

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

For the period 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2014

Prepared for the Annual General Meeting for 2015

QUEENSLAND SANGHA ASSOCIATION INC



THE MOST VENERABLE WATTEGAMA DHAMMAWASA NAYAKA THERO

PRESIDENT

QUEENSLAND SANGHA ASSOCIATION

The most Venerable Wattegama Dhammawasa Nayaka Thero is the director and the chief incumbent of Sri Subodharama Buddhist Centre in Peradeniya, Kandy, Sri Lanka. He is the chief incumbent and the President of Sri Lankarama Maha Viharaya in Ellen Grove, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia and the Chief Sanghanayake of Australia appointed by the Maha Sangha in Sri Lanka.

In 2009 He was also honoured by the Maha Sangha in Sri Lanka for his services to Buddhist communities in many countries. In June 2010 he was elected as the Vice-President of the Australian Sangha Association, the federal level organisation of the Buddhist Maha Sangha in the whole of Australia.

Ordained at a young age, he has spent his entire life cultivating the practice of the teachings of Lord Buddha. Through his noble and genial qualities, tireless efforts and dedicated service to the Buddha Sasana, he has established monasteries throughout the world. He has ordained many monks into the Maha Sangha. He has incessantly worked for the spiritual upliftment of all who came into contact with him, including his pupils, the Sangha in general and members of the lay community.

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THE END

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

FOR THE PERIOD

1 JANUARY 2014 TO 31 DECEMBER 2014

SECTION (A) SUMMARY

This is the sixth report of its type. The first report covered the period from inception to 31 December 2009 with brief comments for the first five months of 2010. The second, third, fourth and fifth reports covered the years 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 respectively. This report covering 2014 is intended to be presented at the Annual General Meeting scheduled for 25 March 2015.

The main activities related to consultancy, education and training services. The establishment of the Siddhartha Institute of Buddhism and the establishment of the Buddhist Chaplaincy Services Board were two of the highlights in this connection.

During the year the second run of the primary course in Buddhist Chaplaincy was completed after monthly sessions finishing in October 2014.

SECTION (B) PROMOTING UNDERSTANDING AMONG THE MAIN SCHOOLS OF BUDDHISM

As before monks and nuns belonging to all traditions of Buddhism made significant contributions to the progress of QSA.

SECTION (C) EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES

1 Siddhartha Institute Of Buddhism

The Siddhartha Institute of Buddhism was set up to conduct all educational and training activities of QSA in the way a tertiary institution would. The work done

by the board of education was taken over by the Institute (SIB) as at the end of 2014.

A senate consisting of the following was appointed to manage the Institute with Mrs. Cynthia Gunawardana functioning as the Registrar:

- 1 Venerable S. Sugathasara
- 2 Venerable C. Chanhorm
- 3 Venerable Bhikshuni N. Sudhamma
- 4 Venerable Bhikshuni Wu Chin Shi
- 5 Venerable Bhikshuni Wu Hsing
- 6 Professor Tian Po Oei
- 7 Professor Anne Nguyen
- 8 Rahubadde Sarath-Chandra
- 9 Anne Chathuri de Silva
- 10 Tanuja Yasanga Sarath-Chandra
- 11 Cynthia Gunawardana
- 12 Ruwan Wathukarage

The senate will initially handle all work but is expected to set up an Academic Council and an Executive Council as and when necessary. The institute will function independently though under the control of QSA.

2 Primary Course In Buddhist Chaplaincy-Second Run

This was completed in October 2014. Certificates of participation are to be issued.

SECTION (D) PUBLICATIONS ON BUDDHISM

1 Book On Buddhist Chaplaincy

The book is being edited and formatted for printing. About 2000 copies are to be printed and distributed worldwide.

2 Buddhist Publications Board

A Buddhist Publications Board consisting of the following was set up:

Mr. Milton Fernando

Mr. Tanuja Y. Sarath-Chandra

Mrs. Aruni Arachchige

A graphic artist is expected to join the group soon.

SECTION (E) BUDDHIST CHAPLAINCY SERVICES BOARD

As a number of Buddhist chaplains has been registered with QSA it was decided to set up a Buddhist Chaplaincy Services Board consisting of the following:

- 1 Venerable Bhikshuni Lozang Drolkar
- 2 Venerable Bhikshuni N. Sudhamma
- 3 Lyndall Lancaster
- 4 Rahubadde Sarath-Chandra
- 5 David Pullen
- 6 Ruwan Wathukarage
- 7 Cynthia Gunawardana
- 8 Anne Charhuri de Silva
- 9 Tanuja Y. Sarath-Chandra

This board will function independently though under the control of the QSA.

SECTION (EE) GENERAL CONSULTANCY SERVICES

There were no new services rendered during the year. Small projects were handled by Rahubadde Sarath-Chandra.

SECTION (F) DEVELOPMENT (TOWN) PLANNING (TEMPLE DEVELOPMENT) SERVICES

There were no new projects this year.

SECTION (G) SANGHA WELFARE SERVICES

No progress was made in regard to this matter.

SECTION (H) COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Hardly anything useful resulted from the agreements signed with the ASA (Australian Sangha Association Inc), and the Buddhist Council of Queensland.

SECTION (I) ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1 Recognition And Identification Of QSA At Federal Level

The Queensland Sangha Association (QSA) is identified by government at the federal level by its Australian Business Number (ABN) which is 56 506 052 172. The street address is 108 Eric Street, Goodna, Queensland 4300. QSA is also registered for GST. Nothing has changed in this respect. However, there is a new federal authority dealing with business numbers. That is the Australian charities and non-profits commission (ACNC). QSA is now in their website.

2 Constitution

No changes were made to the constitution in 2014.

3 Bye-Laws For QSA

No bye-laws were made in 2014.

4 Incorporation Of QSA

The first Annual General Meeting required after incorporation was held on 27 December 2011. From thereon, each year an AGM will be held in the early months of the year. The first annual report to government has been submitted. An annual report is produced every year.

5 Membership

During the year under review the total of members rose to 68 from 57 in the previous year.

6 Management Of QSA

From inception an elected committee was responsible for the management of the association according to the constitution. The following have served on the committee of management during the period 2014:

President Venerable W. Dhammawasa

Vice-President Venerable S. Sugathasara

Secretary Venerable C. Chanhorm

Treasurer Venerable U. Sunanda

Committee Members

Venerable I.G. Nanda

Venerable Hui Chyuan

Venerable Bhikshuni Sudhamma

7 Meetings Of The Committee Of Management

The committee of management has held three meetings (bearing numbers 23, 24 and 25) in 2014.

8 Volunteer Executive Officers Assisting The Committe Of Management

The following carried out regular duties and responsibilities delegated to them by the committee of management or office bearers, and they served on a voluntary basis:

Management Consultant

(Helps in administration, legal matters, finance, and the organisation of educational activities and publications, etc., and in relation to consultancy services)

Rahubadde Sarath-Chandra

IT Consultant and Webmaster

Ms. Serene Loy

A number of other consultants attached to the groups of experts help as and when required. They are mentioned in the body of the report.

9 Identification Of Buddhist Monks And Nuns

No progress has been made.

10 Website Of The Sangha Association

The website address is as follows:

www.sanghaqld.org

Temples that do not have their own websites now have the facility to have a section of the QSA website for publicity purposes. No fee is charged for this service.

The directory of monks and nuns is part of the website. Each member of the Sangha may publish his or her profile in the website.

Ms. Serene Loy has helped to improve and update the website.

11 Group Email System Set Up For QSA

A group email system has been set up for QSA under the guidance of Mr. Stanley Pinjiang Feng. The address is as follows:

infoQSA@gmail.com

This is a group email system for the use of office bearers.

12 QSA Newsletter

The newsletter continues to be published whenever necessary.

SECTION (J) FINANCIAL MATTERS

1 Income And Expenses 2014

The income statement and the balance sheet for the year 2014 are attached.

2 Bank Account For The Queensland Sangha Association

QSA has its own bank account at Heritage Bank in Forest Lake, Brisbane. The particulars are as follows:

Account number is 1159-2818

BSB number 638-070.

Name: Queensland Sangha Association

Direct donations can be made into this bank account. Please ensure to send an email giving the name and address of the donor, and the donation amount.

The authorized signatories are:

Venerable Yun Ling Chang Dhammavaro, and

Venerable U. Sunanda, Treasurer

3 Exemption From Income Tax

The Australian Taxation Office has issued a tax file number to QSA and has approved the QSA as exempted from income tax. QSA has also been registered for GST although the turnover is small as yet. Small GST refunds have been obtained from ATO.

QSA does not as yet have an approved deductible gift fund status.

SECTION (K)

RELATIONS WITH OTHER SANGHA ORGANISTIONS

1 Australian Sangha Association (ASA)

QSA maintains good relations with ASA, the federal counterpart.

APPENDIX (1)

**QUEENSLAND SANGHA ASSOCIATION INC
C/O BUDDHIST VIHARA OF QUEENSLAND
108 ERIC STREET
GOODNA
QUEENSLAND 4300**

REPORT ON ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 2014

According to section 58 of the Associations Incorporation Act in Queensland, the Queensland Sangha Association Inc. is a level three association as its annual revenue is less than \$ 20,000 and its current assets are less than \$ 20,000. Section 59 B of the act requires the President or Treasurer to make a statement certifying the final accounts of the association and present it at the annual general meeting.

In terms of section 59 B (2) we certify that the association keeps financial records in a way that properly records the association's income and expenditure and dealings with its assets and liabilities.

All source documents and the ledger have been properly maintained. The attached Income Statement for the year 2014 and the Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2014 reflect the true financial position of the association according these records.

There is no cash in hand and there is a balance in the operating account at the Heritage Building Society branch at Forest Lake.

QSA is not a Deductible Gift Fund Recipient approved by the Taxation Office. QSA does not have any insurance policy.

The source documents have been maintained by the treasurer Venerable U Sunanda. The ledger and final accounts have been produced by Rahubadde Sarath-Chandra, a member of the Certified Practising Accountants (CPA) association of Australia at the request of the treasurer.

This statement is made and signed by:

Date: 13 March 2015

Date: 13 March 2015

[The income statement and balance sheet are sent separately]