

Buddhist Customs and Traditions

2

Be mindful, Strive hard...!



Māra's Appeal

Venerable Ananda was sitting at the Chāpāla Cetiya in Vesāli. Suddenly, he heard the earth rumble. He asked the Buddha, “Why is the earth rumbling?”

The Buddha said, “Ananda, it’s because, the Tatāgatha is going to attain Prinibbhāna - His Passing Away.”

Venerable Ananda pleaded with the Compassionate One to live until the end of this universe (a Kappa); for the good and happiness of the people.

The Buddha said, “Now it is not the time for such a request Ananda, for the Tatāgatha has given His word for His Passing Away.”

Venerable Ananda pleaded many times. Then, the Buddha spoke **very calmly** to Venerable Ananda, “Anyone who has fully developed his mind can, if he wishes, live to the end of the world. The Tatāgatha has done so. Therefore, if the Fully Enlightened One wishes, he could remain until the end of it. However, now is not the time for it.”

Venerable Ananda understood his mistake. He did not invite the Fully Enlightened One to live until the end of the world, when the Buddha spoke about it. This is because Māra - the Evil One prevented Venerable Ananda’s thought of inviting the Buddha to remain in this world.

The Buddha said, “Ananda, when Māra asked the Tatāgatha of his Passing Away for the third time at Chāpāla Cetiya today, the Tatāgatha replied, “Māra, do not trouble yourself. Three months from today, the Tatāgatha will pass away.’ So, Ananda, do not worry, be mindful, strive hard and continue to believe in me. Your Nirvāna is in your own hands.”

Activity 1 -Reading

1. What did Venerable Ananda suddenly hear one day?
2. Who asked the Buddha about it?
3. Where did the Buddha give up continuing to live in the world?
4. What are the other names used to refer to the Buddha?
5. How many times did the Māra (the Evil One) ask the Buddha to pass away?
6. Why should Venerable Ananda not worry about the Buddha’s Passing Away?

Activity 2 - Speaking

Read the following passage and write the dialogue that would have happened between Venerable Ananda and Subhadda and present it to the class.

The last disciple, Subhadda, requested several times to speak with the Buddha. But, Venerable Ananda, did not want to disturb the Buddha in His last hours and denied the request.

Activity 3 - Writing

Refer to the Mahā Parinibbhāna Sutta and prepare an article for the wall newspaper under the topic “Last Days of the Buddha”. Use the following mind map to prepare your article.



Imperatives

The imperative is the base form of the verb used to give an order or make a request.

e.g. : “Strive hard!”

“Please wait your turn.”

“Do not worry / Don’t worry.”

Activity 4 - Grammar

Match the situations with the commands / requests in the given box. Write the correct letter against each situation. The first one is done for you.

1. People should remove shoes before entering the temple.

C

2. People who visit the temple should not pick flowers from the temple garden.

3. People should use this water only for drinking.


4. Students should keep the class tidy and clean.

5. People should maintain silence in the library.

6. Readers should return their books within two weeks.

7. People should not take photos inside the shrine room.

8. People should wear appropriate white clothes to the temple.



a)	Please be silent.
b)	Please be dressed in appropriate white clothes.
c)	Remove your shoes before entering.
d)	Don't take photos inside the shrine room.
e)	Please don't pick flowers from the temple garden.
f)	Use for drinking only.
g)	Please keep the class tidy and clean.
h)	Return the borrowed books within two weeks.

**Now do Activity 1 in Unit 2 of your work book.*

Activity 5 - Speaking /Vocabulary

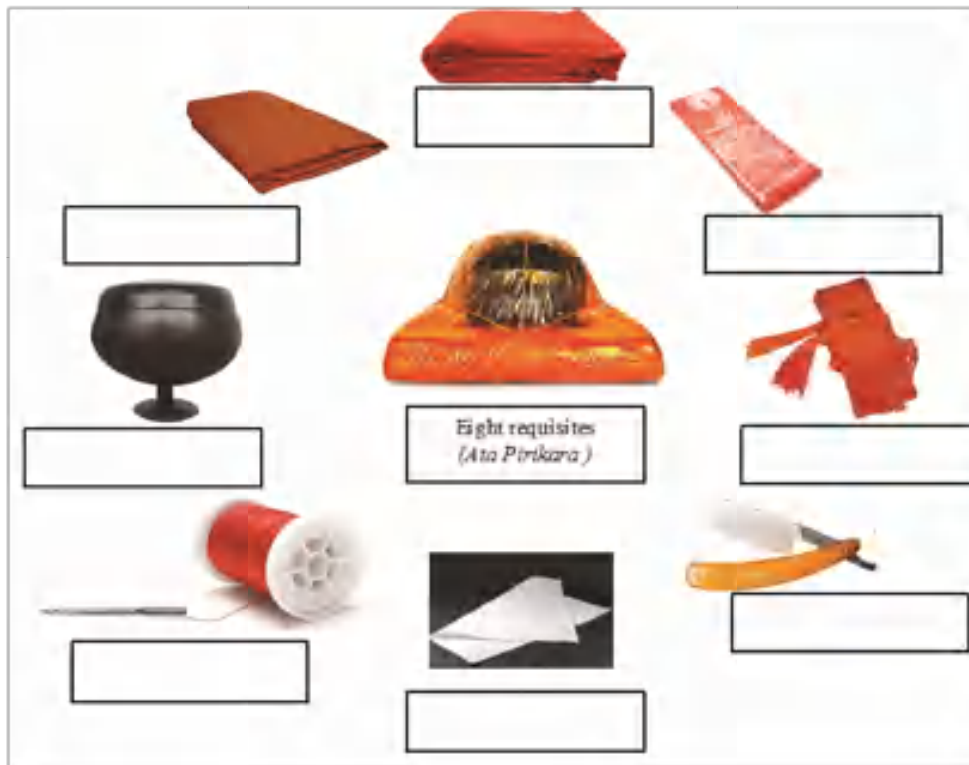
Game -Simon says

The teacher will give you a pack of number cards. Each of the students takes a number from the pack. The teacher asks the number and reads out the command in it louder. Now you act it out.

1.	Clap your hands	12	Touch your head
2	Stamp your feet	13	Change your place with some one
3	Snap your fingers	14	Cross your legs
4	Shrug your shoulders	15	Fold your arms
5	Nod your head	16	Jump up and down for 10 seconds
6	Shake your head	17	Sneeze
7	Count from ten to one	18	Cough
8	Say ABC from F to A	19	Look at the ceiling
9	Walk around the table	20	Wave
10	Yawn	21	Blow your nose
11	Smile	22	Whisper your name

Activity 6 -Vocabulary

Name the items in an Ata Pirikara (Set of eight requisites). Select the words from the box.

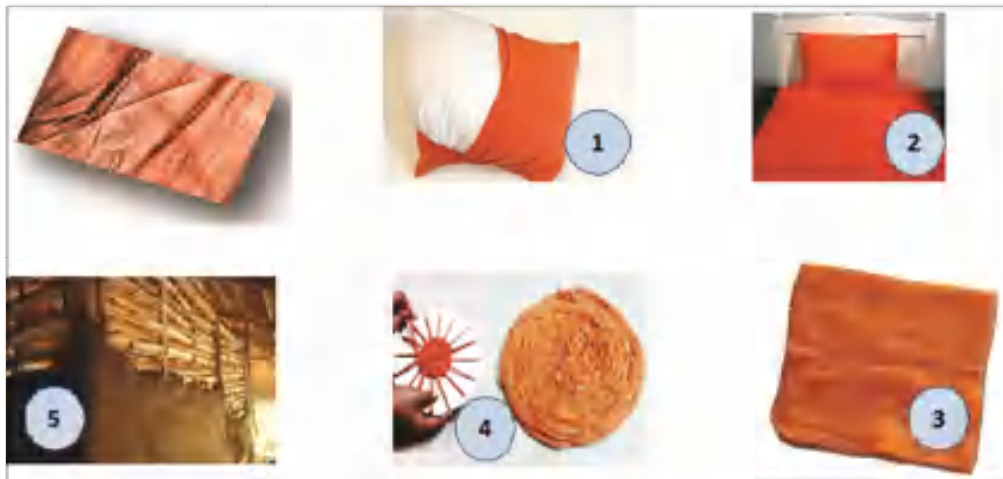


**bowl, double lined robe, single lined robe,
razor, under robe, belt, strainer, needle and
thread**

King Kosol once asked the Buddha whether they could do anything with the worn out robes. The Buddha replied saying that they should not be thrown away and they should be used to make a number of different items.

Activity 7 - Vocabulary

Match the numbers of the pictures and the different uses of worn out robes in the following table.



Number	Use
1	door carpets
2	bed sheets , mattress covers
3	clay wall plastering
4	dusting cloth
5	pillow cases

Activity 8 - Writing

Write a short speech on “How old robes were reused in olden days.” You can start like this...

“Good morning all of you! I would like to speak about the re-use of old robes” The Buddha has advised his disciples how to re-use even worn out robes to produce different items useful for temples. “In the olden days, the worn out robes were used for many purposes.....”

Adverb Phrases

Adverb phrases modify verbs in a sentence. The most important word in a phrase is its head word. The head word in an adverb phrase is an adverb.

e.g.: “Then, the Buddha *spoke very calmly* to Venerable Ananda.”

- What is the **verb** in the sentence? *spoke*
- What is the **adverb phrase** in the sentence? *very calmly*
- What is the **head word (adverb)** in the adverb phrase? *calmly*

Words added to the **front of the head word** in a phrase are called **premodifiers** while words added to the **end** of it are called **post modifiers**.

e.g. Then the Buddha *spoke very calmly*.

(*very* – pre - modifier for calmly)

He could not **make** the speech *loud enough*.

(*enough* – post modifier for loud)

Activity 9.1 - Grammar

Form the adverb phrases by combining words given in columns “A” and “B”.

A	B
really	fluently
right	often
too	fast
very	here
quite	well

Activity 9.2

Fill in the blanks in the following sentences with the adverb phrases formed from the table above.

1. He did his examination.....
2. I saw your purse lying
3. The thief ran for the policeman to catch him.
4. She speaks English
5. My uncle visits our house.

Activity 9.3

Match the adverbs in A with post modifiers in B correctly and fill in the blanks with correct adverb phrases.

A	B
cheaper	in the morning
harder	in my life
comfortably	on stage
beautifully	to take some rest
never	than we expected
early	than we bought

Activity 9.4

Fill in the blanks with correct adverb phrases formed from the table above.

1. He had bought the same pen
2. Students worked
3. The cat laid on the sofa
4. She sang her song
5. I have..... seen him
6. He will meet me tomorrow.

**Now do Activity 2 in Unit 2 of your work book*

Punctuation - Dash

- ▲ Dash is mainly used to show a break in a sentence.
- 1. In the place of a semi colon to break closely related clauses
 - e.g. My friend would like tea - I would prefer coffee.
- 2. To bring more attention to a piece of certain information in a sentence
 - e.g. Srimal—even without a glance at his home—walked along the path.
- 3. To give additional information or names in a sentence
 - e.g. Sandalima—the girl wearing the blue frock and brimmed hat—is my sister.
 - e.g. Four of us—Venerable Tissa , Asitha, Kamal, Srimal and I—went to the seminar last week.
- 4. Sudden turn in thought/break in dialogue
 - “Mary, How could—Why would you do such a thing?”
 - “Can I finish my—,” the child pleaded.
- 5. To bring focus to list
 - e.g. Dishes, laundry, dusting—they’re all done now, and I need a rest.

Activity 10 - Grammar

Match the clauses in “A” with “B” to make meaningful utterances.

A	B
1. There are two choices at this time	—that’s all you want.
2. Would you please	-call Venerable Athula- and he’ll help you.
3. He wanted to see three cities in Italy	-Rome, Florence and Venice
4. “If you need something, call my friend.”	—oh, never mind!
5. Don’t forget to take a pencil, an eraser, two pens and the ID to the exam hall	-run away or fight.

**Now do the Activity 3 in Unit 2 of your work book.*

Dalada Maligawa



Then

Now

Dalada Maligawa-the Temple of the Tooth Relic is in Kandy. It is one of the ancient temples in Sri Lanka. About hundred years ago, it had several buildings **but**, now it has many. **Although**, there was no statues in the Maha Maluwa (main compound), today it contains a statue of Madduma Bandara. The Relic Chamber has a golden coloured roof **now even though** it was red tiled then. However, the sacred Tooth Relic has always been laid in a golden casket. There were no street lamps along the road then, **but** now there are many electric lamp posts. There was no iron fence around the temple in the past **but** now there is one around it.

A symbol of the Temple – ‘the cloud wall’ has always been a key feature which is white washed regularly. **In addition**, there has always been an ancient tiled roof pavilion – the ***Pattirippuwa***, at the entrance to the temple. It has not changed over time. It still stands as before. **However**, Buddhists **as well as** non- Buddhists from Sri Lanka and all over the world visit the Temple of the Tooth Relic now as they did before.

Activity 11 - Reading

Read the text and answer the questions.

1. Where is the Dalada Maligawa?
2. In what has the sacred Tooth Relic been laid?
3. What is the wall around the Temple of the Tooth Relic called?
4. How is the Relic Chamber different from other buildings?

Activity 12 - Reading

Copy the following grid into your writing book. Read the paragraph on “the Dalada Maligawa”. Fill the grid with the correct information.

Item	Then	Now
Buildings	Several	Many
Statues		
Roof of the Relic Chamber		
Street lamps		
Fence		
Entrance		
Items not changed		

Activity 13 - Listening

Listen to the text about “Our School” and underline the correct answer.

- i. Ten years ago our school had only
a) a one storeyed building b) two buildings c) a two storeyed building
- ii. Now it has
a) a building complex b) three halls c) a two storeyed building
- iii. Ten years ago there was no in our school.
a) play ground b) science laboratory c) library
- iv. Ten years ago our school had classes from grade one to grade
a) three b) thirteen c) five
- v. Now we have classes from grade one to grade
a) thirteen b) eight c) five
- vi. Ten years ago our school had students.
a) two hundred b) five hundred c) one thousand
- vii. Now there are students in our school.
a) close to one thousand b) five hundred c) one thousand

Activity 14 - Pronunciation

Pairwork

Read the following tongue twisters aloud with your partner correctly.



1. **She** sells sea **shells** on the sea **shore** **she** sells sea **shells** no more.
2. **Squaw** **squeezed** the pig to **squeal**.
3. I slit a **sheet**, a **sheet** I slit. And on a siltted sheet I sit. I slit a sheet, a **sheet** I slit. The sheet I slit, that sheet was it.
4. **Splenetic** boy **split** the **splint** in pain.
5. These **thousand** tricky tongue twisters trip **thrillingly** off the tongue.
6. **Which** watch did **which** witch wear and **which** witch wore **which** watch?
7. **Charlie** chose to **chat** with **Chancy** in the **church**.”
8. **Physique** of **Phoenix** was hidden in a **phial** at the **phony** war.
9. **Straggle** to **stride** on **strange** **strait** line **straight**.
10. Send the **squad** get the **squatters** in **Squash** **Square**.



Activity 15 - Pronunciation

Read the example and fill in the table from the sentences given above.

ch	sh	th	wh	spl	str	squ
e.g. church						

Activity 16 - Listening

Copy this table into your writing book. Listen to the teacher and write the correct initial consonant blends in given word.

i. ___ art	ii. ___ ape
iii. ___ ick	iv. ___ ite
v. ___ een	vi. ___ ike
vii. ___ ash	viii. ___ arm
ix. ___ ame	x. ___ ink
xi. ___ y	xii. ___ int
xiii. ___ ash	xiv. ___ ide