



DEPARTMENT OF BUDDHIST STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA, KOLKATA

CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO A SPECIAL LECTURE ON

**Reasserting Abhidharma:
A Foundational Discipline
for Contemporary Scholarship**

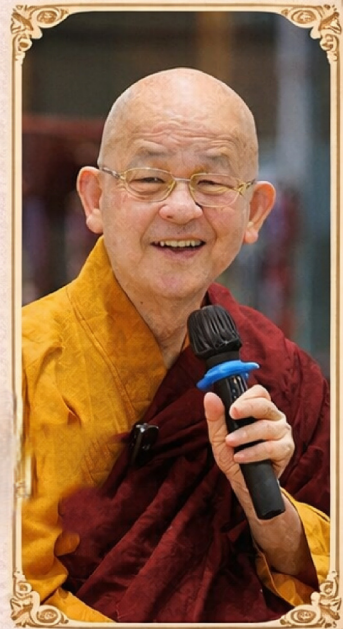
By

VEN. PROF. K L DHAMMAJOTI

Chairman and Academic Director
The Buddha-Dharma Centre of Hong Kong,
and former Glorious Sun (Endowed) Professorship
in Buddhist Studies, The University of Hong
Kong, Hong Kong

**Date : Tuesday, 27th January, 2026
at 04:30 p.m.**

**Venue : Western Gallery,
Department of Buddhist Studies,
College Street Campus, Kolkata-700073.**



Prof. DR. AISWARYA BISWAS

Head
Department of Buddhist Studies
University of Calcutta

20th January, 2026 Kolkata

About the Topic:

Abhidharma served as a cornerstone of Buddhist intellectual and practical development in ancient India and China. Historically, it profoundly shaped both Buddhist philosophy and meditative praxis. Traditions such as Mahāyāna Yogācāra—deeply concerned with spiritual practice and stages of realization—emerged largely from the broad framework of Abhidharmic thought. In modern academic and practice-oriented circles, however, Abhidharma has often been misunderstood, reduced to mere scholasticism or abstract metaphysics, and consequently neglected. This lecture revisits the essential nature of Abhidharma, clarifying its systematic and experiential aims, and reasserts its vital relevance to contemporary Buddhist scholarship, hermeneutics, and practice.

About the Speaker

Venerable Professor Dr. K. L. Dhammajoti is an internationally acclaimed Buddhist scholar from Malaysia. He began his academic career in 1982 at the Postgraduate Institute of Pāli and Buddhist Studies, University of Kelaniya, Sri Lanka, where he later served as Professor and Head of the Department of Buddhist Sources. In 2004, he joined the University of Hong Kong as the Glorious Sun Endowed Professor in Buddhist Studies and served in that capacity until his retirement in 2015. He subsequently held the position of Chair Professor at Renmin University of China until 2023. He is currently the Permanent Chairman and Academic Director of the Buddha-Dharma Centre of Hong Kong, Hong Kong.

A prolific author, Prof. Dhammajoti has made major contributions to Abhidharma and Buddhist textual studies. His key publications include *Sarvāstivāda Abhidharma*, *Abhidharma Doctrine and Controversy on Perception*, *Entrance into the Abhidharma*, *Reading Pāli Buddhist Texts*, *Reading Buddhist Sanskrit Texts*, and *Initiation into the Treasury of Abhidharma*. He is also the founding editor of the *Journal of Buddhist Studies* (Centre for Buddhist Studies, Sri Lanka).