



International Conference and Art Festival
on
HERITAGE FOR PEACE AND PROGRESS:
CONSERVATION, EDUCATION AND TRAINING TO
PROMOTE THE BUDDHIST HERITAGE OF PAKISTAN
Islamabad, March 2-3, 2024

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Our conference this year is designed to engage a wide range of stakeholders including scholars, faith leaders, conservation specialists, tour operators, youth and communities in knowledge development, conservation discourse, education, training, and community engagement dialogue to preserve and promote the Buddhist heritage of Pakistan dating back to the 3rd century BC.

Following a successful event in 2022, the 2024 conference features in-person panel discussions, workshop sessions and art and craft festival spread over two days starting on March 2, 2024. The conference and art festival will be followed by guided tours to key Buddhist sites in the Gandhara region of Pakistan.

CONFERENCE THEMES

The conference themes are centered around knowledge development, education, training, and community engagement to protect Gandhara heritage sites as cultural and economic assets contributing to the socio-economic development of Pakistan. In addition to history, the conference will also focus on evaluating the impact of climate change on cultural heritage in the country. In 2022, the devastating floods in Pakistan washed away a huge area across the country, including parts of Gandhara. Modern technologies can contribute to overcoming challenges in the preservation of cultural heritage. The 2024 conference will also explore the methods and uses of new technologies in support of cultural heritage preservation.

Research Themes

1. Identifying gaps and consolidating knowledge resources to provide a full perspective of the history of Buddhism in Gandhara
2. Priorities and Challenges in Conservation of Buddhist Heritage in Gandhara
3. Impact of Climate Change on Cultural Heritage of Gandhara: Risk Assessment and Preparedness
4. Community Engagement to Protect and Promote Gandhara Heritage Sites as Cultural and Economic Assets
5. Interfaith Dialogue on Conservation of the Religious Heritage of Pakistan

Workshop Themes

1. Methods and Uses of Technology in 3D Reproduction of Cultural Heritage
2. New Technologies Supporting Heritage Conservation, Management and Monitoring in Gandhara
3. Integrating Conservation of Natural and Cultural Heritage for Sustainable Tourism





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Themes for Art and Craft Festival

1. The Buddha, Bodhisattvas, Stupas and Monasteries of Gandhara
2. Gandhara Jataka Tales depicting earlier incarnations of the Buddha
3. Religious Heritage for Peace and Harmony: Mosques, Temples, Churches and Gurdwaras of Pakistan

Abstracts

Authors are requested to send in their abstracts for review by the Conference Academic Committee, comprising research scholars and academics. The Academic Committee shall not accept full papers prior to submission and approval of abstracts. Authors of selected abstracts will be notified to submit full research papers at a later stage. Contributors are requested to send their abstracts on or before the closing date of **December 31, 2023**. While preparing your abstracts, please note that:

1. Abstracts must be relevant to any of the conference themes.
2. The word count for abstracts is 150-300. Abstracts exceeding word limit will not be considered.
3. Abstracts should be structured as follows:
 - Background and aim of research
 - Methodology, Analysis and Results
 - Conclusion and implications
4. Please send your Abstracts to: abstracts@pakistanbuddhistheritage.org
5. Contributors are requested to use the following format to send in abstracts:

Name of Author	
Co-Author/s (<i>if any</i>)	
Author Email	
Author Phone Number (WhatsApp)	
Title of the Paper	
Conference Theme	
Abstract (Not more than 300 words)	





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Art and Craftwork

In addition to high quality research, the conference will also organize an art and craft festival at the conference venue. The festival will feature Buddhist art and craft from Pakistan and around the world. Original works that demonstrate artistic excellence and the power to engage will be presented at the three-day festival.

1. Contributors of art and craft are requested to submit a one-page artwork statement including:
 - A. A brief introduction to the art or craftwork
 - B. Basic idea and relevance of the work to the conference
 - C. Some detail about the reason and inspiration to create the work
2. The statement should be in simple language and needs to avoid technical jargon and prosy writing.
3. Images and sketches can also be submitted along with the art statement.
4. Creators of selected works will be notified in advance for presentation of the work.
5. Contributors are requested to send your statements latest by December 31, 2023.
6. Please send your statements to: art@pakistanbuddhistheritage.org
7. You can use the following format to send your statements:

Name of Artist	
Artist Email	
Artist Phone Number (WhatsApp)	
Title of the Work	
Theme	
Brief Description of the Work	

