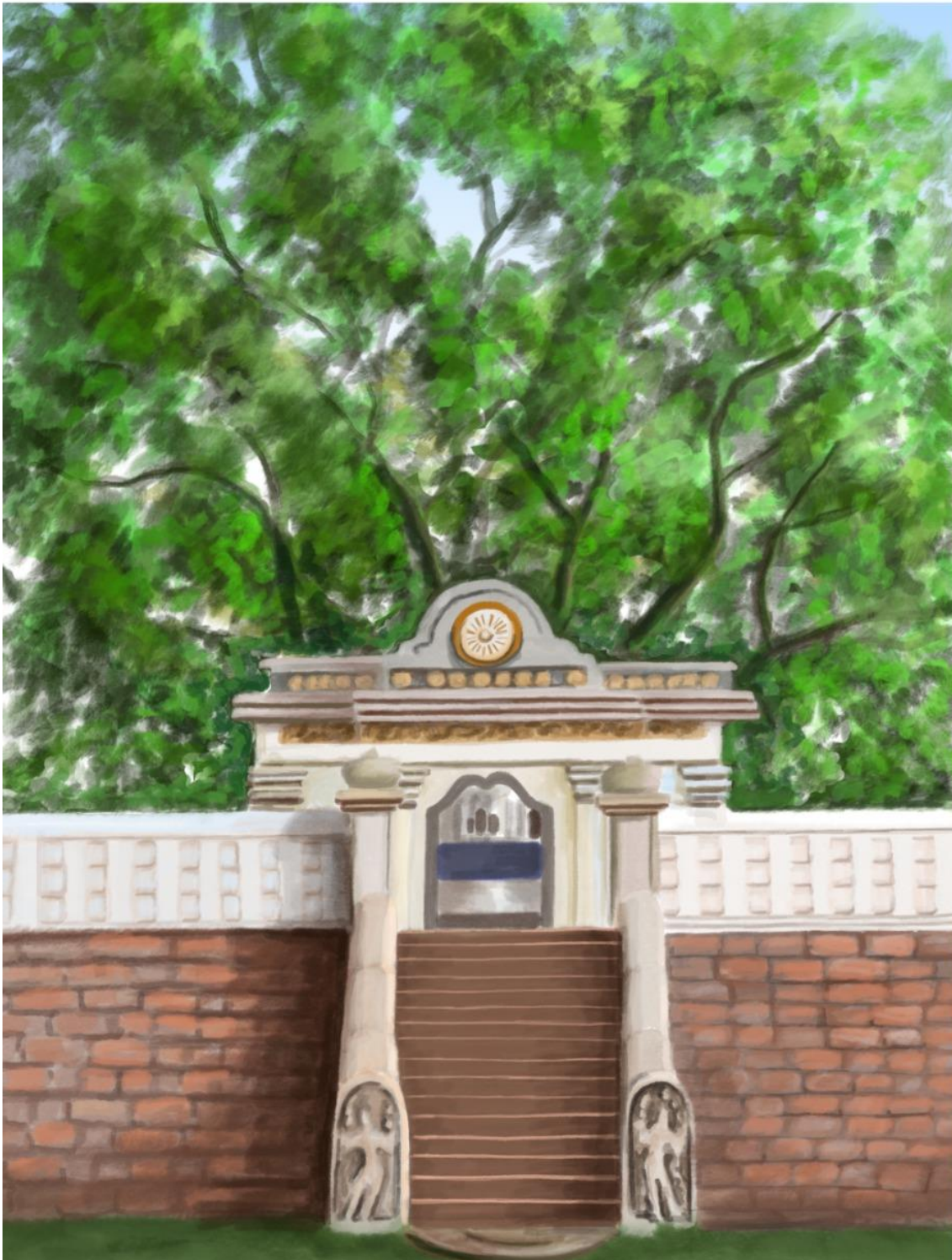




Buddhist & Pali College of Singapore Alumni (BPCA) - Quarterly E-Bulletin



July - Sept 2022

This issue brings you updates on two major activities from June to September 2022:

- Memorial Day, in memory of the late Bhante M M Mahaweera Mahanayaka Mahāthera, founder of Mangala Vihara (Buddhist Temple) and founder of Buddhist and Pali College of Singapore, and the late Bhante P Gnanarama Anunayaka Mahāthera, founding principal of Buddhist and Pali College of Singapore; and
- Lecturers' Appreciation cum Graduation Ceremony 2022 for 2019 – 2021 graduates of Master of Arts, Bachelor of Arts and Diploma in Buddhism

It also includes an expression on Gratitude to the material needs that we have, as well as the help and support that we received. It is also a timely reminder for us to be grateful and thankful for the kindness that we were shown.

In the next quarterly e-bulletin, we would like to bring you highlights of the facilities that have been providing a conducive environment for students of the Buddhist and Pali of Singapore: Mangala Vihara (Buddhist Temple) and Poh Ming Tse Temple.

If you would like to express your gratitude to any of the teachers who had taught you or your Kalyāṇa-mittatā who have journeyed with you, or have memories / little known facts of the two temples that you would like to share with the alumni, please feel free to drop Sister Tyy Yn an email at tyyynquek@gmail.com by 31 October 2022.

Thank you for staying in tune with us. May all be well, happy and peaceful! All the best to all students of the Buddhist and Pali College of Singapore as they prepare and sit for the upcoming examinations!

The Editorial Team

Memorial Day

11 June 2022

Late Bhante M M Mahaweera Mahanayaka Mahāthera

Late Bhante P Gnanarama Anunayaka Mahāthera



Puja



Dhamma Talk

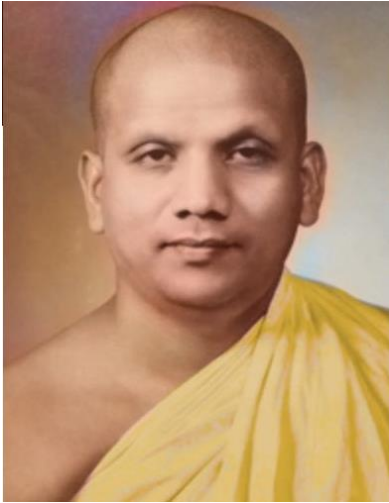


Blessings



Sangha Dāna

Photos: Courtesy of Brother Lau Kim Koon



The late Venerable M. M. Mahaweera Mahāthera

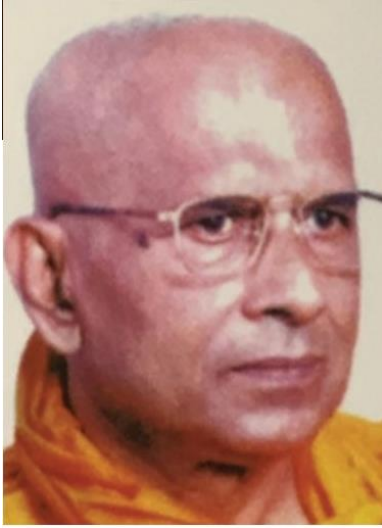
Founder of Mangala Vihara (Buddhist Temple)

Founder of Buddhist and Pali College of Singapore

“When the Japanese occupied Singapore during the Second World War in the early 1940s, many Sri Lankans have already left Singapore. Bhante stayed on to administer religious services to those left behind with a Burmese monk, Ven. U. Wandiya.”

“Although Bhante had read the teaching of the Buddha from the Suttas and being blessed with great powers of recall, he had sometimes regretted that he did not have the opportunity for higher education earlier in his life. Therefore, Bhante wanted to educate many in the teachings of the Buddha, he started the Sunday Dhamma School in the late 1930s.”

Biography, Great Hero ~ Mahaweera, by Venerable K. Sri Pemaloka



**The late Venerable Dr
Pategama Gnanarama
Anu-Nayaka Mahāthera**

Founding Principal

Buddhist and Pali College of Singapore



As the Founding Principal, Bhante worked closely with Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka to structure and review the syllabi of the tertiary education in Buddhist Studies leading to the award of Diploma, B.A., M.A. and PhD. He was attentive to the faculty staff's and students' needs and development, and skilfully groomed students to become teachers. Under his astute leadership, BPC Singapore has produced more than a thousand Diploma holders, graduates and postgraduates.

Bhante was an erudite monk in numerous fields of studies, especially in Buddhist studies. He was a knowledgeable lecturer and a research scholar in Buddhist philosophy (both Theravada and Mahayana), social philosophy, philosophy of religion, Pāli and Sanskrit. He wrote many books and papers, not previously written by others, as reference materials for students locally and internationally.

Lecturers' Appreciation cum Graduation Ceremony 2022

28 August 2022



Venerable Pupule Seelananda Thero

Principal, Buddhist and Pali College of Singapore

Chief Resident Monk, Mangala Vihara (Buddhist Temple)



In Aṅguttara Nikāya - Ānanda Sutta, Venerable Ānanda and Venerable Sāriputta discussed how a spiritual seeker could further his learning and understanding. Venerable Ānanda, foremost in comprehensive learning, mentioned six qualities:

- 1. Master the Dhamma;*
- 2. Teach the Dhamma in detail;*
- 3. Get others to recite the Dhamma;*
- 4. Hold group chanting to repeat the recitation;*
- 5. Reflect, ponder and examine the Dhamma and*
- 6. During the rain retreats, approach learned senior monks from time to time to raise questions and seek clarifications on doubtful areas."*

To all students: "Never stop learning. Learning is a lifelong journey. Be on the quest for even more excellent knowledge continually."

To all Lecturers and staff of BPC of Singapore: "Thank you for your unwavering support during the COVID-19 period, trying your best to keep up the spirit and continue the legacy of our late Founding Principal, Venerable Dr P Gnanarama Anu-Nayaka Mahāthera. His vision and mission have been kept alive by the collective effort of each and everyone involved!"



Welcoming the Venerables and Lecturers



Buddhist and Pali College of Singapore Graduation Ceremony 2022

28 August 2022

Ven Professor Dr. Moragollagama Uparathana
Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies
Center for External Examinations
Buddhist and Pali University of Sri Lanka



**Most Venerable Dr. Galle
Uditha Mahāthera**



- Mr E.A. Gunasena, *Acting Registrar*
- Her Excellency Sashikala Premawardhane, *High Commissioner of Sri Lanka to Singapore*
- Dr Lim Ah Swan, *Chairman, Management Committee, MV*
- Brother Kovida Jebsons, *Chairman, BPCA*



Buddhist and Pali College of Singapore Graduation Ceremony 2022

28 August 2022



Sister Linda Sim
Emcee of the Ceremony





Buddhist and Pali College of Singapore Graduation Ceremony 2022

28 August 2022





Buddhist and Pali College of Singapore Graduation Ceremony 2022

28 August 2022



- 🌸 Guests of Honour
- 🌸 BPC Lecturers and Admin Support
- 🌸 Graduates of Master of Arts 2019
- 🌸 Graduates of Bachelor of Arts 2019, 2020 and 2021
- 🌸 Graduates of Diploma in Buddhism 2019, 2020 and 2021
- 🌸 Organising Committee and Volunteers

Photos courtesy of:
Brother Lau Kim Koon and Brother Adrian Lim



- <https://photos.app.goo.gl/ox9c4FDuyB6XKGix9>
- <https://www.bpc.edu.sg/gallery.html>



Academic and Admin Staff 2022



Back row (L-R): Brother Rasika Lau Ng Siong, Brother Tan Sing Hoon, Brother Lau Kim Koon, Sister Ng Lay Kieng, Sister Sandra Koh (BPC Admin), Sister Lee Mee Yin, Sister Dolly Goh, Sister Bhagya Jean Lau, Brother Ong Keng Boon, Sister Jasmine Tan, Sister Ong Siew Khim, Sister Maureen Aw (BPC Admin), Sister Wong Lai Peng, Sister Leong Huey Miin, Sister Linda Sim, Sister Joan Lam Thiam Har

Front row (L-R): Brother Kovida Jebsons Chia (Chairman, BPC Alumni), Dr. Atula Foo, Venerable D. Gnanarathana, Venerable Dr. G. Uditā, Venerable Pupule Seelananda (Principal BPC of Singapore and Chief Resident Monk, Mangala Vihara), Venerable K. Anoma, Venerable Suneetha, Venerable Hao Xiang Vajira, Dr. Lim Ah Swan (Chairman, Mangala Vihara)

Not in Photo: Venerable Sirisumana, Venerable Prof. Panahaduwe Yasassi, Professor Samantha Ilangakoon, Brother Wahyu Perdana Yudistiawan, Sister Angela Ko Guat Hua, Sister Cindy Chung, Sister Lily Chan, Sister Susie Lee Kim Neo, Sister Tracy Zhao and Sister Vera Yap

Photo courtesy of Brother Lau Kim Koon

Gratitude

Finally, we
have reached
the Jaya Sri
Maha Bodhi.



Faster Booboo!
I wanna see
the Bodhi tree!



My name is Supanna! Welcome to the oldest recorded historical tree in the world! This sacred tree was planted in 236 BCE and came from the original Bodhi tree under which Gautama Buddha was seated.



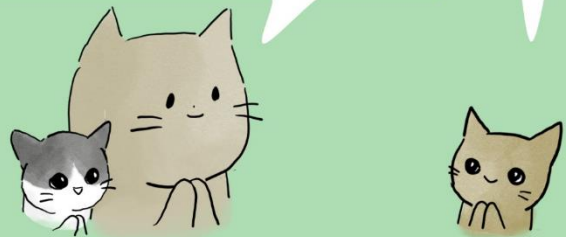
The Bodhi sapling was brought here by the great **Bhikkhuni Sanghamitta**, who travelled from India by sea. It was planted ceremonially by after a grand procession. The whole country rejoiced.



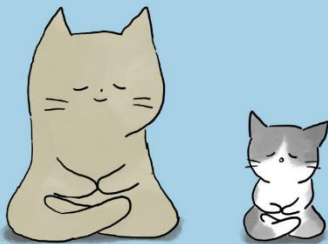
Bhikkhuni Sanghamitta stayed on in Sri Lanka and established the order of the nuns. She taught people the path to peace. She worked with tireless devotion and undaunted courage for the moral, intellectual and spiritual uplift of the womenfolk of this country till her final days. I truly respect her.

Now you have come to the end of the tour!
Enjoy your time here!

Thank you! This is truly amazing!



Come, Marta, let us sit quietly and do some gratitude meditation here.

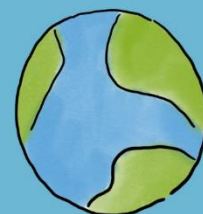


Let us **remember the love and labour of generations of elders, ancestors and parents.** Many have toiled hard, suffered and experienced extreme hardship through wars, crises, migration, poverty and disasters for our future. We offer our sincere gratitude. Thank you so much.



Let us remember this nature, which nourishes us throughout this life of ours. Without it, nothing would be able to survive.

I offer my sincere gratitude to all the trees, the sky, the sun, the water, the land, the earth, the environment and this universe. I will always care for you. Thank you so much.



Let us be thankful for our food. In these difficult times, let us express gratitude to everyone who had a role in bringing that food to our plate.

Around the world, many barely have food to eat. Let us always cherish our food and not waste them.

I offer my sincere gratitude. Thank you so much.



Let us remember our friends and family who have always been by our side and supported us whenever we were down or in pain.

There were many times I could not continue on in life. **Thank you for being in my life. I offer my sincere gratitude.**



Let us remember our teachers.
Thank you for teaching and guiding me.

I sincerely thank all my teachers and people who guided and supported me throughout my life. I would not be who I am now without all your guidance. Thank you so much.

Remember Booboo,
always be kind.



Thank you Siha! You
have truly changed
my life.



Without the help and support of others, we cannot be who we are today. We are grateful to be alive.

Life is short, and we should make good use of our life. Today under this great Bodhi tree, let us devote ourselves to always do good, avoid evil and purify our mind from now on.

These two people are hard to find in the world. Which two? The one who is first to do a kindness, and the one who is grateful and thankful for a kindness done.



Current School Activities

- **Buddhist and Pali College Courses**

Ongoing courses:

- Bachelor of Arts in Buddhist Studies
- Master of Arts in Buddhist Studies

- **Introduction to Buddhism (in Chinese)**

Course Date: 3 Sep 2022 to 12 Nov 2022

Upcoming Activities

- **Diploma in Buddhism 2022 / 2023**

	Course Commencement
Mangala Vihara Buddhist Temple	9 Oct 2022
Poh Ming Tse Temple	11 Oct 2022

- **6D5N Vientiane & Luang Prabang Trip**

(registration closed)

For more information, please contact:

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