



# Buddhism and Jainism in Ancient India: A Cultural Legacy



Dr. Chiranjit Sarkar | Dr. Chanchal Kumar Biswas



# **Buddhism and Jainism in Ancient India: A Cultural Legacy**

**Editors:**

**Dr. Chiranjit Sarkar**

**Dr. Chanchal Kumar Biswas**

**Eureka Publications**

While every effort has been made to trace copyright holders and obtain permission, this has not been possible in all cases. Any omissions brought to our attention will be remedied in future editions.

All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, transmitted, or stored in a retrieval system, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the publisher.

**ISBN: 978-81-19567-77-5**

First Edition - 2024

The moral right of the authors has been asserted.

The book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, resold, hired out, or otherwise circulated, without the publisher's prior consent, in any form of binding or cover other than that in which it is published.

**Published By:**

**Eureka Publications**

**(A Division of EnTo Tech Pvt. Ltd.)**

**India Office:** 604, The Poorva, Pimple Saudagar, Pune, Maharashtra - 411027

**Philippines Office:** 9495, Bankal Street, Lopez Village, Batong Malake, Laguna, 4031, Philippines.

**Malaysia Office:** No 26, Jalan Pulau Indah, u10/53 Taman Sandaran Permai,  
Seksyen u10, Shah Alam 40170, Malaysia.

**Phone No:** +91-9826601628

**E-mail Id:** info@eurekajournals.com, editor@eurekajournals.com

### **Publisher Disclaimers**

The responsibility for the content/opinions provided in the articles published in the present book is exclusive of the author(s) concerned. Eureka Publication/ its editors/ associates of the book is not responsible for errors in the contents or any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in it. The opinions expressed in the chapters in this book do not necessarily represent the views of the publisher/editor of the book.



11. The Interwoven Paths of Buddhism and Jainism:  
A Comparative Study of Oral Traditions, Ethical Teachings,  
and Philosophical Divergence  
*Pritam Das* 149-159
12. Suffering, Self, and Healing: Common Psychological  
Themes in Buddhist Thought  
*D. Simona, K. S. Amritha* 160-186
13. Jain Literature and Its Contribution to Indian Culture  
*Dr. Pragati Bhutoria* 187-190
14. Tracing the Legacy of Buddhist Humanism  
*Dr. Smruti Smita Mohapatra, Dr. Ravia Gupta, Sanghamitra  
Dubey* 191-197
15. Buddhism and Brahminism: A Clash of Philosophies and the  
Quest for Spiritual Truth  
*Pravat Ranjan Sethi, Kh. Altaf Hussain* 198-214
16. Philosophical Lagacies of Buddhism and Jainism the Life of  
Siddhartha Gautama Buddha Early Life (563 BCE-595 BCE)  
*Dr. Namra Munir, Dr. Rashid Minas Wattoo* 215-229
17. Buddhism in Bangladesh  
*Dr. Nanda Gopal Biswas* 230-238
18. Jainism, Current Stage in Buddhist Context of Thailand  
*Rujittika Mungmunpantipantip, Viroj Wiwanitkit* 239-244
19. बौद्ध धर्म का उत्थान और पतन: वैदिक और बौद्ध दर्शन का अंतर्द्वन्द्व  
*डॉ. राघव कुमार झा* 245-251

## Buddhism in Bangladesh

**Dr. Nanda Gopal Biswas**

*Assistant Professor, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Nagercoil Campus.*

From the 7th century, the influence of Buddhism in India began to decline. It then disappeared after the fall of the Pala Empire in the 12th century. Survived only in the northern Himalayan region. Towards the end of the 19th century there was a resurgence of Buddhism in India. Sri Lankan Dharmapala led the movement with the help of British scholars. He founded the Mahabodhi Society. Their main objective was the restoration and preservation of Buddhist shrines in India. In this work they achieved considerable success. Many temples were built and became the abode of monks.

Buddhism has a long and rich history in Bangladesh. Although Bangladesh is a Muslim-majority country, Buddhism is an important minority religion in the country. Buddhism was very influential in the region until the 11th century. Currently less than 1% of the total population in this country are Buddhists. They live in Chittagong Hill Tracts adjacent to Burma. There are four Buddhist temples in the capital, Dhaka, and many more in villages in the eastern region. Compared to Burma, the level of Buddhist practice and practice in this country can be said to be somewhat underdeveloped.

Buddhism has been practiced in Bangladesh since ancient times, especially in Pundravardhana (present-day North Bengal) and Chittagong region. During the reign of the Pala dynasty (8th to 12th century), Bangladesh was an important center of Buddhism. The Pala kings were sympathetic to Buddhism and established many monasteries and monasteries. During that time, Buddhist civilization flourished in Chittagong Hill Tracts and other regions.