



Indian Society For Buddhist Studies

[Re-registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 (Act XXI of 1860) vide number 723-CSA of 2024]

108A (Pvt.), Near Gole Market, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, Jammu and Kashmir

Website: www.isbs.org.in

Ref. No. ISBS/01/2025

FIRST CIRCULAR

Dated: 03rd April, 2025

At the outset, let me take this opportunity to extend my sincere thanks on behalf of ISBS to you for your active support and valuable cooperation to make the 23rd Annual Conference a success held at the Kavikulaguru Kalidasa Sanskrit University (KKSU), Ramtek, Nagpur, (Maharashtra) during September 14-16, 2024.

I feel pleasure to inform you that the **Indian Society for Buddhist Studies** is holding its 25th Annual Conference at the **Sanchi University of Buddhist-Indic Studies, Sanchi, Madhya Pradesh** during **November 23-25, 2025**.

Prof. Radhavallabh Tripathi, Former Vice Chancellor, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan (now Central Sanskrit University, Ministry of Education, Govt. of Bharat), has kindly consented to be the General President of this conference and to deliver the keynote address.

The following broad areas/fields are being proposed (but are not limited to) for deliberation during the Academic Sessions of the Conference:

1. Pali Language and Literature
2. Buddhist Sanskrit Language and Literature
3. Buddhism in Apabhramśa Literature
4. Central & East Asian Languages and Literatures (Including Chinese, Tibetan, Japanese, Thai, Sogdian, Kuchean etc.)
5. History of Buddhism in India & Abroad (Including Art, Culture, Architecture, Archaeology and Iconography etc.)
6. Buddhist Philosophy
7. Contemporary and Applied/Engaged Buddhism
8. Buddhism in the Comparative Light

President:

Prof. S.P. Sharma
53, Saraswati Vihar,
Gyan Sarovar, Aligarh: 202001.
M: +91-9837112523.
E-mail: spsharma46@gmail.com

Vice Presidents:

i. Prof. Baidyanath Labh
Vice Chancellor,
Sanchi University of Buddhist-Indic Studies
M: +91-9419145988
E-mail: baidyanath14@gmail.com

ii. Dr. Lalit Gupta
108 A (Private), Gandhi Nagar, Near Gole
Market, Jammu: 180004
M: +91-9419139950
E-mail: lalitguptajammu@gmail.com
dr_lalitgupta@rediffmail.com

Secretary:

Prof. Saswati Mutsuddy
Dept. of Pali, University of Calcutta
M: +91-9433607690
E-mail: saswatimutsuddy@gmail.com
smpali@caluniv.ac.in

Jt. Secretaries:

i. Dr. Pradeep Kr. Das
Associate Professor, Dept. of Ancient History,
Culture and Archaeology, Nava Nalanda
Mahavihara, Bhikshu Jagadish Kashyap Marg,
Nalanda (Bihar): 803111
M: +91-9419976395;
E-mail: pkdas@nnm.ac.in

ii. Dr. Santosh Priyadarshi
Assistant Professor, School of Buddhist
Philosophy, Sanchi University of Buddhist-Indic
Studies, Sanchi, Madhya Pradesh: 464651
M: +91-9452003227
E-mail: santosh.priyadarshi@subis.edu.in

Treasurer:

Dr. Suresh Kumar
Assistant Professor
Dept. of Buddhist Studies
Nava Nalanda Mahavihara
Bhikshu Jagadish Kashyap Marg, Nalanda
(Bihar): 803111
M: +91-8825012735
E-mail: drsuresh.ichr@gmail.com

9. Buddhist Heritage and Tourism

10. Buddhism in Madhya Pradesh

11. Buddhism and Mental/Neuro Science

Please feel free to write on a topic of your choice concerning the areas cited above. **Use of references from Pali / Prakrit / Sanskrit / Marathi etc. will be more appreciated.**

As a matter of our policy, we emphasize on highlighting Buddhism in the region/place of our conference. So, there will be a special session on

- (a) **Buddhist Archaeological sites in Madhya Pradesh through Ages**
- (b) **A special Session on Prof. G. C. Pandey and his contributions to the field of Indology in general and Buddhist Studies in particular.**

However, other areas of Buddhist Studies hitherto uncovered can also be explored for deliberation. I earnestly hope that other colleagues, who become members of the ISBS, would be able to attend the session and contribute meaningfully through their research papers.

ENROLLMENT FOR MEMBERSHIP:

Only members can of course, become delegates at the session. Please fill up the enclosed *Membership Form* and remit membership fee by *Bank Draft (any bank)* in favor of the **Indian Society for Buddhist Studies, payable at Jammu**. It may also be remitted by cheque payable at par, or electronic transfer. Please keep the Counterfoil safe with you for verification/confirmation, if asked for.

Fee Structure:

The Fee structure is as follows:

For Indian Citizens:

- i. Annual: Rs.700/-
- ii. Life: Rs.2500/-*
- iii. Donor: Rs.11000/-or more (inclusive of Life Membership)
- iv. Institutional (Annual): Rs.2500/-

If the Annual membership is renewed after the due date, an additional amount of Rs.500/- will be levied as **Late Fee till August 31, 2025**.

***Direct Life Membership has been withheld for the time being.**

An annual member, who attends three Annual Conferences consecutively and contributes to the Conference meaningfully through his/her research paper, can apply for the Life Membership next year. His/her application

will be placed before the Office Bearers, and if approved, Life Membership may be granted to the applicant.

For Foreign Citizens: ##

(A) SAARC countries

(B) Other countries

Annual US\$50

US\$100

##Members from countries other than India will have right to cast their votes, but they will not be eligible to contest for Executive Committee or for any of the post of Office Bearers. However, their suggestions will be welcomed.

Please remit your membership fee by electronic transfer/DD/cheque payable at par only latest by July 31,2025. Membership will not be granted after that for the ensuing session. Any member, whose remittance is received after the last due dates (i.e., July 31,2025), may not be able to vote at the session, even if otherwise eligible. He/she can, however, still be a delegate and participate in the academic proceedings of the session. **Please send your correct address, Phone No., Email address etc., if there is any change in your address.**

DELEGATES TO THE SESSION

Due to cost constraints and limited number of hotels/guest houses, we may not be able to accommodate guests accompanying the members. So please avoid bringing your family members. They may, however, be allowed in exceptional cases and the members will have to pay the same amount per person what they are supposed to pay for themselves. Every Delegate is required to remit the **Delegate Registration Fee @ Rs.3000/- (US \$250/-for a foreign delegate) till July 31, 2025. Please mention the transaction details of remitting the fees.** Those who fail to remit the Membership Fee and the Delegate Registration Fee by the said date, will not be allowed to attend the Conference.

Kindly remit the Delegate Registration Fee by online transaction/A/C Payee DD payable at Jammu/cheque payable at par in favour of the Indian Society for Buddhist Studies, and addressed to Prof. Saswati Mutsuddy, Secretary.

Delegate Registration Fee must reach the Secretary latest by July 31, 2025. After the due date, an additional amount of Rs.1000/- will be levied as Late Fees, upto one month prior to the exact date of ensuing Conference.

You are requested to encourage and invite your colleagues to become members of the ISBS and pass on the enclosed Membership Form (or its Xeroxed Copy) to them. All its requirements (including providing of photographs and documentary evidence of degree etc.) may please be

complied with. Please remember to send the form along with requisite enclosures to the secretary as per the following address:

Prof. Saswati Mutsuddy, Block-1, Flat-B, 5th floor, Sarada Housing Complex,6, N.G. Basak Road, Kolkata-700080.

TICKET RESERVATION

The ISBS takes no responsibility for managing ticket for any member/delegate. Please ensure your to and fro reservation well in advance. Please refer to the train/flight time table for reaching Sanchi. Consider taking a train to **Bhopal / Vidisha**, which is the closest major railway station to Sanchi. From Bhopal, you can hire a taxi or take a local bus to reach Sanchi. The nearest airport to Sanchi is in Bhopal. But you will still need to travel from the airport to Sanchi by road. For confirmation of the same, please refer to Railway time table/ website of Flights.

PAPER FOR THE SESSION

Members are requested to prepare research papers in English/Hindi/Pali/Prakrit/ Sanskrit/Apabhraṃśa with Roman/Devanagari script in the light of the said thrust areas and submit the same as per the following deadlines:

Important dates :

Summary/Abstract of the proposed research paper: latest by **May 31, 2025**(Please do not send any money as membership fee with your Abstract). Kindly submit your abstract at mailto:isbs@gmail.com.

Full Paper: latest by July 15, 2025.

If it is deemed that the Abstract is going to contribute meaningfully and is acceptable, the contributor will be intimated and confirmed by email/telephonically. Please be in touch with the undersigned. ***Only in case of acceptance of the Abstract, Membership and other fees can be remitted by July 31, 2025. Only such members shall be extended Formal Invitation Letter to attend the Conference.***

While writing the paper, the following points must be taken into consideration:

- The paper must be research oriented and an original contribution to the knowledge of Buddhist Studies bearing notes, references etc. at the end only.
- Please ensure that your paper is computer typed in 1.5 space and does not exceed 10 to 12 pages.

- Please use the font **Times New Roman** for papers in English and **Kruti Dev/Unicode** for papers in Devanagri Script. **Hand written paper will not be accepted.**
- Please use End notes instead of Footnotes. Please follow the following format for references/endnotes:

Name of the author, Title of the text, volume, Place and Publication, Year, Page Number.

Minimum word limit for paper should not be less than 3000 words.

- Use diacritical marks for terms in Pali, Sanskrit, Prakrit, Apabhramśa etc.
- If possible, kindly send your paper with its electronic format. It will indeed help us in making correction, improvement and editing.
- Papers received after the last date may not be included in the printed list of the session.
- An **Abstract of not more than 500 words should invariably be provided to the Secretary by May 31, 2025.** The Abstracts of papers are going to be published and will be made available to the Delegates at the time of the Conférence. So Abstracts of those delegates who fail to send the same by the given date will not be included in the volume.

HONOUR TO THE SENIOR SCHOLARS

1. ISBS has been honoring senior scholars since 2006 with the **Mañjuśrī Sammāna** for their outstanding contributions towards the promotion of Buddhist Studies and this year, the Honoree will be: **Professor Sitaram Dubey**, former Professor, Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, Banaras Hindu University containing a Citation, idol of Mañjuśrī and an amount of Rs. 11000/-. In addition, the honoree will also be honored with the **Kamladevi Jain Smriti Sammāna offered by M/S New Bharatiya Book Corporation**, carrying an amount of Rs.5100/-.

2. ISBS takes pleasure in announcing a new award since its 20th annual session i.e. **Prof. Sagarmal Jain Vidya Bhushan Sammāna** which will be conferred to some senior scholar who has attained the age of 60 years and has contributed to the field of Buddhism, Jainism and/or Indian Philosophy

considerably through his/her academic writings. The award will carry an amount of Rs. 11000/-and a citation. No direct application/request for this award will be entertained. Every year both President and Secretary will suggest at least three names to the Executive Council of ISBS for this award and the Executive Council after scrutinizing the academic contributions of the scholar will take final decision. This new ***Sammāna*** has been announced

by the family members of Dr. Sagarmal Jain, a luminary personality in the field of Prachya Vidya in Bharat.

This year, the honour will be conferred on ***Prof. Dinanath Sudarshan Sharma***, an eminent scholar of Sanskrit, Prakrit and Jainism for his outstanding contribution to Indology in general and Buddhism-Jainism in particular.

Five awards have been constituted (2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th sponsored) for young scholars on presentation of the best research papers as per the following specifications:

S. No.	Name of the Award	Area of Specialization	Eligibility and Prize Money
1.	Ācārya Buddhaghoṣa Award	Paper should be purely on the linguistic, grammatical or literary aspect of Pali.	Rs. 2100/- in cash with a Certificate of Appreciation and the upper age limit of the contestants have to be 40 years on May 31, 2024.
2.	Ācārya Nāgārjuna Award (sponsored)	Paper should be on Buddhist Sanskrit or Mahāyāna Buddhism.	do

3.	Mahākavi Svayambhū Award (sponsored)	Paper should be on Buddhism in Apabhramśa Literature.	do
4.	Mahāpaṇḍita Rahul Sankrityayan Award (sponsored)	Paper should be on Buddhist Philosophy.	do
5.	Satyaamritam Award (sponsored)	Paper should be on Buddhist Art/Architecture/Iconography/Numismatics.	Rs. 2500/- in cash with a Certificate of Appreciation. (No age or gender bar).

Interested scholars must send their papers, so that the same reach the office of the Secretary on or before July 31, 2025 for consideration of the Expert Committee. One person will be nominated in one category only. A scholar who has been recipient of an award in a year will not be eligible to contest for the coming 3 years from the session in any of the categories; he/she has been recipient of any award. The documentary proof of age will be mandatory for such scholars. In case of any doubt, query or suggestion, please feel free to contact the undersigned by post or on phone no. +91-9433607690 (cell) or through email: mailto:isbs@gmail.com.

**** Please Note the Important Information**

Last Date for Abstract Submission	Last Date for Full Paper Submission	Fee Payable for New/Existing Annual Member	Fee Payable for a member eligible to take fresh Life	Fee Payable for Existing Life Member	Fee Payable renewing Life Membership
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			Membership		
May 31, 2025	July 31, 2025	Rs. 700/- (Membership))+ Rs. 3000/- (Delegate Registration) = Rs. 3700/-	Rs. 2500/- (Membership) + Rs. 3000/- (Delegate Registration) = Rs. 5500/-	Rs. 3000/- (Delegate Registration only)	Rs.2500/- (Membership) + Rs.3000/- (Delegate Registration) = Rs. 5500/-

Fee shall not be accepted after due date.

Online payment can also be made in the following account details. While transferring online payment, kindly note that partial payments will not acceptable/valid and such transaction/payment once made will not be refunded. After the last date, the online payment will not be accepted in any case. If someone makes any incomplete payment or after the last date, in that case it will be treated as invalid payment and in no case, it will be refunded. It will be compulsory to send the receipt of the payment as soft copies within 15 days from the date of payment as a documentary proof.

BANK DETAILS:

Name of the Account Holder : **Indian Society for Buddhist Studies**
Account Number : **0345040100009238**
Name of the Bank : **Jammu and Kashmir Bank**
Branch Name : **New University Campus, Jammu**
Address : **University of Jammu, Railway Road, Jammu-180006. (J&K)**
Branch Code : **Canaal**
IFSC Code : **JAKAOCANAAL**
MICR Code : **180051018**

LOCAL SECRETARY:

Dr. Santosh Priyadarshi, School of International Buddhist Studies) will be the Local Secretary. You can contact the Local Secretary for any local

assistance. His contact number and email id are: Mobile: +919452003227,
Email: santosh.priyadarshi@subis.edu.in

VENUE OF THE CONFERENCE:

Sanchi University of Buddhist-Indic Studies,

Salamatpur, Sanchi

District: Raisen, Madhya Pradesh–Bharat, Pin: 464651

A BRIEF ABOUT THE CONFERENCE VENUE:

Sanchi University of Buddhist-Indic Studies (SUBIS) is a state university located at Sanchi, in the state of Madhya Pradesh. It was established by a State Act in 2012. Sanchi Township is a Nagar panchayat, on Bhopal-Vidisha route, in the of Raisen District. It is located 46 km north-east of Bhopal, and 10 km from Vidisha. Known for its "Sanchi Stupas", it is the location of several Buddhist monuments dating from the 3rd century BCE to the 12th CE and is one of the important places of Buddhist pilgrimage.

How to reach Sanchi:

Sanchi is well connected by Air, Railway and road with other cities and states of Bharat. The nearest airport is Raja Bhoj Airport (BHO), Bhopal, approximately 48 kilometres away from Sanchi. Bhopal has regular flights from major cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Lucknow etc. From the airport, you can hire a cab or take a bus to reach Sanchi. By Train, the nearest railway station to Sanchi is Vidisha approximately 10 km away. Vidisha is well-connected to major cities in India by rail. From the railway station, you can take a taxi or auto-rickshaw to reach Sanchi. Few local trains may be taken from Bhopal and Vidisha for Salamatpur (hardly 2 kilometers

from the Sanchi University campus. Other major railway stations near Sanchi include Bhopal Jn., Rani Kamalapati, Sant Hirdaram Nagar which is 41 km away, and local railway Station Salamatpur (SMT), which is 2 km away.

Climate:

Average daytime highs are around 84°F (29°C) and average night time lows drop to about 57°F (14°C). November is considered a good time to visit Sanchi due to the comfortable temperatures and low rainfall. One can expect warm days and cooler nights, making it advisable to pack light clothing for the day and some warmer layers for the evenings.

Places of attractions in and around Sanchi:

Sanchi, a name synonymous with serenity and ancient Buddhist heritage, primarily draws visitors to its magnificent stupas. The Great Stupa, a UNESCO World Heritage monument, is unquestionably Sanchi's crowning achievement. Emperor Ashoka commissioned the Ashoka Pillar in the third century BCE, and its brilliant Mauryan polish and lion capital add to the site's historical significance. Within the Sanchi complex, the Archaeological Museum gives significant context for the unearthed objects. Moving beyond the nearby Sanchi hills, the surrounding countryside has its own distinct appeal. Udaigiri Caves, a network of rock-cut sanctuaries from the Gupta period (4th-5th century CE), are only a short drive away. The adjoining town of Vidisha, once known as Besnagar, is also worth visit. The remains of ancient Vidisha, albeit less renowned than Sanchi, provide additional insight into the region's complex past. Besides, Buddhist stupas at Satdhara, Sonari, Piparia Murel etc., Bhojpur Rock cut Shiva Temple, Bhimbaitika (World heritage site inhabited by pre-historic humans), Bhopal Bada Talab (lake), Sair-Sapata (Bhopal) etc. are other spots of tourist attraction.

Please feel free in case of any query or question regarding the conference.

Looking forward to welcome you at **Sanchi University of Buddhist-Indic Studies, Sanchi, Madhya Pradesh** at our 25th Annual Conference.

With kind regards,

Cordially yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mutsuddy', with a horizontal line underneath.

(Saswati Mutsuddy)
General Secretary, ISBS