



UGANDA BUDDHIST CENTRE

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UGANDA BUDDHIST CENTRE HOSTS SEMINAR CONNECTING BUDDHISM AND AFRICAN UBUNTU PHILOSOPHY.

The Uganda Buddhist Centre recently held a two-days seminar themed "Dhammobuntu – Buddha Dhamma Meets African Ubuntu," drawing spiritual leaders, educators, and community advocates from across our village and nearby areas of Kampala together with our Buddhist community.

Led by Venerable Bhante Buddharakkhita, the retreat explored the integration of Buddhist teachings (Dhamma) with the African philosophy of Ubuntu, aiming to offer a rounded understanding of humanity's place in the world.

The retreat opened with a reflection on the universal values shared between Dhamma and Ubuntu. Bhante Buddharakkhita emphasized the importance of reclaiming one's humanity through interconnectedness, a principle common to both traditions.



GROUP DISCUSSION



Participants were guided through meditative practices that highlighted the significance of presence, moral conduct, and the inner calm essential for personal and communal well-being.

One of the key sessions featured educator Julie, who presented her work at Entarataambe Primary School, a model institution grounded in Ubuntu values. She outlined how the school's 12 core values, including generosity, kindness, honesty, and resilience, are actively lived out through daily school activities. Her presentation sparked engaging discussions on education reform and the relevance of Ubuntu in contemporary society.



Participants also explored the ethical implications of spiritual teachings, particularly in the context of human choice and universal laws. The retreat stressed that while certain natural dynamics, such as predator-prey relationships, may be beyond moral judgment, humans possess the unique ability to choose compassion, mindfulness, and non-violence in their actions.

Group discussions centered around three guiding questions: Does Africa need Buddhism? How can Buddhism relate to African culture? And how can African people connect with it authentically?

The responses overwhelmingly affirmed Buddhism's relevance, with participants advocating for culturally sensitive approaches to teaching, including storytelling, social media, and community-based initiatives such as schools and hospitals.

The retreat concluded with a strong call to action for the development of a uniquely African expression of Buddhism, one that honors traditional wisdom while addressing modern challenges.

Participants expressed a unified commitment to expanding what has been termed "African Dhamma," emphasizing peace, compassion, and moral integrity.

The Uganda Buddhist Centre continues to stand as a pioneering force in this integration effort, nurturing a spiritual movement that bridges continents and cultures through shared values and collective humanity.



Walk in the Buddha's Footsteps: Secure Your Spot for the 2026 India & Nepal Pilgrimage.



India & Nepal March 2026 In a rare and transformative opportunity for spiritual seekers around the world, RetreaTours, in collaboration with Tricycle: The Buddhist Review, has announced the return of its acclaimed pilgrimage, Walk with the Buddha. The 2026 edition will be led by Venerable Bhante Buddharakkhita, founder of the Uganda Buddhist Centre and one of Africa's pioneering voices in engaged Buddhism.

Running from March 8 to 21, 2026, this immersive journey invites participants to trace the footsteps of the Buddha himself from his birthplace in Lumbini to his enlightenment under the Bodhi tree in Bodhgaya, to his first teaching in Sarnath, and finally, to his peaceful passing in Kushinagar.

For those seeking an extended spiritual experience, an optional post-tour extension in Kathmandu, Nepal, will run through March 24, offering time for reflection, exploration, and community connection.

This is more than a pilgrimage; it is a profound return to the roots of the Dhamma, says Ven. Bhante Buddharakkhita. It's an invitation to connect deeply with the teachings in the very places where they were first shared.

A Spiritual Journey Grounded in Ethics and Sustainability

The pilgrimage is intentionally designed to honor Buddhist values not only in practice but in logistics. The tour is carbon-negative, thanks to RetreaTours' partnership with Carbonfund.org, and prioritizes cultural sensitivity, mindful travel, and ecological responsibility. Participants will benefit from:

- Daily meditations and teachings with Bhante Buddharakkhita
- Guided visits to the Four Holy Sites and surrounding communities
- An intimate group setting to foster deep spiritual reflection
- Thoughtfully arranged accommodation, meals, and transportation for a seamless and nourishing journey.





Buddhist monk in Uganda, Africa. He first encountered Buddhism in 1990 while studying in India and was fully ordained as a Buddhist monk by the late Sayadaw U Silananda in 2002 at the Tathagata Meditation Center in San Jose, California.

He then spent eight years under the guidance of Bhante Henepola Gunaratana at the Bhavana Society, in West Virginia.

Bhante Buddharakkhita founded the Uganda Buddhist Center, the Buddhist Peace Primary School and African Buddhist High School in Uganda. He is a long-time member of Global Buddhist Relief's advisory council in New Jersey. Bhante has been teaching mindfulness meditation in Africa, the U.S., Singapore, and worldwide since 2005.

His book, *Planting Dhamma Seeds: The Emergence of Buddhism in Africa*, tells the story of his religious and spiritual work in Africa.

Global Interest Already Building

With limited availability and international interest growing, early registration is highly encouraged.

To learn more and reserve your place, visit:

www.retreatours.com/Buddha2026

The Buddha's teachings are timeless. This pilgrimage is a reminder that the path he walked is still alive today within us, and across the world, Bhante Buddharakkhita.

Walk in the footsteps of the Buddha with Ven. Bhante Buddharakkhita and Tricycle on a pilgrimage through India and Nepal, March 8–21, 2026.

Optional extension to Kathmandu.

Reserve your place today

<http://www.retreatours.com/Buddha2026>

Registration Link below

<https://docs.google.com/.../IFAIPQLScoQFFUGqI.../viewform...>

And even, Ananda, as with the body of a universal monarch, so should it be done with the body of the Tathagata; and at a crossroads also a stupa should be raised for the Tathagata. And whosoever shall bring to that place garlands or incense or sandalpaste, or pay reverence, and whose mind becomes calm there — it will be to his well being and happiness for a long time.

— Mahaparinibbana Sutta, 5.26





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

Donate Online

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

<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.

Use Wise or Xoom.

Thank you!

HOW TO DONATE. wire transfer

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Bank Name : I & M Bank

Bank Account Number: 41261302010523 Bank

Account Name: Uganda Buddhist Centre Swift

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

