



# NEWSLETTER

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## Uganda Buddhist Centre Kicks off its Building Project

The Uganda Buddhist Centre has embarked on the Building Project. The project is to see that proper accommodation is built for both resident and visiting monks at the Temple.

In the past, we have had challenges with accommodation at the temple. This has always pushed us to resort to nearby hotels and resorts to house, especially our visiting monks.

The Uganda Buddhist Centre is set on about five (5) acres of land. Some portion of the land overlooks Lake Victoria. Located in a fast-developing village, the centre enjoys a tranquil surrounding that offer an inspiring environment for the practice of meditation.

One of the unique features of the Centre is it being the first and only Buddhist temple in Uganda founded by a monk of African descent. UBC supports and inspires the



ordination of monks. Most of these are children from the neighbouring villages who come to learn and experience the Buddhist spiritual path.

The monastic training is based on the early Buddhist teachings, thus welcoming all traditions that are inspired by this long-standing path. In the first years of establishment, Bhante Buddharakkhita built the main hall for meditation (Temple) and later between 2016 – 2018, he built Sima (Boundary) hall, and a few temporary rooms to house residents.

In 2017, as the community continues to grow, Bhante got a dream of building monks accommodation and Abbot's house, which would house at least 60



monks. It was early this year that all plans and drawings were finalised. A detailed development plan was developed by a team of dedicated volunteers and paid professionals.

In the first phase of this Building Project, the construction of Abbot's House has kicked off and the foundation and ground floor brickwork have already been laid out. It is scheduled to be completed in four months. The success of this project is attributed to the generous support of all our Dhamma friends and sisters around the world.

Stage 2 of the Building Project is to construct monks' accommodation. The building is planned to carry five floors and a grass-thatched roof terrace carrying 60 self-contained rooms, a kitchen and dining area. This project is divided into phases due to the limited funds available. The first phase of stage two is to build and furnish the ground floor and raise columns and third floor slab. This stage will cost US \$ 482, 856.

We once again would like to invite and appeal to all of you for your continued support on this project. please send us a message at [ugandabuddhistcentre@gmail.com](mailto:ugandabuddhistcentre@gmail.com).





**Residents collecting water at the newly installed borehole at Golden Hearts Sschool**



**During the installation of a borehole in Nalugala village in Entebbe.**

## Providing Clean Water Amid COVID-19 Pandemic

Towards the end of June 2020, the Uganda Buddhist Centre embarked on providing safe and clean water to needy communities.

With support from Ms. Dolores Watson, based in New Orleans, the Centre constructed a borehole at Golden Hearts Education Centre in Kasenyi, Entebbe. This borehole has been successfully completed and residents are now enjoying fresh and clean water. In the past four months, Uganda has faced three major challenges. We first had locusts that affected mostly the Eastern part of the country. Then COVID-19 and the increasing volumes of water especially in Lake Victoria.

In Entebbe, many people especially those living along the shores and landing sites of the lake have been affected by the increasing volumes of water. When Bhante Buddharakkhita visited Gerenge landing site, he noticed that residents heavily depend on water from the lake. Due to the flooding of the lake shores, the water from the lake mixed-up with sewage from

the pit latrines near the shores. He observed that this situation is a big threat to public health in the area. We are still negotiating with people who own land near the landing site, so we can install a borehole for people to benefit. We want to ensure that residents in the area have to access to safe and clean water that is not contaminated and not mixed-up with the sewage.

Also, the nearby Nalugala Health Centre and its neighbouring communities depend on harvested rain water, which sometimes is insufficient and challenging during dry seasons. With support from our Australian Dhamma friends, courtesy of Buddhisthub.org, we got funds to construct a hand-dug borehole. However, the borehole failed due to the existing hard rock in the depth of about 20ft. The contractor, Intropidia recommended a machine drill for the project to be successful, which costs about US\$ 7,000. However, with no extra charge, we relocated to another village where we managed to construct a borehole.

We are so grateful to Minh (Buddhisthub.org), Australia for his kind donation.

### Gratitude:

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to Ms. Moe Moe and her family members for generously donating towards our dining hall.

They have put the ceiling and painted it elegantly.

May your generosity be a cause and condition for you peace and freedom!



## Uganda Buddhist Centre Receives a Gift of Land

The Uganda Buddhist Centre has received a gift of two (2) acres of land in Buyende district. The Land was donated by Mr. Robert Ziribasanga the Governor of Buyende district. He is also one of the volunteer Board Members at the Uganda Buddhist Centre since 2012. He said in a memorandum he signed that "I am donating this land as part of my contribution to the growth and expansion of Buddhism in Uganda."

The land donation was a result of Bhante's visit to the Governor home. Two days after Bhante's visit, the governor also came to the Temple to officially handover the land in a memorandum he signed to Bhante Buddharakkhita.

Bhante also blessed Mr. Ziribasanga as he prepares for the LC 5 Chairperson seat of Buyende District.

Buyende is one of the youngest districts situated in the Eastern part of Uganda and Jinja northwards. It is surrounded by Lake Kyoga, and it is typically depending on agriculture and fishing for their livelihood. There are about 345,000 residents.

A temple and other developmental activities are planned on this land. We would like to invite you to join us in expanding our horizons, so that Dhamma can reach out many people.



## Gratitude to All Our Supporters

UBC activities are made possible by many supporters from around the world. Therefore, we are eternally grateful for your kind and generous donations.

### UBC still needs your support:

- To maintain resident teachers/monastics
- To maintain the Temple
- To run Buddhist activities
- To build monks accommodation facilities

## How to donate:

### 1. Donate online:

Please follow the links below to make a secure donation online:

<https://ugandabuddhistcenter.org>

<https://xpresspay.ug/payments/ugandabuddhistcentre/index.html>

### 2. wire transfer

#### Beneficiary's Bank Details:

Bank Name : Orient Bank Limited

Bank Account Number: 41261302010523

Bank Account Name: Uganda Buddhist Centre

Swift Address: ORINUGKA

Bank Address: Orient Plaza, 6/6A, Kampala Road.

### Our Address and Contact Info

Uganda Buddhist Centre  
Off-Entebbe Road, Bulega, Garuga, Entebbe  
P.O. Box 898, Entebbe, Uganda  
Tel: +256 (0) 392 – 000926  
Mob: +256 (0) 775 – 019180  
E-mail: [ugandabuddhistcentre@gmail.com](mailto:ugandabuddhistcentre@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.ugandabuddhistcenter.org](http://www.ugandabuddhistcenter.org)