

Vipassana Research Institute

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Myanmar Gate, the combined entrance to Dhamma Giri, Dhamma Tapovana, Sayagyi Village, VRI

Adjoining the meditation Centre, but separate from it, is the Vipassana Research Institute (VRI). The Institute was established in 1986 to conduct research into the *pariyatti* (theory) and *paṭipatti* (practice) of the Buddha's teaching. Its research includes the application of Vipassana in such fields as health, education, and social development. The Institute offers a Pāli language program, for serious old students. It also publishes works of interest to Vipassana students.

Upto 2005, VRI has published 100 books in eight languages, 37 pamphlets, 140 Tipiṭaka sets, 46 titles in DVD and VCD, as well as an English and Hindi newsletter reaching 39,000 students.

VRI has organised several international seminars at Dhamma Giri on meditation topics in the Pāli canon, for scholars from different countries. These seminars combined with ten-day courses have proven a beneficial blend of the theory and practice of Dhamma.

Publication of Pāli Tipiṭaka

The Pāli literature includes the Tipiṭaka—the preserved words of the Buddha, commentarial works such as the Aṭṭhakathās, Tikās and Anu-Tikās and other non-canonical literature. Unfortunately, this invaluable part of the ancient heritage of India had been lost to India. VRI has completed the monumental task of publishing the entire Pāli Tipiṭaka and allied commentarial literature of more than 140 volumes in Devanāgarī Pāli. The source for the material is the original Myanmar (Burmese) edition compiled on the basis of Chaṭṭha Saṅgāyana (Sixth Buddhist Council) held in 1954-56 in Myanmar. The texts have been published sequentially as sets and extreme care has been taken to preserve the purity of the material.

In addition, VRI has produced the Chaṭṭha Saṅgāyana CD-ROM containing the most comprehensive edition of the Pāli texts, including the Tipiṭaka, Aṭṭhakathās (commentaries), Tikās (sub-commentaries) and Anuṭikās (sub-sub-commentaries). The CD is being distributed worldwide as Dhamma dāna to research scholars, institutions and others wishing to read the Tipiṭaka in Pāli.