Ref. No. ISBS/18/02  
01.03.2018

FIRST CIRCULAR

At the outset, let me take this opportunity to extend my sincere thanks on behalf of the ISBS to you for your active support and valuable cooperation to make the 17th Annual Conference a success at the Sanchi University of Buddhist-Indic Studies, Barla (MP) during October 13-15, 2017.

I feel pleasure to inform you that the Indian Society for Buddhist Studies is holding its 18th Annual Conference at Kalyani University, Kalyani (WB) during September 28-30, 2018. Professor S. R. Bhatt, Chairman, Indian Council of Philosophical Research, New Delhi has kindly consented to be the General President of this conference and will deliver the Key-Note Address. The following broad areas/fields are being proposed for deliberations during the Academic Sessions of the Conference:

1. Pali Language and Literature
2. Buddhist Sanskrit Language and Literature
3. Buddhism in Apabhramsha Literature
4. Central & East Asian Languages and Literatures (including Tibetan, Japanese, Thai, Sogdian, Kuchean etc.)
5. History of Buddhism in India & Abroad (including Art, Architecture, Archaeology etc.)
6. Buddhist Philosophy
7. Contemporary and Applied/Engaged Buddhism
8. Buddhism in the Comparative Light
9. Indian Himalayan Buddhism
10. Buddhist Tourism

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

As a matter of our policy, we always try to highlight Buddhism in the region/place of conference. So we shall have a special session on Buddhism in Bengal. However, other areas of Buddhist Studies hitherto uncovered can also be explored for deliberations. 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.
ENROLMENT 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 favour of the Indian Society for Buddhist Studies, payable at Jammu. It may also be remitted by cheque payable at par, or in cash.

Fee Structure
The Fee structure is as follows:
For Indian Citizens:
  i. Annual: Rs. 500/-
  ii. Life: Rs. 2000/-*
  iii. Donor: Rs. 3100/- or more (inclusive of Life Membership)
  iv. Institutional (Annual): Rs. 2000/-

If the Annual membership is renewed after the due date i.e. June 30, 2018, an additional amount of Rs. 200/- will be levied as Late Fee.

* Direct Life Membership has been withheld for the time being.
A member, who attends three Annual Conferences consecutively and contributes to the Conference meaningfully through his/her research paper, can apply for the Life Membership the 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 cash/DD/cheque payable at par only latest by June 30, 2018. Any member, whose remittance is received after the last/due date (i.e. June 30, 2018), 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 update your latest address, Phone No., Email address etc., if there is any change in the same.

DELEGATES TO THE SESSION
Kalyani University has a serene, beautiful and sprawling Campus. Because of cost constraints, 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. 2000/- (US$ 250/-for a foreign delegate) till June 30, 2018. Delegate Registration Fee may, however, be acceptable in exceptional cases till July 31, 2018 with a late fee of Rs. 500/- per head. Those who fail to remit the Membership Fee and the Delegate Registration Fee even by the said date, will not be allowed to attend the Conference.

Kindly remit the Delegate Registration Fee by A/C Payee DD payable at Jammu/cheque payable at par in favour of the Indian Society for Buddhist Studies, and addressed to Dr. Lalit Gupta, Treasurer. Delegate Registration Fee must reach the Treasurer latest by June 30, 2018.
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 Treasurer as per the following address:

Dr. Lalit Gupta,
108-A (Private),
Near Gole Market, Gandhi Nagar,
Jammu-180004 (J&K)

LOCAL SECRETARY

Dr. Kuheli Biswas, Associate Professor, Dept. of Philosophy, Kalyani University, Kalyani (WB), will be the Local Secretary of this Conference. Her contact number is: +91-9432855941 and E-mail id is: 100kuhelibiswas@gmail.com.

In case of any query related to the local hospitality/transportation/conference arrangements request can also be made to Prof. Sanjib Kr. Dutta, Professor, Department of Mathematics, Kalyani University, Kalyani (WB) at +91- 8017105978.

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 Railway Time Table for various train routes reaching Howrah/Sealdah/Kolkata. Local trains are frequently available from Sealdah Rly. Station for Kalyani and take 1 ½ hours (approx). Those reaching Kolkata by Air, may take road route by Taxi/ bus which also take 1½ hours (approx) to reach Kalyani.

PAPER FOR THE SESSION

Members are requested to prepare research papers in English/Hindi/Pali/Sanskrit through 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 through Email: latest by May 31, 2018 (Please do not send any money as membership fee with your Abstract).


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. Pl. be in touch with the undersigned/ Treasurer. Only in case of acceptance of the Abstract, Membership and other fees may be remitted by June 30, 2018. 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.

• Kindly ensure that your paper is computer typed in double space and does not exceed 8 to 10 pages.
• Please use the font **Times New Roman** for papers in English and **Kruti Dev** for papers in Devanagri Script. Hand written paper will not be accepted.
• 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 June 30, 2018. The Abstracts of papers are going to be published and will be made available to the Delegates at the time of the Conference. 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**

The ISBS has been honouring senior scholars with the **Mañjuśrī Sammāna** for their outstanding contributions towards the promotion of Buddhist Studies and this year, the Honouree will be: **Prof. S. P. Vyas, Former Professor of Buddhist Philosophy, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi.** Besides, being an eminent scholar of Buddhist Philosophy, Prof. Vyas has contributed to the promotion of ISBS as its Vice-President as well.

In addition, the honouree is also honoured with the **Kamladevi Jain Smriti Samman** which carries an amount of Rs. 5100/- and a citation.

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

1. **Ācārya Buddhaghosa Award** on a paper purely on the linguistic, grammatical or literary aspect of Pali.
2. **Ācārya Nāgārjuna Award** on a paper on Buddhist Sanskrit or Mahāyāna Buddhism.
3. **Mahākavi Svayambhū Award** on a paper on Buddhism in Apabhramśa Literature.
4. **Mahapandita Rahul Sankrityayan Award** on a paper on Buddhist Philosophy.
5. **Divjot Waak Shodh Samman** on a paper by a woman delegate (no age bar).#  
# This award will carry Rs. 2500/-

These awards (except No.5) have been constituted/ sponsored to promote young scholars and carry Rs. 1100/- each in cash with a Certificate of Appreciation and the upper age limit of the contestants will be 40 years on July 31, 2018 for the same. Interested scholars must send their papers, so that the same reach the office of the Secretary on or before July 31, 2018 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 in any of the categories from the session; 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- 94191-45988 (cell) or through email: mailtoisbs@gmail.com.

Queries may be made to **Dr. Lalit Gupta**, the Treasurer as well through his Cell No. 09419139950 or to **Dr. Suresh Kumar** on his Cell No. +91-8825012735.

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**Brief About Kalayani University**

The University of Kalyani accredited by NAAC with CGPA score 3.12 (A Grade) was established in 1960. It is well connected by road and railway, with a railway station very close to the University. The University is situated in a locality surrounded by a rural setting within a rural backdrop and it caters mostly to the students of rural and backward areas. Yet,
its distance from Kolkata is only 45 km. This locational advantage of the University makes it particularly suitable for the 'Cafeteria Approach' to higher education. The University ensures on the one hand, the development of excellence, and on the other, contribution of higher education through dispersion of knowledge to rural areas in an open and flexible system. The University has completed four decades of commendable service to the development of higher education keeping in view the importance of the outlying rural economy and the needs and aspirations of the youth in the region. The University is presently offering twenty three post graduate programmes under four faculties, namely, Science, Arts & Commerce, Education, Engineering Technology & Management.

The Department of Philosophy under the faculty of Arts and Commerce was established in 2010 with a number of renowned scholars from different Universities. Presently, under the able Headship of Dr. Kuheli Biswas, the department has been running with P.G., M. Phil. and Ph. D. courses in Philosophy.

Looking forward to welcome you at Kalyani University, Kalyani (WB) at our 18th Annual Conference.

With kind regards,

Cordially yours,

(B. Labh)
Secretary