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For Non-Muslims Only

Youths expand horizons at annual Fuel-Up Camp

2024 has been a very spirited and fruitful year for Nalanda Youth Centre, filled with many learning, service, outreach, and leadership programmes that left a deep positive impact on the community and their personal growth. After a year of dedication, leaders and core members of Nalanda Youth Centre gathered at Wisdom Park from 31 October to 2 November for the annual Fuel-Up Camp to reflect on how the youths have worked together for the year, realign values, principles and culture, and recharge for the year ahead.





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Dhamma School Teachers' Learning Day

Starting the programme with Taking Refuge in the Three Jewels and undertaking the Five Precepts.









12 October, Kuala Kubu Bharu

60 teachers from 13 Dhamma Schools across the nation participated in the National Dhamma School Teachers' Learning Day at Wisdom Park. It was the second follow-up programme after the National Camp held earlier this year.

Facilitated by Bro. Aggaphala Yap, the teachers explored how to guide students in cultivating a positive mindset and to develop strong partnerships with their parents. The group discussed their motivations for being a Dhamma School teacher and explored a framework to improve students' problemsolving skills and provide practical tools for building resilience.

To strengthen parent-teacher relationships, they discussed strategies for building trust, encouraging open communication, and creating a supportive system for the students' overall development. *Sādhu anumodāna*!







13 October, Sri Serdang

On Sunday 13 October, 50 participants of the Dhamma-Living Camp for Young Adults gathered physically and virtually at Nalanda Centre for their Reunion Day.

The learning sessions featured Camp speakers Sis. Sunandā Ong and Bro. Aggaphala Yap that built upon the Camp's theme "Peace begins with Me", exploring mental hindrances and how to overcome them.

The youths also reunited with their Dhamma Families formed during the Camp and reconnected to share the journey they had gone through and the transformations they have made to their lives after the Camp. A Dhamma Chat was also conducted for participants to clear their doubts and get guidance for their personal challenges.

























17 –18 October, Sungai Petani

Firefly Mission Singapore embarked on their inaugural study tour of Bujang Valley, Kedah, hosted by Nalanda Sungai Petani Branch.

The group immersed themselves in the rich Buddhist history of northern Malaysia with visits to ruins of ancient Buddhist structures from the early 2nd Century CE and Hindu temples from the 10th Century CE.

Bro. Khaw Seng Giap who led the tour also brought them to important archaeological sites in Sungai Batu and Merbok that showed the links between historical trade routes, economic growth, social evolutions, and religious ideologies that form part of our heritage. We thank the organisers for hosting this study tour and look forward to seeing our Firefly friends again!











8 - 9



20 October, Sri Serdang

Nalanda Dhamma School organised a Parenting Workshop to help parents navigate the difficulty of guiding children on proper use of "Computer, Communication, and Consumer Electronics (3C)".

Bro. Aggaphala Yap led the group to reflect on their own usage and their expectations regarding their children's usage. Parents further explored practical ways on how they can help their children foster self-regulation.

We extend our appreciation to Bro. Aggaphala and the organisers for enabling this platform for parents to enhance their skills in guiding their children and fostering positive relationships at home. *Sādhu*.

























Over the past few months, Nalanda volunteers embarked on multiple training programmes to upskill and serve the community with better capacity.

On 19 & 26 October, NalandaTV conducted a Video Production workshop (*left page*) to train volunteers in producing engaging Dhamma content.

On 20 October, members of Nalanda Dhammaduta College learned about visual design to enhance their delivery of Dhamma talks, guided by Bro. Tan Siang Chye. The effective use of visual tools includes proper planning of the communication flow and framing the talk to facilitate more effective learning.

We rejoice in everyone's learning spirit. Every individual contribution is crucial to support the Buddhist education mission. *Sādhu anumodāna*!







18 – 20 October, KKB

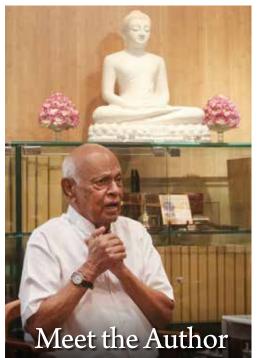
Chempaka Buddhist Lodge held their annual Upāsikā Camp, conducted by Ven. Chuan Wen 传闻法师 and Ven. Dao He 道和法师 at Wisdom Park, for more than 50 Dhamma sisters from all over Malaysia. The group gathered to deepen their understanding of the Dhamma and practised together as a community.

We rejoice in the efforts of all spiritual guides, the organising team, volunteers and participants who contributed to making this camp meaningful and fruitful. May the merits from your good intentions and actions continue to support your progress along the Noble Eightfold Path. *Sādhu anumodāna*.









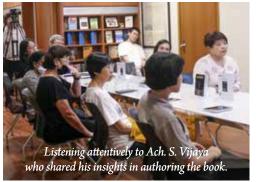
26 October, Sri Serdang

Pustaka Nalanda hosted a 'Meet the Author' session with Achariya Vijaya Samarawickrama to share about his book 'A Buddhist Reflects on Spirituality'.

Achariya Vijaya delved deeper into how spirituality transcends religion; it is the pursuit of happiness beyond materialistic pleasures. To progress in our spiritual and devotional practices, it must be accompanied by Right Understanding and making the necessary efforts towards our goal.

We express our heartfelt gratitude to Ach. Vijaya for sharing with us his wisdom and insights. Explore the collection of books and resources available at Pustaka Nalanda at the Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC): https://www.pustaka-nalanda.org/pustaka.





















27 October & 10 November

Nalanda Teenage Dhamma School students extended their service and care in the 'Karunā Project' to put the knowledge, skills, values and culture they learnt into action. On Sunday 27 October, equipped with tools and an understanding of ways to protect the Earth, they joined hands in a recycling project focussed on environmental responsibility at Taman Permainan & Rekreasi Tasik, Sri Serdang.

Later on Sunday 10 November, they visited Bodhi Homecare in Cheras to turn compassion into action, by connecting with the resident children and offering meaningful assistance. We rejoice in their efforts, and may they continue to cultivate kindness and compassion for all beings.



 1







27 October, Sri Serdang

At the recent Members' Day, President Sis. Buddhinī Tan shared the Society's direction and updates for the next 12 months. Members were encouraged to be fully involved in the many learning and serving opportunities. She also led members to commemorate the passing of the late Mr. Khaw Keng Hooi, Nalanda's oldest member.

Sis. Nandinī Tan also advised to avoid being negative, sensitive and repetitive as we progress in life. We will then be able to contribute to more harmonious communities and also become easy to support.

Let us continue to uphold our education mission selflessly and in unity!

In memoriam

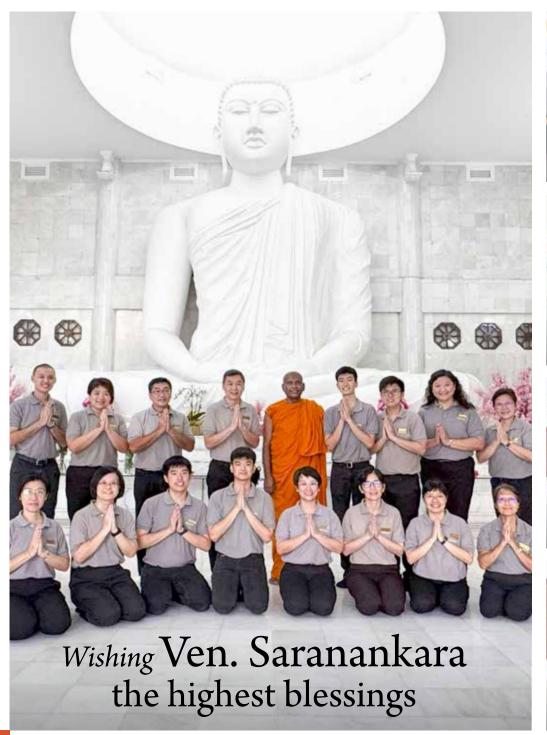
Khaw Keng Hooi

24 March 1938 - 22 October 2024

Nalanda's beloved and eldest member, Mr. Khaw Keng Hooi passed away peacefully on 22 October in Sungai Petani. Fondly known as Uncle Khaw, he was the Founding President of Gurun Buddhist Society and has served the *Buddha-Sāsana* for many decades to propagate the Dhamma.

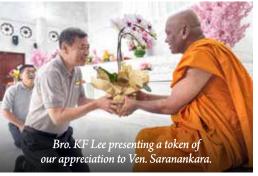
Uncle Khaw is an exemplar to us as a good practitioner and good friend. His kindness, dedication and contributions will always be remembered. May Uncle Khaw have the supporting conditions to continue on the Dhamma path until the attainment of Nibbāna. *Sotthi*.













27 October, Sentul

Nalanda leaders and members paid respects to Nalanda's Spiritual Advisor, Ven. B. Sri Saranankara Mahā Thero at the Sri Lankan Buddhist Temple in Sentul in conjunction with his 71st birthday which fell on 28 October.

Nalanda Buddhist Society's relationship with Ven. Saranankara stretches back to the earliest days of the Society when he served the late Ven. K. Sri Dhammananda Mahā Thero. He has been providing his kind advice and support to us at every milestone and has either officiated or was present for the launching of every Nalanda facility since 2003.

In this joyous gathering, President Sis. Buddhinī Tan expressed gratitude for Ven. Saranankara's guidance throughout the years on behalf of all members. He encouraged us to continue our education mission and uphold the spirit of selfless service nurtured over the last two decades.

We are grateful at Nalanda to be associated with a respectable, humble, and inspirational senior monk. We pray that Venerable Sir will be blessed with good health, long life, peace and happiness. May his reverence carry out his noble mission successfully!

Bhavatu sabba mangalam!







31 October – 2 November, KKB

Nalanda Dhamma School facilitators from Serdang, KL and JB Branches gathered at Wisdom Park for a rejuvenating retreat. Centred around the theme "Mindful and Purposeful Living", this annual retreat offered the facilitators an opportunity to deepen their Dhamma practice and strengthen their skills as compassionate and competent educators.

The group also reinforced their camaraderie and mutual support as they shared personal experiences, exchanged ideas, and reflected on the challenges and inspirations of guiding young minds along the Dhamma path. We rejoice in their dedication to enrich the lives of children with Dhamma. *Sādhu*.













31 October – 2 November, KKB

Leaders and core members of Nalanda Youth Centre recharged at the annual Fuel-Up Camp, guided by Youth Mentors Sis. Nandinī Tan and Bro. Lee Kong Foo. It was an occasion to celebrate the hardwork and dedication of the team and reflect on their journey working together.

Reflections, open conversations and team discussions inspired the youths to recognise their pivotal role in the Youth Centre and understand the important principles needed to grow a spiritual community.

The youths also took the opportunity to express appreciation and gratitude towards one another, deepening their friendships and kindling their motivation to promote the learning and practice of Dhamma at the Youth Centre.





































9 – 10 November, Sri Serdang

Over 30 students aged 16 to 23 joined the Students Stay-in Programme at Nalanda Centre. The programme explored how to build and maintain meaningful connections.

Guided by Sis. Sunandā Ong, Bro. Aggaphala Yap and Nalanda Youth leaders Bro. Yeo Disheng and Bro. Ajita Lim, students learned the principles of wise companionship as they navigate through their student life. The programme was also filled with fun fellowship activities that fostered teamwork, skillful communication and collaboration.

We thank our Dhamma speakers, Nalanda Youth Centre, and all volunteers for organising this wholesome programme for our young friends. *Sādhu anumodāna!*



9 November, Sri Serdang

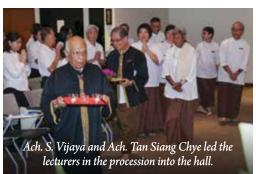
Nalanda Institute Malaysia hosted the Convocation Ceremony & Gratitude Day for 57 graduates of BPS 307 – Certificate in Buddhist Studies who persevered in learning basic Buddhist Doctrines over the past 5 months, as well as imbuing Dhamma practices and reflections into their lives.

Institute Director, Achariya Tan Siang Chye applauded their efforts and called upon them to strive forth on this path with wisdom and confidence, and share the light of Dhamma with the people surrounding them for their happiness.

We extend our appreciation to the lecturers, good friends, and volunteers. *Sādhu* anumodāna.













October – November, Sri Petaling

The Young Working Adults group under Nalanda Youth Centre gather at Nalanda Community Centre every month to learn from experienced corporate leaders and Dhamma practitioners. In October and November, Bro. Lee Kong Foo and Datuk Charlie Chia shared on the common issues young adults face when shaping their careers.

Imbuing Dhamma in our lives enables us to charge ourselves up with wholesome values and uphold principles of good intentions and harmlessness towards others. These endearing traits bodes well for us at work, in social circles and at home.

We rejoice in the strong learning spirit of the young working adults, and thank the speakers for sharing their valuable experiences.



















17 November, Sri Serdang

The annual 'Sangha Day' at Nalanda Centre saw families and friends gather to support the monastic community with much gratitude and goodwill. Devotees came with their families and friends to learn about the significance of supporting the Sangha and to make offerings of robes and requisites.

Our deepest appreciation to Ven. N. Vijithe Thero, Ven. P. Wineetha Thero, Ven. Subharo and Ven. Ālokavamsa for gracing this noble occasion. We also thank the Organising Team, volunteers and devotees for your support in making the Sangha Day observance a joyous and meritorious day for the community. *Sādhu!*

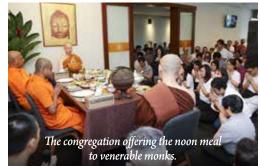












Growing together at Volunteer Induction Programme

23 November, Sri Serdang

Nalanda Volunteer Centre and Training & Enhancement Centre organised the 'Volunteer Induction Programme' for 30 new and regular volunteers. The programme aimed to foster a better understanding of the spirit and culture of service at Nalanda and as a Buddhist volunteer, facilitated by Sis. Nandinī Tan, Sis. Paruadi and Bro. SY Tong.

The group explored Nalanda's education mission and the motivations of a Buddhist missionary. They learnt that this ultimately stems from cultivating the heart and spirit to dedicate time and effort to perform wholesome deeds selflessly without any expectations. The group also discussed how we can carry out our roles with care, compassion and dedication.



























24 & 30 November, Sri Serdang

Family Dhamma Schools at NEO Centres in Kuala Lumpur and Johor Bahru concluded the 2024 school year in November. Reflecting on their journey, parents and children both shared their gratitude in being able to learn with the guidance of *kalyana mittas*, and grow closer as a family.

We extend our appreciation to the Dhamma School facilitators and Branch members for their dedication and commitment to bring the families together to learn Dhamma and forge wholesome friendships.

Join us for this invaluable experience and register for the 2025 school year:

KL: https://bit.ly/NFDSKLApp2025 JB: https://bit.ly/NFDSJBApp2025









October – November

With the start of the academic year at Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), its Buddhist Society leaders initiated their Dhamma and fellowship gatherings at Nalanda Centre for their new members.

Young and energetic, the group relishes the opportunity to receive guidance from spiritual teachers alongside likeminded friends in a conducive learning environment. They also formed a community that can support each other outside the lecture rooms.

We rejoice in the students' learning spirit and wish them well in their studies and their spiritual journey.









30 November – 8 December

Buddhadhamma Foundation (BDF), Singapore organised a meditation retreat led by Ven. Luang Por Viradhammo for 34 yogis from across the causeway. Nalanda members and volunteers hosted the retreat at Wisdom Park, offering the facilities and their service to the group.

Yogis received daily guidance from Ven. Luang Por Viradhammo and also had opportunities for personal interviews periodically and to pose questions every evening.

We rejoice in the organisers' extensive work to organise this retreat and also in the yogis' wholesome efforts. Sādhu anumodāna.

Hosting Sangha Members at Nalanda

























Support Holistic Education

Many of us have witnessed and directly benefitted from the increasing number of educational programmes organised by Nalanda over the past two decades. If you share Nalanda's vision and mission in holistic Buddhist education, integral human development and effective Dhamma propagation, we appeal to you to lend a helping hand to realise this noble mission. Your donation will be used to support the educational programmes and trainings in the coming year of 2025.



We accept:







Thank you for your support. May you be well and happy!

Upcoming Programmes

January – March 2025

Nalanda Centre

NEO Centre K.L. /

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DHAMMA SCHOOL	
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04	at the morning markets in Taman O.U.G. & Happy Garden	Taman O.U.G. & Happy Garden
18	Pindacāra – Alms-round by Sangha members at the morning markets in Seri Kembangan	Nalanda Centre / Seri Kembangan Market
09	Commencement of Teenage and Junior Dhamma School	K. Sri Dhammananda Centre
09	Gratitude Day & Tea Offering Ceremony	Nalanda Centre
09	Commencement of Family Dhamma School Kuala Lumpur	NEO Centre K.L.
14 - 23	*10-day Meditation Retreat with Ven. Gavesi	Wisdom Park
15	Pindacāra – Alms-round by Sangha members at the morning markets in Seri Kembangan	Nalanda Centre / Seri Kembangan Market
22	Commencement of Family Dhamma School Johor Bahru	NEO Centre J.B.
22	12th A.G.M. of Nalanda SP Branch	NEO Centre S.P.
01	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
02	12th A.G.M. of Nalanda JB Branch	NEO Centre J.B.
10	Commencement of Nalanda Free School 2025 academic year	Nalanda Centre
15	Pindacāra – Alms-round by Sangha members at the morning markets in Seri Kembangan	Nalanda Centre / Seri Kembangan Market
16	22nd A.G.M. of Nalanda Buddhist Society	Nalanda Centre
18	Nalanda Patron's Day	Nalanda Centre

20th Anniversary of Nalanda Dhamma School

Pindacāra – Alms-round by Sangha members

* Registration is required.

Nalanda Buddhist Society wishes you and your loved ones

A happy and blessed New Year!

祝愿您及亲人吉祥如意,福寿康宁!

Please note that Nalanda Centre is closed from 26 January – 2 February for the Lunar New Year. The Centre will reopen as usual on 3 February.

^{*}Happy Young Adults Programme commencing 11 February. Sunday Morning Service | Every Sunday, 9.00 am -12.00 pm Weekly Meditation | Every Wednesday, 8.30 pm – 10.00 pm

5th Memorial of Ven. Dhammavuddho

"The Buddha called his disciples *savakas* (listeners), stressing the importance of listening to the *suttas*. The *suttas* and *vinaya* show clearly that all those who attained the first stage of Ariyahood did so by listening to the Buddha's discourses. Today, we are very fortunate to have the Buddha's discourses, exactly as he spoke them, contained in the Nikayas. Reading the *suttas* can be like sitting next to the Buddha and listening to him. It is wise not to waste this rare opportunity to investigate deeply into the earliest *suttas*.

In studying the Nikayas for the first time, one would find some *suttas* difficult to understand. However, one should plod on and as one studies more *suttas*, one begins to understand those earlier problematical *suttas*. This is similar to assembling a jigsaw puzzle. In the beginning one cannot see the overall picture. Only when more pieces are assembled can the picture begin to form. The Nikayas should be studied again and again to get a good understanding."

– Commemorating the 5th Memorial of Ven. Dhammavuddho Mahāthera on 22 December 2024.

'Like' our Facebook page 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.

Nalanda Buddhist Society Malaysia

Nalanda Centre, 3357, Jalan 18/31, Taman Sri Serdang, 43300 Seri Kembangan, Selangor.

Tel. No. +603-8938 1500 / 1501 Website www.nalanda.org.my

E-mail info@nalanda.org.my Facebook www.facebook.com/nalanda.org.my

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

Nalanda Education & Outreach (NEO) Centre, Kuala Lumpur

524, Jalan Riang 12, Taman Gembira, 58200 Kuala Lumpur.

Tel. No. +603-7972 8843 Facebook www.facebook.com/NeoCentre.KL

E-mail neo-kl@nalanda.org.my

NEO Centre KL is open on Tuesdays – Fridays, 2 pm – 6 pm | Saturdays & Sundays, 9 am – 1 pm.

Nalanda Education & Outreach (NEO) Centre, Johor Bahru

30, Jalan Dedap 26, Taman Johor Jaya, 81100 Johor Bahru, Johor.

Tel. No. +607-350 3870 Facebook www.facebook.com/NeoCentre.JB

E-mail neo-jb@nalanda.org.my

Nalanda Education & Outreach (NEO) Centre, Sungai Petani

210, Jalan Bandar Mutiara 2/2, Bandar Mutiara, 08000 Sungai Petani, Kedah.

E-mail neo-sp@nalanda.org.my Facebook www.facebook.com/NeoCentre.SP

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