

An Indian-Australian research partnership

**Project Title:**

**Project Number**

**Monash Main Supervisor**  
(Name, Email Id, Phone)  *Full name, Email*

**Monash Co-supervisor(s)**  
(Name, Email Id, Phone)

**Monash Head of Dept.**  
(Name,Email)  *Full name, email*

**Monash Department:**

**Monash ADRT**  
(Name,Email)  *Full name, email*

**IITB Main Supervisor**  
(Name, Email Id, Phone)  *Full name, Email*

**IITB Co-supervisor(s)**  
(Name, Email Id, Phone)

**IITB Head of Dept**  
(Name, Email, Phone)  *Full name, email*

**IITB Department:**

## Research Academy Themes:

**Highlight which of the Academy's Theme(s) this project will address?**

*(Feel free to nominate more than one. For more information, see [www.iitbmonash.org](http://www.iitbmonash.org))*

1. Advanced computational engineering, simulation and manufacture
2. Infrastructure Engineering
3. Clean Energy
4. Water
5. Nanotechnology
6. Biotechnology and Stem Cell Research
7. Humanities and social sciences

## The research problem

*Define the problem*

The theories on 'mind' in Buddhist philosophical traditions focuses on facets of mind that are familiar in Western philosophy of mind: namely intentionality and phenomenality. In this project we look at Abhidharma analyses of these notion specifically in the works of Vasubandhu, Dignaga and Dharmakirti to see whether they offer fresh insights to resolve intractable issues in contemporary philosophy of mind. Some of these insights are discussed in new books by Evan Thompson, Jonardon Ganeri and Jay Garfield. However, the project is innovative as it seeks to apply these insights to particular problems in contemporary philosophy of mind

Students wishing to write a PhD thesis on this project may want to focus on:

1. The hard problem.
2. Relation between Intentional and Phenomenal aspects of mental states
3. The role of cognitive and affective factors in the constitution of mental states.

## Project aims

*Define the aims of the project*

1. To propose an alternative insights into intractable problems in contemporary philosophy of mind from the point of view of Buddhist philosophy
2. To further the philosophical engagement between the east-west traditions.

## Expected outcomes

*Highlight the expected outcomes of the project*

1. Publication of a joint paper
2. PhD work of one or more Research Scholar.

## How will the project address the Goals of the above Themes?

*Describe how the project will address the goals of one or more of the 6 Themes listed above.*

- The proposed project will be led by the two researchers with matching specializations: philosophy of mind and Indian philosophy, particularly Buddhist philosophy.

## Capabilities and Degrees Required

*List the ideal set of capabilities that a student should have for this project. Feel free to be as specific or as general as you like. These capabilities will be input into the online application form and students who opt for this project will be required to show that they can demonstrate these capabilities.*

The Students/candidates will have completed a Masters in Philosophy or Cognitive Science with an excellent academic record.

## Potential Collaborators

Please visit the IITB website [www.iitb.ac.in](http://www.iitb.ac.in) OR Monash Website [www.monash.edu](http://www.monash.edu) to highlight some potential collaborators that

*would be best suited for the area of research you are intending to float.*

Professor C. D. Sebastian

Monima Chadha and C. D. Sebastian have been in communication with each other for the past one year in connection with the project.

Please provide a few key words relating to this project to make it easier for the students to apply.

**Contemporary Philosophy of Mind, Buddhist Philosophy of mind.**