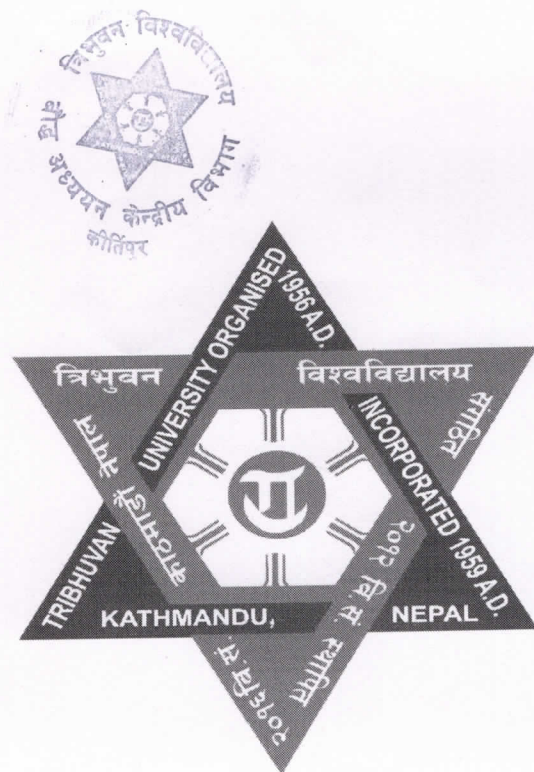


**Tribhuvan University**  
**Faculty of Humanities and Social Science**



**Buddhist Studies Courses for four-year Bachelor of Art (BA)**

**Subject Committee, Central Department of Buddhist Studies**  
**Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal**  
**VS 2076 (2019 AD)**

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## Structure of the Course

The four-year Buddhist Studies Programme at Tribhuvan University consists of seven Papers and one elective course (optional elective for non-Buddhist Studies majors).

Year	Paper	Code No.	Title	Full Marks	Teaching Hours	Remarks
1 <sup>st</sup>	I	BS 421	History of Buddhism	100	150	Major
1 <sup>st</sup>	II	BS 422	Buddha and His Teachings	100	150	Major
2 <sup>nd</sup>	III	BS 423	Buddhist Literatures	100	150	Major
2 <sup>nd</sup>	IV	BS 424	Buddhist Philosophy and Logics	100	150	Major
3 <sup>rd</sup>	V	BS 425	Buddhist arts, Architecture and Archaeology	100	150	Major
3 <sup>rd</sup>	VI	BS 410	Introduction to Buddha and Buddhism	100	150	Optional Elective for Non-Buddhist Studies Majors
4 <sup>th</sup>	VII	BS 426	Buddhist Cultures and Traditions in Nepal	100	150	Major
4 <sup>th</sup>	VIII	BS 427	Research Methodology, Academic Writing and Art of Translation	100	150	Major

## Eligibility

To be eligible for admission to four-year BA Buddhist Studies, student will have completed and received a higher secondary certificate (10 + 2) or equivalent degree in any discipline or stream from any institution recognized by Tribhuvan University.

## Evaluation Scheme

Each Course carries 100 full marks. Students have to score at list 40 marks to pass the course. Of the total 100 marks, 30 marks will be based on Continuous/internal evaluation and rest of the 70 marks will be awarded based on the students' performance in the final examination taken at the end of academic year. Student must pass both internal and final Examinations.

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# History of Buddhism

Paper I

Course Code: BS 421

Full Marks: 100

Level: BA Buddhist Studies

Year: First

Objective:

1. To acquaint the knowledge on history of Buddha and Buddhism with its Sources, Major events in Buddha's time and historicity in Nepal.
2. To impart the knowledge on Buddhist historical sites, with mythology, and sacred perception followed by religious activities in Nepal.

## Unit 1 Sources for the History

- 1.1 Archaeological sources: Inscriptions, Coins, Art objects, Architectural Remains from the historical monuments/sites.
- 1.2 Literary sources: Manuscripts, Colophons, Buddhist canons in different languages, Translated texts, other published materials.
- 1.3 Travel Accounts: of Pilgrims- Chinese, Indian and Other Countries.

## Unit 2 Buddhist Historical Sites

- 2.1 Sixteen Mahajanapada
- 2.2 Kapilavastu (Sakyas)
- 2.3 Devadaha or Ramagrama (Koliyas)
- 2.4 Pawa and Kushinagara (Mallas)
- 2.5 Lumbini
- 2.6 Sagarhawa
- 2.7 Nighihawa
- 2.8 Gotihawa

## Unit 3 Spread of Buddhism During Buddha's Time

- 3.1 Buddha's peripatetic movement
- 3.2 Development of retreat (Varsavassa) tradition
- 3.3 Coenobitic settlement
- 3.4 Footing of Buddhism in Nepal and Indian subcontinents

## Unit 4 Spread of Buddhism after Buddha's Age

- 4.1 Distribution of relics and its impact on Diffusion of Buddhism
- 4.2 Convention of Buddhist councils for the propagation of Buddhism: First, Second and Third
- 4.3 Asokan Mission

## Unit 5 History of Buddhism in Nepal

- 5.1 Mythological Accounts
- 5.2 Buddhism during Pre-Lichhavi period (Kirant Period)
- 5.3 Buddhism during Lichhavi Period
- 5.4 Buddhism during Medieval Period

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## Unit 6 Buddhism of Nepal during Modern Period and Current Situation

- 6.1 Revival of Theravada
- 6.2 Spread of Himalayan Buddhism
- 6.3 Prevalence of Distinctive Three forms of Buddhism

### References

- Bajracharya, ManaVajra, *Mythological History of Nepal Valley from SvayambhuPurana*, Kathmandu, Avalok Publisher, 1978.
- Bajracharya, Surendra Man, *Buddhist Heritage of Northern Nepal*, Kathmandu: Lotus Research Centre, 2008
- Douglas-Tuladhar, Will, *Remaking Buddhism for Medieval Nepal: The Fifteenth Century Reformation of Newar Buddhism*, London: Routledge, 2006.
- Gellner, David N., *Monk, Householder and Tantric Priest*, Newar Buddhism and its Hierarchy of Ritual, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992.
- Levine, Sarah and David Gellner, *Rebuilding Buddhism: The Theravada Movement in Twentieth Century Nepal*, Cambridge Mass.: Harvard University, 2005.
- Shakya, Milan Ratna, *Namobuddaya: A Buddhist Studies*, Kathmandu: Shijna Devi Shakya, 201
- Conze, Edward, *A Short History of Buddhism*, London: George Allen and Unwin, 1980.
- Dutt, Nalinaksha, *Buddhist Sects in India*, Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, 1987.
- Dutt, Sukumar, *Buddhist Monks and Monasteries of India: Their History & Their Contributions to Indian Culture*, MLBD, 1988.
- Hirakawa, Akira, *A History of Indian Buddhism: From Shakyamuni to Early Mahayana*, Honolulu: Universlity of Hawali Press, 1990.
- Law, B.C, *Kshetriya Clans in Buddhist India*, New Delhi: A.B. Service, 2005
- Narada, Thera, *Buddha and His Teachings*, Taipei: The Corporate Body of the Buddha Educational foundation, 1988.
- Shakya, Min B. and Shanta H. Bajracharya (tr.), *SvayambhuPurana*, Lalitpur: NIEM, 1997.

### Nepali

- Amritananda, *Buddhakalin Rajparivar*, Kathmandu: Anandakuti, 2041 VS
- Bajracharya, Gautam Bir, *Lumbini, Hid budhe jate sakyamuniiti*, Lalitpur: Tara Devi Bajracharya, 2076
- Pradhan, BhuvanLal, *NepalmaBouddha Dharma*, Kathmandu: Royal Nepal Academy, 1990.
- Vajracharya, Dhanavajra, *LicchavikalkoAbhilech*, Kirtipur: AsiyaliAnusandhan Kendra, 2030 VS
- Vajracharya, Dhanavajra, *MadhyakalinAbhilech*, Kirtipur: AsiyaliAnusandhan Kendra, 2037 VS
- Vajracharya, Dhanavajra and K.P. Malia (ed.), *TheGopalrajvamsavali*, Nepal Research Center Publication No. 9, Wiesbaden; Franz Stiener Verlag, 1985.
- Shrestha, K.B., *History of Buddhism in Nepal*, Kathmandu: Mrs. Kamala Devi Shrestha, 2008.
- R.N Pandey and D.C. Regmi, *NepalkoPauranik Itihas*: Kirtipur: CNAS TU

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# Buddha and His Teachings



Paper II  
Course Code: BS 422  
Full Marks: 100

Level: BA Buddhist Studies  
Year: First

## Objectives

- 1 To impart the students with knowledge on Buddhism, Buddha's life and his enlightenment teachings
- 2 To acknowledge Buddha's time for educational episodes and philosophical discourses in establishment of the monastic order to monks and laities distinctively with vehicles as Sravakyaana, Mahayana and Vajrayana.
- 3 To give a picture of current Buddhist situation in Nepal.

## Unit 1 Buddha and Buddhahood

- 1.1 Etymology of Term "Buddha"
- 1.2 Characteristics of Buddha
- 1.3 Samyaksambuddha
- 1.4 Pratyekabuddha
- 1.5 Srāvakabuddha

## Unit 2 Life of Shakyamuni Buddha

- 2.1 Life of Siddhartha: Birth, Childhood,
- 2.2 Four events, Renunciation,
- 2.3 Penance (Duskarcarya)
- 2.4 Sambodhi Labha (Enlightenment)
- 2.5 After Sambodhi Labha up to Mahaparinirvana

## Unit 3 Buddha's Basic Teachings

- 3.1 Four Noble Truths
- 3.2 Pratityasamutpada (Dependent-Origination)
- 3.3 Trilaksana (Three Universal Characteristic)

## Unit 4 Specific Teachings

- 4.1 Teachings for monks and nuns (Vinaya)
- 4.2 Laity or lay followers (Grihi Vinaya)
- 4.4 Pancasila (five precepts)
- 4.5 Higher Practitioners Abhidhammic reasoning

## Unit 5 Teachings Related to Sravakyaana

- 5.1 Introduction
- 5.2 First Discourse (Prathama Dharmacakra Pravartana)
- 5.3 Arhat Idealism
- 5.4 Nature of Karma (birth-death-rebirth)
- 5.5 Concept of Nibbana

## Unit 6 Teachings Related to Mahayana





- 6.1 Introduction
- 6.2 Second Discourse (Dvitiya Dharmacakra Pravartana)
- 6.3 Bodhisattva Idealism
- 6.4 Stages of Bodhisattva Perfections
- 6.5 Concept of Nirvana

### Unit 7 Teachings related to Vajrayana

- 7.1 Introduction
- 7.2 Third Discourse (Tritiya Dharmacakra Pravartana)
- 7.3 Concept of Adi-Buddha
- 7.4 Four Means of Tantric Perfections (Kriya, Caryā, Yoga and Anuttara Yoga Tantra)
- 7.5 Concept of Nirvana

### References

- Dayal, Har, *The Bodhisattva Doctrine in Buddhist Sanskrit Literature* (Reprint), Delhi: Motilal Banarasi Das Publishers, 2004
- Goar, Sir Hari Singh, *The Spirit of Buddhism*, Reprint, Delhi: The Cosmo Print, 1986
- Guenther, H.V. (tr.), *Jewel Ornament of Liberation of Gampopa* (Reprint), London: Rider and Co., 1974
- Narada, *Buddha and His Teachings*; Taiwan: The Corporate Body of The Buddha Education Foundation, 1998.
- Pande, G.C., *Studies in the Origins of Buddhism* (reprint), New Delhi: MLBD, 1995
- Santina, Peter Della, *The Tree of Enlightenment*, Taiwan: The Corporate Body of the Buddha Educational Foundation, 1998
- Shakya, Milan Ratna, *Namo Buddhaya: A Buddhist Study*, Kathmandu: Srijana Devi Shakya, 2017
- Tachibana, S, *The Ethics of Buddhism*, Oxford; Curzon Press, 1926
- Thera, Piyadassi, *The Buddha's Ancient Path*, London; Rider and Co. 1964

### Hindi

- Sankrityayan, Rahul, *Buddhacarya*, Lukhnow: Bharatiya Budha Samiti, 1995
- Upadhyaya, Baldev, *Buddha Darsan Mimamsa*, Varanasi: Chaukhamba Vidyabhawan, 1999

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# Buddhist Literature

Level: BA

Year: II Year

Paper: III Paper

Code: BS 423

Full Mark: 100 (70+30)

Teaching Hour: 150

## Objectives

### General:

The course has an objective of imparting basic knowledge on various aspects and types of Buddhist literature.

### Specific:

1. To introduce students with origin and development of Pali and Sanskrit Buddhist literature
2. To familiarize students with types, nature and domains of Buddhist literature
3. To acquaint students textually with the selected scriptures from Pali and Sanskrit literary sources

## Unit I Introduction to Buddhist Literature

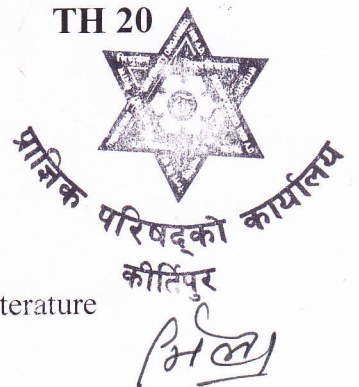
TH 20

- 1.1 Meaning, History and Types of Literature
- 1.2 Domain of Literature: History, Philosophy, Art, Religions and others
- 1.3 Mediums and materials of writings
- 1.4 Literature during Buddha's time
- 1.5 Buddhist literature: records of words of Buddha
- 1.6 Teachings of Buddha: *Dhamma* as Buddhist Literature
- 1.7 Types of Buddhist Canons
  - 1.7.1 *Pali Tipitaka* and *Sanskrit Tripitaka*
  - 1.7.2 Chinese Tripitaka and Tibetan Kanjur
- 1.8 Classification of Buddha's teachings: *Navanga* and *Dvadasanga*
- 1.9 *Baudha Tantra*

## Unit II Origin and Development of Pali Buddhist Literature

TH 20

- 2.1 Origin and meaning of Pali
- 2.2 Pali as a language and medium of Buddhist literature
- 2.3 Pali literature in *Nawanga*
- 2.4 Impact of various Buddhist councils on Pali Buddhist literature
- 2.5 Council held during the reign of Vattagamini Avaya in Srilanka and Pali literature



2.6 Tipitaka: Sutta, Vinaya, and Abhidhamma Pitaka

2.6.1 Nikaya and Suttas in Sutta Pitaka

2.6.2 Composition of Vinaya Pitaka

2.6.3 Composition of Abhidhamma Pitaka

2.7 Anupitaka

2.8 Attakatha literature and major commentators: Buddhaghosa and Dhammapala

2.9 Vamsa, Niti and other Pali literatures

### Unit III Selected Textual Study of Pali Literature

TH 16

3.1 Dhammapada: Introduction

3.1.1 Appamada Vagga: Introduction, Stanzas No 21 and 22

3.1.2 Citta Vagga: Introduction, Stanzas No 33 and 37

3.1.3 Brahmana Vagga: Introduction, Stanzas No 391 and 393

3.2 Sutta Nipata: Introduction

3.2.1 Mangala Sutta: Introduction, Stanzas No 4 and 9

3.2.2 Parabhava Sutta: Introduction, Stanzas No 14 and 16

3.2.3 Vasala Sutta: Introduction, Stanzas No 9 and 21

3.3 Jataka Pali: Introduction

3.3.1 Nigrodha Mriga Jataka

3.4 Thera Gatha: Introduction,

3.4.1 Vappa Thera Gatha, Introduction, Stanza No 61

3.5 Theri Gatha: Introduction,

3.5.1 Tissa Theri Gatha: Introduction, Stanza No 4

### Unit IV Origin and Development of Sanskrit Buddhist Literature TH 17

4.1 Sanskrit language during Buddha's time

4.2 Use of Sanskrit language in Buddhist literature

4.3 *Buddha Vacana* in Sanskrit Buddhist literature

4.4 *Dwadasanga* of *Buddhavadana*

4.5 Buddhist council held during Kaniska's period and Sanskrit Buddhist Literature

4.6 Tripitaka in Sanskrit: Sutra Pitaka, Vinaya Pitaka and Abhidharma Pitaka

4.7 Contribution of *Acaryas* in Sanskrit Buddhist literature



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4.8 Types and development of Sanskrit Buddhist literature

4.9 Preservation of Sanskrit Buddhist literature in Nepal

### **Unit V Sanskrit Buddhist Literature of Sravakayana**

**TH 20**

5.1 Introduction to *Sravakayana* and its literature

5.2 Introduction to *Astadasha Nikaya* and its literature

5.3 Introduction to *Mahasanghika* and its literature

5.4 Textual introduction of *Mahavastu*, *Sariputraparipeccha* and *Lokanuvartana Sutra*

5.5 Textual introduction of *Mulasarvastivadavinayavastu* and *Buddhacarita*

5.6 Textual introduction of *Vibhashashastra*

### **Unit VI Sanskrit Buddhist Literature of Mahayana**

**TH 20**

6.1 Origin and development of Mahayana and its literature

6.2 Proliferation of *Buddhavacana* with additional interpretation of *Acaryas*

6.3 Sutra literature: Vaipulya sutra, Raksasutra, vinayasutra

6.3.1 Navagrantha

6.3.2 Gandavyuhasutra: Samantabhadracarya, Introduction, Stanza no 12

6.4 Avadana literature: Introduction

6.5 Jataka Mala: Introduction, Vyaghri Jataka, Stanza no 31

6.6 Miscellaneous: *Dharani*, *Stotra*, and *Mantra*

6.7 Textual introduction to Bodhicaryavatara, Stanza no 56

6.8 Lalitavistara Sutra: Introduction

### **Unit VII Sanskrit Buddhist Literature of Vajrayana**

**TH 17**

7.1 Origin and development of *Tantra* literature

7.2 Nature of Tanta literature

7.3 Introduction of Guhyasamaj, Kalacakra, Hevajra, Chakrasamvara tantra and Namasangiti.

7.4 Introduction to Mandala literature: NispannaYogavali

7.5 Introduction to Sadhana literature: Sadhanamala

7.6 Introduction to Ritual texts: Gurumandalarchan

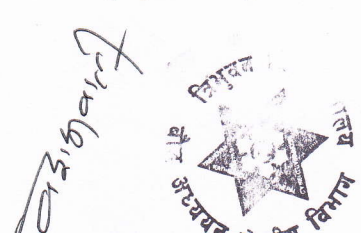
7.7 Introduction to Carya songs: Caryagita

### **Unit VIII Sanskrit Buddhist Literature of Philosophical Schools and Logics**

8.1 Philosophy and logics as domain of Buddhist Sanskrit literature



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8.2 Survey of literature of major Buddhist philosophical schools

8.3 Abhidharmakosha (Sarvastivada): Introduction

8.4 Sautrantikadarshanam (Sautrantika): Introduction

8.5 Mulamadhyamakakarika (Madhyamaka): Introduction

8.6 Vijnaptimatratasiddhi (Vijnanavada): Introduction

8.7 Survey of literature of Buddhist Logics

8.8 Nyayabindu (Buddhist Logics): Introduction

### **Suggested Readings**

Bajracharya, Divya Bajra., Nava Sutra Sangraha (Nepali), Lalitpur, 1990

Bapat, P.V.- 2500 Years of Buddhism, Delhi, Publication Division, Ministry of information and broadcasting, 1987 (reprint).

Bhattacharyya, B., An Introduction to Buddhist Esoterism, First Indian Reprint, Delhi: 1980

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Vimalakriti (tr.), Theragatha, New Delhi: Samyak Publication, 2005.

Vimalakriti (tr.), Therigatha, New Delhi: Samyak Publication, 2008.

Winternitz, Maurice, A History of Indian Literature, Part II Calcutta: MunsiramManoharlalPublishers Pvt. Ltd, 1991

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# Buddhist Philosophy and Logics

Level: BA

Year: II Year

Paper: IV

Code: BS 424

Full Mark: 100 (70+30)

Teaching Hour: 150

## Objectives

### General:

The course has an objective of imparting knowledge on Buddhist Philosophy that exists in various forms embracing logics, ethical values and meditation in practice.

### Specific:

1. To introduce students with philosophy of four Buddhist philosophical schools
2. To familiarize students with Buddhist logics as a means of establishing philosophy
3. To acquaint students with the importance of ethical values and meditation in Buddhist practice

## Unit I Introduction to Buddhist Philosophy and Logics

TH 20

- 1.1 Definition, concept and meaning of Philosophy and Logic
- 1.2 Relation of philosophy with religion
- 1.3 Theistic and Atheistic Philosophy
- 1.4 Buddhism as philosophy
- 1.5 Nature of Buddhist philosophy, ethical values and meditation
- 1.6 Ontology and Phenomenology in Buddhist philosophy
- 1.7 Philosophical debate and exercise in Buddhism
- 1.8 Proliferation of different views/vada or shastra based on Buddha's teachings
- 1.9 Development of Buddhist Philosophical Schools and Logic

## Unit II Vaibhasika School of Buddhist Philosophy

TH 20

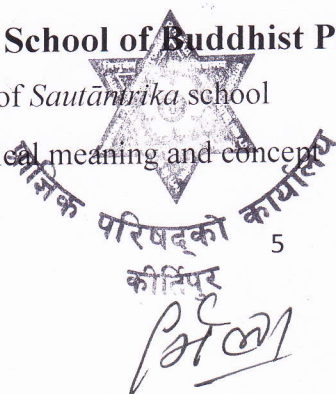
- 2.1 Historical Backround of Vaibhasika School
- 2.2 Sarvastivada: Etymological meaning and concept
- 2.3 Key features
- 2.4 Meaning and categories of dharmas
- 2.5 Theory of dharma: Sanskrit and Asanskrit dharma
- 2.6 Paramanuvada (Atomism)
- 2.7 Sub-schools
- 2.8 Eminent masters: Vasumitra, Vashubandhu and others

## Unit III Sautrantrika School of Buddhist Philosophy

TH 17

- 3.1 Historical background of Sautāntrika school
- 3.2 Sautāntrika: Etymological meaning and concept

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Vishaya

3.3 Key features

3.4 Meaning and categories of dharmas

3.5 Concept of Kshanabhaangavada (Momentary-ness)

3.6 Concept of Pratyaksha and Svasamvedan (Perception and Apperception)

3.7 Logical trend

3.8 Eminent masters: Acarya Bhadanta, Kumarlat and others

## **Unit IV Madhyamaka School of Buddhist Philosophy**

**TH 20**

4.1 Historical Backround of *Midhyamaka* School

4.2 *Madhyamaka*: Etymological meaning and concept

4.3 Key features

4.4 Concept of Sunyata

4.5 Anutpada

4.6 Catuskoti (Fourfold analysis)

4.7 Samvritti Satya and Parmartha Satya

4.8 Sub-schools

4.9 Eminent masters: Nagarjuna, Chandrakirti and others

## **Unit V Vijnanavada School of Buddhist Philosophy**

**TH 20**

5.1 Historical Backround of Vijnanavada School

5.2 Vijnanavada : Etymological meaning and concept

5.3 Key features

5.4 Cittamatratna (Theory of Mind only)

5.5 Three *Vijnana*: Pravritivijnana, Klistamanovijnana and Alayavijnana

5.6 Three nature of objects: Parikalpita, Paratantra and Parinispanna

5.7 Tathagatagarva

5.8 Sub-schools

5.9 Eminent masters: Asanga, Vasubandhu and others

## **Unit VI Buddhist Logics**

**TH 20**

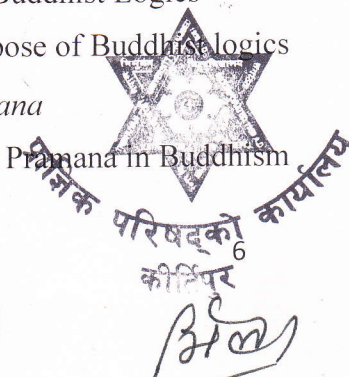
6.1 Historical aackground of Buddhist Logics

6.2 Definition, scope and purpose of Buddhist logics

6.3 Types of Buddhist *Paramana*

6.4 Prataksa and Anumamana *Pramana* in Buddhism

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Vishaya

6.5 Process and types of Prataksa (perception)

6.6 Anumana Pramana: Swarthanumana and Pararthanumana (Syllogism)

6.7 Buddhist epistemology

6.8 Eminent masters: Dignaga, Dharmakirti and others

## Unit VII Buddhist Ethics

TH 17

7.1 Concept of Buddhist ethics

7.2 Ethics in Buddhist practice for *punya-samvar*

7.3 Abstinence from *Dasha akushal karma*

7.4 General ethical values

7.4.1 *Pancasila, Astasila, and Dashasila, Dana and Kshanti*

7.4.2 Bodhisattvasamvara (Astadashamulapati)

7.4.3 *Grihivinaya* (Duties of Householders)

7.5 Ethics for monks/nuns

7.6 Concept of monasticism

7.7 Monastic *vinaya* (rules)

7.8 Linkage among ethical values, *karma* and *rebirth*

## Unit VIII Buddhist Meditation

TH 16

8.1 Meaning and objectives of Meditation

8.2 Basic types: Samatha and Vipassana

8.3 Samatha meditation

8.4 Forty *Karmasthan* of Samatha meditation

8.5 *Chaturbrambahavihara*

8.6 Benefits of Samatha meditation

8.7 Vipassana: meaning and purpose

8.8 Types and Techniques of Vipassana

### Suggested Reading

Acharya Narendra Dev, *Bauddha Dharmadarshana*, Delhi: MLBP, 1956

Chaterjee, Ashoka Kumar, *Yogachara Idealism*, New Delhi, MLBD, 1975 reprint

Dutta, Nalinakshya, *Mahayana Buddhism*: Delhi: MLBD, 1978

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Kalupahana, D.J., *The Mulamadhyamakakirika of Nagarjuna: The Philosophy of Middle Way*, Delhi: 1991

Kalupahana, David J. *Buddhist philosophy: a historical analysis*, Honolulu: University Press of Hawaii. 1976

Kochumuttom, Thomas A., *A Buddhist Doctrine of Experience*, Delhi: Motilal Benarasidass, 1982

Murti, T.R.V., *The Central Philosophy of Buddhism*, London: Unwin Paperbacks, 1980 (reprint)

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Risal, Narayan Prasad, *Mahayanabaudhadarsana*, Kathmandu: Alkemy Publication, VS 2073

Santina, Peter De La, *The Tree of Enlightenment*, Taiwan: Chico Dharma Study Foundation, 1997

Singh, Sanghasen (Ed.), *The Sarvastivada and Its Traditions*, Delhi: Department of Buddhist Studies, Delhi University, 1994

Stcherbasky, TH., *Buddhist Logic Volume I and II*, Delhi: Motilal Banarsideass Publishers private limited 2000 (reprint)

Tripathi, Ramshankar, *Sautrāntikadarśanam*, Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies, 1990.

Tripathi, Ramshankar, *Boudha Darshan Prasthan*, Sarnath, central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies, 1997

Upadhaya, Gopiraman, *Baudha Darsan Saral Adayan*, Kathmandu: Nepal Prajna Pratisthan, VS 2076

Upadhyaya, Baladeva, *Bauddha Dharma Mimamsa*, Varanasi; Chowkhamba Vidyabhavan, 1978

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