



VIETNAM BUDDHIST CENTER CHÙA VIỆT NAM

ANNOUNCEMENT

- Quan Âm Festival – A Day of Pilgrimage and Prayer - 2010
- Venerating the Jade Buddha Statue for Universal Peace
- Grand Requiem for Unjust Suffering and the Hungry Ghosts

Namo Sakya Muni Buddha

Quan Âm Festival – A Day of Pilgrimage and Prayer, organized by the Vietnam Buddhist Center (VNBC) each year at the end of March, has become an annual traditional religious, cultural, and spiritual activity of Buddhists far and near. It is an opportunity for us to be thankful to the **Loving Mother Quan Âm** for Her blessings which protect us from dangers. May we take refuge in Her when we are faced with unforeseen dangers, adversities, and disasters.

In the cultural and spiritual environment of this year's Festival, we will have the auspicious opportunity to admire and venerate the **Jade Buddha Statue for Universal Peace**. This jeweled sculpture is presently the largest and most serene Buddha statue in the world which is carved from a rare boulder of translucent jade. In 2009, more than four millions people have had the good fortune to come and revere the jeweled statue, to pray for World Peace, for the well being of all sentient beings in this world of suffering.

The Quan Âm Festival in 2010 will be a historical milestone. It marks the 20 years (1990 – 2010) of the establishment and the development of the VNBC in Houston , Texas, U.S.A. In memory of many who have departed; of beings which were destroyed during this development, of Vietnamese compatriots as well as the many others who lost their lives in the mountains, in the jungles, in the rivers, at sea, or in the air during the war or while seeking freedom, of people who met a sudden or wrongful death including unborn babies, VNBC will organize a **Grand Requiem for Liberation of Unjust Suffering and the Hungry Ghosts**.

All of the above three events will take place continuously from Friday, 03/26/2010 to Sunday, 04/04/2010 (please see attached general program).

VNBC respectfully invites the Bhikkhus, Bhikkhunis, and Buddhist lay practitioners from all over the world to come and join us in this **Festival**. We will admire and revere the **Jeweled Jade Buddha Statue for Universal Peace**. We will pray together for the success of the **Grand Requiem** so that all beings, deceased or alive, may derive great benefit from it.

Houston, December 12, 2009



Respectfully,

VIETNAM BUDDHIST CENTER



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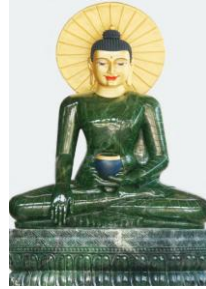
GENERAL PROGRAM QUAN ÂM FESTIVAL – 2010

❖ **Friday 03/26/2010:**

➤ **6:00 pm : OPENING CEREMONY**



- Quan Âm Festival – A Day of Pilgrimage and Prayer – 2010
- Ceremony Venerating the Jade Buddha Statue for Universal Peace
- Flowers and Candle Lights Prayer – One Prayer One Prostration



❖ **Saturday 03/27/2010**

- 07:00 am : The Thousand Eyes and Thousand Hands Supreme Assembly
- 12:00 noon: Cultural Folklore Activities
- 05:00 pm : 2010 Quan Âm Festival Main Ceremony
- 08:30 pm : Entertainment Theme “**The Loving Mother, The Enchanted Moon**”

❖ **Sunday 03/28/2010**

- Venerating the Jade Buddha Statue for Universal Peace
- 09:00 am : Raising The Dharma Flag
- 11:00 am : Opening Prayer Service

❖ **From Monday 03/29/2010 to Friday Morning 04/02/2010**

- Venerating the Jade Buddha Statue for Universal Peace
- 09:00 am : Chanting the Repentance Prayer of Emperor Liang
- 03:00 pm : Chanting the Repentance Prayer of Emperor Liang

❖ **Friday 04/02/2010**

- Venerating the Jade Buddha Statue for Universal Peace
- 05:00 pm : Grand Requiem For Liberation of Unjust Suffering.

❖ **Saturday 04/03/2010**

- Venerating the Jade Buddha Statue for Universal Peace
- 05:00 pm : Grand Requiem For The Hungry Ghosts.

❖ **Sunday 04/04/2010**

- 11:30 am : **THE CLOSING CEREMONY**
- Venerating the Jade Buddha for Universal Peace
- Transferring Merits

NOTES:

- 1) VNBC will be open to the public to come and pay respects to the Jade Buddha Statue for Universal Peace from Friday evening 03/26 through Sunday 04/04/2010, every day from 5:30 AM to 10:00 PM. Congregations or delegations which wish to have a private prayer service, please contact the Organizing Committee in advance to facilitate accommodations.
- 2) The Repentance Prayer of Emperor Liang is a special prayer, so as to repent all the transgressions, to eliminate bad karma, to salvage beings in the three evil realms (hell, hungry ghosts, animals). The Repentance Prayer Service will be held twice a day, from Monday 03/29 through Friday 04/02/2010,
- 3) Details for the registration for the Grand Requiem for Liberation of Unjust Suffering will be announced later ./.