

QSA NEWSLETTER

Sangha Samaggi Togetherness of the Sangha

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SHORT SAYINGS OF THE BUDDHA

Mind is the forerunner of all evil states, mind is chief and mind-made are they. If one speaks or acts with a wicked mind, because of that suffering follows one, even as the wheel (of the cart) follows the hoof of the draught ox.

Mind is the forerunner of all good states, mind is chief and mind-made are they. If one speaks or acts with a pure mind, because of that happiness follows one, even as one's shadow that never leaves.

Dhammapada stanzas 1 and 2

PRESIDENT ON PILGRIMAGE TO TEMPLES

The new president Reverend James Wilson has started building relationships and rapport with individual temples and the members of the Sangha by visiting them and discussing matters of interest.

On Wednesday, June 9 the President of the Queensland Sangha Assn. had the pleasure of visiting the Amitabha Buddhist Association of Queensland. It is situated at 11 Toona Place, Calamvale. Established in June 1995, its spiritual teacher is Venerable Master Chin Kung AM. He is also the president of the Pure Land Learning College in Toowoomba. In 2005, his service to the Buddhist community in Queensland was recognized by Queen Elizabeth II who appointed him as a member in the General Division of the Order of Australia.

Some of the objectives of the AMTB QLD include providing a centre for people to learn and practice Buddhism, in particular, the Pure Land School of the Mahayana tradition. Another objective is to conduct activities to instil the Buddhist teachings of filial piety, compassion and wisdom in our children and youth so that they will grow up to be good Australian citizens. Furthermore, to promote multicultural understanding among different religious and ethnic groups is another objective.

Their activities include four seasonal Meditation Retreat sessions which last 49 days each. Also, there are chanting meditation sessions, Dharma talks and a variety of classes every week. Participants are provided free lunch and dinner every day. The centre also distributes free Dharma materials which are helpful to those who prefer to pursue personal studies at home.

The activities and classes are conducted in Chinese with a Vietnamese translation available. However, those from an English speaking background are welcome to participate. In fact, the President of the QSA doesn't speak Chinese but did not find this an impediment during his visit. This was in large part due to the kindness of Sharon Chu, from the temple administration whom he met at the reception.

If you are interested in visiting AMBT QLD, you can visit them at 11 Tooma Place, Calamvale or email them at enquiry@amtb-qld.org or phone them on 3273 1693 or 3088 2901.



A view from the entrance to the main building of the Amitabha Temple in Calamvale. Behind this building there is a large meditation hall. Those who are interested in joining in meditation are best advised to contact the temple in the first instance so as to avoid

disturbing meditation in progress. The entire temple premises are a serene and peaceful environment. On the right hand side of the compound the big buildings are residences for the members of the Sangha. These are not seen in the photograph of the entrance.

The reception area is almost visible from the main entrance to the temple. Below is a view inside the meditation hall.



Reverend James Wilson, president of the Queensland Sangha Association Inc with a visiting monk from Jodoshu Shin Shu from Japan at the Amitabha Temple

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON BUDDHISM FOR YEAR 12 STUDENTS AND OTHERS

Students in year 12 who do assessable assignments on Buddhism often refer questions to the Queensland Sangha Association in the expectation of finding reliable information. In the past most such requests have been accommodated

by qualified Dhamma teachers helping on a voluntary basis. Venerable Lozang Drolkar has helped students for a long time. Since June 2016 another Buddhist nun Venerable Tongnyi is performing this function.

QSA has compiled an e-book (still being edited) incorporating about 160 questions raised by students in the past few years with answers mostly written by Rahubadde Sarath-Chandra. The front pages include an index based on key words.

If you are looking for answers to questions on Buddhism it might be useful to take a look at this book.

You can ask for a copy by emailing infoqsa@gmail.com

FOURTH DELIVERY OF BUDDHIST CHAPLAINCY COURSE

(Developing peace within and empowering others to achieve peace)

The fourth session of this course is planned for Saturday 9 July 2016 and will be held at the Sri Lanka temple at 114 Considine Street, Ellen Grove, Brisbane or at another venue in Forest Lake. The face to face class and the tele-conference will both be held at the same time beginning at 9.30 a.m. and finishing at 11.30 a.m.

Confirmations have been sent to registered participants.

Answers to assignments can be sent to infoqsa@gmail.com and will be assessed by Venerable Lozang Drolkar, a member of the Buddhist Chaplaincy Board of QSA for assessment. She was educated at the Griffith University in Brisbane and at the Chenrezig Buddhist centre in Eudlo.

The text book is in our website under 'Resources' or you can get a hard copy of the book free of charge by sending an email to QSA.

QUEENSLAND BUDDHIST CONVOCATION 2016

What?

When?

Where?

BSB

638-070

Heritage Bank, Forest Lake Shopping Centre, Forest Lake

Once a deposit is made please inform QSA by email

CHEQUES CAN BE POSTED TO:

Queensland Sangha Association Inc

108 Eric Street, Goodna, Queensland 4300

END OF THE 6-PAGE QSA NEWSLETTER FOR JULY 2016

Compiled by Rahu Sarath-Chandra

Issued by the president of QSA, Reverend James Wilson

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WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT**

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