

JADE BUDDHA CARVING BENEFACTORS COMPLETE

All together 140 carving benefactors were found to sponsor the Jade Buddha for Universal Peace. These names will be carved on the rear of the throne of the statue. Shown below is an impression of how the final list of names will appear on the throne of the statue.



Chorten is the magazine of
The Great Stupa of Universal Compassion

CHORTEN

STUPA EDITION ❖ No. 29

"This Stupa will be very significant for Buddhist spirituality and Tibetan culture."
His Holiness the Dalai Lama

JADE BUDDHA FOR UNIVERSAL PEACE COMPLETE

NEW RELIC CASES

Thanks to the generosity of 8 special benefactors we raised \$6000 to purchase 10 new display cases for the Great Stupa Holy Relic tours. These cases are made to museum standards and were supplied at a heavily discounted price by Doug at Click Systems, Geelong. At last we have display cases that are able to beautifully and securely display our sacred relics.



THE GREAT STUPA OF UNIVERSAL COMPASSION

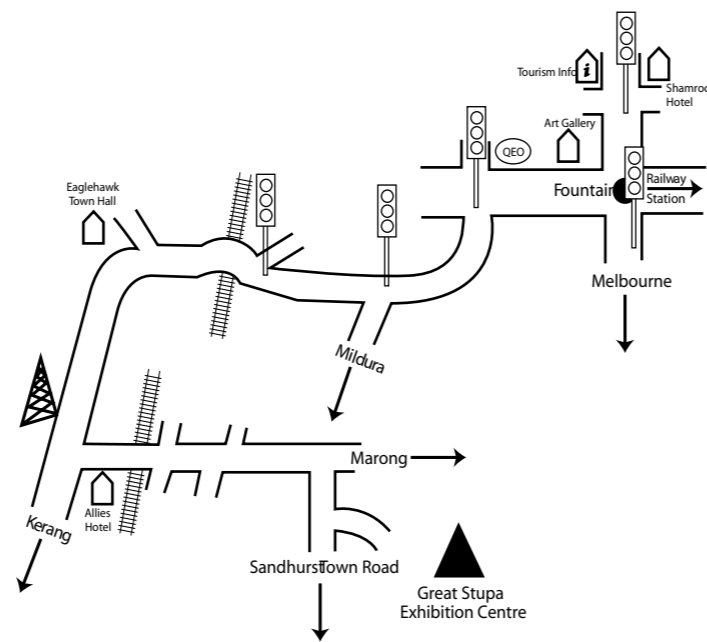
The Great Stupa of Universal Compassion is being built at Atisha Centre near Bendigo. It will be the same size and design as the Great Stupa of Gyantse that was built in Tibet in the 15th century. The Great Stupa of Universal Compassion will be a symbol of peace in the world. It will also be a place of pilgrimage for Buddhists of all traditions. Located next to the Stupa are Atisha Centre and Thubten Shedrup Ling Monastery.

The Great Stupa of Universal Compassion
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The Great Stupa is a member of the Foundation for the Preservation of the Mahayana Tradition.

You are welcome to visit us, the Exhibition Centre is open weekends and public holidays only except Christmas day.

- From Melbourne take Tullamarine Freeway and then Calder Highway. Follow signs to Bendigo.
- In Bendigo, drive to the fountain at the centre of the city and turn left (West) and follow the signs to "Eaglehawk" / "Loddon Valley Highway" / "Kerang".
- In Eaglehawk veer left at Town Hall (stay on major road) and travel approx. 3 km to Allies Hotel, turn left and travel approx. 3 km to Sandhurst Town Road, then follow signs to Atisha Centre and The Great Stupa Exhibition Centre.



RECEIVE CHORTEN ELECTRONICALLY

Please consider receiving your Chorten newsletter by email to help us reduce overhead costs and save precious trees. Send your Name, the Postal Address we have for you and Email Address to info@stupa.org.au.



Jonathon Partridge, sculptor and artistic director of the Jade Buddha, makes final changes to the Jade Buddha.

The carving of the Jade Buddha is complete and it is clear that this is one of the largest and most magnificent Buddhas ever carved from gemstone-quality true jade. Jonathon Partridge, the artistic director of the Jade Buddha said "The statue is very impressive...it is so beautiful." The Buddha, including lotus and throne is over 3.5 metres (11.4 feet) tall. Lama Zopa Rinpoche has said "It will illuminate the world and bring inconceivable peace and happiness and help prevent the destruction that is happening so much in the world, including war."

Plans are now being finalised to take the Jade Buddha for Universal Peace on a world tour. If you would like the Jade Buddha to come to your city please contact the Jade Buddha Tour Coordinator, Serene Loy at serene@stupa.org.au

NEW RANGE OF JADE MEMENTO ITEMS AVAILABLE

Off-cuts from the carving of the Jade Buddha for Universal Peace are now available in a range of pendants that have been etched with images of the Buddha and the mantra "Om Mani Padme Hum". You can purchase these at each tour venue.



RELIC TOUR OF MELBOURNE OCTOBER 11 TO 19

The long awaited return of The Great Stupa Holy Relics to Melbourne will occur from October 11 to 19 at Quang Duc Temple, 105 Lynch Road, Fawkner. It will be open daily and entry is free. The relic tour will commence with a magnificent multi-tradition ceremony on the morning of Saturday October 11. All are most welcome to attend. For details visit www.stupa.org.au or www.quangduc.com



Venerable Thich Nguyen Tang of Quang Duc Temple discusses the Melbourne Relic Tour with Judy and Ian Green.

NEXT CONSTRUCTION PHASE FOR GREAT STUPA PLANNED FOR 2009



The next stage for the construction of the Great Stupa is planned for 2009. This phase will involve two more floors of steel framework with beams across the top to tie the structure together. Once this construction is complete our objective will be to fill in the walls so that we make the Gopma a useable space.

Estimated cost of the next phase is around \$500,000. We have access to some funds but need to raise a further \$300,000 before work can commence. If you would like to donate to the construction costs please contact Ian Green at the Great Stupa office.

JADE BUDDHA FUNDRAISING IN SYDNEY



Venerable Khedup looks on as Geshe Tashi Tsering, Geshe Dawa and Lab Rinpoche bless jade items for auction.

The occasion of His Holiness' visit to Sydney saw some great fundraising efforts by our supporters. Around 200 people attended a dinner at Maxim's in Bankstown and the Great Stupa / Jade Buddha stand at the Stages of Meditation teaching was open every day. A big thank you to Jon Breukel, Brian Ashen, Jill Lancashire, Tracy Mann (MC), Benita Collins (slave to MC), Tony Steel, Bang, Phuong, the team from Perth and many others for their great support.

JADE BUDDHA TOUR COORDINATOR APPOINTED



Serene Loy

Serene Loy, a Singaporean Australian who lives in Brisbane has been appointed as our Jade Buddha Tour Coordinator.

Serene was selected for her resourcefulness and high levels of initiative as well as her excellent personal and communication skills. Lama Zopa Rinpoche also confirmed that Serene was

the right person for the job.

Serene's responsibilities will be many and varied including organising international transportation of the Jade Buddha and arranging major Jade Buddha exhibitions in Asia and Australia. Plans are being put in place for the tour to begin in Singapore and Malaysia from October 2008.

GREAT STUPA HOLY RELIC TOURS OF PERTH AND ADELAIDE

This year we have had two highly successful relic tours of Perth and Adelaide. The tour of Perth, at Hayagriva Institute from March 14 to 24 proved to be a celebration of harmony amongst the local Buddhist traditions. Representatives of several temples and traditions joined in the program. The visit to Perth included a one day relic tour to Hospice of Mother Tara in Bunbury. We offer our sincere thanks to John Waite, the executive committee of Hayagriva, Venerable Dondrup, Venerable Chodron, Ven Ngawang Jampa, Natasha Tang, Mr Le Tan Kiet, Victor Ngu, Sau Chee, Ah K, Swee Lin, Fong, Pauline, Geoff, Gaik, Tram, Kim, Vu Binh Phan, Julie Halse, Glenda Lee, and many more who we have left unnamed.

The Adelaide tour was at Phap Hoa Temple from April 19 to 27. Judy, Ian and Bang felt that this tour had a special feeling of harmony. Our special thanks to Most Venerable Thich Nhu Hue, Abbot Ven. Thich Vien Tri, monks and nuns of Phap Hoa and our many other new friends including Lan, Thoa, Kim and Minh. A special thanks to Mai Tuyet Anh who attended both the Perth and Adelaide tours to offer her translation skills. And of course we cannot forget Mr Bang who is our very popular key person at the relic tours.



Jetsunma Tenzin Palmo was an honoured guest at the Adelaide Holy Relics Tour.



The Most Venerable Thich Nhu Hue gives Relic Blessing at Phap Hoa, Adelaide.



Venerable Thubten Chodron at the final relic blessing ceremony at Hayagriva, Perth.



Venerable Ngawang Jampa blesses one of her cats at the Perth Relics Tour.