

THOSAMLING

International Buddhist Nunnery & Institute



-- Introduction to Buddhist Debate --

A weekend course with Atisha Mathur, a graduate in Madhyamika studies from the Institute of Buddhist Dialectics, Dharmasala, and a doctoral student at L'Orientale in Naples, Italy.

November 3rd 6th, 2022

Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh, North India

- Open to women and men
- Suitable for beginners and experienced students
- Comfortable accommodation and nutritious food

For more information contact us at thosamling@gmail.com





The profound purpose of Buddhist debate and reasoning is to clear away a wrong conception of our own natures and thereby to become free of suffering and even death.

Who can come?

This Introductory Course in Logic and Debate led by Atisha Mathur is open to both men and women. This course is specifically tailored for beginner students who have no background in Logic and Debate but are interested in learning and becoming familiar with the process of debate.

For how long?

The Retreat spans 4 days, starting at 2:00 pm on November 3, and ending at 2:00 pm on November 6.

What will we learn?

The course is aimed at understanding how the system of Tibetan Buddhist debate works. In this course we will understand what a “syllogism” is and the language and style of debate.

There will be opportunity to watch and actually participate in actual debate with senior students of Atisha.

The main purpose of debate is to defeat misconceptions and establish a defensible view and clear away objections to that view.





Who is our teacher?

Atisha Mathur is a doctoral student at L’Orientale in Naples, Italy.

Atisha was born and brought up in New Delhi where he finished his schooling. He then did his undergraduate studies in Language and Literature of South Asia focused on Tibetan studies from the Orientale in Napoli in 2008. He went on to study in the Central University of Tibetan Studies in Sarnath, near Varanasi for two years. He has completed a 10-year rigorous study program at the Institute of Buddhist Dialectics, Dharamsala in 2019.

How is the course structured?

The course is a combination of interactive teachings, discussions and debate.

Day 1 (November 3, 2022)

<i>Timing</i>	<i>Activity</i>
2:00 pm	Check-In
4:00 – 5:00 pm	Introductory Talk
5:00 – 6:00 pm	Dinner
6:30 – 8:00 pm	Session 1

Day 2 – 3 (November 4-5)

<i>Timing</i>	<i>Activity</i>
6:00 – 7:00 am	Morning Meditation and Prayers (Optional)
7:00 – 8:00 am	Breakfast
9:00 – 11:30 am	Session 1
11:30 am to 12:30 pm	Lunch
2:00 – 3:00 pm	Discussion Group
3:00 – 3:30 pm	Tea Break
3:30 – 5:00 pm	Session 2
5:00 – 6:00 pm	Dinner
6:30 – 8:00 pm	Session 3

Day 4 (November 6)

<i>Timing</i>	<i>Activity</i>
7:00 – 8:00 am	Breakfast
9:00 – 11:00 am	Concluding Session
11:00 – 11:30 am	Feedback session
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	Lunch
2:00 pm	Checkout

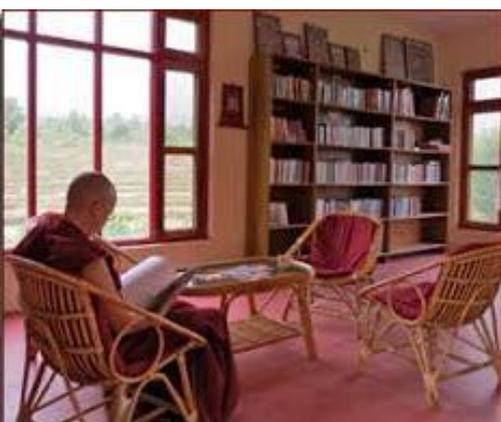


Where do we stay?

Thosamling nunnery provides two options for accommodation - either a single room with attached bathroom, or a single room with a shared bathroom. Prices vary depending on your choice (see below).

Type of Accommodation	Price
Single room with attached bathroom	4800 INR
Single room with shared bathroom	4000 INR

A deposit of 1500 INR is required to confirm your place in the course which is non-refundable.





Where is Thosamling?

Thosamling nunnery is located in Kangra Valley, a 20-minute drive from Dharamsala in the state of Himachal Pradesh in North India. The average elevation is 2000ft. above sea level.

By Bus: Overnight buses leave daily from Delhi and take approximately 10 hours.

By Air: Thosamling is 45 min from Gaggal Airport. We can organise a transfer service for guests.

What should I bring?

We recommend bringing comfortable warm clothes (shawl, trainers, sweatshirts, trackpants, thick socks, beanies, gloves, etc) for temperatures are 25-28 degrees Celsius during the day, going down to 10-12 degrees Celsius at night. Please also bring a torch or headlight in cases of power outages, a water bottle (we provide drinkable filtered water), alarm clock, flip-flops for the shower, as well as soaps, shampoos, and a towel. We provide meditation cushions, but you are welcome to bring your own.

Thosamling also has a small supply store with items such as toilet paper, notebooks, pens, incense, etc.



Residents should observe the following rules of discipline in order to maintain an atmosphere conducive to retreat:

- **No killing:** do not intentionally kill any living being, even small insects.
- **No stealing:** do not take anything not freely given.
- **No lying:** do not lie or intentionally deceive others.
- **No sexual activity.** This also includes holding hands, hugging and other physical displays of affection.
- **No intoxicants** such as alcohol, drugs and cigarettes (we encourage you to stop smoking while here).
- **Keep silence:** keep silence in the appropriate areas. No singing or playing music and in general, maintain a quiet demeanour while on the property.
- **Be considerate** of the monks and nuns: dress respectfully (please no shorts above the knee, tank-top shirts or tight and revealing clothing).

Course Discipline:

- Please settle all outside communication before the course begins.
- Please settle your travel arrangements etc before you come to Thosamling.
- Do not leave Thosamling property for the duration of the course.
- Participants must attend all sessions of the course and come to sessions on time.
- All communication devices to be deposited into our safekeeping at check-in.

For any further questions and to register, please feel free to contact thosamling@gmail.com