

GBU Visit by Chief Monk of Alodawpiye Meditation Center, Myanmar

On 5th May 2024 School of Buddhist Studies and Civilization, GBU conducted a programme to honour the Buddhist monk Venerable Pannazawda. Buddhist monk Venerable Pannazawda (Chief Monk of Alodawpiye Meditation Center, Sittwe, Myanmar) with his two assistants, Mr. Ny Nyi Tun and Mr. San Swe from Myanmar arrived at Gautam Buddha University which was in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs of the Government of India. As per the programme schedule our Honorable Vice Chancellor, Professor Ravindra Kumar Sinha and faculty members of SoBSC Dr. Chintala Venkata Shiva Sai, Dr. Priyadarsini Mitra and Dr. Manish T. Meshram along with our foreign Buddhist students (monks and nuns) had given a grand welcome to the guests at International Guest House of GBU.



After that a programme for Felicitation of Venerable Pannazawda was organized in the Convention Centre of GBU. In the programme the Dean of School of Buddhist Studies and Civilization Prof. Shweta Anand delivered a welcome speech to gratitude Venerable Pannazawda. Prof. Anand expressed her wish that we are providing all kinds of educational facilities and all these facilities will be provided and continued for our all the students in future too. After this, Honorable Vice Chancellor Professor Ravindra Kumar Sinhadelivered the presidential address in which he told the Chief Guest thatGautama Buddha was born in the ancient *Janapad* of Kapilvastu. Uttar Pradesh has been the preaching ground of Buddhismsince ancient time. This district, Gautam Buddha Nagar of Uttar Pradesh is named after Gautam Buddha and I am proud of it because the name of our university is also Gautam Buddha University. He continued his thought that there has been unity between India and Myanmar at the cultural and religious level since ancient time to till today. We hope that the continuity of this tradition will remain alive forever. Honorable Vice-Chancellor thanked to Myanmar master and the students because they have choice our country and university for their studies. V.C Sir told that it has given immense satisfaction to us. Honorable Vice-Chancellor told that all the students of Myanmar are the Ambassador of Gautam Buddha University and V.C Sir assured that all kinds of administrative facilities will be provided by our university. The Registrar of the University, Dr. Vishwas Tripathi sent his message that he will always provide all kinds of educational, health, social security, administrative facilities to the foreign students those who studying in Gautam Buddha University.



The chief guest, Venerable Pannazawda also showed his gratitude towards our university for an excellent teaching, learning process and good residential facilities. He also said his satisfaction will continue the process of sending students in this excellent environment of learning.

On behalf of Myanmar student and monk Ananda, Ph.D Scholar of SoBSC expressed his opinion on the relationship between Myanmar and India. He said that India is a holy land of Buddha and Myanmar and India have a good relationship since ancient time which will be continued.



He told that they are very happy in gaining sufficient knowledge of Buddhist Philosophy, History and Literature in Gautam Buddha University. By staying here, he has got the opportunity to study and understand the culture of India. He has experienced the warmth of the people here towards Myanmar.

Another Myanmar student and monk Kovida, Ph.D Scholar of SoBSC also shared his experience. He told that he got information about the educational environment of Gautam Buddha University from his senior Dhamma brother in his Buddhist monastery of Myanmar. So he decided to come here and study. While sharing his experience, he said that Dr. Arvind Kumar Singh (Director International Affairs) at Gautam Buddha University provided them all types of information and resolved all the issues related to student visa between two countries to make the enrollment process easy. We are very thankful to this university for giving us opportunity for studying Buddhist studies here.



At the end of the seminar, Dr. Chandrashekhhar Paswan, Head of the School of Buddhist Studies and Civilization had given vote of thanks. In the event the Director Works, Dr. Vivek Mishra, Dr. Chandrabhanu Bharas, Dr. Pankaj Deep, Dr. Sandeep Rana, Mr. Pradeep, foreigner and Indian students, Mr. Kanhya and Mr. Ajay were present. Dr. Priyardarsini Mitra, a faculty member of the school conducted the programme as an anchor.

After the programme they visited various beautiful places of our GBU viz. Mahamaya Shanti Sarovar, Buddha statue, Jyotiba Phule Meditation Center, Auditorium, Indoor Stadium and they left GBU happy. They will carry the name and brand image of GBU to all disciples of Alodawpiye Meditation Center, Myanmar.

