



# Thrangu Newsletter 創古快訊

(3rd Issue /2018)

**THRANGU DHARMA SOCIETY PETALING JAYA**

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## Tashi Delek!

Dear Dharma Brothers and Sisters,

It's been a year since this present committee was elected into office. The committee is happy to have organised various activities and events for the propagation of the Dharma and for devotees to interact not only within TDSPJ, we have also conducted joint activities with other Dharma Centres, notably Thrangu Dharma Retreat Centre, Ipoh (TDRC), Karma Kagyu Dharma Society Negeri Sembilan (KKDNS), Fo Guang Shan (Malaysia), Jenjarom and Taiwan Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation Malaysia. The committee have also started the Kids and Youths sub-committee, which saw 2 events ("Dharma Through Stories") successfully implemented for the children. The diligence and dynamism of the present committee were truly reflected in the numerous activities and events.

Most importantly, all our activities and events were well attended by many happy and new faces. The committee is truly encouraged by your support and generosity. The committee has line up numerous exciting activities and events which will be announced from time to time.

Please visit our website [www.thrangumy.com](http://www.thrangumy.com) or **Facebook: Thrangu Dharma Society Petaling Jaya** for updates and announcements.



*"The result of dharma practice is usually not immediate.*

*The benefit manifests as an effect that emerges gradually over a long term and may be as a transformation of circumstances."*

*(Medicine Buddha Teaching: Khenchen Thrangu Rinpoche)*

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## Guan Gong Birthday 5th August, 2018 (Sun)

TDSPJ will conduct prayers to Guan Gong and Sang Puja on his birthday on **5/8/2018 (Sunday) 10.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon. Sponsorships and donations in any amount are welcome.**

Very Venerable Thrangu Rinpoche was the first Tibetan Buddhist master to conduct the first Guan Gong Puja in Tibetan rituals in Malaysia in 2008.

Rev Hai Tao in his visit to HH 17th Karmapa Ogyen Trinley Dorje in 2006, was told of a red face Chinese General that appeared in Karmapa's dream. The Karmapa advised the Chinese, whenever they may be, to offer prayers to Guan Gong. The veneration of Guan Gong in Tibetan Buddhism is unique and practice only by Karma Kagyu lineage. Guan Gong is revered and inducted into Tsurphu Monastery as one of the Karma Kagyu protectors. The prayer to Guan Gong could be traced from the time of 5th Karmapa Deshin Shekpa till the time of the 16th Karmapa Ranjung Rigpe Dorje.

Since 2008, Thrangu Dharma Society Petaling Jaya performed every year the Guan Gong Puja to celebrate his birthday. In Buddhism, Guan Gong is conferred the title Qielan Zhuen Jie (Dharma Protector). He is revered as Sangharama Bodhisattva, the Guardian spirit of Buddha Dharma.

To the business fraternity, he is honoured as a patron saint of fortune making. Many people regard him as an all-round guardian angel for all trades as well as a God of wealth.

Guan Gong is the embodiment of loyalty, righteous, bravery and benevolence. His brotherhood and pact with Liu Bei and Zhang Fei represents imagery and symbolism for friends to look after each other in times of hardship.

### Quick Facts Table of Guan Gong

#### Summary Facts on Guan Gong: Epitome of Honesty, Loyalty, Sincerity and Righteousness

Names	Guan Yu, Guan Yun Chang, Guan Chang Sheng, Guan Er Ye
Honorific names	Guan Di (Emperor Guan), Guan Gong
Sanskrit name	Sangharama Bodhisattva
Buddhist name	Qielan Pusa
Tibetan name	Jala Dawa Dzangpo
Mongolian name	Mei Ran Gong (Lord of the Magnificent Beard)
Date of birth	24th day 6th lunar month, 160A.D Eastern Han Dynasty
Date expired and age	219A.D aged 58
Place of birth	Xieliang (Present day sub district of Yuncheng, Shanxi, China)
Names at birth	Pang Shien, Yun Chang
Height	6.985 feet (9 chi (1 chi equals 23.1cm) 9 chi = 2.079 metres
Title conferred	Han Shou Ting Hou, Marquis Zhuangmou
Place killed	Executed at Luoyang
Burial place	Head of Guanlin Temple, Luoyang, Henan
Guan Gong anniversary dates	6th lunar month 24th day (In China on 5th lunar month 13th day)
Buddhism	Dharma Protector, Qielan Pusa
Taoism	Protector of wealth and against evil spirits
Confucianism	Deity of Wisdom

#### Guan Gong Sword (Guandao)

Name	Green Dragon Crescent Moon Blade
Weight	82 catties (1 catty equals 250gm) = 20.5kg
Height	9.5 chi; 6.85ft; 2.008 metres
Replica Guando in wood	Xiezhou Country





## Ullambana Festival 23rd - 25th August, 2018 (Thur - Sat)

Meaning of Ullambana “To liberate upside down”. In other words, to liberate sentient beings who suffer in the wretched realms by relying on the merits of offerings to the Sangha.

The Han people commonly regarded the Ullambana festival as the “Hungry Ghost Festival” which falls on the 14th day of the 7th Lunar month. The 1st mass celebration documented was in 538 A.D during the time of Emperor Wudi of Liang. The festival gain popularity during the Tang dynasty. Ullambanapatra Sutra (Yu Lan Jing) was translated into Chinese by Dharmaraksa in 266 A.D.

The Buddhist origin of this festival comes from the Ullambana Sutra. Mogallana (Mu Chian Lian), the second disciple of Buddha Sakyamuni (Lord Buddha), having come to know that his mother had been re-born among the Hungry Ghosts due to her previous karma, sought the help of his venerable master to relieve his mother from the endless sufferings she had to endure. Buddha Sakyamuni is said to have advised Mogallana to offer to the Sanghas “clean basin filled with food of 100 types, oil lamps, bed and bedding”. He could then transfer the merits he gained to his mother who could then quickly take rebirth in higher realms. Mogallana was also told that merits gained that way could be transferred to benefit his parents of his seven previous lives.

Lord Buddha in answer to a question by Mogallana after having rescued his own mother from suffering as a hungry ghost whether Buddhist disciples in future wishing to practice filial piety to follow Ullambana offering to help parents: *“Those who wish to practice compassionate filial conduct for the sake of the parents who bore them, as well as for the sake of fathers and mothers of seven past lives, on the fifteenth day of 7th month, the Day of Buddha’s Delight, the Day of Sangha Pravaraana, they should vow to cause the length of the present father and mother to reach a hundred years without illness, without sufferings, affliction or worries, and vow to cause 7 generations of fathers and mothers to leave the sufferings of the hungry ghosts, to be born among men and gods and to have blessings and bliss without limit”.*

### 3 Days 100 Deities of the Jangchok Puja

Thrangu Dharma Society Petaling Jaya will conduct “3 Days 100 Deities of the Jangchok Puja” on **23rd, 24th and 25th August, 2018**. The ceremony will be conducted by **Ven. Lama Lodro** and other monks. They will conduct 100 Deities of the Jangchok prayers to transmute and absolve the suffering of the deceased, deceased ancestors and ancestors of those who forgot to pay tribute to them or those who were not given a proper burial or ritual send off and the unborn babies.

#### 100 Deities of the Bardo Puja for Ullambana Festival at Thrangu Dharma Society Petaling Jaya

Date	Time	Puja
23 August, 2018 (THUR)	10:00am - 11:30am 03:00pm - 06:30pm	100 Deities of the Bardo Puja for Ullambana Festival
24 August, 2018 (FRI)	10:00am - 11:30am 03:00pm - 06:30pm	100 Deities of the Bardo Puja for Ullambana Festival
25 August, 2018 (SAT)	10:00am - 11:30am 03:00pm - 06:30pm	100 Deities of the Bardo Puja for Ullambana Festival & Auspicious Repayment of Karmic Debts Ceremony

*“Try to develop informed faith. Informed faith comes through investigation.  
Through investigating the meaning of Dharma you discover valid  
reasons why it is appropriate to have faith.”*

*(Medicine Buddha Teaching: Khenchen Thrangu Rinpoche)*



## HUNDRED DEITIES OF THE JANGCHOK PUJA

**According** to the Tantric legend, there was a king who executed his own spiritual Master and that karmic cause brought him direct to the Hell where he was undergoing the suffering of the six realms all at the same time. The Buddha saw the great sufferings of this being and He conferred on him the teaching and



practice of the 100 Deities. By just hearing the teaching and mantras of the 100 Deities the being was liberated and reborn in heaven.

**In** Tibet, Padmasambhawa conferred the teaching of the 100 Deities to his 25 disciples. During that time, there was an evil minister by the name of Shata. He killed many innocent people and also caused a lot of obstacles to prevent the consort of Padmasambhawa, Yeshe Tsogyal from practicing the Dharma.

**After** he died he was reborn in hell. Padmasambhawa and his consort saw with their wisdom eyes that the former evil minister was in great suffering. The consort tried to save the minister but was not successful after using many methods. Padmasambhawa then used the 100 Deities Mandala with Jangchok and the evil minister and many of the hell beings were liberated.

**The** 100 Deities are the attributes and activities of the five Buddhas and their female counterparts. They are the manifestations of our pure nature, and remain within us in the form of 5 faculties, 5 elements, 12 sources of perception. By relying on the practice of the 100 Deities or even on hearing and seeing them, one can instantly or gradually realize one's nature of mind.

**During** the performance of Jangchok, the power of the 100 Deities of the Jangchok is invoked and the various types of offerings and prayers are offered to the unborn babies, their living parents, the departed forefathers, their descendants and to the participants. It offers every help that is needed to those deceased in the intermediate state of the Bardo and showing them the path to enlightenment. At the conclusion of Jangchok ceremony, the paper tablets of the deceased are burnt to purify their gross and subtle defilements and they enter the path of liberation. The merits thus acquired are transferred to the deceased for their purification and liberation from the three suffering (Lower) realms and allow the living to repay past karmic debts and to enjoy a life of abundance, good fortune and longevity. Therefore by observing this practice of Ullambana, we Buddhists can deliver our deceased parents from the miseries of the three lower realms. Ullambana Festival of liberation is the time for us to reinforce the concept of filial piety and to accumulate merits both for our deceased loved ones and to eradicate obstacles in our path.

**On** this special period the merits and virtues derived from making offerings and prayers to the Three Jewels is several million times more than on ordinary days. We would like to encourage you to pray along with Lama during the scheduled prayer times to accumulate merits, it is generally believed that one who performs a good deed during this period accumulates spiritual merits. It is considered an even more pious act when the merit is shared with departed souls which will help them to be reborn in the higher realms and alleviate their suffering.



The auspicious **100 DEITIES OF THE JANGCHOK PUJA** will have **three (3)** consecutive days of vegetarian food, numerous fruits offerings and smell offerings – a very special Tibetan Buddhism offering to the lower realms.

**The highlights of this auspicious 100 Deities of the Jangchok Puja are:**

- 1 A comprehensive programme for the Jangchok will continue to be performed with the Jangchok plaque;
- 2 A central plaque dedicated to liberation of the unborn babies, karmic debtors of those who are not in position to sponsor this Jangchok;
- 3 Three (3) consecutive days of vegetarian food, numerous fruit offerings and SUR/smell offerings - a very special Tibetan Buddhism offering to the lower realms;
- 4 Jangchok for the Living to repay karmic debts and remove obstacles due to them.



All sponsors and devotees are encouraged to participate in this three days meritorious ceremony of deliverance and repentance and to accumulate merits.

## Announcement

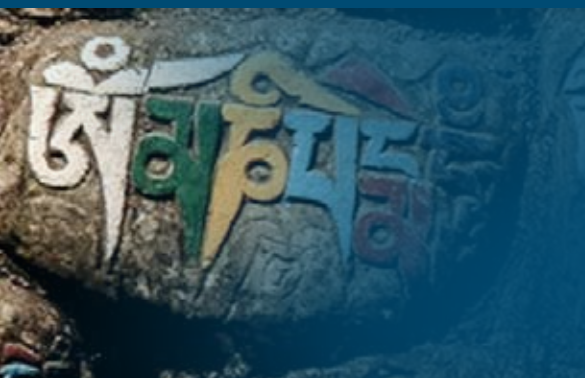
Please be informed TDSPJ will be conducting a 1-day Sojourn Retreat on 15th July, 2018 (Sunday). The Sadhana will be 4-Armed Chenrezig, in view that 31st July, 2018 is Chenrezig Enlightenment Day. Retreat is free of charge.

## Advance Notice

a The Very Venerable Zuri Rinpoche will be in Malaysia to conduct Cundi Drupchen on 16th, 17th and 18th November, 2018 at Chin Woo Stadium, Kuala Lumpur.

b 21st Namo Buddha Retreat, 2018 shall be held at Thrangu Tashi Yangtse Monastery, Kathmandu, Nepal. The Sadhana will be Sanggye Menla (Medicine Buddha). We hope to bring 100 participants

for the retreat. We are making arrangements for the group to do a Puja at Boudhana Stupa, Kathmandu and the theme shall be “Heal the World”. We shall be performing a day trip pilgrimage to O Sal Choling Monastery, Godawari, one of the holy sites of Vajrayogini, and to pay homage to Very Venerable Sherab Rinpoche. We shall announce the dates in due course upon confirmation.



*“Faith and devotion bring the accomplishment of whatever you are trying to do.”*

*(Medicine Buddha Teaching: Khenchen Thrangu Rinpoche)*

*“Samaya is maintained by your faith and devotion.”*

*(Medicine Buddha Teaching: Khenchen Thrangu Rinpoche)*

