

UGANDA BUDDHIST CENTRE

NEWSLETTER

June 2021





Huong Tu Lovingkindness Foundation Visits Uganda Buddhist Centre

On June 1, 2021, the Uganda Buddhist Centre (UBC) hosted a group of 16 people including 4 monks from Huong Tu Lovingkindness Foundation of Dallas, Texas, USA. The aim of the visit was to carry out charity and Buddhist missionary activities in Uganda as well as to support the Uganda Buddhist Centre in its activities of disseminating the Buddha's teachings in Uganda and Africa. Among the group was Most Venerable Ratanaguna, the Abbot of Huong Dao Temple; Venerable Pannakara, the CEO of Huong Tu Lovingkindness Foundation and chief organiser of their visit; and Venerable Ashin Silananda among others.

Earlier before their visit, Huong Tu Lovingkindness Foundation, donated 15 boreholes to UBC's Water and Sanitation Project. Currently, Huong Tu Lovingkindness Foundation has donated 19 boreholes, and 10 boreholes have been fully completed.

When they arrived, the team was involved in distribution of food to over 500 people around the Temple, in rural areas of Buyende district, Buikwe district, and fishing villages around Entebbe. Scholastic items were also distributed to over 1,000 school-going children to support them with their scholastic needs. They also carried with them an assortment of gifts

which they donated to the Uganda Buddhist Centre.

Uganda Buddhist Centre projects also benefited from this visit. 14 sewing machines and 1 industrial sweater making machine were donated to the Women Economic Empowerment Project; furniture for the first Buddhist primary school was also donated; the group also donated generously to the Compassion Orphanage by way of buying two properties for the male and female orphans. In connection to the orphanage, money was also donated to build a perimeter wall at the orphanage to ensure safety and security of the orphans. Money donations was also offered towards UBC's Building Fund to ensure that monks have descent accommodation.

The group had planned to stay in Uganda for a period of 20 days. However, following the Presidential directives and a lockdown in efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19, their visit was cut short, and so they had to leave back to the Texas on June 9th. On this day, a grand ground-breaking ceremony of the first Buddhist primary school in Uganda was conducted, and the official launch of



Visitors inspecting the a borehole hand-digging process at the Buddhist Primary School

Venerable Ratanaguna and Venerable Buddharakkhita



Venerable Buddharakkhita paying respects to Venerable Ratanaguna



During a tour at the Uganda Buddhist Centre



Visitors offering gifts to the Uganda Buddhist Centre



A tour of the village and Uganda Buddhist Centre projects



During a tour at Kagolomolo fishing villages in Entebbe



Distribution of scholastic items to over 500 children at the Temple



Distribution of food items in Nankwaga village, Buikwe district.



Boat cruise to the Source of River Nile and on Lake Victoria in Jina.



Soft opening and blessing of a borehole donated in Gwase, Buyende District.



Distribution of food at Kagolomolo fish-ing village.



Moments at Kagolomolo fishing village where an old lady is stuck in this dilapi-dated house and because she cannot walk.





Mr. Ronald Kalema, the Mayor of Katabi Town Council offering certificate of Appreciation to the visitors for their generous donations in his area.

The two properties bought for the Compassion Orphanage for boys and girls





Visitors at the ground-breaking ceremony of the construction of the Buddhist Primary School



Official offering sewing machines to the Women Empowerment Project and blessings led by Venerable Ratanaguna Venerable and Buddharakkhita



Mr. Chien and other visitors holding gifts of appreciation offered by the Mayor and Bhante Buddharakkhita.

Extension of Our Kitchen

As a result of the increasing number of residents at the Temple, our kitchen has been extended to accommodate the growing number of people. The existing kitchen was designed to design a capacity of 12 people, but currently, we have over 40 people residing at the temple. Secondly, the remodelled kitchen will also help to cut down the costs of cooking especially on fuel. Earlier, we were using charcoal and gas, but now we will be using briquettes which are energy saving. Furthermore, whenever we have events at the temple, food was being prepared outside and often disrupted by the changing weather. The new kitchen will be able to also absorb cooking during events, and more space has been created as eating area.



The garage has been transformed and refurbished with installation of ceiling with soft boards. We plan to use this space to accommodation the sewing project for women from the surrounding village. As part of the renovation, we are going to tile it, and put a strong metallic door to ensure security of the machines.

It should be remembered that the sewing project supported by donations from Huong Tu Lovingkindness Foundation, USA to enable women from the surrounding village generate income for their households. We request for your further support in making this project a success.



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>

<https://dashboard.flutterwave.com/donate/hd1cwapst9gc>

Please note that this payment gateway accepts 3D secure transactions only. This means that only cards that are Verified by Visa, and Master secure code will be accepted. If your donation doesn't go through, kindly contact your bank to ensure you are secured. Thank you!

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

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