

BERTRAM GREGORY LIYANAGE

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Religion (ABD)	2022 – Present
Temple University, Philadelphia, PA	
Coursework GPA: 3.98 (out of 4.00). Expected completion: 2028.	
Teaching in Higher Education Certificate	2024
Center for Advanced Teaching, Temple University	
M.A., Sanskrit (Specialization in Nyāya Philosophy)	2015
Savitribai Phule Pune University, Maharashtra, India	
GPA: 4.00 (out of 5.00). Medium of instruction: English.	
Postgraduate Diploma in Indian Logic and Epistemology	2015
Savitribai Phule Pune University, Maharashtra, India	
Areas: Nyāya, Mīmāṃsā, Jaina and Buddhist logic; Aristotelian, sentence, predicate, and axiomatic logic; philosophy of language (Western and Indian).	
GPA: 4.88 (out of 5.00). Medium of instruction: English.	
B.A., Sanskrit, Buddhist Philosophy, and Philosophy	2017
University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka (Distance Learning)	
Medium of instruction: English.	
Prācīna Paṇḍit (Government-recognized B.A. equivalent, Sri Lanka)	2010
Oriental Languages Society, Ministry of Education, Sri Lanka	
Areas: Sinhala, Pāli, and Sanskrit. Second Class. Medium of instruction: English.	
Summer Intensive in Classical Tibetan (Non-credit, 64 hours)	2020
Maitripa College, Portland, OR	

DISSERTATION

Dharmakīrti's Philosophy of Logic: A Phenomenological Reading

Advisor: Professor Douglas S. Duckworth (Temple University)

Committee: Professor Terry Rey (Temple), Professor Phillip Atkins (Temple),

Professor Brandon Gillon (McGill University, External Member)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Buddhist Logic and Epistemology; South Asian Intellectual Traditions; Philosophy of Mind; Phenomenology; Philosophy of Language; Yogācāra Buddhism; Comparative Philosophy

PUBLICATIONS

Edited Volume

Liyanage, Bertram G., ed. *Buddhist Philosophy: Collected Papers of Professor Asanga Tilakaratne*. Sarasavi Publishers and Sri Lanka Association of Buddhist Studies, 2020. ISBN 978-955-31-1822-6. xx + 439 pp.

Book Chapters

Liyanage, Bertram G. "Sri Lanka." In *National Epics*, edited by David Wallace. Oxford University Press, forthcoming.

Liyanage, Bertram G. "From Tempter to Death: The Semantic Transformation of Māra in Sri Lankan Buddhism." In a volume edited by Todd Lewis. SUNY Press, forthcoming.

Book Review

Liyanage, Bertram G. Review of *Nondualism: An Interreligious Exploration*, edited by Jon Paul Sydnor and Anthony J. Watson. *Journal of Ecumenical Studies* 60, no. 2 (Spring 2025): 337–341.

Peer-Reviewed Article (in Sanskrit)

Liyanage, Bertram G. "Aparṇakajātakasyānupalabdihicāraḥ" [Examination of Proving Non-existence in the Aparṇaka Jātaka Story]. *Śodha Saṃhitā: Journal of Fundamental and Comparative Research* 5 (2018–2019): 116–122.

Encyclopedia Entries (in Sinhala)

"Jñānakarmasamuccayavāda," "Jubilee," and "Ganganath Jha." *Sinhala Encyclopedia*, vol. 13. Ministry of Cultural Affairs, Government Press, Sri Lanka, 2015.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Dissertation: *Dharmakīrti's Philosophy of Logic: A Phenomenological Reading*. In progress.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"Apoḥa as Constitution: Rethinking Exclusion in Buddhist Epistemology." Panel: *Buddhist Philosophy and Phenomenology: New Horizons*. American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, 2025.

"Fragmentary Dhāraṇī Scriptures: An Untold Story about Buddhism in Sri Lanka." International Conference on Buddhist Cultural Trails, SAARC Cultural Centre, Sri Lanka, 2017.

“Historical Linguistic Approach to Buddhaghosa’s Interpretations.” 6th International Buddhist Academic Conference, Sri Lanka Association of Buddhist Studies and Buddhist and Pāli University of Sri Lanka, 2016.

“Proof of Pratītyasamutpāda is by Conventional Reality.” International Conference on Sanskrit Studies, Department of Sanskrit, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka, 2016. [Presented in Sanskrit.]

“History of Jainism Revealed in Pāli Literature.” 3rd Biennial Conference of the International Association for Asian Heritage, Centre for Asian Studies, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka, 2015.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Temple University, Department of Religion

Instructor of Record

Religion in the World	Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Spring 2025
Yoga and Tantric Mysticism (Online Asynchronous)	Fall 2023, Fall 2024
Asian Behavior and Thought	Spring 2024
Asian Behavior and Thought (Online Asynchronous)	Spring 2026
Religion and Society	Fall 2026 (Upcoming)

Teaching Assistant

Religion and Sexuality (Prof. Elizabeth Hayes Alvarez)	Fall 2022
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Temple University, Intellectual Heritage Program

Instructor of Record

Intellectual Heritage II: The Common Good	Spring 2025, Fall 2025, Spring 2026
Intellectual Heritage (section to be confirmed)	Fall 2026 (Upcoming)

International Teaching Experience

Visiting Instructor, Post-Graduate Institute of Pali and Buddhist Studies 2019–2022

University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka. English medium.

Areas: Early Indian Yogācāra Buddhism.

Visiting Instructor, Post-Graduate Institute of Social Science and Humanities 2019–2021

University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka. English medium.

Areas: Buddhist Philosophy and Logic in Sanskrit.

Visiting Instructor, Buddhist and Pāli University of Sri Lanka 2017–2018

Areas: Critical Thinking, Religious Studies, Comparative Philosophy.

Visiting Instructor, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka 2015–2017
Areas: Buddhist Logic, Madhyamaka, Yogācāra, Theravāda Vinaya.

Teacher, Peliyagoda Vidyalankara Pirivena (Buddhist Monastic College), Sri Lanka 2010–2018
Areas: Buddhist Studies, Buddhist Sanskrit Texts, Sinhala.

Visiting Lecturer (Honorary), Instituto Pramāṇa, São Paulo, Brazil 2022
Seminar series on Dharmakīrti's texts.

Faculty Member, Dharma Farm Online School, Portland, OR 2020–2022
Areas: Sarvāstivāda, Mādhyamika, and Yogācāra Buddhism.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Deputy Editor, Encyclopaedia of Buddhism (English) 2018–2022
Ministry of Buddha Sasana, Sri Lanka
Rebuilt editorial office, managed collection of archival material, and prepared Index volume.

Management Assistant (Civil), Air Force Head Quarters, Sri Lanka 2005–2010
Public Management Service.

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) Scholarship 2013–2015

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Academy of Religion (AAR)
American Philosophical Association (APA)
International Association of Buddhist Studies (IABS)
Sri Lanka Association of Buddhist Studies (SLABS), Life Member

SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Consultant, Presidential Media Unit of Sri Lanka 2018
Advised on the declaration of the Theravāda Tipiṭaka as a national heritage of Sri Lanka.

Staff Member, International Conference of SLABS 2016

Editorial Board Member
Festschrift publication series honoring Professor Asanga Tilakaratne (8 volumes), Sri Lanka Association of Buddhist Studies, 2020. Book design and page layout for all volumes.

LANGUAGES

Primary Research Languages

Sanskrit (reading, writing, speaking); Pāli (reading, writing); Classical Tibetan (reading, writing); Sinhala (native)

Additional Research Languages

Prakrit languages: Mahārāṣṭrī, Ardhamāgadhī, Gāndhārī (reading with dictionary)

Reading Knowledge

German, Classical Chinese (Buddhist Chinese), Hindi, Tamil

Modern Languages

English (full professional proficiency)

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Professional book design and typesetting (Adobe InDesign)

Online and asynchronous course design and instruction (Temple University certified)

REFERENCES

Professor Douglas S. Duckworth

Department of Religion, Temple University

Email: duckworth@temple.edu

Professor Ernst Steinkellner

Emeritus Professor of Buddhist and Tibetan Studies, Vienna University

Full Member, Austrian Academy of Sciences

Email: ernst.steinkellner@oeaw.ac.at

CV Updated: March 1, 2026