

# Postgraduate Diploma in Pali

## Scope and Content of Course

The Postgraduate Diploma course in Pali is designed to develop students' skills in reading and comprehending Pali sources and to enhance their knowledge of deferent aspects of the Pali language and literature in particular, and Buddhist teachings in general.

## Eligibility for Admission

Basic knowledge of Buddhism and acquaintance with Pali is a pre-requisite for admission to the course.

Those who have a first degree from any recognized university in any subject/subjects are eligible to apply for this course provided they fulfill one of the following requirements:

i. A pass in First Examination of Oriental Studies Society (Sri Lanka) or a credit pass for Pali at the G.C.E (O/L) Examination

or

ii. A pass in Pali at the Bauddha Dharmacharya Examination

or

iii. A Pass in the Postgraduate Certificate course in Pali conducted by the Institute

or

iv. Any other qualification acceptable to the Faculty Board of the Institute

## Requirements for the Course of Study

The Diploma Course in Pali consists of four course units and an essay of approximately 2500 to 3000 words, which is considered to be the fifth unit. The course units are as follows:

PGDP 01: Prescribed Texts I

PGDP 02: Prescribed Texts II

PGDP 03: Grammar and Composition

PGDP 04: Pali Literature

PGDP 05: Extended Essay

### **Course Structure**

The course will be of one-year duration, with three terms of ten weeks each. Each course unit will have a minimum of one hour a week in the form of a lecture, followed by tutorial guidance and seminar discussions.

### **Evaluation**

- i. Two assignments for each course unit: 10 marks per each assignment
- ii. A three-hour final year examination for each course unit: 80 marks per course unit
- iii. Essay: 100 marks

### **Grades**

70 - 100 - A - Distinction

60 - 69 - B - Credit

40 - 59 - C - Pass

00 - 39 - W - Weak

#### **(i) Merit Pass**

An overall average of 70 for all units with not less than 40 marks for any unit.

#### **(ii) Pass**

40 Marks for each unit or Marks between 35-39 for one unit with an overall average of 40 for all units is considered pass.

# Syllabus for the Postgraduate Diploma in Pali

**Course Code: PGDP 01**

**Course Title: Prescribed Texts I**

## **Aim**

To develop the students' skills in reading and comprehension of Pali canonical texts

## **Content**

The content of this course included:

- i. Dīghanikāya - Aggaññasutta
- ii. Majjhimanikāya - Ariyapariyesanasutta
- iii. Saṃyuttanikāya - Kosalavagga of Kosalasamyutta

## **Method of Teaching**

Lectures, discussions and assignments

## **Method of Evaluation**

Two assignments

Final examination

## **Expected Learning Outcomes**

At the end of this course, the students will be able to:

- i. Analyze the sentence patterns and read the Pali sentences correctly;
- ii. Demonstrate an adequate knowledge of the Pali language and comprehend the content of the prescribed texts;
- iii. Demonstrate the ability to understand the Buddhist teachings as shown in selected Pali passages.

## **Recommended References**

Anuruddha, Kakkapalliye, (2010). *A Guide to the Study of Pali: The Language of Theravada Buddhism*, Hong Kong: Center of Buddhism Studies, The University of Hong Kong.

Hinüber, Oskar Von. (2001). *Handbook of Pali Literature*, New Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal.

Jayawardhana, S. (1994). *Handbook of Pali Literature*, Colombo: Karunaratne & Sons Ltd.

Law, B.C. (1933). *A History of Pali Literature*, London: Indica.

Malalasekera, G.P. (1994). *The Pali Literature of Ceylon*, Kandy: Buddhist Publication Society.

Norman, K.R. (1983). *Pāli Literature: Including the Canonical Literature in Prakrit and Sanskrit of All the Hīnayāna Schools of Buddhism*. Wiesbaden: Otto Harrassowitz.

**Course Code: PGDP 02**

**Course Title: Prescribed Texts II**

**Aim**

To develop the students' skills in reading and comprehension of both canonical and non-canonical texts

**Content**

The content of this course unit includes:

- i. Vinayamahāvagga - Mahākhandhaka
- ii. Udāna - Vaggas 1-3
- iii. Sumaṅgalavilāsinī – Bāhiraṇidāna

**Method of Teaching**

Lectures, discussions and assignments

**Method of Evaluation**

Two assignments

Final examination

**Expected Learning Outcomes**

At the end of this course, the students will be able to:

- i. Analyze the sentence patterns and read the Pali sentences correctly;
- ii. Demonstrate an adequate knowledge of the Pali language and comprehend the content of the prescribed texts;

iii. Demonstrate the ability to understand the Buddhist teachings as shown in selected Pali passages.

### **Recommended References**

Anuruddha, Kakkapalliye, (2010). *A Guide to the Study of Pali: The Language of Theravada Buddhism*, Hong Kong: Center of Buddhism Studies, The University of Hong Kong.

Hinüber, Oskar Von. (2001). *Handbook of Pali Literature*, New Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal.

Jayawardhana, S. (1994). *Handbook of Pali Literature*, Colombo: Karunaratne & Sons Ltd.

Law, B.C. (1933). *A History of Pali Literature*, London: Indica.

Malalasekara, G.P. (1994). *The Pali Literature of Ceylon*, Kandy: Buddhist Publication Society.

Norman, K.R. (1983). *Pāli Literature: Including the Canonical Literature in Prakrit and Sanskrit of All the Hīnayāna Schools of Buddhism*. Wiesbaden: Otto Harrassowitz.

U Ko Lay, (1990). *Guide to Tripitaka*, Delh: Sri Satguru Publication.

### **Course Code: PGDP 03**

### **Course Title: Grammar and Composition**

#### **Aim**

To provide the students with an adequate knowledge in Pali grammar and to develop their skills in composing Pali essays.

#### **Content**

A general knowledge of Pali grammar dealing in particular with the following topics: different traditions of Pali grammar; the sound system; formation of nouns and verbs, euphonic combinations (*sandhi*), compounds (*samāsa*), secondary derivatives (*taddhita*), syntax (*kāraka*) and indeclinable (*nipāta* and *upasagga*).

For composition, ability to translate passages from Pali to English and Vice versa, and composing essays in Pali is expected.

#### **Method of Teaching**

Lectures, discussions and assignments

## **Method of Evaluation**

Two assignments

Final examination

## **Expected Learning Outcomes**

At the end of this course, the students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an adequate knowledge in the Pali grammar for the purpose of textual analysis;
2. Read and understand Pali texts with the help of, where necessary, a Pali dictionary;
3. Translate passages from Pali to English and vice versa, and compose essays in Pali.

## **Recommended References**

Anuruddha, Kakkapalliye, (2010). *A Guide to the Study of Pali: The Language of Theravada Buddhism*, Hong Kong: Center of Buddhism Studies, The University of Hong Kong.

Buddhadatta, A.B. (1997). *The New Pali Course, Part I and II*, Dehiwela: Buddhist Cultural Centre.

Warder, A. K. (2001). *Introduction to Pali*, Pali Text Society, Oxford: Pali Text Society.

## **Course Code: PGDP 04**

## **Course Title: Pali Literature**

### **Aim**

To provide the students with a broad overview of Pali literature

### **Content**

Course content includes: Theravada canon, post-canonical pre-commentarial works, commentaries, sub-commentaries, Pakaranas, poetry and other divisions of Pali literature. These broad divisions will be introduced with an emphasis on the structure, content and historical development of these texts. Pali literature developed in other Buddhist countries also will be an aspect of the relevant field of study.

### **Method of teaching**

Lectures, discussions, and assignments

## **Method of Evaluation**

Two assignments

Final examination

## **Expected Learning Outcomes**

At the end of this course, the students will be able to demonstrate an adequate knowledge in different genres of the Pali literature.

## **Recommended References**

Adikaram, E.W. (1994). *Early History of Buddhism in Ceylon*, Colombo: Buddhist Cultural Centre.

Bode, Mabel Haynes, (2009). *Pali Literature of Burma*, Royal Asiatic Society, London.

Endo, Toshiichi, (2013). *Studies in Pāli Commentarial Literature*, Hong Kong: Center of Buddhism Studies, The University of Hong Kong.

Hinüber, Oskar Von. (2001). *Handbook of Pali Literature*, New Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal.

Jayawardhana, S. (1994). *Handbook of Pali Literature*, Colombo: Karunaratne & Sons Ltd.

Law, B.C. (1933). *A History of Pali Literature*, London: India.

Malalasekera, G.P. (1994). *The Pali Literature of Ceylon*, Kandy: Buddhist Publication Society.

Norman, K.R. (1983). *Pāli Literature: Including the Canonical Literature in Prakrit and Sanskrit of All the Hīnayāna Schools of Buddhism*. Wiesbaden: Otto Harrassowitz.

Saddhatissa, H. (1992). *Pali Literature of South-East Asia*, Singapore.

Winternitz, M. (1988). *History of Indian Literature*, Vol. II, New Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass.

## **Course Code: PGDP 05**

## **Course Title: Extended Essay**

### **Content**

The students are required to write an essay on a topic selected in consultation with any of the instructors of the Course and approved by the Director of the Institute. The essay should contain not less than 3000 words and must either be a study or analysis of a Pali text (or part thereof) or a

study of any subject (doctrinal or otherwise) directly based on the study or analysis of Pali texts. All students are required to submit their essay titles before the end the second term. The essay should be submitted within 30 days from the date of the last paper the students sat in the Final Examination.