

EDITORIAL NOTE

It is our privilege to be the editors of the book of abstracts of the First International Conference on Buddhist Studies (ICBS 2021) intended for scholars, organised by the Department of Pāli and Buddhist Studies, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Ruhuna, Matara, Sri Lanka.

This volume contains the abstracts that are presented at the first ICBS 2021. The theme of the first conference, “Buddhist *Vinaya* and Jurisprudence” shows its timely relevance to the global problems, ethical failures, and the chaotic behaviour of the man. In their independent research papers pertaining to Buddhist *Vinaya* and Jurisprudence, academics disclose the significance of the knowledge and understanding of Buddhist *Vinaya* in resolving the problems of global ethical failures.

The abstract volume contains the inspirational keynote address titled, ‘*Dhamma and Vinaya – Liberation and Organisation- Some Reflections on the Basis and the Limits of Buddhist Jurisprudence*’ delivered by Emeritus Professor Asanga Thilakarathne, a celebrated scholar of Buddhist Studies and related subjects in Sri Lanka. The Editorial Board and the Organising Committee express their gratitude to the keynote speaker for his invaluable and informative examination presented on the above subject.

The editors performed the challenging task of editing some of the abstracts included in this book amidst the Covid-19 pandemic situation. The language as well as some of the facts presented in the abstracts required editing. We performed all these tasks with our best efforts without altering the outcome of the abstracts. This book contains 42 abstracts selected for presentation after the reviewing process. We consider that it is a victory to have a large number of abstracts selected from the submissions of the scholars.

The Editorial Board and the Organising Committee appreciate the authors for submitting and presenting their commendable research outcomes at this conference. The invaluable service rendered by the reviewers by providing productive feedback is greatly appreciated. The untiring enthusiasm of the members of the Editorial Board, language editing team, technical and printing team is also highly appreciated.

Senior Lecturer Dr. Ravindu Abeywardhana, the Conference Chair of ICBS 2021, Senior Lecturer Mr. E.H.M. Heenbanda, the Head of the Department of Pāli and

Buddhist Studies deserve our sincere thanks for providing necessary guidance since the beginning of this task.

Thank you very much.

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