

BUDDHISM IN PAKISTAN



2022 INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE AND
ART FESTIVAL
FOR PROMOTING
SOCIAL COHESION AND
INTERFAITH HARMONY

PROGRAM BOOK

BUDDHISM IN PAKISTAN: HISTORY, ARCHAEOLOGY, ART AND ARCHITECTURE

March 14-15, 2022 | Islamabad



SILKROAD CENTRE
Connecting hearts for harmony



International Institute
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We are grateful to the Italian Archaeological Mission of Pakistan and Prince Miangul Adnan Aurangzeb for their support to the conference.

Cover Photo by: Syed Najam ul Hassan



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**2022 INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE AND
ART FESTIVAL
FOR PROMOTING
SOCIAL COHESION AND
INTERFAITH HARMONY**

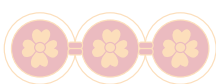
INTRODUCTION

Pakistan is a holy land for millions of Buddhist devotees around the world. The country is the birthplace of Mahayana Buddhism and renowned Buddhist mystics and philosophers such as Asanga, Vasubhandha, Guru Rinpoche and Monk Marananta. The two brothers, Asanga and Vasubhandha, were born in the 4th century CE Peshawar, then known as Purushapura, and became prominent spiritual leaders of Buddhism. Guru Rinpoche (also known as Padmasambhava) was incarnated in the Swat valley. He is a “second Buddha” for adherents of Buddhism in China, Nepal and Bhutan. The monk Marananta is believed to be from Chhota Lahore in today’s Swabi district. He travelled from Chhota Lahore to Korea through China and preached Buddhism there. Pakistan’s Gandhara region not only fostered Mahayana Buddhism but also became the cradle of the famous Gandhara culture, art and learning. Gandhara is home to the ancient and highly sacred Buddhist stupas in Taxila, Mardan and Swat. As a holy land of Buddhism, Pakistan houses the Buddhist heritage sites, art and iconography of unmatched significance for devotees, scholars and travelers.

At the 2022 international conference and art festival for promoting social cohesion and interfaith harmony, we invite a renewed attention to the immense value of Pakistan’s Gandhara Buddhist heritage for peace and development. The conference and art festival bring together local and international scholars, experts, artists, religious leaders and devotees to explore the Gandharan Buddhist history, philosophy, art, and architecture. The sessions are designed to provide a forum to promote social cohesion and interfaith harmony in Pakistan by bringing together diverse religious faith leaders including Muslims, Buddhists, Christians, Hindus and Sikhs to establish a dialogue. Post-conference trips to sacred Buddhist sites in the ancient Gandhara will be an enriching experience for the conference delegates.

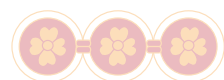
Both in-person and online panel sessions will provide an opportunity to multiple presenters to speak on a common theme of the conference. Presentations by the panelists will be followed by questions and answers. Together with research presentations, the conference hosts an art festival featuring exhibition of Gandharan art and craft. In this exhibition, local and international artists will present the outstanding beauty of Buddhist art through their artworks and visual stories. The artwork will be on display throughout the conference. After two days of the conference and art festival, attendees will visit key Gandharan Buddhist sites and archaeological museums.

Three themes of the conference explore Buddhist history, philosophy, art and architecture flourished in the areas forming today’s Pakistan and transmitted to Afghanistan, Central Asia, China, Japan, Korea and other countries by arteries of the famous Silk Road. These themes are 1) Buddhism in Pakistan - History and Philosophy; 2) Development of Gandharan Art and Architecture; and 3) Road to Buddhism: From Lumbini to Gandhara and beyond the Silk Road. One theme is devoted to deliberate upon how diverse religions can help promote peace and social cohesion in society. Lastly, local and international scholars will be presenting approaches and strategies to promote religious tourism in Pakistan.

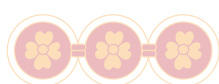


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Dr. Sadia Mahmood Assistant Professor, National Institute of Pakistan Studies, Quaid-i-Azam University	Dr. Zulfiqar Ali Kalhoro Assistant Professor, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics



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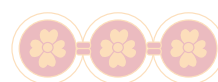


**International Conference and Art Festival
for Promoting Social Cohesion and Interfaith Harmony**

**BUDDHISM IN PAKISTAN: HISTORY,
ARCHAEOLOGY, ART AND ARCHITECTURE**

DAY ONE – MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2022	
SPECIAL PLENARY	
Road to Buddhism: From Lumbini to Gandhara and beyond the Silk Road	
March 14, 2022 – 9:30-11:00 am (Main Auditorium)	
8:30-9:30 am	Registration of Participants
Speakers	<p>Prof. Muhammad Hameed, Chair, Department of Archaeology, Punjab University Contextualizing the Spread of Buddhism beyond Gandhara in the Light of the Newly Discovered Fragment of Buddhist Diptych Type Portable Shrine from Southern Punjab</p> <p>Ven. Kudawawe Somananda, Department of Social Sciences and Comparative Studies, Bhiksu University of Sri Lanka A Historical Analysis of Buddhism in Gandhāra (3rd Century B.C. to the 12th Century A.D.)</p> <p>Prof. Badshah Sardar, Department of Pakistan Studies, Allama Iqbal Open University Swat Valley: The Enchanting Land of the Buddhist Philosophy in Pakistan</p> <p>Ven. Nedalagamuwe Dhammadinna, Sri Lanka Pioneers of Chinese Buddhist Translators - An Introduction to Translating Early Buddhist Sutra into Chinese</p>
Chair	Ms. Ghazala Saifi , Member National Assembly & Parliamentary Secretary, National Heritage & Culture Division
Moderator	Dr Iqbal S. Akhtar , Florida International University
11:00-11:30 am	BREAK

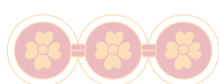
PANEL SESSIONS	
Panel Session 1: Buddhism in Pakistan - History and Philosophy	
March 14, 2022 – 11:30 am-1:00 pm (Room 1)	
Speakers	<p>Ven. Galle Dhamminda, Department of Buddhist and Pali Studies, Bhiksu University of Sri Lanka, Anuradhapura. The Socio-cultural Lifestyle of Takkasilā (Taxila): A Study based on Historical Notes from the Pali Canon</p> <p>Hammad Ahmad, University of Gujrat Exploring the Origins of Buddhism in Pakistan</p> <p>Dr Abida Kausar Chuadahry, DG Khan University, Buddhist Monuments and Socio Cultural Transformation</p> <p>Ven. Kadawalawewe Kalyana Thero, Sri Lanka Philosophical, Psychological and Scientific Significance of Abhidharma; with Special Reference to Abhidharmakośa of Vasubandhu</p> <p>Dr Gull-i-Hina, Lahore College for Women University Lord Buddha's food practices and his social life</p>
Chair	Prof. Saif ur Rahman Dar (TI) , Former Director, Lahore Museum and Former Director General of Punjab Archaeology
Moderator	Dr Fouzia Farooq Ahmad , Department of History, Quaid-i-Azam University
1:00-2:00 pm	BREAK



Panel Session 2: Development of Gandhara Art and Architecture	
March 14, 2022 – 11:30 am-1:00 pm (Room 2)	
Speakers	<p>Prof. Daniel Veidlinger, California State University, USA Objects in the Rear View Mirror are Closer than they Appear: Sarvāstivādin Temporal Theory and the Advent of the Buddha Image</p> <p>Dr Alok Kumar Verma, Swami Vivekanand Subharti University, Meerut, India Beauty of Gandhara Buddhist Art and Architecture in Modern Pakistan</p> <p>Ayeshi Biyanwila, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka Revisiting Gandhara; A discussion of Foreign Elements in Gandharan Buddhist art with special reference to the depiction of Trojan Horse</p> <p>Dr Zarawar Khan, University of Swat, Pakistan In Quest of Provenance of Some of the Gandharan Buddhist Sculptures in the SRO Collection of Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Peshawar</p> <p>Dr Tom Corcoran, Fading Cultures, France Rogan Silk Art: From the Cave to the Canvas</p>
Chair	Dr Abdul Samad , Director, Directorate of Archaeology & Museums
Moderator	Ms. Sawsan Saad , Heritage Architect, Lebanon
1:00-2:00 pm	BREAK

SPECIAL PLENARY	
Role of Religions in Promoting Social Cohesion and Interfaith Harmony	
March 14, 2022 – 2:00-3:00 pm (Main Auditorium)	
Roundtable of Faith Leaders - Pathways to Religious Harmony and Peace in Pakistan	
Speakers	<p>Allama Tahir Mehmood Ashrafi, Special Representative to Prime Minister on Religious Harmony</p> <p>Dr Ramesh Kumar Venkwani, Member National Assembly of Pakistan & Patron-in-Chief Pakistan Hindu Council</p> <p>Venerable Jue Cheng, Chief Abbess, Fo Guang Shan</p>
Chair	Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony
Moderator	Prof. Dr Tanvir Anjum , National Rahmatul lil Aalameen Authority & Dr Iqbal S. Akhtar , Florida International University

CONFERENCE AND ART FESTIVAL INAUGURAL	
March 14, 2022 – 3:00-4:15 pm (Main Auditorium)	
3:00-3:15 pm	Guests to be seated in the auditorium
3:15-3:35 pm	Launch of Art Festival by Chief Guest
3:35-4:15 pm	<p>Conference Inaugural</p> <p>Recitation from the Holy Quran with Translation</p> <p>Welcome and Conference Purpose- Prof. Dr Muhammad Ali, Vice Chancellor, Quaid-i-Azam University</p> <p>Keynote Address - Prince Miangul Adnan Aurangzeb, Former Member National Assembly & Scholar</p> <p>Address by the Chief Guest</p> <p>Group Photo</p>
4:15 pm-4:45 pm	INAUGURAL TEA & END OF DAY ONE ACTIVITIES



DAY TWO – TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 2022

PANEL SESSIONS

Panel Session 3: Development of Gandhara Art and Architecture

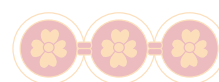
March 15, 2022 – 9:00-10:30 am (Room 1)

Speakers	<p>Prof. Dr Rifaat Saif Dar, Lahore College for Women University Purpose and Function of the Miniature Terracotta Figurines in Gandhara Art</p> <p>Dr Stefan Baums, Institute for Indology and Tibetology, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich Buddhist Manuscripts from Ancient Gandhāra: A Survey and Sample</p> <p>Rasika Muthucumarana, Sri Lanka SS Indus – The Gandhara Sculptures buried under the sand and sea</p> <p>Ven. Marthuwela Vijithasiri Thero, Sri Lanka Vasubandhu’s Contribution for the Development of Buddhist Philosophy with Special Reference to the Concept of Bīja</p> <p>Dr Noor ul Basar Aman, University of Malakand A review of work on archeology in Pushto language</p>
Chair	Dr Stefan Baums , Institute for Indology and Tibetology, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich
Moderator	Dr Sadia Mehmood , National Institute of Pakistan Studies, Quaid-i-Azam University
10:30-11:00 am	BREAK

Panel Session 4: Development of Gandhara Art and Architecture

March 15, 2022 – 9:00-10:30 am (Room 2)

Speakers	<p>Dr Shakirullah, Hazara University Mansehra Recent Archaeological Excavation at Bado Dheri: A Buddhist Stupa Site in Mansehra Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Pakistan</p> <p>Muhammad Zahoor, Hazara University, Mansehra Buddhism in Hazara: Review of recent Archaeological Excavations and Explorations</p> <p>Dr Ifqut Shaheen, Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University Peshawar A people’s approach towards Gandhara</p> <p>Ar. Farah Khurram, Ar. Kifayat Hussain & Dr. Naubada Ali, COMSATS University Dusting off the Past</p> <p>Wasana Sirimalwatte, Sri Lanka A Comparative Study on Avalokitesvara Bodhisattva Images in Pakistan and Sri Lanka</p> <p>Saima Mushtaq, Taxila Institute of Asian Civilizations, Quaid-i-Azam University Mohra Muradu Buddhist Site in the Context of Conservational Issues</p>
Chair	Prof Li Xiguang , Center for Pakistan Culture and Communication Studies, Tsinghua University, Beijing
Moderator	Dr Abdul Hameed , Hazara University Mansehra



Panel Session 5: Road to Buddhism: From Lumbini to Gandhara and beyond the Silk Road

March 15, 2022 – 11:00 am-12:30 pm (Room 2)

Speakers	<p>Dr Kiran Shahid Siddiqui, Department of History, University of Karachi, Pakistan Representation of Vajrapani in the Buddhist sculptural arts of Gandhara and China: Origin and Evolution</p> <p>K.V.J. Koshalee, Department of History and Archaeology, University of Ruhuna, Sri Lanka; Dr Chandima Bogahawatta, Department of Archaeology, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka; and Tharindu Peiris The colossal rock reliefs of Buddha from Gandhara to Sri Lanka along the Silk Road</p> <p>Dr Naresh Shakya, Aksheswar Paramparagata Bauddha Kala Mahavidyalaya (Aksheswar Traditional Buddhist Art College), Nepal Nepalese Buddhist Painting: Lumbini to Silk Route's Yulin Grottoes</p> <p>Abdulah Raheem Jesmil and Dr. Shakirullah, Hazara University Mansehra Women Images in Gandhara Buddhist Sculptures - Queen Maya and Yasodhara</p> <p>Ven. Marthuwela Vijithasiri Thero, Sri Lanka Vasubandhu's Contribution for the Development of Buddhist Philosophy with Special Reference to the Concept of Bijā</p>
Chair	<p>Prof Dr Muhammad Farooq Swati, Former Chairman, Department of Archaeology, Peshawar University & Prof Dr M. Ashraf Khan, Former Director, Taxila Institute of Asian Civilizations, Quaid-i-Azam University</p>
Moderator	<p>Dr Sadeed Arif, Taxila Institute of Asian Civilizations, Quaid-i-Azam University</p>
12:30-1:30 pm	BREAK

Panel Session 6: Role of Religions in Promoting Social Cohesion and Interfaith Harmony

March 15, 2022 – 11:00 am-12:30 pm (Room 1)

Speakers	<p>Dr Iqbal S. Akhtar, Florida International University, USA Developing Buddhist and Jain Studies in Pakistan</p> <p>Jensen Martin, USA Bodhicitta; the Heart of all Religion</p> <p>Dr Zahida Suleman, Minhaj University Lahore A Case Study of Islam and Buddhism</p> <p>Maryam Habib, Tariq Saeed & Muhammad Asim, Fatemah Zahera Society for Women Development in Afghanistan, Iran and Afghanistan Ensuring Peaceful Coexistence and Religious Harmony by Intellectual Debates: A Comparative Study of Philosophical Roots belonging to Menander, Nagasena, Iqbal and Ali Shariati</p> <p>Bushra Subhan, Taxila Institute of Asian Civilizations, Quaid-i-Azam University The Islamic Subtleties Lataif and Buddhist wheel circle Chakras in Esoteric Theories: A Comparative Perspective</p> <p>Dr Gulzar Ahmad, Lahore Garrison University Social Discrimination, Social Belongingness and Psychological Wellbeing among Religious Minorities in Pakistan</p>
Chair	<p>Maj. Gen. Dr Shahid Ahmad Hashmat (Retd), Former Ambassador of Pakistan</p>
Moderator	<p>Dr Mueezuddin Hakal, Taxila Institute of Asian Civilizations, Quaid-i-Azam University</p>
12:30-1:30 pm	BREAK



Panel Session 7: Potential of Religious Tourism in Pakistan

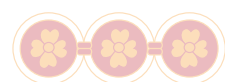
March 15, 2022 – 1:30-3:00 pm (Room 1)

Speakers	<p>Faraz Zaidi, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Pakistan The Role of Pakistan Missions in Facilitating Religious and Cultural & Tourism</p> <p>Anthony Cambas, University of Mississippi, USA Developing the Export Potential of International Buddhist Tourism in Pakistan</p> <p>Dr Muzammil Khurshid, University of the Punjab, Gujranwala Campus, Shagufta Naveed, GIFT University, Gujranwala. & Muhammad Irfan, University of Gujrat Impact of Religious Tourism on the Economic Development of Pakistan</p> <p>Dr Zakir Hussain Zakir, University of Baltistan, Skardu Opportunities of Religious Tourism to the Buddhist Archeological Sites of Baltistan</p> <p>Dr Cheng Linsheng, University of the Punjab, & Northeastern University at Qinhuangdao, China Countermeasures for the development of Buddhist cultural tourism in Pakistan</p> <p>Dr Muhammad Riaz Mahmood, National University of Modern Languages, Islamabad & Riasat Ali, University of Gujrat, Gujrat Buddhist Pilgrimage to Pakistan: Challenges and Opportunities</p>
Chair	Imran Shauket , Chairman, Jobs Group
Moderator	Dr Zulfiqar Ali Kalhoro , Pakistan Institute of Development Economics

Panel Session 8: Potential of Religious Tourism in Pakistan

March 15, 2022 – 1:30-3:00 pm (Room 2)

Speakers	<p>Dr Nadeem Omar Tarar, Center for Culture and Development, Islamabad Potential of religious tourism in Pakistan</p> <p>Prof. Gamini Ranasinghe & Ravini Wimalasuriya, Sri Lanka Overcoming hindrances of religious tourism to enhance social cohesion in multi-religious settings</p> <p>Dr Muhammad Wali Ullah, University of Swat Potential of Religious Tourism in Pakistan with Special reference to Religious Heritage of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa</p> <p>Wannakuralalaya Jeewanthi Vasana Premachandra & Pallemulle Muhandiramlage Renuka Priyadarshani, Department of Archaeology, Sri Lanka Image of “Taxila” in the Sri Lankan Folklore and Writing Context</p> <p>Samina Noor & Nouman Rasool, Fatema Zahra Society for Women Development in Afghanistan, Iran, and Pakistan Interfaith Dialogue and Peace Making in the Age of Globalization: A Necessity of Youth Involvement</p>
Chair	Aftab ur Rehman Rana , Managing Director, Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation
Moderator	Dr Nadeem Omar Tarar , Executive Director, Center for Culture and Development
3:00-4:30 pm	CONFERENCE CLOSING




Closing Ceremony

March 15, 2022 – 3:00-4:00 pm (Main Hall)

3:00-3:30 pm	Chief Guest and dignitaries visit art exhibition and interact with artists
3:30-4:00 pm	<p>Recitation from the Holy Quran with Translation</p> <p>Welcome and Keynote - Maj. Gen. Dr Shahid Ahmad Hashmat (Retd), Former Ambassador of Pakistan</p> <p>Conference Outcome and Way forward - Dr Safdar Ali Shah, Director General, CPEC, Higher Education Commission of Pakistan</p> <p>Address by the Chief Guest</p> <p>Vote of Thanks - Prof Dr Ghani ur Rahman, Director, Taxila Institute of Asian Civilizations, Quaid-i-Azam University</p> <p>Group Photo</p>
4:15 pm	TEA
5:00 pm	End of 2022 Conference and Art Festival
5:00-5:30 pm	Group Formation and Briefing on Trip Itinerary

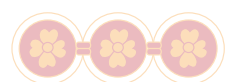
ART FESTIVAL - Open throughout the conference

March 14-15, 2022 – Galleries

	<p>COMSATS Video/Projection – Digital Reconstruction of Mohra Moradu Monastic Complex, Taxila</p>		<p>Gail McDonald “ Song tributes to Padmasambhava and Asanga.”</p>
	<p>Mahwish Chishty The Sindhu Project – Taxila Series</p>		<p>Dr. Mueezuddin Hakal, Dr. Fasiha Ijlal, Ms. Mahraukh Tabassum, Azizullah Karpar, Rukhsar Ahmed Jataka Tales and Life Story of Buddha in Gandhara</p>
	<p>Muhammad Bin Naveed Video/Projection – Digital Reconstruction of Badalpur Stupa</p>		<p>Muhammad Bux Video/Projection – Bamiyan: Presence of Absence</p>
	<p>BD3D 3D Printed Model of Jaulian Monastery</p>		<p>Riaz Ali Fasting Buddha</p>
	<p>Iram Wani Ascension</p>		<p>Naqsh Raj Nirvana</p>
	<p>Huma Wasiq Schist Buddha</p>		<p>Sadaf Mirza Tranquility</p>



	<p>Hajira Anwar <i>Reflection Of Mardan Museum Sculptures in Modern Painting</i></p>		<p>Raza Rehman <i>Between the Lines I & II</i></p>
	<p>Sadia Atif <i>Mysteries of inner harmony and personal peace</i></p>		<p>Maria Khalid <i>Symbolic and Realistic presentation of Buddha through painting</i></p>
	<p>Raheela Mushtaq <i>Mandala of Golden Heritage</i></p>		<p>Sohaina Eliya <i>Land of Fragrance</i></p>
	<p>Sadia Farooq <i>Mindfulness, purity, inclusion, and harmony</i></p>		<p>Fouzia Farooq <i>Adab, Bodhisattva, Alwida</i></p>
	<p>Sharmeen Arshad <i>A Disciplined Mind</i></p>		<p>Maleeha Bukhari <i>Illustrations of Buddhist scenes and icons</i></p>
	<p>Ayesha Raja <i>Gandharan Art in Pen & Ink</i></p>		<p>Odchun Junaid <i>A Quest to Myself</i></p>
	<p>Umair Ghani <i>"BODHI: The Awakening"</i></p>		<p>Akhtar Hassan Khan <i>Glimpses of Buddhist heritage in Bhamala, Jaulian, Jahanabad and Butkara</i></p>
	<p>Amna Yaseen <i>"Dhayana"</i></p>		<p>Najmul Hassan <i>Images of Buddha from Bhamala</i></p>
	<p>Zahid Mukhtar <i>Stupa</i></p>		<p>Meer Muhammad <i>Video/Projection – Jain Mandir Lahore</i></p>
	<p>Shahid Iqbal <i>Mix Media on Canvas Ancient Pakistan and Interfaith Harmony</i></p>		



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