



Indian Council of Historical Research

19.03.2019

Notification for Seven-Day Workshop on **Pali Literature as a Source of Indian History & Culture**

Pali literature is a repository of ancient Indian life, wisdom and culture. Being the collection of the Buddha's words it throws ample light not only on the philosophical ideas and doctrines of the Buddha, but also on the geographical and political units existing and functioning at the Buddha's time, systems of governance like republic, monarchical, limited democracy, bigger empires (mahājanapadas) and smaller kingdoms (janapadas), social customs, religious practices, food habits, dress and ornaments, agriculture, small scale industries like making of utensils, cloth, shoes, ornaments, weapons etc., diplomatic relations among different units and so on.

Further, Pali-Piṭaka and Post- Piṭaka literature highlight the changing pattern too occurring in the Indian life and related systems. They help us in determining the course of Indian history, origin and development of art, architecture, idol making, development of cities, trade and commerce etc. within the country and even beyond.

Pali chronicles reveal how Buddhism travelled to different parts of India from Uttarāpatha and crossed the international boundaries first at the time of Aśoka and then during the reigns of Menander, Kaniṣka, Guptas, Harṣa, Pālas, Senas and so on. We come to know also about the growing educational institutions like Nālandā, Odantpurī, Vikramaśīlā, jagaddala, Somapurī etc. through Pali texts.

In nutshell Pali is immensely useful in knowing and analysing ancient Indian history and culture.

In the recent years, it has been observed that the young Indian scholarship is taking less interest in the original sources available in Sanskrit, Pali, Prakrit, Apabhramsha etc. and as a result, authenticity in their understanding and writing most of the times get less reliable and misunderstood.

Keeping in view these facts, the Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) is glad to announce a **Seven-Day Workshop on Pali Literature as a Source of Indian History & Culture** tentatively in the month of May, 2019 at Nava Nalanda Mahavihar,

Nalanda, Bihar (precise dates will be announced later).

The programme will include:

1. Professional training in fundamentals of Pali language and Literature for upto 30 research scholars (doing M. Phil & Ph.D.) as well as teachers (Assistant Professors) engaged in teaching Ancient History, Buddhist Studies, Pali and related disciplines;
2. Special lectures by eminent scholars on the importance and relevance of Pali language and literature as a source of Indian history and culture;
3. Brainstorming sessions on steps required to improve the status of Pali language in the country and offer more opportunities to young scholars;
4. Practical session including field visit to local sites/museums etc.

How to Apply:

Application form along-with brief academic CV, a Statement of Purpose (maximum 200 words) explaining why wish to attend the workshop, two- passport size photographs, and educational qualification certificate (Date of Birth, M. Phil/PhD enrolment/award certificate) should reach to the Office of Member Secretary, Indian Council of Historical Research, 35 Ferozeshah Road, New Delhi-110001 within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice.

ICHR will screen applications and will limit the number of selected applicants to 30. ICHR will meet the travel and accommodation expenses of the selected participants. Certificate will be issued to the participants who will successfully complete the workshop.



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Application Form for Seven-Day Workshop on Pali Literature as a Source of Indian History & Culture

1. Name.....
2. D.o.B.....
3. Department/Institution.....
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4. Address.....
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5. Mobile.....
6. E-mail.....
7. Educational Qualification.....
8. Research Experience.....
9. Topic of Ph. D.....
10. Name of the Supervisor.....
11. Date, Month & Year of Registration.....
12. List of Publications, if any.....
13. Statement of Purpose (within 200 words on a separate sheet)

Paste a recent Photograph and attach one with the Form

Date.....

Signature

Place.....