## Nalanda Bulletin Published by Nalanda Buddhist Society TM

Issue No. 65

May 2024 | www.nalanda.org.my

For Non-Muslims Only

#### "Education of the Heart" Heartfelt gratitude to all Teachers

From 28 to 31 March, 100 Dhamma School teachers and volunteers from communities across Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand immersed themselves in joyful learning at the 2nd National Camp for Dhamma School Teachers. We rejoice in the dedication and compassion the teachers embody to provide Dhamma education that moulds the values and characters of the younger generation.

See pages 32 to 35 for report and photographs of the camp.





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# Hosting Venerable Ajahn Dhammasiha On his maiden visit to Wisdom Park, Ajahn reminded the leaders to hone

On his maiden visit to Wisdom Park, Ven. Ajahn Dhammasīha, Abbot of Dhammagiri Forest Hermitage in Brisbane, toured the campus and rejoiced in the availability of this facility dedicated to Buddha-Sāsana. Ajahn reminded the leaders to hone mindfulness of thought, speech and action in the planning and construction in order to yield beneficial results for all involved in this process. We thank Ajahn for visiting and for the timely advice.

### Parents and children spend the day meaningfully at Nalanda

#### 21 January, Sri Serdang

Nalanda Dhamma School hosted a wholesome day for parents and teenagers with a Parenting Workshop by Bro. Aggaphala Yap and Sports Day with Nalanda Youth Centre.

Both groups learned life skills such as effective communication, empathy and patience. Parents gained confidence in strengthening positive parent-child relationships, whilst students put these skills into practice by working in teams. We rejoice in their strong learning spirit!

Photographs on the bottom left and below.















#### Hosting Tan Chao Khun Samai & Ajahn Suthorn

24 February, Sri Petaling

On Magha full-moon day, we were honoured to host Tan Chao Khun Samai Sukhasamiddho, Abbot of Wat Pa Buddharangsee in Leumeah, New South Wales and Ajahn Suthorn. Ven. Tan Chao Khun Samai led the morning Pindacāra at the local markets of Sri Petaling and Taman OUG before adjourning to Nalanda Book Café for the meal offering and Dhamma chat with the congregation.

On the auspicious full-moon day, Venerable expounded on the Ovada-Patimokkha, the seminal teaching of the Buddha preached on this same full-moon to avoid the unwholesome, cultivate the wholesome and to purify the mind.

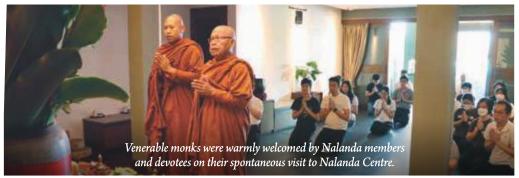
We are very grateful to Ven. Tan Chao Khun Samai and Ajahn Suthorn for affording the Buddhist community here to perform wholesome deeds and reflect on Dhamma. We extend our gratitude to both venerable monks and wish them the best of health, and much success in their noble endeavours.















# Gratitude & Joy at Tea-offering Ceremonies

#### 25 February, Serdang & K.L.

Nalanda Dhamma School marked the start of the school year with tea-offering ceremonies at both Nalanda Centre and NEO Centre Happy Garden. The day started with parents, devotees and students deepening their understanding on the duties of parents and of children as taught by the Buddha.

At this heartfelt ceremony, children showed their appreciation to parents by offering tea and paying their respects. They also presented hand-made gifts with personal messages to their parents. This endearing tradition long-held by the Chinese community is a great source of joy and unity, as the values of respect and gratitude forms the bedrock of a harmonious society.























#### 29 February – 3 March

70 students and facilitators from Nalanda Dhamma School spent the school holidays at Nalanda Centre to learn Dhamma and strengthen their bonds of spiritual friendship. With the theme "Welcome to Dhamma with Spiritual Friends", facilitators introduced basic Buddhist values and practices through Dhamma learning sessions, meditation, chanting, fun activities and service.

With a refreshing start to the new school year, may the students continue to learn the wise teachings of the Buddha with high spirits, and support each other as they walk the Dhamma path together. *Sadhu anumodāna*!























#### 1 – 10 March, KKB

Over 35 yogis and volunteers completed a 10-day meditation retreat led by Ven. Gavesi, persevering in the alternating hourly sitting and walking sessions. With his advice and encouragement, yogis observed the *Vipassana* objects to gradually build up and strengthen their mindfulness.

We extend our appreciation to Ven. Gavesi for conducting this retreat and also thank all the volunteers for their selfless service. We rejoice in the yogis' efforts and endurance, and we hope that your development in the Dhamma continue to deepen unabated.









#### 10 March – 12 May

From 10 March to 12 May, over 40 parents of Nalanda Dhamma School students participated in the Parents Induction Programme, conducted by the School's Chief Facilitator Sis. Lau Wei Nee and Junior Dhamma School Coordinator Sis. Poh Chin Hui.

This tailor-made platform consisting of 8 sessions enabled parents to progress in their own Dhamma learning and also adopt ways to support their families' development.

We rejoice in the efforts of the parents to learn together with their children and wish them much joy as they embark on their spiritual journey here at Nalanda.









#### March, Sri Serdang

Nalanda Free School teachers and volunteers welcomed a new intake of over 150 students for the 2024 academic year at Sri Serdang. The School offers free tuition to needy students, and has a low student-to-teacher ratio to extend more personalised help to students.

Teachers get to know the students better to understand their learning styles and needs. With patience and kindness, we hope to develop the students' love of learning and willingness to enhance themselves towards overall well-being.

We wish the teachers and students a fruitful year of learning ahead.













The *Pindacāra* (monks on alms-round) programme at the morning markets in Seri Kembangan has resumed on every 3rd Saturday of the month.

Many vendors and market-goers were delighted to again see the sight of monks walking barefoot and receiving

Market-goers eagerly lined up to make offerings to the bhikkhus.

alms at the Bazar Rakyat and took the opportunity to make offerings themselves.

We thank all members and volunteers for their support and efforts to bring this programme back to Seri Kembangan. *Sadhu anumodāna*!



Nalanda Centre hosted Ven. Ajahn Visālo, an Indonesian *bhikkhu* who ordained under Luang Por Liem, Abbot of Wat Pah Pong. Devotees and members were grateful for the opportunity to associate with a well-practised teacher to learn the Dhamma and make offerings.



We extend our appreciation to Ajahn Visālo for affording these opportunities to learn and reflect on Dhamma with his wisdom, and hope that Ajahn will come to visit us again when in Malaysia. We wish Ajahn good health and fulfilment in his spiritual endeavours.



# Family Dhamma School launched in Johor Bahru

#### 16 March, Johor Bahru

Over 30 parents and children embarked on a new Dhamma learning journey together at Family Dhamma School in Nalanda Johor Bahru Branch. This weekly programme was newly launched to serve as a nurturing platform for families to foster spiritual growth and achieve domestic bliss.

Students will learn both as a family and with their peers, as Dhamma School facilitators apply a blended approach and tailor-make engaging programmes. Parents are also able to support their children's learning because they will explore similar topics every session.

We rejoice in their learning spirit as they progress on the spiritual path as a family unit. May their journey be enriching and transformative.



















#### 16 March – 27 April, KL, JB, SP

More than 100 participants, facilitators and volunteers commenced the first session of the *Sigālovāda Sutta* (Digha Nikaya 31) Study Course in Mandarin on 16 March. Organised by Nalanda Institute Malaysia, this course was held concurrently across all three Nalanda Branches in Kuala Lumpur, Johor Bahru and Sungai Petani, and provided an insight into the Buddha's teachings about the laity's duties and moral conduct.

Let us aspire to embed this detailed and compassionate teaching by the Buddha so that we develop ourselves towards achieving balanced well-being and harmony with others.













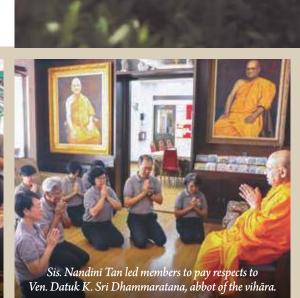


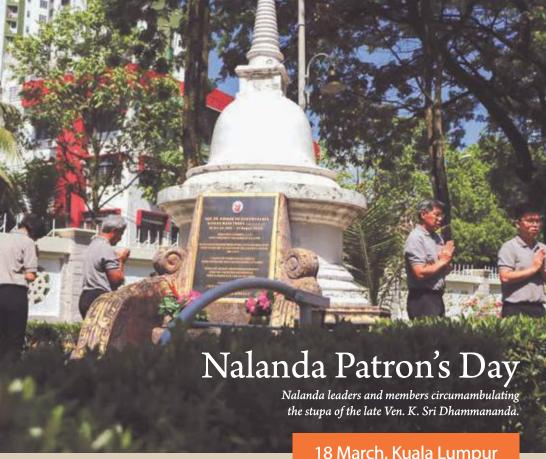
Nalanda Youth members gathered at Nalanda Youth Centre in Sri Serdang for the first Youth Members' Day of 2024. We formally welcomed new Youth members and reflected on our learning journey over the past year as well as align our direction for the year ahead. Youth Mentor, Sis. Nandinī Tan reiterated the importance of undertaking both learning and service for personal development and growth. She also urged us to have viriya ("energy" or "effort") so that we can progress well.

We commend the Youth Centre members' eagerness to learn and their selfless acts of service to the community. Let us continue to strive diligently to bring Nalanda Youth Centre to greater heights!









18 March, Kuala Lumpur

Nalanda leaders and members visited Brickfields Mahā Vihāra to observe Nalanda Patron's Day, in conjunction with the birth anniversary of our late spiritual advisor Ven. K. Sri Dhammananda.

With heartfelt gratitude, we express our appreciation to all our benefactors past and present, for your advice, care and contributions in every way, and for your unrelenting support in our education mission. Sadhu anumodāna!















ver 30 young working adults have been gathering on Tuesdays at Nalanda Book Café Community Centre to address common challenges which they face in this stage of life, and how they can resolve them in accordance with Dhamma.

With the support of seasoned corporate figures and professionals who are also Dhamma practitioners, the youths learn about achieving success with purpose and satisfaction. This peer-support platform also enabled them share and learn from one another.

With a better understanding of how we navigate through challenges with Dhamma, may you find more fulfilment and growth in your careers.



#### 24 March, Sri Serdang

Over 70 Nalanda members came together for the Society's 21st Annual General Meeting. President of the Society, Sis. Buddhinī Tan expressed appreciation for everyone's support and continued commitment, a testament to our 20th Anniversary theme of "Making Lives More Meaning ful".

It is crucial for everyone to play our roles to support the Society's programmes and enhance our own practice so that collectively, we enable others to learn Dhamma as we move towards a Buddhist missionary. Together, let us be relentless in our Dhamma propagation mission for the benefit of all beings.

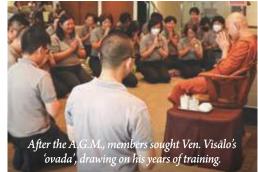
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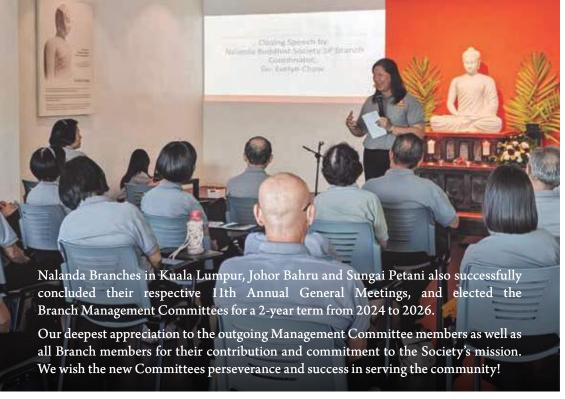














Chairperson: Dr. Song Wai Leng

Dep. Chairperson: Bro. Khaw Seng Giap

Branch Secretary: Sis. Lee An May, Sumedha

Asst. Secretary: Sis. Tan Hooi Leng Branch Treasurer: Bro. Lau Yun Lee Asst. Treasurer: Sis. Ong Yen See Committee Members:

1. Sis. Heng Sok Hoon

2. Dr. Lee Wai Heng

3. Bro. Fong Chee Meng

4. Sis. Chen Chee Yuan, Vinnie

5. Sis. Song Chu Jun



Chairperson: Sis. Ong Ai Geok

Dep. Chairperson: Sis. Saw Geik Cheok

Branch Secretary : Sis. Cheong Boy Liew

Asst. Secretary: Sis. Tan Mui Cheng

Branch Treasurer: Sis. Ng Swee Foon, Vivienne

Asst. Treasurer: Sis. Yap Chong Yin, Alice

Committee Members :

1. Sis. Yap Chong Tai, Karen

2. Sis. Ng Swee Meng, Angie

3. Sis. Ng Choy Hoong, Rainbow

4. Sis. Yap Chong Yoon, Lisa

5. Sis. Yap Chong Man, Ann



Chairperson: Bro. Yong Keok Fatt

Dep. Chairperson: Bro. Ng Eek Chon

Branch Secretary : Sis. Tan Choi Hong, Ovia

Asst. Secretary: Sis. Lee Yoke Teng

Branch Treasurer: Sis. Tan Hui Mei, May

Asst. Treasurer: Sis. Thong Fee Shen

Committee Members :

1. Bro. Moo Chee Yong

2. Sis. Wong Phooi Fun, Esther

3. Sis. Lim Poh Foung, Camie

4. Sis. Ng Chee Hui, Grace

5. Sis. Lim Poh Chin



The 2nd National Camp for Dhamma School Teachers was held at Wisdom Park. Co-organised by Nalanda Buddhist Society and Theravāda Buddhist Council of Malaysia (TBCM), the camp gathered like-minded teachers to explore "Education of the Heart", a holistic approach to spiritual and personal development that encompasses not just intellectual understanding, but also cultivation of virtues leading to the transformation of the heart.

With the guidance of experienced Dhamma School teachers, participants delved into qualities, competencies and approaches that create a conducive learning environment to induce the realisation of Dhamma in students. Finding commonalities in their motivations and challenges, the teachers formed bonds of friendship with the aim of supporting each other as a larger Dhamma community. *Sadhu anumodāna* to all our teachers!

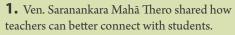


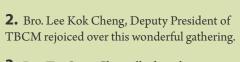


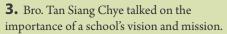














**5.** Planting a tree dedicated to all teachers.

**6, 13, 14.** Outdoor team activities.

**7, 8, 10.** Insightful and uplifting forums with teachers & students.

**9.** Family discussions and reflections.

**11.** L-R : Electives with Mr. Yang Wei Han, Achariya S. Vijaya and Bro. Lim Ajit.

























#### 10 – 13 April, KKB

Over 90 Nalanda members and core volunteers gathered for the 10th National Nalanda Members' Convention at Wisdom Park. Continuing the theme 'Towards a Buddhist Missionary', the group delved deeper into personal and organisational transformation.

Recognising the realities of today's missionary movement laden with challenges and opportunities, everyone opened up their hearts to embrace the possibilities which lie ahead should each of us play our part. Let us be unrelenting to embody the spirit of a missionary, and realise this noble aspiration for the benefit of many!





















- **1.** Installation of newly elected Branch Management Committees for 2024 to 2026.
- **2.** Members had insightful learnings during the forum with founding members Sis. Nandinī Tan, Sis. Santī Cheang and Sis Buddhinī Tan.
- **3 & 4.** Spiritual friendships form the foundation of a Dhamma community bound to serve a noble mission.
- **5.** Nalanda Youth Centre continues to grow as they develop and cultivate in the Dhamma together.
- **6.** A heart-to-heart discussion with trusted spiritual friends to address challenges faced.
- **7 & 8.** Sis. Paruadi Ramasamy and Bro. Yeo Disheng led learning sessions on heightened awareness and revealed ways to turn possibilities to realities.
- **9.** A fun day out picnic and games by the beautiful riverbank of Sungai Selangor.
- **10 & 11.** Working together joyfully to maintain the grounds and upkeep of Wisdom Park.





















#### 21 April, Sri Serdang

More than 120 Nalanda members, devotees, youths and Dhamma School students came together to give back to Mother Nature and pay tribute for her boundless gifts.

After the morning service and learning sessions, everyone sprung into action to upkeep the areas around Nalanda Centre by pruning plants, clearing the roads and drains, and planting new shrubs. Within just 2 hours, the neighbourhood was spruced up, making it a cleaner and more pleasant environment for all.

We appreciate everyone for their support and care. Let's continue to care and do our part for the environment.













In the span of just over a week, Nalanda was honoured to host three prestigious monastic members for Dhamma teachings. Ven. Ajahn Kusalo, Ven. Ayya Santinī and Ven. Ajahn Achalo respectively shared their wisdom and precious experiences to the delight of the community that thronged Nalanda Centre to meet and learn from them.

We express our gratitude for their guidance and wish them the best of health, long life, happiness and peace. *Sadhu anumodāna*!







## Hosting external organisations 18 – 19 February, KKB

Nalanda members welcomed 24 members and volunteers of Gurun Buddhist Association, from Kedah. Led by their President Bro. Tan King Leong & Deputy Bro. Heng Meng Huan, the group consisted of the association's Dhamma School teachers and their children, who were on route to Borobudor, Indonesia for a learning trip. We are glad to host our good friends from the north and rejoice in the joyful sharing and exchange. May your sincere efforts to propagate Dhamma be fruitful.







at Wisdom Park



Dhamma School teachers, students, parents and volunteers.

students connected with their parents through experiential and fun activities. We marvel in the high spirits of all the families, and may they develop inner joy and peace on their learning journey.



#### **Upcoming Programmes**

May – July 2024

Nalanda Centre / Seri Kembangan

Nalanda Centre

Dhamma Light Meditation Center, Pontian, Johor

NEO Centre K.L. / Taman O.U.G. & Happy

Market

Garden

141/71
1 -0-
A EL
Buddha Day

## 01 Nalanda Day – Nalanda Buddhist Society's 21st Anniversary 04 Pindacāra – Alms-round by Sangha members at the morning markets in Taman O.U.G. & Happy Garden NEO Centre K.L. / Taman O.U.G. & Happy Garden

Pindacāra – Alms-round by Sangha members

at the morning markets in Seri Kembangan

Buddha Day – Wesak Observance B.E. 2568

01 O1

18

01	Pindacāra – Alms-round by Sangha members at the morning markets in Taman O.U.G. & Happy Garden
01 – 03	Meditation Retreat with Ven. Jutipañño*



	08	BPS 307 Certificate in Buddhist Studies commences*	Nalanda Centre
	15	Pindacāra – Alms-round by Sangha members at the morning markets in Seri Kembangan	Nalanda Centre / Seri Kembangan Market
	22	Horticulture and Landscaping Course*	Wisdom Park

JULY



01	Nalanda Institute's 17th Anniversary	Nalanda Centre
06	Pindacāra – Alms-round by Sangha members at the morning markets in Taman O.U.G. & Happy Garden	NEO Centre K.L. / Taman O.U.G. & Happy Garden
08 – 09	Hosting Malaysia Theravāda Sangha Gathering	Wisdom Park
20	Pindacāra – Alms-round by Sangha members at the morning markets in Seri Kembangan	Nalanda Centre / Seri Kembangan Market
20	Dhamma Day – Asalha Full-moon	Nalanda Centre
21	Dhammacakka Day	Nalanda Centre
28	Nalanda Family Fun Fair	Nalanda Centre

<sup>\*</sup> Registration is required.

'Gimhāna Period' commences from 6 June to 21 July. Find out more at www.gimhana.nalanda.org.my

#### Join us as a Volunteer

Over the last 21 years, Nalandians have worked diligently to bring the Dhamma to more people, promoting harmony and joy in all that we do.

As we expand into new horizons to serve a wider community, we invite you to join us in a dynamic journey ahead! Whether you are studying, working, young or retired, if you believe in doing good and giving back to society,

Register Now!



#### Nalanda Contacts Please visit our website for directions to Nalanda.

#### **Nalanda Buddhist Society Malaysia**

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

#### Nalanda Education & Outreach (NEO) Centre, Kuala Lumpur

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NEO Centre KL is open on Tuesdays – Fridays, 2 pm – 10 pm | Saturdays & Sundays, 9 am – 2 pm.

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