

# Maha Bodhi Society

## Bengaluru

Sabbe Sattā Bhavantu Sukhitattā

May All Beings Be Happy!

## Annual Report 2016-2017







## BODHI RASMI PAGODA



*Built in memory of*  
**Venerable Dr. Acharya Buddharakkhita**  
*Abhidhaja Aggamaha Saddhammajotika*  
*Founder of Mahabodhi Organisations*  
**Narasipura, Bengaluru North**



Namo Tassa Bhagavato Arahato Sammasambuddhassa

## **MAHA BODHI SOCIETY**

### **BENGALURU**

## *Annual Report*

**1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017**

Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru, was founded in 1956 by the Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita. The aim of the Maha Bodhi Society is to put into practice and teach the most sacred teachings of the Buddha through spiritual, educational, medical and other humanitarian services. Venerable Acharya passed away on September 23, 2013. Though the Venerable Acharya is no more physically with us, however, his great ideals and legacy of Dhamma will continue to inspire and guide us to propagate the noble teachings of Lord Buddha. The Maha Bodhi Society has been growing with humanitarian services year by year.

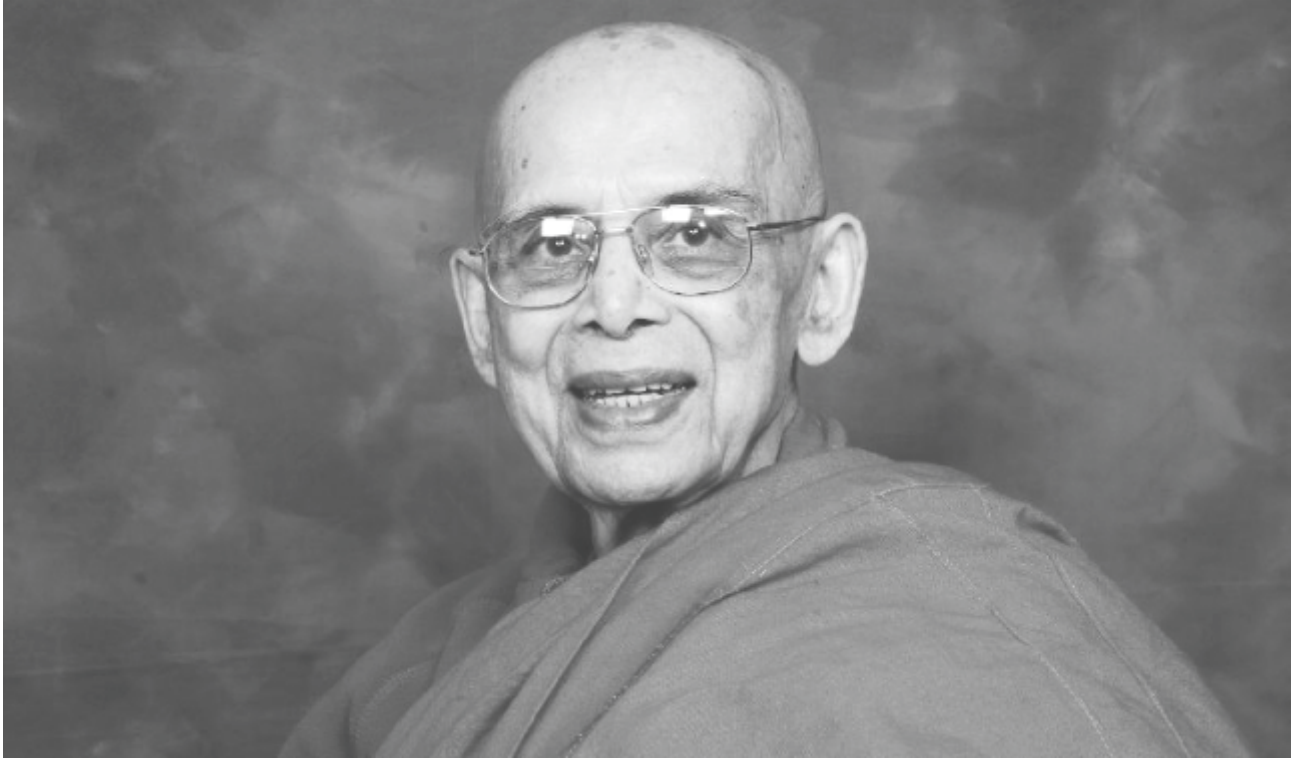
The following is the report of the activities of the Maha Bodhi Society (MBS) during the year 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.



*Buddha statue at Loka Shanti Buddha Vihara*

2016 - 2017





*Most Venerable Dr. Acharya Buddharakkhita,  
Founder President, MBS and its sister organizations*

### MAHABODHI MONASTIC INSTITUTE

Mahabodhi Monastic Institute (MMI) is an important pioneering venture of MBS with the main focus on training of monks. It is the one of the main training centres in entire India, where they learn Buddha's teaching through theory and practice. The MMI was started in the year 2001 by Most Respected Bada Bhanteji, Venerable Dr. Acharya Buddharakkhita with the aim of providing all facilities for self realization through a monastic living and for reviving the Dhamma in its birth place India. Practical part of the Dhamma is one of the most important parts of the training program.

MMI successfully completed its session 2016-17. During the year there were 104 students and 22 teachers. The lists of students are as follows.

NAMES	STATES
Karnataka	4
Ladakhi	2
Odia	2
Maharashtra	2
Tripura	37
Arunachal Pradesh	50
Mizoram	10
Bengali 1 Assamese	7
Burmese	6
Uttar Pradesh	5
Total	126



*MMI monks with Teachers*





### Following are the subjects taught in MMI:

1. Pali language of Buddhist literature
2. Vinaya - Monastic Disciplinary rules and monastic life
3. Sutta - Philosophy
4. Abhidhamma – Psychology and Deeper study of the Dhamma
5. Buddhist History
6. English
7. Hindi
8. Kannada
9. General Knowledge
10. Computer
11. Basic Science & Mathematics
12. Social science & Indian Culture



*MMI monks with Most Venerable Ajhan Dtun*

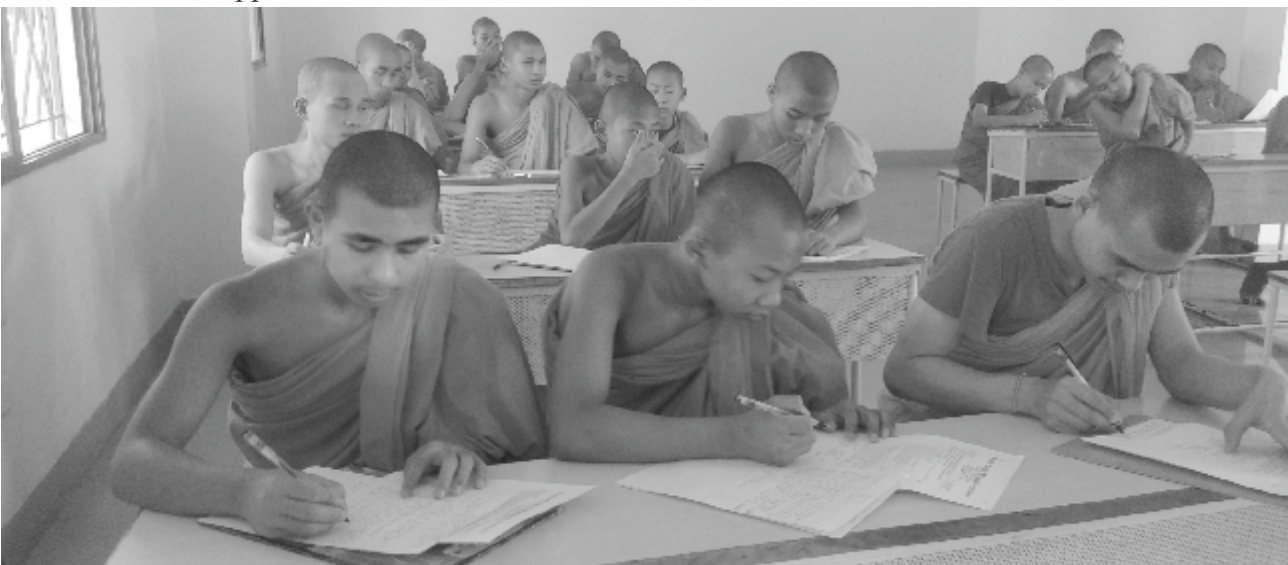
The daily schedule constituted intensive study, work and practice programs as it can be seen from the below time table. Apart from other activities there were four periods in the morning session and three periods in the afternoon session. There were all together 22 teachers during this Academic year; 16 monk teachers, 5 lay teachers and one nun. We had visiting teachers from Myanmar this year. Four monks from Myanmar who are expert in Pali, Buddhist ethics and Buddhist psychology have taught in the institute. Venerable Sayalay Yasanandi from Mahabodhi Gotami Vihara imparted Dhamma knowledge to our students as a guest teacher. Four teachers taught General subjects like languages, computers social science and Indian history and culture. Many volunteers too gave their service and we are very grateful about it.

### Visiting Monks:

Apart from regular teachers, there were guest monks from Mahabodhi branches and from abroad like Thailand, Burma and Sri Lanka who took classes for the monks and shared their Dhamma knowledge.

### Examination and Results:

Examinations have been conducted at a regular interval, monthly half-yearly and annually. All the monks of MMI have passed their examinations successfully with good percentage. Venerable Saddharakkhita topped in MMI with a brilliant 94%.



*MMI monks writing examination*

2016 - 2017

**Regular chanting and meditation:**

Daily chanting and meditation in the morning and evening is an important program of MMI monks. It is compulsory to attend the chanting and mediation session as this is an integral part of monk's duty and practice like attending classes in the school.<sup>3</sup> MMI monks performing puja

**Meditation Program:**

Mediation is the heart of a monk's life. Learning without practice becomes dry intellectual information collection, whereas learning through meditation helps us to grow in wisdom. Each class group was sent to Mahabodhi Dhammaduta Vihara for a week for meditation practice and pindapata. Ven.Bhikkhu Sugatananda ran the meditation program for monks and trained them. In order to encourage young monks above 18 years and train in intensive meditation, 35 MMI monks have participated in a 10 days Vipassana Meditation at the Mahabodhi Dhammaduta Vihara. Vipassana teacher Venerable Dhammika from Sri Lanka conducted the monk's meditation course. Every participant expressed positive response after the course. We do conduct such courses every now and then. Venerable Visuddhananda Bhante from Srilanka conducted a special retreat for monks for a week at Satipatthana Bhanvana Kutira.

*Vishwa Maitri Stupa**MMI monks doing meditation**Monks meditation course at Dhammaduta Vihara***Tipitaka chanting:**

Ten monks from MMI participated in the 13<sup>th</sup> International Tipitaka chanting ceremony held at Bodhgaya annually. They recited the Buddha vachana under sacred Bodhi tree and led the chanting on behalf of Indian Sangha.

**Dhammaduta program and pabbajja ordination:**

As part of training during summer holidays from April – May, senior student monks were sent to respective Maha Bodhi centers to teach Dhamma in their villages. They inspired the villagers and even their parents with Dhamma teachings. Some of them conducted temporary pabbajja programs in Mysore, Namsai and Tripura.

*MMI monks participating in International Tripitaka Chanting Ceremony at Bodhgaya*





*Pabbajja course*



*Monks teaching Pabbajja course participants*

### **Hospital Dana service:**

The life of service which was set by Bada Bhanteji, our beloved teacher is followed with same amount of dedication and compassion. Every Tuesdays and Saturdays, carrying cooked food with lots of love and care monks regularly visited the Kidwai Cancer hospital and served the poor cancer patients. They not only gave them the food but gave them blessing and counseling for their mental health and peace of mind. This program continued till December 2016. We are hopeful of starting similar programs again in future. Other than that, we also conducted hospital dana service on full moon days at Mahabodhi Burns center at Victoria Hospital, bengaluru.



*Hospital dana by MMI monks*

### **Intensive English Course:**

An intensive month-long English course was conducted for all the monks of MMI during from November 28-December 23. Ken and Vishakha Kawasaki of Buddhist relief mission Srilanka conducted the intensive course efficiently with their English experts team. With the team effort and able leadership of the principal of MMI the course was very successful and rewarding. There were changes among the students in English communication and speaking skills. We are grateful to Buddhist Relief Mission of Srilanka and their team of teachers.



*English Course teachers with MMI monks*

2016 - 2017



*MMI monks in intensive English course*



*MMI monks getting certificate after attending intensive English course*

#### **Art and Craft projects:**

Skillful in arts and handicrafts is indeed a blessing. MMI has not lacked behind in this department. Monks are time to time given exposure to develop their creative skills. One volunteer from America Ms. Judith La Scola conducted the art and craft projects, in which they learnt how to make paintings on paper and canvas, paper crafts, making greetings and flowers etc. In the festival season they make beautiful painting and greetings.



*MMI monks in drawing competition*





### Achariya Puja:

Respecting the Dhamma teacher is an important culture in MMI. Keeping in line the ancient tradition, achayira puja was arranged by the students to honor the teachers. The MMI students worshipped their teachers with offering for their good health and long life. Representatives from each class expressed their gratitude towards the teachers.



*MMI monks paying homage to Bada Bhanteji statue*



*MMI monks paying homage to Ven. Kassapa Bhanteji*

### Summer camps:

There was a month long summer camp as a holiday program. Mental exercises like, Dhamma quiz, debates etc. Creative competition like, drawing clay modeling etc. and Indoor games were organized. The students participated actively in the program and were awarded with prizes.

### Educational Tour:

During the end of year of study, a trip was organized for the monks to Mysore and Hyderabad in two batches as part of their study tour program. They visited many historical sites and learnt many new things.

### COURSES:

The courses offered were **PSLC**: Pali School Leaving Certificate at **Nalanda Pali Vijjayatana** – Primary and secondary school education from class one to class tenth. **Pariyatti Pathama**: Diploma course in Pali and Buddhist Studies along with teaching techniques for duration of one year. **Pariyatti Majjhima and Pariyatti Uttama**: Degree course in Buddhist studies consist of duration of two years equivalent to Bachelors degree.

### EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

Gardening, decorations, management of water, cleaning, drawing, arts, robe making, creative writing, debates, indoor sports, quiz programs; painting etc formed the extracurricular activities. They are also trained in getting vegetables, flowers and fruits from the market for daily use and for hospital Dāna services.



*MMI monks during educational tour to Hyderabad*



*Extracurricular activity*

2016 - 2017



*Our monks busy in gardening in Dhammaduta Vihara*



*MMI monks decorating stupa*



*MMI monks decorating flowers*

#### **FOOD:**

The monks were provided with wholesome, simple vegetarian food. Keeping in view the food habits of different parts of India, south Indian, north Indian and North-east Indian food items are prepared. As the Buddha taught, food is to maintain good health so that one's spiritual pursuit is not disturbed. Many times there were offerings by lay people who normally came and participated in serving the food.

#### **HEALTH CARE:**

Regular medical checkup and health care were maintained. Whenever they fell sick, monks were taken to Mahabodhi Mallige Hospital for diagnosis and specialized treatment. During the year there were no major health problems.

#### **WARDENS:**

There are five dormitories for the monks named as Lokanatho, Gotamo, Sambuddho, Sugato and Buddho dormitories. Senior students are accommodated in one single dormitory for serious study. There are five warden monks with one assistant each to take care of discipline of the monks. There is also a chief Superintendent. In each dormitory normally there are 25 monks. They are also provided with a shelf to keep their robes, books, etc.

#### **EXPENSES:**

The average expense per month per monk is Rs. 4000/- for food and essential facilities. Education, Clothing, medicine, books and stationery expenses are extra. The contribution is made from the **Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita Foundation to provide Monastic Requisites** and the rents from the Sevakshetra building are the main source of income. Lay people also offer Dāna in cash and on some days they offer food. It was the wish of Bada Bhanteji that everyday there should be offering by lay people which are considered as ideal situation for a monastery.





**TIME TABLE:** A suitable time table has been formulated for the integrated development of the monks. The time table as follows.

Timing	Activities
04:30 am	Wake up and getting refreshed
05:00 am to 06:00 am	Puja, Meditation
06: 15 am to 07: 00 am	Breakfast
07:00 am to 7:30 am	Dhammapada Class
07: 45 am to 08:45 am	Cleaning, Decorating and study
8:45 am	Morning Assembly
09: 00 am to 11:00 am	Morning Classes
11: 15 am to 12: 00 am	Lunch Break
12:30 am to 01:45 pm	Rest
02: 00 pm to 04: 15 pm	Afternoon Classes
04:15 pm to 05: 45 pm	Tea, Cleaning, Game and Bathing.
06: 00 pm to 07: 00 pm	Evening Puja and Meditation
07:00 pm to 07: 30 pm	Gilanapaccaya Juice
07: 30 pm to 09: 00 pm	Home Work
09: 00 pm to 09: 30 pm	Metta Chanting and Instructions by Wardens
09:30 pm	To bed

Saturday afternoon it is cleaning time in the monastery and dormitories and monks shave and wash clothes. Sunday afternoon is free time.

**ORAL TRADITION TRAINING PROGRAM:** In keeping with the oral tradition of training and preserving the Buddha Dhamma the monks are trained in memorization of the Suttas, Vinaya rules, Abhidhamma patthana and Dhammapada Gathas. They recited entire Dhammapada on the occasion of Bada Bhanteji's Birthday.

**MORNING ASSEMBLY:** Every day in the morning from 7.00 to 07:45 AM all the monks assemble for discussing daily issues and work and studies. It is also time to train monks to give Dhamma talk to a gathering. This program is in keeping with the Buddha's advice to get together often and discuss issues concerning monastic life and Sangha matters.

**ADMISSION OF THE NEW STUDENTS:** During the current year 15 new students were admitted to the institute and few left to their native places.

### **Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita Foundation to Provide Monastic Requisites**

The monks need four basic requisites, namely food, robes, vihara and medicine. To provide these requisites to the monks of Mahabodhi Monastic Institute, Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita created this foundation on the occasion of 2550<sup>th</sup> Buddha Jayanti in 2006, which is a registered trust. A corpus is developed and the interest accrued on this corpus is donated to the Maha Bodhi Society for maintaining the monks. To make the monastery fully self reliant the corpus needs to be increased to Rs. 3 crores. At present the corpus stands at 108 lakhs. We appeal one and all to contribute generously to this fund so that the monastic requisites for the monks can be procured without any difficulty and monks can practice spiritual life with ease.

**Mahabodhi Research Center**

Maha Bodhi Society with its research center tied up with Tumkur University in Karnataka is offering PhD in Buddhism where fourteen students from Mahabodhi Society are pursuing the same. There were no new admissions this year and only in the coming year new admissions will be done as per the norms of the Tumkur University.

**Mahabodhi Center For Theravada Buddhist Studies**

In order to promote awareness of the authentic teachings of Lord Buddha, Maha Bodhi Society has established Mahabodhi Centre for Theravada Buddhist Studies. The center was working in collaboration with the Karnataka Open University in the previous years. But unexpectedly in 2015, due to sudden changes in the government regulation, the program with KSOU was cancelled. Now we have submitted our application to the Karnataka Sanskrit University for the collaboration to run Diploma and Degree courses in Buddhism and Pali language from the coming year.

Our program will be based on our aims of making known Buddhism through a systematic character-building educational system. Buddhist education means not only providing information about Buddhism, i.e. theoretical aspect of Dhamma, but also training candidates both institutionally and through distant education imparting method in the practice of Dhamma by way of meditation training (Bhavana) and ethical discipline (Sila), good social behavior, humanitarian service program etc. The idea behind the training programs is practical education to bring about a qualitative change in daily life with verifiable results and harmonious social interaction. The training apart from understanding Buddhism and Buddhist living, will promote goodwill and harmony among the various Buddhist traditions to begin with, and extend the same further to interfaith amity programs, i.e. how best to live with people holding different religious views and beliefs. It is important that the candidates are trained to live in harmony with people, with nature and with oneself.

**Classes on Pali and Abhidhamma**

Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita has started classes on Pali and Abhidhamma which are continued by his disciples. Every week classes for Pali, Abhidhamma and Sutta were conducted by the monks of Maha Bodhi Society and also by the guest teacher monks from Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand. At present, there are 2 monk teachers, One Sayale (Nun) and One lady teacher from Myanmar.

**Tipitaka Translation****Kannada Tipitaka Project:**

A separate section has been established in the university building as translation department. The translation work of the Tipitaka books into Kannada language is going on. It is the wish of the founder and one of the main objectives of the Maha Bodhi Society to translate the Tipitaka into major Indian and foreign languages. The work is going on in full swing and new books are coming out. In the year 2016-2017 seven volumes were brought out.

*Kannada Tipitaka books*





## Telugu Tipitaka Project

Already Visuddhi Magga has been translated in Telugu and the same has also been published by us. Seven books including the Vinaya Parajika have been published. We are very grateful to the Government of Andhra Pradesh, Shri C.Anjaneya Reddy (Retd.DGP of Andhra Pradesh) and the translators.

## Social Activities

As per Lord Buddha's method there should be harmonious relationship between monastic and lay people. Therefore he taught that the lay people should take care of the material needs like food, clothing, medicine and dwelling of monks, the monks in turn help the lay people with Dhamma teaching giving them proper guidance for right living. To create this occasion lay people come to vihara or invite monks to their homes for different ceremonies.

During the year several Sanghadana were organized at the Vihara, where the lay people came and offered lunch to the monks and at the end of the lunch got benediction from the monks along with Dhamma discourse. Sometimes monks were invited to their homes where normally three monks attended and sometimes more than three. Normally monks are invited for reciting paritta chantings on the occasion of the inauguration of the new house, birthdays, anniversaries, death ceremonies, etc. The Mahabodhi monks have conducted these programs very effectively to the satisfaction of the devotees. Therefore there is a very harmonious relationship between lay people and monks at Mahabodhi.

## Mahabodhi Book Center

Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru, has been publishing books on Buddhism, mainly written by Ven. Acharya Buddharakkhita since inception. Apart from our own publications we have been receiving many books from Taiwan, Sri Lanka and other places. A showroom called BUDDHIST SHOP is running since three years beside the main gate of Mahabodhi. A well decorated and furnished shop now displays and distributes free books as well as books for sale along with other objects like Buddha statues, flags, robes and puja materials etc.

## Sunday Dhamma Discourses:

Bada bhanteji started Dhammadana program, giving gift of Dhamma without any expectation in return way back in 1956-57. Since then without any break every Sunday Dhamma discourse is given. During the year too without break every Sunday monks gave Dhamma discourses. The Sunday program starts with chanting of the Buddha Vandana and Suttas followed by administering Tisarana and Pancasila. Then one monks guides the devotees through meditation for 30 minutes and another monk gives a discourse, normally based on some Sutta needed for the daily life of the people. About 100-150 people attended the program every Sunday. It can be said that this is one of the longest standing Dhamma programs going on regularly in whole of India.



*Sunday discourse programme*

## Daily Program

Everyday puja and meditation were conducted regularly. Morning it is from 05:00 to 06:30 AM and evening it is from 06:00 to 07:30 PM. On full moon days there was special puja at 10 AM. Blessing ceremonies and merit sharing ceremonies were conducted whenever devotees requested. Everyday new people visit the society and a monk or devotee normally guides them explaining the activities, teaching meditation or counseling.



## Library

It houses good collection of books on Buddhism, other religions and also on non-religious subjects. The Sacred Pali Tipitaka in several scripts and translations are the most valuable treasure of the Library. Measures are being taken for the preservation of the books, particularly the old ones. Many books have been added during the year. A modern book reading and information system have been upgrade with barcode facility. A new premises has been renovated and furnished. This library premises is named as Sangayana, so that this name becomes familiar to people and will make them understand the importance of Sangayanas which preserved the holy Pali scriptures. It has spacious reading rooms and makes a convenient place for people coming from outside to study about Buddhism in peaceful environment. It was long aspired by the devotees of Maha Bodhi to have access to the Dhamma books in our collection. With the opening of the library, this has been fulfilled and now people can access the books and enhance their understanding of the Dhamma. A library membership programme has also been started so that people can avail of this library facility at a minimal cost.



*Inauguration of Sangayana library along with the Mayor of Bengaluru*

## Extention of Monks' Residence

Since the Mahabodhi Monastic Institute is growing it was felt that we invite qualified teachers from other places including abroad. To make more space for the teacher monks, we have constructed 7 rooms. The rooms have been constructed above the Buddho dormitory. The Buddho dormitory has also been renovated fully by strengthening the structure. Now we have more place to accommodate teacher monks. In future, as and when the need arises, we will construct more dwelling places for monks.

## Monks' Dhammaduta Programs

Ven. Kassapa Mahathera travelled extensively in the North East, North India in Ladakh and South India and everywhere he gave Dhamma talks. Ven. Ananda travelled to Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura, Kolkata, and Chennai, various parts Telengana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka in relation to Dhammaduta activities. Ven. Ananda's Europe tour for teaching Meditation and Dhamma to our supporters as well as to people of Europe was in October to December 2016. He visited Germany and Switzerland and gave Dhamma talks extensively. Ven Buddadatta travelled to Sri Lanka with Ven Dhammagaveso to participate in the conference on Buddhism and meditation. Ven Sanghadatta also





travelled to Sri Lanka in related Dhammaduta service. Later he travelled to Arunachal Pradesh to teach at the Monastic Institute. Venerable Dhammaloka had travelled around Mysuru and other district of Karnataka to promote and inaugurate Buddhist Viharas. Ven Sangharakkhita travelled to Arunachal Pradesh and Mumbai to promote the message of Dhamma. Ven Sugatananda travelled to Hubli and later to Myanmar to practice and learn the meditation and to come back to India to teach. Ven. Panyaloka was occupied with various Dhammaduta work in Assam and around the North East conducting meditation and various Dhamma ceremony in the memory of senior Monks who passed away in 2016. Ven Ratthapala travelled with Ven Dhammananda to Tawang, Arunachal Pradesh to teach the villagers and to construct Dhamma Stupas.



*Ven. Ananda teaching meditation in Germany during a Dhammaduta tour*



*Ven Ananda with Sudha Murthy, Chairperson, Infosys Foundation*

Like previous year, this year too 10 monks and 2 Kappiya visited Buddhist holy places in January. They have participated in International Tripitaka Chanting in Bodhgaya. This was conducted in memory of Bada Bhanteji, Most Venerable Acharya Buddhharakkhita as Punyanumodana, merit sharing. We are thankful to Upasika Monica Thaddey for her generous support. Monks did puja and meditation at every holy place.

In this way, systematic Dhammaduta programs are going on. This was one of the wishes of Bada Bhante, i.e. to give the Dhamma freely to as many people as possible and thereby remove suffering from their hearts and give solace.

### **Pabbajja Programs**

Pabbajja meditation programs were conducted for character building education and for meditation. Temporary ordination is important part of Buddhist spiritual practice to develop on the path of enlightenment. The temporary ordination programs went on throughout the year and many other men and women, both from India and abroad participated in these programs. Pabbajja program for children were also organized to instill the moral values and simplicity in life at very early age.

### **Donations**

People have offered donations to run the activities of the Maha Bodhi Society. We are very grateful to all the donors for their contributions big or small. May the blessings of the Buddha, Dhamma and Sangha surround their lives and that of their families with well-being and wisdom! May they all be happy and well! All the donations were duly acknowledged with official receipts.

### **Mahabodhi Karuna Medical Center**

Mahabodhi Karuna Medical Center is running some important and effective services. The ground floor is used for free camp and various divisions are made in collaboration with Arogyaseva, an NGO offering free medical health care and bring various awareness programs related to health and environment. High tech 3D printing machine are bought to build artificial hands and the work is in progress. The first floor is shared by the Cancer society of India and Karunashraya Trust to the serve the



cancer patients. Indian Cancer Society (ICS) and Karunashraya are not-for-profit Community based Health organisations dedicated to eliminating Cancer as a major health challenge. They operate through a community of volunteers and, have been fighting cancer across Karnataka. The center also has a small meditation room and puja room to promote peace of mind and the message of Lord Buddha.



*Inauguration of Mahabodhi Karuna Medical center*

### Endowments

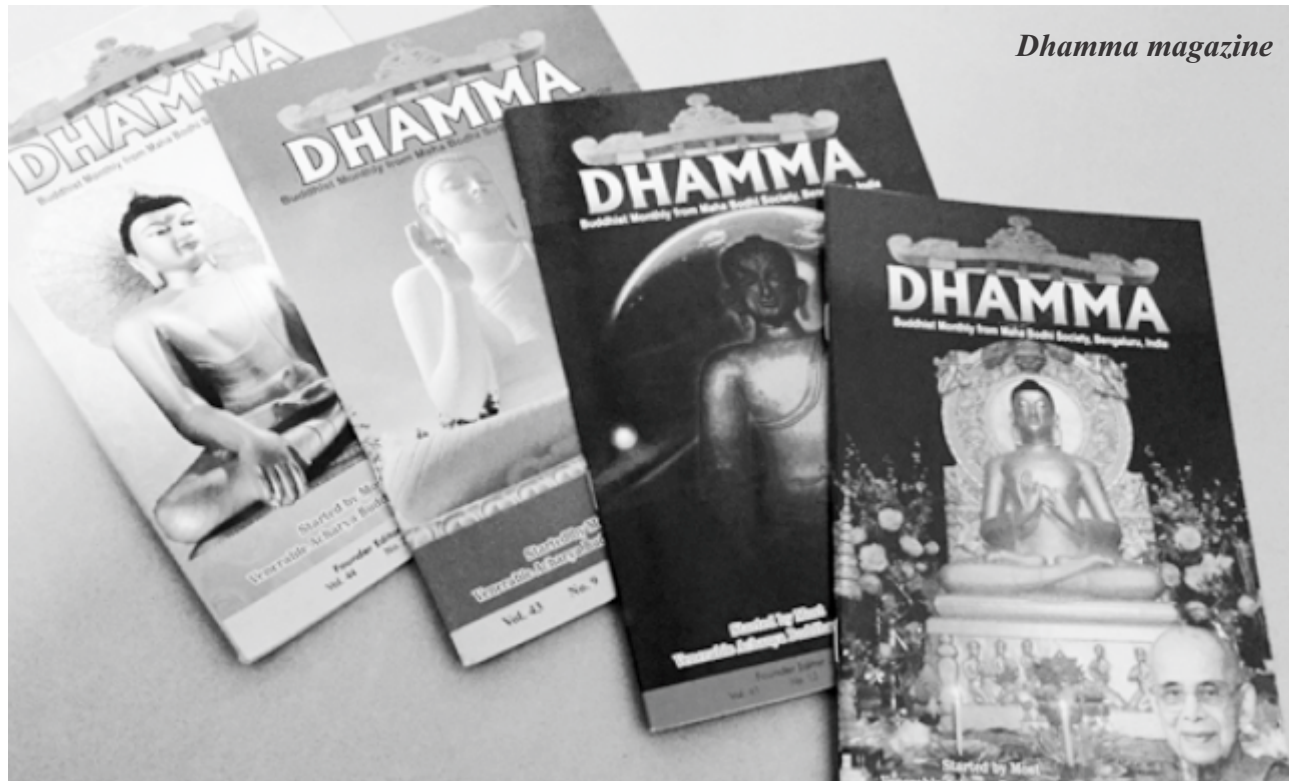
The following are the endowments for conducting humanitarian activities, which were established many years back. We are grateful to all these donors and wish them happiness.

- Smt.Shakuntala Venkatakrishnappa Endowment
- Smt.C.S.Savithamma Endowment
- Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita Endowment
- Dr.Nanjamma V.Setty Endowment
- Smt.Sheshamma Endowment
- Lt.Gen.B.M.Rao Endowment
- Dr.A.S.Venkatachalam Animal Welfare Trust
- Shri N.A.Raju Endowment
- Smt.Shela Srinivas Endowment
- Shri R.Narayanaswamy Endowment
- Smt.Swerty Devi Endowment
- Shri Channappa Subbamma Endowment
- Shri. Madhava Mallya Endowment
- Shri. U.Nagendra Nayak Endowment
- Smt.Shambhavi Gongolli Endowment
- Smt.A.Bhagyalakshmi Endowment
- Smt.U.Prema Nayak Endowment
- Smt.Chinnamma and Sri B.V.Krishnamurthy Endowment
- Dodda Mane Maggada Dr.M.R.Narendrakumar and Family Endowment
- Sarayu, Sandhya, Rajaram Endowment
- Shri.P.N.Raju Endowment
- Shri. Y.B.Nandana and Family Endowment
- Prof.S.S.Arakeri, S.Nagaratna Arakeri and Family Endowment
- Shri L.Shivalingaiah, Thejovathi, Chandrakala and family Endowment
- Smt. Jayalakshamma & Shri. Narasimha Murthy Memorial Endowment





## DHAMMA and BUDDHA DHAMMA Magazines



*Dhamma magazine*

The English monthly magazine DHAMMA, which was started in the year 1972 and has been published continually and during the year of report too it was published all the 12 months. Ven. Sugatananda as editor and other monks worked hard to bring out the magazine. Upasaka Ramesh Krishnamurthy was appointed to edit and proof read the Dhamma Magazine this year. BUDDHA DHAMMA in Kannada is a bi-monthly magazine and it is also coming out regularly. Upasaka Anish Bodh is helping with proof reading and editing. The articles in these two magazines contain mainly on the life of the Buddha, suttas, jataka, meditation, Buddhism in daily practice, Pali language, Mahabodhi Society News and reports etc. We are trying to take Dhamma magazine to a higher level and this would require substantial financial assistance from our supporters. We request one and all to subscribe and contribute generously in this regard.

### Publications

Bada Bhanteji was a prolific writer, writing books of immense value till his last days. The mastery he had on Pali literature in presenting the original teachings as contained in the Tipitaka is very rare to get. During the year many books were published by the Maha Bodhi Society as follows:

1. **Our Life And The Dhamma** by Venerable Dr Acharya Buddharakkhita
2. **Samyuttanikaya (Sagathavagga) Volume 1 (Kannada)**
3. **Samyuttanikaya (Salayathanavagga) Volume 4 (Kannada)**
4. **Samyuttanikaya (Nidhana Samyutta) Volume 2 (Kannada)**
5. **Samyuttanikaya (Nidhana Samyutta) Volume 2 (Kannada)**
6. **Anguttara Nikaya (Thikanipathapali) Volume 2 (Kannada)**
7. **Anguttara Nikaya (Panchakanipatha) Volume 4 (Kannada)**
8. **Anguttara Nikaya (Chatukka Nipata) (Kannada)**
9. **Vipassana Dhyana** by Venerable Tawung Pulu Tawya Sayadaw
10. **Dana Hrudaya Vikasana** by Anish Bodh
11. **Pali Language & Literature** by Venerable Dr Acharya Buddharakkhita

2016 - 2017



12. **Anguttara Nikaya- Pancaka Nipata (Kannada Tipitaka Granthamala)** Translated by Ganesh Shenoy.
13. **Spectrum of Truth- Collection of 30 Dhamma talks** by Ven Acharya Buddharakkhita.
14. **Dhammapada-** Translated by Ven Acharya Buddharakkhita.
15. **Life's Greatest Blessings** by Ven Acharya Buddharakkhita.
16. **Nibbanakke Dari (the path to Nibbana)** Translation in Kannada by Smt Jayamani R V
17. **Nalku Ariya Satya (the Four Noble Truth)** Translation in Kannada by Smt Jayamani R V
18. **Parajika Pali (Telegu)**
19. **Pacittiya Pali (Telegu)**
20. **Jataka Story (Telegu)**
21. **Udana, (Telegu)**
22. **Itivuttaka, (Telegu)**
23. **Khuddakapatha, (Telegu)**
24. **Cariyapitaka (Telegu)**

**Video Documentaries produced are**

1. Kathina Festival 2015
2. Buddha Bhumi Yatra- Pilgrimage to Buddhist Holy places
3. Heritage of Enlightenment- Documentary on Ven Acharya Buddharakkhita

**Audio CD released are-**

1. Paritta Chanting
2. Buddha Geetanjali



*Book release programme at Loka Shanti Buddha Vihara*





## MAHA BODHI SOCIETY BRANCHES

Maha Bodhi Society, Bangalore, has established branches in Narasipura, Mysore, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura and Hyderabad. Several activities were conducted there too. The report of them is as follows:

### MAHABODHI DHAMMADUTA VIHARA A CENTER FOR MORAL AND SPIRITUAL EDUCATION

This center was started by Most Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita and he laid foundation on the occasion of 2550<sup>th</sup> Buddha Jayanti Celebrations. The purpose of this center is to run residential courses in meditation and intensive Dhamma studies to teach the moral values, meditation, character building education, personality development programs so that a strong vibrant and patriotic society is built in India. Venerable Bhikkhu Sangharakkhita had been the in charge of this center. This centre is managed by one in-charge monk, two novice monks, one manager and six staff. There were many meditation and other spiritual programs conducted throughout the year. During the year 28 residential courses were conducted where hundreds of people got benefit.

#### Inauguration of Bodhi Rasmi Pagoda

On June 26, 2016 Bodhi Rashmi pagoda was inaugurated by Most Venerable Ajhan Dtun Thiracitto from Thailand. He is one the famous living meditation masters belonging to forest monastery tradition of Most Venerable Ajhan Chah and one of the direct disciples of Most Venerable Ajhan Chah. He has been conducting meditation retreats all over the world. Many eminent monks from Myanmar, participated in the inauguration. Their names are as follows:

Ven. Sayadaw Nandhobhasalankara, Ubhatovibhangadhara

Ven. Sayadaw Shwe Nant Thar Thitala, Dvipitakadhara

Ven. Sayadaw Vasetthalankara, Tipitakdhara

Ven. Sayadaw Obhasabhivamsa, Pathamakyam Tha-Sa- A Dhammacariya

Ven. Sayadaw Vepullalankara, Dvipitakadhara Palipagaru

Ven. Sayadaw Nyanika, Paliparagu

Ven. Sayadaw Maghinda, Vinayadhara

Ven. Sayadaw Nyanadhaja, Dhammacariya



*Inauguration of Bodhi Rasmi pagoda*

2016 - 2017



Apart from these monks, many other monks also participated in this program. In addition, a group of devotees from Switzerland led by Ms Monica Thaddey also took part in this program. This Pagoda has 58 individual meditation cells where meditators can meditate. It is unique in the sense that this is for the first time in South India any pagoda has been built. Subsequent to the inauguration of Bodhi Rasmi Pagoda, Ven. Ajhan Dtun conducted five day meditation course at the Pagoda. Monica and her group also attended the course conducted by Ven. Ajhan Dtun. This is gradually developing to be a great place for meditation and will help in propagating the Buddha Sasana.

### **Dhamma Vaddhani Sima**

Construction of Dhamma Vaddhani Sima was completed this year. This sima was consecrated last year by the venerable monks from all over the world. Now this sima is being used for conducting various monastic activities.

### **Bodhi Prakara – Platform around the Sacred Bodhi Tree**

Four years ago a sacred Bodhi Tree sapling from Buddhagaya was planted in the Dhammaduta Vihara garden and it has been growing fast. A beautiful Bodhi Prakara – platform around the Bodhi tree has been built which was conceived by Ven. Ananda Bhanteji and designed by a Sri Lankan architect Ishara under the guidance of Venerable Subodhi bhikkhu of Mahamewnava monastery. The platform has been constructed with granite stone with railings and dhammacakkas, etc which has the ancient look.



*Inauguration of Bodhi Prakara*

### **Meditation programs**

Meditation courses are conducted regularly in Kannada, Hindi and English languages by monks from Mahabodhi as well other places. Separate courses for monks as well as lay devotees are conducted. There have been 28 retreats conducted last year at Dhammaduta Vihara. Every month at least two programs are conducted. In addition to the residential meditation programs, pabbajja or temporary ordination courses are also conducted so that those who cannot become monks for their whole lives at least can get a chance to experience the joy of monastic life for a short time and can draw inspiration for progressing in their spiritual lives. We have also conducted moral and spiritual workshops for college students and professionals. So far, thousands of people have attended the meditation courses and benefited immensely.





*Ven Ajhan Dtun teaching meditation during meditation retreat*



*Budddha Dhamma Bhavana course*



*Our monks meditating at Dhammaduta Vihara*

One of the highlights of this year has been the meditation courses conducted by Venerable Visudhananda Bhante from Sri Lanka. He conducted Satipatthana course for one month in December 2016. 47 people participated in the course.

### **Sewage Treatment Plant**

Due to shortage of water we have built sewage treatment plant and installed water purifier machine. A lot of sewage water is being recycled and we are using this treated water for gardening purposes.

### **Other activities**

There has been extensive plantation activities throughout the year. A lot of medicinal plants and fruit trees were planted within the campus. We are getting organic vegetables and fruits from our garden and serving the same to the meditators during the meditation course, which is very beneficial for healthy life style. Organic pickle of mangoes during mango season was also prepared and was served during the courses.



*Fresh vegetables at Dhammaduta Vihara Garden*



*Flowers at Dhammaduta Vihara garden*

*Buddha statue and lotus pond**Kathina celebrations at Dhammaduta Vihara*

Because of rapid development in the garden, our center now looks like a forest meditation center. During weekend, many visitors are coming to the center from city and outside the city.

We have extended the dining hall where more people can be accommodated.

Our deep gratitude goes to Ms. Monica Thaddey of Switzerland who has helped for the center to be developed into this beautiful place.

### MAHABODHI MYSURU BRANCH

This center was established in the year 1972-73 and since then it has been an active educational center providing character building moral education along with academic education.

There are three main activities in Mysore –

**1. Mahabodhi School** – The school has functioned well in the last year with dedicated staff and hard working children. There were 440 children during the year with 22 teaching staff and 10 non-teaching staff. We are proud to report that 2016 -17 batch of X Std students have brought laurels to the school by their excellent results. We achieved 97% results with very good scores in X CBSE Examination held in March 2017. Out of 29 students, 2 students got 10 CGPA, 4 students got 9 CGPA and above, 7 students got 8 CGPA and above, 10 students got 7 CGPA and above, 5 students got 6 CGPA and above.

The academic activities included apart from regular teaching, lot of lab activities, library activities, project works and seminars. Many other programs were conducted like World Environment Day, Student Council Election, Investiture Ceremony, Yoga Day, Green Day, Independence Day, Teacher's Day, Cartoon's Day, Blue day, Kannada Rajyotsava and Exhibition, Library day, "Chiguru Habba" Annual Day Celebration, Republic Day, Farewell program for X std. Cocurricular activities like Fancy dress competition, hand writing competition, career explore @ 2016, drawing competition, Rangoli and Floral decoration competition, collage making competition, poster making competition, collage making competition, cooking without fire competition were conducted. Meditation and yoga were regular part of the curriculum. The children also fared well in sport activities.

*Ven Ananda giving advice to students at Mahabodhi School Mysore*





*Chiguru Habba*



*Principal and students during plantation drive*

## 2. Mahabodhi Carla Students Home

The institution is engaged in running hostel and school for the children from different parts of india. During the year 2016-17 there were 182 students residing in Carla Home. It is administered by two venerable monks, a manager, 8 wardens and other 8 staff (cleaner, cooks, security) and volunteers who are temporarily based in Carla Home from time to time for the smooth functioning of the hostel.

### Structure of Carla Home

number of floors	:	4 (including base floor)
number of dorms	:	8
number of washrooms	:	8
number of children	:	182
number of wardens	:	9
number of cooks	:	2
umber of security	:	1
vacancy for guest/parents	:	1 room
number of other staff	:	8

### Organisation of Carla Home

Director	:	Ven. Bhikkhu Dhammaloka
Asst. monk in charge	:	Ven. Buddhaloko
Manger	:	Mr. Vittho

### CLASSWISE LIST

CLASS		NO. OF CHILDREN
LKG	:	2
UKG	:	6
1 <sup>st</sup>	:	10
2 <sup>nd</sup>	:	13
3 <sup>rd</sup>	:	16
4 <sup>th</sup>	:	20
5 <sup>th</sup>	:	25
6 <sup>th</sup>	:	19
7 <sup>th</sup>	:	25
8 <sup>th</sup>	:	20
9 <sup>th</sup>	:	13
10 <sup>th</sup>	:	13
Total	:	182

**STATEWISE LIST**

STATE	NO. OF CHILDREN
Andhra Pradesh	: 1
Arunachal Pradesh	: 92
Assam	: 1
Bihar	: 1
Jammu and Kashmir	: 25
Karnataka	: 13
Maharashtra	: 6
Mizoram	: 6
Tripura	: 18
Uttar Pradesh	: 8
West Bengal	: 1
Total	: 182

Various Events took place in Carla home during the year 2016-2017. All the programs were carried out under the guidance for venerable monks and the dedicated staff.

*Blessing by Most Venerable Ajan Dtun to Carla Home students**Bada bhante death anniversary at Carla Home**Chanting and meditation at Carla Home**Bhantes from Burma visiting Carla Home**Inauguration of peace March by Mayor of Mysore Mr. Bhyrappa**Hospital Dana Service by monks and Carla Home students*





*Visit of Bhante Ananda at Carla Home*



*Peace March - Buddha Jayanthi*



*Sangha Dana at Carla Home Mysore*

### 3. Mahabodhi Mettaloka Youth Center

Mahabodhi Mettaloka Youth Center in Mysore is a branch of Mahabodhi Maitri Mandala Mysore and functions under its guidance. In this center, college going students of Mahabodhi Maitri Mandala are accommodated. During the year 2016-17 there were 24 boys and 1 warden. The students follow a strict time table as laid down by the institution.

### MAHABODHI DIYUN BRANCH

The Diyun branch was started in 2003 with a small school and girl's hostel in a temporary shed. Today Mahabodhi campus has developed into an active center in about 20 acres of land and has constructed school, hostel for both boys and girls and other, monastery, Bodhi Mandapa, Stupa, Buddha Statue, Sima, Sujata Diary, staff quarters and other utility buildings.

The following activities are going on in the campus:

1. Mahabodhi School.
2. Mahabodhi Rita Girls Home.
3. Mahabodhi Boys home.
4. Mahabodhi Monastery.
5. Mahabodhi Moral training centre.
6. Mahabodhi Medical centre.
7. Mahabodhi Sunday school program for Children.
8. Mahabodhi Sujata Dairy project.
9. Mahabodhi Agricultural program.
10. Mahabodhi Malaria prevention program.
11. Mahabodhi Loka Shanti Dhamma stupa.
12. Mahabodhi Sacred Bodhi tree.
13. Mahabodhi Dhammavijaya Meditation centre.

**1. Mahabodhi School:**

Mahabodhi School Diyun provides holistic education. It runs classes from KG to 12th standard. There were 590 students and 28 teachers during the year. As a part of moral education two our monks taught dhamma to the students every day as a part the curriculum.



*Students and staff of Mahabodhi school Diyun in Morning Assembly*



*Motivational session for school staff by Ms. Debbharati*



*Mahabodhi Diyun school students during Anti-Drugs rally*

**2. Mahabodhi Rita Girls Home:**

During the year there were 187 children at Mahabodhi Rita Girls Home and 6 care-takers taking care of the children and 7 staffs and 1 watchman at the Rita Home. The children were well taken care of by providing good facilities and nutritious food every day. Monthly health checks up were conducted by our doctor and nurses. The wardens took extra classes to the children every evening. English was introduced as medium for daily communication at Rita home. Apart from their normal studies, Dhamma teaching and meditation were also taught to them every morning and evening and on every Sunday.

**3. Mahabodhi Boys Home:**

During the year, there were 50 children with 2 care-takers, 3 staffs and a watchman. The boys were also looked after very well by our hostel care-takers. They were very healthy during the year. Like girls, apart from learning general subjects, they also learn Dhamma and meditation which help them in their study. Daily puja and meditation at the boy's hostel is part of their curriculum.

Many activities and programs were also conducted for the children for their development in the field of education and in the field of Dhamma.

**4. Mahabodhi Monastery:**

There were 25 monks students at Mahabodhi Monastic institute with 3 senior Dhamma teachers to teach Dhamma. Apart from attending normal classes, the monks are taught Dhamma, Meditation, Puja





and Vinaya every day. Two lay teachers are also appointed to teach secular subjects to the monks. English, Maths, Science, Hindi and computer are some of the subjects that are taught to the monks.

### **Extension of Monastery**

A dormitory for monks is under construction which is donated by devotees from Bengaluru. It has the capacity to accommodate 20 monks. We are thankful to the upasakas who donated for this much needed project.

### **5. Mahabodhi Loka Shanti Stupa and Bodhi Tree:**

Every morning and evening the monks and the children go around the stupa and bodhi puja and do puja. On full moon days and on other special occasions, we light candle and incense sticks in the Stupa and Bodhi tree. Part of the Bodhi tree was destroyed last year but it has come up very well now. We have reinforced it with soil around the Bodhi tree. Recently, our monks painted the Bodhi Mantapa and Stupa beautifully.

### **6. Mahabodhi Dhammavijaya Meditation centre:**

It is the main hall where all spiritual programs are conducted. It is located in the heart of Mahabodhi Campus. Monks do puja in the morning and evening. Every evening the children of Rita home and Boys hostel join the monks in puja and mediation. Dhamma discussion, meditation. Sunday program and other Buddhist functions are also held in the Dhammavijaya Hall. This year, Dhamma-umbrella was installed on the roof-top and the entire roof was painted. The walls inside the Dhamma hall are decorated with beautiful paintings related to the life of the Buddha and sayings of the Buddha.



*Mahabodhi Dhammavijaya  
Vihara Diyun*



*Dhamma programme during Buddha Purnima*

2016 - 2017



*Procession during for Buddha purnima being led by monks from Mahabodhi Diyun*



*Pabbajja course at Mahabodhi Diyun*

## 7. Mahabodhi Karuna Charitable Medical center:

The Mahabodhi Medical Centre was established on 18th October 2014 with an objective to serve the under privilege tribal and non tribal people living in the Diyun circle, Changlang district of Arunachal Pradesh. Our medical team comprises of one doctor, three nurses, one lap technician, one cleaner, a driver and a manager. We serve mainly the people of Diyun area, which is thickly populated with total population of 32007 residing in 31 villages. We provide indoor and outdoor patients services, lab service, maternity service, pharmacy, ambulance service among others. Free medical medical camps are organized in villages. Over 7000 patients were treated through this center during this year.



*During free medical camp in villages*

Other than these, various Buddhist festivals, such as, Buddha Jayanti, Dhammacakka Pavattana Day, Kathina Civara dana, Dhammapada Festival are celebrated at Mahabodhi Diyun, thus, keeping the Buddhist spiritual and cultural practices alive amongst the local population. Also, regular pabbajja programmes, meditation programmes and counseling sessions for the local youth are also conducted keeping in mind the need for imparting spiritual values.

## MAHABODHI TAWANG BRANCH, ARUNACHAL PRADESH

Bada Bhanteji wished to extend branches of Mahabodhi in the North-eastern part of India for the benefit of poor and needy people. And with the blessing of Bada Bhanteji and guidance from Bhante Kassapa and Bhante Ananda we established Mahabodhi center in Tawang under the leadership of Bhante Panyarakkhita in the year 2008 during Buddha Purnima. Today the centre runs a school for 150 children, a girl's hostel for 86 girls, a boy's hostel for 48 boys, an old age home for 14 orphaned senior citizens. Besides the centre has constructed a Dhammika stupa and has undertaken a project of erecting 108 stupas in Tawang.

We are very thankful to all the European and Indian donors, who are helping us in extending our help to them.





### Old age home:

This year, we lost two of our most beloved elderly people, Aye Khobhu and Aye Lankha. At present we have 14 elders. We have two ladies who are taking care of them day and night. As they are weak they need attention all the time everyday. The two ladies make sure that they are eating, their clothes are washed, their rooms are clean, their surrounding is clean, etc. And we are very thankful to them for their selfless service. We also have two cooks. Old age home is well equipped with medical room, tables, racks and other necessary items.

We are running the old age home at free of cost. All the expenses are met from the donation and we are planning to extend our help to 50 more elders.

### Children Home

The Maitri Children's Home is functioning well with presently 86 children looked after by 2 care-takers. We have admitted 10 new girls at the Children's home. In the first batch Ms. Mudita has completed her higher education and moved to Mahabodhi Lord Buddha College, Namsai to pursue her higher studies. The children are given well nourished food and apart from every day school we give dhamma teachings and tuition morning and evening.



*Ven Nyanapala and Girls Home inmates  
with guests at Mahabodhi Tawang*

### Boy's Home

The Siddhartha Boy's Hostel is operational with 48 children for this year. The building was built with the grants received from the Ministry of Culture for the construction of the boy's hostel. Out of new admissions, we are giving free hostel and school facilities for ten underprivileged children.

### Mahabodhi School

On 1st June, 2016 Mahabodhi Tawang Centre opened a Primary English School for class KG to 5th standard. In the presence of all school children and teaching faculties Ven. Nyanapala Bhante, the monk in-charge blessed the occasion with short puja for the well being and success of the school children and teaching staffs. Headmaster, Mr. Yati spoke briefly about starting this school and giving their best to students. The school is now operational with 150 children.



*Mr. Pema Khandu, CM of AP and  
Mr. Chowna Mein, Dy. CM of AP  
inaugurating Mahabodhi School at Tawang*



*Ven Kassapa Mahathera President MBS inaugurating  
the brochure along with Mr Pema Khandu  
CM of AP and Mr Chowna Mein Dy CM of AP*



*Students and staff of Mahabodhi school*

### Other Projects

The Dhammakhetta vihara has been completed and has also been consecrated by the monks. It has been built in a remote village called khet near Bhutan boarder. It has been started with the aim to give Dhamma counseling to the villagers and tuition to the village children studying in govt. schools in these remote areas. Now every uposatha days, special puja, meditation and other Dhamma programs are prganized at this vihara.



*Medical camp at Mahabodhi Dhammakhetta Vihara, Khet village*

Construction of 108 stupa is in progress with 12 stupas already completed and four are under construction, which are being dedicated in the name of four dearest persons who died last year, who were part of the Mahabodhi family, namely, Ven.Thanasabho, Ven.Kaccayana, Upasaka Dadu and Upasada Gowda. We share the merits gained from this noble projects with all for your good health, peace of mind and long life! All these developmental works were possible due to the hard work and dedications of Ven.Nyanapala, Ven.Panyasara and Upasaka Subho and Punya.



*Children summer Dhamma camp at Mahabodhi Tawang*





*Bhante Ananda consecrating five stupas at Tawang  
Chief Guist was Mr. Subhash Chandra Agrawal*



*Children perform traditional dance during  
Buddha purnima*

## MAHABODHI DEOMALI BRANCH

The Mahabodhi Deomali branch is located in the small town of Deomali in Tirap district of Arunachal Pradesh. A Monastery and a piece of land were donated by the devotees and well wishers of Deomali to the Mahabodhi Society in the year 2010. For this noble act, the Mahabodhi Society Bengaluru and Mahabodhi Maitri Mandala Deomali are very grateful to the people of Deomali.

The Mahabodhi Deomali Branch has established its activities in Dhamma and humanitarian fields. They are as follows:

1. Mahabodhi Maitri Boys hostel.
2. Mahabodhi Dhammavijaya Buddha Vihara;
3. Special Sunday Dhamma discourse;
4. Every morning and evening Dhamma classes for the youths;
5. Every morning and evening Buddha puja, meditation and Dhamma talks;
6. Dhamma activities in remote areas: and



*Ven Assaji welcoming Deomali MLA  
Wangki Lowang to Mahabodhi Center*



*Ven Assaji and Mr. Wangki Lowang on an  
inspection of Mahabodhi Land*

### 1. Mahabodhi Maitri Boys hostel:

Mahabodhi Maitri Boys hostel was started in the year 2014 with 27 children in the first batch. And at present we have 35 children. The children go to nearby government school. The children are trained both in academics and also in co-curricular activities. Some of our children have topped in the school in their respective classes.

Apart from the formal education at school, every morning and evening they learn and discuss Dhamma. Our main aim of starting the boy's hostel is that the younger generation should not only grow



with formal education but they also have a strong base of character building moral education so that they grow up to be good persons and benefit the society.

## 2. Mahabodhi Dhammavijaya Buddha Vihara:

Regular Sunday Dhamma discourse, every morning and evening Buddha puja, meditation, Dhamma discourse and discussion are conducted at the vihara. We also conduct temporary Pabbajja ordination programs for 10 students once in every 2 months. On every full moon and new moon days, candle puja are regularly held at Mahabodhi Dhammavijaya Buddha Vihara.

Apart from this Buddha Jayanthi, Dhammacakkha pavatana day, kathina Dhamma program and other Buddhist festivals are also being observed.



*Students of Mahabodhi Deomali hostel*



*Ven Assaji giving Dhamma talk to Mahabodhi Deomali students*



*Monks and lay students doing puja at Mahabodhi Deomali*

## 3. Special Sunday Dhamma Discourse:

Every Sunday morning at 9:00 AM, Dhamma discourse is conducted after the Buddha puja along with Meditation. We are teaching people as to how to live a good spiritual life and its benefits. They are taught about the five precepts. They are also taught how to live a peaceful life.

They are also taught meditation regularly so that they can find their inner peace by practicing meditation and also live peacefully and happily with their family and friends.

## 4. Every Morning And Evening Dhamma Classes For Youths:

Every morning and evening Dhamma classes are being conducted for the youths. Through the Dhamma classes, we are trying to help the youths grow interest in religious activities and do good deeds. If youths of today learn the Dhamma properly, then they are sure to prosper materially and also bring peace around them. In the Dhamma classes they are taught about the life of the Buddha, the verses and stories of Dhammapada and as well other Dhamma subjects.



*Class for monks is going on*



*A monk taking class for lay students at Mahabodhi Deomali*





*Mahabodhi Deomali monks cleaning the land*

### **5. Every Morning And Evening Buddha Puja, Meditation And Dhamma Talks:**

Every morning and evening at 5 am and evening 6 pm Buddha puja is done at the vihara. After the puja, meditation is also conducted. Each day one child is given a Dhamma subject to speak about. By speaking regularly, they gain a lot of confidence and it also helps them to do well in their studies and other activities.

### **6. Dhamma Activities Remote Areas:**

Various Dhamma activities are conducted in the nearby villages. People are taught about five precepts and how by following these precepts one could live a happy and peaceful life. They are also taught how to live a wholesome life by practicing wholesome actions.

For the village people, Dhamma is required to be taught in a simple way so they could understand easily. As majority of the local population is non-Buddhist, people didn't even know how they should address a monk when we started this center. However, with time, they have learnt to address the monks as bhantejis. It is a very challenging task to teach the local people. We started going to the villages in the remote areas. We told them to stop sacrificing animals and other blind ritualistic practices. We also invite the people in our center to celebrate Buddhist festival days and give them Dhamma discourses. By the blessings of Lord Buddha, our efforts have started bearing fruits and people have started to show interest in Buddhism.

## **MAHABODHI CHICHING CHERA, TRIPURA BRANCH**

The Chiching Charra branch has been active with monastery and school. Venerable Bhikkhu Visuddhananda had been actively managing the center along with assistant monks Ven. Dhammankur and Ven. Khemananda and social contacts and Dhamma services. The following activities were conducted during the year.

**Visit from Bangalore:** Ven. Sangarakkhita from Bangalore visited Mahabodhi centre, Chichingchara from April 3 to 8, 2016. He had been directed by Mahabodhi Bangalore for a field level trip and visited almost all centres in the northeastern region.

**Venerable Sangharakkhita arriving  
at Chi Ching Chera**



2016 - 2017



**Meeting with teachers and Mahabodhi staffs at Chichingchara:** Ven. Sangarakkhita discussed about the latest programs and directives of the Mahabodhi Society, Bangalore and also about the future projects to be undertaken in Chi Ching Chera branch.

Ven. Sangarakkhita left for Diyun centre in Arunachal Pradesh on 9 April.

**Traditional Buddhist New Year:** The people in the Northeastern India generally observe new year between 13 to 15<sup>th</sup> April. Tripura is not an exception. Mainly two days of festival were celebrated in the Mahabodhi campus on 14 and 15<sup>th</sup> April. Buddha Puja and special feast were offered for the anagarikas and the students.

**Buddha Purnima:** Buddha Purnima was celebrated at Mahabodhi Chi Ching Chera center with various spiritual activities and a great sanghadana was also organized.

**Rainy Retreat:** According to the Buddhist calendar, rainy retreat started this year on July 12. A comprehensive plan for the retreat was chalked out that included daily pindapata and meditation practices. During every Uposotha day, meditation for upasaka and upasikas was conducted without fail.

**The Kathina festival:** Kathina is a major observance in Theravada Buddhist tradition. It is a time for lay people to offer robes and other requisites to the Sangha. Kathina takes place every year during the four weeks period following the end of the rains retreat. This year Kathina was celebrated with traditional fervor.

**World Peace Buddha Statue:** Ven. Ananda, general secretary of the Mahabodhi Society, Bangalore, came to Tripura on 24 December, 2016 and Bhumi Puja was performed at the selected site in Nabinchara. It is the place where 108 feet tall, standing posture, Buddha statue will be built.

It is one of the large projects undertaken by Mahabodhi and we are hopeful that this statue will be a great inspiration for many in the future to walk on the path of Dhamma.

**Funeral of Ven. Gyanatishya and U Nanda Mahathero:** A group of 9 persons from Tripura Mahabodhi went to Arunachal to take part in the funeral ceremony of two senior monks at Mahabodhi centre in Namsai. The program was on 5, 6 and 7 January.

**Inauguration of the work of World Peace**

**Buddha Statue:** On January 12, 2017, with the voluntary participation of devotees from all

walks of life, work for Buddha Statue started. Thai Architect Dr. Paulsilpa and Suchai Siriaveekul arrived on 4 February, 2017. They came to measure the land area for final drawing of the 108 feet Buddha Statue.



**Monks going on alms round in Chi Ching Chera**



**World Peace Buddha Statue Inauguration ceremony**







### Dhammapada festival:

Maha Bodhi Chiching Cherra celebrated Bada Bhante Birthday as Dhammapada festival on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2016 by doing special Puja and meditation, Dhamma Desana. A talk was given on the life and achievement of venerable Achariya Buddharakkhita Bhanteji to the devotees on that occasion. Because of his great compassion and love, many are getting the opportunity to walk on the path of Dhamma.



Maha Bodhi Chiching Cherra branch got a new car on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2017. This is help us greatly in doing more sasana work in future.

### NOBINCHERA BRANCH

A new centre at Nabin Charra, Tripura has been established last year. This is one of the projects under Mahabodhi Chiching charra branch. It was inaugurated by Ven. Ananda Bhanteji and Ven. Visuddhananda Bhanteji in 12th January 2017. In this centre, a 108 feet high, standing posture, Buddha statue is to be raised with a view to bring spiritual development amongst the people. Maha Bodhi Society Tripura Branch and its head quarter Maha Bodhi society Bangalore together has taken this great step to build the above mentioned statue in order to convey the message of love, compassion and peace to people of Northeast India, other parts of India and abroad as well. We also have a plan to build a Meditation centre in serene woods, a museum and a library to facilitate for visiting national and foreign tourists. This centre can be a landmark tourist place in the whole of North-Eastern zone of India.



*New Buidling at Nobin Chera*

### MAHABODHI SUKNACHARI TRIPURA BRANCH

Mahabodhi Suknachari branch was established on 17th December, 2013 on a full moon day. This is a centre, which is developing slowly and already has shown a lot of potential to grow into a big centre. Venerable Bhikkhu Nyanarakkhita is in charge of this branch under the chairmanship of Venerable Rajinda Bhante. He is assisted by two more bhikkhus.

#### Some of the programs conducted in the last year were as follows:

1. Every day morning alms round programme.
2. Sangrai Festival The Festival Of New Year Were Mog People Celebrates New w Year.
3. 2560 BUDDHA JAYANTI program. It is a very auspicious moment for each and every Buddhist people around the world. Chakma and Mog are two ancient Buddhist communities who came together to celebrate this programs with peace rally program where 200 cars and 300 bikes took part.
4. Hospital Dana Services throughout the year were conducted where fruits and clothes were distributed.
5. A Hostel For tribal children has been established.
6. The local tribal people were explained about danger of drug addiction, important of education and personal skill developments etc. and counseling sessions were also organized.



*Ven. monks going on alms around in Suknachari*



*Novice monks at Mahabodhi Suknachari monastery*

**Weekly Dhamma program:** One of the main programs at Mahabodhi Suknachari is Dhamma programme every week. We organized talks on various subjects dealing with real life situations and problems and how to find the solutions through the practice of Dhamma. The programs includes 25 minutes of puja and 5 precepts by lay devotees, 35 minutes of meditation and Dhamma talk for 25 minutes. On an average, nearly 150 people attend every uposatha day Dhamma programme.



*Moral education and Buddhist culture workshop at Mahabodhi Suknachari*



*Dhammadesana by Ven Nyanarakkhita bhante on Buddha Jayanti*



*A Social Awareness programme in Suknachari*

**Mahabodhi School Suknachari:** Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita founded Mahabodhi educational institutions with a view to give the best of modern education along with character building teachings. The Mahabodhi Suknachari School provides Holistic Education in an atmosphere of love and care allowing the children to grow naturally and happily, facilitating development of intelligence, compassion and wisdom at every stage. Currently, the school is up to 5<sup>th</sup> standard and there are 150 students and 9 teachers in the school. We are always striving to promote overall physical and mental





development for the children. Academic studies help a person fulfill ones intellectual thirst and also helps him to find the right profession in life, through which he can help himself and others. We emphasize a great deal on imparting moral and spiritual principles along with general education. They are also taught how to live harmoniously with each other so that they can grow up to be good citizens in future.



*Mahabodhi Suknachari school students*

## **MAHABODHI NAMSAI BRANCH, ARUNACHAL PRADESH**

The Mahabodhi Namsai centre was established in the year 2012 under the blessings of Most Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita, founder president of Mahabodhi Organisations, Bengaluru.

Initial work of Mahabodhi Namsai Center was started in a rented room at Namsai. In the beginning Mahabodhi Lord Buddha College, Namsai, has started functioning from the academic year 2013 in an old school building. In January 2015, we have shifted the college in our own campus near Namsai, donated by the public leaders, youth organizations and local people of the area. The building is constructed by the Public Work Department of Government of Arunachal Pradesh with the financial assistance of the AP government. At present various humanitarian activities are being conducted in this centre, namely:

1. Mahabodhi Lord Buddha College.
2. Mahabodhi Maitri Girls Home.
3. Mahabodhi Monastic Institute.
4. Mahabodhi Gotami Vihara, (a Buddhist Nunnery for Nuns).

### **MAHABODHI LORD BUDDHA COLLEGE**

Arunachal Pradesh is a culturally diverse and environmentally rich state of India. Two districts, namely Changlang and Namsai are mainly populated by Theravada Buddhists where as in the western district of Tawang and West Kameng are mainly populated by Vajrayana Buddhist. Maha Bodhi Society being a Theravada Buddhist organization is already running educational institutions in Changlang district preserving the age old traditional culture in accordance with the wishes of the local people. On the request of the public and leaders of Namsai area Maha Bodhi Society has decided to develop and run college in Namsai so that people of Changlang and Namsai district are benefited and Buddhist values can be passed on to the youth through holistic education. Now students have access to higher learning at a nearby place and also at affordable costs. Mahabodhi College nurtures all round development of an individual through character building education relevant to the present day dynamic world

**Aims and Objective of the College:**

1. To provide excellent facility to pursue higher education for the youth in all the contemporary fields.
2. To provide moral and character building through holistic education.
3. To offer value-based professional courses and equip the youth to be self reliant, creative and enterprising.
4. To run courses in humanities, commerce, business, Buddhist studies, technology, science, medicine etc.
5. To develop patriotism and brotherhood/sisterhood of mankind.
6. To develop respect for the rich cultural heritage of Arunachal Pradesh and to encourage the youth to preserve it.
7. To provide the modern education at affordable costs to people, particularly the tribal and minorities.
8. To develop clear perception of goal, confidence, academic brilliance, emotional balance and leadership qualities.
9. To develop respect for environment and preserve the delicate and rich natural resources of Arunachal Pradesh.
10. To put strong foundation of values of equality, fraternity and liberty enshrined in the Constitution.
11. To develop social responsibility based on Metta (Universal Love) and respect for all beings.
12. When a student passes out of the institution he/she should be equipped with rational mind, compassionate heart, professional skill, broad outlook, social and moral values, respect for cultural diversity and desire to selflessly do good for others.

At Mahabodhi Lord Buddha College this model is being implemented so that all round development of a person takes place and brings in highest human dignity, mental development, life skill and strength to face challenges.

Mahabodhi Lord Buddha College was established during the academic session 2013-14. At the time of its inception in 2013-14 the college offered B.A. (Pass) course and B.Com semester in system.

The College has enrolled all courses of B.A & B.Com totally 187 and 33 respectively in the academic year of 2016-17. The Teaching and non teaching strength is 25.

**The Courses**

The following courses are offered at Mahabodhi Lord Buddha College:

1. Bachelor of Arts.
2. Bachelor of Commerce.
3. Bachelor of Computer Application.
4. Bachelor of Education.
5. Center for Distance Education (Institute of Distance Education) IDE

**MAHABODHI MAITRI GIRLS HOME:**

Mahabodhi Maitri Girls Home, Namsai was started in the year 2013 to help and support in education to those students who are coming from poor family background. Mahabodhi Maitri Girls Home is a home for girls where they are provided with the facilities to grow healthy with the support of Dhamma.





### ***Mahabodhi Maitri Girls Home (Girl's Hostel)***

It was started in a rent house near Namsai police station with 8 girls. In the year 2014 we shifted to another bigger rented house because the number of girls has increased. During the year 2016-17, there were 25 girls residing in the hostel. Out of them 16 were studying in 12<sup>th</sup> standard, 5 were studying in B.AI<sup>st</sup> semester and 4 studying in B.AII<sup>st</sup> semester. There was one warden to guide and look after the girls.



***Maitri Girls Home students performing puja***



***Maitri Girls Home students at an excursion with Ven Panyaloka***

Apart from their study every morning and evening regular puja and meditation sessions were conducted.

This year we constructed a beautiful puja hall to conduct regular morning & evening puja and meditation. A dining hall with attached kitchen was also constructed at Maitri girl's home campus. We are planning to have a well equipped girl's hostel in our own Mahabodhi Campus.

### **Mahabodhi Monastic Institute, Namsai**

With the blessing of *Bada Bhanteji* Most Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita, *Aggamaha Saddhamajotika, Ph.D., D.Lit.*, in the year of 2013, the Mahabodhi Monastic Institute was started with 18 young monks. At present there are altogether 69 monks residing in this institute.



***Mahabodhi Namsai Monk's with Srilankan Bhantes***



The monastic residence was donated by *Maha Upasaka Chow Pinthika Namchoom* and his family members. We are ever grateful to him for helping the monks in practicing, preserving and propagating the Lord Buddha's teaching. We are planning to increase number of monks in the institute. So to accommodate more monks, we have constructed 2(two) monk's residences with bamboo and wooden structure, a big dining hall with attached wash basin and a kitchen for cooking with firewood. Now they are very happy with their new residence. Frequent power cut is common in this part of Arunachal Pradesh. So, we are planning to purchase an inverter for uninterrupted power supply in their study hours.

The resident young monks are getting both monastic and secular education. They go to nearby government school in the morning session for their secular study and in the afternoon they are getting monastic education in the monastery. Even morning and evening Sutta chanting and meditation session is going on regularly. Apart from that, regular Sunday Dhamma program is organized in the monastery prayer hall. The young monks are happy with their daily routine and their day to day activities.



*Mahabodhi Monk's at gardening works*

#### GARDENING:

Apart from monastic duties, they grow flowers and vegetables in the garden. Now we are getting sufficient green vegetables for our needs. this year we are planted 200 numbers of banana plants in the campus for our daily consumption.

Along with these activities, the institute celebrates all Buddhists events with great zeal and enthusiasm, like Buddha Purnima, AsalhaPurnima (Dhammacakka Day), Rains Retreat, Pavarana etc.

From this year, we have started Pindapata Programe in around 36 villages near by Namsai, Piyong and Lathao area. Every day 15-20 monks go for daily Pindapata Programe and give blessing to the devotees for their wellbeing, good health and peace. We are receiving great response in this regard.



*Monks on almsround*





## Buddha Jayanti Celebration, 2016

The Birth and Enlightenment and the Great Demise of Lord Buddha fall on the full moon day of Visakha, in the month on May. Many people of the local area and Mahabodhi students participated in decorating the entire campus with Tankhon, flowers and Buddhist flags out of faith.

On 21st May, 2016, the 2560th Sacred Buddha Jayanti was celebrated on the fullmoon day of Vesakha with various programs in our Mahabodhi campus. Monks from different Monasteries, devotees from many places, parents and children's were invited to celebrate the Buddha Jayanti. The programme was started with the hoisting of world Buddhist flag followed by Puja and Vandana. On this auspicious occasion, the flag was hoisted by Venerable Panyaloka Bhanteji, Director of Mahabodhi Center Namsai. After Puja Bhanteji explained about the significance of Visakha Full Moon Day. Thereafter, we had procession for the peace and welfare of the people of the whole world. The main attraction of the peace procession was that the Lord Buddha statue was carried on an Elephant from Mahabodhi college campus to Namsai town to spread the message of Lord Buddha for peace & compassion to all living beings and during the procession many people joined us. Then Kham-Sin-Thomtra (Puja) programme was started followed by the Venerable monks offered flower, candles and incense sticks to the Buddha. It was followed by puja, meditation, taking Panca Sila (Five precepts) by devotees and Dhamma talk by Venerable Monks present.

### Sangken festival:

We are also celebrate all local Buddhist festival like Sangken (a water festival of Thai Communities of South-East Asia Countries on the occasion of New Year), Miko-Sum-Phai etc. On 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> April, 2016, Ven. Panyajota Bhikkhu & Ven. Bhante Dhammacitta lead our monk students and visited the nearby monasteries, villages and meet monks, upasakas and upasikas and did Puja and poured water on Buddha statues, Bodhi tree and stupa on Sanken festival. One of the pilgrimage group from Mahabodhi Namsai visited various monasteries, especially in Kaloni and Balipathar villages of Karbi-Anglong District, Assam on the auspicious occasion of Sangken Festival.

### **Monks Ordination Programme:**

Every year we admit new boys on or after 2nd week of April into our Monastic Institute to become monk.

On 13th July, 2016, we organized a Monks ordination program and we invited monks from different monasteries for this programme. The parents, relatives and devotees of the new monks also came from different places to celebrate and acquired merits (Punya). On this auspicious occasion, we ordained 30 new novices in the presence of holy Sangha.

On 23rd September, 2016, we invited the nearby Bhantes on the death anniversary of our Bada Bhanteji and conducted Special Puja, meditation, Dhamma discourses and shared merits. A Sangha Dana programme in the name of our great teacher Bada Bhanteji was also organized.

On 25th September, 2016, we celebrated the Birthday of Venerable Ananda Bhanteji by doing puja, leaving fishes in rivers, Sangha Dana etc. After that, we distributed many gifts to our monks, nuns, girl's students and working staff. They were very happy to receive such kind of gifts wished bhanteji a very happy Birthday. At last, we did puja for for his good health, prosperity, peace of mind and long life.

### **POI- Leng Celebration:**

From 05th January, 2017 to 07th January, 2017 the auspicious holy occasion of Poi- Leng (Catafalque Function) of Late Most Venerable Gyanatissa Mahathera and Late Most Venerable U. Nanda Mahathera of Mahabodhi Monastic Institute, Namsai was celebrated with great success. For the smooth running of the Poi- Leng Festival a Committee was formed in the name of Poi-Leng Celebration Committee. The Committee was guided by Venerable Panyaloka Bhikkhu, Director of



Mahabodhi Lord College as President. A big chariot was build together by monks and lay devotees with wood structure of which 12 (twelve) wooden wheels in the shape of a ship. The chariot was decorated with colour paper, flowers, tankhon, electric light etc.

The Committee invited the devotees from all Buddhist villages of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Tripura, Mizoram as well as from North and South India. The program was started with hoisting of world peace Buddhist flag at Poi-Leng ground, lunch for all Bhikkhu Sangha and installation of mortal remains (Ossuary) of Late Most Venerable Gyanatissa Mahathera and Late Most Venerable U. Nanda Mahathera in the catafalque (Ceremonial Chariot).



### *Decorated (Ceremonial Chariot) for Poi- Leng (Catafalque Function)*

All the devotees came in huge numbers from various places and joined the program with great faith and showed respect to the departed Dhamma Teachers by pulling the chariot.

## **MAHABODHI GOTAMI VIHARA**

### **NUN TRAINING INSTITUTE BORDUMSA**

Mahabodhi Gotami Vihara - Nun Training Institute was established in the year 2015 under the blessing of Most Venerable Dr.Acharya Buddharakkhita, founder of Mahabodhi Organizations, Bengaluru. The main objective of Mahabodhi nunnery is to have opportunity for the ladies to practice sila (morality), Samadhi (concentration) and Pañña (wisdom) and share the Dhamma instead of just being ordinary households. It also fulfills the establishment of four congregations of the Buddha's dispensation, Bhikkhu, Bhikkhuni, Upasaka and Upasika.

Initially it was started at Namsai in a rented house organized by Panyaloka bhante and later we shifted to old abandoned government middle school at Bordumsa. We have simple accommodation, meditation hall and newly built dining hall. We started with 22 nuns in 2015 and now we have 27 nuns from various states of India like Tripura, UP, Assam, Arunachal and also from Myanmar.

Ordination ceremonies were conducted on the very precious days of the Supreme Buddha's Jayanti on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2015 and 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2016 which is also called Vesakha day in Asian countries.



*Ordination ceremony in 2015*



*Ordination ceremony in 2016*





First the candidates have to stay as Anagarika (Leaving home) with white cloth by keeping 8 precepts. Later when they are trained and qualified for some extent then they are ordained as nuns who keep 10 precepts and 75 sekhiya sikkhapada (monastic rules).

Nun's life is very peaceful by having chance of practicing morality, studying the Supreme Buddha's teaching and fulfilling the perfections in daily life. We wake up at 4 am early in the morning; do puja and meditation in the morning fresh hours. We take breakfast at 6 am. We have Dhammapada class from 7 am to 8 am. Abhidhamma and English language classes are conducted up to 10 am. After lunch we have some rest time and library time. Again Dhamma class run from 2 to 4 pm. Gardening is also a part of our daily routine before evening Puja. We got sufficient vegetables except during rain season. All nuns are very happy with their daily routines.



*Gardening time at Mahabodhi Nunnery*

Nuns had the opportunity to visit the holy places in the North India and pay homage to the holy places where lot of flowers and lamps were offered by the nuns. They prayed for the world peace and happiness and also for their personal development.



*Paying homage to the Buddha's Dhatu Cetiya*

#### **Activities conducted at the Gotami Vihara**

##### **Death Anniversary of Bada Bhanteji**

All nuns with Ven. Abayananda Bhante conducted Special Puja, meditation, Dhamma discourses and sharing merits and Sangha Dana program on 23rd September 2016 by remembering Bada bhanteji out of gratitude.

On 25th September, 2016, we celebrated birthday of Venerable Ananda Bhanteji by doing puja, releasing fish in the river, Sangha Dana etc. After that, we offered many gifts to our nuns on that special occasion of Bhanteji's birthday. We did metta meditation on bhanteji and wish bhanteji be healthy, peaceful, have a long life and progress on the path to liberation by fulfilling more perfection in the Buddha's dispensation than ever.



## Inauguration of Buddha Statue and Kathina Program

We celebrated inauguration of 8 marble Buddha statues under the Bodhi tree lead by most respected Ven. Gunavantha Mahathera, Munglang Bhanteji, donated by Myanmar lay devotees on 6th and 7th November 2016. We are thankful to Myanmar lay devotees who had offered 8 marble Buddha statues and Sangha Dana on this day for 29 invited bhikkhus including 4 Sri Lanka Bhantes and 2 Singaporean bhantes, 30 Samaneras and 29 nuns.

We did special night long chanting of Patthana on that night participated by all nuns, while lay people were weaving kathina robe.



*Night long Patthana Chanting by Nuns*



*Weaving Kathina Civara by lay people*

We offered civara to 8 Buddha statues which were weaved on that night. The next day early in the morning 'Anekajati' ceremony was conducted by Bhikkhu Sangha and Goju lay devotees. We had offered robes, shawls and other requisites to the invited Sangha and nuns by conducting Kathina ceremony. All the Buddha statues painting work was done by our nuns.



*Anekajati Ceremony led by Munglang Bhanteji*



*Marble Buddha Statues Under the Bodhi Tree*

## Birthday Program of Mahaupasika Monica Thaddey

On 12th January 2017, we celebrated Mahaupasika Monica Thaddey's birthday who is very much devoted in the Buddha sasana with pure mind and kind heartedly supported to Mahabodhi Society. We had offered Sangha dana, released fishes, lighted candles, offered flowers, waters, under the Bodhi tree and made lot of wishes for her good health, prosperity, long life, progress on the path to liberation.







### **Dhammapada Festival and Bada Bhanteji's Birthday**

On 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2017 the Dhammapada festival was celebrated at the Mahabodhi Gatami Vihara. Ven.Sugatananda Bhanteji attended the ceremony and celebrated the recitation of Dhammapada. Competition of Dhammapada, storytelling, competition of drawing pictures were also held on this day by remembering respected Ven.Dr.Acariya Buddharakkhita. We invited Ven.Varadhamma (Goju) bhanteji and Nyanaloka bhanteji for judgment and for celebrating this ceremony.



#### ***Dhammapada verses recitation and competition of story telling***

Offering of 1000 lights, water and flowers were held by all nuns under the Bodhi tree by remembering Bada Bhanteji out of gratitude and shared merits to him.



#### ***1000 lights offering under the Bodhi tree led by Sugatananda Bhanteji***

#### ***Sanken festival:***

We also celebrated local Buddhist festival like Sangken (a water festival of South-East Asia Countries on the occasion of New Year). On 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> April, 2016, all nuns visited the nearby monasteries, villages and met Bhantes, Upasakas and Upasikas and did Puja and poured water on Buddha statue, Bodhi tree and shared merits.

A special Sanghadana to 1200 monks, novices and nuns, including the president of State Sangha community at Nagahlaiggu monastery in Myanmar was offered by Mahabodhi Nunnery in February 2017.



#### ***Lunch Donation for 1200 monks, novices and nuns by Mahabodhi Nunnery***

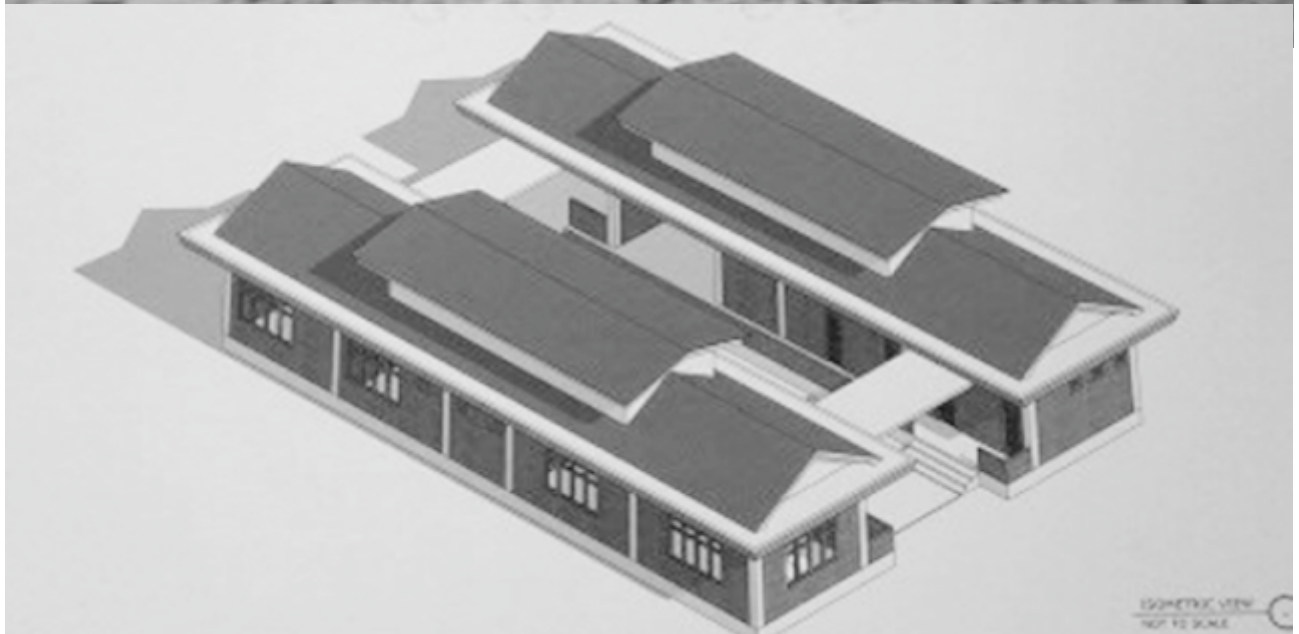


Respected Kassapa Bhanteji and Ananda Bhanteji visited the Nunnery to give advice (Ovada) for the progressing of nunnery. Many girls came and requested to ordain them as nuns, but we could not accept as we don't have sufficient place. So we are trying to get land soon and start new nunnery. The building layout design for 200 nuns is ready.



***Visiting and giving advice for further development of nunnery by Ananda Bhanteji***

People often invited us on religious festivals and bit by bit they came to know what is the nun's life and activities. We wish Mahabodhi Gotami Vihara will become first and foremost Theravada nunnery in India and will spread out all over the world the Dhamma. We are grateful to respected Kassapa Bhanteji, Ananda Bhanteji, Panyaloka Bhanteji and Mahaupasika Monica Thaddey. Thank you so much all the well wishers and supporters of Mahabodhi Gotami Vihara - Nun Training Institute, Bordumsa Arunachal Pradesh.



***Layout plan for new nunnery project***





## MAHABODHI HYDERABAD BRANCH

Mahabodhi Buddha Vihara was started on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2015. During the year 2016-2017, it functioned with many meaningful activities.

This place is located in Secunderabad. The monastery is built on a high hill called Mahindra Hills in the heart of the city. Actually it was a fully rocky hill; most of the building is made up from the same rocks excavated from the site itself. In this 3 acres land, the main temple has three floors: The top floor is the main temple hall for chanting, meditation and Dhamma talks for nearly 400 people.



*Bodhi tree at Mahabodhi Buddha Virhara Hyderabad*

**Monks Training Programme:** We have 30 student monks, 3 teacher monks and 1 lay teacher. We have 3 more lay staffs who are taking care of the Vihara. The students are enjoying their monastic life; they have a very busy schedule throughout the day which is quite important for their training program. For the younger students, we teach them both secular and Dhamma subjects and for the elder students, we teach only Dhamma subjects. Recently, the elder students completed Milinda Panha which is a question and answer book on different topics of Dhamma and they also completed the Dhammapada Commentary which is a book of 423 verses with a background story behind each verse. Since rainy retreat started, we observed all uposatha days with meditation and chanting together with lay people. Our students are being trained in teaching Dhamma during Sunday evening Dhammadesana program. This helped our students to learn the art of teaching at public gatherings.



*Monks of Mahabodhi Buddha Vihara at meditation*



*Mahabodhi monks and Mr. Anjaneya Reddy meeting Andhra CM Mr. Chandrababu Naidu regarding Vizag center*

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*Sanghadana programme at  
Mahabodhi Buddha Vihara Hyderabad*

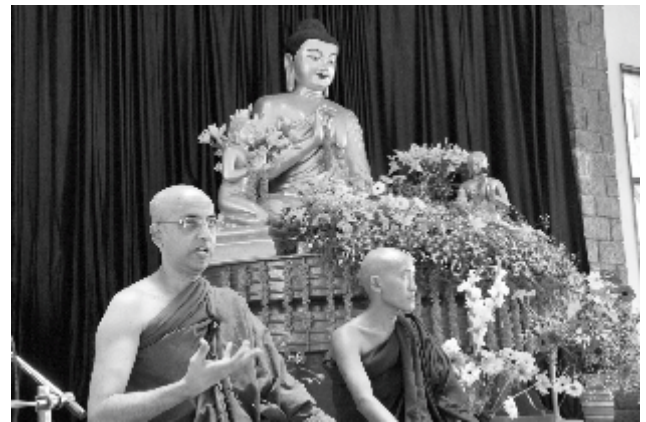


*Personality Development  
Program for Students*

**Meditation workshop:** Venerable Dhammapala conducted Meditation workshop throughout the year. On an average, 15 to 20 people attended in each workshop. People are responding well as the workshop deals with day to day life related issues through the help of several meditation techniques and talks. Walking meditation and some light movement of body are also taught in the workshop. We will hopeful of developing the program into a full-fledged residential retreat so that the participants get better environment for their inner development.



*Seminar Speech to a group of Foreign Participants*



*Ven Dhammapala giving Dhamma discourse*

**Buddha Jayanthi, 21st May 2016:** Buddha Jayanthi was celebrated with meaningful programs. Chanting, meditation, Dhamma talks were conducted to pay respect to the Supremely Enlightened Buddha on this historical day of Buddha's Birth, Enlightenment and Final Passing Away. Buddha statue at the main vihara was decorated with flowers as a mark of gratitude to the Buddha. The Vihara premise was adorned with Buddhist flags. The Book "Parajika Pali was released by Shri. Mallepally Laxmaiah, Special Officer to Buddhavanam Project. The book has been translated from Pali to Telugu by Venerable Dhammarakkhita. We thank him for his service to Buddha Sasana. More than 1000 people attended and lunch was served to all. We thank all the donors for contributing, particularly to Madam Krithika Venkataramani, Shri Anjaneya Reddy Garu, Shri K. R. Ratnakar, Mrs Debarati Banerjee, Shri Sharad, and Shri Chandrasena, among others.

**Dhammcakka Pavattana, 19th July 2016:** Dhammcakka Pavattana Day was celebrated with similar program to pay our respect and gratitude to the Dhamma of Lord Buddha. It was on this the Lord Buddha taught his first Dhamma at Sarnath. Monks chanted Dhammacakkapavattana Sutta; meditation and discourse was also organized. Two books, namely, Pacittiya Pali translated by Venerable Dhammarakkhita and Jatak Stories translated by Shri Borra Govardhan, were released on this day. We thank all the donors, particularly to Shri I Sudhakar and Smt. Sujatha Sudakar. Nearly 500 people attended and lunch was served to all.





**Kathina Day, 16<sup>th</sup> October 2016:** This is the day when lay people offer Civaras (robes for monks) and other requisites to the monks. Mahabodhi Buddha Vihara celebrated the day with various spiritual programs. There were Dhamma talks in different languages. Venerable Sugatananda gave Dhamma discourse in English, Venerable Dhammrakkhita in Telugu and Venerable Khemacara in Hindi. Several books, namely, “Udana, Itivuttaka, Khuddakapatha, Cariyapitak” were released.



*Dhamma talk during Kathina ceremony*



*Devotess during special events at Mahabodhi Buddha Vihara*

**Dhammapada day, 12 March 2017:** It was on this full moon day that our Founder President Most Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita was born. In order to celebrate this day, we organize spiritual programs every year. This year also we organized similar programs. On this occasion, we were fortunate to receive blessing and teaching from Most Ven. Gunavanta Mahathera (Munglang Sayadaw) Ledo, Assam, Venerable Vannasara Mahathera (Dehong Sayadaw, Assam), Venerable Panyasila Mahathera (Pali Vidya Peetha, Chowkham, AP), Venerable Kassapa Mahathera, President, Maha Bodhi Society, Bangalore and Venerable Bhikkhu Panyaloka Chairman, Mahabodhi Lord Buddha College, Arunachal Pradesh. On this day, the book “Dighanikaya” volume 1, translated by Venerable Dhammrakkhita, was released.

**Telegu Translation project:** This project is moving smoothly and we are looking for more translators to speed up the project. Venerable Dhammrakkhita is the main translator and Upasaka Anjaneya Reddy is the coordinator. We think people get better understanding about one's life when they read something that comes directly from the Buddha, because the words of Buddha are closely connected to our day to day issues. We are thankful to Arts and Letter for helping us in distributing these books to many persons.

**Lift:** We are in near the completion of lift work. As our Vihara is on a hillock, elderly people and others find it difficult to climb. We are thankful to Penna Cements Pvt limited who sponsored the lift work. After the lift is operational, it would be very easy for the elderly and sick persons to visit the Vihara.

**Sima:** Sima work is getting completed. It has a nice bubble shape roof and a bell shape design on the top of it. Once completed, it will be used for monastic requirements as well as a meditation hall. Already many people are attending our meditation workshop with lots of interests. We are thankful to Mahaupasika Monica Thaddey for her generous support for the construction.



*Sima under construction at Mahabodhi Buddha Vihara Hyderabad*



**Kitchen, Dining construction:** Currently, we are constructing kitchen and dining hall which is also in the completing phase. We thank Government of India for the financial assistance. This building will also accommodate office, library, books stall, staff room and guest rooms.



*Kitchen, dining hall, office, guest rooms, books shop under construction at Mahabodhi Buddha Vihara*

**Sangharama work:** This building will start in a month's time. It will have rooms for teacher monks and dormitory for students. We are thankful to Aurobindo Pharma for the generous support for the first phase. This will be located in one corner of the Vihara to make it sufficiently secluded from the visitors, providing necessary seclusion for the monks. We are constructing a facility where 54 student monks and 5 teacher monks can be accommodated.



*Bodhi Mantapa renovated at Mahabodhi Buddha Vihara Hyderabad*

**Future work:** We have a plan of building a Stupa, where we plan to enshrine the Holy relics of the Buddha.

We feel happy to see that our vihara is moving in the right direction with the present activities and works and many people are getting benefitted through various Dhamma activities that are conducted at the vihara. We are thankful to all our donors for their generous and kind support.





## FESTIVALS

Maha Bodhi Society has been celebrating all major Buddhist festivals in a meaningful way. So also every full moon day is celebrated with special chanting and meditation. Following are the reports of festivals and events celebrated during the year.

### 2560<sup>th</sup> Sacred Buddha Jayanti Celebration 2016

15-04-2016 to 21-04-2016

2560<sup>th</sup> Buddha Jayanti was celebrated on the sacred Vesakha Buddha Purnima day on Saturday May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016. To commemorate the Three Great Events of Birth, Enlightenment and Mahaparinibbana of the Lord Buddha Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru organized various programs and Dana services to hospitals, old age homes, children Dhamma, Animal feeding and orphanage to spread the Dhamma of the Lord Buddha. The Sacred Buddha Jayanti was observed as Bodhi Saptaha- The Enlighten Week from Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2016 to Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2016.

#### 15<sup>th</sup> May 2016- Sunday:

Inauguration of Bodhi Saptaha- The enlightenment week was inaugurated at Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru on 15<sup>th</sup> May at 9:30 am by Most Venerable Kassapa Mahathera, President of Maha Bodhi Society. Shri Manjunath Reddy, Mayor Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike BBMP was the chief guest with Dr. Bimalendu Monhaty, Ex Vice Chancellor of Utkal University of Culture, Odisha. Maha Bodhi Society also presented a request letter to the Mayor, BBMP to name the 6<sup>th</sup> cross of Gandhinagar as Mahabodhi Marga. At 2 pm meditation sessions conducted by Most Venerable Buddhapriya Bhanteji of Hubli till the 6pm. The day concluded with evening puja and meditation.



*Inaugurating the Bodhi Saptaha at  
Loka Shanti Buddha Vihara*

#### 16<sup>th</sup> May 2016- Monday:

Inauguration of Mahabodhi Meditation Center at Siddapur road, Jayanagar by was done by most venerable Kassapa Mahathera. The inauguration of Mahabodhi Arogyaseva Kendra was done by Dr. Ravi Gopal Verma, Lead consultant and chief of Neuroscience of Aster CMI hospital. Free Medical Camp was also organized which was inaugurated by Dr K B Lingegowda, Director of KIDWAI Cancer hospital. The medical camp was led by Dr Kulkarni, Dr Giridhar and Dr Advait. The occasion was blessed and presided by Venerable Ananda Bhanteji, General Secretary MBS.

#### 17<sup>th</sup> May 2016- Tuesday:

The Cancer patient's service day was organized at Kidwai Institute of Oncology, Hosur Road, Bengaluru. Puja, blessing and Dhamma desana was given by Venerable Buddhadatta, Principle of Mahabodhi Monastic Institute, Bengaluru with other monks of Mahabodhi in presence of the Director of Kidwai institute of oncology Dr. K B Lingegowda. Free lunch was given to 450 cancer patients by the Monks, Upasakas and Upasikas under the guidance of Dr Ramachandra and Mr Jyothi.



*Counselling by Mahabodhi monks at  
Kidwai Hospital during dana service*

2016 - 2017

**18<sup>th</sup> May 2016- Wednesday:**

One Day Children's Dhamma Camp was organized by Maha Bodhi Society. Topics like Buddha Vandana, basic meditation, Buddhist storytelling and writing, Buddha painting competition and the significance of Buddhist holy objects and monuments was covered in this programme and participation certification was distributed to 120 participants. The program was inaugurated by Ms Bhavana Ramana, Kannada film actress and president of Jawahar Lal Bhavan in presence of the chief guest Smt. R J Latha Rathod, councilor BBMP, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru. The camp was directed by Sri K Kumar, Dr Shivaraja and Smt Geetha Chakma.



*During Children course at  
MBS Bangalore meditation being practiced*



*Children enjoying moral education camp*

**19<sup>th</sup> May 2016- Thursday:**

The Burns Patients service day was organized by Maha Bodhi Society in Mahabodhi Burns center, Victoria Hospital, Bengaluru. The program was inaugurated by Shri Laxminarayana M, Principal Secretary of Medical Education, Health and Family Welfare Dept. Shri D Tanagra, IAS, Ex Commissioner for RTI, Government of Karnataka was the Chief Guest. The program was presided by Dr Devadasa P K, Dean and Director of Bengaluru Medical College and research Institute. The Monks Upasakas and Upasikas of the Maha Bodhi Society visited Mahabodhi Burns and Casualty Centre and other departments at Victoria Hospital and distributed fruits and other food items to the patients therein. The Dana service was led by the president and members of Siddhartha Education and Cultural Development Association, Bengaluru. The program was blessed by Venerable Buddhadatta Bhanteji with other monks of Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru.



*Hospital dana service at Victoria Hospital*

**20<sup>th</sup> May 2016- Friday:**

Animal Service day was organized to feed 300 birds and animals in Animal shelter of **People for Animal**, Kengri, Bengaluru. The program was led by Venerable Kassapa Bhanteji along with other monks of Mahabodhi. Puja and blessing program was organized at Krishna Chaitanya school for mentally challenged children. A sanghadana was organized by Krishna Chaitanya school at their campus. Meditation and Dhamma discourse was also organized.

**21<sup>st</sup> May 2016- Saturday:**

The seventh day was the Sacred Vesaka Purnima. The program started as early as 5am by offering puja at Loka Shanti Buddha Vihara. At 10 am, Sanghadana was organized by the lay devotees. At 10:30 am the venerable Bhantes performed puja at Sri Mahabodhi, Vishwa Maitri Stupa, Siripada Cetiya. All the monks and lay devotees then gathered at the main temple to light the candle. The Buddha puja and Vandana to Triple Gems was offered. The lay devotees undertook Tisarans - the three refuges, Atthasila





and Panchasila at Mahabodhi Loka Shanti Buddha Vihara, Bengaluru. Most venerable Kassapa Mahathera gives Dhamma Desana and blessing to the gathering. There after Bhante Ananda, General Secretary MBS elaborated the significance of Vesaka Purnima. Shri Vajubhai Rudhabhai Vala, H E the Governor of Karnataka gave special address to the gathering. He mentioned Bhagavan Buddha as the model of truth, non-violence and compassion. He encouraged all to follow the message of Bhagavan Buddha and help building a peaceful and better society. He thanked Maha Bodhi Society for inviting him on this sacred occasion. Chief Guests of the occasion were Dr G Parameshwara, Hon'ble Home Minister, Govt of Karnataka and Sri Satish Jarakiholi, Hon'ble Minister for small scale industries, Govt of Karnataka. They also appealed to the people to follow the message of Buddha. The following publications were released on the occasion of Sacred Vesaka Purnima.



***Bodhi Puja on Buddha Jayanti Day***



***Devotees at Buddha Jayanti programme***



***Ven Kassapa gifting a Buddha statue to the Governor of Karnataka Shri Vajubhai Vala***



***Ven Kassapa and Ven Ananda with Karnataka Governor and Honorable Home Ministers Dr. G. Parameshwar & Mr. Satish Jarkiholi***

- 1 OUR LIFE AND THE DHAMMA by Venerable Dr Acharya Buddharakkhita
- 2 SAMYUTTANIKAYA VOL I Kannada translation by Shri Molkalmuru Sreenivasamurthy
- 3 VIPASSANADHYANA by Venerable Tawung Pulu Tawya Sayadaw
- 4 DANAHRUDAYA VIKASANA by Anish Bodh
- 5 PALI LANGUAGE & LITERATURE by Venerable Dr Acharya Buddharakkhita

At 1.30 pm the meals were offered to the devotees and the donation for the meals were given by Upasika Sheshamma in memory of her parents and brother Shri A Raju and by Upasaka S Veerabhadrappa and his family members.

From 2.30 to 4.30 pm the meditation programs, Dhamma discourses and Dhamma Deeksha were organized for the devotees in the prayer hall. From 6.00 pm there was a seminar organized on the "Relevance of Buddha's Teachings Today". The Program was inaugurated by Dr Chandrasekhar Kambara, well known Kannada Poet and Writer, Gyana Peetha Awardee. The program was presided by Venerable Bhikkhu Ananda, General Secretary, MBS. Then at 7:30 pm, under the Bodhi Tree, the monks, Upasakas and Upasikas performed the Paritta puja with hundreds of lamps and perfumes. The programs concluded with the merits sharing with all living beings. We thank all the donors who have generously helped us to make these programs successful.

In addition to the Bodhi Saptaha program, 4 children's Dhamma and meditation courses and Pabbaja or temporary monkhood cum meditation course were also conducted at Mahabodhi Dhammaduta Vihara from April 1 to May 21, 2016.



## Celebrating 60 years of Dhamma Service Diamond Jubilee of Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru.

*Inauguration of BODHI RASMI PAGODA built in memory of Most Venerable Dr Acharya Buddharakkhita on 26-06-2016 At Mahabodhi Dhammaduta Vihara, Narasipura Village, Bengaluru North.*

Most Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita, Bada Bhanteji, founded Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru in 1956 and since then he worked tirelessly for 58 years running several spiritual and humanitarian activities throughout India to spread the noble teaching of the Buddha. He breathed his last on 23-09-2013 and on 27-09-2013 his mortal remains were consigned to flames at the Mahabodhi Dhammaduta Vihara, Narasipura Village, in the outskirts of Bengaluru city. After this, it became a holy place where people started visiting. We decided to build a memorial in his name at that place. But since Bada Bhanteji was a practical teacher always emphasizing practice of meditation, we thought to build a meditation pagoda on this holy spot. Accordingly, a great monumental Bodhi Rasmi Pagoda, meaning the Radiance of Enlightenment pagoda came up.



*Bodhi Rasmi pagoda during inauguration*

On 26<sup>th</sup> June 2016 was one of the most memorable days in the history of Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru. 8 Eminent Venerable monks were invited from Myanmar to enshrine the holy Umbrella and the Diamond Bud on the top of the Bodhi Rasmi Pagoda. Most Venerable Achan Dtun Thirachitto from Thailand was also invited to inaugurate the Bodhi Rashmi Pagoda and Bodhi Pakara.

It was a peaceful Sunday when the group of monks and hundreds of lay people landed in the Mahabodhi Dhammaduta Vihara, Narasipura for the inauguration of the Bodhi Rasmi Pagoda. The Most Venerable Achan Dtun Thiracitto from Thailand who is a direct disciple of Most Venerable Achan Chah, and group of monks from Myanmar participated and inaugurated the pagoda in the traditional and spiritual manner.

**The names if the Burmese sayadawa are as follows:**

Ven. Sayadaw Nandhobhasalankara, Ubhatovibhangadhara

Ven. Sayadaw Shwe Nant Thar Thitala, Dvipitakadhara





Ven. Sayadaw Vasetthalankara, Tipitakdhara  
 Ven. Sayadaw Obhasabhivamsa, Pathamakyam  
 Tha-Sa- A Dhammacariya  
 Ven. Sayadaw Vepullalankara, Dvipitakadhara  
 Palipagaru  
 Ven. Sayadaw Nyanika, Paliparagu  
 Ven. Sayadaw Maghinda, Vinayadhara  
 Ven. Sayadaw Nyanadhaja, Dhammacariya



*Venerable monks giving instruction before the inauguration ceremony of Bodhi Rasmī Pagoda*

The inaugural ceremony included mainly the enshrining of the holy umbrella on the top of the pagoda, inauguration of the inner sanctum sanctorum and Bodhi Prakara and Buddha statues. The program started with the monks and lay people gathering in the main hall. The lay people undertook nine precepts and then puja was done.

All the monks and lay people then carried the holy umbrellas and other sacred objects in a procession to the pagoda. The honor of carrying the sasana flag was bestowed upon Mr. Niskama Chaitanya, the donor of land and Ms. Monica Thaddey and Mr. Alex, the main donor for building this meditation center. After going around the pagoda for three rounds while chanting the nine qualities of the Supreme Buddha, everybody settled in the pandal.

Then it was time to arrange the rope carriage for the main holy umbrella which was arranged by Mr. Nyunt Win of the Myanmar, who had also built the top part of the pagoda. The monks pulled the first rope and then, piece by piece, the umbrella parts were sent up and they were fixed. There was chanting of the Buddha, Dhamma and Sangha qualities by the venerable monks. Then at last the diamond bud was sent up and fixed. After the main umbrella 24 smaller umbrellas were carried up and fixed. Then all the monks and lay people went in front of the pagoda and Ven. Achan Dtun unveiled the inaugural stone and inaugurated the pagoda.



*Holy umbrella parts are being carried by Ven Yasanandi with Mahaupasaka U. Soe Hlaing from Myanmar*



*Ven. Monks doing puja for sanctification of the pagoda*



*Putting the holy umbrella on top of the pagoda*

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***Monks doing puja at the sanctum sanctorum of Bodhi Rasmi Pagoda during inauguration***



***Swiss group during inauguration of Bodhi Rasmi pagoda***

This was followed by Sanghadana offered by several devotees. After the lunch of the monks, the second part of the inaugural program started. All the monks and lay people gathered at the newly built Bodhi pakara-platform around the holy Bodhi Tree. After chanting the Supreme Buddha's victory verses and lighting the lamps, it was consecrated by the monks.

Everybody then came to the statue of the Birth of the Buddha, donated by Ma Nan pyae Nyein Thar of Myanmar which was installed in the middle of the garden. The statue was inaugurated by chanting of the 'Aggo hamasmim...' verse, the first words of the Bodhisatta at his birth. Then everybody proceeded to another spot in the garden to inaugurate the Mahaparinibana statue of the Buddha which was done by chanting the last words of the Buddha 'Handadani bhikkhave amantayami vo, Vayadhamma sankhara, appamadhena sampadetha'. The statue is donated by U Htay Hla and Daw Khin Mar Shwe, daughter Dr.Htay Thet Mar, Ma Khin Thu Zar Htay Hla and granddaughter Ma La Won Thar of Mandalay.



***Ven. Monks doing puja at birth of Bodhisatta statue during inauguration***



***The newly inaugurated Birth of Bodhisatta statue at Dhammaduta Vihara***



***Ven. Monks doing puja at Mahaparinibbana statue during inauguration***



***Newly inaugurated Mahaparinibbana statue at Dhammaduta Vihara***





After these solemn inaugurations everyday went to the Pagoda to inaugurate the inner sanctum sanctorum. Puja was done by chanting of the paritta suttas. The inner sanctorum consists of a small stupa with Dhatus, four bigger Buddha statues, 847 smaller Buddha statues mounted on the wall around and Tipitaka ceiling - texts from vinaya, Sutta and Abhidhamma pitakas engraved on gold plated sheets. It was very touching ceremony and then monks and lay people went below to inaugurate the statue of the Bada Bhanteji Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita. It is a realistic statue made by Mr.Pushparaj under the guidance of the Dr.Chandrashekar.

After inaugurating the pagoda it was time for the Dhamma teachings. Most Ven.Nandobhasalankara Sayadaw gave a Dhamma talk wherein he emphasized the need of practicing the Dhamma in its three ways, viz. morality, concentration and wisdom. Then Ven. Achan Dtun gave an inspiring teaching on purification of the mind. He emphasized on the practice of kusala actions and then meditation. It was followed by presentation of mementos to all the guests and contributors to the pagoda. Ven. Ananda introduced them to the public.

Then the main donor of the Pagoda Ms. Monica Thaddey spoke and told how the plan to build the pagoda was conceptualized and how it came up with the efforts of Ven. Ananda and her wish is that it should be used for meditation by many people. She thanked profusely the venerable monks who came for the ceremony. Then in his presidential speech Ven.Kassapa Mahathera, the president of MBS, Bengaluru, said that it is great privilege to pay respects to Bada Bhanteji on this spot by building a meditation pagoda. He thanked all the venerable monks and Ms. Monica Thaddey and the Swiss group who had come all the way to participate and also other devotees who came from Bengaluru and other parts of Karnataka and many other faraway places. The last part was the merit sharing ceremony. All the donors poured water and shared merits with all beings and specially those who have passed away in their families. Thus the beautiful opening ceremony was concluded, bringing joy in everybody's heart



*Ms. Monica Thaddey with Swiss group at Bada Bhanteji statue in Bodhi Rasmi pagoda*

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Since this is a meditation pagoda, a 4 day meditation retreat was organized and Ven. Achan Dtun conducted the retreat. There were 58 people participating in the retreat including the 9 venerable monks from Mahabodhi, 8 Swiss people and others from all over India. To be the first participants of the meditation retreat was a great privilege to everyone and the Achan Dtun gave inspiring Dhamma talks and guidance and taught meditation meticulously.

May all beings share the merits of all these noble actions! We share merits with Bada Bhanteji Ven. Acharya Buddharakkhita. May he be fully enlightened!

After the programme, the Burmese Sayadaws and Kappiyas and Most Ven Achan Dtun along with Swiss group visited the Ajanta, Ellora and Vipassana Pagoda in Igatpuri, Maharashtra.

The pagoda consists of 58 cubicles for individual meditators to sit and meditate in seclusion. This provides an atmosphere of seclusion for meditators as mentioned in many Suttas. There is central chamber with magnificent Buddha statues in the center and 847 Buddhas mounted on the wall. There is central stupa containing the holy relics of the Buddha. The whole pagoda was built in the Burmese style and also keeping in mind the Buddhist tradition where the holy relics of the Buddha, Arahanta dhatus, Sacred Tipitaka and Buddha statues were enshrined at the top of the pagoda on the 95<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Bada Bhanteji on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2016. The lower chamber contains the statue of Bada Bhanteji with surrounding place for meditation.

Mahabodhi Dhammaduta Vihara has the facilities for 60 meditators to live and practice meditation in an ideal environment. Regular meditation courses are conducted by eminent monks. With the addition of the new meditation pagoda, there is no doubt that it will be one of the most suitable places for meditation practice.

The Mahabodhi senior monks and lay supporters from Switzerland also gathered for the annual meeting to discuss the future of Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru and its sister organizations.



*Mahabodhi monks paying respect to Ven Kassapa, President MBS during General Meeting*



*MBS monks with Swiss devotees*





## 2605<sup>th</sup> Dhammacakka Pavattana Day Celebration- 2016.

2605<sup>th</sup> Dhammacakka Pavattana Day was celebrated on 19 July 2016, at the premises of Mahabodhi Loka Shanti Buddha Vihara. Dhammacakka Pavattana day is a very important festival for the Buddhists all over the world. This is celebrated on the full moon of July every year. On this full moon day, Lord Buddha gave his first teaching, known as the Dhammacakka Pavattana Sutta or discourse on Setting in the motion of the Wheel of the Truth- Dhamma to the Pancavaggiya Bhikkhus, the first five disciples of the Lord Buddha. This discourse mention about avoiding the two extremes of indulgence in sense pleasure and self-mortification. The teaching also advices to practice the middle path, which is otherwise known as the Noble Eightfold Path, consisting of Eight factors, namely, Right View, Right Intention, Right Speech, Right Action, Right Livelihood, Right Effort, Right Mindfulness and Right Meditative Concentration. From this day till the full moon day of October, the monks observes the rain retreat or Vassa. During this period, the monks stay in one monastery and spend their time in various spiritual practices such as meditation and Dhamma study.

On 19<sup>th</sup> July 2016, the puja was headed by Venerable Kassapa Maha Thera, the president Mahabodhi Society Bangalore along with the other Venerable monks, Upasakas and Upasikas from morning 9.00 am which was started under the Bodhi tree and Vishwa Maitri Stupa and then proceed to the Loka Shanti Buddha Vihara.

Then the chanting of the first sermon of Bhagavan Buddha, Dhammacakka Pavattana Sutta was conducted by Venerable Monks and the discourse and blessings were given by Venerable Kassapa Maha Thera. After lunch, continuous Dhamma discourses and meditation were conducted by Venerable monks. At 6pm the monks undertook Vassa Vasa which is 3 months rainy retreat for the Venerable monks. The program concluded by evening chanting of Dhammacakka Pavattana Sutta with lighting of hundreds of lamp around the Sacred Bodhi Tree and Stupa and also around the Vihara.



*MBS monks celebrating Dhammacakka festival*

**SMARANANJALI**

**Remembrance Day: 3<sup>rd</sup> Death Anniversary of Most Ven Dr Acharya Buddharakkhita from 23<sup>rd</sup> September to 25<sup>th</sup> September 2016.**

23<sup>rd</sup> September 2016, marked the 3<sup>rd</sup> death anniversary of Most Venerable Acarya Buddharakkhita, the founder of Mahabodhi Organization and a great Dhammaduta of modern times. On this occasion, various spiritual activities were organized in memory of Ven. Acharya Buddharakkhita.

1<sup>st</sup> day- On 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 9 am, all the monks and lay devotees gathered at the Satipatthana Kuti. The program began with Acharya Vandana, paying homage to Bada Bhanteji, Most Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita at his kuti and the bronze statue of Bada Bhanteji. After paying homage, all the monks proceeded to the Sacred Bodhi Tree and did Sutta chanting followed by going around the Vishwa Maitri Stupa. The devotees respectfully received all the monks at the main temple. After lighting the lamps, all offered puja to the sacred Triple Gems. The lay devotees undertook the Atthasila and Pancasila. Meditation and Dhamma discourse was given by Venerable Vinayarakkhita Bhanteji. It was followed by 'Remembering Bada Bhante' talk by Most Venerable Kassapa Mahathera, President of Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru. Kassapa Bhanteji told about the life of Bada Bhanteji and asked people to focus on practice of Dhamma taking Bada Bhante as a role model. Later Venerable Khemachara also spoke and shared his experiences with Bada Bhanteji. The program was presided and blessed by Most Venerable Panyananda of Myanmar. At 11:15 am, a Sanghadana was offered to the Monks by the devotees and later at 12:30 lunch was also offered to all devotees.

Afternoon program started at 2 pm at the vihara. The Heritage of Enlightenment Film on the life of Ven Dr Acharya Buddharakkhita and History of Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru was shown to the gathering. At 3 pm, the monks and devotee gathered at SMARANANJALI Museum to offer respect to Bada Bhanteji and to reflect on the life of Bada Bhanteji by seeing the displayed photographs. At 4 pm, Hospital Dana service was organized at the Victoria Hospital and it was led by Venerable Dhammadatta and Ven Ratthapala with other monks and devotees. Simultaneously, at Maha Bodhi Society, the distribution of prizes for Painting competition on Life of Bada Bhanteji was given to the monk participants. At 6 pm, the day concluded under the Sacred Bodhi Tree with special evening puja dedicated to Bada Bhanteji by offering 1008 candles and sharing of merits.

2<sup>nd</sup> day- On 24<sup>th</sup> September, the program was organized at Mahabodhi Dhammaduta Vihara, Narasipura. It is a retreat center of Mahabodhi and it was in this place the most Ven Acharya Buddharakkhita's mortal remains were consigned to flames. At 7 am, 4 buses left from Maha Bodhi Society, Gandhinagar for Mahabodhi Dhammaduta Vihara, Narasipura. The program began at 9 am by gathering at Bodhi Rasmi Pagoda to pay homage to Bada Bhanteji. Vandana was offered to the Bodhi Prakara and Dhammavaddhani Sima. Meditation and Dhamma talks was conducted by Most Venerable Ananda Bhanteji, General Secretary MBS. Thereafter Sanghadana was arranged at 11:15 am by the devotees to all the monks. Later devotees had lunch. After lunch from 2 pm to 4 pm, meditation session was conducted by monks inside the Pagoda and in the temple. The buses returned to MBS after a tea break at 5 pm. At 6 pm, special evening puja with 1008 candles was dedicated to Bada Bhanteji.

3<sup>rd</sup> day- On 25<sup>th</sup> September, Sunday. At 10 am, Sanghadana was organized by the lay devotees. At 10:30 am the venerable Bhantes performed puja at Sri Mahabodhi, Vishwa Maitri Stupa, Siripada Cetiya. All the monks and lay devotees then gathered at the main temple to light the candle. The Buddha puja and Vandana to triple Gems was offered. The lay devotees undertook Tisaran- the three refuges, Atthasila and Panchasila at Mahabodhi Loka Shanti Buddha Vihara, Bengaluru. Most venerable Kassapa Mahathera gave Dhamma Desana and blessing to the gathering. There after a Dhamma talk on 'Life of a Compassionate Monk' by Bhante Ananda was delivered. It was followed by message from Venerable Sayadaw Panyananda Bhanteji, Venerable Vinayarakkhita Bhanteji, Venerable Khemachara





Bhanteji, Venerable Pamokha Bhanteji, Venerable Buddhadatta Bhanteji, Venerable Sayale Yasanandi and Venerable Sayale Uttamanani. After that the lay devotees came forwards to share their message dedicated to Bada Bhanteji on this occasion. The program was also attended by a group of monks from Myanmar. Venerable Sayadaw Janindo, Venerable Sayadaw Ariyavamsa, Venerable Sayadaw Vijaya and Venerable Sobhitadhamma. At 1:30 pm lunch was offered to the lay devotees. Thereafter, Meditation was conducted in the main hall of temple by Venerable monks. The day concluded at 6 pm by dedication special evening puja to Bada Bhanteji. All the monks and devotees performed the merit sharing. We are deeply grateful to all the donors and supporters for their kind assistance.

### **Pavarana Ceremony**

On October 16, 2016, Pavarana Ceremony was organized at Mahabodhi Loka Shanti Buddha Vihara. Pavarana Ceremony is done at the end of the three months of Rains' Retreat, which the monks undertake and at the conclusion of the Rains' Retreat, the Pavarana is organized. The monks gather in the morning and request each other invoking reproach for any mistake made by them. This is a wonderful method given by the Lord Buddha where monks voluntarily ask each other get admonition so that they continue to progress in the holy life. Monks in the Mahabodhi Loka Shanti Buddha Vihara performed this ceremony in the morning and then they gathered at the Dhamma Hall. Upasakas and Upasikas were also present at the Dhamma Hall. The monks performed the chanting and meditation and Dhamma Discourse. Later special Atthasila was also offered to interested lay Upasaka and Upasika and then Panchasila was undertaken by the rest of the devotees. The program concluded with Metta Chanting. Later Sanghadana was offered to the monks.

### **Kathina Chivara Dana Ceremony**

The Kathina festival is a major observance in Theravada Buddhism. It is a time for laypeople to offer robes and other necessities to the monastic sangha. Kathina takes place every year in the four weeks following the end of Vassa, the rains retreat.

The Kathina festival was organized on 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2016 at Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru. The program started at 9.15 am under the Sacred Bodhi Tree and then monks and lay devotees proceeded to Vishwa Maitri Stupa by going around and chanting the Sutta. The procession continued to the Main Dhamma Hall at Maha Bodhi Loka Shanti Buddha Vihara. The lay devotees welcomed the monks by standing on both sides outside the Dhamma hall chanting Sadhu. The monks offered veneration to the Triple Gems and chanted the Paritta suttas. Three refuges with Atthasila and Panchasila were undertaken by Upasakas and Upasikas. The sila was administered by most venerable Panyananda from Myanmar. Thereafter, Dhammadesana on the topic Kathina and its significance with story was





explained by Venerable Ananda Bhanteji, General Secretary of MBS. The benefits of offering Kathina civara, the significance of coming to vihara and observing higher silas were explain by Most Venerable Pamokkha Bhanteji from Myanmar. At 10:45 am the Katina Civara offering ceremony to Bhikkhus, Samaneras and Anagarikas was conducted. The civara and other monastic requisites were offered to each monk. The lay devotees were given the opportunity of making the sacred civara offering.



### *Kathina ceremony at MBS Bangalore*

The Kathina ceremony was conducted by most venerable Pamokkha from Myanmar. 30 Burmese students have also arrived to join the program guided by Sayale Yasanandi. A money tree and wish fulfilling tree were also put on display. Every lay devotee participated in Dana and the program was concluded with blessing and Metta Chanting by Most Ven. Kassapa Maha Thera. Subsequently, the merits were shared in the name of late Venerable Dr. Acharya Buddharakkhita. The special Sanghadana for monks was organized by lay devotees and later the lunch was offered to all the lay devotees. Throughout the day, Dhamma discourses and meditation programs were organized at the Dhamma Hall. In the evening, monks again performed Puja and meditation at the Dhamma Hall and then they performed Bodhi and Stupa Puja. The entire Mahabodhi Loka Shanti Buddha Vihara was decorated with lamps.

## **Dhammapada Festival**

### *Birthday of Most Ven. Acharya Buddharakkhita*

**8 March 2017 to 12 March 2017**

The 96<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Late Venerable Dr Acharya Buddharakkhita, the Founder President of Maha Bodhi Society was celebrated as Dhammapada Festival like every year during the full moon of March, 2017. The event was observed for 4 days by organizing several spiritual, intellectual, and humanitarian programs. Late Venerable Dr Acharya Buddharakkhita, fondly known as Bada Bhanteji by his monastic and lay followers alike, was greatly inspired by the immensely profound and yet simple words of spirituality contained in Dhammapada, as uttered by the Supremely Enlightened Buddha and decided to become a Buddhist monk. In memory of this event, we started celebrating Dhammapada Festival on his birthday, which is the full moon day in the month of March. This tradition is being kept alive by his followers after his passing away in order to commemorate his noble legacy and also to spread the word of Dhamma to all sections of society.

9<sup>th</sup> March 2017- The program began in the morning by reciting the verses of Dhammapada by the monks of Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru. At 3 pm Hospital Dana service was organized at Mahabodhi Burns Center, Victoria Hospital Bengaluru. Venerable Dhammadatta led the Dana services with other monks. Some guest monks from Myanmar also participated in the dana service.





10<sup>th</sup> March 2017- the program was organized at Mahabodhi Dhammaduta Vihara, Narasipura Village, North Bengaluru, 27 km away from the Bengaluru city. The travel facility was organized by buses at 7:30 am. A full day puja and meditation program was organized at the sacred Bodhi Rasmi Pagoda led by the Most Venerable Kassapa Mahathera, President of Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru with 100 monks from Mahabodhi Monastic Institute. Most Venerable Munglang Sayadaw chanted the Patthana inside the Bodhi Rasmi Pagoda. Young monks paid homage to Bada Bhanteji by reciting 423 verses of Dhammapada. In the evening, puja and meditation was organized. The day came to an end by lighting candles in entire the premises of Mahabodhi Loka Shanti Buddha Vihara.



*Ven. Monks doing chanting at Bodhi Rasmi Pagoda during Dhammapada Festival*



*Most Ven. Munglang Sayadaw with monks during Dhammapada Festival*

11<sup>th</sup> March 2017- 2 sessions of seminar on Dhammapada was organized at Mahabodhi Community Hall, Gandhinagar. The morning session was from 10 am till 12:30 pm and it was conducted in Kannada and afternoon session was from 2 pm till 4 pm and it was an English session. The event was inaugurated by Most Venerable Kassapa Mahathera, President of Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru. The key note address was given by Most Venerable Ananda Bhanteji, General Secretary of Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru. Many eminent speakers presented their thoughts in Kannada session, namely, Prof. Subhachandra, Retired Prof Dept of Jainology, Mysuru University on the topic 'Dhammapada and Jainology'. Shri Sharath Chandra Swamiji, Asst Prof and coordinator, research and academics, Bengaluru on topic 'Dhammapada and Sanatanadharma'. Dr Rangareddy Kdirampura, HOD, PG Dept of Kannada, MES College, Bengaluru on the topic 'Dhammapada and Vachanagalu'. Dr B V Rajaram, Ex-Director Mysuru Rangaya & Ex- Chairman Kannada Nataka Academy was the moderator for the Kannada Session.



*Seminar on Dhammapada during Dhammapada festival*

After the lunch the English session started at 2 pm. Eminent speakers presented their thoughts. Some of them were Mr Narasimhaiah S, Retired IAS & Research Scholar Tumkur University who spoke on the topic 'Dhammapada and its historical background', while Shri N M Dhoke, Director (R S E) Bengaluru Metro Rail Corp Ltd spoke on the topic 'Dhammapada, Buddha's path to Enlightenment'. Dr J Sreenivasa Murthy, Director of Mahabodhi Research Center, Bengaluru spoke on the topic 'Dhammapada and Mind'. The moderator for the session was Dr Mudnakulu Chinnaswamy, Poet, Retired Chief account officer cum-Financial Advisor, BMTC Central Office, Bengaluru.

One of the highlight of this year's Dhammapada Festival was was the UPASAMPADA-BHIKKHU ORDINATION CEREMONY of 12 Samaneras of Mahabodhi Monastery. The program was divided into 2 parts. 1<sup>st</sup> part was the traditionally offering the Atthaparikkara, the 8 requisites of monks to 12 Samaneras by Upasakas and Upasikas. This part was organized the old puja hall at 5:30 pm



under the guidance of very senior monks from North East of India. The program began by offering salutation puja to the Tri Ratana. The 12 Samaneras bowed and paid respect to the senior Bhikkhus and they took designated seats to accept the offering from lay devotees. Each monk were sponsored by a family or an individual lay devotee, who took the responsibility to provide monastic requirement to the assigned monks now and in future.



***Offering of Atthaparikkhara (Eight requisites of a Monk) to would-be Bhikkhus***

This is the tradition of Buddhist ordination and it makes the monks free from all kinds of debts and burden. This is a great meritorious act for the lay devotees to voluntarily take this responsibility of taking care of the needs of the monks. The lay devotees undertook the Trisarana and Pancasila on this occasion. Most Venerable Pamokkha Bhanteji from Myanmar conducted the offering ceremony in Pali language and tradition. The lay devotees came forward to each assigned monks. They bowed three times and with deep respect and devotion they offered 8 requisite to the monks. The 1<sup>st</sup> part program concluded with blessing ceremony by the senior monks. The 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the ordination would take part the next day on the Phagguna Purnima at 6 am at Sila Vaddhani Sima, Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru.

**12<sup>th</sup> March 2017- Phagguna Purnima,  
also the 96<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Most Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita.**

At 6 am, 37 Bhikkhus and 12 Samaneras, who would receive the Upasampada- Bhikkhu ordination gathered at Sila Vaddhani Sima, Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru. This was a very special and sacred program. The lay devotees were not allowed inside the Sima, a labeled boundary during the recitation for the higher ordination program. It was very fortunate that Most Venerable Gunavanta Mahathera (Munglang Sayadaw) guided the whole ordination ceremony. Most Ven Munglang Sayadaw is 97 years old and one of the most senior Theravada Buddhist monks in India. The program went for 2 hours. Many lay devotees waited outside the Sima to offer Dana to the newly Bhikkhus. This is their first receiving of Dana as Bhikkhus from lay devotees. It is also a great merit of offering Dana to new ordained Bhikkhu by lay people.





***Higher ordination (Upasampada) ceremony of Mahabodhi monks at Sila Vaddhani Sima***



***Offering dana by devotees to newly ordained Bhikkhus***

At 10 am, Sanghadana was organized for all the monks by devotees. At 10:30 am the monks gathered for Achariya Vandana and proceeded to Bodhi Tree and to Vishwa Shanti Stupa. The lay devotees were waiting outside the temple to welcome the monks by standing on both sides and chanting Sadhu!

At 11 am, the lighting of lamp and Buddha puja was offered inside the Maha Bodhi Loka Shanti Buddha Vihara. Undertaking of Uposatha Precepts and Five Sila was administered by Most Venerable Munglang Sayadaw. Thereafter, Dhammadesana and Blessing by Most Venerable Munglang Sayadaw of Ledo, Assam was given. On this occasion, some other monks share the message of Dhamma. They were Venerable Vannasara Mahathera, Venerable Rajinda Mahathera, Venerable Panyasila Mahathera. Smt G Padmavathi, Mayor BBMP was the chief guest of the occasion. She also inaugurated the Sangayana Library. Shri C Anjaneya Reddy, Retired DGP Andhra Pradesh and Smt Latha Rathod, Councilor Gandhinagar was the Honorable guests on this occasion.



***Monks and Devotees doing puja during Dhammapada festival***

Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru launched the new project 'Mahabodhi Meditation and Cultural Centre in Bodhgaya'. The brochure was released by Most Venerable Kassapa Mahathera, President of Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru. Many English and Kannada publication was also released on this auspicious occasion.

2016 - 2017



- 1 Anguttara Nikaya- Pancaka Nipata (Kannada Tipitaka Granthamala) Translated by Ganesh Shenoy.
- 2 Spectrum of Truth- Collection of 30 Dhamma talks by Ven Acharya Buddharakkhita.
- 3 Life's Greatest Blessings by Ven Acharya Buddharakkhita.
- 4 Nibbanake Dharea (the Path to Nibbana) Translation in Kannada by Smt Jayamani R V
- 5 Nalku Ariya Satya (the Four Noble Truth) Translation in Kannada by Smt Jayamani R V



*Release the brochure on proposed  
Mahabodhi Bodhgaya center*



**Release of Dhammapada during  
Dhammapada festival**

**Video documentary released are-**

- 1 Kathina Festival 2015
- 2 Buddha Bhumi Yatra- Pilgrimage to Buddhist Holy places
- 3 Heritage of Enlightenment- Documentary on Ven Acharya Buddharakkhita

**Audio CD released are-**

1. Paritta Chanting
2. Buddha Geetanjali

Then blessing was given by venerable monks. Later, at 1 pm, the lunch offering was organized for the lay devotees. At 3 pm, the Dhamma talks, meditation was organized and a Documentary was shown till 5 pm. In the evening, the dipa puja was done at Mahabodhi Loka Shanti Buddha Vihara and the through this, the Dhammapada Festival for this year came to an end.





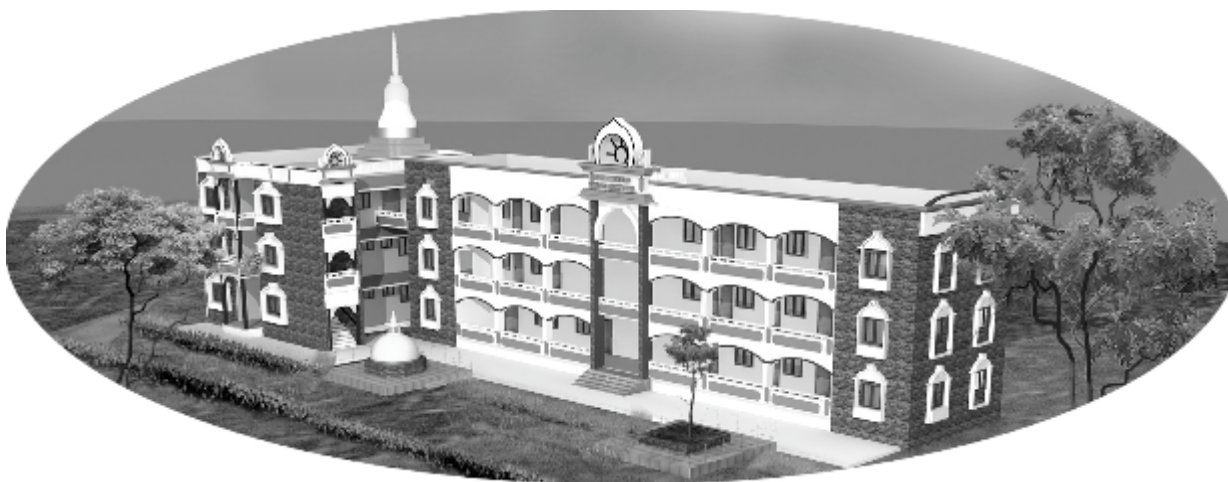


*A new Vision & Mission to serve Buddha Sāsana*

**Mahabodhi Centre for Meditation, Research & Culture**

**Buddharakkhita Sanghārāma**

**BODHGAYA**



2016 - 2017

**BODHGAYA** is the holiest place for the followers of the Buddha all over the world. Situated by the bank of river Neranjana the place was then known as Uruwela. Emperor Ashoka was the first to build a temple here. Bodhgaya is located 110 Kms from Patna, Bihar State in North India.

By the rays of the Enlightenment of Bhagawan Buddha, under the peace and tranquility of the Bodhi Tree, **BODHGAYA is the place of merit**

To ensure your spiritual progress, to restore your onward journey to blissful life, to enrich your store of merits, **BODHGAYA is the place of Spiritual Abode.**

To catalyze and to commit yourself to walk on the path of Sīla, Samādhi and Paññā, to motivate you for a rightful living, to serve the Buddha Sāsana, **BODHGAYA is a perfect place.**

It was a wish of Bada Bhanteji to start a branch of Mahabodhi center in the sacred place of Bodhgaya. In continuation of the activities on the occasion of 2560th Sacred Buddha Jayanthi in the Diamond Jubilee year of this institution, the senior monk disciples of the MBS decided to fulfill Bada Bhante's wish to have a center at Bodhgaya to serve the Buddha Sāsana.

It is said that all the Buddhas in the past attained enlightenment at Bodhgaya. A virtuous disciple visits this holy place with a confidence that he will not fall down below the human existence. Millions of people, seekers of truth and lovers of peace, visit this holy place every year from all over the world with great shraddha.

Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru has purchased a piece of land measuring (10,525 sq ft) at **Bodhgaya** with the kind generous help of Maha Upasika Monica Thadday to establish a Mahabodhi Centre for Meditation, Research & Culture, Bodhgaya.

The Proposed project is to construct Meditation Hall and few rooms for the monks and pilgrim centre building consisting of rooms for 70 beds with all modern facilities for lay devotees.

Bodhi Tree and its Pakāra and 18 feet height Stupa will be constructed for the visitors to pay respects to the sacred Bodhi Tree and Stupa.



### Salient features of the Vision

- To conduct annual Tipitaka Chanting and Residential Meditation courses
- To provide living and boarding facilities for visiting monks from various branches of Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru and other places,
- To provide living and boarding facilities for lay devotees,
- To conduct Upasampadā (Higher ordination) for Mahabodhi Monks and other Monks.
- To propagate the teaching of the Bhagavan Buddha for the masses to maintain peace and harmony among all communities,
- To conduct Buddhist cultural programs
- To maintain the good will among the Buddhist communities and to conduct Buddhist Festivals.
- To run the activities for international Buddhist community.



*Land Purchased for  
Mahabodhi Centre for Meditation, Research & Culture  
Buddharakkhita Sanghārāma*





# An Appeal

## Dear Donor,

We appeal to all the well wishers, seekers of truth and votaries of the Buddha to please contribute your generous Dana (Donation) for the Bodhgaya project. Any amount of donation is appreciated and accepted with thanks. Every rupee is very valuable.

The estimated cost of the project is 5 crores.

Tisarana Bhavan	1.5 Crore
Maitri Bhavan – Yathri Nivas	2.5 Crore
Stupa and Bodhi Pākāra	50 lakhs
Other utilities and main gate	50 Lakhs
Total	5 crores

You may donate one Room costing Rs.5 lakhs. We will display the donor's names in front of the room. Blocks of 5 rooms & Blocks of 10 rooms or one Bhavan can also be offered in the name of your beloved one. Group of friends or family members collectively may also donate.

We appeal one and all to participate in this great project to pay respect to the holy place of the Enlightenment and to express gratitude to the Most Venerable Dr. Acharya Buddharakkhita and to create peaceful meditation facility. Everybody is welcome to come and use.

Let us keep alive the Heritage of Enlightenment going.

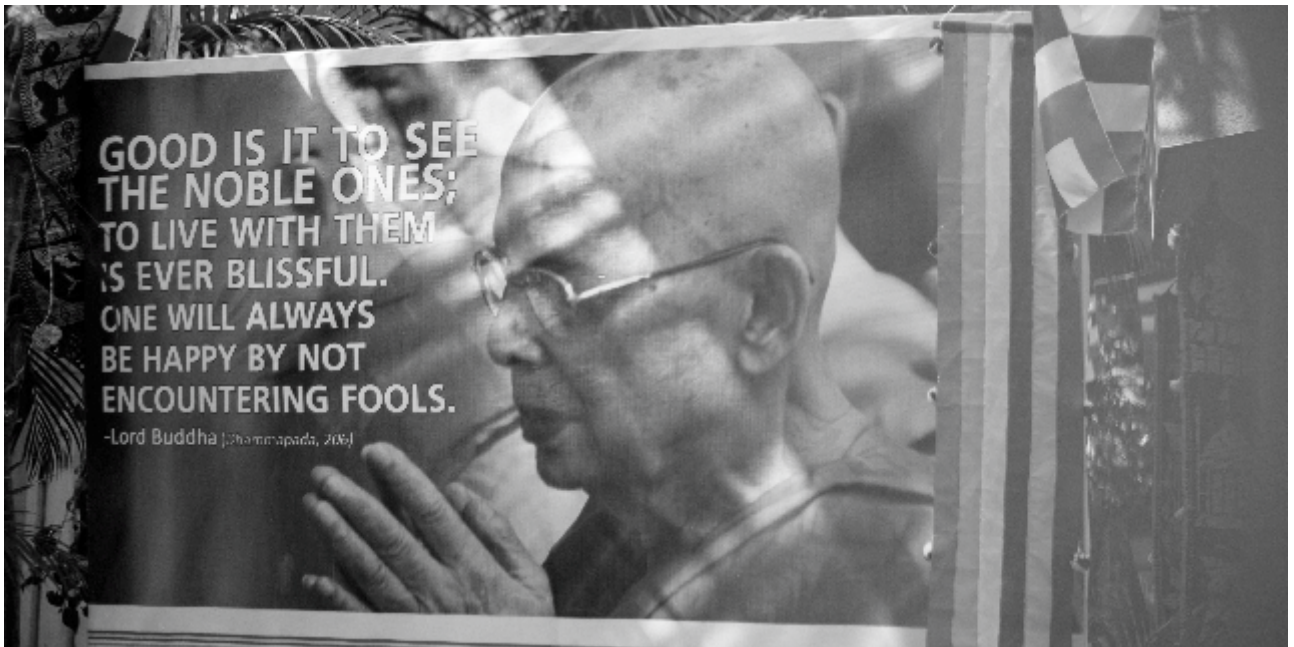
*Yours in the service of Dhamma*



*You may send you donations to the below account  
Your contribution small or big is highly appreciable.  
Please mention your name and address:*

**Maha Bodhi Society**  
**Account No.** SB 353102010000137,  
**IFSC Code:** UBIN 0535311  
**MICR Code:** 560026005  
**Union Bank of India,**  
Gandhinagar, Bangalore 560009, India

2016 - 2017



**Gāthā from Dhammapada Book- translated By Ven Acharya Buddharakkhita**

“Hatred is never appeased by hatred in this world. By non-hatred alone is hatred appeased. This is a law eternal”.

“By oneself is evil done; by oneself is one defiled. By oneself is evil left undone; by oneself is one made pure. Purity and impurity depend on oneself; no one can purify another”.

“To avoid all evil, to cultivate good, and to cleanse one's mind — this is the teaching of the Buddhas”.

“There are no satisfying sensual desires, even with the rain of gold coins. For sensual pleasures give little satisfaction and much pain. Having understood this, the wise man finds no delight even in heavenly pleasures. The disciple of the Supreme Buddha delights in the destruction of craving”.

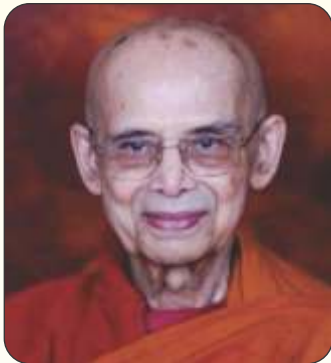
“Hunger is the worst disease, conditioned things the worst suffering. Knowing this as it really is, the wise realize Nibbana, the highest bliss”



# MAHA BODHI SOCIETY

BENGALURU

Management Committee for the year 2016-2017



**Late Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita**  
Founder President



**Venerable Kassapa Mahathera**  
President



**Venerable Bhikkhu Ananda**  
General Secretary



**Venerable Bhikku Sangharakkhita**  
Treasurer &  
In-Charge of Mahabodhi Dhammaduta Vihara Branch



**Venerable Bhikkhu Panyarakkhita**  
Member and In Charge of MMAP  
and Tawang and Diyun Branch



**Venerable Bhikku Dhammaloka**  
Member and In Charge of  
Mysuru Branch



**Venerable Bhikkhu Panyaloka**  
Member and In Charge of  
Mahabodhi Namsai Branch



**Venerable Bhikkhu Buddhadatta**  
Member and Principal of  
Mahabodhi Monastic Institute



**Venerable Bhikkhu Buddhapala**  
Member and In Charge of Hyderabad Branch



**Venerable Bhikkhu Dhammadatta**  
Member and Asst. Treasurer

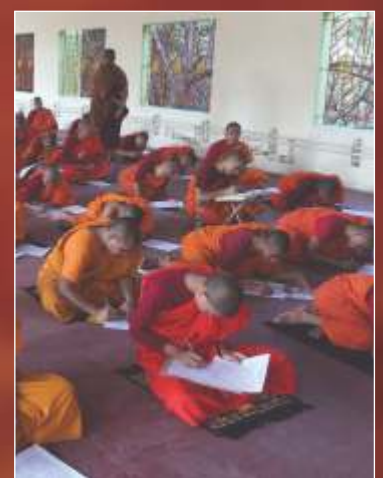


**Venerable Bhikkhu Nyanapala**  
Member and Superintendent MMI



**Venerable Bhikkhu Kalyanasiri**  
Member and Stores In-Charge





## Maha Bodhi Society

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Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru, is a registered under the Karnataka Societies Registration Act No 17 of 1960  
Registration No.S123/68-69 AMR 10/08-09, Bengaluru