

DHAMMAVINAYA INSTITUTE

Faculty of Pāli Language and Literature
Certificate Program

Pāli I: The Language the Buddha Spoke (in English)

Course Syllabus

Last updated on 30.03.2023

Course name:	Pāli I: The Language the Buddha Spoke (in English)
Level:	Certificate
Period:	Lectures and seminars 32-43 weeks (31. July 2023 - 29. October 2023)
Schedule:	On Mondays and Wednesdays at 14:00 to 16.00 (as scheduled by the administration of DVI; the schedule may change at the request of the participants)
Lecturer:	Ven. Sudhamma Nahangoda Thero
E-mail:	sudhamma@sangha.ee
Co-requisite course:	-
Study room:	DVI study room at Niguliste 4
Special needs:	Persons with disabilities can participate in this course
Registration:	https://dvi.ee/sisseastumine , by deadlines set in the DVI academic calendar

Course aims/objectives

This introductory course to the Pāli language provides a wonderful opportunity to students interested in the study of ancient Indian languages, philosophy, history, religion, and culture. The course covers the most basic concepts of Pāli grammar in 12 comprehensive lessons and offers an opportunity to apply the learned knowledge to the translation of simpler Pāli texts.

Learning outcomes

The students having successfully passed the course: (1) has basic knowledge of the Pāli language, its origin and development; (2) can pronounce and read Latinised texts correctly, (3) knows the main Pāli texts and can understand them; (4) has basic knowledge of India's ancient religious traditions and modern culture.

Topics

Introduction to Pāli Language and Historical Background. The Alphabet, Pronunciation, Parts of Speech, Gender, Number and Case. Declension of Nouns, Personal Pronouns. Conjugation of Verbs: 3 Tenses, 2 Voice, 3 Persons. Past Tense. Future Tense. Declination of Feminine, Masculine

and Neutral Nouns. Pronouns, Adverbs, Syntax. Future Tense . Passive Voice and Participles. Pāḷi-English-Pāḷi Translation Exercises

Study process description

Students will be introduced to Buddhism and Pāḷi language and its literature through lectures, seminars, and group discussions.

Course's e-support

Course materials can be accessed via the e-learning environment: <https://dvi.ee/sertifikaadiopeloppematerjalid>.

Study literature

- A. P. Buddhadatta Thera, The New Pāḷi Course I, Colombo: The Colombo Apothecaries, 1954.
- All study materials can be downloaded from the DVI website.

Continuous assessment

Course scheduled tasks and assignment.

Detailed schedule and topics

This plan is preliminary and might be changed in case of cancellations, changes in available reading material, etc. This course is recommended to practice in groups, to practice team-work and co-operation, reflection, discussion and analysis, planning and presenting.

Nr	Topic	Before Class	In Class	After Class
1	Introduction to Pāḷi Langue and Historical Background	Read the syllabus	Lecture, work with slides and discussion	Work with studymaterial
2	The Alphabet, Pronunciation, Parts of Speech, Gender, Number and Case	Go through the given keywords and tables	Lecture, work with slides and discussion	Work with studymaterial
3	Declension of Nouns, Personal Pronouns	Practice pronounciations	Lecture, work with slides and exercise	Read and translate the given sentences
4	Conjugation of Verbs: 3 Tenses, 2 Voice, 3 Persons	read study merial	Lecture, work with slides and exercise	Read and transform in to plural form the given sigular nouns
5	Past Tense	Study given noun case table	Lecture, work with slides and exercise	Read and transform in to plural form the given sigular nouns

Nr	Topic	Before Class	In Class	After Class
7	Future Tense	Study present active voice table	Lecture, work with slides and exercise	Transform the given verbs in to all forms
8	Declanation of Feminie, Masculne and Neutral Nouns	Read the given seven conjugations	Lecture, work with slides and exercise	Read and undestand different roots and conjunction
9	Pronouns, Adverbs, Syntax	Read Past Indefinite, Active table	Lecture, work with slides and exercise	Turn the given sentences in to past tense
10	Future Tense	Study the given first personal "Amha" table	Lecture, work with slides and exercise	Read and undestand given pronouns in sentences
11	Passive Voice and Participles	Study the future indicative, Active table	Lecture, work with slides and exercise	Turn the given sentences in to future tense
12	Pāḷi-English-Pāḷi Translation Exercises	Collect all table related to feminine nouns	Lecture, work with slides and exercise	Read and undestand feminine nouns use in sentences