

**Mahabodhi Research Centre**  
**[Affiliated to JAIN (Deemed to be University)]**

**Ph. D Entrance Syllabus for Buddhist Studies – August 2022**

**Omniscient Buddha, the Protectors Gem**

**Unit 1 - Life of the Buddha**

- 1.1 Four Great Omens
- 1.2 Six Years of Painful Self-torture
- 1.3 The golden mean
- 1.4 Enlightenment Day
- 1.5 Realisation of Supreme Enlightenment
- 1.6 Advent of the Tathāgata, the Bearer of Truth
- 1.7 Seven Weeks in Sublime Ecstasy
- 1.8 Weeklong meditative absorption under the Mahabodhi Tree
- 1.9 Weeklong gaze at the Mahabodhi Tree
- 1.10 Weeklong walking meditation
- 1.11 Weeklong contemplation in the Jewel Pavilion
- 1.12 Weeklong contemplation under Ajapala Banyan Tree
- 1.13 Weeklong Absorption under Mucalinda Tree
- 1.14 Weeklong stay under the Rajayatana Tree
- 1.15 Brahma's request to teach the Dhamma
- 1.16 Whom to Preach the Dhamma First

**Unit 2 - Noble Dhamma, the Protecting Gem**

**The Buddha's Mission of Compassion**

- 2.1 First sermon -briefly
- 2.2 Discourse on Characteristics of Non-Self
- 2.3 First Rain's Retreat
- 2.4 Thirty Princes
- 2.5 Three Hermit Brothers
- 2.6 The Fire Discourse
- 2.7 Story of the Departed Relatives

**Unit 3 - Spreading the Dhamma (Early years)**

- 3.1 Chronology of events
- 3.2 Veluvana Monastery
- 3.3 Jetavana Monastery, Anathapindika, feeder of the destitutes
- 3.4 Perpetual support
- 3.5 King Suddhodana Sends Missions
- 3.6 Buddha walks to Kapilavatthu
- 3.7 The King pays homage for the third time

- 3.8 Teaching on the Jewelled Walkway
- 3.9 Discourse on Buddhavarnsa
- 3.10 Tathagata goes on alms-round
- 3.11 Prince Nanda's ordination
- 3.12 Ordination of prince Rāhula
- 3.13 King Suddhodana becomes an Anagami, Non-Returner
- 3.14 Thousand Princes become monks
- 3.15 Six princes and Upali the barber
- 3.16 Attainments of six princes at Veluvana

#### **Unit 4 - Buddha's Great Disciples, Sangha**

- 4.1 First five disciples
- 4.2 Testimony of Buddha's Discovery
- 4.3 Venerable Assaji
- 4.4 Two chief disciples, Ven. Sāriputta and Ven. Mahamoggallana 152
- 4.5 Venerable Kassapa
- 4.6 Venerable Elder Nanda
- 4.7 Venerable Rahula
- 4.8 Venerable Ananda
- 4.9 Venerable Kumara Kassapa
- 4.10 The Establishment of the order of Nuns, Bhikkhuni Sangha
- 4.11 Buddha's Forty-five Rain's Retreats
- 4.12 The Buddha's second, third and fourth Rain's Retreats

#### **Unit 5 - The Universe in Buddhist perspective**

- 5.1 The Universe and the Beyond in Buddhism
- 5.2 31 Planes of Existence
- 5.3 Noble Ones (Ariyas)
- 5.4 Parami = Perfection
- 5.5 The Nether worlds of woe
- 5.6 The concept of god and Souls

#### **Unit 6 - Buddhist Core Teaching**

- 6.1 Dependent Origination
- 6.2 The Law of Kamma and Rebirth
- 6.3 Misconceptions of Kamma
- 6.4 Rebirth
- 6.5 Moral Causation
- 6.6 Two sets of Truth
- 6.7 Nature of mind and Mental factors
- 6.8 Matter and that which transcends all