



# 4th Edition of the Bodh Gaya Global Dialogues

25-27th March 2022

World Heritage Site, Bodh Gaya

ORGANISED BY



IN COLLABORATION WITH



इन्दिरा गाँधी राष्ट्रीय कला केन्द्र  
INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS



Ministry of Culture  
Government of India



TRAVEL PARTNER





The Dialogues that  
create a platform  
for expression of  
experiences, reflections  
and insights from  
plural perspectives  
connecting heritage,  
education and  
sustainability for  
building a future on  
the foundations of the  
Buddha's legacy on  
enlightenment and  
compassion.



MOSAIC OF  
PARALLEL EVENTS

PLENARY SESSION  
PANEL DISCUSSIONS  
CHILDREN'S PROGRAMME  
FILM SHOW  
CULTURAL EVENING  
HERITAGE TOUR







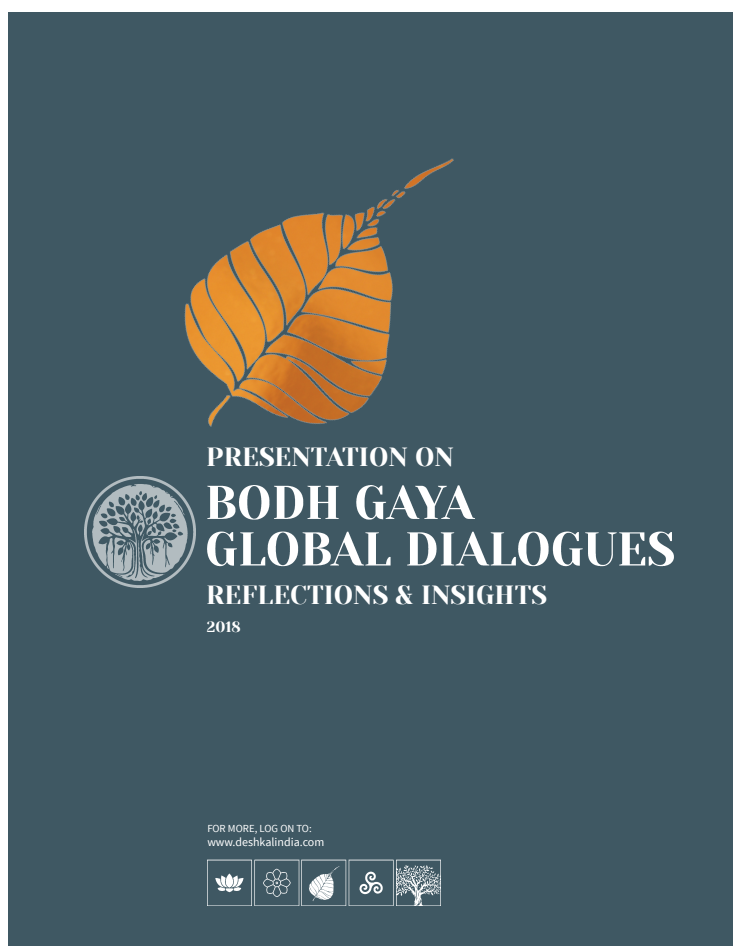
# Bodh Gaya Global Dialogues

## Organizing Committee

The Hon'ble members of the Organising Committee of the Bodh Gaya Global Dialogues has been integral part of the core group for taking forward the journey since its inception in the year 2018. They represent diverse backgrounds like academicians, development practitioners, educationists, Buddhist experts who created a strong foundation for the Bodh Gaya Global Dialogues at the ground level.

1. Dr. Aviram Sharma, Assistant Professor, Nalanda University, Nalanda
2. Shri Brajesh Kumar, Inner Peace Holidays, Bodh Gaya
3. Shri Chandrashekhar Azad, Secretary, Vikalp Foundation, Gaya
4. Dr. Gyandeo Mani Tripathy, The Dean, School of Educational Training and Research, Aryabhatta Knowledge University, Patna
5. Shri Jay Prakash, Programme Director, Deshkal Society, Bodh Gaya
6. Shri Kiran Lama, General Secretary, All India Buddhist Sangh, Bodh Gaya
7. Dr. Kumari Deepa Rani, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Magadh University, Bodh Gaya
8. Dr. Manish Sinha, Professor, Department of History, Magadh University, Bodh Gaya
9. Shri Narayan Kumar, Consultant, Deshkal Society, Bodh Gaya
10. Shri P. R. Dwyer, Gen. Convener, International Centre for Peace Studies, Gaya, Bihar
11. Shri Rai Madan Kishore, Former Special Secretary, Government of Bihar, Gaya
12. Shri Rajeshwar Singh, Hon'ble Member and Consultant, Deshkal Society, Bodh Gaya
13. Shri Ravi Kant, Associate Professor, Central University of South Bihar, Gaya
14. Shri Sanjeev Kumar, Coordinator, Bodhi Kendra, Deshkal Society, Bodh Gaya
15. Shri Suraj Kumar Sinha, Deputy Collector, Patna Commissioner, Patna

Bodh Gaya Global Dialogues  
**A Journey through  
the Dialogues**  
PAST AND PRESENT



**‘Reflections & Insights’**

Report covers of 1st and 2nd Editions of th Bodh Gaya Dialogues

PRESENTATION ON  
2ND EDITION

BODH GAYA  
GLOBAL DIALOGUES

2019



# REFLECTIONS & INSIGHTS

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**T**he 1st, 2nd and the 3rd Editions of the Bodh Gaya Global Dialogues (BGDs) were organised by Deshkal Society in collaboration with Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, New Delhi in association with Indian Council of World Affairs, Jeevika, Government of Bihar, Indian Oil, Bodh Gaya Temple Management Committee, National Thermal Power Corporation and Daulat Ram College, University of Delhi with the goal of encouraging informed dialogues on multiple themes under the umbrella of ‘Sustainable Development, Heritage and Enlightenment’.

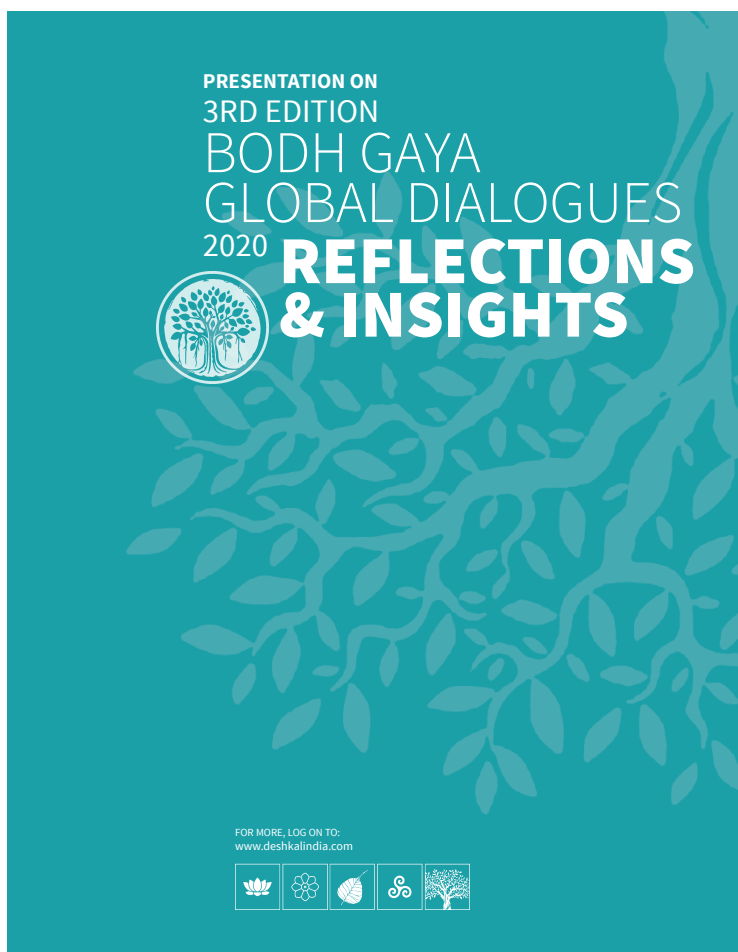
The 1st Edition of the Bodh Gaya Global Dialogue was held at Hotel Royal Residency, Bodh Gaya from 9th-12th March, 2018 and the 2nd and 3rd editions of the Dialogues were consequently held at IGNCA, New Delhi on 23rd– 25th March, 2019 and December 19th-20th, 2020.

The 3rd edition of the Dialogues followed in continuation with the first and second editions held in the years of 2018 and 2019. The reports of these dialogues are available at:

[http://www.deshkalindia.com/festival/report/Presentationon\\_Bodh\\_Gaya\\_Global\\_Dialogues\\_Reflections\\_and\\_Insights\\_2018.pdf](http://www.deshkalindia.com/festival/report/Presentationon_Bodh_Gaya_Global_Dialogues_Reflections_and_Insights_2018.pdf)

and

[http://www.deshkalindia.com/festival/report/Presentation\\_on\\_2nd\\_edition\\_of\\_the\\_Bodh\\_Gaya\\_Global\\_Dialogues\\_Reflections\\_and\\_Insights.pdf](http://www.deshkalindia.com/festival/report/Presentation_on_2nd_edition_of_the_Bodh_Gaya_Global_Dialogues_Reflections_and_Insights.pdf)



**‘Reflections & Insights’**  
Report cover of 3rd Edition of th Bodh Gaya Dialogues

## Goal and Objectives

The Goal of the Bodh Gaya Global Dialogues is to create a platform for expression of experiences, reflections and insights from plural perspectives connecting heritage, education and sustainability for building a future on the foundations of Buddha's legacy on enlightenment and compassion.

In order to move forward to attain the desired goals, following specific objectives were articulated in the consultative process with the key representatives of the multiple stakeholders of the Dialogues:

- To create dialogue, knowledge building and sustainable network with international organizations, non-government organizations, politicians, policy makers, practitioners, ordinary citizens, tourists and pilgrims for safeguarding the heritage and securing sustainable development of the Bodh Gaya region.
- To develop a heritage education programme in order to facilitate the engagement of children in the promotion, protection and transmission of heritage, in a manner which makes heritage relevant and meaningful to their own development trajectories.
- To strengthen relationship and build sustainable network between Bodh Gaya and South East Asian nations with the glorious recall of the historical and contemporary relationship for safeguarding the heritage and securing sustainable development in the region.



## Themes and Participants

The themes of BGDs were diverse and expanded across Religion, Art, Archaeology and Heritage with respect to Bodh Gaya and Buddhist sites. The dialogues manifested itself as a mosaic of parallel events such as the plenary session, panels, films show and conversation over the two days. The 3rd edition of the Bodh Gaya Global Dialogues had detailed deliberations on Multimedia Digital Heritage Centre on Bodh Gaya, Online Course on Art, Heritage and Religion of Bodh Gaya, fostering the relation between India and South East Asian countries with reference to the rising role of Buddhism in India's Soft power and Bodh Gaya, Art, Heritage and Buddhism in India and Heritage Education, Teachers and Schools in Bihar with special reference to Bodh Gaya. Conversation around the Life of Buddha and Gender in the Contemporary times and film screening on White Robes Saffron Dream were integral part of the thematic framework of the dialogues. These forms of expressions deeply engaged the guests and the participants and contributed in the development of an understanding of contemporary Buddhism from a critical perspective. At the end of the Dialogues, Shri Manoj Sinha, Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir delivered a valedictory address. He shared that the timeless teachings of Lord Buddha have strong relevance even in contemporary times and are very important for thinkers and intellectuals because of the dynamic changes we are witnessing in every field in today's era.

The Dialogues were attended by scholars, monks, artists, development practitioners and policy-makers. As part of the outcome, BGDs succeeded in bringing together multiple stakeholders, public and private, including international agencies. The format of the Dialogues adopted offline and online modes due to the trying times of Covid 19 pandemic. This hybrid format extended the visibility of the Dialogues to a larger audience within India and the abroad through the Google Meet and the Facebook Live.

## Brief Summary of the Deliberations

The main focus of the deliberations revolved around seeking deeper understanding and exchanges in order to build a constituency of practices that bring fresh dimensions in capturing enlightenment as the new leitmotif with special focus on heritage and sustainable development. The dialogues also generated a repository of knowledge from multidisciplinary approach on Heritage, Sustainable Development and Enlightenment. The Dialogues also generated a repository of information and knowledge resources from multidisciplinary approach on heritage, development and sustainability. Additionally, it also succeeded in connecting and sharing the key messages of the enlightenment with participants and delegates.

## Recommendations: The Next Possible Steps

A set of recommendations were made responding to the objectives of the dialogues which is to facilitate knowledge and action frameworks for safeguarding heritage and securing sustainable development. There are two sets of recommendations. One set deals with the immediate action plans and the other set of recommendations are part of advisories to the governments both at state and central as well as the international agencies. The immediate next possible steps are the following:

At first, a report (print and digital) based on the deliberations and discussions in the dialogues need to be published and session-wise short videos will be uploaded on YouTube. The report and videos will serve as an effective public platform for disseminating the key messages and outcomes of the dialogue in the public and policy domains. The center is envisaged to have a pivotal role for connecting and disseminating the knowledge output to researchers and more than a million enlightened tourists and pilgrims who visit the region annually. There is an urgent need to set up the Digital Repository on Heritage, Art and Culture in Bodh Gaya and its region. The proposed repository will seek to survey, collate and digitally documentation (history, archaeology, culture etc.) of the site of Bodh Gaya and its region as well as all relevant material from individuals and institutions (including archival museums in India and abroad) and provide

access to wider public for awareness generation and knowledge dissemination. There is a need to initiate a pilot project to build the capacity of the teachers in understanding the concept of heritage in all its forms and introduce diverse forms of heritage and history in both classrooms and outside-the-classroom contexts. The online certificate course on the Multifaceted Aspect of Bodh Gaya and the Philosophy and Teaching of Buddhism needs to be launched as part of the immediate next possible step. The course will bring together the information from a variety of disciplines – Art and its history, religion and archaeology – to highlight their various findings and perspectives regarding the different facets of Bodh Gaya past and present.

Therefore, the first and foremost task is to explore ways to institutionalise the dialogues by way of creating a strong support on its sustainability.

The delegates and participants arrived at the conclusion that the key strategy for implementing these recommendations is through a constructive and meaningful engagement with the state, market and civil society. If this could be possible, this perspective will certainly connect to the realization of the four noble truths of disease, the cause, the cure, and the medicine at the ground level through its practice that emanates from Buddhist philosophical traditions and Buddhist economics. This will serve as an exemplar in true sense for the realisation of enlightenment in Bodh Gaya particularly and the world too.







4th Edition of  
Bodh Gaya Global Dialogues  
**Programme Schedule**

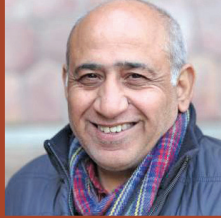
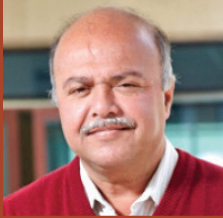
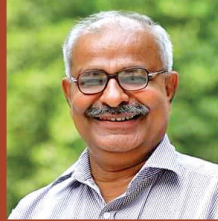


25 | 26 | 27  
MARCH 2022









DAY-1

# FRIDAY 25TH MARCH 2022

**REGISTRATION** | 4:00 PM ONWARDS

**PLENARY SESSION** | 5:30 PM TO 7:30 PM

**VENUE** | AMPRAPALI, HOTEL ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

## **SHORT VIDEO PRESENTATION**

**Bodh Gaya Global Dialogues: Glimpses of the Previous Dialogues**

## **CHAIR**

Shri Ram Bahadur Rai, President, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts [IGNCA], New Delhi

## **MODERATOR**

Ms. Gunjan Joshi, Heritage Professional and Coordinator, 4th Edition  
Bodh Gaya Global Dialogues

## **WELCOME SPEECH**

Dr. Manish Sinha, Professor, Magadh University, Bodh Gaya  
and Hon'ble Member of the Organising Committee of Bodh Gaya Global  
Dialogues

## **CONTEXT AND JOURNEY OF THE DIALOGUES**

Shri Sanjay Kumar, Secretary, Deshkal Society, Delhi

## **GUESTS OF HONOUR**

Dr. Shovana Narayan, Distinguished Kathak Performer and Scholar, New Delhi

Prof. Ramesh C. Gaur, Dean, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts [IGNCA],  
New Delhi

Mr. Keo Sengdavong, Minister Counsellor of the Embassy of Lao PDR in New  
Delhi

Shri Kiran Lama, General Secretary, All India Buddhist Sangh, Bodh Gaya

Shri Neeraj Kumar, Former Minister, Information and Public Relations  
Department, Government of Bihar

#### GLIMPSES OF THE MODEL VILLAGE

#### ADOPTED BY DESHKAL SOCIETY IN BODH GAYA

A presentation of the initiative in Sewing and Embroidery by the group of women of the Model Village

Screening of the photographs of the Village

#### CONVOCATION

Certificate Distribution of the 1st Batch of the Online Certificate course on Bodh Gaya and Buddhism

#### REMARKS BY THE CHAIR

#### VOTE OF THANKS

Shri Jai Prakash, Programme Director, Deshkal Society

**DINNER** | 8:00 PM ONWARDS

DAY-2

**SATURDAY**  
**26TH MARCH 2022**

#### Session-1

**TIME** | 9:30 AM TO 10:30 AM

**VENUE** | AMPRAPALI, HOTEL ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

#### CHAIR

Shri Pranav Khullar, An Expert in Comparative Religion, DDG, Telecom, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Government of India

#### LEAD PRESENTATION

Dr. Bhagat Oinam, Professor, Department of Philosophy, JNU, New Delhi  
**'Introduction to the Philosophy and Teachings of Buddhism'**

Dr. Ajay Verma, Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy, JNU, New Delhi

**'Buddhist Scriptures and Schools'**

#### Session-2A

**TIME** | 10:30 AM TO 12:00 PM

**VENUE** | AMPRAPALI, HOTEL ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

#### CONVERSATION

Dr. Shovana Narayan, distinguished Kathak Performer & Scholar with Ms. Teena Amrit Gill, filmmaker and consultant

The central theme of the conversation is around the life of Buddha, gender and contemporary world. The salient features of the conversation are as follows:

*Yashodhara: Sacrifice of the wife of Lord Buddha: Exploring the tender relationship between Buddha and his wife Yashodhara through the eyes of Yashodhara*  
*Sound of Emptiness and Harmony: A Symphony of Kathak and Buddhist Chants for World Peace*

*Sujata: The questions raised by Buddha's initial refusal of taking meal from Sujata raised several questions?*

## **Session-2B**

**TIME** | 10:30 AM TO 11:30 AM

**VENUE** | VAISHALI, HOTEL ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

### **MODERATOR**

Dr. Arjit Walia, Consultant, Co-Scholastic Education (Project Development and Marketing)

### **WORKSHOP**

#### **LEAD TRAINER**

Shri Prakash Nayak, Culture and Communication Expert, New Delhi  
**'Training and Orientation of Travel Guides of Buddhist Circuit Focusing on Bodh Gaya'**

**TEA BREAK** | 12:00 PM TO 12:15 PM

## **Session-3A**

**TIME** | 12:15 PM TO 1:15 PM

**VENUE** | AMPRAPALI, HOTEL ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

### **CHAIR**

Dr. Abhay Kumar Singh, Professor and Dean, School of Historical Studies, Nalanda University, Nalanda

### **LEAD PRESENTATION**

Dr. Manish Sinha, Professor, Magadh University, Bodh Gaya and Hon'ble Member of the Organising Committee of Bodh Gaya Global Dialogues  
**'The Culture and Religion of Tibetan Bodh Gaya'**

Dr. Max Deeg, Professor in Buddhist Studies, School Of History, Archeology and Religion, Cardiff University, UK  
**'Bodh Gaya in the Eyes of Huien Tsang'**

### **Session-3B**

**TIME** | 12:15 PM TO 1:15 PM

**VENUE** | VAISHALI, HOTEL ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

#### **MODERATOR**

Dr. Aviram Sharma, Assistant Professor, Nalanda University, Nalanda

#### **LEAD PRESENTATION**

Dr. Dalip Kumar, National Council of Applied Economic Research, New Delhi

**‘Changing Pattern and Growth of Bodh Gaya Block: Evidence from Census Data’**

Dr. Kailash Kumar Mishra, Chairman, Folkbrain

**‘Timeless Intangible Heritage of Herbs and Biodiversity of Gaya:  
An Ethnographical Observation’**

**LUNCH** | 1:15 PM TO 2:00 PM

### **Session-4**

**TIME** | 2:00 PM TO 3:00 PM

**VENUE** | AMPRAPALI, HOTEL ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

#### **CHAIR**

Dr. Shashank Sinha, Independent Scholar and Author and Publishing Director,  
Routledge, South Asia

#### **LEAD PRESENTATION**

Ms. Sunita Dwivedi, Silk Road Traveller and Author, New Delhi

**‘Travelling in the Footsteps of the Buddha’**

### **Session-5**

#### **MOVIE SCREENING**

**TIME** | 3:00 PM TO 4:30 PM

**VENUE** | AMPRAPALI, HOTEL ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

#### **MODERATOR**

Shri Jai Prakash, Programme Director, Deshkal Society

#### **White Robes, Saffron Dreams**

Director: Ms. Teena Amrit Gill

White Robes, Saffron Dreams is a film on gender, discrimination and inter sectionality in Theravada Buddhism in Thailand. Through the life of a young monk and a Mae Chi (Thai nun who wears white and takes 8 precepts or vows) the film examines the differential treatment of women and men by Buddhist institutions, and Thai society; at the same time looking at the spaces women practitioners have carved out for themselves – despite all odds.

**TEA BREAK** | 4:30 PM TO 5:00 PM

### **Session-6 [FORMAT-VIRTUAL]**

**TIME** | 6:00 PM TO 7:00 PM

**VENUE** | AMPRAPALI, HOTEL ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODHGAYA

#### **MODERATOR**

Dr. Manish Sinha, Professor, Magadh University, Bodh Gaya

#### **LEAD PRESENTATION**

Dr. Abhishek Amar, Associate Professor, Hamilton College, New York

**'The Need for a Digital Heritage Center at Bodh Gaya'**

#### **CULTURAL EVENING**

**TIME** | 7:00 PM TO 8:00 PM

**VENUE** | AMPRAPALI, HOTEL ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

#### **SITAR VADAN**

Dr. Sumita Chakravorty, Eminent Sitar Maestro and Assistant Professor,  
University of Delhi

**DAY-3**

**SUNDAY  
27TH MARCH 2022**

### **Session-1**

**TIME** | 10.00 AM TO 11.30 AM

**VENUE** | AMPRAPALI, HOTEL ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

#### **CHAIR**

#### **LEAD PRESENTATION**

Dr. Ajay Dandekar, Professor, Shiv Nadar University, Gautam Buddha Nagar  
and Dr. Rahul Ghai, Associate Professor and Dean, School of Development  
Studies, IIHMR University, Jaipur

**'Contemporary Times and Relevance of Siddhartha: Some Reflections'**

Dr. Rajat Sanyal, Assistant Professor, Department of Archaeology,  
University of Calcutta

**'Understanding Mahabodhi Temple Complex: Layers of Temple'**

**TEA BREAK** | 11.30 AM TO 12.00PM

## **Session-1A**

**TIME** | 10.00 AM TO 11.00 AM

**VENUE** | MAGADH, HOTEL ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

### **WORKSHOP FOR THE TEACHER EDUCATORS AND TEACHERS**

#### **ORIENTATION SESSION**

Heritage Education, Teachers and Schools in Bihar with Special Reference to Bodh Gaya

#### **CHAIR**

Dr. Binodanand Jha, Director, Research and Training, Department of Education, Government of Bihar

#### **LEAD EDUCATORS**

Dr. Gyan Deo Mani Tripathy, The Dean, School of Education and Training and Research, Knowledge University, Patna

After the orientation session, the educators and teachers will visit the specific archaeological and historical sites of Bodh Gaya. Once the visit is completed, all educators and teachers are expected to present their own reflections and observations at the workshop venue. At the end, they will submit the assignment on the theme to Dr. Binodanand Jha and Dr. Gyan Deo Mani Tripathy.

**TEA BREAK** | 11.00 AM TO 11.15 AM

## **Session-2**

### **MOVIE SCREENING**

**TIME** | 12.00 PM TO 1.00 PM

**VENUE** | AMPRAPALI, HOTEL ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

#### **MODERATOR**

Ms. Gunjan Joshi, Heritage Professional and Coordinator, 4th Edition of Bodh Gaya Global Dialogues

A film on Jeevika showing women empowerment through women entrepreneurship and sustainable livelihood led by rural women of Bihar.

**LUNCH** | 1.00 PM TO 2.00 PM



### **Session-3**

**TIME** | 2.00 PM TO 3.00 PM

**VENUE** | AMPRAPALI, HOTEL ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

#### **CHAIR**

Shri Nangze Dorjee, Member Secretary, Bodh Gaya Temple Management Committee, Bodh Gaya

#### **LEAD PRESENTATION**

Dr. Kailash Prasad, Department of Buddhist Studies, Magadh University, Bodh Gaya

**Monasteries of Bodh Gaya: Historical Context and the Present**

### **Session-4**

**TIME** | 3.00 PM TO 4.00 PM

**VENUE** | AMPRAPALI, HOTEL ROYAL RESIDENCY, BODH GAYA

#### **VALEDICTORY ADDRESS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUMMING UP**

#### **CHAIR**

Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi, Hon'ble Member Secretary, IGNC, New Delhi

#### **GUEST OF HONOUR**

Ven. Dr. Dhammapiya, Hon'ble Secretary General, International Buddhist Confederation, New Delhi

#### **KEY SPEAKER**

Dr. Bijoy Kumar Choudhary, Executive Director, Bihar Heritage Development Society, Patna

#### **SUMMING UP**

Dr. Ajay K. Mishra, Convenor of Bodhgaya Global Dialogues and Assistant Professor, IGNC, New Delhi

Shri Sanjay Kumar, Secretary, Deshkal Society, Delhi

#### **VOTE OF THANKS**

Shri Jay Prakash, Programme Director, Deshkal Society



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#### **Visual Documentation**

Ms. Khanjan Purohit, Visual Documentarian, Mumbai

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#### **Note**

For those who are interested to visit the sites, the organizers will arrange a visit to the special heritage site of Bodh Gaya on 28th March 2022 from 9 PM-12 PM.







NOTES

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