



**Information seeking behavior of postgraduate research  
students engaged in Buddhist Studies in Universities of Sri  
Lanka.**

A thesis submitted

By

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## Abstract

This research explores the results of the study of how postgraduate research students seek information to write their theses. One hundred one (101) postgraduate students in Buddhist Studies who were registered for M.A. (by research), M. Phil. and Ph.D. in universities of Sri Lanka took part in the study as empirical research pillars.

The method involved a questionnaire to collect data both qualitative and quantitative and the students behavior is explored thorough the different angles. The overall response rate of the study was around 77 percent.

The results provided an insight into: students' information seeking behavior; the use of information resources to write the theses; their awareness of library services available to them; the usage of library and information services and the problems they encounter while seeking information for writing the thesis component.

In this study the information was collected on subject categories of postgraduate students' theses to identify the information seeking behavior. It was revealed that the highest a number of respondents were doing research related to Buddhist Philosophy and many students were unaware of the several services provided by the library and information centers for them. Especially CD- ROM searches, Internet access, and the inter-library loan facility were not known to them. A Number of postgraduates have commented on having a standard classification scheme for all universities for organizing Buddhist literature as very important.

Postgraduate students consider their information searching skills to be in a standard level for the successive completion of their research and leading to life long learning. Hence they are willing to be aware of resources and services.

The study makes certain recommendations that information seeking behavior of students could promote and give insight to the librarians to make new implementations and necessary adjustments with their existing systems to fulfill the information requirements of postgraduate students.

