



Call for Papers

International Seminar on **From Compassion to Coexistence: Buddhist Perspectives** on **World Peace**

21st–22nd November 2025

Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan (Hybrid Mode)

About the Seminar

Rabindranath Tagore honored Gautama Buddha as *Mahāmanab* (the Great Man) and considered his teachings invaluable for peaceful sustenance and progressive statehood. Since its inception in the 5th–4th century BCE, Buddhism has upheld *karuṇā* (compassion), *mettā* (loving-kindness), and *ahiṃsā* (non-violence) as central ethical values. These ideals have transcended boundaries, shaping cultures across Asia and beyond.

In today's context of armed conflicts, refugee crises, ecological challenges, and digital-age dilemmas, the Buddhist emphasis on cultivating inner peace as the foundation for social harmony offers a profound path toward coexistence. This international seminar seeks to bring together scholars, monastics, peace practitioners, and policymakers to deliberate on the philosophical, ethical, and practical relevance of Buddhist principles in contemporary peace building.

Themes & Sub-Themes

Main Theme:

From Compassion to Coexistence: Buddhist Perspectives on World Peace

Sub-Themes (Indicative, not exhaustive):

- **Doctrinal and Ethical Foundations** – Compassion (*karuṇā*), Loving-kindness (*mettā*), Equanimity (*upekkhā*), and the Middle Path as peace frameworks.

- **Buddhist Peacebuilding in Practice** – Diplomacy, mediation, post-conflict rehabilitation, humanitarian work.
 - **Mind, Education, and Social Harmony** – Peace education, mindfulness-based practices, mental health and harmony.
 - **Ecology, Sustainability, and Peace** – Buddhist ecological ethics, interdependence, climate change responses.
 - **Gender and Peace in Buddhism** – Women monastics, gender equality, inclusivity in Buddhist traditions.
 - **Buddhism in the Digital Age** – Cyber ethics, countering extremism, fostering compassion online.
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Submission Guidelines

- **Abstract:** 300–350 words, including title, author’s name, affiliation, and contact details.
 - **Full Paper:** 4000–6000 words, Times New Roman, 12 pt, 1.5 spacing, in MS Word/PDF format.
 - Papers may be presented in **English, Hindi, Sanskrit, Pali or Bengali** (with abstract in English).
 - Selected papers will be published in a **peer-reviewed edited volume**.
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Important Dates

- **Abstract Submission Deadline:** 30th October 2025
 - **Notification of Acceptance:** 5th November 2025
 - **Full Paper Submission:** 15th November 2025
 - **Seminar Dates:** 21st–22nd November 2025
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Target Participants

- Scholars in Buddhist Studies, Philosophy, Peace & Conflict Studies, and International Relations.
 - Monks, nuns, and practitioners from diverse Buddhist traditions.
 - Peace activists, NGOs, and policy experts.
 - Students and young researchers.
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Venue & Format

- **Venue:** Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan, West Bengal, Pin.731235
- **Format:** Hybrid (In-person & Virtual participation)

Organizers

Organizing Institution:

Centre for Buddhist Studies, Bhasha Bhavana, Visva-Bharati University

Collaborating Institution: Siddharth United Social Welfare Mission (SUSWM), Kolkata

Contact for Queries

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Submission of Abstract

Please send your Abstract file in PDF and Word formats to this Email Id : harekrushna.mishra@visva-bharati.ac.in

For Registration Fill up the Google Form attached and pay Registration fee - \$50 (Foreign Delegates) Rs.1000/-for Indian Delegates

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdH2qAgf9IkVU_8T9R8sEgca20QHwLQvbBU4a6OO81atN9skA/viewform?usp=sharing&ouid=113241805433523330604

(Students /Monks/Nuns may be relaxed if applied and considered by the committee)

NB- General Secretary SUSWM shall receive the registration fee.

Siddarth United Social Welfare Mission

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Teghoria Branch

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✨ Participants are invited to contribute papers and join us in shaping The Santiniketan Declaration on Compassion and Coexistence, a collective vision for peace in the 21st century.