

K J Somaiya Institute of Dharma Studies
Admission Manual

Ph.D. and JRF Programme
Pali
AY 2026-27

<https://www.somaiya.edu/en/phd/>

Somaiya Vidyavihar University

About Somaiya Vidyavihar University

On 26th August 2019, Somaiya Vidyavihar University became a reality !

We made this milestone after six decades of creating holistic teaching learning experience educational institutes of great repute. Somaiya Vidyavihar University has become a self finance – the first private University in Mumbai vide the Maharashtra Self-Financed Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Act 2013.

We have a dream to build and support a world-class institution, one that is proudly Indian, and excels in education, research and service. Somaiya Vidyavihar University will be a place where knowledge is preserved, disseminated, and new knowledge is created. It will be global in the reach of its ideas and universal in its service. Somaiya Vidyavihar University is a place where students and faculty can explore “Freedom of Possibilities”, pursue their passion and above all, find themselves.

Our History and Vision

An all-round education must integrate Indian culture, values & morality into the curriculum.

The Somaiya Vidyavihar Complex was founded in 1959 by the late Shri K.J. Somaiya (1902-1999). Endowed with a sharp business acumen, a balanced perspective and a social bent of mind, Karamshibhai set up the Somaiya Trust in 1953 for furthering his dream of shaping young minds through quality education. For this purpose, he bought a large area of land at Ghatkopar, then considered to be distant, meagrely populated.

In six decades it has grown into a large educational complex with 34 institutions catering to diverse fields of education such as Humanities, Engineering, Education, Medicine, Management, Dharma Studies, Pure Sciences and Commerce & Business Studies, with more than 39000+ Candidates and 3000+ Faculties and staff on a throbbing 50 acre campus.

Our Founder, Shri K. J. Somaiya founded Somaiya Vidyavihar on 9th September 1959. He later founded the Girivanvasi Pragati Mandal, The K J Somaiya Medical Trust, Girivanvasi Education Trust and sister institutions to make great citizens of India and the World. In the words of Swami Vivekananda, “We want that education by which character is formed, strength of mind is increased, and the intellect expanded, and by which one can stand on one’s own feet.” We have now grown into a multi-disciplinary and multi-campus education institution with over 1500 faculty, and 38, 000 candidates.

With Ph.D. programmes in various faculties, we provide an innovative platform for research aspirants to make a niche of their own to impact society and life.

About Research Center

In Pali research centre, innovative and research-oriented projects are being undertaken. The students and faculty members are encouraged to publish their work in reputed journals or present papers in conferences. Faculty members have published papers in peer reviewed journals. The centre is currently involved in an interdisciplinary research project titled “A Dictionary of Pali and Buddhist Sanskrit Terms in Buddhist Art and Architecture.”

Research is conducted in the following thrust areas -

1. Theravada Buddhism
2. Pali literature
3. Textual Analysis and Interpretation
4. Buddhist Philosophy
5. Buddhist Ethics
6. Buddhist Psychology
7. Interdisciplinary researches in Pali languages and literature
8. Textual Criticism
9. Pali Narratives
10. Historical and literary Development

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Ph.D. Admission Eligibility for Somaiya Vidyavihar University (SVU): Minimum Qualifications for Admission

Subject to the conditions stipulated in the Regulations, the following candidates are eligible to seek admission to the Ph.D. Programme

i.	Master's degree or a professional degree declared equivalent to the Master's degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent as per UGC regulations.
ii.	A person whose Master's dissertation has been evaluated and the viva-voce is pending may be admitted to the Ph.D. Programme but subject to completion of Master's degree before provisional admission to SVU Ph.D. Programmes.
iii.	Candidates possessing a Degree considered equivalent to Master's Degree of an Indian Institution, from a Foreign Educational Institution accredited by an Assessment and Accreditation Agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country for the purpose of assessing, accrediting or assuring quality and standards of educational institutions, shall be eligible for admission to Ph.D. Programme.
iv.	Candidates not having Master's degree but having research / work / professional experience or possessing post graduate diploma may appear for Ph.D. Entrance Examination of SVU subject to such candidates' need to apply separately to SVU for obtaining equivalence for Master's degree. The SVU will have final rights reserved to give such equivalence as per the regulations. Such candidates must possess an undergraduate degree with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent as per UGC regulations. The relaxation will be as per UGC norms from time to time.
v.	MUST have qualified the Ph.D. Entrance Examination and interview of SVU – mandatory eligibility criteria for all candidates.
vi.	Candidates exempted from appearing for Ph.D. Entrance Examination of SVU MUST fill the application form as per the schedule displayed on website. The exempted candidates need to pay the application processing fee .
vii.	A No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the employer in case of those who are working / employed for applying to Ph.D. Programme
viii.	If candidate wants to apply more than one subject then should submit separate / another application and need to pay the application processing fee per subject.

Somaiya Vidyavihar University

Eligibility at UG/PG Degree	
Branch of study at UG	Pali or any other subject
Branch of study at PG	Pali

Exemption Criteria for SVU Ph.D. Entrance Examination
Candidates who hold a JRF Fellowship with CSIR/UGC/ICAR/ ICMR and DBT examinations are exempted from appearing for Ph.D. entrance examination of SVU. For further details about exemption and category of students refer PhD regulation - Link However, the candidates who fulfil the above criteria MUST fill the application form as per the schedule displayed on the website along with necessary fees.

Pattern and syllabus of SVU Ph.D. Entrance Examination
The Ph.D and JRF Entrance examination will be common and will be at Somaiya Vidyavihar Campus, SVU, Vidyavihar, Mumbai -77 Pattern of entrance examination will be notified separately in due course of time

Syllabus for Entrance Examination

Unit I : Pali Language and literature, its history

1. Origin and homeland of Pali
2. Pali Grammar : Pali letters and declensions of nouns
3. Pali language and its main characteristics
4. History of Pali literature
5. Pali Canonical literature: Introduction to Sutta , Vinaya and Abhidhamma Literature

Unit II : History of Buddhism

1. Pali Chronicles : Dipavaṃsa, Mahāvaṃsa

Unit III : Pali Post canonical literature :

1. Aṭṭhakathā literature : works of Buddhaghosa, Dhammapala and Buddhaddatta
2. Milindapañha : Paññattipañho
3. Visuddhimaggo: Samādhiniddeso
4. Introduction to Pali Poetical literature

Unit IV : Life and teachings of the Buddha

1. Life of Buddha: Mahāparinibbānasutta, Dhammacakkapavattana Sutta, Ariyapariyesana Sutta
2. Teachings of Buddha : Four Noble truths, The Noble Eight fold path, Doctrine of kamma, Sīla, Samādhī, Paññā, The concept of Nibbāna, Brahmavihāra, Paṭiccasamuppāda, Tilakkhaṇa, Paramitā
3. Technical terms in Pali Abhidhamma: Citta, cetasika, rūpa, nibbāna, dhātu

Unit V : Buddhist Councils :

1. First Buddhist council, Second Buddhist council, Third Buddhist council

Documents Required	
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| 1. | UG Degree or equivalent Mark List |
| 2. | UG Degree certificate |
| 3. | PG Degree or equivalent Mark List |
| 4. | PG Degree or equivalent certificate |
| 5. | AADHAR card |
| 6. | Degree equivalence / eligibility certificate – wherever is applicable |
| 7. | Migration certificate |
| 8. | Two colour passport size Photograph |
| 9. | If appearing the PG degree examination – bonafide certificate |
| 10. | If employed, then No Objection from the employer |

Important Links

Tentative Timeline / Steps adapted for Ph.D. Programme - Link Fee Structure of Ph.D. Programme - Link Guidelines for Payment of Fees a Refund – Link About course work - Link
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Process of getting the documents submitted return
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After verifications of documents, within 7 days, documents will be returned back to students.

Contact

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