

## PART V

# Organizing a Buddhist Pilgrimage to India

### Contents

1. Travelling to the Pilgrimage Places in India
2. Performing Dana or Offerings to the *Sangha*
3. Travel Tips and Information
4. Distances between the Pilgrimage Places
5. Maps showing Locations of the Pilgrimage Places
6. Pilgrimage Groups and Itinerary 1991-2008
7. Bibliography

## 1. Travelling to the Pilgrimage Places in India

### 1.1 Minimum Time Required

When organizing a pilgrimage, it is strongly advised to exclude side trips to other countries that might divert one's attention from the objectives of the pilgrimage. The temptation to take the opportunity to visit other countries along the way, such as Sri Lanka, Nepal or Myanmar, will arise but one should not cut down the duration of the pilgrimage to accommodate these side trips. If the duration is shortened, one tends to rush from place to place, giving rise to impatience and dissatisfaction, which is exactly the opposite of what one wishes to cultivate on a pilgrimage. In order to visit all the principal shrines in the Eight Great Places at a comfortable pace, it is advised that a **minimum of 2 weeks** be reserved for the pilgrimage.

### 1.2 Travelling by Air-Conditioned Coach

All the pilgrimage places described in this book are located in the Northern Indian states of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, except Lumbini, which is in Nepal. In ancient times, this area was called **Majjhima Desa** or Middle Country but today it is known as the **Buddhist Circuit**. The majority of the Buddhist shrines are in remote places where taxi service and public transport are poor, making it difficult to get there, unless one travels in a group by chartered bus. The capacity of the tour bus is normally 35 seats. The suggested group size is around 25 persons, so that it is not too crowded. Lately, the Indian transporters have introduced coaches with 42 seats so that a bigger group of 30 plus is still comfortable. For a smaller group, an 18-seater air-conditioned coach is also available.

All tour buses are air-conditioned but the air-conditioners and fans have no controls so it can **become very cold inside the bus**. So it is advisable to wear a shawl or jacket to keep warm. Secondly the seats at the back are very bumpy and uncomfortable due to the poor road

conditions. It is better to leave the last two rows at the back empty to put all the hand luggage there.

**(Precaution:** One should always travel during the daytime for safety reasons, as the rural roads are narrow and not lighted. In case of breakdown, it is easier to do repairs in the daytime).

For the first-time pilgrim, travelling in a group is the best way to visit the Eight Great Places for several reasons. First is the convenience since all the travelling arrangements and itinerary, would have been made by someone who has experience in the pilgrimage. Secondly, **group travel provides safety especially for female pilgrims**. Lastly, and probably the most important is the spirit of Buddhist fellowship among pilgrims travelling together, especially in the company of a venerable monk to act as a spiritual advisor, making the journey more pleasant and meaningful. A minor disadvantage of a group tour is that the itinerary is less flexible.

If the pilgrimage group is travelling with a venerable monk, it is advisable to carry packed lunches always when leaving the hotel in the morning. This will enable the venerable monk to have his meal before noon while on the road. Secondly, it will save a lot of time if members of the group eat at the same time as the venerable monk. Try as far as possible not to have lunch in the hotel, as it is usually not ready, and one has to wait for it to be prepared, thereby losing precious time.

### **1.3 Best Time to Travel in India**

India has three seasons, namely: cold season of winter, hot season and rainy season. The best time to travel in Northern India is during the cold season, from **November to February** when the weather is pleasant. From March to June the weather is hot and dusty; while from July to October, the rainy season sets in. By end October, the weather turns dry and cool, the countryside is full of greenery and travelling in Northern India is pleasant because of the general cleanliness of the land after the rains.

## 2. Performing Dana or Offerings to the *Sangha*

As D-day or departure day approaches, the pilgrim will naturally experience great joy and religious excitement at the prospect of actually journeying to the land where the Buddha and the *Arahants* lived and preached more than 2500 years ago. For Malaysian Buddhists, who are well known for their generosity, the desire to perform *dana* will prompt the pilgrims and their well-wishers to donate generously towards the purchase of monks' requisites for offering to the Buddhist monasteries located in the vicinity of all the holy shrines.

Many of the monks in these monasteries, notably those from **Sri Lanka** and **Myanmar**, have spent the major part of their lives in India. They are dedicated to the safeguarding the holy shrines and reviving the traditions of *Vaisakha Purnima* (*Wesak*) by teaching the local population about Buddhism in the land where it was born but had disappeared for six hundred years after its downfall in the 13<sup>th</sup> century AD. Their presence at the holy shrines, have helped to keep these shrines 'alive', so that pilgrims who come from far and wide can benefit from their advice and help. By performing *dana* to these *bhikkhus*, one expresses one's gratitude, reverence and loving-kindness to the *Sangha*, for its role in safeguarding these holy places for future generations of Buddhists to come and "look upon them with feelings of reverence", in accordance with the Buddha's advice.

For pilgrims travelling in a group, there is less restriction on luggage weight during group check-in at the airport. This provides them with the opportunity to bring items such as monks' robes, towels, medicines, multi-vitamins, writing materials for student-monks, foodstuffs and other requisites not obtainable in India and offer them to the *Sangha*. Money remaining after the purchase of requisites may be converted into Indian rupees and handed to the monk's attendants or *kappiyas* for safekeeping or placed into the donation boxes of the monasteries during the visits, so that the money may be used for the maintenance of the monasteries and the *bhikkhus*.

## 3. Information and Tips on Travel in India

### 3.1 Travel Visas

Pilgrims who intend to visit the Buddhist circuit by flight in and out of India should ensure that they hold a **multiple entry visa** for India. An ordinary tourist visa for single entry will not allow the visitor to re-enter India from Nepal after visiting Lumbini. Nowadays one can apply for both Indian and Nepalese visas in Kuala Lumpur.

### 3.2 Insurance and Expenses

- Pilgrims are advised to insure themselves against loss/sickness/accident during the journey as well as last minute cancellation in case of sudden illness or other emergencies before departure.
- Pilgrims should exercise care and precaution to safeguard their luggage and belongings. They should not bring jewelry, expensive watches and other valuables on the journey.
- They should keep their passports and cash with them at all times, as loss of passport will cause a lot of inconvenience to everyone.
- *What is the minimum amount of money to bring along?*  
As all expenses for the trip such as the tour fare, airport taxes, visa fees, entrance fees and tips have been paid before departure one need not bring a lot of money for the journey. Overall, US\$100-\$200 is sufficient to cover all personal expenses such as purchasing souvenirs and donations to the various temples.

### 3.3 Health Precautions

- To avoid sickness, one should always drink boiled/mineral water and not consume any uncooked food, not even iced drinks, as the ice is made from tap water. Arrangements may be made with

the travel agent to provide one bottle of mineral water per day to each pilgrim free of charge.

- **Inoculation against Cholera:** Those who wish to inoculate against cholera should do it 2-3 weeks before departure to avoid developing a fever while travelling.
- **Medicines:** A first aid kit containing normal medicines for cuts, sprains, diarrhea, flu, food poisoning, ointment for insect bites, Panadol for fever, etc. should be brought along to cater for emergencies. Costs may be shared by members of the group.

### 3.4 Things to bring along

Important: In view of the strict security checks when boarding an airplane, please ensure that no sharp objects are carried in your hand carry luggage. The following are useful on a short tour.

- Torchlight in case of emergency/power failure in the hotel.
- Loose light clothing as days are warm like Malaysia. Bring a shawl to keep warm in the bus. Its air conditioner has no control.
- For shoes, wear walking or jogging shoes and socks.
- Umbrella - foldable type for ladies.
- Toilet articles, tissues, shampoo, washing powder.
- Dry foodstuffs e.g. biscuits, sweets, coffee or tea sachets, fast-cooking noodles, etc.
- Good to carry multi-vitamins for personal use.

### 3.5 Donations to Charity

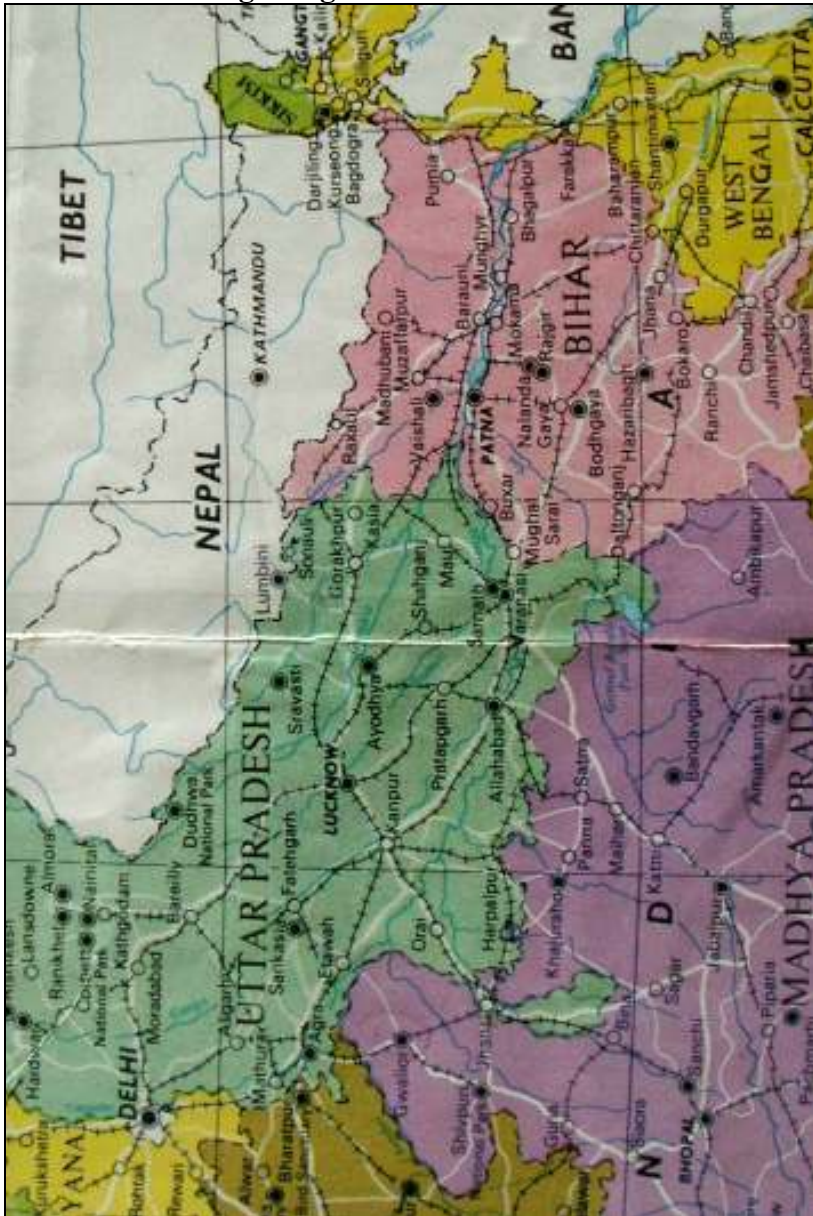
Begging appears to be a profession in India and even village children enjoy begging from visitors at the first opportunity. By giving to one beggar, one will find oneself being swarmed by a crowd of beggars asking for more, and generally making a nuisance of themselves. In giving charity to the poor, it is advisable to give all donations in cash and kind to the monasteries for fair distribution. One may bring ballpoint pens, sweets, old clothes, etc., and donate them to the Maha Bodhi Society branches in Sarnath and Bodhgaya, which provide free education to the poor children in their areas.

#### 4. Distances by road between Pilgrimage Places

<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Distance in km</u>
Delhi	Agra	200
Agra	Lucknow	363
Agra	Sankasia	170
Sankasia	Kanpur	220
Kanpur	Lucknow	88
Lucknow	Sravasti	175
Sravasti	Kushinagar	250
Sravasti	Lumbini	210
Sravasti	Balrampur	15
Balrampur	India Border	200
India Border	Bhairawa	5
Bhairawa	Lumbini	25
Bhairawa	Ramagama	30
Lumbini	Kapilavastu	27
Lumbini	Gorakhpur	125
Lumbini	Kushinagar	180
Gorakhpur	Kushinagar	56
Kushinagar	Sarnath	250
Kushinagar	Vaishali	280
Kushinagar	Patna	350
Sarnath	Bodhgaya	250
Bodhgaya	Rajgir	80
Rajgir	Nalanda	12
Patna	Nalanda	90
Patna	Bodhgaya	125
Patna	Vaishali	70
Bodhgaya	Calcutta	490
Bodhgaya	Varanasi	275
Varanasi	Sarnath	12
Varanasi	Allahabad	130
Allahabad	Kaushambi	54

NOTE: All distances given above are approximate.

**Tourist Map of Northern India showing locations of the Buddhist Pilgrimage Places described in this book**





## 6. Pilgrimage Groups and Itinerary 1991-2008

Since 1991, the writer has organised ten pilgrimages to India and many Buddhists in the Klang Valley have undertaken the journey of piety and faith. The names of members who made up the pilgrimage groups are given below to help them remember their fellow pilgrims and happy moments spent together at the holy places. The spirit of Buddhist fellowship prevailed throughout the journeys, thanks to the presence of our venerable monks who accompanied the groups as spiritual advisors. Photos of the pilgrims taken with their spiritual advisors are shown in this book for them to keep as a memento.

### **6.1) 11 Days Nepal/India Pilgrimage: 15–25 Nov 1991**

Day 1: KL/Bangkok/Kathmandu (by TG flight)	O/N Kathmandu
Day 2: Kathmandu/Lumbini (by coach)	O/N Bhairawa
Day 3: Lumbini/Sravasti (by coach)	O/N Balrampur
Day 4: Sravasti/Kushinagar (by coach)	O/N Kushinagar
Day 5: Kushinagar/Patna (by coach)	O/N Patna
Day 6: Patna/Nalanda/Rajgir/Bodhgaya (coach)	O/N Bodhgaya
Day 7: Whole day in Bodhgaya (by coach)	O/N Bodhgaya
Day 8: Bodhgaya/Varanasi (by coach)	O/N Varanasi
Day 9: Varanasi/Sarnath/Kathmandu (flight)	O/N Kathmandu
Day 10: Whole day in Kathmandu	O/N Kathmandu
Day 11: Kathmandu/Bangkok/KL (by TG flight)	Home

### **Members**

1. Ven. Sayadaw U Jnanapurnik (Kathmandu, Nepal)
2. Sister Uppalavanna (Kathmandu, Nepal)
3. Dr. Wong Wai Cheong (SBVMS)
4. Mr. Chan Khoon San (Klang)
5. Mr. Tan Su Hah (Klang)
6. Mr. Lim Boon Hang (SBVMS)
7. Mr. Tan Boon Chhai (SBVMS)
8. Mr. Lim Liang Guan (SBVMS)
9. Mdm. Tan Kooi Chin (SBVMS)
10. Ms. Tan Poh Em (Klang)
11. Mdm. Lim Yew Choo (Klang)
12. Mdm. Yeo Peck Hoon (Klang)
13. Mdm. Teh Swee See/Susan Ng (Klang)
14. Mdm. Ng Kooi Meng (Klang)
15. Mdm. Ler Siew Khwai (SBVMS)

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|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 16. Mr. Kweh Kim Swee    | (SBVMS)             |
| 17. Ms. Lye Kwai Ying    | (SBVMS)             |
| 18. Ms. Saw Hong Poh     | (SBVMS)             |
| 19. Ms. Hoe Soon Ying    | (Penang)            |
| 20. Mdm. Wong Yuit Mooi  | (Penang)            |
| 21. Ms. Dolly Ng Keh Eng | (Klang)             |
| 22. Ms. Chuah Chew Hing  | (Sentul Temple, KL) |

**6.2) 15 Days Sri Lanka/India: 21 Nov - 5 Dec 1997**

- |  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Day 1: KL/Colombo (by Air Lanka flight)            | O/N Colombo   |
| Day 2: Colombo/Dambulla/Habarana (coach)           | O/N Habarana  |
| Day 3: Habarana/Mihintala/Anuradhapura (coach)     | O/N Habarana  |
| Day 4: Habarana/Sigiriya/Habarana (coach)          | O/N Habarana  |
| Day 5: Sigiriya/Kandy (coach)                      | O/N Kandy     |
| Day 6: Kandy/Colombo/Delhi (by flight)             | O/N on plane  |
| Day 7: Delhi/Lucknow/Sravasti (coach)              | O/N Balrampur |
| Day 8: Balrampur/Lumbini/Gorakhpur (coach)         | O/N Gorakhpur |
| Day 9: Gorakhpur/Kushinagar/Patna (coach)          | O/N Patna     |
| Day 10: Patna/Nalanda/Rajgir/Bodhgaya (coach)      | O/N Gaya      |
| Day 11: Whole day in Bodhgaya                      | O/N Gaya      |
| Day 12: Bodhgaya/Varanasi/Sarnath                  | O/N Varanasi  |
| Day 13: Varanasi/Agra (flight), Agra/Delhi (train) |               |
| Night flight by Air Lanka to Colombo               | O/N on plane  |
| Day 14: Whole day in Colombo                       | O/N Colombo   |
| Day 15: Colombo/KL                                 | Home          |

**Members**

- |                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Ven. B. Saranankara Thero | (Sentul Temple, KL)        |
| 2. Ven. Sayadaw U Rewata     | (Chanmyay Yeiktha, Yangon) |
| 3. Mr. Chan Khoo San         | (Klang)                    |
| 4. Mr. Chen Kok Chin         | (Klang)                    |
| 5. Mr. Chan Weng Poh         | (Klang)                    |
| 6. Mr. Lee Fan Kiat          | (Sentul Temple, KL)        |
| 7. Mr. Wu Chee Meng          | (Klang)                    |
| 8. Mr. Tan Su Hah            | (Klang)                    |
| 9. Mr. Loh Kok Yong          | (SJBA)                     |
| 10. Mr. Ooi Chin Chye        | (SJBA)                     |
| 11. Mdm. Tan Lei Hong        | (Klang)                    |
| 12. Mdm. Wong Hee Leong      | (Klang)                    |
| 13. Ms. Loo May Lin          | (Klang)                    |
| 14. Mdm. Lim Eng Lian        | (Klang)                    |
| 15. Mdm. Hong Kim Choo       | (Klang)                    |

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|---------------------------|----------|
| 16. Ms. Tan Kok Yee       | (Klang)  |
| 17. Mdm. Cheoh Siew Cheng | (Klang)  |
| 18. Mdm. Kee Phaik Ean    | (SJBA)   |
| 19. Mr. Wong Fok Gee      | (Klang)  |
| 20. Mdm. Tay Seok Im      | (Klang)  |
| 21. Mr. Too Yewn Hiang    | (Klang)  |
| 22. Mdm. Tan Ming Tin     | (Klang)  |
| 23. Mr. Yap Pak Choong    | (Klang)  |
| 24. Mdm. Goh Siew Khim    | (Klang)  |
| 25. Mr. Chey Shaw         | (Klang)  |
| 26. Mdm. Huang Saw Heen   | (Klang)  |
| 27. Mr. Chiu Sheng Bin    | (Penang) |
| 28. Mdm. Tan Lean Cheoh   | (Penang) |
| 29. Mr. Lim Peng Lai      | (Klang)  |
| 30. Mdm. Lian Kai Hong    | (Klang)  |
| 31. Mr. Lam Cheok Yew     | (Klang)  |
| 32. Mdm. Tay Mo Lee       | (Klang)  |
| 33. Mdm. Lam Kwai Eng     | (Klang)  |
| 34. Ms. Lam Hui Peng      | (Klang)  |
| 35. Mr. Lam Siew Mun      | (Klang)  |
| 36. Mr. Khong Kok Keong   | (Klang)  |

**6.3) 12 Days India Pilgrimage: 31 Oct – 11 Nov 1999**

- |   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Day 1: KL/Delhi (by MAS flight)   | O/N Agra      |
| Day 2: Agra/Sankasia/Lucknow (coach)  | O/N Lucknow   |
| Day 3: Lucknow/Sravasti (coach)   | O/N Balrampur |
| Day 4: Balrampur/Tilaurakot (coach)   | O/N Bhairawa  |
| Day 5: Lumbini/Kushinagar (coach)   | O/N Gorakhpur |
| Day 6: Gorakhpur/Sarnath/Varanasi (coach)   | O/N Varanasi  |
| Day 7: Varanasi/Bodhgaya (coach)  | O/N Bodhgaya  |
| Day 8: Whole day in Bodhgaya (coach)  | O/N Bodhgaya  |
| Day 9: Bodhgaya/Rajgir/Nalanda/Patna (coach)  | O/N Patna     |
| Day 10: Patna/Vaishali/Patna (coach)  | O/N Patna     |
| Day 11: Patna/Delhi (local flight) Whole day in<br>Delhi. Night flight by MAS to KL | O/N on plane  |
| Day 12: Arrive KLIA   | Home          |

**Members**

- |                          |                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Ven. Sayadaw U Rewata | (Chanmyay Yeiktha, Yangon) |
| 2. Mr. Chan Khoon San    | (Klang)                    |
| 3. Mr. Cheong Chee Kwong | (SJBA)                     |
| 4. Mr. Ng Tom Sing       | (SJBA)                     |

5. Mr. Danny Teh Kok Lai (Klang)
6. Mr. Wong Suk Chin (Klang)
7. Mr. Loh Cheng Kee (Klang)
8. Mr. Tang Hau Seng (Klang)
9. Mr. Tang Weng Yew (Klang)
10. Mdm. Ang Guar Gor (Klang)
11. Mdm. Lim Cheng Suan (Seremban)
12. Mdm. Chou Cheng Phaik (Canada)
13. Ms. Tan Qui Ying (Klang)
14. Mdm. Lim Sook Liew (Klang)
15. Mdm. Irene Foo Choon Sim (Klang)
16. Mdm. Yap Sew Hong (SJBA)
17. Mdm. Wooi Kheng Choo (SJBA)
18. Mdm. Ong Guat Eng (SJBA)
19. Mdm. Cheah Suan Cheng (SJBA)
20. Mdm. Ng Yoke Moy (SJBA)
21. Ms. Kieu Choon Lai (SJBA)
22. Mdm. Cecelia Lim Lai Sun (SJBA)

**6.4) 12 Days India Pilgrimage: 27 Oct – 7 Nov 2001**

Day 1: KL/Singapore/Delhi (by SIA flight)	O/N Delhi
Day 2: Delhi/Sankasia/Kanpur (coach)	O/N Kanpur
Day 3: Kanpur/Sravasti (coach)	O/N Balrampur
Day 4: Balrampur/Tilaurakot (coach)	O/N Bhairawa
Day 5: Lumbini/Kushinagar (coach)	O/N Kushinagar
Day 6: Kushinagar/Sarnath/Varanasi (coach)	O/N Varanasi
Day 7: Varanasi/Bodhgaya (coach)	O/N Bodhgaya
Day 8: Whole day in Bodhgaya (coach)	O/N Bodhgaya
Day 9: Bodhgaya/Rajgir/Nalanda/Patna (coach)	O/N Patna
Day 10: Patna/Vaishali/Patna (coach)	O/N Patna
Day 11: Patna/Kolkata (overnight train) Whole day in Kolkata. Night flight by SIA to Singapore	O/N on plane
Day 12: Singapore/KLIA	Home

**Members**

1. Ven. Sayadaw U Rewata (Chanmyay Yeiktha, Yangon)
2. Mr. Chan Khoon San (Klang)
3. Mr. Chiu Sheng Bin (Penang)
4. Mdm. Tan Lei Hong (Klang)
5. Mdm. Tan Jok Hong (Klang)
6. Mr. Ng Swee Aun (SJBA)
7. Mdm. Lee Mee Fong (SJBA)

- |                           |        |
|---------------------------|--------|
| 8. Ms. Ng Hui Wen         | (SJBA) |
| 9. Mdm. Lily Lee Suat Yee | (SJBA) |
| 10. Mdm. Tan Yew Kim      | (SJBA) |
| 11. Mr. Soo Khoon York    | (SJBA) |
| 12. Mdm. Chia Wai Kee     | (SJBA) |

**6.5) 14 Days India Pilgrimage: 8-21 Nov 2002**

Day 1: KL//Delhi (by MH190)	O/N Delhi
Day 2: Delhi/Agra (Shatabdi)/Sankasia/Lucknow (coach)	O/N Lucknow
Day 3: Lucknow/Sravasti/Balrampur (coach)	O/N Balrampur
Day 4: Balrampur/Tilaurakot/Bhairawa (coach)	O/N Bhairawa
Day 5: Bhairawa/Lumbini/Kushinagar (coach)	O/N Kushinagar
Day 6: Kushinagar/Kesariya/Vaishali/Patna (coach)	O/N Patna
Day 7: Patna/Nalanda/Rajgir/Bodhgaya (coach)	O/N Bodhgaya
Day 8: Whole day Bodhgaya (coach)	O/N Bodhgaya
Day 9: Bodhgaya/Varanasi (coach)	O/N Varanasi
Day 10: Sarnath tour. Night train to Bhopal	O/N on train
Day 11: Morning arrive Bhopal, visit Bhimbetka	O/N Bhopal
Day 12: Sanchi/Satdhara/Udaigiri Caves. After dinner depart Bhopal by night train for Delhi	O/N on train
Day 13: Whole day Delhi. Night flight MH191	O/N on plane
Day 14: Nov 21 Morning arrive KLIA	Home

**Members**

- |                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Ashin Rakkhita Dhamma     | (Chanmyay Yeiktha, Yangon) |
| 2. Mr. Chan Khoon San        | (Klang)                    |
| 3. Mr. Chan Weng Poh         | (Klang)                    |
| 4. Mr. Cheah Swee Seng       | (BUBS)                     |
| 5. Mr. Yong Song Kong        | (BMS)                      |
| 6. Mdm. Goh Gim Tin          | (BUBS)                     |
| 7. Mdm. Wooi Kheng Choo      | (SJBA)                     |
| 8. Mr. Cheng Chong Hua       | (SJBA)                     |
| 9. Mr. Chan Toong San        | (SJBA)                     |
| 10. Mdm. Loo Ching Pan       | (Port Dickson)             |
| 11. Ms. Tee Chi Juan         | (SJBA)                     |
| 12. Ms. Tee Yueh Juan        | (Port Dickson)             |
| 13. Ms. Heng Pow Peng        | (KL)                       |
| 14. Mdm. Lin Suh Charn       | (Port Dickson)             |
| 15. Ms. Teo Gim Hwee         | (KL)                       |
| 16. Ms. Ong Ewe Chin Uttara  | (SJBA)                     |
| 17. Mdm. Fong Ooi Yook Julie | (SJBA)                     |
| 18. Mr. Teh Tian Hong        | (Port Dickson)             |

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|---------------------------------|--------|
| 19. Mr. Quah Seng Hai, Tony     | (SJBA) |
| 20. Ms. Liang Li Yi             | (SJBA) |
| 21. Ms. Thon May Yenn           | (SJBA) |
| 22. Mr. Thon Lek                | (SJBA) |
| 23. Mdm. Christine Lee Chin Har | (SJBA) |

**6.6) 13 Days India Pilgrimage: 3-15 Nov 2003**

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|--|-----------------|
| Day 1: KL/Delhi (by MAS flight MH 190)                         | O/N Delhi       |
| Day 2: Delhi/Agra (Shatabdi Express dep.0600hrs, arr. 0800hrs) |                 |
| Agra/Sankasia/Kanpur (coach)                                   | O/N Kanpur      |
| Day 3: Lucknow/Sravasti (coach)                                | O/N Sravasti    |
| Day 4: Sravasti/Lumbini/Bhairawa (coach)                       | O/N Bhairawa    |
| Day 5: Bhairawa/Kushinagar (coach)                             | O/N Kushinagar  |
| Day 6: Kushinagar/Lauriya Nandangarh/Muzaffarpur               | O/N Muzaffarpur |
| Day 7: Muzaffarpur/Vaishali//Patna (coach)                     | O/N Patna       |
| Day 8: Patna/Nalanda/Rajgir/Bodhgaya (coach)                   | O/NBodhgaya     |
| Day 9: Bodhgaya and Dhongra Hill (coach)                       | O/N Bodhgaya    |
| Day 10: Bodhgaya/Sarnath/Varanasi (coach)                      | O/N Varanasi    |
| Day 11: Ganges river tour and Sarnath ruins (boat & coach)     |                 |
| Depart Varanasi by overnight train                             | O/N on train    |
| Day 12: Arrive Delhi 0805hrs, tour & visit National Museum     |                 |
| Night flight by MH 191 depart 2300hrs                          | O/N on plane    |
| Day 13: Arrive KLIA 0655hrs                                    | Home            |

**Members**

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|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Sayadaw Ashin Wa Tha Wa       | (Chanmyay Yeiktha, Yangon) |
| 2. Mr. Chan Khoon San            | (Klang)                    |
| 3. Mr. Tan Heng Ghee             | (Penang)                   |
| 4. Mr. Tan Heng Tian             | (Penang)                   |
| 5. Mr. Teh Kok Leng              | (Klang)                    |
| 6. Mdm. Kuan Lai Wah             | (Klang)                    |
| 7. Mdm. Chee Mei Ling            | (SJBA)                     |
| 8. Mdm. Low Choon Chew/Erin Choy | (SJBA)                     |
| 9. Mdm. Rosie Koay Saik Suan     | (SJBA)                     |
| 10. Mdm. Eileen Chua Geok Lan    | (SJBA)                     |
| 11. Mdm. Lim Kim See             | (BUBS)                     |
| 12. Madam Oon Hong Geok          | (BUBS)                     |
| 13. Mr Boey Kok Soon             | (BUBS)                     |
| 14. Mr. Tan Ho Soon              | (Nalanda Buddhist Society) |
| 15. Madam Teoh Lean Gek          | (BUBS)                     |
| 16. Madam Chong MeeYing          | (BUBS)                     |
| 17. Mr Tan Buck Soon             | (BUBS)                     |

## 200 • Buddhist Pilgrimage

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|---------------------------|--------|
| 18. Madam Ooi Siew Swan   | (BUBS) |
| 19. Mr Teo Chiang Khai    | (BUBS) |
| 20. Madam Ng Soh Hwa      | (BUBS) |
| 21. Madam Low Eye Hiang   | (BUBS) |
| 22. Madam Chang Yoke Khun | (BUBS) |
| 23. Mr Tan Cheong Hock    | (BUBS) |
| 24. Madam Khoo Say Ean    | (BUBS) |

### **6.7) 13 Days India Pilgrimage: 22 Nov – 4 Dec 2004**

- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Day 1: KL/Delhi (by MAS flight MH 190)             | O/N Delhi      |
| Day 2: Delhi/Lucknow (Shatabdi)/Sravasti (coach)   | O/N Sravasti   |
| Day 3: Sravasti/Lumbini (coach)                    | O/N Bhairawa   |
| Day 4: Whole day Lumbini (coach)                   | O/N Bhairawa   |
| Day 5: Bhairawa/Kushinagar (coach)                 | O/N Kushinagar |
| Day 6: Kushinagar//Vaishali/Patna                  | O/N Patna      |
| Day 7: Patna/Nalanda/Rajgir/Bodhgaya (coach)       | O/N Bodhgaya   |
| Day 8: Bodhgaya and Dhongra Hill (coach)           | O/N Bodhgaya   |
| Day 9: Bodhgaya/Sarnath/Varanasi (coach)           | O/N Varanasi   |
| Day 10: Morning Sarnath, afternoon Allahabad       | O/N Allahabad  |
| Day 11: Day tour of Kaushambi and Allahabad.       |                |
| Board night train to Delhi dep. 2130               | O/N Train      |
| Day 12: National Museum, Buddha Vihara, Asoka Park |                |
| Night flight by MH 191 depart 2300hrs              | O/N Plane      |
| Day 13: Arrive KLIA 0655hrs                        | Home           |

#### **Members**

- |                     |                                  |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Sayadaw U Indaka | Chanmyay Yeiktha Hmawbi, Myanmar |
| 2. Win Htay         | Kappiya to Sayadaw, Myanmar      |
| 3. May Myint Oo     | Translator to Sayadaw, Myanmar   |
| 4. Chan Khoon San   | Klang                            |
| 5. Fam Keat Hong    | Ipoh                             |
| 6. Wong Yhow Shong  | KL                               |
| 7. Low Ming Pow     | PJ                               |
| 8. Daphne Chua      | PJ                               |
| 9. Wong Phoay Lok   | Subang Jaya                      |
| 10. Ng Ngen Hwa     | Subang Jaya                      |
| 11. Ng Poh Hwa      | Subang Jaya                      |
| 12. Sia Cho Hi      | Subang Jaya                      |
| 13. Chim Siew Choon | Subang Jaya                      |
| 14. Lim Eng Bee     | Subang Jaya                      |
| 15. Chim Xiong Jie  | Subang Jaya                      |
| 16. Lim Eng Lee     | Penang                           |

17. Soon Kooi Lin	Penang
18. Ooi Zhi Yao	Penang
19. Sharon Ooi	Penang
20. Chim Hui Yin	Subang Jaya
21. Chim Hui Qing	Subang Jaya
22. Thon Lek	Subang Jaya
23. Lee Chin Har	Subang Jaya
24. Dennis Tan Guan Swee	Subang Jaya
25. Tan Tiaw Yong	Subang Jaya
26. Teh Siew Kheng	PJ
27. Teh Ah Nya	Taiping
28. Ting Ah Chu	PJ
29. Lim Saw Imm	PJ
30. Sally Tan Ah Kim	PJ
31. Wong Lei Ping	KL
32. Chiong Lin Hi	Subang Jaya
33. Cheah Swee Heah	Subang Jaya
34. Poh Mu Thiang	Subang Jaya
35. Low Gek Cheng	Subang Jaya
36. Saw Gek Hiock	Subang Jaya
37. Saw Geok Moi	Subang Jaya
38. Foo Wan Wah	Subang Jaya
39. Lim Sau Lan	Subang Jaya

**6.8) 13 Days India Pilgrimage: 31 Oct – 14 Nov 2006**

- Day 1: KL/Delhi flight by Air India, Delhi/Agra by coach. O/N Agra  
Day 2: Agra/Sankasia O/N Myanmar Temple Sankasia  
Day 3: Sankasia/Lucknow/Sravasti O/N Nikko Lotus Hotel, Sravasti  
Day 4: Sravasti/Sonauli/Bhairawa O/N Nirwana Hotel, Bhairawa  
Day 5: Bhairawa/Lumbini/Tilaurakot/Bhairawa O/N Nirwana Hotel  
Day 6: Bhairawa/Kushinagar O/N Nikko Lotus, Kushinagar  
Day 7: Kushinagar/Vaishali/Patna O/N Chanakya Hotel Patna  
Day 8: Patna/Naland/Rajgir/Bodhgaya O/N Sujata Hotel, Bodhgaya  
Day 9: Whole day in Bodhgaya O/N Sujata Hotel, Bodhgaya  
Day 10: Bodhgaya/Sarnath/Varanasi O/N Meraden Hotel, Varanasi  
Day 11: Sarnath/Mughal Sarai/Bhusaval by train O/N on train  
Day 12: Bhusaval/Ajanta/Aurangabad O/N Rama Int'l Aurangabad  
Day 13: Aurangabad/Ellora Caves/Mumbai by train O/N on train  
Day 14: Whole day Mumbai, check in airport at 22:55 for Air India  
Flight AI 432 dep. 00:55flight O/N on plane  
Day 15: Arrive KLIA 11:30hr



## 202 • Buddhist Pilgrimage

### Members

1. Sayadaw U Pannacara (M)	Myanmar
2. Sayadaw U Rakkhita Dhamma (M)	India
3. Venerable U Nyanaramsi (M)	Subang Jaya
4. Chan Khoon San (M)	Klang
5. Soo Chee Keong (M)	Subang Jaya
6. Loh Cheng Kee (M)	Klang
7. Chiu Sheng Bin (M)	Penang
8. Ooi Ling Hoak (M)	Klang
9. Choy Kien Leong (M)	Subang Jaya
10. Chin Hock Soon (M)	PJ
11. Gnoh Saw Ean (F)	PJ
12. Ng Lee Cheng (F)	Klang
13. Lim Phaik Ee (F)	Klang
14. Wong Jiam Heng (F)	KL
15. Tan Guan Swee (M)	Subang Jaya
16. Thon Lek (M)	PJ
17. Ng Swee Kong (M)	Subang Jaya
18. Ng Huang Looi (F)	Subang Jaya
19. Wee Inn Koon (F)	Subang Jaya
20. Yong Oi Mooi (F)	Subang Jaya
21. Ooi Poo Lee (F)	Subang Jaya
22. Wong Keng Lan (F)	Subang Jaya
23. Toh Gaik Sim (F)	Subang Jaya
24. Teoh Chai Choo (F)	Subang Jaya
25. Toh Gaik Hoon (F)	Subang Jaya
26. Toh Gaik Lu (F)	Subang Jaya
27. Teo Chiang Khai (M)	PJ
28. Ng Soh Hwa (F)	PJ
29. Ng Beng Hwa (F)	Singapore
30. Lim Kim See (F)	PJ
31. Tay Mo Lee (F)	Klang
32. Tay Been (F)	Klang

### **6.9) 17 Days India Pilgrimage: 18 Nov – 4 Dec 2007**

Day 1: KL/Delhi by Air Lanka dep. 1440, arr. 2110	O/N Mathura
Day 2: Mathura/Taj Mahal/Sankasia	O/N Sankasia
Day 3: Sankasia/Lucknow/Sravasti	O/N Sravasti
Day 4: Sravasti/Bhairawa	O/N Bhairawa
Day 5: Bhairawa/Ramagrama/Lumbini/Bhairawa	O/N Bhairawa
Day 6: Bhairawa/Kushinagar	O/N Kushinagar

## Organizing a Buddhist Pilgrimage to India • 203

Day 7: Kushinagar/Vaishali/Patna	O/N Patna
Day 8: Patna/Nalanda/Rajgir/Bodhgaya	O/N Bodhgaya
Day 9: Whole day in Bodhgaya	O/N Bodhgaya
Day 10: Whole day in Bodhgaya	O/N Bodhgaya
Day 11: Bodhgaya/Sarnath/Varanasi (coach)	O/N Varanasi
Day 12: Sarnath/Kamayani Express to Bhopal	O/N on train
Day 13: Bhopal/Sanchi Vidisa/Bhopal	O/N Bhopal
Day 14: Whole day Bhimbetika Train to Delhi	O/N on train
Day 15: Whole day Delhi, at night check-in airport for Air Lanka Delhi/Colombo flight dep. 2200, arr. 0155+1	O/N Plane
Day 16: Stopover & half-day tour in Colombo	O/N Colombo
Day 17: Colombo/KL by Air Lanka UL	

### **Members**

1	U Kittidhaja (M)	Myanmar
2	Chan Khoon San (M)	Klang
3	Tan Tin Lam (M)	Singapore
4	Tan Chor Keng (F)	Singapore
5	Chan Lai Keng (F)	Subang Jaya
6	Lim Chye Hong (F)	KL
7	Tan Xinci (F-Child)	KL
8	Tony Quah Seng Hai (M)	PJ
9	Teh Kuok Ren (M)	Subang Jaya
10	Teh Pio Hian (M)	Subang Jaya
11	Eow Cheng Hwa (F)	Subang Jaya
12	Ng Huang Lean (F)	Subang Jaya
13	Ooi Yinn Shaung (M)	Subang Jaya
14	Chang Lai Ying (Melissa) (F)	PJ
15	Lee Hooi Hong (F)	PJ
16	Lim Siew Hoo (F)	PJ
17	Tan Lian Khar (M)	PJ
18	Lim Siew Eng (F)	PJ
19	James Stewart Mushet (M)	PJ
20	Chin Oy Mei (F)	Penang
21	Gan Ai Geok (F)	Penang
22	Cheah Cheng Hoon (F)	Penang
23	Gan Li Li (F)	Penang
24	Chua Ah Hin (F)	Penang
25	Tan Kheng Ngin (F)	Penang

**6.10) 15 Days India Pilgrimage: 4 - 18 Nov 2008**

Day 1: KL/Delhi flight by Indian Airlines, travel to Agra	O/N Agra
Day 2: Agra/Sankasia	O/N Sankasia
Day 3: Sankasia/Sravasti	O/N Sravasti
Day 4: Sravasti/Lumbini/Bhairawa	O/N Bhairawa
Day 5: Bhairawa/Ramagrama/Lumbini/Bhairawa	O/N Bhairawa
Day 6: Bhairawa/Kushinagar (coach)	O/N Kushinagar
Day 7: Kushinagar/Lauriya Nandangarh/Muzaffarpur	O/N Muzaffarpur
Day 8: Muzaffarpur/Vaishali/Nalanda/Rajgir	O/N Rajgir
Day 9: Rajgir/Bodhgaya	O/N Bodhgaya
Day 10: Whole day in Bodhgaya	O/N Bodhgaya
Day 11: Whole day in Bodhgaya	O/N Bodhgaya
Day 12: Bodhgaya/Sarnath	O/N Varanasi
Day 13: Whole day Sarnath, night train to Delhi	O/N Train
Day 14: Arrive Delhi, day tour, night flight home	O/N Plane
Day 15: Arrive KLIA	Home

**Members**

1. Ashin Nyanodaya (M)	Chanmyay Yeiktha Shwebo, Burma
2. Chan Khoon San (M)	Klang
3. Chan Toong San (M)	Subang Jaya
4. Toh Gaik Sim (F)	Subang Jaya
5. Tan Kiat (M)	Batu Pahat
6. Low Mooi Heang (F)	Batu Pahat
7. Teo Bee Teck (F)	Subang Jaya
8. Wong Mei Lan (F)	Subang Jaya
9. Chang Lai Ching (F)	KL
10. Goh Siew Khim (F)	Klang
11. Liew Kon Tai (F)	Klang
12. Wong Hee Leong (F)	Klang
13. Tan Fong Lan (F)	Klang
14. Too Yewn Hiang (M)	Klang
15. Tan Ming Tin (F)	Klang
16. Doris Koek Siew Ain (F)	Penang
17. Chan Sum Moi (F)	Penang
18. Edward Lim Say Hoe (M)	Penang
19. Tan Choon Sim (M)	Penang
20. Tan Ching Keat (M)	Penang
21. Yap Chin Khoon (M)	Penang
22. Anna Ong Swee Ean (F)	Penang
23. Lai Yoke Wah (M)	Penang
24. Soo Khoon York	Subang Jaya
25. Chia Wai Kee	Subang Jaya

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