

Gift of Premises (Senāsana) for Meditation Centre

From inception in 2010, the Nirodha City Centre of Colombo, Sri Lanka, has been functioning in rental properties. This meant that relocation was required after every few years. This not only created additional work but also prevented us from developing a centre for our requirements.

Although there was a dire need for an independent City Centre, Nirodha lacked the finances for the outright purchase of centrally located premises. Not having a centre also meant our teacher Bhikkhu Samādhikusalà lived in rented places and had to go through many difficulties to keep to his monastic rules and rituals.

Hon. Secretary of the Samādhikusalà Foundation, Yogi Dr. Nileeni Meegama of USA, informed us that her aunt Mrs. Mignonne Wickramasinghe and uncle Mr. Ranjith Wickramasinghe were looking for a worthy teacher of Buddha Dharma in Colombo to offer their premises. After some conversations with her relatives Yogi Dr. Meegama introduced them to Bhikkhu Samadhikusala.

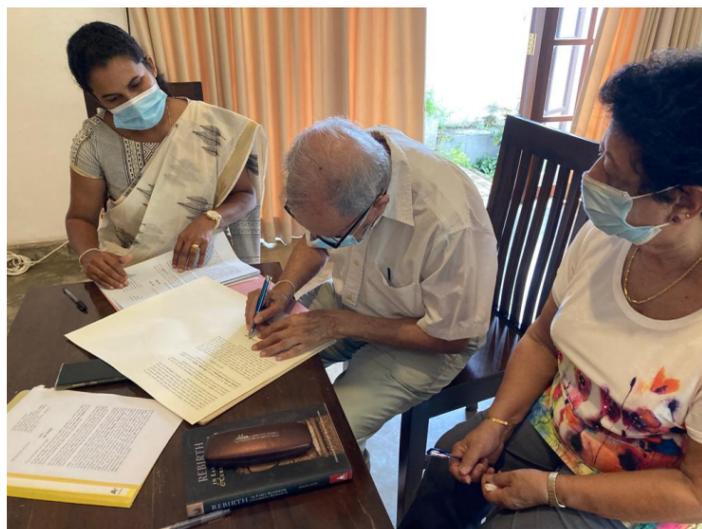


Bhikkhu Samādhikusalà with the donors (Standing R-L) Mr & Mrs. Ranjith Wickramasingha and their niece yogi Dr. Nileeni Meegama,

Mr. Wickramasingha was delighted with meeting Bhikkhu Samādhikusalà and explained his intention of wanting to donate their home for Buddhist work, where it would not be used for commercial purposes and instead have emphasis on the practice of meditation. He also explained that their home was built on ancestral land that belonged to his mother Mrs. Enid Atapattu.

After some discussions they brought to the notice of Bhikkhu Samādhikusalà that they would like to offer their premises to Bhikkhu Samādhikusalà who suggested that since it is on ancestral property belonging to his mother it would be nicer to have this Buddhist and Meditation Centre in the name of Mrs Enid Atapattu. Yogi Ms. Dulsiri Jayasinghe got the help of an Attorney to provide legal clarifications and for the deed to be written.

The donated premises for the Nirodha City Centre is situated in a centrally located commercial district that can be easily accessed from all directions. About a mile inland from the coast line, the road-front positioning provides ample parking space and easy navigation. Within the Centre there are two primary structures with extents of land both in the front and rear sections. The meditation hall opens into a garden with walking paths amidst fruit trees creating an atmosphere of necessary calm. This is not a simple donation but one with great value and as Bhikkhu Samādhikusalà mentioned the value is far greater because the intentions of the giver and receiver are both pure.



Mr Ranjith Wickramasingha writing the deed of transfer. Also in the photo the lawyer and Mrs, Mignonne Wickramasingha

On the morning of June 9th, 2022, Samadhikusala Foundation board members Hon. Treasurer Dulsiri and Hon. Secretary Nileeni arrived at the Centre to make final preparations prior to the arrival of the lawyer Mrs. Gajanayake and the donor Mr. Ranjith Wickramasingha with his wife Mrs. Mignonne Wickramasingha.

After lighting of the traditional oil lamp, offering flowers to the Buddha and chanting, the deed of gift (Pūja) was then signed by Mr. Ranjith Wickramasingha and offered to Bhikkhu Samādhikusalà to sign and acknowledge his acceptance. The signing was formally witnessed by Mrs. Mignonne Wickramasingha and yogi Dr. Meegama and yogi Ms. Jayasinghe. The lawyer Mrs. Gajanayake offered her services pro bono as her contribution, towards this great offering to the Buddha Sāsana.

Following the signing, Bhikkhu Samādhikusalà chanted blessings and tying of blessing threads for the donors



After accepting the land offering Bhikkhu Samādhikusalà presenting the book "Rebirth in Early Buddhism and Current Research" by Bhikkhu Analayo to the donor

and all present to commemorate this magnanimous gesture of generosity by Mr. and Mrs. Wickramasingha.

Traditional milk rice and sweets were served to celebrate this event.



Late. Mrs. Enid Atapattu (1957)