

Queensland Sangha Association Inc

SIDDHARTHA INSTITUTE OF BUDDHISM

DIPLOMA COURSE IN BUDDHIST CHAPLAINCY

COURSE NUMBER SN-001-DELIVERY 5 OF PARTS 1 AND 2

COURSE INFORMATION (2017)(DATES AMENDED ON 26 JANUARY 2017)

1 COURSE STRUCTURE

Part (1) consists of 24 lectures covering the basic process of chaplaincy and selections from Buddhism supporting that process. Part time 6 months

Part (2) consists of 24 lectures covering more advanced Buddhist Chaplaincy processes. Part time 6 months

Part (3) covers a series of seminars dealing with applications of the theory, methods and techniques discussed in part 2 above. Part time 6 months

Part (4) comprises practical experience with guidance and supervision. Occasional 6 months

2 PRE-REQUISITES

Completion of year 12 in school or equivalent, or a higher qualification

3 LEVEL OF DELIVERY

The level of delivery generally corresponds to college training for a Diploma. Parts 2 and 3 may reach higher levels of delivery.

4 CERTIFICATES AWARDED

Certificates of participation may be awarded on completion of each part. When part 1 is completed, one may apply to be registered as a Buddhist Chaplain with the Queensland Sangha Association Inc. After part 4, a Diploma Certificate in Buddhist Chaplaincy may be awarded.

5 METHOD OF DELIVERY

The printed book "Buddhist Chaplaincy by Rahubadde Sarath-Chandra" is used as the text book for parts 1 and 2 of the course. Free copies are available for distribution. The book is also available as an e-book and is in the Resources Menu of the website www.sanghaqld.org

Each month four units are covered and an assignment issued by email covering those units. Participants will read the units and any other recommended material as directed and submit answers to the assignment. The classes afford an opportunity for participants to clear doubts, question about details, make comments, and present alternative points of view about the content of lessons and so on. Participants may have limited communications with the lecturers either face to face or via email infoqsa@gmail.com

(Part 3 covers simple applications of the material taught in part 2. Part 4 is practical experience in consultations.)

Once a month participants in parts 1 and 2 have the option of attending a class taking 3 to 4 hours. A tele-conference may be conducted in parallel with the face to face class. The class is an opportunity to clarify difficult or controversial points, and to discuss matters with the lecturers.

The class also provides an opportunity to put together any differences of opinion held by adherents of different traditions or schools of Buddhism such as Theravada and Mahayana.

6 TIME TABLE AND VENUE

Monthly optional face to face classes will be held on the second Saturday of each month beginning in February 2017. The venue is the lecture rooms in the Thai Temple at 1 Paradise Road, Forestdale, Queensland 4118. These are in the front building. Classes begin at 9.30 a.m. and finish before 12.00 noon. These are subject to change.

The starting date is 11 February 2017 and any changes in the date in the following months will be notified to registered participants.

7 ESSENTIAL RESOURCES

The book titled "Buddhist Chaplaincy" by Rahu Sarath-Chandra is used as the text book. Each participant can have a copy on the first day. An e-copy of the book is on the Website of the Queensland Sangha Association Inc. www.sanghaqlld.org Please look under the Resources Menu.

Each of the first two parts takes about six months.

8 TEACHING STAFF

Teaching staff is as appointed by the Academic Council of Siddhartha Institute of Buddhism. Qualifications expected of lecturers are on par with qualifications expected of lecturers in universities. Exceptions if any are made by the Academic Council.

The following have been listed to function as Lecturers for Parts 1 and 2. There may be a few others nominated later on.

- 1 Venerable Lozang Drolkar who holds a degree in ethics etc with distinction
- 2 Mr. Ruwan Wathukarage who holds a Masters Degree in Law and is a solicitor in Queensland
- 3 Mr. Rahu Sarath-Chandra who holds several degrees including one in law, and other qualifications and is the author of the book 'Buddhist Chaplaincy' the text book for this course and other books. He has a diploma in Buddhism and is an experienced Dhamma teacher
- 4 Mr. Tanuja Y. Sarath-Chandra who holds two Masters Degrees and has completed this course is a Buddhist Chaplain. He holds a diploma in Buddhist Philosophy and Psychology

All members of the teaching staff have completed Parts 1 and 2 of the QSA Buddhist Chaplaincy Course; some have functioned as lecturers in the course before. All are Buddhist Chaplains registered with QSA.

9 BENEFITS OF FOLLOWING THE COURSE

The course is not recognised as a qualification for any specific type of employment. However completion of the course may be well regarded in certain types of employment or engagement such as school chaplaincy and university chaplaincy.

The value of the course is that it equips a person to guide his or her own life and to serve the community as a Buddhist Chaplain. Some specific benefits are listed below.

10 GENERAL BENEFITS OF STUDYING BUDDHIST CHAPLAINCY

The Buddhist Chaplaincy course will provide many pathways and opportunities to lead a happy and successful life here and now.

There are always ups and downs in life and sometimes we find it difficult to cope with them. This course enables the participants to develop effective coping mechanisms.

Mindfulness is a key underlying subject in the course. Without proper mindfulness life can become miserable. With mindfulness we can achieve higher levels of success in life generally, in family life, at work and in the community.

Mindfulness opens the door to high levels of spirituality, regardless of faith.

After part 1 of the course one can seek to become a Buddhist Chaplain and render compassionate services to others in need just privately or in an organised manner.

This leads to a path of purity, positivity and wholesomeness.

All this can be done while we do studies, while we work or run businesses and while we look after our spouses and children.

As a Buddhist Chaplain we come to associate with a whole new world of noble fiends.

Once you get the basics right in the course we can also step on to parts 3 and 4 of the extended course. First we can learn about mental ailments and remedies afforded by mindfulness and then we can learn how to achieve inner peace in general.

11 COURSE FEES AND DONATIONS

Fees will not be charged for this course. In the past, participants have made voluntary donations that have helped the organisation to continue its commitment to further education and training services as well as to render Buddhist chaplaincy services to the community.

When making a donation please always send a brief email to infoqsa@gmail.com

The bank particulars are given below:

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|------------------------|---|
| Name of account | Queensland Sangha Association Inc |
| Bank name | Heritage Bank |
| Branch name | Forest Lake |
| Address of Bank | Forest Lake Shopping Centre, Forest Lake Boulevard, Forest Lake, Qld. 4078 |
| BSB number | 638-070 |
| Account number | 1159-2818 |

12 HOW TO REGISTER FOR THE COURSE

You can send a brief email expressing your interest to follow the course SN-001 on Buddhist Chaplaincy to the following address:

infoqsa@gmail.com

You need to give your full name, email address, postal address, town/city and suburb where you live and telephone land line and mobile phone.

13 BACKGROUND INFORMATION ABOUT THE SIDDHARTHA INSTITUTE OF BUDDHISM

Please refer to the general prospectus of SIB. This appears under the list of documents at the end of Educational Services.

[THE END OF THE INFORMATION PACK AS APPROVED ON 1 JANUARY 2017, AMENDED ON 26 JANUARY 2017]