

## Melbourne Buddhist Centre Vision

Our vision is to make Sangharakshita's approach to the Buddha Dharma available to the people of Melbourne and Victoria.

Our mission is:

Within the context of spiritual friendship, to use the talents of our Sangha to offer Dharma activities which will lead to ever deepening



The Melbourne Buddhist Centre is run mainly by volunteers of the Triratna Buddhist Community, an international network dedicated to practising and teaching Buddhist ethics, meditation and wisdom in the contemporary world.

Regular courses on meditation and Buddhism are held at the Centre as well as introductory drop-in meditation sessions. School visits to the Centre are encouraged and public talks on Buddhism are offered by local and visiting speakers.

The charter of the Triratna Buddhist Community is to make available the teachings of the Buddha to people of all cultures and backgrounds.

We draw inspiration from all the great Buddhist schools to facilitate practice in a Western cultural context.

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### Melbourne Buddhist Centre

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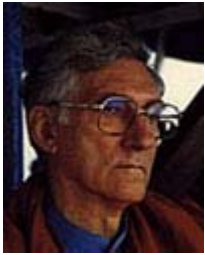


## Help us to purchase a new building for the Melbourne Buddhist Centre



## Fundraising Appeal 2011

# Melbourne Buddhist Centre Fundraising Campaign 2011



Sangharakshita founded the Western Buddhist Order, which is now the Triratna Buddhist Order, in 1968. There are public Centres like ours in 28 countries, offering the Buddha's teaching to all who come through the door. Most of these Centres own their premises through

the concerted efforts of the local sangha. There is no central funding, each Centre is independent and solely responsible for raising its own funds.

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In response to news of our plans to purchase a building, Dharmananda, a senior Order Member based in Sydney, writes:

*Sadhu!*

*It is a delight to know that the Triratna Buddhist Community in Melbourne is planning to buy a Centre building. There is so much to be gained from the certainty of owning the premises. It provides a platform to build on that will benefit many future generations of people who discover the Dharma through our community. The whole tone of Centre life is lifted by owning the property it is located in. You will be able to build year after year on the strength of that core asset. The Centre becomes 'yours' in a way that no leased property can.*

*One of the greatly inspiring reflections on this kind of project is realising that in it we are making manifest the Bodhicitta. By definition, that precious gem of the Mahayana conception of spiritual life is not an attainment of an individual. It is realized when a collection of individuals, a sangha, each willing give of their time, effort and resources to create the activities of the community; be it in teaching, management, communities or livelihoods, and especially in practising together. We are lucky to have no overarching wealthy institutions to set up our community centres, because we would otherwise be denied that opportunity to participate in what our centres are built on, the Bodhicitta. May you swiftly*

In January 2011 the Management Committee of the Melbourne Buddhist Centre made the decision to start raising funds to purchase a new property for the Centre.

Owning our own property will represent a significant milestone for the development and vitality of the Triratna Community in Melbourne.

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Owning a property will make it possible to:

- dynamically engage in Sangharakshita's vision of building 'the new society' based on the principle of shared practice of the Dharma extending into all areas of life. Owning our own building will make possible the evolution of the Melbourne Buddhist Centre and its long-term vision for spreading the Dharma in Melbourne and beyond.
- expand our concept of the Centre's role in the local community. There are many possibilities, including developing a business, managing rental accommodation or having professional rooms from which we can earn income. We would also greatly benefit from a more visible location and better exposure to local people.
- have the security of knowing we can plan for the long-term in our own premises, without the burden of paying rent. We will have the freedom to design and renovate the building as we choose.



To support our goal of buying a property, our fundraising campaign is structured in three phases :

- 1) Raising a deposit of \$200,000
- 2) Raising Centre income by an additional \$50,000 per annum. (in future this may include rent, shop income, etc.)
- 3) Securing one or more loans from a bank or an individual

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The members of the MBC management committee have personally committed to donate \$26,000 of their own money towards the deposit with individual donations ranging from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

**Do you think you could provide a similar donation towards a deposit?**

Donations are tax deductible and tax receipts are provided. (This means that if you give \$10,000 and you are on a marginal tax rate of 30%, you will get a tax deduction of \$3,000. In effect you will be paying only \$7,000 on a \$10,000 donation, or \$3,500 for a \$5,000 donation.)

To make a donation, you can use Paypal online from our website or transfer from your bank to the following account:

*Melbourne Buddhist Centre*

—School Building Fund

*Commonwealth Bank - Collingwood, Victoria  
BSB No. 063 123, account No. 1021 0022*

[www.melbournebuddhistcentre.org/index/fundraising](http://www.melbournebuddhistcentre.org/index/fundraising)