



UGANDA BUDDHIST CENTRE

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IN THIS ISSUE



UGANDAN MAYORS VISIT
TEMPLE TO LEARN ABOUT
BUDDHISM AND MEDITATION

0



BUDDHIST PEACE SCHOOL
BEGINS ITS SECOND
ACADEMIC YEAR

02



BHANTE SPEAKS AT THE
SCIENCE, SPIRITUALITY, AND
HUMAN AWAKENING SUMMIT

2



BHANTE WELCOMED BACK
WITH A CULTURAL DANCE

05



UGANDAN MAYORS VISIT TEMPLE TO LEARN ABOUT BUDDHISM AND MEDITATION

The Mayor of Katabi Town council, Mr. Ronald Kalema, and a team of other mayors from different town councils across Uganda recently visited the temple to learn about Buddhism, temple programs, and activities. The team included members from the Lake Victoria Region Local Authorities and Counties Cooperation (LVRLAC), and their visit was aimed at gaining insight into the teachings of the Buddha and how meditation can bring peace and happiness.

During their visit, the team was amazed by the teachings of the Buddha and the serene environment of the temple. They learned about the various programs and activities that the temple offers, including meditation sessions, Dharma talks, and community outreach programs.

One of the highlights of the visit was when the representative of LVRLAC Mr. Paul Mugambe, also the Mayor of Nakawa in Kampala city, planted a moringa tree to mark their visit at the temple. This gesture

symbolized the team's appreciation of the temple's commitment to environmental sustainability and the importance of preserving nature.

The team's visit is a testament to the growing interest in Buddhism and meditation in Uganda. The temple's commitment to promoting inner peace and environmental sustainability has attracted visitors from all walks of life, and its programs and activities have positively impacted the local community.



BUDDHIST PEACE SCHOOL BEGINS ITS SECOND ACADEMIC YEAR



Elizabeth teaching meditation to Peace School pupils

We are happy to announce that the Buddhist Peace School (BPS) has officially opened for its second academic year on February 6th. The Buddhist Peace School is a unique learning institution that combines academic excellence with the teachings of Buddhism, helping students develop compassion, wisdom, and mindfulness. Our school is committed to providing a holistic education that nurtures the heart, head, hands, health and happiness of each student. Our team of dedicated teachers is passionate about creating a safe and supportive learning environment for our students. We believe that every student has the potential to excel academically and spiritually, and we strive to bring out the best in each and every one of

them.

This year, we are excited to welcome some new members and teachers to our school community. We have admitted 23 more children in various grades, and we have also registered 4 pupils who will be sitting their primary leaving examinations this year. Moreover, BPS welcomed more teachers and volunteers bringing with them a wealth of experience and knowledge, which we are confident will greatly benefit our students. Some of our volunteers like Julie, are engaged in continuously empowering our teachers and giving them more tools and skills in positive behavioural management, learning approaches, while teaching French, fine art and other learning areas. While, Elizabeth Mpyisi with her wealth of experience and skills in mindfulness is

teaching both the preschool and primary mindfulness meditation, which has demonstrated positive outcomes in conduct and attention of our children. On the other hand, Cyril is scrupulously engaging teachers with mind training tools and techniques, as well as teaching maths, finance and economics to upper graders.

We really look to this year as another year of growth, learning, and discovery.

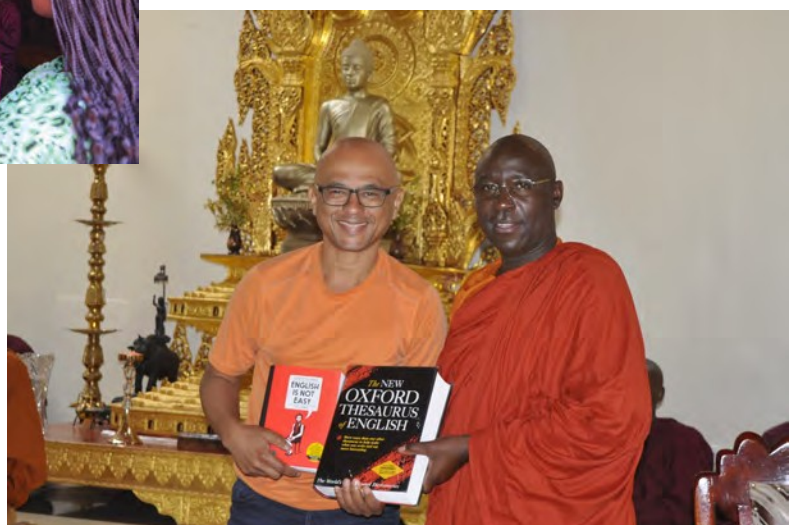
Thank you for your continuous support, and we are greatly indebted to all of you who are generously sacrificing your resources including time, money, and energy to support us.



(L) Julie Wyard teaching fine art to preschool pupils, and (R) teaching French to primary pupils.



Cyril teaching maths to P.4 pupils.



Cyril and Bhante while donating some school items for Buddhist Peace School.



BHANTE SPEAKS AT THE SCIENCE, SPIRITUALITY, AND HUMAN AWAKENING SUMMIT

We are excited to share with you that Bhante Buddharakkhitaw was one of the speakers at the recent Science, Spirituality and Human Awakening summit, which took place from the 13th to the 15th of February 2023 in Auroville, Tamil Nadu. The summit was organized by the Auroville Foundation in honor of the 150th birth anniversary of Sri Aurobindo, a spiritual philosopher and nationalist leader.

The theme of the summit was particularly pertinent given the current state of the world. The human community is facing a series of unpredictable challenges, from climate change to political instability, and it is becoming increasingly clear that we need new ways of thinking and acting if we are to overcome these challenges.

The summit brought together scientists, spiritual leaders, and thinkers from around the world to explore the intersection between science, spirituality, and human awakening. Through a series of talks, workshops, and discussions, participants explored how these different fields can come together to help us understand ourselves and the world around us more deeply.

Bhante's talk emphasized the practice of recognizing both relative and ultimate reality while in Session IV which focused on "Redefining Reality". What we perceive sometimes is not what actually it is. Questions like; what is time? What is space? What is matter? is there an objective reality? Long accepted principles of physics are now being challenged by mainstream

science. Is science catching up to what the adepts have known? Were broadly discussed. The acknowledgement that consciousness creates matter, not the other way around, and that we exist in a multi-dimensional universe, radically alters our world view, with evolutionary implications. The dialogue also focused on whether we are approaching that breakthrough moment. This fourth dialogue of the Summit was between Geshe Lharampa Dorjee Damdul, Director, Tibet House New Delhi (Tibet India), and Ven. Bhante Buddharakkhita, Founder Uganda Buddhist Center.





The Buddhist Peace School is actively preserving and promoting cultural values through music, dance, and drama. By incorporating these traditions into the curriculum, the school is helping to ensure that children have a strong connection to their cultural heritage, which is important for their overall sense of identity and belonging.

On the February 25, 2023, children welcomed Bhante back with a cultural dance and drumming and this was a wonderful way to demonstrate the school's commitment to cultural preservation and celebration. It also serves as a reminder to the students and staff that they are part of a larger global community that values tradition and diversity.



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:

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