



QSA NEWSLETTER

Sangha Samaggi Togetherness of the Buddhist Sangha

Queensland Sangha Association Inc

108 Eric Street, Goodna, Queensland 4300,
Australia.

Website: <http://www.sanghaqlld.org>

Email: <mailto:infoqsa@gmail.com>

ABN 56 506 052 172



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SHORT SAYINGS OF THE BUDDHA SELECTED FROM THE DHAMMAPADA (82)

Even as a deep lake is clear and still, even so on hearing the
teaching, the wise become extremely peaceful.



2021 VESAK FESTIVALS IN BRISBANE, GOLD COAST & CAIRNS

Sri Lanka Buddhist Monastery in Ellen Grove BRISBANE

The Sri Lanka Buddhist Monastery in Ellen Grove, Brisbane as usual celebrated Vesak in a big way with a series of activities. One such activity was a half day international conference on World Peace through Spirituality. This was held on the May Full Moon day 26 May 2021.

Many members of the Sangha including a few from Sri Lanka and from other countries together with dignitaries from other religions, were present and gave speeches. Speeches were printed and published as a report on the conference. Government assistance had been received for the conference.

The report included a short article written by Mr. Rahubadde Sarath-Chandra, Executive Secretary of the Queensland Sangha Association Inc.

A large gathering (as allowed under Covid rules) was present. Venerable Wattegama Dhammawasa, chief incumbent of the Sri Lanka Buddhist Monastery (Brisbane) received the invitees and commenced the conference.

All present were given lunch at the conclusion.

Gold Coast Buddhist Centre GOLD COAST

A Multi-Cultural festival was held on 29 May 2021 in celebration of Vesak, at the Robina Community Centre, Gold Coast, Queensland.

The festival was organised by the Gold Coast Buddhist Association Inc. It was a two hour program tightly set, including a series of speeches and cultural items presented by Sri Lankan and Thai groups.

The Queensland Sangha Association Inc lent its support in many ways. Among the speakers were Venerable Thubten, chairperson of the

Australian Sangha Association Inc, Reverend James Wilson, President of the Queensland Sangha Association Inc, Venerable Tseten, President of the Buddhist Education Services for Schools Inc, and government representatives.

From QSA, Rahubadde Sarath-Chandra, Tanuja Sarath-Chandra, Lyna Chen and Petra Depalo, among others were present.

Mahamuni Buddhist Centre (Burmese traditions) CAIRNS

Vesak in July 2021 event

Contact: Banyar Paing – 040 226 2667 – for details



General Qualifying Course in Buddhist Chaplaincy Ninth repetition – June/July 2021

The ninth batch has started. It is expected to be completed on 11 July 2021.

INTRODUCING BUDDHIST CHAPLAINCY FOR YOUTH

SOME NOVEL CONCEPTS

A new book on Buddhist Chaplaincy for youth will soon be published by the Queensland Sangha Association Inc. The book is written by Rahubadde Sarath-Chandra, who previously wrote the first book on Buddhist Chaplaincy (being used currently as the text book for General Qualifying Course in the Buddhist Chaplaincy) and Tanuja Yasanga Sarath-Chandra.

Appendix 6 of the new book is reproduced below to give readers an idea of the background of the course.

The book is full of methods for communicating the thinking in Buddhism in a practical way to help young people to learn Buddhist principles through group work, field work, research, and other interesting ways. The book is ideal for parents having children in high school and tertiary institutions.

The book also includes a suggestion for a training course to equip Dhamma Teachers, Buddhist Chaplains and the Sangha in new methods of Dhamma communication.

Pre-publication Exposure of Appendix 6 of the book “Buddhist Chaplaincy for Youth”

Information for Parents and Youth Chaplains about this book.

According to the census conducted in 2020 Australia is home to a diverse collection of people. The following statistics regarding religions are interesting:

Islam	600,000
Buddhist	560,000
Hindu	440,000
Sikhism	130,000
Judaism	90,000

It is worth noting that Buddhists and Hindus have many shared values. A few Hindu children are known to attend Buddhist Dhamma schools. The total of adherents of both religions total to one million. Because there are 560,000 Buddhists, they have responsibilities as a prominent section of the population. One of these is the proper education of Buddhist children and young adults.

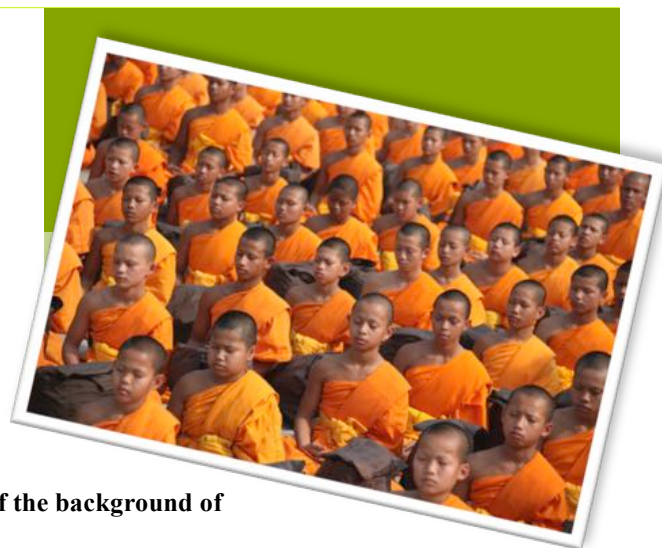
General education at primary level is the

responsibility of government. Regarding secondary education, there are no Buddhist secondary schools. For tertiary education Buddhists have the Nan Tien Institute, at the university level.

There is a special need at ages from about 12 years to about 30 years. Young adults up to about thirty years will benefit by learning the paratactical applications of Buddhist principles. A Buddhist youth chaplaincy service, working with the help of temples and Dhamma teachers is the answer. This book attempts to promote such a service.

The service will be conducted through practical learning rather than academic learning. Academic learning imparted in temples is assumed as a working basis. It will be suitable for both Buddhists and Hindus.

Although both authors belong to Theravada, the tasks suggested in chapters 5, 6 and 7 are adaptable to Chinese Mahayana and Tibetan



Mahayana traditions. Principles used in the book are common to all traditions. The commonality will be brought out in the youth chaplaincy training programs.

This new direction, it is hoped, will create a powerful young generation of Buddhist youth. It would greatly benefit Australia. Input from parents, Sangha and Dhamma teachers is most welcome.

The programs are adaptable to all countries where Buddhism is practised. An extension to all countries is envisaged. It can be easily adapted for Hindus.

The support of monks and nuns, temples and monasteries, Buddhist associations, Buddhist Councils, other Buddhist organisations, Buddhist chaplains, Dhamma teachers and parents is earnestly solicited in this movement in the interests of young people and Buddhism as a whole.

A NEW COURSE IN SPECIALISED BUDDHIST CHAPLAINCY**INTRODUCTION TO HOSPITAL AND
END OF LIFE CHAPLAINCY COURSE**

(100 Hours)

This new chaplaincy course aims to provide some basic tools to guide those who are interested in – or already engaged in - chaplaincy in hospitals, hospices, aged care and home care contexts.

The topics to be covered include:

- Identifying and assessing needs for chaplaincy services
- Models and limits of chaplaincy in hospitals, hospices, aged care and home contexts
- End of life practice
- Aging
- Cultivating Presence - communication skills for chaplains
- differences and sensitivities in the Queensland community (culture, race, gender, sexuality, etc); differences within Buddhist communities in Queensland
- Buddhist and Inter-Faith rituals for supporting people who are ill, aging, dying and bereaved; Buddhist approaches to end of life and death
- self-care for chaplains.

This course will involve 20 hours of class attendance (9am to 1pm) in Brisbane on the following dates: September 12, September 19, September 26, October 17 and October 24.

In addition, students will be required to complete at least 80 hours of additional work including: reading in preparation for class discussion, practicing communication skills, internet research, keeping a reflective journal, writing a personal/spiritual biography, writing a short review of an assigned book, and completion of a final exam.

Entry Requirements for Buddhist Chaplaincy 102:

- Completion of the Queensland Sangha Association's Qualifying Course in Buddhist Chaplaincy or equivalent. See <https://www.sanghaql.org/>
- a good level of written and

spoken English. The course includes reading and discussion of English-language texts (some of which may be quite challenging) as well as written assignments. However, additional support is available for students for whom English is a second language.

For the full information package about this course – including how to apply for enrolment please email Dr Barbara Sullivan at barbara.sullivan4005@gmail.com



BUDDHIST FORUM (3) PATHWAY TO NIBBANA IN ENGLISH

Session 15 and 16 ON ASPECTS OF MINDFULNESS

Sessions 15 and 16 on mindfulness were held on two Sunday afternoons (6th and 20th 2021) under the guidance of Venerable Brisbane Dhammarakkhita. The talks in June dealt with Cittanupassana (mindfulness of the mind).

Sessions are held on Sundays from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm on alternate Sundays at the Sri Lanka Buddhist Monastery at 114 Considine Road, Ellen Grove, Queensland 4077. The sessions are also broadcast on ZOOM. June 2021 and records are kept for reference.

The ZOOM entry codes are given below:

Use the link below or the Meeting ID and password.

Meeting ID: 831 3800 2308

Password 043871

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83138002308?pwd=L3hyWU5TS3V5eVhkS0orU3Q1d3luUT09>

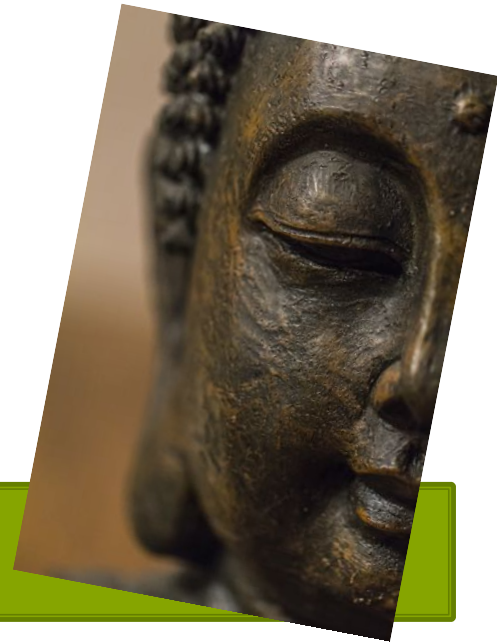
The previous recordings from the discussion can be accessed here:

https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLiOuupX6UQZbRKQNHXq8_wk13_uK30pl

Venerable Dhammarakkhita conducts several other programs similar to this at the temple in Ellen Grove. Please note that this program is in ENGLISH.

No fees are charged from participants.

Each session includes 45 minutes of sitting meditation, 45 minutes of walking meditation, about 60 minutes for a talk followed by questions and answers. The talks are based on a plan and form a graded sequence.



BUDDHIST FORUM 04-REQUESTED TOPICS

Session 3 was held on 24 June 2021, Full Moon Day

Buddhist Forum 04 session 3 was held on Full Moon day of June 24 June 2021. The topic was the thirty-seven factors of enlightenment (Bodhi Pakkhiya Dhamma) Part (2). A brief reference was made to the qualities of a stream-winner (Sotapanna). The value of practising on the Path regardless of the possible results of the practice was also discussed.

The full script of the session had already been issued to participants for study and comment. Notes for the introductory discussions were also issued prior to the meeting.

The ZOOM medium was used. The presentation was made by Tanuja Yasanga Sarath-Chandra, Buddhist Chaplain and discussions were led by Rahubadde Sarath-Chandra, Buddhist Chaplain.

The ZOOM record of the Forum can be made available to anyone interested, for a limited time.

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BUDDHIST FORUM 04 continue ...

To enter the forum please use the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6043658907>

In case of a problem please email infoqsa@gmail.com and wait for a little for response. The email needs to reach us as early as possible.

Topics for future discussions also can be proposed by readers of this newsletter. A few topics have been requested but there is room for more. It will be easy to pick topics from the list titled The Path to Nibbana, which can be obtained from QSA by emailing via infoqsa@gmail.com.

If you are not a current participant, please join by emailing us. The choice of the medium of delivery will depend on the registered participants. The current group is entirely Sinhalese (able to speak both Sinhala and English) but we can change over to English at the request of one or more participants.



VACANCY: THE POSITION OF DEPUTY SECRETARY (2) OF QSA NEEDS TO BE FILLED

Lyna Chen from the Chung Tian Temple has been appointed by the committee as the Deputy Secretary (1) of QSA. The position of Deputy Secretary (2) continues to be vacant. Some management skills are necessary.

Acknowledgements:

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You are welcome to forward this newsletter to a friend who is likely to benefit.

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<http://www.sanghaqlld.org/index.php/activities/current>

To unsubscribe from or subscribe to this newsletter, please kindly advise QSA via <mailto:infoqsa@gmail.com>.

This newsletter is issued by
President of QSA, Reverend James Wilson

Queensland Sangha Association Inc

An incorporated association of Buddhist monks and nuns in Queensland, Australia. Est. 2007

108 Eric Street
Goodna
Queensland 4300
Australia