

INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR

on

BUDDHA: THE GREAT TEACHER

Under the SoE Scheme of PMMMNMTT, MoE, Govt. of India, New Delhi

on

15 December, 2020 @ 2.30 pm to 5.30 pm

Centre for Teacher Education (CTE) organises programmes from time to time to develop the students and teachers holistically. The purpose of the activities and programmes is the multidimensional growth of students. Therefore, it is imperative for them to seek knowledge from the different frames of life. Buddha and his teachings have been guiding the world for innumerable centuries. The contemporary education system is suffering from the paralysis of lop-sidedness. Therefore, the CTE and its faculty members decided to set up a congregation of learned men to deliver and discuss their reflections upon the topic “**Buddha: The Great Teacher**”. The programme was held on 15 December 2020 from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. The prerogative of the webinar was to learn the ways in which Buddha became the greatest teacher. The webinar was relevant for both the students and the teachers because it was aimed to spark the inherent learner in a teacher. The attribute of doubting and then coming to a logical conclusion is an essential trait of a good teacher. The current education system is only manufacturing professionals for the market. The rupture and the failure that the traditional Indian education system has suffered after the inclusion of colonial teaching practices have yielded a loss of empathetic teaching- learning activities. Therefore, Buddha and his role as a teacher can be recalled rejuvenating the fossilized education system.



INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR ON BUDDHA: THE GREAT TEACHER

Date : 15th December, 2020 Tuesday Time: 2.30 to 5.30 P.M.

Patron: Prof. Geshe Ngawang Samten, Vice-Chancellor, CIHTS
Chairman: Dr. Ransheel Kumar Upadhyay, Registrar, CIHTS
Convener: Dr. Himanshu Pandey, Director, CTE, CIHTS
Organizing Committee: Dr. Jampa Thupten, Dr. Krishna Pandey, Brijesh Kumar Yadav and Susmita Vatsyayan, CTE, CIHTS
Live webcast: Multimedia Section, Shantarakshita Library, CIHTS

 <p>SPEAKER Prof. Sadanand Shahi Department of Hindi BHU</p>	 <p>SPEAKER Prof. Awadesh Pradhan Department of Hindi BHU</p>	 <p>CHAIRPERSON Prof. Geshe N. Samten, (Fodma shir) Vice-Chancellor, CIHTS</p>	 <p>DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER Prof. Hridya Ratna Bajrocharya Vice-Chancellor Lumbini Buddhist University, Nepal</p>	 <p>SPEAKER Shri Shailendra Pralapsingh (Ex. I.P.S.), Author & Historian Tasmania, Australia</p>	 <p>ORGANIZING SECRETARY Dr. Sushel Kumar Singh Assistant Professor (Hindi) CTE, CIHTS</p>
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GOOGLE MEET:  meet.google.com/fbu-qfwe-zcw

LIVE ON:  facebook.com/CentrallnstituteofHigherTibetanStudies

ORGANIZER:
CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF HIGHER TIBETAN STUDIES, SARNATH, VARANASI
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION, CENTRE FOR TEACHER EDUCATION

The International Webinar was inaugurated by **Prof. R.K. Upadhyay**, Registrar of Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies, Varanasi. He welcomed the distinguished speakers and the participants through the virtual platform of Google Meet.

Dr. Susheel Kr.Singh, organiser of the programme, invited Prof. **Sadanand Shahi**, Dept. Of Hindi, B.H.U., Varanasi, to illuminate the participants with his reflections upon the topic. Prof. Shahi is of the opinion that every individual has the potential to become Buddha, i.e., Enlightened. The route to this enlightenment can be attained through Knowledge. Knowledge is the route to the ultimate destination of human beings - love. In the contemporary times when the world is divided on the lines of caste, class, colour, nations, regions, languages, and so on, Buddha's principle of love for all can be adopted to disrupt the spread of antagonism among the people.



Mr. **Shailendra Pratap Singh**, ex- IPS and author of many renowned books, was the next speaker in line. Mr. Singh assertively called Buddha the “greatest” teacher. He used the superlative degree time and again to emphasise that Buddha has been a guiding light for teachers across the globe. He said that Buddha searched for the reasons that caused *dukkha* or sufferings in the human world.



Prof. Awdhesh Pradhan, Hindi Department, B.H.U., reinstated the belief in *dharma* and called Buddha as pioneer who established a dharma or creed for his people. Prof. Pradhan asserted the importance of *Satya* or truth in the lives of human beings. He believes that it is truth and its magnificence that reduces weaknesses of any sort. Therefore, one must follow the precedents of Mahatma Buddha to remove all the hindrances that stop us from attaining our goals.



Prof. **Hridaya Ratna Bajracharya**, Vice Chancellor of Lumbini Buddhist University, Nepal, approached Buddha from a modernist perspective. He opined that Buddha emphasised upon the *Guru Shishya parampara* in which the teacher and students live a close-knit life. The two are interdependent upon one another for their intellectual wellbeing. Prof. Bajracharya gave a modernist approach to the teachings of Buddha and found that his teachings will always be relevant for they address the perennial nature of human life – *Dukha* or sufferings. Therefore, Buddha and his teachings are the need of the present times to uproot the seeds of violence and unhealthy competition that is nurtured in the innocent's minds of children.



The ceremony was culminated by the reflections of Prof. **Geshe Nawang Samten**, Vice Chancellor, Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies, Varanasi. Prof. Samten mentioned about *sheel shiksha* and *paragya shiksha*. He believes that conflict is the cause of all the problems that accompany human race. Therefore, to overcome all the sufferings we need to uproot the conflicts from our lives.



The programme was concluded by a vote of thanks given by Dr. Jay Prakash Singh, the academic coordinator of CTE, CIHTS.

The organiser of the programme Dr. Singh recorded that around 56 participants joined the programme through Google meet and an overwhelming number of 3000 people participated through the face book page of CIHTS.