Digital Library and Museum of Buddhist Studies Supports Worldwide Buddhist Research

The NTU Center for Buddhist Studies was established in 1995 by Venerable Master Heng-ching Shih of the NTU Department of Philosophy. Among the center’s first projects was the creation of the Buddhist Studies Internet Database, which was designed as a repository for Buddhism research materials that could be accessed by scholars and researchers around the world. In 1999, the center, with the support of the university, teamed up with Dharma Drum Mountain to expand the content and functions of the site and renamed it the Digital Library and Museum of Buddhist Studies.

Presently sponsored by the NTU College of Liberal Arts, the DLMBS serves Buddhism research communities worldwide. The site has grown to contain 200,000 bibliographical records of books and research papers in 45 languages and 14 forms of media, 13,000 full-text research papers and books, 53 on-line research tools, a listing of 144 international institutes of Buddhist studies and 335 related links. The DLMBS has also acquired a number of digital Buddhist scriptures, including the Tripitaka, Taisho Tripitaka, Xuzangjing, Chien-Lung Tripitaka, Yongle Tripitaka, Tibetan Tripitaka and Pali Tipitaka. These features make the site one of the most comprehensive resources for Buddhist studies on the Internet.

Over the years, the DLMBS has received visitors from 192 countries. It currently draws an average of 120,000 visitors who access an average of 670,000 pages each month. This high degree of international visibility makes the DLMBS one of the most heavily used Buddhist studies websites in the world.

The English version of the DLMBS is located at http://buddhism.lib.ntu.edu.tw/BDLM/en/.

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