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**The memories of Chinese Buddhist Scholars in connection with Nalanda Monastic International University in India in the 7<sup>th</sup> century AD**

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**Meeting:** 81. Rare Books and Manuscripts  
**Simultaneous Interpretation:** English, Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Russian and Spanish

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**Abstract:**

*Nalanda Monastic University had been flourished in India as a residential education center of Mahayana Buddhism during 5<sup>th</sup> century AD to 12<sup>th</sup> century AD. It attracted students not only from India but also from other Buddhist countries. The Chinese scholars, who stayed and studied there, had left an elaborate detailed description of the excellence of education and purity of monastic life practiced there, which contributed to the world knowledge of ancient universities. They revealed the inception of the monastery, royal patronage, methods of admission and education system, students and teachers, buildings etc. Most of their positions can be identified and proved by archeological excavations.*

During the past many Asian countries interacted with each other through peaceful means via religion, trade and political missions. The relationship between India and China can be traced back to very early times. The gradual spread of Buddhism into those areas was a further incentive for the development of this relationship.

As the result of this relationship, certain Chinese pilgrim monks travelled to India, with the objects of paying homage to Buddhist sacred places, learning from Indian Buddhist teachers and collecting of Buddhist scriptures. To fulfill their objectives they had been spent several years in India. Records of this intercourse were to be found in a large number of Chinese