

Special Issue

Languages and Buddhist Texts: Translation, Transmission, and Interpretation Across Traditions

Message from the Guest Editors

In this Special Issue, original research articles and reviews are welcome, and research areas may include (but are not limited to) the following topics:

- The linguistic features of Buddhist texts in Pāli, Sanskrit, Gāndhārī, Classical Chinese, Tibetan, and other scriptural languages;
- The use of vernaculars versus sacred languages in Buddhist history;
- Buddhist Hybrid Sanskrit and the linguistic traces of oral-to-written transmission;
- Translation theory and praxis in the Chinese and Tibetan traditions, including standardized terminologies and debates over fidelity vs. fluency;
- Cross-linguistic textual comparison of parallel texts;
- The role of language in Buddhist philosophical reflection, including both its instrumental uses and its perceived limitations in conveying ultimate truth;
- The development of specialized “Buddhist language” registers and their impact on local linguistic traditions;
- Computational and corpus-based analyses of Buddhist texts, including the creation of aligned multilingual corpora;
- The digital future of Buddhist textual research, including AI-assisted translation, automatic annotation, and textual stylometry.

Guest Editors

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

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Fresh developments in the disciplines that consistently make significant contributions to our understanding of religious personality, authority, devotion, and community – disciplines ranging from psychology, sociology, and anthropology to history, art history, philosophy, literary criticism, and political science – fuel general, as well as scholarly, interest in the world's religions.

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