

The Living Word of the Buddha

The Buddha's Teachings in the Earliest Texts

Translations, essays and notes by Piya Tan ©2010

Volume 34

Theme: Spiritual friendship

2011c

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A spiritual friend is one who keeps our hearts calm and clear

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The Minding Centre, based in Singapore, is part of Piya Tan's Dharma ministry. It was founded in 2006 to provide Dharma-based non-religious service to those who seek wisdom, counsel and solace. It also serves as a haven and hub for those seeking Dharma by way of meditation and education, Sutta study and translation, and spirituality. The Centre also supports, and promotes Piya Tan in his full-time Buddhist ministry, so that his works and legacy will grow and last.

The Sutta Discovery Series is a title in the Living Word of the Buddha project, whose mission is to inspire and facilitate Buddhist Studies, both in a Dharma-centred and an academic manner for personal development as well as outreach work on a local and global scale. The Minding Centre and the Living Word of the Buddha project are motivated and guided by the vision of mere Buddhism.

The mere Buddhist vision. We aspire to learn, teach and practise mere Dharma, or just Dharma, that is, “non-religious Buddhism,” for a direct vision and taste of the Buddha Dharma, so that it is open to all who seek true stillness and liberating wisdom. We aspire to compassionately and joyfully proclaim the possibility, necessity and urgency of gaining spiritual liberation in this life itself—at least as streamwinners, with or without dhyana—in keeping with the Okkanti Saṃyutta (S 25). *Mere Buddhism is easy: live it and be free*

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Sutta website: <http://dharmafarer.org>

For Wiki Piya: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Piya_Tan

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The Sutta Discovery (SD) series started with **the NUS Buddhist Society** weekly Sutta Study Group (SSG) classes in February 2002, and **the Buddhist Fellowship** SD series started in February 2003. These classes are still running today. This is a small record for an ongoing activity, especially Sutta study.

Piya Tan, who works on these Suttas and notes, and teaches them, was a former **Theravada monk** for 20 years. Today he is a full time lay Dharma teacher specializing in early Buddhism. He was consultant and regular lecturer to the Buddhist Studies Team (BUDS) that successfully introduced **Buddhist Studies in Singapore Secondary Schools** in the 1980s. After that, he was invited as a visiting scholar to **the University of California at Berkeley, USA**. He has written many ground-breaking and educational books on Buddhism (such as *Total Buddhist Work*) and social surveys (such as *Buddhist Currents* and *Charisma in Buddhism*). As **a full-time Dharma teacher**, he runs Buddhist, Sutta and Pali classes like the basic Pali course series, the Sutta Study Group (NUSBS), Dharma courses (the Singapore Buddhist Federation), Sutta Discovery classes (Buddhist Fellowship and elsewhere), and Sutta-based (including meditation) courses (Brahm Education Centre), besides his own full-time **Pali translation and research project**, the Pali House, and doing a comparative study of the Pali Nikāyas and the Chinese Āgamas. As a Theravāda monk, he learned insight meditation from **Mahasi Sayadaw** himself in the 1980s. As a lay teacher, he learned forest meditation from the **Ajahn Brahmavamso**. He has run numerous **meditation courses and retreats** for students and adults (including non-Buddhists) since 1980s. In 1992, he taught meditation at the University of California at Berkeley, USA, and also to BP, JPMorgan, the Defence Science Organization, GMO, HP and SIA. He is doing all this for the love of Dharma and of Ratna and their two children.

KEEPING BUDDHISM CENTRED

Sutta translations: <http://dharmafarer.org>

As people today become more aware of Buddhism, many seek the simple original teachings of the Buddha. For over two decades now, Piya Tan has been inspired by this ideal of “mere Buddhism.” In this connection, he has set up the Minding Centre (Bukit Batok) and Pali House (Jurong East).

The Minding Centre

A still centre in life's storms

Blk 644, Bukit Batok Central, #01-68 (2nd flr), Singapore 650644.

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Pali House

On Vesak Day, 12th May, 2006, Pali House was born, fulfilling Piya's long-time dream for living space that is spacious, quiet and conducive for his Dharma work.

- Pali House has one of the most complete set of early Buddhist scripture (texts and translations).
- The translating of the early Buddhist scripture in the **Sutta Discovery** series is done at Pali House.

Pali House is possible through the generosity of the Buddhist community and various individuals like yourself who have generously and regularly contributed to Piya Tan's work. He is doing full-time lay Dharma work without any salary. As such, your continued support will greatly help our Dharma work.

How you can help

- Support for Piya Tan's full time Buddhist work (especially the Sutta Translation & related projects).
- Sponsor the Minding Centre monthly rental (\$2700) & maintenance cost, etc.
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*May this merit bring my mind peace and wisdom.
May I enter the path of streamwinning in this life itself.*

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Instructor: Piya Tan

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- Have we lived before, will we live again?
- Is rebirth immediate or takes 49 days?
- Have we lived before, will we live again?
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COURSE INSTRUCTOR: PIYA TAN

- meditation therapist; 62 years old; a monk for 20 years
- has taught meditation for over 30 years
- has taught at the Univ of California @ Berkeley, Defence Science Organization, GMO, SIA, HP, Hitachi, JPMorgan, BP, etc
- mentor and meditation instructor to various executives and individuals
- referrals from doctors, social workers, etc
- now translating and teaching early Indian texts on meditation and psychology.

Wiki Piya: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Piya_Tan

The Minding Centre: Blk 644 #01-68 Bukit Batok Central, Singapore 650644
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