Nalanda Bulletin Published by Nalanda Buddhist Society TM

Issue No. 52 | July 2019 | www.nalanda.org.my

For Non-Muslims Only

Community comes together for good cause

Every Sunday, dozens of youths congregate at Nalanda Centre to learn Dhamma and render services in various programmes. From conducting camps to coordinating Free School classes, and from running weekly Youth Sunday Service to planting trees, we witness how the Dhamma inspires so many young people to contribute selflessly to the good of the community, bringing about positive spirit and brightening the future of Buddhism in Malaysia and beyond.

Beaming joy on the faces of Nalanda Youths as they work hard together to prepare items for sale at the annual Family Fun Fair.

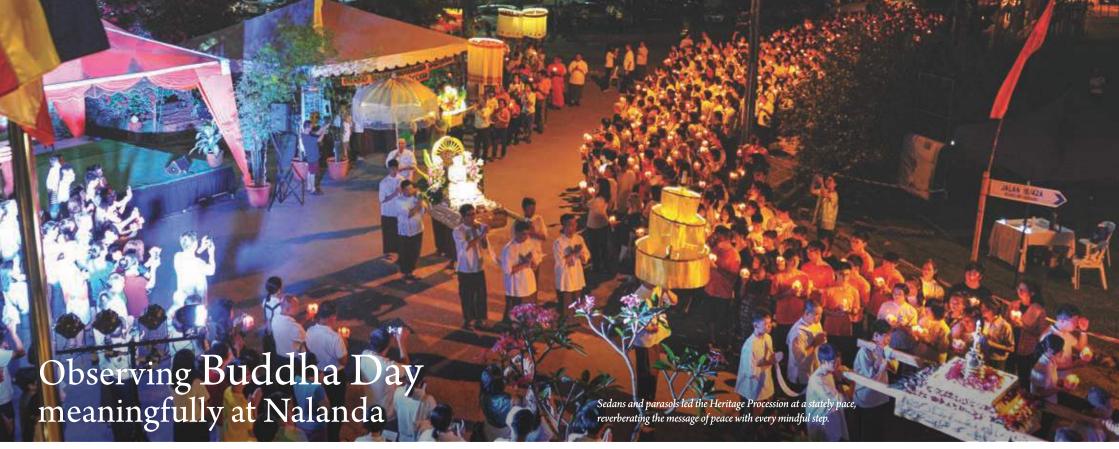
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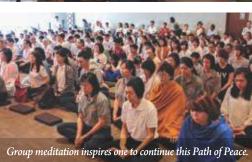


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11 to 19 May, Sri Serdang

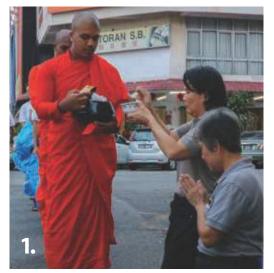
The Full-moon day of *Vesakhā* month is the most significant occasion for Buddhists worldwide as it commemorates the Buddha's Enlightenment 26 centuries ago, after which He spent 45 years teaching Dhamma out of compassion for all beings. With deep reverence for our Great Teacher and His teachings, the day was observed at Nalanda Centre by learning, practising and reflecting upon the Dhamma.

Many educational and devotional programmes were organised from 11 to 19 May with the theme "Living Compassionately towards Peace & Harmony". Nalanda founder Bro. Tan said that a community thrives because there

is compassion for one another amongst its members. This virtuous state of mind brings out the best in people, enabling them to feel uplifted and connected. Hence, compassion brings peace into our hearts and harmony into our lives.

The week-long observance peaked with the Heritage Procession, led by the Buddha's Sacred Relic. It was an inspiring sight as thousands of people holding candle-lights walked calmly and peacefully to the rhythmic beating of drums and gongs, following devotees who carried colourful flags and parasols.

The are grateful to all teachers, volunteers and devotees for their support and contributions in making this *Buddha Day* observance a peaceful and harmonious one.













- 5. Buddha Jayanti Exhibition Dhamma School students produced paintings and interactive corners to connect visitors to the quality of compassion.
- 6. Worshipping the Buddha Relic Visitors took the opportunity to worship the Buddha Relic with reverence and devotion.
- 7. Mass Food Offering Volunteers offering food to all visitors as a cultivation of generosity, humility, and selflessness.
- 8. Dhamma through drama Dhamma School students and youths bringing to life the Buddha's message of peace and harmony.
- 9. Heritage Procession Devotees walking calmly and peacefully to the rhythmic beating of drums and gongs, as volunteers carried colourful flags and parasols to commemorate *Buddha Day*.



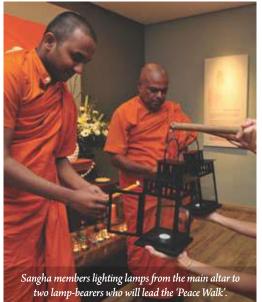
- Pindacāra The community around Sri Serdang offering alms to Sangha members with devotion and faith on *Buddha Day*.
- 2. Starting the day spiritually Devotees congregate to meditate, observe the 5 or 8 precepts, and to learn the Dhamma.
- 3. Sutta Study Bro. Tan explaining several discourses of the Buddha to help devotees understand what it means to live compassionately towards peace and harmony.
- 4. *Mandarin talk* Bro. Yap leading the Mandarin group in exploring the Wesak theme.















12 May, Kuala Lumpur

On Sunday 12 May, Nalanda Kuala Lumpur Branch held a 'Peace Walk' around Happy Garden to commemorate Buddha Day. Earlier in the evening, a simple dinner was hosted for the local community with devotees offering food out of generosity.

The evening service started with meditation, offerings and chanting, followed by a Dhamma teaching by Nalanda founder Bro Tan. He reminded us as we celebrate the Buddha's Enlightenment, to also celebrate His Teachings by practising it. The Dhamma enables one to develop compassion and wisdom, thus bringing happiness and concord to the society.

Compassion is a common quality in mothers, who are custodians of family traditions and spirituality. Those who learn and realise the Dhamma will develop deeper characteristics of loving-kindness and greater compassion to become pillars of peace and harmony in the family.

As the moon rose higher into the night, the 'Peace Walk' commenced in earnest with over 300 devotees walking in line calmly and mindfully. Everyone rejoiced in the harmony and devotion of the procession as the community around the Centre came out to show their support.

We thank all organisers, donors, devotees and volunteers for their support towards this well-organised spiritual event. *Sādhu*!







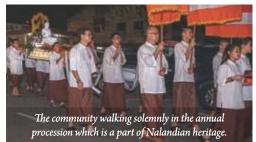


'Buddha Day' was celebrated meaningfully at Nalanda Johor Bahru Branch with various educational and devotional programmes organised for the local community.

At the break of dawn, devotees started the auspicious day with '*Pindacāra*' (almsround) and devoutly offered *dāna* to Sangha members. Nalandians also immersed themselves with chanting, observing the 5 or 8 precepts, practising meditation, and learning from a Dhamma talk by guest speaker, Bro. Ooi Boon Keat.

Our deep appreciation to all benefactors and volunteers for their kind support and participation to make this *Buddha Day* a peaceful and meaningful celebration for everyone. *Sādhu*!





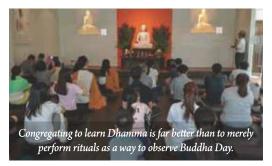


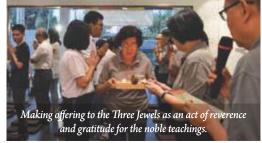
18 – 19 May, Sungai Petani

On 18 and 19 May, Nalanda Sungai Petani Branch observed *Buddha Day* with devotion and serenity as devotees participated in a series of spiritual programmes including chanting, meditation and Dhamma talks.

In his talk, Bro. Ananda Fong referred to the *Pabbatūpama Sutta*, Discourse on the Simile of the Mountain (SN3.25) where the Buddha spoke on the importance of right conduct, skilful and meritorious deeds, because we are all subject to ageing and death. Just as the supply of rice is replenished through continuous planting and harvesting, so too it is important for us to constantly cultivate virtues and perform meritorious deeds in









order to support our Dhamma practice.

A wise person who cultivates wholesomeness in thoughts, speech and actions, experiences peace within oneself and harmony with others. For example, developing compassion helps us increase our appreciation and concern for others, which leads to a more caring and connected community.

On this occasion, we remind ourselves to perform wholesome deeds diligently and to overcome defilements as we walk on this path towards liberation from the causes of suffering. We thank everyone for their support and contributions which enable the community to better understand the Dhamma and strengthen our faith in the company of *kalyana mittā* (spiritual friends).









On 6 June, Nalandians congregated at Wisdom Park to welcome venerable monks and nuns representing the Mahā Sangha to the first Sanghika Dāna held there. Ven. B. Sri Saranankara Nāyaka Thero who was present advised us to be consistent in living a Buddhist way of life to enhance our spiritual well-being. If we were to focus only on material comforts and neglect spiritual development, we may not be able to tolerate



even the slightest adversity and difficulty.

In Nalandian tradition, all the rooms at the new building were first offered to be used by Sangha members. The four-fold assembly then unveiled a replica of the ancient "Asokan Pillar", and rejoiced in this meaningful milestone in the annals of Nalanda. We thank all benefactors of Wisdom Park for contributing to this noble project. Sādhu!





15 July, Hulu Selangor

Phase 1B and 1C construction of Wisdom Park is progressing well with the completion of piling and foundation work for Building 02 – Administrative Centre, as well as Buildings 03 & 04 – two adjoining Guest Lodges. Construction of these 3 buildings, totalling 30,650 square feet, started in February 2019 and should be completed by April 2020.

The grounds at Wisdom Park is also thriving with 607 newly-planted local trees. Donors and volunteers who have contributed selflessly to rejuvenate the eco-system there should truly rejoice that future generations will benefit from their efforts today.

Sponsorship of RM100/Square foot

The progress of Wisdom Park depends on the continued support of the community. We invite you to participate in building this important facility by sponsoring its construction cost at RM100 per square foot. Donations can be made at Nalanda Centre Sri Serdang, or via bank transfer to:

"Nalanda Buddhist Society" Maybank account number: 5121-4702-3622

Learn more about this noble project to train future Dhamma teachers and leaders in order to create a wiser and better society. Visit www.wisdompark.org for information and latest updates on the project. Thank you for your generous support!





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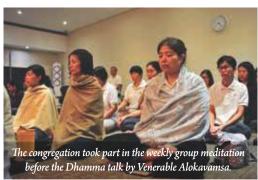


On Wednesday 22 May, Nalanda Centre was honoured to host Ven. Alokavamsa from Indonesia for a Dhamma talk during his transit in Kuala Lumpur. Venerable talked about the pursuit of two types of happiness – "delusional happiness" and "real happiness".

"Delusional happiness" arises when we satisfy worldly desires born from greed and ignorance. This happiness is short-lived and will often lead to dissatisfaction and more craving. On the other hand, "real happiness" arises from the realisation of Dhamma which leads to happiness now and hereafter. By performing wholesome deeds such as dāna (generosity), sīla (morality) and bhāvanā (mental cultivation), we will experience deeper joy and satisfaction, which can also support us on our path to liberation.

We thank Ven. Alokavamsa for his important teaching. May he be healthy and peaceful!









On Wednesday 12 June, Ven. Dr. S. Pemaratana, Abbot of Pittsburgh Buddhist Centre, U.S.A., delivered a Dhamma talk on how to cultivate mental well-being. In the talk, he shared five skilful techniques taught by the Buddha to remove unwholesome thoughts: (1) replace them with wholesome thoughts; (2) reflect on the consequences of being unwholesome; (3) disregard the unwholesome thoughts; (4) to contemplate causes and conditions; and (5) to crush the unwholesome thoughts with our will.

We should also train our minds to dwell upon the Four Divine Abidings (*brahma-vihāra*). To progress in our practice, we must accept that everyone has imperfections, and hence be more forgiving of ourselves and others.

We thank Venerable Pemaratana for visiting Nalanda and for sharing the Dhamma with us. We wish him good health, peace, success, and much happiness.









14 – 16 June, Sabah

From 14 to 16 June, 33 participants gathered at Mitraville Meditation Centre in Kundasang, Sabah, for Sutta-Learning Retreat conducted by Nalanda founder Bro Tan. The participants came from several local Buddhist societies to learn the popular *Karanīya Mettā Sutta* (Sutta Nipata 1.8) to deepen their understanding of each Pāli verse for spiritual growth.

The Buddha first expounded this *sutta* to 500 monks for their protection when they went into the forest to practise meditation. Bro. Tan explained how the *sutta* expands on establishing a foundation of virtuous qualities before one is able to develop a sense of friendliness and goodwill towards others.

When we develop this mental state of *mettā*, we maintain boundless goodwill towards all beings regardless of who they are.

For one who wants to cultivate *mettā*, he will benefit from observing the Five Precepts to ground him in morality and help in purifying his mind. This skilful state allows one to overcome the poisons of aversion and anger, which if left unchecked, will lead him to more unwholesome thoughts, speech and actions. Bro. Tan also explained the eleven benefits of *mettā* including feeling serene, as recorded in the Anguttara Nikaya 11.16.

We record our appreciation to Aloka House Sabah for organising and graciously hosting this retreat. We wish our Sabahan Dhamma friends well and happy; may they continue to practise to gain joyful peace.



19 – 23 June, Sri Serdang

Beginning 19 June, Venerable Gavesi conducted a 5-day beginners' retreat for 25 meditators at K. Sri Dhammananda Centre. With clear initial instructions from the teacher, participants started their sitting and walking meditation to hone mindfulness and concentration skills.

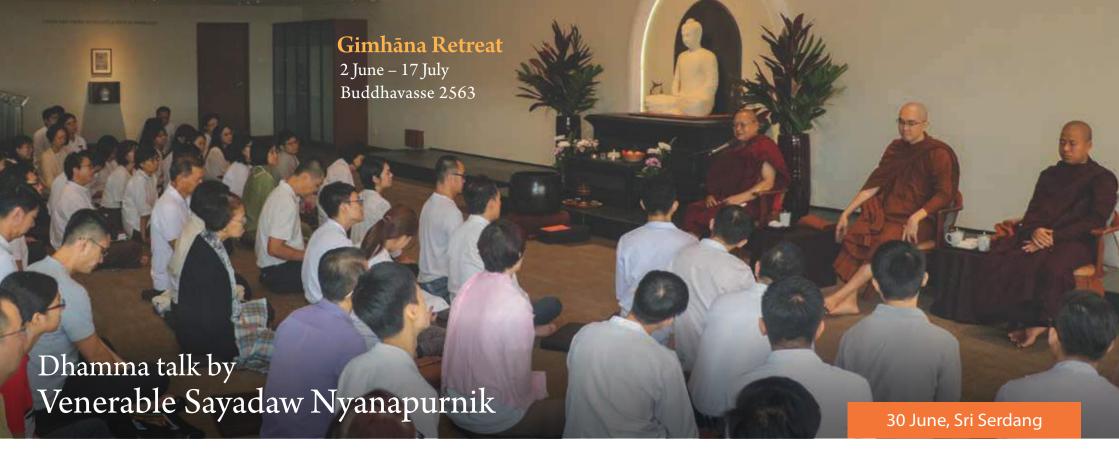
In his daily interviews, Venerable Gavesi gave advice and encouragement to help participants overcome discomfort and difficulties. In the evening talks, he provided further explanations and instructions to dispel any misconceptions or confusion about Dhamma. We are thankful to Venerable Gavesi for enabling beginners to start this wholesome practice with proper understanding. Sādhu ānumodāna!





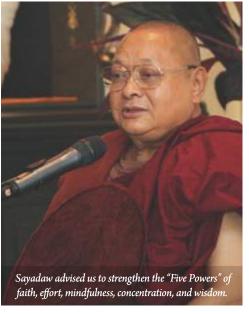












on 30 June, Nalandians were honoured to welcome Sayadaw Nyanapurnik, Sanghanayaka of Nepal, back to Nalanda Centre for Dhamma teaching in conjunction with Nalanda Institute's 12th anniversary.

Sayadaw advised us to use our intellect to discern the wholesome from unwholesome, and purify our mental states. When we cultivate *sīla* (morality), we have a strong



foundation upon which to develop samādhi (concentration). Only then can pañña (wisdom) arise to eradicate defilements with Right Effort. Sayadaw also reinforced the importance of associating with wise teachers and spiritual friends.

We are grateful to Sayadaw Nyanapurnik for the timely advice for our progress. We wish Sayadaw well and healthy always!





or seven weeks after the Buddha's Enlightenment on Wesak full-moon in May, He contemplated Γ on the Dhamma with His perfectly clear faculty of comprehension. Then, He travelled for seven days from Uruvela to Sarnath where He preached the Dhammacakkappavattana Sutta on Asalha Day, the full-moon in July. It is during this period that Nalanda members observe the Gimhāna Retreat annually with relatively intensive Dhamma learning and practice at Nalanda Centre. Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings were dedicated to both communal and personal practice such as chanting, meditation, listening to Dhamma teachings, studying the scriptures, performing acts of generosity, and daily reflection.

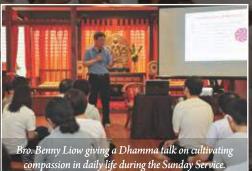
A new addition to the Gimhāna Retreat this year was the weekly handouts that directed devotees towards developing certain qualities. These practical "tasks" were: (1) donating towards a wholesome cause; (2) not complaining about anything throughout the day; (3) expressing gratitude to someone; (4) refraining from unwholesome speech; (5) maintaining serenity in all situations; (6) forgiving someone deeply; and (7) developing *mettā* towards the people and beings around us.

We are grateful to all Dhamma teachers who inspired the community with their simple and pragmatic teachings. We also thank all devotees for supporting the programmes and providing spiritual friendship to motivate each other in our Dhamma cultivation. Sādhu ānumodāna!



precepts during communal chanting.

















July, Sri Serdang

Nalanda 'Family Fun Fair' is back this July! Every year, this popular event unites the entire community in supporting the mission of holistic education. Funds raised will be used for the construction of 'Wisdom Park' – an educational facility to train competent Dhamma teachers and leaders, and to expand the operations of Nalanda Institute, Dhamma School and Free School.

Inspired by the opportunity to do good, members, volunteers, youths, and Dhamma School students stepped forward in high spirits to offer much time and effort to plan and prepare for the event.

We look forward to welcoming you and your loved ones at the 'Family Fun Fair' on Sunday, 28 July. All are welcome!















22 June, Johor Bahru

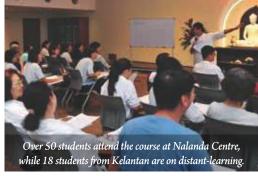
On Saturday 22 June, Nalanda Johor Bahru Branch held its first Dhamma Family Leaders' Training session for 18 members, getting ready for the formation of Dhamma Families in Johor Bahru later this year.

Trainees learned and discussed the Buddha's teachings to strengthen their practice. They were also trained in communication and facilitation skills, group dynamics, and the Nalanda Education Model. The leaders will facilitate Dhamma Family gatherings in future to enable deeper learning and personal transformation.

Racilitating the training in Johor Bahru Branch were Nalanda Training & Enhancement Centre Director Sis. Paruadi, assisted by Sis. Lim Kah Hong.







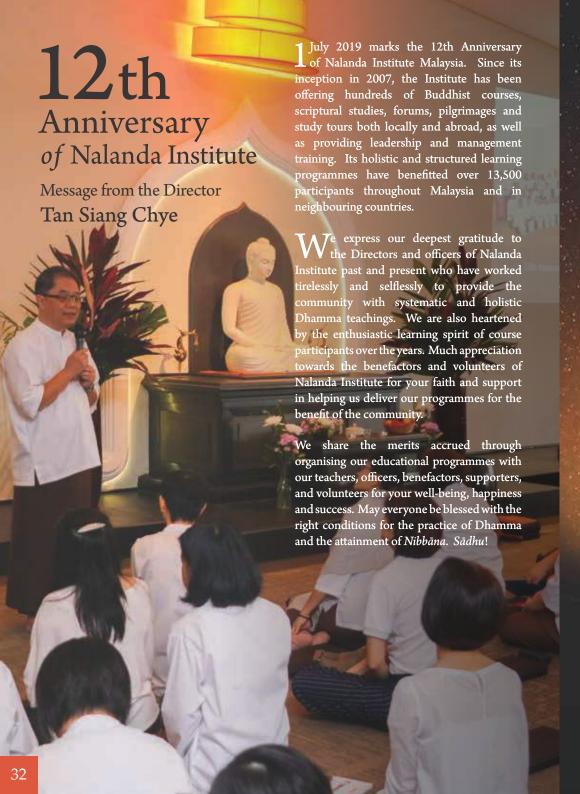


6 July, Sri Serdang

On Saturday 6 July, the first session of Nalanda Institute's BPS 403 – Higher Certificate in Buddhist Studies, commenced with 68 registered students. Last offered in 2014, the course spans 5 months and will cover six modules including Buddhist scriptures & doctrines, history, humanity & sociology, polity & economics, and Buddhist arts & culture.

In his opening remarks, Director of Nalanda Institute Achariya Tan Siang Chye encouraged students to adopt a scholarly spirit in their learning. Nalanda founder Achariya Tan Ho Soon delivered the first lecture, introducing the Buddha's essential teachings according to the Pāli scriptures.

We wish our BPS 403 students joyful learning and unhindered progress in their course.



DHAMMA LIVING CAMP for young adults

Discover the Blessings in Life

Nalanda Youth Centre joyfully presents the
4th Dhamma-Living Camp for young adults aged 18 to 30.
Come discover your myriad blessings in life and
live up to your true potential for happiness and success.

6 – 9 September 2019

Nalanda Centre, Sri Serdang

Register now at nalanda.org.my



NALANDA FAMILY FUN FAIR 2019 家庭欢乐在プB 筹款义卖会

Sunday, 15 September 九月十五日,星期日 8 am – 2 pm | NEO Centre, Taman Johor Jaya

Fund-raising to support the educational programmes of Nalanda Free School and Nalanda Dhamma School. Come enjoy a fun & meaningful day with family and friends while supporting a great cause. All are welcome!

家庭欢乐日主要目的是为了Nalanda 教育及发展基金筹募。其款项将会用在推广Nalanda 义学校及佛学班的全面教育。

Kindly obtain coupons from NEO Centre Johor Bahru. Thank you for your support! 请到新山 Nalanda 教育中心获取固本,谢谢您的支持!

Attractions 特备项目:

- Food, Beverages & Dried Food 食品, 饮料及干粮
- **⇔** Garments 服饰
- ★ Kitchenware 厨房用具
- ♣ Bonsai & Plants 盆栽及园艺品



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Facebook www.facebook.com/NeoCentre II

Upcoming Programmes July – September 2019

Nalanda Institute's 12th Anniversary

Nalanda Family Fun Fair 2019

in Seri Kembangan

New-moon Uposatha Service

JULY

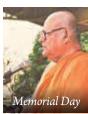


03	New-moon Uposatha Service	Nalanda Centre
06	Pindacāra – Alms-round by Sangha members at the morning markets in Taman O.U.G. & Happy Garden	NEO Centre K. L. / Taman O.U.G. & Happy Garden
14	Dhammacakka Day at Nalanda	Nalanda Centre
17	Dhamma Day – Asalha Full-moon Uposatha Day	Nalanda Centre
20	Pindacāra – Alms-round by Sangha members in Seri Kembangan	Nalanda Centre / Seri Kembangan market

Pindacāra – Alms-round by Sangha members

13th K. Sri Dhammananda Memorial Day

AUG



01	New-moon Uposatha Service	Nalanda Centre
03	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
15	Full-moon Uposatha Service	Nalanda Centre

Nalanda Centre

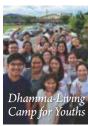
Nalanda Centre

Nalanda Centre /

Nalanda Centre

Seri Kembangan market Nalanda Centre

SEPT



07	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
06-09	* Dhamma-Living Camp for Young Adults	Nalanda Centre
13	Full-moon Uposatha Service	Nalanda Centre
15	Nalanda Family Fun Fair in Johor Bahru	NEO Centre J.B.
21	Pindacāra – Alms-round by Sangha members in Seri Kembangan	Nalanda Centre / Seri Kembangan market
29	New-moon Uposatha Service	Nalanda Centre

Special events :

- \star Registration is required.
- * Study Tour to Ladakh, India 23 August to 2 September K. Sri Dhammananda Memorial Day 31 August
- * Dhamma-Living Camp for Young Adults 6 to 9 September
- * Study Tour to Bujang Valley, Kedah 14 to 16 September

Weekly activities at Nalanda Centre include "Sunday Service" (Sundays, 9 am – 12 pm) and "Meditation & Dhamma Sharing" (Wednesdays, 8 pm – 10 pm). For full details or updates on Nalanda's many programmes, kindly visit our website at www.nalanda.org.my or Facebook www.facebook.com/nalanda.org.my

Dhamma Reflection

People through the ages and around the world are constantly searching – for safety, comfort, happiness, and satisfaction – the way worldly people do that is by looking for sensual enjoyment. This kind of search is termed an 'ignoble' one, as it does not lead to nobility of character, insight, wisdom and liberation. On the contrary, 'noble search' is the quest for truth about life and knowing about the nature of existence. It leads one to the practice of Dhamma, improving one's character, and becoming a better overall person. During this 'Dhamma Day' Observance, let us closely investigate and understand the Four Noble Truths, and be diligent in our cultivation in order to finally stop wandering (in 'Samsāra') and cross over to the other shore.

'Like' our Facebook fanpage 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

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

Nalanda Centre is open daily from 9.00 am to 10.00 pm. For visits, kindly call to make appointments.

Nalanda Education & Outreach (NEO) Centre, Kuala Lumpur

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Tel. No. +603-7971 7151 E-mail neo-kl@nalanda.org.my

Facebook www.facebook.com/NeoCentre.KL

NEO Centre KL is open every first Saturday of the month from 7.30 am to 5.00 pm; Tuesdays to Thursdays: 8.00 pm to 10.00 pm; and every Sunday from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm.

Nalanda Education & Outreach (NEO) Centre, Johor Bahru

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

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Facebook www.facebook.com/NeoCentre.JB

NEO Centre JB is open on Sundays: 8.30 am to 12.00 pm; Mondays to Wednesdays: 7.30 pm to 10.00 pm; and on New-moon / Full-moon weekdays: 8.00 pm to 10.00 pm.

Nalanda Education & Outreach (NEO) Centre, Sungai Petani

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

NEO Centre SP is open on Fridays: 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm; and on Saturdays: 9.00 am to 12.00 pm.