

Undergraduate Course offered by Centre of Buddhist Studies in 2023–24  
ELECTIVE COURSE  
(OPEN TO ALL FACULTIES)

**BSTC2019 Pāli language II**

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Offering Semester	Semester II
Schedule	Every Monday from 12:30–14:20
Class Venue	CPD 1.42

**Course Description**

The main focus of the course is to introduce more practical knowledge of Pāli that enables students to read easy Pāli passages both prose and verse extracted directly from the Pāli texts. It also introduces remaining grammatical components not included in Pāli I such as basic grammar together with exercises, including phonetics, parts of speech, nouns of different genders and their declensions, verbs and their conjugations, participles and their functions, syntax and classification of sentences. At the end of the course the students are expected to be able to read simple Pāli sentences and understand their religious and philosophical significance in context.

**Prerequisite**

BSTC2016. Pāli language I” or possess equivalent knowledge

**Course Content**

This course is designed for students directly on BSTC2016 Pāli language I, expanding Pāli learning skills among students to understand and read sentences in Pāli. The main focus of Pāli language II is on the continuation of grammar which includes past, present, future participles, numerals, syntax, compounds, conditional tense, causative and reading passages from the Pāli texts such as the *Dīgha Nikāya*, the *Majjhima Nikāya*.

**Learning Outcome**

By the end of this course, students are expected to be able to

- gain advance knowledge of Pāli grammar;
- build a fundamental level of Pāli vocabulary;
- demonstrate the skill of translation Pāli sentences;
- understand the content of Pāli literature and apply their knowledge to other academic disciplines to gain a better understanding;
- provide a summary of the teachings in the Pāli Canon.

## Teaching and Learning Method

Lectures, class discussions and tutorials

## Assessment

50% coursework and 50% examination

## Assessment Method

- Coursework (50%):
  - Class participation (10%)
  - Homework (20%)
  - Quiz (20%): Regular quizzes will be provided to students in class with an opportunity for feedback.
- Final examination (50%) will be held at the end of the semester. It is an open-textbook exam.

## Lecture Schedule for Semester II

Lesson	Date	Contents
Lesson 1	15 Jan 2024	(a) Class V verbs (b) Class IX verbs (c) Declension of <i>-as</i> and <i>-us</i> ending nouns (d) Revision and discussion about exam
Lesson 2	22 Jan 2024	(a) Present participles (b) Relative pronouns and relative clauses (c) Future tense <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Conjugation of future tense of √<i>labh</i>; √<i>bhū</i></li></ul> (d) Exercises
Lesson 3	29 Jan 2024	(a) Interrogative pronouns <i>kad</i> , <i>ko</i> , <i>kiṃ</i> , <i>kā</i> (b) Interrogation and interrogative clauses (c) The optative mode (d) Future Passive Participles (FPP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• √<i>vad</i> (<i>vadati</i>); √<i>dā</i> (<i>dadāti/deti</i>); √<i>bhū</i> (<i>bhavati</i>); etc.</li></ul> (e) Exercises
Lesson 4	5 Feb 2024	(a) Class III verbs <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Conjugation of √<i>dā</i> ‘give’</li></ul> (b) Numerals (cardinal) (c) Declensions of <i>eka</i> ‘one’; <i>dve</i> ‘two’; <i>ti</i> ‘three’ (d) Exercises
Lesson 5	19 Feb 2024	(a) Locative and genitive absolute (b) Imperative mood (c) Conjugation of √ <i>labh</i> ‘obtain’; √ <i>kr</i> ‘do’; and √ <i>sru</i>

		<p>‘hear’</p> <p>(d) Exercises</p>
Lesson 6	26 Feb 2024	<p>(a) Imperative mood</p> <p>(b) <i>Attanopada</i> verb forms</p> <p>(c) Conjugation of future tense <math>\sqrt{labh}</math> ‘obtain’; <math>\sqrt{kr}</math> ‘do’ in the <i>attanopada</i></p> <p>(d) Passive voice (pas): present and future passive verbs</p> <p>(e) Exercises</p>
Lesson 7	11 Mar 2024	<p>(a) Aorists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The root-aorist</li> <li>• Example: <math>\sqrt{dā}</math> ‘give’; <math>\sqrt{bhū}</math> ‘become’; <math>\sqrt{as}</math> ‘be’</li> <li>• The a-aorist</li> </ul> <p>(b) Class VII verbs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conjugation of Class VII verbs</li> </ul> <p>(c) Exercises</p>
Lesson 8	18 Mar 2024	<p>(a) Infinitive</p> <p>(b) Declension of <math>-ū</math> ending m and f nouns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Subbaññū</i> (m) ‘omniscient’</li> <li>• <i>Jambū</i> (f) ‘rose-apple tree’</li> </ul> <p>(c) Exercises</p>
Lesson 9	25 Mar 2024	<p>(a) Suffixes and nominal derivation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary suffixes</li> <li>• Secondary suffixes</li> </ul> <p>(b) Some irregular declensions: <i>sakhi</i> (m) and <i>go</i> (m)</p> <p>(c) Nominal compounds (<i>samāsa</i>): <i>dvanda</i>, <i>tappurisa</i>, <i>avyayībhāva</i>, <i>kammadhāraya</i>, <i>digu</i></p> <p>(d) Example of Pāli sentences</p> <p>(e) Exercises</p>
Lesson 10	8 Apr 2024	<p>(a) Perfect tense</p> <p>(b) Agent nouns: <math>\sqrt{ah}</math> I ‘say’</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Declensions of <i>sattar</i> (m) ‘teacher’; <i>pitar</i> (m) ‘father’ and <i>mātar</i> (f) ‘mother’</li> </ul> <p>(c) Periphrastic future</p> <p>(d) Example of Pāli sentences</p> <p>(e) Exercises</p>
Lesson 11	15 Apr 2024	<p>(a) Ordinal numeral</p> <p>(b) Nouns and adj compounded with <math>-kr</math> and <math>-bhū</math></p> <p>(c) <i>Bahubbīhi-samāsa</i></p> <p>(d) Prohibitive</p> <p>(e) Exercises</p>
Lesson 12	22 Apr 2024	<p>(a) <i>Bahubbīhi</i> formed with <math>-kāma</math> as the last member</p> <p>(b) Adverbial suffix: <math>-tra</math>, <math>-thā</math>, <math>-dā</math>, <math>-dhā</math>, <math>-to</math>, <math>-so</math></p>

		(c) Past Participle Active (PPA) (d) Revisions and discussion about exam
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**Note:** The above contents may be modified based on students' feedback during the class. Although the textbooks are prescribed, we may not exactly take materials from textbooks. So, class notes and supplementary materials will be provided in class throughout the semester.

### **Textbooks**

Dhammajoti, KL. *Reading Buddhist Pāli Texts: An Elementary Grammatical Guide*. Hong Kong: The Buddha–Dharma Centre of Hong Kong, 2018 (2<sup>nd</sup> edition).

### **Recommended Readings**

- Anuruddha, Kakkapalliye. *A Guide to the Study of Pali: The Language of Theravada Buddhism*. Hong Kong: Centre of Buddhism Studies, The University of Hong Kong, 2010.
- Buddhadatta, A.P. *The New Pali Course* (Parts I & II). Sri Lanka: Buddhist Cultural Centre, 1997.
- Gair, James W. and W.S. Karunatilake. *A New Course in Reading Pāli: Entering the Word of the Buddha*. Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass Publishers Private Limited, 1998.
- Geiger, Wilhelm. *A Pāli Grammar*. Translated by Batakrihna Ghosh. Oxford: The Pali Text Society, 1994.
- Nyanatiloka. *Buddhist Dictionary, Manual of Buddhist Terms and Doctrines*. Kandy: Buddhist Publication Society, 1988.
- Rhys Davids, T.W. and W. Stede (eds). *Pali-English Dictionary*. Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass Publishers Private Limited, 1993.
- Warder, A.K. *Introduction to Pali*. Oxford: The Pali Text Society, 2001.

### **Pāli Dictionaries (online)**

- Rhys Davids, T.W. and W. Stede (eds). *Pali-English Dictionary*. Oxford: The Pāli Text Society. Available on Digital Dictionaries of South Asia. Updated in Feb 2017. <https://dsalrv04.uchicago.edu/dictionaries/pali/>
- Pāli Dictionary. Available on Buddhistdoor Global. <https://www.buddhistdoor.net/dictionary/search/?k=Buddha&l=3>

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