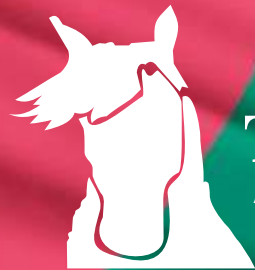


Let's Support and build **BANGLADESH**



The Buddhist Forum
A VOICE OF HARMONY

VISION

To enhance cultural ties and goodwill of Bangladesh with Asian countries and rest of world.

To bring more prosperity in Bangladesh.

To develop more peaceful and cultural ties with India.

MISSION

To promote the ancient Buddhist heritage sites of Bangladesh and generate economy with tourism plans.

WORLD TOURISM RANKING OF BANGLADESH

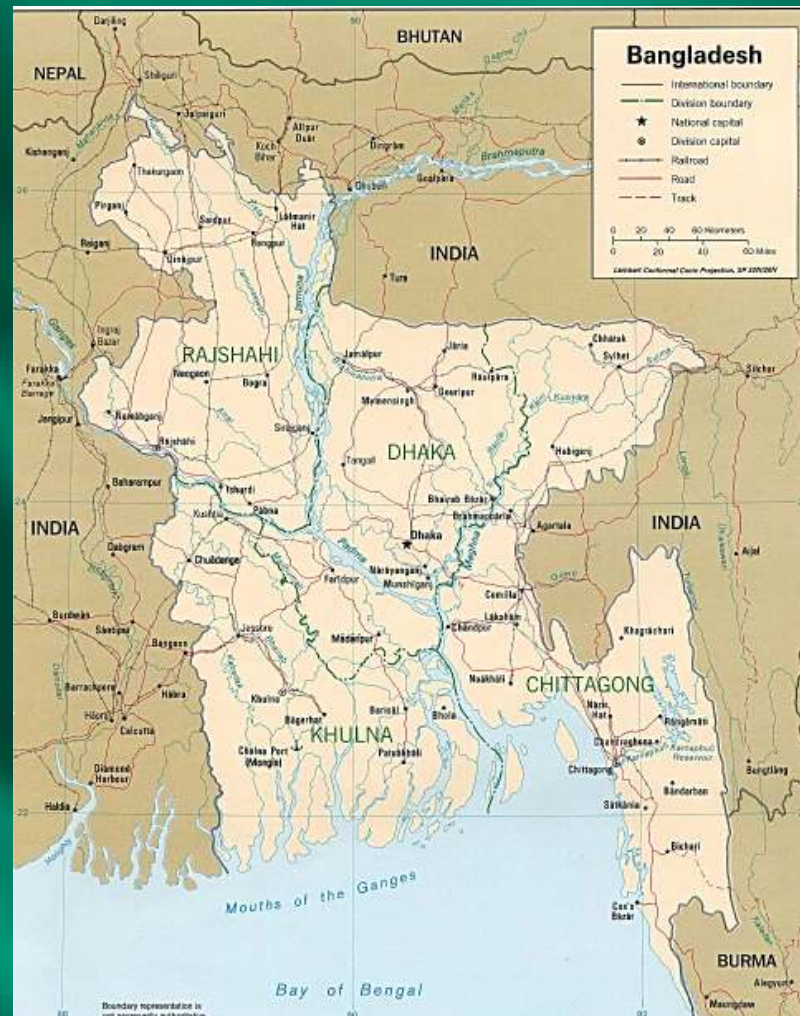
According to World Economic Forum, Geneva has prepared the report on “The Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Report 2011” Bangladesh is ranked on 129.

The TTCI 2011 Ranking

Rank (out of 138)	Country/Economy	Score (1-7)	Group*	Rank (out of 138)	Country/Economy	Score (1-7)	Group*
1	Switzerland	5.7	Schengen	71	Albania	4.0	
2	Germany	5.5	Schengen	72	Dominican Republic	4.0	Caribbean
3	France	5.4	Schengen	73	Georgia	4.0	
4	Austria	5.4	Schengen	74	Indonesia	4.0	ASEAN
5	Sweden	5.3	Schengen	75	Egypt	4.0	
6	United States	5.3		76	Macedonia, FYR	4.0	
7	United Kingdom	5.3		77	Colombia	3.9	
8	Spain	5.3	Schengen	78	Morocco	3.9	
9	Canada	5.3		79	Trinidad and Tobago	3.9	Caribbean
10	Singapore	5.2	ASEAN	80	Vietnam	3.9	ASEAN
11	Ireland	5.2	Schengen	81	Sri Lanka	3.9	SAARC
12	Hong Kong SAR	5.2		82	Serbia	3.9	
13	Australia	5.2		83	Azerbaijan	3.8	
14	Netherlands	5.1	Schengen	84	Namibia	3.8	
15	Luxembourg	5.1	Schengen	85	Ukraine	3.8	
16	Denmark	5.0	Schengen	86	Guatemala	3.8	
17	Finland	5.0	Schengen	87	Ecuador	3.8	
18	Portugal	5.0	Schengen	88	Honduras	3.8	
19	New Zealand	5.0		89	Cape Verde	3.8	
20	Norway	5.0	Schengen	90	Armenia	3.8	
21	Ireland	5.0		91	Botswana	3.7	
22	Japan	4.9		92	Gambia, The	3.7	
23	Belgium	4.9	Schengen	93	Kazakhstan	3.7	
24	Cyprus	4.9		94	Philippines	3.7	ASEAN
25	Estonia	4.9	Schengen	95	Kuwait	3.7	GCC
26	Malta	4.9	Schengen	96	El Salvador	3.7	
27	Italy	4.9	Schengen	97	Bosnia and Herzegovina	3.6	
28	Barbados	4.8	Caribbean	98	Guyana	3.6	Caribbean
29	Greece	4.8	Schengen	99	Moldova	3.6	
30	United Arab Emirates	4.8	GCC	100	Nicaragua	3.6	
31	Czech Republic	4.8	Schengen	101	Mongolia	3.6	
32	Korea, Rep.	4.7		102	Brunei	3.5	
33	Slovenia	4.6	Schengen	103	Kenya	3.5	
34	Croatia	4.6		104	Senegal	3.5	
35	Malaysia	4.6	ASEAN	105	Syria	3.5	
36	Montenegro	4.6		106	Venezuela	3.5	Caribbean
37	Taiwan, China	4.6		107	Kyrgyz Republic	3.4	
38	Hungary	4.5	Schengen	108	Ghana	3.4	
39	China	4.5		109	Cambodia	3.4	ASEAN
40	Bahrain	4.5	GCC	110	Tanzania	3.4	
41	Thailand	4.5	ASEAN	111	Zambia	3.4	
42	Qatar	4.4	GCC	112	Nepal	3.4	SAARC
43	Mexico	4.4		113	Algeria	3.4	
44	Costa Rica	4.4		114	Iran, Islamic rep.	3.4	
45	Puerto Rico	4.4	Caribbean	115	Uganda	3.4	
46	Israel	4.4		116	Swaziland	3.4	
47	Tunisia	4.4		117	Bolivia	3.3	
48	Bulgaria	4.4		118	Tajikistan	3.3	
49	Poland	4.4	Schengen	119	Zimbabwe	3.3	
50	Turkey	4.4		120	Benin	3.3	
51	Latvia	4.4	Schengen	121	Malawi	3.3	
52	Brazil	4.4		122	Ethiopia	3.3	
53	Mauritius	4.4		123	Paraguay	3.3	
54	Slovak Republic	4.4	Schengen	124	Libya	3.2	
55	Lithuania	4.3	Schengen	125	Pakistan	3.2	SAARC
56	Panama	4.3		126	Cameroun	3.2	
57	Chile	4.3		127	Madagascar	3.2	
58	Uruguay	4.2		128	Mozambique	3.2	
59	Russian Federation	4.2		129	Bangladesh	3.1	SAARC
60	Argentina	4.2		130	Nigeria	3.1	
61	Oman	4.2	GCC	131	Côte d'Ivoire	3.1	
62	Saudi Arabia	4.2	GCC	132	Burkina Faso	3.1	
63	Romania	4.2		133	Mali	3.0	
64	Jordan	4.1		134	Timor-Leste	3.0	
65	Jamaica	4.1	Caribbean	135	Lesotho	3.0	
66	South Africa	4.1		136	Mauritania	2.8	
67	Brunei Darussalam	4.1	ASEAN	137	Burundi	2.8	
68	India	4.1	SAARC	138	Angola	2.8	
69	Peru	4.0		139	Chad	2.6	
70	Lebanon	4.0					

HOW ANCIENT BUDDHIST SITES CAN BE BOON TO BANGLADESH

Bangladesh is known worldwide for its ancient remains of different civilizations. In today's contrast nearly all the all provinces of the Bangladesh have sufficient number of ancient Buddhist sites, which can give an edge in developing the tourism sector in all remote parts of provinces. Buddhist tourism circuits could be developed by linking the various ancient sites nationally and internationally. These efforts can enhance growth in rural tourism sector and can be helpful in boosting the local art and craft industry also.



Buddhism in Bangladesh

Buddhism as a religion grew out of the teachings of an historic individual, Siddhartha Gautama, who lived in the sixth century BCE in north-eastern part of South Asia. Bangladesh possesses a unique place in the history of Buddhism for two reasons: (i) it was the last stronghold of Buddhism where it survived as a socio-cultural force until the twelfth century CE, despite its disappearance from other parts of South Asia and (ii) Bangladesh was the home of Tantric Buddhism. Today, Buddhism is the third largest religion in Bangladesh with about 0.7% of population adhering to Theravada Buddhism. Most of the followers of Buddhism in Bangladesh live in the south-eastern region, especially in the districts of Comilla, Chittagong and Chittagong Hill Tracts. However, prior to the twelfth century CE Buddhism was able to prosper and flourish in all over Bangladesh under the royal patronage and remains of which can be seen scattered throughout the country. However, there are many archaeological mounds in Bangladesh that are not excavated and therefore we do not know at this stage how many of these are Buddhist. Nevertheless, some definite Buddhist sites are as follows:

It is high time to conduct detail research on the archaeological mounds of the northwest and southeast Bangladesh for understanding the history of Buddhism in Bangladesh.

All images & information has been provided by
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Buddhist Site At Naogaon Somapura Mahavihara



Location	: Village Badalgachi, Naogaon district, Bangladesh.
Situation	: Outside the village
Type of Structure	: Vihar (Monastery)
Period	: 8th century CE
Under Protection	: Department of Archaeology and Museums, Bangladesh

Present Situation

- (i) Extensive exploration and excavation required on the site.**
- (ii) Need of promotional and tourism plan.**
- (iii) Restoration work needed.**

Buddhist Site at Savar - Harish Chandra Rajar Bari



Location	:Savar, Dhaka, Bangladesh
Period	: 7th century CE
Type of Structure	: Stupa
Under Protection	: Department of Archaeology and Museums, Bangladesh

Present Situation

- (i)Extensive exploration and excavation required on the site.**
- (ii)Need of promotional and tourism plan.**
- (iii)Restoration work needed.**
- (iv)Fencing to provide security to the site.**

Buddhist Site at Bogra - Gokul Medh



Location : Mahasthan, Bogra, Bangladesh

Period :6th/7th century CE

Type of Structure : Stupa

Under Protection : Department of Archaeology and Museums, Bangladesh

Present Situation

- (i) Extensive exploration and excavation required on the site.
- (ii) Need of promotional and tourism plan.
- (iii) Restoration work needed.
- (iv) Fencing to provide security to the site.

Buddhist Site at Bogra - Bhasu Vihara



Location :- Village –Bhasu Bihar, Mahasthan, Bogra

Period :- 6th/7th century

Type of Structure :- Vihar (Monastery)

Under Protection :-Department of Archaeology and Museums,Bangladesh

Present Situation

(i)Extensive exploration and excavation required on the site.

(ii)Need of promotional and tourism plan.

(iii)Restoration work needed.

(iv)Fencing to provide security to the site.

Buddhist Site at Dinajpur - Sitakot Vihara



Location :- Nawabganj upazila, Dinajpur District

Period :- 6th/7th century

Type of Structure :- Vihar (Monastery)

Under Protection : Department of Archaeology and Museums, Bangladesh

Present Situation

- (i) Extensive exploration and excavation required on the site.
- (ii) Need of promotional and tourism plan.
- (iii) Restoration work needed.
- (iv) Fencing to provide security to the site.

Buddhist Site at Comilla - Salban Vihar



- Location** :- Salbon Vihara, Mainamati, Comilla
- Period** :- 6th century
- Type of Structure** :- Vihar (Monastery)
- Under Protection** :- Department of Archaeology and Museums, Bangladesh

Present Situation

- (i) Extensive exploration and excavation required on the site.
- (ii) Need of promotional and tourism plan.
- (iii) Restoration work needed.

Buddhist Site at Comilla - Rupban Mura



Location :- Rupban Mura, Mainamati, Comilla

Period :- 6th-7th century CE

Type of Structure:- Vihar (Monastery), stupa and cruciform temple

Under Protection : Department of Archaeology and Museums, Bangladesh

Present Situation

- (i) Extensive exploration and excavation required on the site.
- (ii) Need of promotional and tourism plan.
- (iii) Restoration work needed.
- (iv) Fencing to provide security to the site.

Buddhist Site at Comilla - Kotila Mura



Location :- Kotila Mura, Mainamati, Comilla

Period :- 7th century

Type of Structure :- Stupa

Under Protection : Department of Archaeology and Museums, Bangladesh

Present Situation

(i) Extensive exploration and excavation required on the site.

(ii) Need of promotional and tourism plan.

(iii) Restoration work needed.

Buddhist Site at Comilla - Ananda Vihara



Location :- Ananda Vihara, Mainamati, Comilla

Period :- 7th-8th century

Type of Structure :- Vihar (Monastery)

Under Protection :- Department of Archaeology and Museums, Bangladesh

Present Situation

(i) Extensive exploration and excavation required on the site.

(ii) Need of promotional and tourism plan.

(iii) Restoration work needed.

Buddhist Site at Comilla - Bhoja Vihara



Location :- Bhoja Vihara, Mainamati, Comilla

Period :- 8th century

Type of Structure :- Vihar (Monastery)

Under Protection :- Department of Archaeology and Museums, Bangladesh

Present Situation

(i) Extensive exploration and excavation required on the site.

(ii) Need of promotional and tourism plan.

(iii) Restoration work needed.

Buddhist Site at Comilla - Itakhola Mura



Location :- Itakhola Mura, Mainamati, Comilla

Period :- 7th-8th century

Type of Structure :- Vihar (Monastery) and stupa

Under Protection :- Department of Archaeology and Museums, Bangladesh

Present Situation

(i) Extensive exploration and excavation required on the site.

(ii) Need of promotional and tourism plan.

(iii) Restoration work needed.

Buddhist Site at Panchagarh



Location :- Bhitargarh, Panchagarh

Period :- 7th century

Type of Structure :- cruciform temple

Under Protection :- The site is not protected

Present Situation

(i) Extensive exploration and excavation required on the site.

(ii) Need of promotional and tourism plan.

(iii) Restoration work needed.

Buddhist Site at Bhitargarh



Location :- Bhitargarh, Panchagarh district.

Period :- 7th century

Type of Structure :- Stupa

Under Protection :- The site is not protected

Present Situation

(i) Extensive exploration and excavation required on the site.

(ii) Need of promotional and tourism plan.

(iii) Restoration work needed.

Ancient Buddhist sites in Bangladesh

North :	About 300 ancient Buddhist settlements
Southeast:	About 100 ancient Buddhist settlements
Southwest:	About 50 ancient Buddhist settlements
Center:	About 50 ancient Buddhist settlements
	Other areas are not explored.

In total more 500 ancient Buddhist sites exists in Bangladesh.

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Till now the forum has been able to gather support from elite personalities and organizations from 12 Nations.

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THANK YOU



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