

QSA NEWSLETTER

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QSA WISHES YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

WELCOME TO THE JANUARY 2016 ISSUE OF THE

QSA NEWSLETTER

In this issue you will see new information relating to:

- *Buddhist Chaplaincy Course Text Book now available*
 - *Departments of the Siddhartha Institute of Buddhism*
 - *Proposed Diploma course in Buddha Dhamma*
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BUDDHIST CHAPLAINCY COURSE TEXT BOOK

The Buddhist Chaplaincy Course text book is now available in print. It is 182 pages in A4 size and is published by the Queensland Sangha Association Inc. Printing of the book became possible due to the generosity of the well-known Taiwanese organisation "The Corporate Body of the Buddha Educational Foundation." The current print is for free distribution.

Readers are requested to email QSA (see address given in the header) to obtain copies of the book.

The Buddhist Chaplaincy course is based on this text book. The course itself is free of charge. Once you are registered as a participant, QSA will assign a tutor to you to guide you through the course which can be completed at your own

pace. You are not required to attend face to face classes but you may arrange to meet your tutor at reasonable intervals.

Once the course is completed you may request registration as a Buddhist Chaplain with QSA. This is one of the ways in which one can get registered as a Buddhist Chaplain.

QSA DIPLOMA COURSE IN ABHIDHAMMA

The Diploma Course in Abhidhamma commenced in July 2015 and is now proceeding. It is expected to be completed early in 2016.

SIDDHARTHA INSTITUTE OF BUDDHISM (SIB)

The Siddhartha Institute of Buddhism was set up on 1 January 2015 as the new educational arm of the Queensland Sangha Association Inc. It has followed the style of post-secondary educational institutions. Research and educational activities will be conducted as in other similar institutions. All activities of SIB will be co-ordinated by a group of qualified and experienced academic and managerial personnel put together by the QSA as the senate of SIB. The members of the senate of SIB were listed in our Newsletter for May 2015

The Department of Buddhist Studies, the Department of Education and the department Buddhist Chaplaincy are now being developed. Academic personnel will carry out the combined functions of lecturers, researchers, tutors and demonstrators in their respective areas of specialisation. Some details are given below.

SIDDHARTHA INSTITUTE OF BUDDHISM - DPARTMENT OF BUDDHIST STUDIES

The position of Head of Department is vacant.

Presently, the department is conducting course number 002 titled 'QSA Diploma in Abhidhamma'. The course is conducted at the premises of the Sri Lanka Buddhist Monastery at 114 Considine Street, Ellen Grove, Brisbane, Queensland 4077, Australia.

This course covers all aspects of Abhidhamma according to the Abhidhamma Pitaka. It consists of about 70 teaching units. The course director and leading lecturer is Mr. Rahubadde Sarath-Chandra who holds a Diploma in Buddhism in addition to several degrees and professional qualifications in several areas of study. There are about thirty registered participants, several of whom are following the course by correspondence.

Mr. Tanuja Yasanga Sarath-Chandra functions as the registrar of the department of Buddhist Studies with reference to this course. Mrs. Cynthia Gunawardana continues to function as overall registrar of the Siddhartha Institute.

Research conducted by this department has included Methods of teaching Abhidhamma and the Development of a Mind Model using modern teaching techniques.

SIDDHARTHA INSTITUTE OF BUDDHISM - DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND BUDDHIST CHAPLAINCY

This department is involved with both teaching and research. The position of Head of Department is now vacant.

This department has been responsible for the development and the delivery of the course in Buddhist Chaplaincy. The course consists of 48 teaching units. It has been delivered twice before and the third delivery is now in progress. It will be completed in March 2016.

At this time this course is recognised by the Queensland Sangha Association Inc as one of the qualifications for one to register as a Buddhist Chaplain.

All lecturers are registered Buddhist Chaplains. They include Mr. Ruwan Wathukarage who holds a Masters' Degree in Law, Rahubadde Sarath-Chandra an Attorney-at-Law in Sri Lanka and Tanuja Sarath-Chandra who holds two Masters' Degrees connected to Information Technology and also a degree in Electrical Engineering.

Venerable Bhikhuni N. Sudhamma continues to participate as a guest lecturer and holds a Masters' Degree in Education from the Queensland University of Technology.

The department continues to be interested in research in the area of Buddhist Chaplaincy. A book on Buddhist Chaplaincy used as a text book for this course has been published and is now available for free distribution.

CORRECTION

In our November newsletter the name of the university for the masters' degree held by Venerable Sudhamma was incorrectly stated. We apologise for the error. The name of the university is Queensland University of Technology.

DIPLOMA COURSE IN BUDDHA DHAMMA

A syllabus has been drawn up for a diploma course in Buddha Dhamma. This course can be followed through the internet at one's own pace. The opportunity will be available for face to face interaction with a tutor at reasonable intervals.

The course begins from basics and progresses through a number of stages. It is ideal for one who feels that he or she is starting with a basic understanding of the Dhamma. It does not include Abhidhamma as such.

For those who have in mind to become monks or nuns, or for those who intend to teach Buddhism to others from primary to secondary level, this course is bound to be extremely helpful.

A person who completes the diploma course in Buddha Dhamma will be able to teach others seeking a facility of learning the Buddha Dhamma beginning from the basics.

Readers may express interest by writing to QSA using the address in the header. The decision to float the course will be taken depending on the interest shown in the course.

The basis of the course will be the Pali Tripitaka; however differences between the different schools of Buddhism (Mahayana, Theravada and Tibetan) will be adequately dealt with devoid of bias.

For those who read books on Buddhism, follow sermons given by monks and nuns in temples, follow meditation retreats or learn and practise the

Dhamma in whatever way in whatever system, this course will help them to piece together various aspects of Buddhism as it leads to happiness in life and to enlightenment eventually.

DONATIONS TO QSA

Donations to QSA can be made by direct credit to the bank account detailed below:

Name of account

Queensland Sangha Association Inc,

Account 1159 2818 S21

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

BOOKS ON BUDDHISM (MAHAYANA AND THERAVADA) FOR FREE DISTRIBUTION

These books are available for free distribution. You may express interest in any of these by emailing QSA via the email address at the header.

MOSTLY MAHAYANA

- 1 The Lotus Sutra (only 2 copies left)
- 2 Surangana Sutra
- 3 Infinite Life Sutra
- 4 Samantha Bhadra

- 5 Diamond Sutra and Flower Sutra
- 6 Karmamarga Sutra
- 7 Buddhist Liturgy
- 8 Guidance to a happy life
- 9 Knocking on the doors of Chan
- 10 Empty Cloud
- 11 Pictorial biography of Sakyamuni Buddha (only one copy left)
- 12 Changing Destiny (by Master Ching Kung)
- 13 To be the same or not to be the same (children's book)

MOSTLY THERAVADA

- 14 Mindfulness (Sumedho)
- 15 Mindfulness (Gunaratna) - only two copies left
- 16 Greatest Man who ever lived
- 17 How to live without fear and worry (only four copies left)
- 18 You and your problems (only two copies left)
- 19 Pain Stress and Illness (Sumedho)
- 20 Pictorial Dhammapada (only one copy left)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE AUSTRALIAN SANGHA ASSOCIATION

The secretary of ASA has informed us that the AGM and annual conference of ASA will be held at NanTien Temple, 180 Berkeley Road, Berkeley, NSW 2506, on 15 March 2016.

For more information please contact:

Venerable Tempa Bejanke, email asasecretary@gmail.com

THE END OF THE 6-PAGE QSA NEWSLETTER FOR JANUARY 2016

**YOU ARE WELCOME TO FORWARD THIS NEWSLETTER TO A FRIEND
WHO IS LIKELY TO BENEFIT**

**THIS NEWSLETTER IS NOT FOR PUBLIC CIRCULATION BUT FOR THE INFORMATION OF MEMBERS OF
QSA, SUPPORTERS AND FRIENDS**