

HAPPINESS THE BUDDHIST WAY

QSA NEWSLETTER

Sangha Samaggi Togetherness of the Buddhist Sangha

Published by the Queensland Sangha Association Inc

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

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30 DECEMBER 2023 NUMBER 126

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SHORT SAYINGS OF THE BUDDHA SELECTED FROM THE DHAMMAPADA (114)

DHAMMAPADA STANZA 114

Though one should live a hundred years without perceiving the deathless state, yet better indeed is a single day's life of one who perceives the deathless state.

MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF BUDDHIST COUNSELLORS (ABC) HELD ON 26 NOVEMBER 2023

A meeting of the Assembly of Buddhist Counsellors (ABC) was held on 26 November 2023 with the Chairman of ABC, Venerable Kotte Santindriya presiding for the first time.

A few of the decisions made at the meeting are given here.

- 1 It was noted that the position of registrar of the division was vacant.
- The publication of the series of 12 Dhamma books for grades 1 to 12 will proceed as planned. It was noticed that the publication of books for grades 1 to 5 is to be completed by the end of 2023.
- 3 The contribution made by a fair group of Buddhist counsellors in writing and editing of books was appreciated.

FREE BOOKS AVAILABLE in writing, editing

PRINTED BOOKS (available in some temples)

- 1 Buddhist Chaplaincy, 182 Pages in size A4 (copies available)
- 2 Buddhist Psychology-the building blocks, First edition, 168 pages in size A5 (only a few copies available)

ELECTRONIC BOOKS (that can be emailed on request)

1 The Buddhist Way to Happiness (English) (Maha Mangala Sutta)

- 85 pages a4
- The Buddhist Way to Happiness (Sinhala) (Maha Mangala Sutta), 91 pages A4
- 3 Practical Techniques of Teaching Buddhism to Youth, 185 pages A4
- 4 Basic Buddhist Psychology-second revised edition, 152 pages A5
- 5 Buddhist Chaplaincy, 182 pages A4
- 6 Q and A for students in grades 11 and 12, 55 pages A4
- 7 Buddha Dhamma book for Grade 1

ELECTRONIC BOOKS (that are partly in website sanghaqld.org or can be emailed on request)

- 1 Lessons Bank 1, on selected Discourses, 130 Pages A4
- 2 Lessons Bank 2, on Meditation, 50 pages A4
- 3 Lessons Bank 3, on Buddha Dhamma, 105 pages A4
- 4 Lessons Bank 4, on Buddhist Psychology and Philosophy, 58 pages A4
- 5 Lessons Bank 5, on Dhamma Practice, 48 pages A4

Alphabetical Index to all 5 lesson banks (not on website yet) Curriculum related to the lesson banks, (not on website yet) Booklet on Teaching Techniques suggested (not on website yet)

Please email Queensland Sangha Association via email infoqsa@gmail.com

A series of twelve Buddha Dhamma books for Grades 1 to 12 are under preparation and are nearing completion. The books for Grades 1 to 3 have just been published. A team of Buddhist Counsellors enrolled with QSA are working on this project. The idea is to depart from tradition, and to make things easier for teachers as well as children. Enjoyable activities that indirectly impart deep Dhamma knowledge form the main component. Art and cultural activities get pride of place in the lower age groups.

The books for Grades 4 and 5 are the next to be published.

DONATIONS TO QSA

A series of donations were made by participants in the Introductory Training Course in Buddhist Chaplaincy completed in December 2023. These are gratefully acknowledged.

QSA runs on donations. Donations can be made through our bank account.

Heritage Bank BSB: 638-070

Account number: 11592818

Account Name: Queensland Sangha Association

Please use your name as the payment reference and send an email with the

payment details and your name to infoqsa@gmail.com

DHAMMA QUERIES ZOOM CHANNEL

Our ZOOM link will be activated when requested. Anyone may make comments or raise questions on a one-to-one basis with a senior Buddhist counsellor free of charge. Book your time by sending an email via infoqsa@gmail.com

The ZOOM link will be sent to you in reply. If you like, in the email itself, you can make your comment or raise the question briefly; we can discuss details later.

VOLANTEER POSITION AVAILABLE IN THE BUDDHIST COUNSELLORS DIVISION

Volunteers are invited to enquire about the position of Registrar of the division. The registrar will be responsible for the administration of the division, keeping records and for maintaining relations with the other divisions of QSA. The registrar will also provide help to the chairman of the division.

It is not necessary to be a Buddhist counsellor currently.

A formal application is not required. Please indicate your interest by email via infoqsa@gmail.com. If you would like to speak to a senior in QSA this can be arranged.

POSITIONS IN THE BUDDHIST CHAPLAINCY DIVISION

Four new positions are available for Buddhist chaplains. Each position will function as the leader of a specialised section of the division. The four sections are as follows:

Hospital chaplaincy

Prison chaplaincy

Military chaplaincy

Community chaplaincy

The applicants must be QSA Buddhist chaplains, or have completed the introductory course in Buddhist Chaplaincy, or are monks or nuns of any tradition with an interest in the particular field.

The closing date is 30 January 2024. Because of the holiday season, late applications will be entertained.

The section heads will create interest in the service among current Buddhist Chaplains as well as those who aspire to become Buddhist Chaplains. They will also maintain relations with other Buddhist Chaplains, and guide and help them.

Applications can be made by email addressed to infoqsa@gmail.com.

EXPLORING NEW SCOPE FOR BUDDHIST CHAPLAINCY SERVICES

The advisory board of the QSA Buddhist chaplaincy division discussed the need for chaplaincy services in new areas such as Emergency relief chaplaincy, Aged Care chaplaincy, Palliative Care chaplaincy, and university chaplaincy. While services provided by various agencies were appreciated, there was a continuing need for more people to be involved in these areas.

Readers who are interested in these areas are requested to inform QSA via email **infoqsa@gmail.com**.

People who have some experience in visiting aged care centers or working in them, would have observed the dire need for help to elderly persons. A beginning can be made by volunteers. Hours of service can be arranged by negotiation.

University students at their age need help to deal with common experiences; volunteers who are familiar with Buddhism can be of help. Hours of service can be arranged by negotiation.

MANAGEMENT OF QSA

QSA is in its seventeenth year since inception in 2006. Committee meeting 56 was held recently. The committee is supported by about 22 executives performing various functions such as finacial management, information technology, chaplaincy services, education and publications. There are many other helpers too.

There are advisors in a few divisions. The Buddhist Chaplaincy Services Board, Buddhist Counsellors Co-ordination Board, and the Buddhist Publications Advisory Board need special mention as they help the executives with advise.

A group of Buddhist Chaplains is working with QSA. A smaller group of Buddhist Counsellors, about 30 of them also work with QSA. The total of volunteers now exceeds 110.

Published by Reverend James Wilson, the president of the Queensland Sangha Association Inc, on 30 December 2023.

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If you want a friend to see this newsletter, please let us know.