Forest Sangha Calendar

2012 - 2555
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shpj@sukhihotu.com

Scriptural quotes on each page are English renderings of verses from ‘A Dhammapada from Contemplation’ - Aruna Publications. (For full or literal translations please see other works.)

LUNAR OBSERVANCE DAYS ⚫🔴-awaited

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 2012-2555/56

*Magha Puja* March 7 (‘Sangha Day’)
Commemorates the spontaneous gathering of 1250 arahants, to whom the Buddha gave the exhortation on the basis of the discipline (*Ovada Patimokkha*).

*Vesakha Puja* (Wesak) June 4 (‘Buddha Day’)
Commemorates the birth, enlightenment and passing away of the Buddha.

*Asalha Puja* August 2 (‘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 30
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.

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Those who speak much
are not necessarily possessed of wisdom.
The wise can be seen to be at peace with life
and free from all enmity and fear.

_Dhammapada v. 258_
As rain cannot penetrate a well-made roof, so the passions cannot enter a well-trained heart.

*Dhammapada v. 14*
If anything is to be done, do it well, with energy and devotion; the renunciatory life, led heedlessly, just stirs up the dust.

*Magha Puja*

_Dhammapada v. 313_
Truly it is ourselves that we depend upon; how could we really depend upon another? When we reach the state of self reliance we find a rare refuge.

Dhammapada v. 160
Neither mother, father
nor any member of a family
can give you the blessings generated
by your own well-directed heart.

_Dhammapada_ v. 43
As many garlands can be made from a heap of flowers, so too, much that is wholesome can be done during this human existence.

*Dhammapada v. 53*
On hearing true teachings,
the hearts of those who are receptive,
become serene, like a lake,
deep, clear and still.

*Dhammapada* v. 82
Do not seek the company of misguided friends; 
beware of degenerate companions. 
Seek and enjoy the company of well-guided friends, 
those who support insight. 

*Dhammapada v. 78*
The protected and guarded mind leads to ease of being. Though subtle, elusive and hard to see, one who is alert should tend and watch over this mind.

_Dhammapada v. 36_
The gift of truth excels all gifts.
The flavour of truth surpasses all flavours.
The delight of truth transcends all delights.
Freedom from craving is the end of all suffering.

_Dhammapada v. 354_
Devotion and respect should be offered to those who have shown us the Way.

_Dhammapada v. 392_
Surrendering oneself to Dhamma leads to serene being. The wise perpetually delight in the truth taught by the Awakened One.

_Dhammapada v. 79_
January
Luang Por Liem, Abbot of Wat Pah Pong, assisting in building a new hall at Wat Pah Nanachat, 2011.

February
Ajahn Kevali, Abbot of Wat Pah Nanachat, assisting in building their new hall, 2011.

March
Young monks working on the building site, Wat Pah Nanachat, 2011.

April
Luang Por Anek on almsround (pindapat) at his monastery, Wat Pah Sai Ngarm.

May
Ajahn Pasanno on almsround (pindapat), California.

June
Children being helped by their father to make offerings to the shrine, Kuala Lumpur, 2010.

July
Ajahn Cittapala with guests in front of image of Luang Por Chah, Amaravati, 2010.

August
Ajahn Gunnavuddho offering Dhamma instruction to children, California, 2010.

September
Two anagarikas receiving the siladhara ordination, Amaravati, 2010.

October

November

December
A young novice monk (samanera) on almsround, Thailand.
BRANCH MONASTRIES
Western disciples of Ajahn Chah
The portal page for this community worldwide is:
www.forestsangha.org

UNITED KINGDOM:
Amaravati Buddhist Monastery
Great Gaddesden,
Hemel Hempstead,
Hertfordshire HP1 3BZ.
Tel. Office: +44 (0)144 284 2455
Fax. +44 (0)144 284 3721
Retreat Centre: +44 (0)144 284 3239
www.amaravati.org

Aruna Ratanagiri
Harnham Buddhist Monastery
Harnham,
Belsay,
Northumberland NE20 0HF.
Tel. +44 (0)1661 881 612
Fax. +44 (0)1661 881 019
www.ratanagiri.org.uk

Cittaviveka
Chithurst Buddhist Monastery
Chithurst,
Petersfield,
Hampshire GU31 5EU.
Tel. +44 (0)1730 814 986
Fax. +44 (0)1730 817 334
www.cittaviveka.org

Hartridge Buddhist Monastery
Odle Cottage,
Upottery,
Honiton,
Devon EX14 9QE.
Tel. +44 (0)1404 89 1251
Fax. +44 (0)1404 89 0023
www.hartridegemonastery.org

SWITZERLAND:
Kloster Dhammapala
Am Waldrand,
CH-3718 Kandersteg.
Tel. +41 (0)33 675 21 00
Fax. +41 (0)33 675 22 41
www.dhammapala.ch

THAILAND:
Wat Pah Nanachat,
Bahn Bung Wai,
Amper Warin,
Ubon 34310.
www.watpahnanachat.org

AUSTRALIA:
Buddha Bodhivana Monastery,
780 Woods Point Road,
East Warburton,
Vic 3799.
Tel. +61 (0)3 5966 5999
Fax. +61 (0)3 5966 5998

NEW ZEALAND:
Vimutti Buddhist Monastery
PO Box 7,
Bombay, 2343
(South Auckland).
www.vimutti.org.nz

Bodhinyanarama Monastery
17 Rakau Grove,
Stokes Valley,
Lower Hutt 5019.
Tel. +64 (0)4 5637 193
www.bodhinyanarama.net.nz

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:
Abhayagiri Buddhist Monastery
16201 Tomki Road,
Redwood Valley,
CA 95470.
Tel. +1 (707) 485 1630
www.abhayagiri.org

CANADA:
Tisarana Buddhist Monastery
1356 Powers Road, RR #3 Perth,
Ontario K7H 3C5.
Phone: +1 613-264-8208
www.tisarana.ca

ITALY:
Santacittarama
Localita Brulla,
02030 Frasso Sabino (Rieti).
Tel. +39 07 6587 2186
Fax. +39 06 233 238 629
www.santacittarama.org