

Sakyadhita Newsletter 16

Full Moon, January, 2013

Quick Links Our Website

Anytime,

is a Good time...

to become a member. Sakyadhita Canada's memberships. Please access the website below for more information. Or just print off the donations / membership form and post it to us. Thank you for your continued support and donations.

DONATION / MEMBERSHIP FORM





MEMBERSHIPS FOR 2013



Celebrate the beginning of 2013 and support Sakyadhita Canada. Find out about Buddhist women (and men) in Canada. What are their traditions, forms of practice, needs and concerns.

Offering & Sharing

We invite those who share the goals and objectives of Sakyadhita Canada to join as members. For former members, it is time to renew your membership. For those of you who want to support us and receive the lunar net letter please send either online, or by mail the membership/dana form.

Click Here.

Please tell your friends and anyone you know who may be interested. Your support and participation are important to all of us!

Sakyadhita Canada held its first conference in Alberta in September 2012. Another conference is being planned later this year (2013) - please keep watch for the details.

By being together, we create a network of sisterhood, and a means of support to help us work towards our goals. Generosity and kindness, qualities to pay attention to, help to nurture and encourage Dhamma (the teachings of the Buddha) in our day-to-day lives.

Sakyadhita Canada always welcomes and appreciates your ideas, suggestions and talents - we would be happy to hear from you - please contact (sakyadhitacanada@gmail.com) We share the goodness of our time and energy, and hope it brings blessings to everyone. May you have radiant joy & peace within your hearts.



G E N Ε R S

Thank you for your support of Sakyadhita Canada!



GENEROSITY

A noble Disciple recollects her own generosity thus: 'It is a gain for me, it is well gained by me, that in a generation obsessed by the stain of stinginess, I dwell at home with a mind devoid of the stain of stinginess, freely generous, open-handed, delighted in relinquishment, one devoted to charity, delighting in giving and sharing.'

"When one recollects her own generosity thus, on that occasion her mind is not obsessed by lust, hatred or delusion: her mind is straight." An. 116

The Buddha, when delivering a talk to those who had not yet become his disciples, always started with a gradual discourse that began on the virtue of giving. Only after those present had begun to understand its value would he continue. He didn't do this because he wanted something

from them; on the contrary, he wanted to give them something --- a firm footing on which to build their spiritual journey. This is because giving underlies and supports all of our efforts to free the mind of defilements.

Through the outward act of giving the inward quality of generosity is cultivated. When one considers that the goal of the path is the complete eradication of greed, hatred and delusion, which leaves the mind clear, radiant and free from suffering, one can see how success on the journey, in large

part, depends upon our ability to give. Cultivation of generosity, through the act of giving, directly undermines greed and hatred while strengthening compassion and equanimity. As these wholesome mind states are generated it becomes easier and easier to become disenchanted with delusional mind states, enabling the mind to quiet down and rest in radiance.

Like the Buddha's gradual discourse, our journey along the path to radiant mind is gradual. Here, too, the cultivation of generosity is essential. We may not be ready to reach Nibbāna, but as we are reminded in Dhammapada 224, generosity is also a quality which helps us to reach heavenly realms.

> Speak the truth, yield not to anger: When asked,



Give even if you only have a little. By these three means One can reach the presence of the gods.

So, whichever goal we hope to achieve, Nibbana or Heavenly Realms, the simple act of giving is not so very simple after all. It is the means by which we open the mind to higher states of being. That is why the Buddha gave this knowledge to all who came to hear him speak, it is essential; and it is the same knowledge that we need today to move quickly along the path to Radiance.

Venerable Sarani Karuna, Bhikkhuni

The 13th Sakyadhita International Conference on Buddhist Women



Vaishali Temple Gate

The 13th Sakyadhita International conference on Buddhist Women was held in Vaishali (Bihar) India, January 5 - 12, 2013.

Sakyadhita, Daughters of the Buddha, the world's leading International organization of Buddhist women, is an alliance of women (and men) committed to transforming the lives of women in Buddhist societies.



Ven Tinh Quang in Vaishali

The conference theme for this year, "Buddhism at the Grassroots", highlighted the efforts and achievements of Buddhist women who have been involved in alleviating the suffering of living beings "on the ground".

Presenters shared their own work as well as a variety of approaches including social activism, performance, meditation and philosophy.



Ven Upekkha at Vaishali

In our next net letter, we hope to bring you some personal reflections from the Sakyadhita Canada members who attended the conference. For now, please visit the following websites:

13th Sakyadhita Conference Blog

13th Sakyadhita Conference Facebook Page