



马佛青总会长卫塞节献词

群策群力爱国护教

(摘自《马来西亚佛教青年总会会讯》VOL 105/106)

我有话说

佛陀月是释迦牟尼佛降生、成佛与涅槃的月份。悉达多太子的降生，为地球人类带来了希望。因此佛陀日是希望的月份。悉达多太子在菩提树下证觉真理，实践由人成佛的理想。这个历史事件，证明了所有的人类一样可以由人成佛，是可行的实践。因此，佛陀日也是实践的月份。释迦牟尼佛在娑罗双树间涅槃之前交待佛弟子以戒为师。这是依法与理想的月份。

2002年佛陀月的主题为『群策群力爱国护教』。这个主题有两个主要的部份：护教、爱国与群策群力。新千年伊始，就发生了塔利班灭佛的事件。佛教徒在谴责异教徒的极端行为之际，有必要深思为何佛教会在一度是佛教中心的阿富汗消声灭迹。这肯定是佛教徒在推动佛法、护持佛教的工作上出现了不足的地方。世界佛教人口也在下降。塔利班灭佛事件，其实敲响了护教的警钟。佛教徒再不努力，由人成佛的希望与实践，将成历史。

塔利班灭佛后，911事件接着发生，宗教暴力破坏了世界的稳定与和平，地球人类的前景一片阴霾。从缘起法则去观察，要改变充满暴力的世局，人类有必要提升推动和平的力量。佛教作为长久推动和平的温和宗教，是能够为世界和平作出贡献，为地球人类带来新千年的希望。佛教应积极推动佛法、护持佛教，来落实与实践世界和平的希望。在充满希望与实践的佛陀月，这份期许更显得意义深重。

对恩惠必须报答。佛教强调四重恩：父母恩、众生恩、国家恩与三宝恩。人类是群居的，互相依靠以求得存活。因此，对众生给予自己的恩惠，要懂得报答。

为地球人类求取和平，就是对众生报答恩惠。佛法僧三宝使人类得以解决生死的烦恼。这难得的恩惠也必须报答，护持佛教使佛法在地球长存。就是对三宝的报答，对众生的报答。为地球人类求取和平，就是对众生报答恩惠。佛法僧三宝使人类得以解决生死的烦恼。这难得的恩惠也必须报答。护持佛教使佛法在地球长存，就是对三宝的报答、对众生的报答。因此，大马佛教协调委员会选择『护教』作为主题的其中一个要点是合乎时宜，契机也契理。

自亚洲金融危机，马来西亚正在努力复苏国家经济。振兴经济需要全民配合。

国家的成立，使人民免于敌人的危害，让人民能够自由地生活。爱护国家是对国家恩惠的报答。为地球人类求取和平，就是对众生报答恩惠。佛法僧三宝使人类得以解决生死的烦恼。当国际货币投机客企图破坏国家的经济，当经济由于人为的因素而出现危机，振兴经济就是爱国的表现。身为人民的佛教徒，在此关键时刻，必须挺身而出，为国家贡献力量。『爱国』作为佛陀月主题的另一要点，也是契机契理。

每个因缘都有本身的力量，不同的因缘有不同的力量。处于某个时空，汇集的因缘力量会互相角力以达到平衡点而呈现当时当地的局势。当同类型的因缘能够汇合力量，就可以达到超越相对因缘的局面。因此，每一个运动的成功都需要群策群力。要改变局面，创造世界和平，也需要群策群力。要爱国，振兴经济，更需要群策群力。因此，『群策群力』是佛陀月主题最关键的 success 要点。

在充满希望、实践理想的佛陀月，马佛青总会呼吁全体佛教徒『群策群力爱国护教』。这是大家所期望、所应实践的。



The YBAM President's Message on Wesak Day

Working Together for The Nation and Religion

(摘自《马来西亚佛教青年总会会讯》VOL 105/106)

我有话说

Wesak is the month of birth, enlightenment and passing away of Gautama Buddha. The birth of Prince Sidharta brings hope to the mankind- attaining Buddhahood in human realm, revealing the truth and providing way to human to learn and practise the Dharma. Therefore, Wesak is the month of hope. Prince Sidharta was enlightened and attained Buddhahood under the Bodhi tree This historical event proves that all mankind can attain Buddhahood through cultivation of mind as Prince Sidharta did. In other words, Wesak is also the month of Practise and Cultivation. The last teaching of the Buddha before the Maha Parinibbana was to exhort that the precepts would be the teacher after his passing away. So Wesak is also the month of inspiration and keeping to the Dharma.

"Working Together for the Nation and Religion" is the theme for the month of Wesak in the year 2002. It consists of two parts: firstly, working for the Nation and Religion and secondly, to do so collectively. The millennium started with the destruction of Buddha statues by the Taliban regime. Buddhist, besides condemning the barbaric act, should reflect on the fact that at present Buddhism is almost non-existent in Afganistan which was once a flourishing Buddhist centre. This must be due to the attitude and non-commitment of the Buddhist which had subsequently caused the decline of Buddhism in Central Asia. The present world Buddhist population is also declining. All these have cautioned the Buddhist community that if the Buddhist remain apathetic and non-committal, Buddhism may be alien to mankind one day.

The September 11 incident unfolds an unprecedented religious violence in human history and threatens the stability of the World. It is therefore important to actively promote peace at this juncture. Buddhism being a peaceful religion will be able to contribute significantly to world peace. "Working together for the Religion: Buddhism, and propagating the Dharma" is therefore one effective way to contribute towards world peace. In this Wesak month of hope and inspiration and with its theme for the year 2002, this prayer is even more meaningful and necessary.

Buddhism emphasizes 4 types of gratitude: Gratitude to the parents, all sentient beings, the nation as well as the Triple Gems. One way to show our gratitude to the Triple Gems is to "work together for Buddhism" so that the Dharma will perpetuate forever in this world. This in turn will benefit all sentient beings. Therefore the decision to include "working together for the religion" is timely and well thought.

Since the Asian financial turmoil, Malaysia is working hard for its economic recovery. This deserves the support of all its people. Working together for the nation is one way to show our gratitude to the nation. Therefore we Buddhist who are also citizen of this beloved nation shall work hard and contribute towards the economic recovery of Malaysia. Working together for the Nation which is highlighted in the theme is therefore timely.

Unity of strength is the essence of success for every task or work. Thus, Dhamma propagation, peace mission and economic recovery require collective effort of all - Working Together as mentioned in the theme of the month of Wesak for the year 2002.

In this inspirational Wesak Month, YBAM calls upon all Buddhist to work together for the religion and the nation. This is our hope, our aspiration and our goal. Let's live up to the theme.