Conference Overview

- **Conference** 18th Sakyadhita International Conference 2023
- **Theme** Living in a Precarious World: Impermanence, Resilience, Awakening
- **Period** June 23–27, 2023 (Post-conference Tour: June 28–30)
- **Venue** COEX, Bongeunsa Temple, Korean Bhiksuni Association Center
- **Website** https://sakyadhita2023.kr/en

Registration

How to Register

Online registration can be done on our official website (https://sakyadhita2023.kr/en) which will be made available from January 19, 2023.

Sign-up/Login → Registration → Payment → Confirmation

Registration Fee

Type	Early Registration Jan.19-Apr.23	Registration Apr.24-May.31	Late Registration Jun.1-27, 2023
Monastic	USD 100	USD 130	USD 150
Layperson	USD 200	USD 250	USD 280
Post-conference Tour		USD 100	

***The registration fees cover** conference package, official ceremonies and social programs, breakfast, lunch and coffee & tea

Post-conference Tour (Temple Pilgrimage)

- **Period** June 28-30, 2023
- **Sites** Woljeongsa, Baekdamsa, Naksansa Temple

With a history of Buddhism that spans almost two millennia, Korea is home to many temples where the beauty of nature meets rich and ancient traditions. The post-conference tour will provide participants with a special opportunity to participate in a 3-day pilgrimage to some of Korea's most iconic and beautiful temples such as Woljeongsa, Baekdamsa, and Naksansa. Baekdamsa Temple in particular will be open to us exclusively for two nights, where participants will be able to rest and meditate surrounded by nature, all the while fostering friendly conversations in between.

Program at a Glance

	June 23 (Fri)	June 24 (Sat)	June 25 (Sun)	June 26 (Mon)	June 27 (Tue)
6:30–7:00		Meditation			
7:30–8:00		Breakfast			
9:00–9:30		Papers 1	Papers 3	Papers 4	Papers 5
10:00–12:30	Meditations of the World; Registration	Lunch			
13:00–14:30		Papers 2	Workshops 2	Workshops 4	Papers 6
15:00		Tea Break			
15:30–17:30		Workshops 1	Workshops 3	Workshops 5; Poster Presentation	Focus Groups & General Meeting
16:30–17:30	Opening Ceremony	Chanting			Closing Ceremony
18:00–19:00	Welcome Reception				
19:30–20:00	Lantern Parade	Dharma Talk	Cultural Performance	Night City Tour	

Inquiries

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18th SAKYADHITA SEOUL 2023 샤카디타 세계대회

"Living in a Precarious World: Impermanence, Resilience, Awakening"

18th Sakyadhita International Conference on Buddhist Women Seoul, 2023

June 23–27, 2023

COEX, Bongeunsa Temple,
Korean Bhiksuni Association Center,
Seoul, South Korea

Organized by Sakyadhita International Association of Buddhist Women

Hosted by 대한불교조계종 전국비구니회 · 샤카디타 코리아 샤카디타 세계불교여성협회 한국지부

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18th SAKYADHITA SEOUL 2023
샤카디타 세계대회

Welcome Message

It is my greatest pleasure to welcome you all to the 18th Sakyadhita International Conference, which will be held in Seoul for five days from June 23 to June 27, 2023. This international event, hosted jointly by the Korean Bhiksuni Association and Sakyadhita Korea, will feature various programs such as paper presentations, workshops, exhibitions, meditation, and cultural performances.

The theme of this year's conference is "Living in a Precarious World: Impermanence, Resilience, Awakening." It is painfully evident that the modern world and civilization can no longer protect us or guarantee everlasting happiness. The world has turned out to be truly impermanent. But recognizing the transience of our existence in such a precarious world is not enough. By realizing this impermanence, we can simultaneously perceive the perpetuity and boundlessness of time and space as well as rediscover that we are unique, invaluable beings in our own right. To do so, we must always remain attentive and insightful.

In this time of crisis and chaos, we would like to hold a celebration of insight and awareness here in Seoul, South Korea. We hope that women and *bhiksuni*s from all over the world will join us. Let us gather in harmony and take part in this nirvanic festivity together.

Bongak Sunim
President of the Korean Bhiksuni Association
Co-president of Sakyadhita Korea

About Seoul

We are proud to invite you to Seoul, the capital city of South Korea with more than 500 years of rich history. Once the capital of the Joseon dynasty (1392-1910), it has since expanded and changed greatly with the modern development of the country. Home to K-Pop, great food, and several UNESCO World Heritage Sites, you will be able to experience both the old and the new in this iconic city. Seoul is also well known for its highly efficient public transportation which greatly enhances the accessibility of the city's many attractions. With its extensive subway system, taxis, and many buses that run in between, you can reach the conference venue from virtually anywhere in the city.

Venue

COEX: Conference, Exhibition, Dharma Talk, and Cultural Performance

The COEX Convention Center has hosted some of Korea's most significant events, conferences and exhibitions. Onsite facilities include three five-star hotels, Asia's largest underground shopping mall, and a city airport terminal, ensuring that all business, entertainment and shopping needs can be met under one roof. Its capacity, precise business infrastructure and prime location are the key elements in selecting COEX as the conference and exhibition venue for the 18th Sakyadhita International Conference 2023. The Grand Ballroom on the first floor of COEX will also be the center of various activities throughout the conference, such as a special exhibition on the life of Buddhist nuns, traditional tea ceremonies, Buddhist film screenings, and art exhibitions.

Bongeunsa Teample: Morning Meditation, Breakfast & Lunch Venue

Situated in the city center next to COEX, Bongeunsa Temple is considered one of the largest Buddhist temples in Seoul along with Jogyesa Temple. Founded by State Preceptor Yeonhui during the Silla Dynasty, the temple has a rich history of more than 1,200 years. It is a very significant temple in the history of Korean Buddhism, having played a huge role in revitalizing Buddhism in the Joseon dynasty. Today, Bongeunsa Temple is actively involved with the local community and works to promote Korean culture both domestically and internationally through various programs such as Templestay.

Korean Bhiksuni Association Center

Beopryongsa Temple, located in the Korean Bhiksuni Association Center, is a site of practice and teaching not only for Buddhists but also for local residents. The grand Buddha Hall, Manbul-jeon (the Ten-Thousand Buddha Hall), is the pride of Beopryongsa Temple. The Jijang-jeon (Ksitigarbha Bodhisattva Shrine) and the Gwaneum-jeon (Avalokitêśvara Bodhisattva Shrine) can also be found in the same building. Shaped like a Prajna Dragon Ship majestically sailing towards the shore of enlightenment, the Korean Bhiksuni Association Center serves as the main headquarters for Korean *bhiksuni*s today.

Programs

Paper Sessions	• Buddhist Women of Korea • Gender Stereotypes and Impermanence • Seeking Awakening: Women's Ordination Past and Present • Pilgrimage, Practice, and Precarity • Applying the Buddha Dharma • Inspiring Resilient Figures
Workshops & Posters	
Meditations of the World	
Morning Meditation	
Evening Chanting	
Others	• Social Programs & Night City Tour • Dharma Talk • Lantern Parade

Accommodation

We at the 18th Sakyadhita Seoul 2023 are more than happy to assist with accommodations during your stay in Korea. Visiting monastics are eligible for a temple accommodation, which is completely free of charge.
There are Airbnbs near the conference venue starting from $20. We can also arrange homestays for those who are interested. If you would like to apply for any of these options, please contact us at housing@sakyadhita2023.kr.

Sakyadhita
International Association of Buddhist Women

Sakyadhita International

'Sakyadhita' means 'daughters of the Buddha.' The Sakyadhita International Association of Buddist Women was founded in 1987 in Bodh Gaya, India, with the aim of creating an environment in which female Buddhists around the world could learn and practice without discrimination. As the Association continues to gain prominence, its goals and areas of interest have expanded significantly. To discuss issues of common interest, Sakyadhita hosts an international conference every two years in a different country.

Sakyadhita Korea

Sakyadhita Korea is the Korean branch of Sakyadhita International established on July 17, 2013. It strives to realize a gender-equal Buddhism by fostering communication among female Buddhists around the world and enhancing female Buddhists' international leadership capabilities.
It is currently run by co-presidents Bongak Sunim, president of the Korean Bhiksuni Association, and Eun-su Cho, Professor of Philosophy at Seoul National University. Sakyadhita Korea actively engages in various activities, such as participating in international conferences, organizing the Global Empowerment Program (G.E.P.), and hosting the Sakyadhita Korea Forum.