

International Conference on Social Sciences in the Modern Era

21 - 23 February 2024

Birmingham, United Kingdom

Harmonizing Tradition and Progress: The Integration of Management Principles in Enriching Contemporary Buddhist Society

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Abstract

In today's dynamic world, the role of management is of utmost importance in achieving optimal outcomes while optimizing limited resources. This significance holds in conventional contexts and Buddhist society, encompassing monks and laypeople. As societal and economic challenges persist, management principles have evolved to address these issues. Early Buddhism laid the foundation for various concepts that the Buddha employed to realize the Dhamma and exercise effective control within the Buddhist community. Lack of awareness regarding spiritual development, rampant deforestation, challenges in establishing effective governance, and economic discrimination are salient global issues in the contemporary era. These issues, when left unaddressed, can give rise to war, environmental degradation, and poverty. This research aims to explore the practical application of these early Buddhist principles and practices in resolving the above contemporary challenges faced by Buddhist society. The study adopts qualitative data through content analysis which is written, electronic, and digital such as published and unpublished articles, journals, websites, YouTube, and some speeches. Buddhist spiritual development seeks to realize the universal human experience of suffering while simultaneously promoting global peace and harmony. In the Pali Canon, particularly in the teachings of the Buddha, guidance is provided on the protection of the environment, along with relevant ethical principles and codes to safeguard the well-being of future generations. The unequal distribution of goods and services, coupled with excessive consumption, stands as a primary underlying factor driving poverty. In conclusion, by embracing management knowledge, the Buddhist community can gain the ability to pursue their ultimate life goals effectively.



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The application of management principles in life instils discipline and virtue, thus facilitating the resolution of prevailing societal problems within this community. The study endeavours to bridge the gap between traditional spiritual practices and modern management approaches.

Keywords: Buddhist Society, Contemporary challenges, Global peace, Management principles, Material and spiritual dimensions