



UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA

Department of Pali

Admission Entrance Test Syllabus - 2024

Overview:

The Entrance Examination for the Pali program is designed to assess the applicant's foundational knowledge and aptitude for advanced studies in Buddhist philosophy, history, and culture. The examination covers a range of topics, including Buddhist doctrines, historical developments, and critical thinking skills.

I. Buddhist History and Culture

I. Historical Development

Spread of Buddhism across Asia
Key historical events and figures

II. Buddhist Art and Architecture

Iconography and symbolism
Study of Buddhist stupas, temples, and sculptures

III. Buddhism in Contemporary Society

Buddhism's influence on modern culture
Challenges and adaptations in the contemporary world

II. Buddhist Philosophy and Doctrine

I. Buddha and His Teachings

Life and times of Gautama Buddha
The Four Noble Truths
The Eightfold Path

II. Buddhist Schools of Thought

Theravada, Mahayana and basic philosophical concepts in each school

III. Canonical Texts

Study of Pali Canon and Mahayana sutras
Understanding basic texts like the Dhammapada, Lotus Sutra, and Heart Sutra

Note: Applicants are encouraged to prepare thoroughly by studying primary texts, historical developments, and contemporary.