

EDITOR'S NOTE

Sri Lanka International Buddhist Academy (SIBA) is honored and proud to have been able to publish Volume VII - Issue II of its annual peer reviewed academic journal, *The Sri Lanka International Journal of Buddhist Studies (SIJBS)* in December 2021. It consists of a variety of timely academic articles from both well-known and budding scholars in the fields of Buddhist Studies.

Since the SIJBS has attracted the attention of distinguished academics due to the high quality of its publications of the past several years, many authors have increasingly shown interest and enthusiasm in contributing to it with their highly informative pieces of academic writing. Due to the volume of articles being offered to SIJBS for publication, the attempt is being made to provide opportunity for publishing these important articles by increasing the publication of SIJBS from once to twice a year.

Among the distinguished scholars who have contributed to the current issue of SIJBS, we are fortunate to have an article by Prof. Kapila Abhayawansa (PhD). His important contribution highlights the interesting parallels between the concepts of pure reason in the philosophy of Kant and the concept of mental proliferation as taught by the Buddha and his immediate disciples.

We are honored to once again have a journal contribution from Ven. Bhikkhu Anālayo (PhD) who has contributed to the SIJBS with a number of previous articles. His current article draws on his expertise in comparing the Pali versions of Buddhist texts with Chinese translations, so as to shed more light on the original intentions of the texts and how they may have been altered. In this case he has selected the Milindapañha, *Questions of King Milinda*, and many important points in the text are illuminated by using this comparative method.

The article of Dilini Ariyawansa (MA) in the current issue of SIJBS is a fascinating study of how the Sanskrit word *karma* was adopted into the Sinhala language of Sri Lanka and kept some of its original meaning but found creative expression in ways differing from the original.

Ven. Upulwehere Dhammawasa (BA)'s article in the current edition of SIJBS makes an important contribution to our present knowledge of the first *Pārājika* rule through close examination of the usage of Pali terms used in association with that section of the *Vinaya*.

The article written by Buddisha Jayashan Weerasuriya (BA) sheds light on the contribution of the laity to the administration of Buddhist monasteries in ancient Sri Lanka by examining references in the '*Vihāra Katikāvat*'.

Apart from the article contributors, many people have contributed to this journal and without their combined efforts, it would not have been possible for me to release this journal as planned. First, my sincere gratitude should be paid to the advisory board of the SIJBS, namely Dr. Pradeep Nilanga Dela, Chairman, SIBA, Dr. Upali M. Sedere, and Professor P.D. Premasiri.

The Rector/ CEO of Sri Lanka International Buddhist Academy, SIBA Campus, Dr. Upali M. Sedere has been extending his continuous support and wise counsel in innumerable ways to this exercise, and without his kind advice and assistance, the SIJBS and indeed the academic contribution to the field of Buddhist Studies which SIBA has been making, would not be

possible. And also my special gratitude is paid to Professor P. D. Premasiri whose exceptional and dynamic contribution has been extended to reviewing articles.

And again, my sincere thanks should be extended to all reviewers of SIJBS for their commendable service rendered to make this current volume a success. Further, I extend my sincere gratitude to all the above-mentioned contributors who contributed to the SIJBS enabling us to publish their valuable academic writings.

SIBA's IT team contributed their indispensable technical assistance. I am grateful for their contributions in maintaining the e-journal site. Therefore, my thanks go to Mr. Dhanushka Rathnayake (Head/ Department of IT, SIBA), Mr. Mahesh Nawarathna (Coordinator/ Department of IT, SIBA), Mr. Gayan Herath, Mr. Anupama Dilshan and Mr. Rasindu Perera for their generous support.

The SIJBS comes to you due to the work of the dedicated administration and staff at SIBA. Specially, I am grateful for the supportive hands of Ms. Mirani Werellagama, Head/ Finance and Accounts, SIBA as well as, the staff members of the finance department.

Further, I offer my heartfelt gratitude to the editorial board of Volume VIII – Issue II, namely, Ven. Viharagala Pagnnaloka, Ven. Beralapanathara Dhammarama and Ms. Kaushalya Karunasagara who were always ready to extend their supportive hands to me in this editorial work.

On a final note, I am pleased to mention that in my capacity as Editor-in-Chief, together with the editorial board, I have been successfully able to publish the SIJBS as two issues per volume from the year 2021 onwards to offer more opportunities for the writers of the academic field of Buddhist Studies to publish their academic work. We hope to continue publishing SIJBS to the best of our capacity to bring forward the essence of Buddhism for the future.

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