

A STUDY OF ELECTRONIC RESOURCES FOR BUDDHIST STUDIES

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Electronic resources are two types. They are online e-resources and offline e-resources. An "electronic resource" is defined as any work encoded and made available for access through the use of a computer. It includes electronic data available by (1) remote access and (2) direct access (fixedmedia). In other words: Remote access (electronic resources) refers to the use of electronic resources via computer networks. (AACR2, 2002 edition; glossary) Off-line-resources are CD-Rom, Thipitaka -CD, Mettanet - CD, Dhammapada-CD, Diskettes, VCD/ DVD, e-card. Online e-resources are Institutional & Personal website, OPAC & web OPACS, Electronic Databases e-publications, e-books, e-journals, and e-prints-articles. There are Encyclopedias, full-text journals, Newspapers, company information, e-books economic data "digital images" industry profiles, market, Research, dictionaries in electronic resources. This study is on how to use electronic resources for Buddhist Studies. Information of Buddhism can be found from Chattasangāyanā CD, *Damma* CD and other *Dhamma* CD. Computer and internet facilities have been so familiar to the people. Therefore Buddhism can be studied without books. As a web page, Buddha Net covers all Buddhist resources. There are Buddhist manuscripts, *suttas*, jāthaka tales,

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online courses and rare books such as *Vimuttimaggā*. E – Library concept on web helps to reader every time to find and search Buddhist sources. Pali Canon and other important *Dhamma* books are available as PDF, e-books, and e- journals in web pages. Example: Buddhist studies virtual library, *Pāli* Text Society and *Vipassanā* Research Institute. These Libraries provide access to a variety of electronic books, as well as the other printed works (such as essays, poems, or historical documents). Some of these electronic books and texts are part of large, searchable databases. Electronic resources are very useful more than printed books and other printed publications as there are more capacity, cheap and quick access point.

Keywords: electronic resources, Buddhist studies, online resources, religion library, digital library