

Presentation topics and speakers

(Subject to change)

sl	Topics	Speakers
1	Developing four kinds of Intelligence for optimal mental health and balance	B. Alan Wallace , President, Santa Barbara Institute for Consciousness Studies
2	Madhayamaka and Nondual Cognition in the Kālacakratantra	Vesna A. Wallace , Professor, Department of Religious Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara
3	Hatha Yoga	James Mallinson , Senior Lecturer in Sanskrit and Classical Indian Studies, SOAS University of London, and Principal Investigator of the ERC-funded Hatha Yoga Project
4	The importance of Yidam visualization in Vajrayana meditative practices	Maria Kozhevnikov , National University of Singapore & Harvard Medical School
5	Running head: The role of śamatha (zhi-nas) and vipaśyanā (lhag-mthong) in Pāli Literature and in the Mahāmudrā (phyagrgya-chen-po) tradition	Khenpo Namgay Wangdi , Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha
6	The Zhitro Festival: a Tribute to the Ngagpas of Rebkong	Georgios T. Halkias , Professor, Centre for Buddhist Studies, University of Hong Kong
7	Gling-ras-pa on the supremacy of Mantra[yāna] over the Paramitā[yāna]	Walther Marco , Lecturer, University of Munich, Germany
8	Awakening by Buddhist and Śaiva Nectars	Jason Birch , Post Doctoral Research Fellow, SOAS University of London
9	Neurotheology - To analyze the effect of visualization of Tantric Buddhism on the cognitive behavior of a tantric practitioner	Inder Singh Chaudhary , Department of Buddhist Studies, Philosophy & Comparative Religion, Nalanda University, India
10	Meditation and ethics in education	Tamara Ditrach , Professor, WBSY - Penang Buddhist Society, Australia
11	Neuroscience and Buddhist Practice: apparent bridges and barriers	Suzanne Cochrane , Adjunct Fellow, National Institute of Complementary Medicine, Western Sydney University, Australia
12	Studying the Secret Wisdom: Integrating Atiyoga Traditions into the Vajrāyana-Western Dialog	Eli Jellenc , Independent anthropological researcher
13	A Note on the Impact of Vajrayana on the Nationalist Culture of Bengal at the Late Nineteenth	Santanu Banerjee , Assistant Professor of English, Kazi Nazrul

	and Early Twentieth Centuries.	University, India
14	Esoteric influences in the Buddhism of Nichiren and the contemporary development of 'Applied Buddhism' in Nichiren schools	Jamie Cresswell , Director, Centre for Applied Buddhism, and Vice President, European Buddhist Union
15	Unveiling Feminine Presence and Expression in Vajrayāna Buddhist Symbolism: Empowerment and Inspiration to Bhutanese Nuns	Ven. Dr. Tenzin Dadon (Sonam Wangmo) & Ven. Dr. Karma Tashi Choedron , Vajrayana Buddhist Council of Malaysia
16	Vajrayana Buddhism: Growing Buddhist Tradition in Contemporary Malaysia	Ng Sai Kai , President, Selangor Buddhist Development Council
17	Leading as Lay: Tantric Practices of the 21 st Century in Korea	Dr. Christie Yu-Ling Chang & Dr. Frank Yun-fu Tien
18	Tantra and Tourists: Sharing Shingon Teachings at Yochi-in, Mt. Koya, Japan	Kaiji Yamamoto , Barbara Seie Morrison and Gyokan Kondo
19	The value and benefits of Nyungnay practice in modern time	Thich Nu Hue Duc , Vietnam National Bhikkuni Department of Vietnam Buddhist Sangha
20	The Function of Dhārani in Theravada Tradition; with reference to Sri Lankan Context	Panahaduwe Yasassi , Sr. Lecturer, University of Sri Jayewardenepura
21	A philosophical Study of Vajrayana Buddhism and Meditation in Present Context	Alok Kumar Verma , Central University of Gujarat
22	Vajrayana as Operative in Darjeeling Himalayas	Anup Shekhar Chakraborty , Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science & Political Studies, Netaji Institute for Asian Studies, Kolkata
23	Curating Vajrayāna: The interface of tradition and modernity	Ian Baker , Post-doctoral research associate, University of Strathclyde, UK
24	Aspects of Tantra in modern western culture	Paola Di Maio , Professor, Sherabling Palpung/ISTCS
25	Tantric Buddhism in California: Transplantation and Transformation	Thien-Huong T. Ninh , Assistant Professor, Cosumnes River College
26	Social Constructionism and religious experience: Case of Tibetan Buddhist converts in Finland	Maria Sharapan , Department of Languages and Communication, University of Jyväskylä, Finland
27	The Trance walking tradition of Tibet	John Clarke , Curator of Himalayan and South East Asian Art, V&A Museum, London
28	WeChat Spiritualism: Of Changes, Relevance and Social Media Affordances in Bhutan	Dorji Wangchuk , PhD Candidate in communication at the University of Macau
29	The Mystic Kiss: Enlightened Sexuality and Feminine Wisdom in Vajrayāna Buddhism	Eliska Vydrova , Women's Health Mentor & Photographer

30	The DAKINI: An archetypal symbol of the feminine	Sónia Gomes , Sorig Khang Portugal
31	Remaining Legacy of Green Tara in Myanmar (Burmese) Traditional Beliefs	Khin Zaw , Professor, Faculty of International Medical School, Management & Science University, Malaysia
32	The History and Practice of Vajra Romance founding relationships on Vajrayana principles	Mé-tsal Wangmo & Ja'gyür Dorje , Buddhist teachers at Aro gTer
33	Kāmic and Tāntric "Aphrodisiacs" in Padmaśrī's Nāgarasarvasvam	Shubham Arora , School of Buddhist Studies, Philosophy, and Comparative Religions, Nālandā University, India
34	Vajra Nrithyam as a Meditative Movement	Shashi Kiran Reddy, Dipankar Khanna
35	Intersections of Vajrayana Buddhist Practice and Modern Psychological Interventions	Michelle Walsh , Counselor & researcher, University of Virginia
36	Vajrayana and Holistic Healing: The Interface Implications for Practice, Scientific Validity and Mindbody Wellness	Asa Hershoff , Founder & Director, Elemental Mindfulness Training Institute
37	Food Fasting from oriental sciences point of views and its implementation into Vajrayana Practice	Sandeep Shah and Elizabeth See Lee
38	Meditative and yogic practices for mental health	Borut Škodlar , Medical doctor & Professor, University Psychiatric Clinic and Medical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
39	Analytical Study of Jurisprudence in the Tipitaka	Phramaha Viset Sorpobdee and Phramaha Viradej Japhah
40	Secret Mantra Practice in Tibet	Ianzhina Bartanova , FPMT Mongolia Buddhist Centre
41	Divine messengers, Buddhist adepts, shaman practitioners in Bhutan	Françoise Pommaret , Associate Professor, CLCS, RUB, Bhutan; Stephanie Guyer-Stevens , Executive Producer, Outer Voices
42	KABP about yoga among students of modern medicine in Medical students of India	Puneet Misra; Bhabani Prasad Acharya, Sanjay K Rai , Professor, AIIMS