

Uganda Buddhist Center Newsletter

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Bhante Buddharakkhita's Enhances on Peace school safety

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Venerable Bhante Buddharakkhita often does routine checks at the Uganda Buddhist Centre, Peace School and other projects.

One day as he was passing-by the Peace School, he found out that the privacy of the school is at the mercy of the public. Intruders were entering the school to use its playground and make noise which interrupted school activities. To enhance the security at the Peace School, he decided to install a chain link on the perimeter fence.

The cost of beefing up security was USD 313.84. Certainly, the newly erected fence will eliminate trespassers and increase safety of children and staff.



The newly installed chain link at Peace School.



Uganda Buddhist Centre Peace School Receives a donation

The children at Peace School found it a bit hard to engage in extracurricular activities in order to develop their mental and physical abilities. We would like to acknowledge Ms. Dolores Watson and Dawn Perryman from the U.S., for generous donation and offering out door slides, sling swings & rotating wheel swings.

This brought overwhelming joy. The Uganda Buddhist Centre would like to extend our sincere gratitude for your kind contribution.



Volunteers at Uganda Buddhist Centre

The Uganda Buddhist Centre offers a volunteer program for people who would like to contribute to its mission of creating a culture of peace through the teachings of the Lord Buddha. We receive volunteers from various places that support our activities. Currently, there are two volunteers, Enid Nansubuga and Kalega Gilbert, who are greatly contributing to the growth and development of Buddhism in Uganda.

Enid is a young lady with excellent experience in statistical analysis, taxation, and business management. Before joining the Uganda Buddhist Centre, she worked in the Uganda coffee industry with Uganda Coffee Federation, National Union of Coffee Agribusiness Farmers Enterprises (NUCAFE) and Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA).

She also worked as Finance and Administrative Personnel with UTZ the Netherlands country office and Kisa Holdings Ltd.

She now assists the Uganda Buddhist Centre with finance and administrative functions such as documentation, financial expenses and other administrative roles.

Enid says that;

"working with the Uganda Buddhist Centre community and with the guidance of Bhante Buddharakkhita, will enhance my spiritual wellbeing and the understanding of Dhamma as well as develop in the humble life of Buddhists."

As a team at the Uganda Buddhist Centre, we believe Enid is an asset regarding daily financial operations of UBC.



Making Great Strides through Buddhist Art

Art is the backbone of a society. Historically, art was the way through which mankind shared life experiences.

Buddhist art was developed to present the timeless and profound teachings of the Buddha which has remained a pivotal part of the cultural fabric of most southeastern part of Asia. However, as the Dhamma spread and evolved in the different parts of the world including Africa, Buddhist art was adapted and assimilated to the culture and art of the host country. In Uganda, the teachings of the Buddha are having a great resonance where it continues to open hearts and minds. The Uganda Buddhist Centre, with its adherents are inspiring and creating art to express and echo the timeless and universal teachings of the Buddha. Buddhism in Uganda has started attracting artists.

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One of these artists is Gilbert Kalegga. He is a great artist in drawing Buddhist paintings and pictures. Currently, his paintings are displayed at the Uganda Buddhist Centre temple.

He narrates a story how he came to be interested in art from childhood.

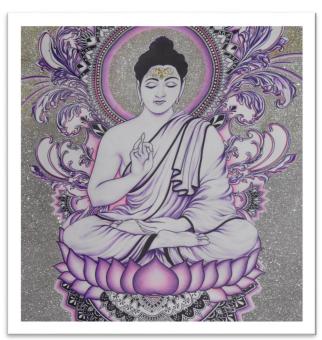


Brief Background of Gilbert

"In 2009, I was in my primary six, twelve years old and dared myself to work on the late Michael Jackson's portrait. In fact, it was so good that my class teacher requested to own it.

It was a turning point in my life when I realised my talent

and abilities since I had never thought of being an artist.



Eight years later, while I was in high school at London College of St. Lawrence, I reflected on the idea of being an artist. Consequently, I started getting commissions for all kinds of portraits from the school staff.

In 2017, during my vacation, I volunteered with Dwelling Places, a Christian organisation dedicated to rescuing and rehabilitating street children, abandoned babies and high-risk slum families in Uganda.

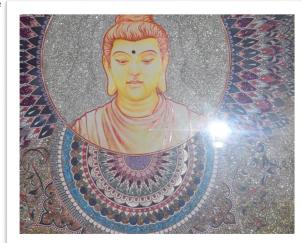
Also, I joined a private Arts and Design gallery where I trained in teaching art and compound design for eleven months till mid-2018. However, I felt like I haven't yet fully explored my creative potential. Therefore, I embarked on a mission of boundless self-discovery. This led me to

discover a unique art I had never seen in Uganda. In the same period, I met Venerable Bhante Buddharakkhita who advised me to start making Buddhist paintings and art.

Currently, my aspiration is to make these paintings more affordable for all people, establish a self-sustained workshop, gallery and a Buddhist Arts and Design Institute.

Furthermore, I would like to teach Buddhist art at the Uganda Buddhist Centre Peace School.

I am established at the Uganda Buddhist Centre. I am kindly requesting for support to boost Buddhist art in Uganda and Africa.



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Below are the different sizes of the artwork I do with their respective prices in Uganda Shillings (USD $1 = UGX\ 3,670$)

A0 | A1 | A2 | A3+ | A3 | A4 | A5 | A6.

Size		Without a frame	With a Frame	
			Medium	Large
A0	118.9 * 84.1cm	415,400	250,000	320,000
A1	84.1 * 59.4cm	324,300	170,000	220,000
A2	59.4 * 42.0cm	260,200	90,000	140,000
A3+	48.3 * 32.9cm	226,700	72,000	80,000
A3	42.0 * 29.7cm	215,000	60,000	68,000
A4	29.7 * 21.0cm	183,000	40,000	45,000
A5	21.0 * 14.8cm	160,000	20,000	28,000
A6	14.8 * 10.5cm	144,000	10,000	

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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 monastics (food, medical and other expenses)
- To run and the Temple and other Buddhist activities
- To run the Peace School for 2020—2021
- To upkeep a 2 year old orphan
- Towards building fund

How to donate:

1. By paypal:

Please follow the link below to make a secure online donation: https://xpresspay.ug/payments/ugandabuddhistcentre/index.html

2. wire transfer

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.

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