



DEPARTMENT OF BUDDHIST STUDIES

UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

COURSES OFFERED BY DEPARTMENT OF BUDDHIST STUDIES

POST GRADUATE CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK- 2024

MA SEMESTER II

DSC 4: BSCC 201: History of Indian Buddhism till the Beginning of Mauryan Period

| Course Title & Code | Credits | Credits distribution of the course | | | Eligibility Criteria | Prerequisite of the course, if any |
|--|---------|------------------------------------|----------|-----------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | | Lecture | Tutorial | Practical | | |
| DSC 4: BSCC 201: History of Indian Buddhism till the Beginning of Mauryan Period | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | As per admission criteria | Nil |

This paper is aligned with Sustainability Development Goals 2030: 4, Quality Education and Gender Equality

Objectives: The primary objective of this course is to advance students' critical awareness of the background to the origin and nature of Buddhism in India from its birth till the beginning of the Mauryan Period in the fourth century BCE.

Course Learning Outcomes: Upon the completion of this course, students should:

- have acquired a clear understanding of the background to the origin of Buddhism in India.
- have a sound knowledge during the first millennium of its existence
- have a sound knowledge of its perspective on women, ahimsā, and caste system.
- be equipped with the methodological capability to be able to conduct postgraduate or independent research on virtually any topic on the history of Indian Buddhism.
- have acquired a good understanding of the key doctrines of Theravāda.
- have gained good familiarity with consulting and analysing the source material for the study of the history of early Indian Buddhism.



Contents:

- Unit-I: Survey of the source material: indigenous (archaeological and literary) and foreign
- Unit-II: India on the Eve of the Origin of Buddhism
- Unit-III: Background to the origin of Buddhism: Role of iron
- Unit-IV: Date of the Buddha.

Suggested Reading

- Strong, John, S., *The Buddha: A Short Biography*, Oxford: Oneworld, 2001.
- Nakamura, H., *Indian Buddhism: A Survey with Bibliographical Notes*, reprint, Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, 1989.
- Lamotte, É., *History of Indian Buddhism*, Louvain: Peeters Pub, 1988.
- Warder, A.K., *Indian Buddhism*, 4th edition, Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, 2017.
- Bapat, P.V. *2500 Years of Buddhism*, New Delhi: Government of India. *Baudha Dharma ke 2500 Varṣa* (in Hindi), New Delhi: Government of India.
- Schopen, Gregory. *Bones, Stones, and Buddhist Monks: Collected Papers on the Archaeology, Epigraphy, and Texts of Monastic Buddhism in India*, Honolulu: Hawai'i University Press, 1997.

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