



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

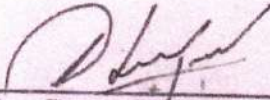
Desh Bhagat University, Punjab, India

And

Parama Dhamma Chaitya Pirivena, Ratmalana, Sri Lanka

Purpose of MOU:

- i. Establishment of **“International Centre for Buddhism and Inter Faith Studies”** at DBU as “Joint Collaboration of Parama Dhamma Chaitya Pirivena, Sri Lanka and Desh Bhagat University, India”
- ii. Workshops/seminars and other education and academic programs/events
- iii. Fostering research and development activities/projects
- iv. Staff and students exchange academic/cultural programs



Ven. Dr. M. Wimalasara Thera
The Director,

Parama Dhamma Chethiya Maha Pirivena
Ratmalana, Sri Lanka

Date: 27/11/2021

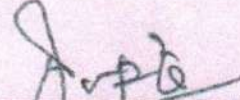
Chief Incumbent / Director

Seal of PDCCP: Parama Dhamma Chethiya Maha Pirivena

70, Pirivena Road,
Ratmalana, Mount Lavinia,
Sri Lanka



Parama Dhamma Chethiya
Maha Pirivena
Ratmalana, Mount Lavinia.



Prof. Dr. Shalini Gupta
The Vice Chancellor

Desh Bhagat University
Punjab, India

Date: 27.10.2021

Vice-Chancellor

Seal of DBU: **DESH BHAGAT UNIVERSITY**
Mandi Gobindgarh-147-301, Punjab (India)



விஜித வெர்ஓதொடி (பா.தி.)
விஜித பேரூகொட (எம்.பி.)
Vijitha Berugoda (M.P.)

தூதலி பாகல், பிர்வென் னா திஓது அஓயாபத ராசய அஓதய
தம்ம பள்ளிகள், பிர்லிவேனாக்கள் மற்றும் பிக்கு கல்வி இராஜாங்க அமைச்சர்
State Minister of Dhamma Schools, Pirivenas & Bhikku Education

ஓரூ ராசய அஓதயதூதொ
கொளரவ இராஜாங்க அமைச்சர்
Hon. State Minister

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4 பத மதல, ஓபூரூபாட, திதீதரூதூர், தூ லஓதூபி.
04 ஆம் மாடி, பத்தரமுல்ல, இலங்கை.
4th Floor Isurupaya, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka.

மஓதீ அஓதய }
எனது இல. }
My No. }

தஓதீ அஓதய }
உமது இல. }
Your No. }

தூதய }
திகதி }
Date }

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

It is a great honour for me to congratulate on this occasion of the signing of "MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING" with the Desh Bhagat University, Punjab, India. This MOU commits us to work together more closely towards a common goal the pursuit of the internationalization of Piriven Education.

Each side will pursue many significant activities such as the promotion of educational and academic exchange between two countries. At this moment of celebration I would like to express my sincere gratitude to every one whose dedication and efforts have contributed to the finalization of this MOU in particular.

I would like to state that India and Sri Lanka have a legacy of intellectual, cultural, religious and linguistic interaction and the relationship between two countries is more than 2,500 years old. Buddhism is the strongest pillar connecting the two nations. The Great Indian Emperor Ashoka sent his children Arhat Mahinda and Theri Sangamitta to develop the teachings of Lord Buddha at the request of King Devanampiyatissa of Sri Lanka.

The history of Sri Lankan civilization can be traced back to 3rd Century BC, the point at which Buddhism was introduced to Sri Lanka by Arhat Mahinda and the first ancient Kingdom of Sri Lanka was created at Anuradhapura. From this moment on, Buddhism became an integral part of Sinhalese culture and had a profound effect on the development of civilization and literacy in the island. It was in Sri Lanka that the oral teachings of Lord Buddha (The Tripitaka) were committed to writing for the first time, and the language of these scriptures (Pali) influenced the development of the Sinhala Language. Sri Lankan culture developed significantly over the next few hundred years.

Piriven Education in Sri Lanka marks a big land mark in the educational history of Sri Lanka and has started from Kalapasada in Anuradhapura bears a long history over 2343 years. Large numbers of Pirivenas functioned under number of Kingdoms such as Anurudhapura, Polonnaruwa, Dambadeniya, Kurunegala, Gampola etc.

At present Pirivena education in Sri Lanka is conducted in three levels i.e. Mulika Pirivena, Maha Pirivena and Vidyayathana Pirivena. In the past, Pirivena was a self-managed institution, however, after the colonial ear, it has become a part of the government education which functions under the Ministry of Education and at present the State Ministry of Dhamma Schools, Pirivenas and Bhikkhu Education. Today There are 825 registered Pirivenas serving a student community of both monks and lay students of 62,240 with a total of 7,403 Teachers.

And also it is assume that a reform of pirivena education will provide monks and lay students with a more relevant base of knowledge and enable them to consider ethnic and cultural diversity that could contribute to better relations among the different faith groups and nations.

To accomplish the above mentioned tasks the responsibility has been authorized to the State Ministry of Dhamma Schools, Piriven and Bhikkhu Education.

The Buddhist Monk Most Ven. Walane Siddhartha Thero has established Parama Dhamma Chetiya Maha Pirivena in 1841 with the help of local donors. This temple gradually became a prominent Pirivena and several scholarly buddhist monks such as Hikkaduwe Sri Sumangala Thero, Ratmalane Dhammaloka Thero whom are said to be old students of this temple. Subsequently Hikkaduwe Sri Sumangala Thero established the Vidyodaya Pirivena and Ratmalane Dhammaloka Thero established Vidyalankara Pirivena which are two prime Institutions of Piriven Education in Sri Lanka and also they are among to be few pioneers in the reviving of Buddhism and the tradition of oriental education during the 19th century in Sri Lanka. I appreciate the service rendered by the Chief Incumbent / Director of Parama Dhamma Chetiya Pirivena at Ratmalana, Sri Lanka Ven. Dr. Maitipe Wimalasara Thero.

On the Other hand Desh Bhagat University which came into existence under the guidance of Sri Lal Singh Ji freedom fighter who fought for the independence of India has the mission of pursuing excellence in higher education. As I am aware, the ultimate aim of Desh Bhagat University is to provide quality education and to offer innovative academic programmes and to deliver higher education with cutting edge technologies to meet global requirements. I am very happy to hear that the Chancellor of this University being Zora Singh Ji, the Eldest Son of Sri Lal Singh Ji.

In closing I would like to say that I am confident that we will be able to achieve more and to be able to develop even stronger relationships and friendship between the people of India and Sri Lanka.

Thank you



Vijitha Berugoda

State Minister of Dhamma Schools,

Pirivenas and Bhikkhu Education

9th December, 2021.

Vijitha Berugoda
State Minister of Education (M.P.)
State Ministry of Education
4th Floor, "Isurupaya"
Battaramulla