Nalanda Buddhist Society

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For Non-Muslims Only

Heartfelt Appreciation on Nalanda's 20th Anniversary

We extend our deepest gratitude to all Sangha members, Buddhist leaders, Dhamma teachers, members, donors, benefactors and volunteers for the outpouring of warmth and camaraderie at Nalanda's milestone 20th Anniversary celebration. As everyone rejoiced in the positive and enduring impact of effective and holistic Buddhist education, the call for a united community to expand these efforts to reach even more people became clear. Let us together join in this noble mission to brighten the lives of more people and make quality education the focus of every Buddhist.



"Making Lives More Meaning ful"

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Flowing Gratitude & Appreciation at

On Saturday 29 April, Nalanda members were honoured to host an appreciation luncheon for 600 guests at Hee Lai Ton Restaurant, Taman Muhibbah in conjunction with Nalanda Buddhist Society's 20th Anniversary celebration. On this momentous occasion, gratitude abounded as everyone rejoiced over the past two decades of holistic education, spiritual development and Dhamma propagation.

We are grateful to receive recorded congratulatory messages and '*ovāda*' (advice) from esteemed spiritual teachers Ven. Dr. H. Gunaratana and Ven. Ajahn Jayasaro which were screened during

Uth Anniversary Luncheon

Nalanda

2003-2023

the programme. Their advice inspires us to be relentless in carrying out our noble mission of Dhamma education for the community. We hope to help people transform to become more compassionate, peaceful and wise, thus living a more meaningful and purposeful life.

Our heartfelt tribute to all past and present spiritual teachers, leaders, members, volunteers, donors, benefactors, and Dhamma friends for your unwavering support to Nalanda's educational mission. May all beings be blessed with peace and happiness, and always be guided by Dhamma to eventually realise the final bliss of *Nibbāna*. May the *Buddha-Sāsana* long endure!







1. We thank the Sangha members for gracing this important occasion and for always providing your support to Nalanda in encouragement, guidance and teachings.

2. Welcoming guests from near and far who graced the occasion. It was a joyful occasion to reconnect with many *kalyana mittas* and thank them for their continuous support over the years.

3. Ven. K. Sri Dhammaratana led the congregation in the chanting and offering of lunch *dāna* to the Mahā Sangha.

4. Nalandians personally served the first dish as an expression of gratitude to our benefactors.





5. Achariya S. Vijaya, Chairman Emeritus of Nalanda Education Committee congratulated the Society for its progress thus far and exhorted us to move forward on this noble mission for the benefit of many.

6. Sis. Buddhinī Tan, President of the Society expressed her appreciation to all past and present teachers, leaders, members, benefactors and volunteers for their unwavering support to Nalanda.

7 & **8**. Lively performances by Dhamma School students and Youths.

9 & **10.** Heartfelt gratitude to all the Buddhist leaders and friends who have been ardent supporters of Nalanda as well as the whole Buddhist community.











Renewed spirit at 20th Nalanda Day

This auspicious occasion celebrates and strengthens our Buddhist missionary spirit to provide holistic educational opportunities for the prolongation of Buddha-Sāsana.



1 May, Sri Serdang

On Monday 1 May, Nalanda members, volunteers and devotees gathered to mark the Society's milestone 20th Anniversary. Recollections of the past strengthened the strong missionary spirit which unites us and our resolve to continue making a positive impact on the community.

As we forge forward, a refresh in management and education leadership roles were also effected, including appointing Achariya S. Vijaya as Chairman Emeritus of Nalanda Education Committee, and installation of the new Board of Management. With renewed spirits, we pledge to keep moving forward in carrying out our noble mission – "Ma Nivatta, abhikkama".







Director of Nalanda Dhammaduta College.







Achariya Vijaya launched the year-long 20th Anniversary Special Exhibition at Nalanda Centre.

"Living A Meaning ful Life"

Observing Buddha Day B.E. 2567 meaningfully at Nalanda

Happy Wesak

Nalanda Living A MEANINGFUL LIFE

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3 – 7 May, Sri Serdang

From 3 to 7 May, Nalanda Centre hosted over 3,000 people to honour the Enlightenment of our Great Teacher the Buddha. The programmes organised during the observance period brought the community together to cultivate stronger faith in the Three Jewels, develop a deeper understanding of the Dhamma, practice virtuous qualities, and perform wholesome deeds.

The highlight of the Wesak Observance was the Heritage Procession, which made its return after a 3-year hiatus due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Steeped in tradition and culture, devotees held candle lights and walked serenely behind the Buddha-rupam conveyed on a wooden sedan, parasols and other handcrafted items to the harmonious beat of drums and gongs.

We extend our deepest appreciation to members of the Sangha, Dhamma speakers, volunteers and devotees for your contributions in making this Buddha Day Observance a meaningful one.









- 1. *Buddha Day Eve Service* Sis. Paruadi led reflections on the Buddha's Enlightenment.
- 2. *Pindacāra* Starting the day spiritually with alms-round around Sri Serdang.

3. *Morning Service* – Devotees congregated for meditation, chanting, Buddha Pūja and a Dhamma talk by Bro. Tan Siang Chye.

4. *Dhammapada Study Series* – The first of three sessions by Nalanda Institute to learn and reflect on verses of the Dhammapada.











5. *Mass Food Offering* – Volunteers joyfully offering free meals to all visitors and our neighbours as a cultivation of generosity, gratitude, and selflessness.

6. Buddha Jayanti Exhibition – Dhamma School facilitators and students hosted an interactive exhibition to showcase the richness and beauty of Buddha's teachings.

7. *Heritage Procession* – Devotees walking calmly and peacefully to the rhythmic beating of drums and gongs, as members hoisted colourful flags and parasols signifying honour and respect to the Three Jewels.

8. Dhamma through Drama – Dhamma School students and youths bringing to life the Buddha Day theme of 'Living a Meaningful Life' through a musical performance and compelling story-telling.

9. Film Screening : Dhammayatra 正觉之道 – Big turnout for a special documentary to retrace the path taken by the Buddha, followed by a special interview with Director Mr. Yang Wei Han who shared his reflections on the production of this film.

10. Blood Donation – Over 250 donors registered to donate blood, with the noble intention of helping others in need. This meritorious deed is indeed faceless, selfless and nameless as each donation will be channelled anonymously and without bias to those whose lives depend on it.

佛陀日吉祥 BUDDHIST BPA 2567 Happy Wesak

Nalanda Wesak Theme 活出生命的意义 LIVING A MEANINGFUL LIFE



Cultivating serenity in Peace Walk at NEO KL







4 & 6 May, Kuala Lumpur

On 4 & 6 May, devotees congregated at Nalanda Education & Outreach Centre, Happy Garden to observe Buddha Day. On 4 May, the Morning Service featured a Mandarin Dhamma talk by Bro. Aggaphala Yap who shared that faith in the Buddha's Enlightenment enables the development of Right View to face the vicissitudes of life.

On 6 May, the day started with *Pindacāra* (monks on alms-round) around Taman OUG and Happy Garden markets. In the evening, devotees gathered again for the Peace Walk which commenced with an English Dhamma talk by Achariya S. Vijaya. Achariya advised that the opportunity to learn Dhamma is rare, hence we must make best use of this lifetime to develop ourselves in the Dhamma.

The evening Peace Walk ensued with over 150 devotees walking together calmly and mindfully. While reciting the Jaya Mangala Gatha, serenity permeated the neighbourhood despite the large crowd and narrow roads.

The Peace Walk was also graced by Ven. Piyaratana from Sri Lanka and Ven. Ajahn Visālo from Indonesia. At the end of the Peace Walk, Ajahn exhorted that peace should be cultivated not just on Buddha Day, but every day and every moment.

Sadhu anumodāna to our KL Branch for a meaningful Wesak Observance!



Dent of Good Report

Buddha Day at NEO JB

佛陀日吉祥

Happy Wesak

3 – 4 May, Johor Bharu

Devotees in the South congregated at Nalanda Education & Outreach Centre, Johor Bahru to observe Buddha Day in a simple and meaningful observance to learn Dhamma, practice meditation, and perform wholesome deeds. The observance commenced on 3 May, with the Wesak Eve service cultivating *mettā bhāvanā*.

On 4 May, the community made offerings to Ven. B. Dheerananda Thero during the morning alms-round. They continued their learning with Bro. Ooi Boon Keat on making our lives more meaningful through developing *dāna* (generosity), *sīla* (morality) and *bhāvanā* (mental cultivation).

The highlight of the observance was the Peace Walk around the neighbourhood, led by Ven. Dheerananda. *Sadhu anumodāna* to our friends in JB for a meaningful Buddha Day Observance.



community an opportunity to perfor<mark>m meritorious dee</mark>ds.







Buddha Day at NEO SP

4 May, Sungai Petani

On Wednesday 12 June, over 30 members and devotees commemorated Buddha Day at Nalanda Education & Outreach Centre, Sungai Petani by learning and reflecting on Dhamma.

The Buddha Day Morning Service commenced with offerings, chanting and meditation followed by a Dhamma talk by Bro. Ānanda Fong. Bro. Ānanda expounded on the Buddha's Enlightenment and how He decided to teach the Dhamma out of great compassion. Bro. Ānanda also led devotees to understand that when we commit our lives to wholesome deeds and intentions, we are able to bring well-being and happiness to both ourselves and to others. This leads us to live more meaningful lives.

We thank the organisers for enabling the community around Sungai Petani to spend this sacred commemoration in a meaningful manner. *Sadhu anumodana*!

Ven. Ajahn Visālo's maiden visit to Nalanda

Despite the short stay, Ajahn lent his presence heavily to support the Buddha Day programmes at Nalanda and gave many precious teachings in formal sessions and candid discussions.

5 – 7 May, Sri Serdang

From 5 to 7 May, Nalanda was honoured to host Ajahn Visālo on his maiden visit here. Venerable hails from Indonesia and received his monastic training in Wat Pah Nanachat in Thailand where he has been residing for the past 15 years.

In his short stay, Ajahn lent his presence heavily to support the Buddha Day programmes and frequently relayed the insights and wisdom of his practice to the community during the Buddha Day talks as well as candid discussions with devotees.

We are grateful to Ajahn Visālo for visiting and establishing a connection with Nalanda. We wish him best of health and unhindered progress in his noble aspirations. *Sādhu*.







Bro. Ajita hosted the Building Tour, revealing the many hidden Buddhist symbolism at the Centre.







Hosting Ven. Ajahn Achalo & Ven. Ajahn Tissaro at Nalanda

12 – 13 May, Sri Serdang & KKB

On Saturday 13 May, we joyfully welcomed Venerable Ajahn Achalo to Nalanda Centre for a Dhamma talk, four years since his last visit. Ajahn shared with us his journey as a monk and personal experiences in turning difficult situations into constructive ones by turning negative perceptions around.

Ajahn advised us to maintain a forgiving mindset as we work with others especially as a community dedicated to missionary work. It is important to acknowledge that just like ourselves, others are challenged by defilements and strive to develop themselves.

We extend our gratitude to Ajahn Achalo for his valuable advice and wish Ajahn blessings of good health and peace.











Exhibition detailing Nalanda's journey through the years.

BPS 104 participants complete their course at Wisdom Park

Participants hailed from Klang Valley, Johor Bahru and Sungai Petani where they attended seven classes since February at the respective NEO Centres.

20 – 21 May, KKB

On 20 - 21 May, BPS 104 Buddhist Course in Mandarin participants immersed themselves in Dhamma at Wisdom Park. Through experiential activities, discussions, talks and a forum, they delved deeper into how to live in accordance with the Buddha's teachings. The highlight of the stay-in was the Certificate Presentation Ceremony to mark the successful completion of their BPS 104 course journey.

With the support of spiritual friends, participants shared that they had opened their hearts to Dhamma and experienced positive transformation. We rejoice over their learning spirit and congratulate all participants for completing the course. *Sadhu anumodana*!



be more grounded in gratitude and respect.











Family Dhamma School Outing at Wisdom Park

The Family Dhamma School extended their learning to include performing service and exploring more about family relationship at their first school outing.

27 May, Kuala Kubu Bharu

On Saturday 27 May, 80 students and facilitators of Family Dhamma School had their first school outing to Wisdom Park. The trip aimed to cultivate family well-being and experience the joy of service. After the morning chanting, the families fanned out across the grounds for fun learning activities and a tree-planting session.

The children had a learning session with Ven. Jayanando, a Malaysian monk, whilst parents reflected on their learning that morning. We thank the School facilitators for organising this fulfilling and wholesome day where families spent quality time together. We look forward to welcoming Family Dhamma School back to Wisdom Park!



the participants to Wisdom Park.











Hosting senior *bhikkhus* of Ajahn Chah lineage

27 & 30 May, Sri Serdang & KKB

On 27 & 30 May, Nalanda was honoured to host 5 senior monks from Ajahn Chah lineage on 27 & 30 May at Nalanda Centre and Wisdom Park, who were on a Dhamma tour across Malaysia and Singapore.

The entourage was headed by Luang Por Lai Thīpadhammo, a senior Thai forest monk who trained under the late Ajahn Chah. Luang Por was accompanied by Luang Por Sawang Kalyāno, Luang Por Charlie Piyadhammo, Ajahn Dton Dhirapanno and Ajahn Meng Techadhammo.

We thank Venerable Ajahns for gracing our Centre and delivering precious Dhamma teachings to the community, and may they enjoy good health, happiness and peace.







talk in Thai with Ajahn Dton as his translator.





and natural settings of Wisdom Park.



Hosting Ven. Alokavamsa at Nalanda Centre

29 May – 15 June, Serdang

Nalanda was blessed to host Ven. Alokavamsa and Sayalay Mitta Devi at Nalanda Centre for a 3-week stay. There were bountiful opportunities to serve and learn from Venerable who led evening meditation sittings, and gave words of advise to devotees at the daily meal-offerings and candid discussions.

Venerable also visited forest monasteries in Taiping and Penang, including Sāsanārakkha Buddhist Sanctuary and Nandaka Vihara. May Venerable Alokavamsa, Sayalay Mitta Devi, Pak James, Pak Nyoman and Bro. Dwayne have the best of health, continued spiritual progress, and success in their noble work. Sadhu anumodana!



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and toured the monastery facilities.



Youth Centre leads Study Tour to Bujang Valley

3 – 5 June, Sungai Petani

From 3 to 5 June, Nalanda Youth Centre organisedits first Youth study tour to Bujang Valley. Youth leaders Bro. Yeo Disheng and Bro. Lim Ajit led 36 youths to immerse themselves in the rich Buddhist history dating back to 1st Century BCE. Exploring historical sites including Sungai Batu, Merbok, and Semerling in Kedah, they learned how early traders from India sailed across the Bay of Bengal and built settlements in Bujang Valley, establishing their religous practice here.

We thank Nalanda Sungai Petani Branch members for hosting the group and the organisers for bringing history alive in this memorable trip. *Sadhu anumodāna*!



warmly welcomed the youths to Kedah.









Nalanda

2003-2023

Explanation at Candi Batu Pahat located near the Bujang Valley Archeological Museum.





Exploring verses from the Dhammapada

4 May, 10 June, 29 June, Sri Serdang

Nalanda Institute hosted the Dhammapada Study Series, for devotees to learn and reflect on chosen verses from the profound Dhammapada. A total of 150 participants joined the sessions on 4 May, 10 & 29 June.

In today's society where conflict is rife, participants related well to these iconic verses which teach us to overcome challenges through training our own mind instead of blaming and complaining about others. Peace of mind is always closer at hand when we do not harbour unwholesome thoughts and hatred.

We extend our thanks to the organisers, volunteers, and participants for availing and making these learning opportunities a conducive and beneficial platform to reflect on the Buddha's words.







Sis. Chin Hui sharing her experience in helping the students enhance their interest to learn.



4 June, Sri Serdang

On 4 June, Nalanda Dhamma School facilitators gathered to take stock of students' progress and plan for upcoming programmes. Led by School Director Sis. See Hui Shien, they ensured future programmes would support students' learning and skills.

Sis. Lum Jin Sun also conducted a counselling workshop for the facilitators on effective communication with students and discussed handling common challenges optimally.

We thank our Dhamma School facilitators for guiding our children and teenagers towards more skillful and harmonious lives in accordance to Dhamma. Let us rejoice in their selfless deeds and wish them a fruitful year ahead. Sadhu anumodāna!



Fruitful 10-day Meditation Retreat with Ven. Gavesi

We extend our appreciation to Ven. Gavesi for his care and compassion in guiding the practitioners in the cultivation of the mind. We also thank the organising team and volunteers for their efforts in making this retreat a success.

16 – 25 June, KKB

From 16 to 25 June, 40 yogis and volunteers gathered at Wisdom Park for a 10-day meditation retreat guided by Venerable Gavesi. At the onset of the retreat, meditators received clear instructions on Vipassana meditation from Venerable who trained in Samattha and Vipassana techniques in the Mahasi Sayadaw tradition.

The meditators kept strictly to the daily schedule of alternating between hourly walking and sitting sessions. Ven. Gavesi continued giving the group guidance in the interviews as well as evening talks. We rejoice in the diligence of the meditators in their practice. May their practice bear fruit. *Sadhu*!













'Happy Young Adults' Programme comes to a joyful conclusion

Group photo at the Happy Young Adults Forum that featured insightful sharings by Buddhist practitioners who shared on achieving career success being a journey, not a destination.

27 June, Sri Petaling

On 27 June, the "Happy Young Adults" programme of 2023 culminated in a public forum on "Achieve Career Success NOW", after eight weekly sessions to address common challenges faced by young working adults.

Organised by Nalanda Youth Centre, over 50 youths learned from forum panellists Bro. Benny Liow, Bro. Lee Kong Foo and Sis. Livin Leow who shared their diverse experience and perspectives on navigating challenges towards a successful career with Dhamma principles.

We thank the organisers for these enriching learning opportunities for our young friends in their journey of establishing their careers.



and how they overcame the highs and lows.





The first session conducted by Bro. Tan Siang Chye on developing true inner confidence.







Meditation Course underway at NEO Centre Johor Bahru

From 24 May, Johor Bharu

For three months from 24 May, participants of 'Bhāvanā Class for Beginners' gather every Wednesday at Nalanda Education and Outreach Centre, Johor Bahru to explore the Buddha's teachings on cultivation of the mind and learn meditation through guided sessions.

O n 21 June, Ven. Jutipañño Mahāthero, Abbot of Dhamma Light Meditation Centre at Api-Api, Johor, led the meditation session, emphasising on the dangers of the untrained mind. With a deeper understanding and appreciation of this noble practice, we wish the meditators continued progress in their learning and practice. *Sadhu anumodāna*.







Participants and devotees gathered to learn from Ven. Jutipañño, on how to cultivate the mind and overcome the hindrances which we commonly face in meditation.

Hosting Sangha Members at Nalanda

Blessed is the opportunity to associate with the wise!





31 May











Nalanda2023FAMILY FUN FAR13 AUGUST, SUNDAY9AM - 3PMSRI SERDANG

家庭欢乐日义卖会 八月十三日(星期日)

Fund-raising to support Nalanda Dhamma School and Free School.

此义卖会是为 Nalanda 佛学校及义学校筹募经费。

Sponsor a "care bag" with coupons at RM20 per bag to gift provisions and food to those in need.

Nalanda volunteers will help to send your gifts to senior citizens' homes and orphanages around the Klang Valley.

我们欢迎您赞助"献爱心"计划, 以 RM20 固本向有需要的人提供日常用品和食物。 我们的义工将帮忙把物资运送到巴生谷一带的老人院和孤儿院。



Ways you can help 我们欢迎您的参与

Care

Bag

献爱心"计划

- Setting up stalls 开设摊位及零售物品
- Donations in cash or kind
- 🚄 捐助或赞助商品
- 3 Helping to sell coupons 销售固本
 - Serving as a volunteer
- 加入义工团队
- Bring your family and friends to the Fun Fair
 - 扶老携幼, 共襄盛举

Upcoming Programmes

July – Sept 2023

* Registration is required.

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Special events :

- * Svagatam Inspiring Programme 16 July to 17 September
- * BPS 204 Intermediate Buddhist Studies in Mandarin 29 July to 14 October
- * Dhamma-Living Camp for Young Adults 28 September to 1 October

Be a Volunteer at Nalanda Family Fun Fair

13 August 2023



Register NOW as a Volunteer! Service opportunities between 7 am – 5 pm.

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Dhamma Reflection

If we want to effectively make use of the Buddha's Teaching to promote social harmony and universal peace, we must begin to see the world as the Buddha did. We must "see the world as it really is".

We must use all our efforts to give an understanding of the three characteristics of $Anicc\bar{a}$ (impermanence), Dukkha (unsatisfactoriness) and $Anatt\bar{a}$ (non-self). All of us, who have inherited this rich treasure from various sources, must come together to help all of mankind gain ultimate happiness.

- Excerpt from "Buddhism for the Future" by Ven. K. Sri Dhammananda

'Like' our Facebook fanpage at **WWW.facebook.com/nalanda.org.my** to connect with Nalanda for more Dhamma-rich news, views and articles!

Nalanda Contacts Please visit our website for directions to Nalanda.

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Nalanda Centre is open daily from 10am to 5pm. For visits, kindly call to make appointments.

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