

## A Sacred Journey in the Footsteps of the Buddha



Dear Friends,

Over the past eleven years, the Light of Buddhadharma Foundation International has been working to develop a historic mission, that of restoring the tradition of reciting the words of the Buddha from the Pali Canon under the Most Sacred Bodhi Tree. It has been an amazing experience to see this unfold with all the great Theravada masters from 11 countries seated together and chanting sections of the Pali Canon, and to hear the dharma being expounded on these precious teachings. Now, these ceremonies are expanding to other areas of India and South East Asian, to include Nagpur, Sankasya and in Sri Lanka.

This extraordinary journey to the **Sacred Places of the Buddha** centers around these ceremonies alongside visiting by foot the sacred sites where the Buddha preached and spent time during his time in ancient India. Indeed, by making this pilgrimage you are connecting directly to the teachings and making a link to roots of the Dharma in its motherland of the Aryadesh. You will also have an opportunity to participate in several of the International Tipitaka Chanting ceremonies where you can hear these teachings come alive through the chanting of the Mahasangha (the disciples of the Buddha). In addition to joining this pilgrimage, you will have the extraordinary opportunity to make offerings directly to the Sangha, which is also a practice of cultivating generosity.

LBDFI has been organizing these pilgrimages to the Holy Places for the last six years and have great confidence in the leadership skill of the experienced Buddhapath community. Shantum Seth, the founder of Buddhapath, has been leading intimate groups to the holy sites since 1988 and has developed many guides under his care. We are also so pleased to have with us Mrs. Paula Rozin who will be co-leading the pilgrimage alongside Buddhapath. In the meantime, we would encourage you all to read on the Life Story of the Buddha so as to prepare your mind set for this incredible opportunity.

Over the years, our work has also involved us in the beautification of the holy places, the places where the Lord Buddha walked and taught, with the erection of massive bronze Dharma bells in seven locations and the construction of meditation gardens to surround them. We plan to build on this work by promoting the construction of new stupas and by re-opening walking pilgrimage routes to further develop the ancient heartland of the Buddhadharma. It is wonderful to see the new Dharmayatra program of Walk for Peace, which is now a regular pilgrimage with the Mahasangha on December 13th every year. We hope that you will make a direct connection to one of these stupas by sponsoring one and dedicating it in honor of your family. Please contact Nelson or Paula if you are interested in helping to sponsor an eight-foot stupa.

With all best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Wangmo Dixey'.

Wangmo Dixey  
Executive Director