

MAHABODHI RESEARCH CENTER- MRC

Mahabodhi Research center, Bengaluru -MBRC is the effort of deep research and far vision of the founder most Ven. Dr. Acharya Buddharakkhita Bada Bhanteji in order to give systematic and well formulated Buddhist education as widely as possible to both monastic and lay people in today's modern world. The Study and practice of Buddhism and its philosophy taught by the compassionate Supreme Teacher Lord Buddha will help a person to live a meaningful life and progress towards freedom from suffering and ultimately leading to enlightenment. Therefore, the universal message of Bhagavan Buddha is even more relevant to the modern world as it were 2600 years ago. Presently, Ven Bhikkhu Buddhadatta is the Director of MRC and courses are going under his guidance.



Ven Buddhadatta, Director of MBRC addressing during a conference

Mahabodhi Research Center, started in the year 2017, affiliated with esteemed Karnataka Sanskrit University, Bengaluru, to run different Buddhist courses.



A meeting at Karnataka Sanskrit University, Bengaluru



Class in process at MBRC

Academic year 2019-20, Classes and Teaching faculty:

This current Academic year 26 students took admission and classes were started in the month of August. Regular classes have been conducted in the weekends by experienced and learned faculty members (both monks and lay people). Four monk lecturers and 3 lay lecturers took the classes during this academic year. From time to time, for the Ph.D research scholars and their respective guides continue to monitor the assignment and course work for students. Classes were also conducted virtually through online platform and social medial app so that the students can join from their homes and complete the course work without any difficulties. Besides class room teaching we are planning to provide online classes for the distant students on regular basis.



14 students have attended the exam and out of 14 candidates 9 students have cleared the annual exam successfully conducted by the Karnataka Sanskrit University.. After completing the course, students of Research Centre will be eligible for higher Buddhist studies.



Awarding Diploma certificates to MBRC student



Presenting Diploma certificates to MBRC student

Symposium and Seminars:

Seminars and symposiums are the essential part of academia. Therefore, MRC and Karnataka Sanskrit University conducted 2 seminars and 1 symposium during the last year.

- **Symposium on 'Modern Day Dhammaduta – the Most Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita, His life and works'** – Mahabodhi Research Center was the brain child of Bada Bhanteji. On the occasion of Smarananjali or Remembrance Day, September 23, 2019 on his death anniversary, a symposium was organized to express gratitude and remembrance towards our beloved teacher late Most Ven. Dr. Acharya Buddharakkhita Bada Bhanteji. On this occasion Senior monks, Samaneras, Anagariakas and lay students gave talks and shared experiences on life and works of Acharya Buddharakkhita Bada Bhanteji.
- **Seminar on Samskrutha Kavya Vachana and Vyakhyana series-** For the development of Prakrit, Pali and Samskrit Language, Karnataka Samskrit University took initiative to conduct the symposium, Seminar, Drama and other activities. Mahabodhi Research Center and Karnataka Sanskrit University jointly conducted three seminars on Samskrutha Kavya Vachana and Vyakhyana series on 27.9.2019, 04.10.2019 and 11.10.2019 at Karnataka Sanskrit University. Well known scholars of both Buddhism and Sanskrit were invited to present research papers. Venerable monks from Maha Bodhi Society also participated in the seminar and got benefitted from this programme.
- **Workshop on Sanskrit – Pali speaking:** In the month of August a Week long workshop on Pali and Sanskrit speaking (Sambhashana Shibira) was jointly organized by Mahabodhi Research Center and Karnataka Sanskrit University, Bengaluru. 20 Venerable monks, who are studying Pali regularly, participated in this workshop and learned basic spoken skills about the Sanskrit language. This workshop went off very well, and helped our monks to use Pali in a better way and understand the similarities of these two languages. It also helped them in day to day speaking of Pali and Sanskrit.



Dr B V Rajaram during Smarananjali seminar at MBRC

Research Scholars and Ph. D programs:

Rajendra P, senior Upasaka and the first batch student of our Mahabodhi Research Center, has submitted his Ph.D. thesis successfully to the Tumkur University. Hopefully after due process, within a short time he will be awarded with the Ph.D. from the Tumkur University. Ven Bhaddanta Pamokkha is a Burmese Buddhist monk and teacher at MMI who has enrolled as Ph.D. student at Tumkur University in the year 2015-16. Bhaddanta Pamokkha is going to submit his thesis in a few months and in the final stage of completion of his research work. After the completion of their PhD, MBRC will have two highly qualified lecturers and who will be serving for the cause of imparting Buddhist education to our students.

Students attending Diploma class at MBRC



Mahabodhi Library and Sangayana:

The Mahabodhi Library has been revamped and redesigned with new furniture, study tables, chairs and racks. The library is unique in the sense that it hosts the valuable Sacred Tipitaka both in Pali and English translation. More than 10,000 titles in different languages are in the library for the readers. Every month new arrivals - magazines, journals, and periodicals are added to the storehouse of knowledge in the library. For research scholars and monks, the library is used for referencing and preparing projects. Positive ideas and initiatives are taken up to increase library membership and wide accessibility to public readers. Besides this, we have planned to make Digital library section to reach out to maximum number of readers. In this regard, we request one and all to come forward to take the membership of our library and also spread the word so that maximum number of persons can be benefitted.

Display of few collection of books at Library



Publications -Dhamma Magazine (English and Kannada):

English monthly **Dhamma** magazine was started by Bada Bhanteji and he himself was the chief editor for decades and published some of the best Dhamma articles. Under his guidance and inspiration, even today the magazine is continued to be published with the same spirit without any gap. Under MRC publication section, the magazine is reaching readers in India and abroad. For local readers, Kannada Bi-monthly magazine is being published benefitting many of our readers in Karnataka.

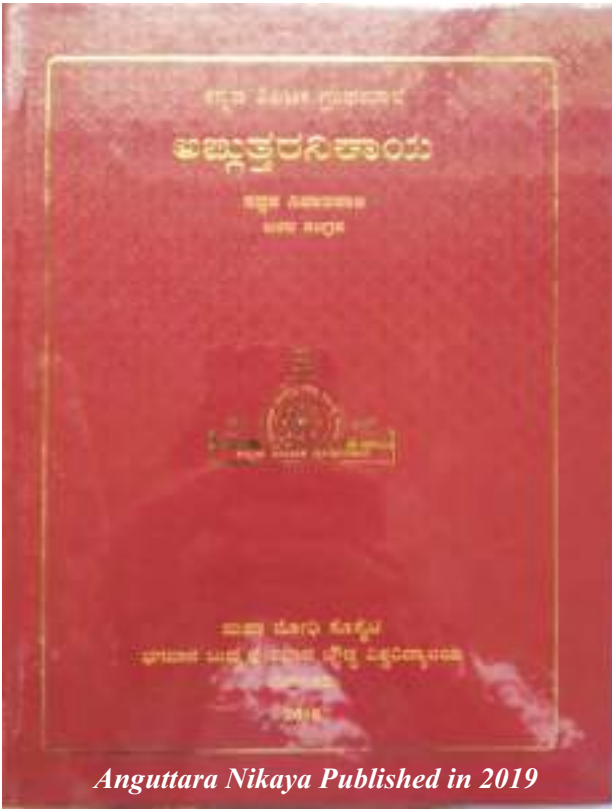
Academic Collaboration with Universities:

MRC is working in collaboration with Karnataka Samskrit University and Tumkur University, and it maintains good academic relation with the above-mentioned universities by conducting seminars, conferences and lectures in its campus. MRC is also keen to associate with other universities especially universities in India and Theravada Buddhist Universities like in Myanmar, Thailand and Sri Lanka. Visitors and scholars, both monks and laity, visited the research center and encouraged the work being taken up. Several dignitaries visited the center and appreciated our program.

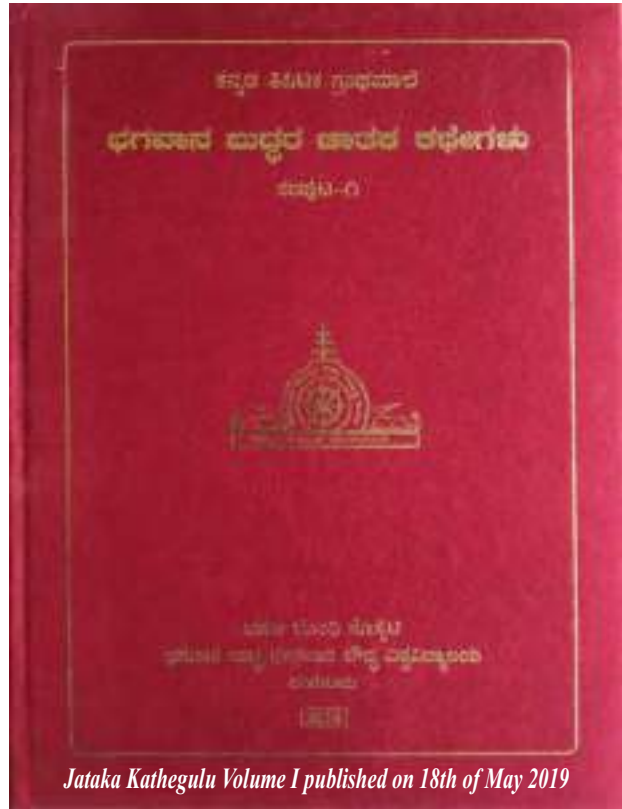


Kannada Tipitaka Project - Translation of Pali Tipitaka in Kannada:

Translation of Pali Tipitaka into Kannada is going on in full swing, A group of dedicated scholarly translators headed by senior Upasaka and translation coordinator Dr. B V Rajaram are doing the translation work sincerely. In first of its series, Translation of Sutta Pitaka and some Atthakathas have been taken up. So far, 29 volumes have been already published under Buddha Vachana Trust, which is the publication wing. Some of the books that have been published are, among others – Digha Nikaya, Majjhima Nikaya, Samyutta Nikaya, Anguttara Nikaya and Jataka as well as Milinda panhā from Khuddaka Nikaya. In near future we are hopeful that we will be able to bring out the complete collection of Pali Tipitaka in to Kannada language. We are very grateful to the Govt. of Karnataka for supporting the translation project.



Anguttara Nikaya Published in 2019



Jataka Kathagulu Volume I published on 18th of May 2019

Future New programs – Bachelor and master and Ph D in Buddhist studies:

MRC has a vision to extend its higher studies courses of Bachelor and Master Degree programs in the coming years. A draft syllabus is in the process of making which will be submitted to the Samskrit University and other such Universities in Bengaluru. In due course of time, BA, MA and Ph.D. in Pali and Buddhist studies will be lunched in both regular and distant mode. We are also planning to lunch the existing study programs in both online and offline platform.