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 Al-assisted translation, automatic annotation, and textual stylometry.

Guest Editors

Dr. Lu Lu

Dr. Bohan Li

Dr. Zhouvuan Li

Deadline for manuscript submissions

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Religions Editorial Office MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5 4052 Basel, Switzerland Tel: +41 61 683 77 34 religions@mdpi.com

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Prof. Dr. Arndt Büssing

Professorship Quality of Life, Spirituality and Coping, Faculty of Health, Witten/Herdecke University, Gerhard-Kienle-Weg 4, 58313 Herdecke, Germany

Prof. Dr. Klaus Baumann

Caritaswissenschaft und Christliche Sozialarbeit, Theologische Fakultät, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Platz der Universität 3, D-79098 Freiburg, Germany

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