



VIETNAMESE BUDDHIST COMMUNITY IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Cộng Đồng Phật Giáo Việt Nam Bắc California

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Jade Buddha for Universal Peace Arriving in Sacramento

(SACRAMENTO, CA) - The Vietnamese Buddhist Community in Northern California will be hosting the Jade Buddha for Universal Peace 2010 World Tour stop at **Kim Quang Temple in Sacramento, CA from October 2nd through 17th, 2010**. Being over 11 feet tall (including lotus and throne) and weighing 4.5 tons, the Jade Buddha for Universal Peace is the world's largest Buddha sculpted from a single piece of gem-quality jade. According to the official website of the Jade Buddha Project, the world tour of the Jade Buddha is dedicated to universal peace in the hope that visitors, irrespective of their religion, will take a moment to reflect upon peace: peace for the world; peace in personal relationships; peace for families and friends; peace at work; and most importantly peace in one's own heart and mind. Jade stone has been considered the "Gem of Heaven" and is a symbolic link between humanity and spirituality. The highlights of the event scheduled for the Jade Buddha's exhibit are as follows:

- **Opening Ceremony:** Sunday, October 3rd, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM
- **Candlelit Vigil & Music for Universal Peace offered by Vietnamese Buddhist Youth Association:** Sat., Oct. 9th, 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
- **Candlelit Vigil & Prayers for Universal Peace:** Sat., Oct. 16th, 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
- **Closing Ceremony:** Sunday, October 17th, from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM
- **Free Public Viewing:** Daily, from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM
- **Location:** Kim Quang Temple
3119 Alta Arden Expressway, Sacramento, CA 95825

The making of the Jade Buddha for Universal Peace is considered an international achievement for the sculpture was carved from an 18-ton jade boulder discovered in the arctic circle of Canada in 2000. The Jade Buddha was modeled after the Buddha inside the Mahabodhi Stupa in Bodh Gaya (India) because this statue is recognized by Buddhists as having the closest resemblance to the Sayamuni Buddha. The Jade Buddha was designed by an Australian sculptor and a Thai sculptor and carved by skilled craftsmen in Thailand. The Buddha's face was painted by a master painter from Nepal. The statue was consecrated by the Dalai Lama during his visit to Australia in December 2009.

The Jade Buddha for Universal Peace World Tour began in Asia in 2009 and is expected to last several years before the statue makes its way back to its permanent home at the Great Stupa of Universal Compassion in Bendigo, Australia. It is estimated that 4.5 million people have visited the Jade Buddha during the first year of the world tour. For more information, please visit the Jade Buddha for Universal Peace's website at: <http://www.jadebuddha.org.au/en/>.

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Along with the participation, prayers, and support of many other Buddhist Temples and Organizations, Buddhist Youth Associations and individual sponsors.

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