2008 · 2551
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and texts from Itivuttaka 3.50; Theragatha 1.3 from Thanissaro Bhikkhu

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LUNAR OBSERVANCE DAYS

These days are devoted to quiet reflection at the monastery. Visitors may come and take the
Precepts for the day and join in all or part of the extended evening meditation.

The dates for the lunar calendar are determined by traditional methods of calculation,
and are not always the same as the precise astronomical occurrences.

THE MAJOR FULL-MOON DAYS OF 2008 – 2551/52

Magha Puja  March 21  (‘Sangha Day’)
Commemorates the spontaneous gathering of 1,250 arahants, to whom the Buddha
gave the exhortation on the basis of the discipline (Ovada Patimokkha).

Vesakha Puja (Wesak)  May 19  (‘Buddha Day’)
Commemorates the birth, enlightenment and passing away of the Buddha.

Asalha Puja  July 17  (‘Dhamma Day’)
Commemorates the Buddha’s first discourse, given to the five samanas
in the Deer Park at Sarnath, near Varanasi. The traditional
Rainy-Season Retreat (Vassa) begins on the next day.

Pavarana Day  October 14
This marks the end of the three-month Vassa-retreat. In the following month,
lay people may offer the Kathina-robe as part of a general alms-giving ceremony.

WEB ADDRESSES FOR THIS FOREST SANGHA COMMUNITY

www.forestsangha.org
www.dhammathreads.org
www.dhammatalks.org.uk

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“There is, monks, an unborn, unbecome, unmade, undetermined; for if, monks, there were not that unborn, unbecome, unmade, undetermined, an escape here from the born, become, made, determined, would not be manifest.”

Ud 8.3
Nibbana Sutta

January 2008/2551

Luang Por Samedho

* Venerable Ajahn Chah Memorial Day
“Happiness arises from the timely company of friends.
Happiness arises from having few needs.
Happiness arises from accumulated virtue at life’s end.
Happiness arises from seeing beyond suffering.”

_Dhammapada verse 331_
“Let the wise guide beings away from darkness, give direction and advice. They will be treasured by the virtuous and dismissed by the foolish.”

_Dhammapada verse 77_
“Those who speak truth and give gentle encouragement, contending with no-one, these do I call great beings.”

_Dhammapada_ verse 408
“It is hard to live the life of renunciation; its challenges are difficult to find pleasant. Yet it is also hard to live the householder’s life; there is pain when associating with those among whom one feels no companionship. To wander uncommitted is always going to be difficult; why not renounce the deluded pursuit of pain?”

_Dhammapada verse 302_
“Yet still a youth, a renunciate
fully devoted to the Way
lights up the world
like the moon emerging from clouds.”

Dhammapada verse 382

June 2008/2551

Ordination ceremony, Aruna Ratanagiri Monastery, UK
“Ignorance has been destroyed; knowledge has arisen; darkness has been destroyed; light has arisen — as happens in one who is heedful, ardent, and resolute.”

Itivuttaka 3.50

July 2008/2551

From left to right: Ajahn Pasanno, Tan Ajahn Liem

* Asalha Puja, + Vassa begins
“These three ways lead to the heavens: 
asserting the truth, 
not yielding to anger, 
and giving…”

Dhammapada verse 224
“Blessed is the arising of a Buddha;  
blessed is the revealing of the Dhamma;  
blessed is the concord of the Sangha;  
delightful is harmonious communion.”

_Dhammapada_ verse 194

September 2008/2551

From left to right: Ajahn Thanasanti, Anandabodhi, Upakkha
“See this: the discernment of the Tathagatas, 
like a fire ablaze in the night, giving light, giving eyes, 
to those who come, subduing their doubt.”

Theragatha 1.3 
Kankhrevata

October 2008/2551

Robe dying, Wat Pah Nanachat, Thailand  * Pavarana Day
“Only blessings can arise from seeking the company of wise and discerning persons, who skilfully offer both admonition and advice as if guiding one to hidden treasure.”

_Dhammapada verse 76_
“Those Awakened Ones, who have tasted freedom from all distraction by cultivating awareness, view all who are suffering with compassionate perspective, as one on a mountaintop is able to view the plains.”

_Dhammapada_ verse 28
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