

Buddhism and Good Governance

28th May 2007

Workshop 1

Speakers' words

- Discuss on the definition of Buddhist, Dictator, Governance, Peace and Development.
- Discuss the best form of a government, different types of government, good form of governance, how to improve mental stage of happiness, the example of cheating and corruption related to the new era of good governance.
- Discuss social dynamic, administration, decision making, validation and quality of the requirements in ruling a country.
- Discuss the involvement of Buddhism in politics; abuse of power, how religion being used to justify the powers.
- Discuss the values of a good governance – imply conceptually and social reality.
- Discuss 10 royal virtues.
- Discuss problem solving using the environmental and politic philosophy.

No. 1

Issue:

- How a country can be categorized as a good government with good governance?

Action:

- Apply 10 royal virtues and promote 5 percepts.

No. 2

Issue:

- Individual power and minority is difficult to alert the government leaders for some Actions.

Action:

- Use the social sanction to inform community leader that there is a urgency to change or solve the social norms.

No. 3

Issue:

- Buddhist philosophy among leaders. No specific urge or desires to do something bad.

Action:

- Cultivate the moral principle and understand different level of respects and the important of the Buddhist philosophy.

No. 4

Issue:

- There is no ideal form of political system.

Action:

- To promote compassion in Action. Use the tools for good life. Introduce care and kind slowly. To promote the 10 royal virtues in leadership, check the balance of the power, use good governance practice in ruling a country or an organization.

No. 5

Issue:

- Youth practice with good governance with Buddhism.

Action:

- To promote compassion in Action. Use the tools for good life. Introduce care and kind slowly.

No. 6

Issue:

- Should government listen to Buddhist on how to rule a good country?

Action:

- Just for a reference. 10 royal virtues are important.

No. 7

Issue:

- Should layman to teach dharma? Understand from monks that laymen confuse the audiences.

Action:

- Not all the monks can do a good job in dharma teaching. Only qualified monks can do the teaching and they can tolerate teaching dharma to other religion's audience such Christian in a Church.

No. 8

Issue:

- Variety of speakers from different school of Buddhism should be invited, a delegate's comment.

Action:

- Organizer will take note.

No. 9

Issue:

- Discuss to reach the consensus to solve a problem.

Action:

- Top promote win-win solution through dialog. Consensus means it come to the mutual interest, the dialog process to solve the problems. Use many tools to solve the misunderstanding and conflicts. Never use the words of “your ideas”, it should use “the output of the discussion”. Let’s promote solving problems peacefully, no fighting for the position in an organization.

No. 10

Issue:

- The conflict of the “make yourself happy” and “scarifies of oneself to make communities/others happy”.

Action:

- Take care of the individual mindfulness. Try to eliminate the misinterpretation and miscommunication. Need to be clear on what is the definition of self-scarifies, be neutral and selfless. Let's promote tolerate, listening and consideration. Those must justify why you want to do it and why you do not want to do it.

No. 11

Issue:

- Human rights and democracy are not fully implemented in a country with different culture.

Action:

- Separate the Buddha teaching with different culture believes in individual countries. Respect of life, capital punishment, nurturing life and.....We have no rights to disturb human rights; Buddhists can not support the rule that killing a life. Human have their rights and choice.

The End