



**UGANDA BUDDHIST CENTRE**

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## UGANDA BUDDHIST CENTRE RECEIVES MR. CHENG FROM SINGAPORE

On April 22, 2023, Mr. Cheng, a distinguished representative of China at the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), embarked on a journey to visit his long-time friend, Bhante Buddhakkhita. Together, they share a common vision of fostering peace, mindfulness, and moral-based education. They are both drawn to the expansion of a self-sustainable Buddhist Peace School in Uganda that would nurture students and provide them with a conducive learning environment, grounded in principles of compassion, love, mindfulness, and peace.







During his stay at the Uganda Buddhist Centre (UBC), Mr. Cheng actively engaged in sharing his knowledge and skills with the local community. He dedicated himself to teaching Buddhist Peace School children the ancient arts of Tai Chi and Qigong, allowing them to experience the benefits of physical and mental well-being. Beyond the physical practices, he also imparted invaluable teachings on Buddhist principles, emphasizing the law of karma and ethical conduct to the UBC staff. These lessons served as a guiding light, encouraging individuals to reflect on their actions and cultivate compassion towards others.

Remarkably, Mr. Cheng's visit to the UBC was not only about teaching and sharing knowledge but also about fostering connections and expanding support networks. Recognizing the importance of collaboration, he aimed to help the UBC expand its network of support by reaching out to individuals and organizations who shared their vision of promoting peace and mindfulness through education. This network would prove instrumental in establishing the firm foundations of the Buddhist Peace School.

Taking their vision beyond the confines of the UBC, Bhante and Mr. Cheng have a scheduled journey together to Taiwan, a land known for its rich Buddhist heritage. Their mission is to meet potential donors and solicit support for the

expansion of the Buddhist Peace School. By leveraging their collective expertise, influence, and shared passion for a holistic and moral-based education, they aim to inspire philanthropists and individuals alike to contribute towards this noble cause.

The goal of the Buddhist Peace School is to provide a learning environment that nourishes the mind (head), hands heart, health and happiness. Through a comprehensive curriculum, students will be exposed to academic knowledge and skills, while also receiving teachings on compassion, love, mindfulness, and peace. By instilling these values at an early age, the school seeks to nurture future generations who are not only academically proficient but also ethically responsible and compassionate individuals.

Overall, the expansion of the Buddhist Peace School represents a bold and transformative step towards nurturing a generation rooted in compassion, love, mindfulness, and peace. Through the tireless efforts of Bhante, supported by the collective vision and generosity of donors and supporters, this self-sustainable school in Uganda will become a beacon of hope for students seeking an education that extends beyond academic excellence. By integrating Buddhist principles and teachings into a comprehensive curriculum, the school aims to create a profound impact on individuals, communities, and Africa at large, fostering a culture of peace and understanding for posterity.



Mr. Cheng signing in the Visitor's book at the Buddhist Peace School

Mr. Cheng being welcomed by the Buddhist Peace School Cultural group







## EMBRACING COMPASSION AND CULTURAL HARMONY: UBC CELEBRATES VESAK DAY

On May 7th, 2023, the Uganda Buddhist Centre came alive with the joyous celebrations of Vesak Day. Among the participants were esteemed guests, including Hon. Rachel Magoola, the Woman Member of Parliament for Bugweri district. The event also welcomed local community members and a remarkable group from Ndese fishing village in Kigungu, Entebbe. This article recounts the inspiring moments of compassion, cultural harmony, and the power of meditation that unfolded during this auspicious occasion.

The spirit of compassion and love echoed deeply as the Uganda Buddhist Centre and their partner, the Buddhist Tzu Chi Charitable Organization from Taiwan, joined hands to provide relief to the families affected by the devastating fire that engulfed Ndese landing site and fishing village in 2022. Tons of food items were donated, bringing succor to 232 families who had lost their property and belongings. This act of generosity not only provided immediate relief but also sparked a profound connection with Buddhism, inspiring many to attend the temple every Sunday to learn about its principles.

A highlight of the Vesak Day celebration was a mindfulness meditation practice. This serene and introspective session captivated both seasoned practitioners and newcomers alike. Hon. Rachel Magoola expressed her appreciation for the practice, envisioning the benefits of

Buddhist meditation being taught to all Ugandans, including parliamentarians. Bhante, in his Dhamma talk, emphasized meditation as a transformative tool for community wellness, offering a path to inner peace and harmony.

One of the poignant moments of the program was the symbolic bathing of the Baby Buddha. This ritual served as a profound reminder of the importance of purifying oneself to attain ultimate peace and freedom. The act inspired attendees to reflect on their own spiritual journey and the need for continuous purification of thoughts, speech, and actions to cultivate a harmonious and compassionate society.

Eloquently, Bhante shed light on the significance of Vesak Day, particularly in the context of the current state of Africa.

Amidst turbulent times, Vesak Day serves as a beacon of hope, reminding individuals of the power of compassion, wisdom, and unity. The celebration acted as a unifying force, bringing diverse communities together to foster understanding, compassion, and a shared commitment to a peaceful coexistence.



Adding a touch of local cultural flavor, the pupils of the Buddhist Peace School showcased a vibrant cultural presentation. This delightful display illustrated the harmonious coexistence of different cultures (African and Buddhist) without conflicts, a principle deeply embedded in Buddhist teachings. The performance served as a testament to the power of mutual respect, appreciation, and understanding across diverse cultural backgrounds.

Indeed, Vesak Day celebration at the Uganda Buddhist Centre was a testament to the transformative power of compassion, cultural harmony, and mindfulness meditation. The event served as a catalyst for healing, rebuilding lives, and inspiring individuals to embark on a spiritual journey rooted in compassion and wisdom. By fostering a sense of unity and understanding, the Uganda Buddhist Centre continues to create a nurturing space where people from all walks of life can come together, learn, and embrace the principles of Buddhism for the betterment of themselves and their communities.





Bhante (R), Mr. Cheng (M) welcoming Hon. Rachel Magoola to the Temple

Attendees participating in the mindfulness meditation session



Hon. Rachel Magoola experiencing the power of mindfulness meditation

Dr. Kaing Son and family making their offering to the monks



The Buddhist Peace School cultural group entertaining attendees.





# BHANTE BUDDHARAKKHITA'S DHAMMA TOUR 2023

## DHAMMA TALKS @ BF WEST CENTRE

- TUE, 23 MAY | 7:30pm - Exploring the Causes of Suffering
- THU, 25 MAY | 7:30pm - Three Characteristics of Existence
- SAT, 27 MAY | 2:30pm - Youth Service : Bringing Buddhism to Africa
- SUN, 28 MAY | 10am - Right Speech
- TUE, 30 MAY | 7:30pm - Breaking Through Self-Illusion
- THU, 01 JUN | 7:30pm - Exploring the Middle Position of the Buddha's Teaching
- SUN, 04 JUN | 10am - Emptiness

## VESAK DAY MEDITATION RETREAT\* @ BF WEST CENTRE

- FRI, 02 JUN | 9am - 3pm - "Liberation through Non-Clinging"
- \*Please register via Eventbrite: <https://vesak2023retreat.eventbrite.sg>

## VESAK CELEBRATION @ CHUI HUAY LIM CLUB

- SAT, 03 JUN | 8:30am - The Triple Gem :  
Designed for the Highest Happiness - Nibbāna

# BHANTE BUDDHARAKKHITA'S DHAMMA TOUR IN SINGAPORE AND TAIWAN



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[www.buddhistfellowship.org](http://www.buddhistfellowship.org)



Buddhist Fellowship



[buddhistfellowshipsg](https://www.youtube.com/buddhistfellowship)



[t.me/buddhistfellowship](https://t.me/buddhistfellowship)

We are delighted to share with you the exciting news of Bhante Buddharakkhita's Dhamma tour in Singapore and upcoming visit to Taiwan. Our beloved spiritual leader, Bhante, has embarked on a journey to spread the teachings of the Buddha, engage in meaningful dialogue, and strengthen connections with fellow practitioners in these vibrant Buddhist communities.

Currently, Bhante Buddharakkhita is in Singapore as a guest of the Buddhist Fellowship. During his stay, he will be conducting a series of enlightening Dhamma talks, guiding meditation sessions, and participating in the joyous Vesak Day celebrations. His profound wisdom and compassionate presence will undoubtedly inspire and uplift all those who attend these events clarity and warmth has touched the hearts of many (for a detailed schedule of Bhante's visit in Singapore please visit <https://www.buddhistfellowship.org/>)

Following his stay in Singapore, Bhante will travel to Taiwan, where he will meet various stakeholders. This visit presents an excellent opportunity for fostering connections and exchanging ideas with fellow practitioners, Buddhist organizations, and individuals

dedicated to the propagation of the Dhamma. Through these engagements, Bhante will continue to promote interfaith dialogue, peace, and understanding, nurturing relationships that transcend geographical boundaries.

We eagerly anticipate Bhante's return to the Uganda Buddhist Centre on June 12, 2023. His experiences and insights gained during this journey will indeed enrich our Sangha and further enhance our collective understanding and practice of the Dhamma.

Moreover, we greatly extend our deepest gratitude to the Buddhist Fellowship in Singapore and all those involved in organizing this Dhamma tour. Their warm hospitality and support have facilitated this meaningful exchange, nurturing the bonds between our communities.

Let us rejoice in Bhante Buddharakkhita's noble mission, and may his teachings continue to illuminate our hearts and minds as we strive for peace, wisdom, and compassion in our lives.



Bhante Buddharakkhita with some of his Singaporean devotees



Bhante Buddharakkhita with some of his new Singaporean devotees.



## 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/>

<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!

**HOWTODONATE. wiretransfer**

**Beneficiary's Bank Details:**

**Bank Name : I & M Bank Limited**

**Bank Account Number: 41261302010523**

**Bank Account Name: Uganda Buddhist Centre**

**Swift Address: ORINUGKA**

**Bank Address: Orient Plaza, 6/6A, Kampala Road.**

