

Curriculum Vitae of Samantha Rajapaksha

Contact: samantha.raj@mahidol.ac.th

Educational qualifications

- **Ph.D** in Pāli Language (English Medium), University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka, 2016
  The Siluttavagga and Cūlagallavagga of the Rasavāhinī: A Critical Edition and English Translation together with Annotated Notes
- **M.Phil** in Pāli Language registered in 2009, completed all course work and thesis was upgraded to Ph.D level, 2014
- **B.A.** Special Degree with (Hons), majoring Pāli Language, University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka, 2004
- Passed the **Royal Pandit examination Preliminary Examination English Medium** conducted by the **Royal Asiatic Society**, Sri Lanka, and the subject followed are Sinhala, Sanskrit and Pāli in 2017
- **Diploma in English**, Aquinas College of Higher Studies, Colombo. 1998-1999 -Field Of Study: - 1. Speech 2. Reading & Comprehension 3.Literature 4. Grammar 5.Composition
- Passed the **G.C.E Advanced Level** examination conducted by the ministry of education in 1997, subjects taken are Sinhala, Pāli, Buddhist Studies, and Sanskrit
- Passed the **Dhamma School Final examination** English medium conducted by the ministry of education in 2010,Sri Lanka

Current Position

- **Permanent Lecturer** and **Faculty Member**, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities (MUSH), Mahidol University, Thailand since 2020 July

Teaching and Research experience

- **Visiting Scholar**, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities (MUSH), Mahidol University (5/2020-7/2020)
- **Senior Research Fellow** at the **Ñāṇasaṃvara Centre for Buddhist Studies** (**NCBS**), Salaya, Thailand (2/2018- 8/2019)
- **Co-editor,** Journal of the Ñāṇasaṃvara Centre for Buddhist Studies (**JNCBS**)- 2018 (2/2018-8/2019)
- **Researcher** at the Dhammachai Tipiṭaka Project (DTP), Thailand (6/ 2011-1/2018)
- **Tipiṭaka Translator** Mahachulalankorng University, Nakhonsawan, Thailand (2014- 2019)
- **Lecturer** in Early Buddhism and Pāli Language, Malaysian Buddhist Academy affiliated to the University of Kelaniya (10/2016- 10/2016)

- **Tipiṭaka Translator, Sri** Lanka International Buddhist Academy, (4/2011- 11/2011)
- **English translato**r, for a **Belgium** Ph.D candidate, Sri Lanka, (3/2009-6/2009/)
- **English-Sinhala Translator**, Department of Geography, University of Peradeniya (2008)
- **Government Teacher**, taught Pāli, Buddhist Studies and English, Ministry of Education & Higher Education, Sri Lanka (2004-2008)

Awards and Prizes

- **Won the Robert H.N. Ho Family Foundation Translation Grants** in Buddhist Studies, **the American Council of Learned Societies 2024/2025 Award**. It is one of the prestigious international awards in the field of humanities.

Peer Reviewer

- A peer reviewer for *the Buddhist Studies Review Journal*, UK 2025/2026

Research publications

- **"The Standard Pāli Scheme on Breath Meditation (*ānāpānasatisamādhi*) and the Pāli *Buddhābhiseka* Scheme"** International Journal of African and Asiatic Studies- Kervan -2025 SCOPUS Indexed Quartile-2 (https://ojs.unito.it/index.php/kervan/article/view/11500), (https://www.scimagojr.com/journalsearch.php?q=21100825350&tip=sid&clean=0)
- "Exploring the Unexplored Siam Pāli Texts: A Reconstruction of the *Buddhābhiseka* (พุทธาภิเสก) Text of the Wat Lai Hin Luang (วัดไหล่หินหลวง)." Buddhist Thought and Application: Essays in Honour of Professor P.D.Premasiri: The Buddha-Dharma Centre of Hong Kong: 2021
- "Realities of Human Slavery and Buddhist Theoretical Explanation" IBC Journal of Buddhist Studies (IBCJBS), 2019
- "A Preliminary Work on the Critical Edition of the *Rasavāhinī*: Laos Recension Reflects the Archetype of the *Rasavāhinī*" Journal of the Ñāṇasaṃvara Centre for Buddhist Studies (JNCBS), 2018
- "Critical Inquiry into the Pāli Text Gandhavaṃsa; philology vs phonology" A Felicitation Journal on the Commentarial Studies, Sri Lanka, 2018
- "Kesu Kāraṇesu Vitthāranesu Padapaṭipāṭipayogaṃ Niruttilakkhaṇaṃ Sallakkhaṇabhāvaṃ" IPC, Annual Pāli Journal, University of Peradeniya, 2017
- "Buddha as extraordinary human being", Asgiriya Felicitation Academic Journal, 2016
- "On translating Pāli terms into English in the Pāli Canon: An examination on selected terms found in the Canon and their rendering into English" Nayaka Thera Felicitation Journal, 2015
- "Textual criticism and Pāli textual criticism", Monastic Felicitation Journal, 2011
- "The emperor Asoka's principles of good governance as shown in his inscriptions (Dhamma Lipi)", Saragavesi Annual Academic Journal, Department of Pāli and Buddhist Studies, University of Peradeniya, 2005

International Research Presentations and Moderator role

- "Treatment of Prisoners of War as Handed Down in Theravada Pāli Textual Material", "Reducing Suffering During Armed Conflict–The Interface between Buddhism and International Humanitarian Law" Chiang Mai, Thailand 9-10 December 2022, jointly organized by The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in collaboration with Chiang Mai University (CMU) and Shan State Buddhist University (SSBU)
- "Why Sati and Sampajañña often go hand in hand in Buddhist texts?", International Symposium on "Mindfulness and Human Cognition", Department of Indian Philosophy and Buddhist Studies of The University of Tokyo, 2021
- "Do virtual reality gamers produce bad Kammas?", International Seminar on Buddhism in the Digital Era, Mahaculalankorng Rajavidyalaya University, Ayutthaya, 2017
- "Why the Pāli text Rasavāhinī needs to be re-edited?", PGIHS Research Congress, Postgraduate Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Peradeniya, 2017
- "Homogeneity of the Sinhalese Script Pāli manuscript tradition: A study based on the Dīgha,Majjhima and Saṃyuttanikāya Manuscripts", The first international seminar on Buddhist manuscripts and Traditions, Ayutthaya, 2017
- "Buddhist perspective of promoting generosity to avoid economic injustice in the contemporary global context", at the International Buddhist economics and World crises Conference, World Buddhist University Bangkok, 2016
- "The early phase of both national and international geographical entities as depicted in the Canonical and its expositional materials", International Conference jointly organized by the International Buddhist College (IBC) and World Buddhist University, Bangkok, 2013
- "Orthographical peculiarities found in the Khmer manuscripts", Intensive workshop on Textual Criticism of the Pāli Canon, chaired by Prof.Oskar Von Hinüber, Pathum Thani, 2015
- "Scribal features of the Sinhalese manuscript tradition", Intensive workshop on Textual Criticism of the Pāli Canon, chaired by Prof.Oskar Von Hinüber, Pathum Thani, 2015
- "On translating Pāli terms into English in the Pāli Canon: An examination on selected terms found in the Canon and their rendering into English", International Buddhist Meditation Seminar,Mahaculalankorn Rajavidyalaya University,Ayutthaya, 2013
- "The ancient Sri Lankan society in the early part of the fourteenth century which is revealed from the text called Rasavāhinī", the Royal Asiatic Society 4th Annual Research conference, 2011
- "Application of four careers (caryā) is essential requirement for the ethical development of Bodhisattva's long career as depicted in the Mahāvastu text", Sri Lanka Association of Buddhist Studies (SLABS) 4th bi- annual International conference, 2010

Conference Moderator

- Chaired the moderator on the Panel C and the theme: " Buddhist economic theories and ethics" the International Conference organized by World Buddhist University (WBU), Bangkok, 2016

Thesis Supervisor

- M.A thesis titled "*Buddhism and interpretation of Human Rights – A survey of literature*", Student name: OONG CHIEW LIN and student Registration number:KE/MYBA/MA/16/001, Malaysian Buddhist Academy (MBA), Malaysia, 2017

Citation of my academic works by other Scholars

- Wolfgang Drechsler, The Reality of and Diversity of Buddhist Economics", pp. 523-560**,** *The American Journal of Economics and Sociology*, Volume 78, Number 2, March 2019

Online talks and moderator role

- As moderator, on the theme "Nomadolgy and its potential relation to Buddhism" was moderated in 2021. The talk was delivered by Dr. Avishek Ray (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x8FLS569pBs&t=184s)
- As one of the speakers, the online talk was hosted and sponsored by the Nalanda Online Tv, Bangladesh in 2020. The talk explains "the realms of existence as described in early Buddhist texts and their classical commentaries" (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cOXgFYd-m_E)

Online links to some publications

- https://mahidol.academia.edu/SamanthaRajapaksha
- https://www.researchgate.net/

Expertise in Theravāda Tipiṭaka Manuscript scripts

- Skill in Theravāda Tipiṭaka Manuscript script traditions including Burmese, Khmer, Sinhalese, Tham Lanna and modern Thai

Proficiency in computers

- Data entry operator, main library of the University of Peradeniya, 2002
- Workshop on skills development for the operation of E-library, three days seminar conducted by the government of Sri Lanka, 2005

Extra Academic Activities

- Junior treasurer, Peradeniya University Buddhist Brotherhood Association, 2003
- Active member Hanthana Conservation Club, university of Peradeniya, 2005
- Active sportsman, University of Peradeniya, 2000-2004

Teaching at Mahidol University

- Teaching for the BSc Program in Actuarial Science (International) on the course **Rhetoric for Leadership** and in charge of the course since 2021
- The teaching for the BSc Program in Actuarial Science (International) on the course **Professional Code of Ethics** and in charge of the course since 2023

Forthcoming publications

- **Prisoners of War and Others Detained in Connection with Armed Conflict: Interpretation in the Theravada Buddhist Textual Sources**
  (International Journal of African and Asiatic Studies- Kervan -2025/2026)

- **Textual tradition of *Buddhābhiseka* (พุทธาภิเสก) in Siamese Pāli literature**
  (**Buddhist Studies Review**- UK- First round of review has been done and ready for acceptance after its improvement)

- **Textual tradition of Pāli *Rasavāhinī* in Siamese Pāli literature: An interpolated text in *Madhurasavāhinī Laṅkādīpa* (มธุรสวาหินี ลงฺกาทีป)**
  (Buddhist Studies Review- UK- First round of review has been done and the article has been further improved for the review)

Collaborative Research Project

- A collaborative research project on the Buddhist cosmological text in Siamese Tradition, the *Mahākappa* between Mahidol University and Singapore University of Technology and Design

---