# Sutta Series - Style Guide for Main Text

## Pali

### General:

* Written as **Pali** – uppercase first letter, no diacritic marks, not-italic
* Proper Nouns (e.g. people, sutta names, places, etc.) – uppercase first letter, not-italic (Monks and nuns to be referred to as Ven. – e.g. Ven. Ānanda).
* Usually Pali words to be in italics without single quotes, so *avijjā* rather than ‘avijjā’ or *‘avijjā’*
* Hybrid or plural words such as *arahants* have full word in italics
* Dot always above the ṁ i.e. – **ṁ** rather than **ṃ**

### Pali words often left untranslated:

* Buddha – not-italic ; first-letter-uppercase;
* Dhamma – italic; first-letter-uppercase when used in places such as the phrase – Buddha, Dhamma, Saṅgha – otherwise case dependent on normal English rules.
* Saṅgha – (same as for Dhamma)
* Tathāgata – first-letter-uppercase; not-italic
* Sutta (& Suttas) – usually italic, case dependent on normal English rules; not-italic when used as part of a sutta name e.g Mahāparinibbāna Sutta
* Vinaya – italic, case dependent on normal English rules.
* Pāṭimokkha – italic, case dependent on normal English rules.
* Nikāya (& Nikāyas) – italic, case dependent on normal English rules.
* Uposatha – italic, case dependent on normal English rules.

## Our spellings of common words which have alternative spellings

* diarrhoea
* aeon
* emphasise, emphasised
* honour, honouring, etc.
* practice, practicing, etc.
* realise, realised, etc.

## Common translations (incl. correct case)

* Dependent Origination (always uppercase)
* Dependent Liberation (always uppercase)
* Eightfold Path (always uppercase)
* Four Noble Truths (always uppercase)
  + Noble Eightfold Path (always uppercase)
  + Right View (always uppercase)
  + Right Intention (always uppercase)
  + Right Speech (always uppercase)
  + Right Action (always uppercase)
  + Right Livelihood (always uppercase)
  + Right Effort (always uppercase)
  + Right Mindfulness (always uppercase)
  + Right Stillness (always uppercase)