



sakyadhita

15th international conference on buddhist women
hong kong | june 22 to 28, 2017

Conference Theme “Contemporary Buddhist Women: Contemplation, Cultural Exchange & Social Action”

Buddhism is a significant cultural force in our world, influencing virtually every sphere of human activity from business to popular music. This global spread of Buddhist ethics, iconography, meditation, and philosophy is having an impact on science, psychology, government, and the arts. Today, women have more pathways to self-enrichment than at any time in recorded history. Whether the choice is career, family, or monastery, women are expanding beyond traditional roles in creative and beneficial ways. Women also take different paths and approaches to spirituality. Depending on their cultural backgrounds and personal interests, they may be inclined to meditation, scholarship, social activism, or the arts. The 2017 conference theme is broad enough to encompass the many aspects of what Buddhism means to women and to embrace the range of Buddhist women’s experiences.

“Contemplation” includes personal introspection, mindfulness practice, meditation, and reflection on contemporary life issues. “Cultural exchange” incorporates interreligious dialogue, indigenous Buddhist experience, inter-generational dialogue, and Buddhist transcultural exchange, expressed through music, literature, drama, painting, social media, and the martial arts. “Social action” takes many forms, including charitable activities, social entrepreneurship, community leadership, and other ways of transforming society. The 17th Sakyadhita Conference will be a forum for making connections across cultures and traditions, exploring a wide range of Buddhist teachings, values, and techniques for living a meaningful life.

Proposals are now being accepted for panel presentations and workshops on topics related to the conference theme. All proposals (250–500 words in length) must be submitted by **June 15, 2016**. Notification of acceptance will be sent within a month. Final papers (2,500 words maximum) are due by **August 15, 2016** as upon acceptance, they must be translated into Chinese and other languages. Proposals should include sender’s name, institutional affiliation, and contact information. All proposals and papers must be the original, unpublished work of the presenter.

Further suggestions are welcome! Sakyadhita encourages diversity and creativity. We welcome proposals from presenters of any gender, nationality, or status. We also invite proposals for short films and PowerPoint slide shows (10–15 minutes in length) related to women in Buddhism.

Send proposals to hongkong2017@sakyadhita.org, with a copy to tsomo@sandiego.edu, to be received by June 15. All speakers and workshop presenters must register for the conference. Any requests for special dates for presentations must be included with the proposal.

Sponsorship is available for participants from developing countries who have never attended a Sakyadhita conference. For an application form, write: sakyadhita@gmail.com, with a copy to tsono@sandiego.edu. Applications must be received by June 1. We regret that conference funding is limited and sponsorship depends on donations received.

Call to Action!

We invite you to participate in innovative ways. For example, please include your ideas for mindful movement (stretching, qigong, yoga, taichi, and so on) during the conference. We welcome volunteer movement coordinators to help organize these and other activities!

Call to Compassion!

Many women are keen to join the Sakyadhita Conference in Hong Kong, but need financial support. Your generosity can help change the future for a Buddhist laywoman or nun, helping her realize her potential as a scholar, contemplative, activist, or artist. Your contribution will be greatly appreciated! Donations are tax-deductible in the U.S.

Panel Ideas

Buddhism & Cultural Exchange

Buddhism & Globalization
Buddhism in Contemporary Art
Buddhism, Sexual Identity & Cultural Identity
Buddhist Images Along the Silk Road
Buddhist Interconnections: Sharing Identities & Experiences
Buddhist Sacred Arts
Buddhist Sculpture Across Cultures
Death, Birth, and Rebirth across Cultures
Evolution of Buddhist Cultures
Rap across Cultures
Respectful Communications Across Buddhist Traditions
Sacred Dance Across Cultures
Sacred Writings: Languages, Scripts, Devotion
Vinaya & Buddhist Cultural Exchange
Women & Trans-Buddhist Dialogue
Women in Indigenous Buddhist Cultures
Women, Compassion & Buddhist Art

Chinese Buddhist Cultures

Buddhism & the Martial Arts
Buddhism in the Chinese Diaspora
Buddhism of Dunhuang
Buddhist Saint, Daoist Sage
Chinese Buddhist Pilgrims & Pilgrimage
Chinese Buddhist Poetics
Chinese Buddhist Texts: Abhidharma & the Agamas
Chinese Contemplative Arts
Cultural Transformation of Guanyin
Women in Chinese Buddhist Art
Women in Chinese Buddhist Traditions

Contemporary Buddhist Women

Applied Buddhist Teachings: Dharma in Daily Life
Buddhism & Business
Buddhism & Social Media
Buddhist Chaplaincy
Buddhist Ethics in Contemporary Life
Buddhist Pastoral Care
Busy Women: Mind the Gender Gap
Monastic Life in the Modern World
Prominent Buddhist Women, Lay & Ordained
Secular Buddhism

Women & Buddhism, Leadership &
Tradition
Zen at Work

The Contemplation Arts

Basic Sanity: Buddhist Mental Health
Caves & Community, Solitude &
Engagement
Cognitively Based Compassion Training
Dealing with Crisis
Comparing Contemplative Traditions
Compassion & Art
Engaged Mindfulness & Listening Skills
Learning Compassion, Being Compassion
Meditation for Homemakers
Mindful Eating
Mindfulness Across Cultures
Mindfulness Industry
Speaking from the Heart
Stress Reduction in Daily Life
Ten-Minute Meditations

Buddhism & Social Action

Are Buddhists Really Equal?
Buddhism & Animals
Buddhism & Capitalism
Buddhism & Gender Politics
Can Corporations Be Compassionate?
Dealing With Ignorance
Future of Buddhist Education
People Problems: Creating Healthy Dharma
Centers
Women & Economic Justice
Women as Caregivers: Buddhism &
Palliative Care

Women, Children, Poverty & Love
Women, Religion & Law

Women & Contemporary Social Issues

Being with Dying
Buddhist Emergency Relief Services
Buddhist Women & the Climate Crisis
Building Healthy Families & Communities
Challenges Facing Buddhist Societies
Children in Buddhism: Will There Be a
Next Generation?
Courage: Healing a Troubled World
Cultivating Compassion, Dealing with
Difficult People
Gender Equality: Only a Dream?
Responding Skillfully in a World of Conflict
Skillful Negotiations: Relationship Matters
Sustainable Compassion

New Directions

Adapting the Dharma or Diluting the
Dharma?
Buddhism & Sexuality
Buddhism in the Media: Representations
Buddhist Art Therapies
Buddhist Teachers: Quality Control
Buddhist Women Storytellers
Debating the Dharma
Feminism & Femininity
Publicizing Buddhist Women
Publishing Buddhist Books
Self-expression: Indulgence or Survival?
Teaching Buddhism to Non-Buddhists
Western Buddhist Converts: Tradition &
Interpretation