



Uganda Buddhist Centre

September Newsletter 2022



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ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANING DAY AT BUDDHIST PEACE SCHOOL

At the Buddhist Peace School, we commenced the new term with cleaning the community and inculcating values of environmental responsibility into our students. The pupils collected plastics, the most common and hazardous waste to the environment in the surrounding communities. It was a great learning experience for the students as they practically engaged in cleaning and becoming more mindful not to litter their surroundings.

It was a humbling act for people in the community because it is very rare to see school

children carrying out this kind of environmental activity. It was a wakeup call that this is our social responsibility as a community. In the ancient Buganda cultural setting, people would gather and do communal cleaning of their village. This was called “Bulungi Bwansi” and people would sound drums call people “Gwanga mujje”. However, this has slowly phased out but we are glad revitalise this practice.

We are interconnected to the natural environment and we can’t isolate ourselves from it. Every element of our existence stems from our

surroundings. Cleaning the environment is a fundamental environmental management process to put unwanted waste in proper places, where it does not cause harm or any effect to the natural environment. Therefore, as our students grow, we encourage them to be responsible towards the environment because we cannot live and survive amidst waste.



UBC COMMUNITY CELEBRATES DOLORES' 80TH BELATED BIRTHDAY



Dolores Watson is one of Bhante's long-term friend and supporter from New Orleans, USA. She visited the Uganda Buddhist Centre on September 1st to 29th, 2022. During her stay, Dolores visited various projects at the Temple and she fell in love with the children of our preschool. On the 7th of September her first visit to the Buddhist Peace School, UBC community celebrated her 80th birthday. Children welcomed with a Uganda cultural dance. During her stay at UBC, Dolores also engaged in reading stories and teaching meditation to the Peace School children something that intrigued our students. She has a very unique style of interesting and

teaching meditation through storytelling.

She also redesigned the interior of our guest house (Peace Village) and furnished it with new furniture at her expense, which gave it an "African-American touch". Additionally, she contributed towards building a porch at the nun's house to give her more room and space.

At the Uganda Buddhist Centre, we extend our sincere and eternal gratitude to Dolores Watson for visiting us, and for impacting our lives. She inspired most of us, and her conversations with some of us are still fresh and reverberate in our mind. The conversations were life-changing.





Before giving, the mind of the giver is happy; while giving, the mind of the giver is made peaceful; and having given, the mind of the giver is uplifted.

The Buddha

GRATITUDE TO OUR SUPPORTERS

As we wind up the the rains retreat (*vassa*) period, we extend our gratitude to all individuals and organisations who have supported us through this whole period. We specially thank the Sri Lankan community in Uganda led by Mr. Bandara, Gihan and his family, Kamal and family; the Vietnamese community in USA; Moe Moe and the Burmese community. Throughout the rains retreat period, you have offered all the requisites to the Mahasangha, which means you have given them long life, beauty, ahappiness and strength.

Furthermore, we are eternally grateful to Malaysia Maha Karuna Buddhist Society for the Vassa dana requisites extended to us.

As well, we thank a Vietnamese group who volunteered to clean guest toilets during their visit earlier in the month. The gift of time is one of the most valuable gifts. We thank you for being generous with your time.

Additionally, Mr. Krishnar a Nepalese living in Kampala donated school items for children at both preschool and primary school; and finally, Ms. Sarah Namutebi, based in the UK who donated play materials for our children. The seeds of giving and kindness have a way of growing. Our children are learning the art and we are inculcating the culture of sharing and selflessness. As it is often said in Africa, no one is too poor to give, and no one is too rich to receive. We are truly indebted to all of you. May you all be well, happy and peaceful!



Vietnamese visitors cleaning guest toilets



UBC community receiving food items donated by Malaysia Maha Karuna Buddhist Society



Mr. Krishnar offering scholastic items to Buddhist Peace School. The items were for both preschool and primary school children.



Ms. Sarah Namutebi interacting with our BPS children in their classrooms after donating play materials.

SUPPORTING UGANDA BUDDHIST CENTRE

UBC activities are made possible by many supporters from around the world. Therefore, we are eternally grateful 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.

UBC still needs your support:

To maintain resident teachers/monastics

To maintain the Temple

To build monks accommodation facilities

To construct and operation of Buddhist Secondary School

How to Donate

1. For donors in the USA

1. Please write out the Check/Cheque to:

Universal Virtue Buddhist Charities

2. Please Write in the Memo of the Check:

Dana for Uganda Buddhist Centre or Bhante Buddharakkhita

3. Please take a photocopy of the check and send it via email: ugandabuddhistcentre@gmail.com

4. Please Mail the check to the physical address below:
Universal Virtue Buddhist Charities
C/O Hung Pham
10222 Larson Ave.
Garden Grove, CA 92843

Donate Online

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

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

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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!

HOW TO DONATE. wire transfer

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