



Issue 03
March 2022

UGANDA BUDDHIST CENTRE

newsletter





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Thai devotees offer gifts at the Uganda Buddhist Temple



Bhante Buddharakkhita and H.E. Sasirit Tanguarat inaugurate the Peace School

Thai Ambassador Visits the Temple and Opens the First Buddhist Primary School

We were honoured to have H.E Sasirit Tanguarat the Ambassador of the Royal Thai Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya. The Ambassador together with a group of Thai nationals in Uganda was welcomed by the Buddhist Center cultural dance group and offered a flower bouquet by one of the pupils of the Peace School.

Bhante Buddharakkhita welcomed the Ambassador and her entourage, and reiterated the Embassy's support to the Uganda Buddhist Centre. The Ambassador pledged their continued support to the Temple, and to further strengthen the relationship with the temple.

The Ambassador was then led to officially commission the first Buddhist Primary School in Uganda, where also a new three-classroom building had just been

completed. With the mission of bringing forth knowledge, wisdom, values, skills and health the school started in January 2022 with 4 classes and 48 pupils enrolled.

H.E Sasirit Tanguarat was also led by Bhante to water an avocado tree that she planted during her first visit in August 2021. More still, the Ambassador was taken to see three Buddha statues that were made in Thailand now enshrined in the Sangha Building at the Temple.

Uganda's news channel SEE TV was reporting about our event. [Watch it here \(click\)](#).

We are very grateful to our donors who have generously contributed and made it possible to introduce a Buddhist founded school in Uganda. May you all be happy and attain freedom!



Group photo with UBC residents and their special guests at the Peace School inauguration



H.E. Sasirit Tangulrat lights candles in the temple



H.E. Sasirit Tangulrat receives a welcome bouquet



H.E. Sasirit Tangulrat on a tour of the new school



H.E. Sasirit Tangulrat waters tree she planted in August 2021



H.E. Sasirit Tangulrat in conversation with Bhante

Welcome Back, Bhante!

Our dear Bhante has been away for almost two months. Bhante was co-teaching a one-month retreat at Spirit Rock (an insight meditation center) in Woodacre in California in the United States of America. Bhante also teaches an online course at the Union

Theological Seminary at Columbia University covering conflict management and peacebuilding from a Buddhist perspective. It was a joyous event having him back home after such a long time. Welcome back home Bhante!



Womens' traditional dance group welcome Bhante back at UBC on his return from a teaching trip in the USA



Bhante is greeted by the the novice monks and the UBC residents



A devotee offers alms to the monks

BURMESE GROUP IN UGANDA OFFER ALMS

In Mid-March, a Burmese group led by Ms. Moe Moe (who has lived in Uganda for the last 15 years) offered six sets of robes to the monks. The group also offered alms to 50 people including monks, the staff of Uganda Buddhist Centre and orphans at our Compassion Care Centre.



Faithfuls at the temple



Bhante Sangarakkhita accepts gifts from a devotee

The Founding of the First Buddhist High School in Uganda



Classroom block of the proposed Buddhist High School

The proposed construction of a high school aims to prepare students for academic excellence, enrich their lives with Buddhist values and help them nurture peace. Society today has become so complex. Ranging from governance to global economy to supply chains, our lives have become complex and life now depends so much on technology and autonomous actors that no one truly understand. Leaders have turned away from their own people and few are willing to drive positive social change. For us to retake the wheel of change, we need to start now to build the young minds to take over the wheels. The proposed high school will build leaders of tomorrow who are mindful of their actions, and act from values of compassion, love, equanimity, and interdependence.

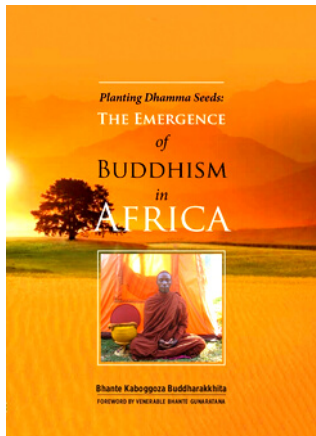
The school will keep a number of 12 students per class to ensure quality and to allow a low ratio of teacher to student. This will help students have attention from teachers so as to reach their good level of education and excellence.

The school curriculum will combine Ugandan national curriculum with group projects and a global approach to learning. The school will also integrate Buddhist principles that will include compassion, mindfulness, gratitude, and interdependence. Furthermore, the curriculum will consist of co-curricular opportunities aimed at talent and skills development.

We invite each one of you to join us in this cause. If you are interested to support this ambitious project, kindly send us an email at ugandabuddhistcentre@gmail.com

Publications

Bhante Buddharakkhita is a renowned author of several books, including Planting Dhamma Seeds: The emergence of Buddhism in Africa. We have decided to make them accessible to our dear community, so you are happily invited to download them on our website at <https://ugandabuddhistcenter.org/publications/>. If you enjoy Bhante's books, please feel free to spread the word about our work and help planting Dhamma Seeds across the world.



Planting Dhamma Seeds

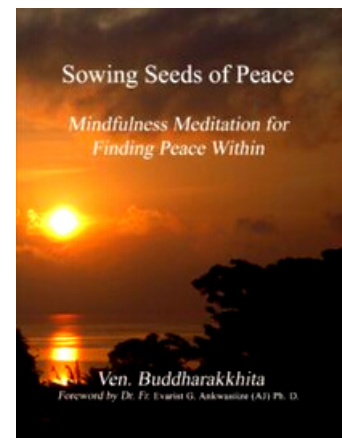
The Emergence of Buddhism in Africa

This book tells the story of Bhante Buddharakkhita's religious and spiritual work in Africa. With heart and humour he weaves stories starting from his childhood in Uganda through his spiritual journey, culminating in the start of the first Buddhist Centre in Africa.

Sowing Seeds of Peace

Mindfulness Meditation for Finding Peace Within

This practical guide to mindfulness offers gentle anecdotes and practical exercises to learn the skills of meditation and mindfulness. "Meditation is not about the content of our lives; it's about how we relate to our daily experiences, whatever they may be."



Caring for Our Planet

Buddhism and the Environment

"This anthology awakens us to the realities of the present predicament regarding the relationship of humans to our environment while educating us about the applicability of a body of Buddhist wisdom to the solution of the current social problems needing our urgent attention."

Thank You, Our Dear Donors

✽ Saddhu Saddhu Saddhu! ✽



HOW TO DONATE

1. For donors in the USA

Write a check to Universal Virtue Buddhist Charities indicating "Dhana for Uganda Buddhist Centre"
Send us a photo copy of the check to ugandabuddhistcentre@gmail.com
Mail the check to the address below:

Universal Virtue Buddhist Charities
C/O Hung Pham
10222 Larson Ave.
Garden Grove, CA 92843, USA

2. Donate Online

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

<https://ugandabuddhistcenter.org/donate-now/>

<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 Mastercard secure code will be accepted. If your donation doesn't go through, kindly contact your bank to ensure you are secured. Thank you!

3. 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 Rd*

Gratitude to All Our Supporters

UBC activities are made possible by many supporters from around the world. Therefore, we are eternally grateful to the Buddhist Global Relief of USA, Huong Tu Lovingkindness Foundation USA, Buddhist Fellowship of Singapore, Tan Teo Charitable Foundation, and all our beloved donors from around the world.

We Need Your Support

- Volunteers for UBC
- Volunteer teachers for our schools
- Training novice monks



Gratitude from the Uganda Buddhist Centre



On behalf of the Uganda Buddhist Centre (UBC), I am eternally grateful for your kind donations and support to the UBC. Owing to your kind and generous donations, we continue to carry out our Buddhist activities in Uganda and Africa. Since its inception in 2005, the UBC is committed to the spreading of the Dhamma in Uganda, Africa.

Currently, the UBC is progressively growing and developing. Some Ugandans who learn the Dhamma continue to appreciate its benefits in their daily lives. With the completion of the Sangha Building and the Buddha Building, we are training many novice monks to ensure the sustainability of the Dhamma in Uganda and Africa. Certainly, we planted the Dhamma seed on the continent of Africa.

Apart from spreading the Dhamma, the UBC adopted a comprehensive program to reduce or eliminate poverty, illiteracy and suffering among our communities through various projects such as Peace School and Buddhist Primary School (both still housed in a temporary facility), Boreholes, Women Empowerment Project, Compassion Care Center (aka Compassion Orphanage) and Farming project.

I am so grateful to our Dhamma friends and supporters from Singapore, Buddhist Fellowship of Singapore and Dhamma friends from other countries, the Houg Dao Lovingkindness Foundation, Insight World Aid, Teo Tan Foundation, Buddhist Global Relief and other Dhamma friends and organisations for your continued support and donation.

This year, plans are under to construct a permanent Buddhist Primary School . Thereafter, we plan to expand the school and build a Buddhist Senior Secondary School along with a Buddha Medical Clinic. Accordingly, we are looking at the possibilities of acquiring more land and houses closer to the Uganda Buddhist Centre.

For updates about our Dhamma activities, I would like to invite you to [subscribe to our monthly newsletter \(click here\)](#), so that you may learn more about how your support is positively impacting communities in Uganda and Africa.

Once again, we are eternally grateful for your donation , support and partnership. May you be well, happy and peaceful!

With deepest gratitude,

Bhikkhu Buddhakarakhita



*May all beings be well.
May all beings be happy.
May all beings be peaceful.*



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