

Semester V

TYBA Paper 7 Paper Title: Philosophy of Dhammapada (Code: UAPHI-C504)

Credits: 4

Lectures: 60

Objectives:

1. To understand the overall structure, purpose and content of Dhammapada
2. To explore and interpret philosophical ideas of Dhammapada through the reading of the text
3. To relate its social and ethical ideas within a contemporary context.

Unit I Introduction to Buddhist ethical philosophy

- a) Buddhist philosophy & Buddhist Ethics
- b) Historical and Philosophical foundations of Dhammapada
- c) Attakatha-the Structure of Dhammapada

Unit II Concept of mind.

- a) Concept of mind according to Chittavagga.
- b) Psychology of human action according to Yamakavagga.
- c) Controlling Mind- Jataka tales

Unit III Caste system

- a) Brahmin : Who is a real brahmin and who is not? (Brahmanavagga)
- b) Criticism of sacrifices (Kutadhantha sutta)
- c) Characteristics of a dharmic person.(Dhammatthavagg)

Unit IV Karma

- a) Concept of Kusala kamma and akusala kamma
- b) Comparative study of Karma in Bhagvad Gita & Dhammapada
- c) Dhammapada as a moral foundation of society and social life

Semester VI

TYBA Paper 7
Credits: 4

Paper Title: Philosophy of Dhammapada

Code: UAPHI-C604

Objectives:

1. To understand the overall structure, purpose and content of Dhammapada
2. To explore and interpret philosophical ideas of Dhammapada through the reading of the text
3. To relate its social and ethical ideas within a contemporary context.

Unit I Man and the enlightened one

- a) Critique of the difference between Pandit and Bal with reference to Panditvagga and Balvagga.
- b) Life of "Bhikkhu's" and "Arhant" (Bhikkhu vagga & Arhant vagga)
- c) The Buddha (the Awakened) (Buddha vagga)

Unit II Liberation

- a) Role of craving in human life
- b) Appamadavagga
- c) Nirvana and Its Path (Magga vagga)

Unit III Contemporary relevance and responses

- a) Bhavanaamayi panna : Insight to wisdom through experience.
- b) Relevance of Dhammapada in modern society
- c) Pleasure & Happiness (Sukha vagga)

Unit IV Views of thinkers on Dhammapada

- a) Dr.B.R. Ambedkar
- c) P.V. Bapat
- d) Dr. S. Radhakrishnan

Books recommended for the course

The Path of the Eternal Law, translated by Swami Premananda, Self-Realization Fellowship, Washington DC, 1942

Tr Dhammajoti, Maha Bodhi Society, Benares, 1944

Wisdom of the Buddha, tr Harischandra Kaviratna, Pasadena, 1980; includes Pali text

The Eternal Message of Lord Buddha, tr Silananda, Calcutta, 1982; includes Pali text

Stories of Buddhist India, tr Piyadassi, 2 volumes, Moratuwa, Ceylon, 1949 & 1953; includes stories from the commentary

The Dhammapada: With introductory essays, Pali text, English translation and notes by Dr S. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, , Pilgrims publication, 2007 (originally , Oxford University Press, London, 1950

Tr F. Max Müller, in *Buddhist Parables*, by E. W. Burlinghame, 1869; reprinted in Sacred book of the East, volume X, Clarendon/Oxford, 1881