b) Critique of Engaged Buddhism

#### **REFERENCE BOOKS**

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Two thousand years ago, the far flung areas of Asia were well connected by maritime and overland trade routes. The merchant class had been generous donors and benefactors of the Buddhist Sangha from its earliest phase and this relationship continued as Buddhism spread throughout Asia along the trade routes. This paper looks at this critical in teraction of trade and religion that was to become one of the most important factors facilitating the widespread transmission of Buddhism in Asia.

### **Trade and Religion**

- 1. Symbolic relationship between Buddhism, Trade & Commerce
  - A. Concept of Wealth, Buddhist Approach to wealth creation
  - B. Ethics in Trade & Commerce
  - C. Role of Monastry
- 2. Trade Networks
  - A. Sarthavaha, Shresthi ,Shreni
  - B. Uttarapatha and Dakshinapatha
  - C. Spread of Buddhism in India
- 3. Buddhism on the Silk Road
  - A. Introduction to Silk Route: Textual and Material Culture
  - B. Central Asia –Geographical features ,people,cross-cultural exchanges on silk road
  - C. Buddhism on Silk route
- 4. Maritime trade in Indian Ocean
  - A. Spice trade as understood through Luterary and Archaeological Sources
  - B. Traders and Port towns
  - C. Dissemination of Buddhism on Maritime trade route

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- 7. Liu, Xinru.Ancient India and Ancient China, Trade and Religious Exchanges AD1-600 . New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1988.
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- 11. Neelis, Jason.Early Buddhist Transmission and Trade Ne tworks: Mobility and Exchange within and beyond the Northwestern Borderlands of South Asia Leiden: Brill, 2010. Foltz, Richard.
- 12. Religion of the Silk Road: Premodern Patterns of Globalisation (2 nd edition). Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010.
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This paper covers Buddhist art and the transformation that took place from aniconic to iconic representation of the Buddha. These are the manifestations of the artistic genius of the ancient Indians, who delighted in forms, motifs and their specific meaning. Their evolution in artistic tradition has been of great interest to art historians. In the early historical period sculpture, architecture and painting found their expression in more permanent media among the Buddhist. The basic forms in this religious architecture centered on the concepts of Stupa, Vihara and Chaitya. Buddha image again was a unique contribution of Indian Buddhist art that had its char ming regional expressions throughout Asia.

# **Buddhist Art and Architecture**

#### 1. Vihara Stupa and Chaitya

- A. Development of Vihara architecture
- B. Development of Stupa architecture
- C Chaitya concept and Development

# 2. Sculptural Art

- A. Journey of Buddhism from Aniconic to Iconic -Sanchi, Bharhut, Gandhara, Mathura
- B. Early aculptural art upto Vakataka-Gupta age -Mathura, Saranath, Ajanta
- C. Later schools in Buddhist sculptural art Nalanda, Pala

#### 3. Buddhist narrative art

- A. Development of Buddhist narrative paitings and classical style in India
- B. Narrative in visual art and narrative literature
- C. Buddhist Narratives: Methods of narration and aesthetics.

# 4. Mahayana Buddhist art and Architecture

- A. Buddhist temple (prasada) architecture
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This paper deals concept of wealth and state formation in Buddhism. This paper provides the student with the historical, religious, and social context in which Buddhist concept of wealth and polity arose, which is necessary to comprehend the contribution it made to Indian culture. Two thousand years ago, the far flung areas of Asia were Buddhist countries This paper looks at this critical interaction of trade, religion and polity in Buddhist Asia.

# Concept of Wealth, State and Kingship

- 1. Buddhist Concept of Wealth
  - A. Concept of wealth in Early Buddhism
  - B. Concept of Dana in Buddhism
  - C. Accumulation of merit and transfer of merit

# 2. <u>Kingship in Buddhism</u>

- A. Concept of kingship in Buddhism: Chakravarti & Dharmachakravarti case study of Mandhata & Ashoka
- B. Buddhism & Concept of kingship in South -East Asian Countries with reference to Myanmar, Thailand and Cambodia
- C. Buddhism & Concept of kingship in East Asian Countries with reference to Tibet & Japan

# 3. Concept of State in Buddhism

- A. Concept of State & Structure of Early Buddhist Sangh
- B. The Relationship between Ethics, Virtues & State in Buddhist perspectives
- C. State defence, military class & Buddhist Ethics

# 4. Buddhism in Folk-culture

- A. Folks aspect of buddhist lay-rituals in Srilanka
- B. Fertility God in Bhutan
- C. Buddha in Tibetan Folk-lore

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