



ANNUAL REPORT 2018

In the year of 2018, Sg Long Buddhist Society, under the leadership of the President and efforts from the committee member, has managed to provide the Buddhist activities for the members and devotees in this society and communities here and surrounding Bandar Sg Long.

Even though with the challenges faced by many societies alike in recruiting the new members and volunteers, the society continued to provide events and activities to enhance our vision of Learning, living and sharing Dhamma.

1) INTERACTION WITH MONASTERIES AND OTHER BUDDHIST SOCIETIES

“Monks, householders are very helpful to you, as they provide you with the requisites of robes, almsfood, lodgings, and medicine. And you, monks, are very helpful to householders, as you teach them the Dhamma admirable in the beginning, in the middle, and in the end. In this way the holy life is lived in mutual dependence, for the purpose of crossing over the flood, for making an end to suffering.” (Iti. 107)

In 2018, SLBS has participated in a few Buddhist Organizations to play the role of lay community in supporting the propagation of Buddha Dhamma.

a. Wesak Observation 2018

Living in suitable locality.. , opportune hearing of the Dhamma.. sight of samanasa and timely discussions of Dhamma.. This is Blessing Supreme (Mangala Sutta)

SLBS has a remarkable and memorable Wesak Observation in 2018. SLBS observed twice Wesak Observation; an early Wesak Observation on 27th May 2018 (Sunday) to cater for its members and another on Wesak actual date at Dhamma Earth Semenyih. Programme lined up for early Wesak Observation at SLBS were participation of Pindacara in Sg Long market, followed by Dhamma talk, Guided meditation and lunch dana at SLBS.

As Dhamma Earth Semenyih is nearby to SLBS. Again this year SLBS members observe Wesak Eve and Wesak Day together with monastics at Dhamma Earth Semenyih; forming the fourfold Sangha to perform various meritorious deeds ranging from Dana, Sila and Bhavana.

SLBS members help as Sangha's Kappiya, organising and running of blood donation & setting up Maha Mangala Health Store as part of Wesak Program at Dhamma Earth Semenyih.



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b. Kathina Eve and Kathina Day (5th & 6th November 2018)

Buddha himself stated the significance of the offering of Kaṭhina robes in the *Vinaya Piṭaka*. In the *Mahāvagga*, it is stated that the Kaṭhina robe offering is the highest offering and the most meritorious of skillful deeds.

Since the establishment of Dhamma Earth Monastery at Semenyih in 2016, SLBS members have the opportunity to participate in Kathina Robe offering ceremony. Throughout the two days; Kathina Eve and Kathina Day. SLBS members gathered in the monastery to take refuge in the Buddha, Dhamma & Sangha, undertake to observe Five Precepts, listen to Dhamma talk and attend Guided Meditation.

SLBS members have the opportunity to perform various meritorious acts; robe offering, allowable requisites and food offering. Also participate in Bathing Buddha and life liberation. SLBS committees and volunteers help in traffic control & transportation, kitchen and mend Maha Mangala Health store. At the ending session, the ceremony is concluded by sharing the accumulated merits to devas, relatives and all sentient beings.

c. Dhamma Talks By Laity

Beside weekly meditation practice and monthly dhamma talk by Dr Ong. SLBS also organize dhamma talk by laity.

5th January 2017 & 13th April 2018, SLBS invited a highly sought after lay Dhamma speaker, Dr Wong Yin Onn with the topics Dhamma Support for Aging & Death and The Buddha Dhamma : is it a religion?

Dr Wong spends his mornings seeing patients, afternoon teaching at Monash University and evenings doing Dhamma work.

d. Pindapata

As a society formed to learn, share and cultivate the practice of the Buddha's teaching, In view of this, SLBS has since many years back been practicing the act of generosity, Dana and support the Sangha.

In line with our Society motto of Learning, Sharing and Living the Dhamma. SLBS has actively support the event of Pindacara by monastics from Dhamma Earth at Sg Long morning market on a regular basis. There have been 4 occasions with one Maha Pindacara after the vassa.



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At the end of the Pindacara session, monastics will gather around and summon the helpers and participants. Providing the significances of dana and the sharing of merits before the crowd disperse. The estimated turn out of SLBS members alone is around 40-50 members. Monastics and offered items would be sent back by organized volunteers to Dharma Earth.

2) FRIDAY MONTHLY DHAMMA TALK

The monthly Dhamma Talks for 2018 began in the month of February and ended in November.

This year's Dhamma Talks started with a session on communication, meant to help facilitate better communication among the members, and particularly volunteers in the SDS (Sunday Dhamma School).

There were one or two sessions where we looked at "The Power of Dhamma" and various verses from the Dhammapada.

We also touched on several important topics related to the training and cultivation of the mind, such as "Mind Training" in the tradition of Tibetan Buddhism, also called "lojong" and "Overcoming Hindrances". There was also a discussion on "The Four Nutriment of Life", specifically looking at what feeds our mental habits.

3) DHAMMA TALK BY BRO DR. PUNNA WONG

The year SLBS had the opportunities for dhamma talk by Bro. Dr. Punna Wong from Johor Bahru. Being a well know speaker in the local Buddhist circle, his visit to KL provided us with an opportunity to invite Bro. Punna to grace our center with a Dhamma Talk titled Dhamma Support for Aging & Death and The Buddha Dhamma: is it a religion? It was held in 5th January and 13th April respectively.

4) DANA IN SG LONG MARKET

The Dana event was part of the Dharma Earth Semenyih Sangha member noble intention of providing opportunity for lay person to offer food, in all areas around Selangor. SLBS has been identified the usual partner in coordinating the food collection and segregation for the dana in Bdr. Sg Long market.

SLBS members were involved in following the monks and Sayalays to accumulate the dana items and carry along to prevent the monks from over loaded with heavy items. Then a few of members assisted in transferring them back to the sorting areas.



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The group will walk from the entrance of the market to the other end and waited near the food court in the market to allow devotees times to make their offering.

The session is usually participated by the student of SDS in SLBS as part of the Buddhist practices. It was after the offering did the students walked back to SLBS center for class.

Before the monks and Sayalays return to DE, a chanting and blessing session was conducted in the sorting area for devotees. It was usually led by most senior monk.

Date of these events:

1. 27 January 2018
2. 29th April 2018
3. 29th July 2018
4. 4th November 2018

5) Pre Wesak Day Celebration

The Pre Wesak Day celebration was organized in conjunction with Wesak Celebration. Due to the reception experienced in the previous years, it was decided by the committee to celebrate the occasion earlier, in order to facilitate SDS students and other members to participate.

For this year, the main committee members and SDS facilitator joint organized the event. With the objectives sets and agenda planned and agreed by main committee, the event was set for the date mentioned and with involvement from the students.

Monks and Nuns from Dharma Earth were invited to grace the celebration.

On the morning of the celebration day, we started off with parents/students and member taking parts in the Sg Long morning market Pindacara to the invited sangha member. Then the student adjourned to SLBS Centre to prepare and be ready to welcoming the guests. As well as their respective duties.

30-40 devotees joined the event. The rest were students and ex-students from SDS. Bhante Rattapala arrived and headed the sangha community to lead the devotees for Puja, Chanting and Meditation. A full puja in offering of Flowers, Ling, water, incense and food to Buddha, Dhamma and Sangha. Then Bhante Rattapala led us on the chanting and blessing to the participants. A session of meditation guided by Bahnte before he started the Dhamma Talk, entitled Dhamma Life.



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Nearing the lunch hour, the Dhamma talk session was also ending. To make time for setting up of Food dana station, we planned for the offering of candles and robe to sangha community. President of SLBS represented all members to offer one robe to Sangha community.

6) SUNDAY DHAMMA SCHOOL

Over the years, SDS facilitators have been finding ways to deliver dhamma more effectively to its students of different age groups. In 2018, alongside the regular classroom learning, SDS has organized several projects to provide opportunities for the students to practice what they have learnt, through these activities:

1. Preparation for Wesak Day
2. Nalanda Family Fun Fair
3. Communal Lunch

Through these activities, students from all age groups learn to plan, organize and carry out their respective duties. They also learn to lead, be an effective team player, eat mindfully, have respect and consideration for others and many have picked up a new skill during the process.

We would like to thank all the facilitators for their commitment and effort. Special thanks to the committee of Sungai Long Buddhist Society for the support and assistance rendered.

SDS Facilitators

Sis Chai Fun
Sis Cindy Tan
Bro. Foo Zoon Hin
Sis Joanne Soo
Sis Miew Wan
Sis Ravivan (Mrs Yong)
Sis Susila
Sis Yoke May
Sis Cheng Sim

May the conditions be supportive for all of us to continue learning, sharing the dhamma and experience the beauty of dhamma in our lives.

End of report