



UGANDA BUDDHIST CENTRE

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INTERNATIONAL BUDDHIST DAY CELEBRATION AT THE UGANDA BUDDHIST CENTRE.

On Saturday, April 12th, the Uganda Buddhist Center celebrated the International Buddhist Day (IBD). The event commenced with meditation and also marked by solemn insights and reflections, was led by Venerable Bhante Buddharakkhita, embodying the spirit of peace and harmony. Among the distinguished participants was Princess Diana Balizza Teyegala from the Buganda Kingdom.

The ceremony commenced with Bhante Buddharakkhita, leading the meditation session and also shedding light on the significance of the International Buddhist Day, particularly in the African context. He emphasized the universal message of what Buddhism is, of doing Good, avoiding evil and purify the mind. He also gave more light from the perspective from the people who think that

Buddhism is all about praising statues and pictures but some people more so from Katwe Primary school in Kampala came out and testified basing on what Bhante taught them, saying that Buddhism is all about loving kindness and compassion.

Bhante Buddharakkhita also led the bathing of the Baby Buddha, symbolizing purity and enlightenment. This ritual, steeped in tradition, was a reminder of the timeless teachings of Buddhism, transcending geographical and cultural boundaries.



Accompanying Bhante Buddharakkhita were one senior monk, Venerable Pandicca and Three nuns that is Ven. Daw Kesa Vati, Ven. Daw Panna Siri, and Ven. Dhammakami (a.k.a Felista Nampiima) is the first African Theravada Buddhist nun whose presence added a sense of sanctity to the proceedings. Their wisdom and grace inspired all present, reinforcing the core values of Buddhism – wisdom, compassion, and liberation from suffering. Furthermore, in attendance were 18

Novice monks and 27 Novice nuns, along with the community members.

Blessings, chanting and prayers, evoked a sense of peace and spiritual awakening. As participants reflected on the teachings of the Buddha, they were reminded of the profound impact of mindfulness and compassion in navigating life's challenges.

The celebration was also a reminder of the universality of Buddhist principles and their relevance in today's world as participants reflected on a collective commitment to building a more peaceful and harmonious world.





UBC CELEBRATES 20 YEARS OF PEACE AND PURPOSE

The Uganda Buddhist Centre (UBC) marked a major milestone on April 12, 2025, celebrating 20 years of peaceful presence and service in Uganda. The colorful event, held under the theme “20 Years of Peace and Still Going,” also coincided with International Buddhist Day.

The celebration was graced by Her Royal Highness, the Princess of Buganda, Diana Balizza Teyeggala who was a Guest of Honor. In her keynote address, she applauded the Centre’s efforts in promoting peace, education, and spiritual awareness. “UBC is not just a spiritual space,” she noted, “but a beacon of learning and compassion in our society.”

One of the day’s highlights was the official opening of the African Buddhist High School, a visionary project aimed at combining academic excellence with moral and spiritual grounding.

The Princess commended this initiative as a step forward in holistic education for Ugandan youth.

Founder and spiritual director Venerable Bhante Buddharakkhita took the audience through UBC’s inspiring journey from its humble beginnings in 2005 to becoming a vibrant center of peace, education, and service. He reflected on the challenges faced in introducing Buddhism in Uganda, and the determination that fueled the Centre’s growth.



“We started with a single temple and a vision for peace,” Bhante shared. “Today, we have a thriving school, a medical clinic, and a growing community that values mindfulness and compassion.”

Bhante emphasized the Buddha’s core message: “Avoid evil, do good, and purify the mind.” He urged all in attendance to become agents of peace in their homes and communities.

The celebration featured cultural performances, community tributes, and a symbolic cake-cutting ceremony. It also marked the beginning of a series of events leading up to the official anniversary celebration on August 9, 2025.

UBC’s 20-year journey is a story of resilience, compassion, and purpose. As we look to the future, the Centre remains committed to building a peaceful and awakened society one heart at a time.





THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE AFRICAN BUDDHIST HIGH SCHOOL.



VEN. DHAMMAKAMI POURING WATER ON THE BABY BUDDHA



THE UGANDA BUDDHIST CENTRE 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS



GRATITUDE MESSAGE FROM THE ABBOT: VEN. BHANTE BUDDHARAKKHITA

I am eternally grateful to all our supporters around the world who have supported the Uganda Buddhist Center projects, like Compassion Care Center, to provide education, food and accommodation for the orphans. And the Buddhist Peace Schools, preschool, primary school, and African Buddhist High School to help us educate children from our community, who are underprivileged, and do not have access to holistic education. Through your support, women in our com-

munity have acquired skills that have enabled them to earn income, sustain their families and take their children to school.

We are grateful for all your continued support. And also, I would like to welcome more support so that we can continue to help people in Uganda.

Thank you very much. This is my blessing to you all.

May you have long healthy life, May you be happy, May you be peaceful, May you have spiritual strength, May you be free from suffering and its causes.

Sadhu, sadhu, sadhu.

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
2. Please write out the Check/Cheque to: Universal Virtue Buddhist Charities
3. Please Write in the Memo of the Check: Dana for Uganda Buddhist Centre or Bhante Buddharakkhita
4. Please take a photocopy of the check and send it via email: ugandabuddhistcentre@gmail.com
5. Please Mail the check to the physical address below: Universal Virtue Buddhist Charities C/O Hung Pham 10222 Larson Ave. Garden Grove, CA 92843

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<https://www.every.org/uganda-buddhist-centre-ug>

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.

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Thank you!

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