



Deshkal Society in collaboration with
Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts [IGNCA]
presents

5th Edition of the Bodh Gaya Global Dialogues

24-26th March 2023

The Royal Residency, Bodh Gaya

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5th Edition of the Bodh Gaya Global Dialogues

24-26th March 2023

The Royal Residency, Bodh Gaya

ORGANISED BY

 **DESHKAL SOCIETY**
Knowledge with Practice

IN COLLABORATION WITH



इन्दिरा गाँधी राष्ट्रीय कला केन्द्र

INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS



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India Tourism
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ITDC



Indian Council
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preparing tomorrow's surfaces

DAY-1

FRIDAY 24TH MARCH 2023

REGISTRATION | 4:00 PM ONWARDS

PLENARY SESSION | 5:30 PM TO 7:30 PM

VENUE | AMPRAPALI, THE ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

SHORT VIDEO PRESENTATION

Bodh Gaya Global Dialogues: Glimpses of the Previous Dialogues

CHAIR

Dr. Shekhar Dutt, Former Governor, Chhattisgarh

MODERATOR

Ms. Gunjan Joshi, Heritage Professional and Consultant

WELCOME SPEECH

Dr. Manish Sinha, Professor, Magadh University, Bodh Gaya
and Hon'ble Member of the Organising Committee of Bodh Gaya Global Dialogues

CONTEXT AND JOURNEY OF THE DIALOGUES

Shri Sanjay Kumar, Secretary, Deshkal Society

CHIEF GUEST

Shri Ram Bahadur Rai, President, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts

GUESTS OF HONOUR

Dr. Shovana Narayan, Distinguished Kathak Performer and Scholar, New Delhi

Dr. Vinita Sahay, Director, Indian Institute of Management, Bodh Gaya

SHORT PRESENTATION

An initiative in Sewing, Designing and Embroidery by the group of women associated with Bodhi Kendra under the auspices of Deshkal Society

BOOK RELEASE

'Imaging Bodh Gaya: Shared Histories and Global Future'

REMARKS BY THE CHAIR

VOTE OF THANKS

Ms. Surbhi Mauray, Communications Officer, Deshkal Society

DINNER | 8:00 PM ONWARDS



SATURDAY 25TH MARCH 2023

Session-1

TIME | 9:30 AM TO 10:30 AM

VENUE | AMPRAPALI, THE ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

CONVERSATION

Dr. Shovana Narayan, distinguished Kathak Performer & Scholar
with Shri Uday Sahay, Author and Chairman, Director, SAUV Communications,
New Delhi

The central theme of the conversation is around the life of Buddha and Gender Inequality. It is a common knowledge that the enlightened Buddha resisted women's entry into Sangha for long. This gave rise to a perception he did not consider women as equal to men in achieving spiritual merit. Simplistically put, people thought women are less capable, not only to undertake arduous physical rigour, but also mental ones. Until the hundreds of womenfolk of Kapilvastu, led by Mahapajapati Gotami (Buddha's mother's sister) and Yadhodhara (Buddha's wife) resolved to walk together, hundreds of miles, barefoot to Vaishali, to seek Buddha's admission. Their move met almost a dead-end at Vaishali, when the chief disciple of Buddha, Ananda put his foot down on the proposal in order to enforce prevalent rule of the Sangha on women's entry. What followed became one of the finest and foremost debates on gender equality in the world, and it became a game changer on the issue for all time to come. The session brings out the nuances and the fine prints of the discussion, and its eventual take-aways.

Session-2A

TIME | 10:30 AM TO 12:00 PM

VENUE | AMPRAPALI, THE ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

BOOK DISCUSSION

The Kalchakra Tantra: Translation, Annotation and Commentary

Shri Niraj Kumar, Author, Translator and Director, Ministry of Culture, Government of India *with* Prof. Geshe Tashi Tsering, Dean, Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies, Sarnath

Session-2B

TIME | 10:30 AM TO 12:00 PM

VENUE | VAISHALI, THE ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

MODERATOR

Shri Sanjay Kumar, Secretary, Deshkal Society

LEAD PRESENTATION

Dr. Dalip Kumar, Professor of Economics, Delhi School of Professional Studies & Research, New Delhi

'Changing Pattern and Growth of Bodh Gaya Block: An Evidence from Census Data'

Dr. Aviram Sharma, Senior Research Fellow, Utrecht University, The Netherlands

'Urban Transformation in Bodh Gaya: Between Enclavement and a Common Future'

TEA BREAK | 12:00 PM TO 12:15 PM

Session-3

TIME | 12:15 PM TO 1:15 PM

VENUE | AMPRAPALI, THE ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

MODERATOR

Dr. Shashank Shekhar Sinha, Author, Independent Researcher and Publishing Director, Routledge (South Asia)

PANEL DISCUSSION

Dr. Manish Sinha, Professor, Magadh University, Bodh Gaya and Hon'ble Member of the Organising Committee of Bodh Gaya Global Dialogues

'Multiculturalism at Bodh Gaya'

Dr. Shushmita Dutt, Educationist and Research Consultant, New Delhi
'Ajanta, the Wellspring of Indian Painting'

Pritha Mukherjee, PhD Candidate at the Department of Art History, Rutgers University-New Brunswick. New Jersey, USA
'Reinvention of Buddhism in India: A Look at Buddhist Influence in Modern Architecture'

Gunjan Joshi, Heritage Professional and Consultant
'The life, living expressions and intangible heritage of Bodh Gaya'

LUNCH | 1:15 PM TO 2:00 PM

Session-4

TIME | 2:00 PM TO 3:00 PM

VENUE | AMPRAPALI, THE ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

CHAIR

Sudhirendar Sharma, Senior Consultant, World Bank

TALK

Shri Arvind Mohan, Author and Journalist, New Delhi
'हजारोंबेटियोंवालेगांधी'

Session-5

TIME | 3:00 PM TO 3:30 PM

VENUE | AMPRAPALI, THE ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

TALK

H.E. Major General Vetsop Namgyel, The Ambassador, Royal Bhutanese Embassy
'Significance of Bodh Gaya and Buddhism with reference to Bhutan'

Session-6

MOVIE SCREENING

TIME | 3:30 PM TO 4:30 PM

VENUE | AMPRAPALI, THE ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

MODERATOR

Shri Uday Sahay, Author and Chairman, Director, SAUV Communications, New Delhi

The Gesha Ma is Born

Director: Ms. Malati Rao

For the Buddha, establishing a community of nuns was a radical experiment for its time. Over the centuries Buddhist religious life was available to women and many historical events mention highly accomplished nuns. But the highest monastic qualifications were denied to them. His Holiness The Dalai Lama worked for decades along with the nuns in Tibetan Buddhism to empower and enable them to finally receive the same education and degree as the monks. The film traces the journey of an exceptional nun, Namdol Phuntsok, the first woman ever to be awarded the highest degree in Tibetan philosophy – the Geshema degree which stands for the ‘knower of virtue’.

TEA BREAK | 4:30 PM TO 5:00 PM

Session-7 [FORMAT-VIRTUAL]

TIME | 5:00 PM TO 6:00 PM

VENUE | AMPRAPALI, THE ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

MODERATOR

Dr. Manish Sinha, Professor, Magadh University, Bodh Gaya

LEAD PRESENTATION

Dr. Abhishek Amar, Associate Professor, Hamilton College, New York
‘Heritage and Culture of Magadh Region: Past and Contemporary’

DAY-3

SUNDAY 26TH MARCH 2023

Session-8A

TIME | 10.00 AM TO 11.00 AM

VENUE | AMPRAPALI, THE ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

MODERATOR

Gunjan Joshi, Heritage Professional and Consultant

TALK

Dr. Shashank Shekhar Sinha, Author, Independent Researcher and Publishing Director, Routledge (South Asia)

'Bodh Gaya and Beyond: The Larger Geo-cultural Connections and Histories of the Mahabodhi Temple Complex'

Session-8B

TIME | 10.00 AM TO 11.00 AM

VENUE | VAISHALI, THE ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

CHAIR

Dr. Shushmita Dutt, Educationist and Research Consultant, New Delhi

Theme

'Enhancing learning outcomes of children through poetry and story-telling'

LEAD PRESENTATION

Dr. Binodanand Jha, Educationist and Former Director, Department of Education, Government of Bihar

'Learning from the Buddha'

Dr. Jainendra Dost, Lecturer, District Institute of Education and Training, Department of Education, Government of Bihar

'Art Integrated Education: In the Context of Story Telling and Role Play'

Dr. Ravi Kant, Professor, Central University of South Bihar

'Language, Culture and Learning Outcomes'

TEA BREAK | 11.00 AM TO 11.30 AM

Session-9

TIME | 11.30 AM TO 1.00 PM

VENUE | AMRAPALI, THE ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

CHAIR

Dr. Shekhar Dutt, Former Governor, Chhattisgarh

SPECIAL SESSION

India-Japan Relations: Exploring and Building on the Buddhism Connect

Prof. Taiken Kyuma, Associate Professor of Humanities, Mie University, Japan

‘Indian Buddhist Monasteries and Secularity from the Gupta Period

Onward: Introduction to the Vihāra Project’

Professor Baladas Ghoshal, Former Professor and Chair in Southeast Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

‘Buddhist Connect in India-Japan Relations’

Dr. Tunchinmang Langel, Research Fellow, Indian Council of World Affairs

‘Exploring the Buddhist Connection in the Context of India’s “Act East”

Policy and Japan’s “Free and Open Indo-Pacific” Strategy’

LUNCH | 1.00 PM TO 2.00 PM

Session-10

TIME | 2.00 PM TO 3.00 PM

VENUE | AMRAPALI, THE ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

SPECIAL SESSION

Buddhist Heritage, Women Empowerment and Sustainable Livelihoods

CHAIR

Ms. Swasti Singh Ghai, Head, Centre for Teaching and Learning, National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad

LEAD PRESENTATION

Ms. Reema Nanavaty, Director, Self-Employed Women’s Association of India (SEWA), Ahmedabad

Ms. Usha Jha, President, Bihar Mahila Udyog Sangh, Patna

‘Madhubani Art, Women Empowerment and Livelihood’

Surbhi Mauray, Communications Officer, Deshkal Society

‘Certificate Course on Sewing and Designing for Women in Bodh Gaya’

TEA BREAK | 3.30 PM TO 4.00 PM

Session-11

TIME | 4.00 PM TO 5.00 PM

VENUE | AMPRAPALI, THE ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

VALEDICTORY SESSION, RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUMMING UP CHAIR

Dr. D. C. Choubey, Professor and Head, East Asia Programme Study and Brihattar Bharat Project, IGNC, New Delhi

GUEST OF HONOUR

H.E. Mr. Dambajavyn Ganbold, Ambassador, Embassy of Mongolia, New Delhi

SUMMING UP

Dr. Ajay K. Mishra, Convenor of Bodh Gaya Global Dialogues and Assistant Professor, IGNC, New Delhi
Shri Sanjay Kumar, Secretary, Deshkal Society

VOTE OF THANKS

Ms. Surbhi Mauray, Communications Officer, Deshkal Society



Documentation Incharge

Shri Prakash Nayak, Culture and Communication Expert, New Delhi

Session Documentation

Ms. Gunjan Joshi, Heritage Professional and Consultant
Ms. Diksha Sharanagate, Folklore Enthusiast

Visual Documentation

Ms. Khanjan Purohit, Visual Documentarian, Mumbai

Note

For those who are interested to visit the sites, the organizers will arrange a visit to the special heritage sites of Bodh Gaya on 27th March 2023 from 9.00 AM to 12.00 PM.

Deshkal Society aims to provide dignity, equity, and justice through improving access to quality elementary education, entitlements for habitats and heritage, secure livelihoods and dignified existence. Since 1995 it has been working towards this aim by bringing together knowledge and practice in Bodh Gaya region in particular and at national level in general.

DESHKAL SOCIETY Knowledge with Practice

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