

PROPOSAL ON
BUDDHISM CENTER DEVELOPMENT PROJECT:
CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF BUDDHISM CENTERS IN
PHAKHEL, MAKWANPUR, NEPAL



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1. Buddhism Center Development Project

1.1. Introduction

Lord Buddha, born in 563 BCE in Lumbini and named Siddhartha Gautama, was a Shakya Prince who left home in search of ways about how to get rid of suffering. After enlightenment, he went on spreading his principles and asked people to test before adoption. Buddhism preaches the path of practice and spiritual development that leads an insight into the truth of life. With its realistic base, Buddhism today is one of the major religions of the countries of Central Asia, China, Korea, Japan, and Southeast Asia. According to Wikipedia, as of 2010, more than 488 million people are practicing different forms of Buddhism- Theravada, Mahayana, Tantrayana and Zen. However, whatever is the form of Buddhism; it preaches the same values, same teachings - non- violence, truth, love and compassion, tolerance of differences, the path of Nirvana and the practice of meditation

Buddhism aims at ending the suffering of cyclic existence or 'samsara' by awakening a being to the realization of the truth and the achievement of liberation. It further preaches that there is only one-way to reach the destination of reality - One should purify and train the mind and heart and act as per the laws of Karma to purify the soul. Buddhism today focuses on the moral discipline or SILA Meditation or SAMADHI and wisdom or PRAJNA rather than that of idol- worship. According to the principles of Buddhism, any being can attain enlightenment by following certain codes and conducts such as Five Precepts, Eightfold Path and Four Noble Truths.

Nepal, being the birthplace of Lord Buddha, is the place where anyone can learn the paths of Buddhism. Many organizations and individuals around the world are working this noble cause of establishing peace in the lives of people through meditation and mindfulness. Buddhism gives way out for peace of mind by clearing stating the roots of sufferings and ways for curing. Guru Rimpoche Trust, led by Aani (Monk), Bhim Suwa Gurung, is all set to work for the Buddhism Tourism by way of making different Stupas, images of Buddha, Dhyan Centre, and old-age Care hospital with general out patient department. For this, GR Trust has already discussed and decided the place and talked with Gurus whose interest has encouraged the team.

1.2. Rationale

Buddhism in Nepal is very important because of Lord Buddha who was one of the princes of Ancient Nepali Kingdom. His preaching is still as practical as it was when he spoke to the masses of people. Because he was born in Nepal, many Buddhism followers have a dream of coming to Nepal and experience Buddhism. It is the responsibility of nation that such heritages are made, developed and operated to promote Buddhism infrastructure and attract tourism. In connection with these principles, GR Trust has planned to develop a very beautiful place based on Buddhism at Phakhel (borderline of Kathmandu and Makwanpur), Nepal. In this beautiful place will be made those entire proposed infrastructures, which include, Meditation Center, Biggest Maitri Buddha of Gautam Buddha, Old Age Care Home, School and Research Centre. GR Trust has taken up this beautiful project. The dream of Guru along with Buddha's teachings will be shaping the lives of

people visiting and residing there. This place will be a very holy place where the researchers, students, visitors can go and enjoy the beauty of Buddha's teaching and way of life. Guru Rimpoche Trust has taken it as a Signature Project. After the completion of construction, this place will be known and marketed to the world.

1.3. Project Goal:

To Establish a Buddhist Centre and help spread the message for the peace and prosperity of people around the globe

1.4. Specific Objectives:

Construct an idol of Maya Devi with the Baby Buddha

- 1.4.1. Build and operate Meditation Centre, Hospital for old age people with accommodation
- 1.4.2. Promote Meditation Centre along with organic Farm
- 1.4.3. Build an accommodation center for guests and visitors with Model Park.

1.5. Project Location:

The most important part of this project is the suitability of project location with serene environment and better altitude to promote peace when one is there. Cool temperature, pure air and green hills from where one can take the joy of viewing Kathmandu.



Figure 1: Deurali Chakhel

Valley is some features. It is very close to Kathmandu but free from city pollution and noise. This is the best place for meditation, living and learning. Situated at the height, anyone who goes there will love to be there. We have planned to build our infrastructure in 15 hectares of Land. Further, we have already arranged the extensions of land up to 200 hectares in the proposed areas in which we promote plantations of tree and fruits.

2. Proposed Project Activities

GR Trust seeks to establish a Buddhism Centre with iconic infrastructure on Buddhism. For serving the people around the project, it will incorporate social development projects that will uplift the peace and prosperity of the people. These activities ranges form road to social capital development.

The organization will implement the project in two phases: i) First and ii) Second Phase. The first phase includes the preparation of the land, infrastructure for constructing the proposed buildings there. Similarly, the second phase directly hits the project goal of Buddhism

2.1. Preparation Phase (First Phase)

The first phase targets to arrange the basic infrastructures like water supply management, electricity provision and road expansion.

2.1.1. Environment Impact Assessment

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is a process of evaluating the likely environmental impacts of a proposed project or development, taking into account inter-related socio-economic, cultural and human health impacts: both beneficial and adverse. This is mandatory that EIA is carried out before commencing the project.

2.1.2. Road Construction

The location of the construction is joined by a road of Kathmandu. However, inside the venue, we have to develop road for easy transport. Also, we need to construct footpath, stair-based ways and road too. As this is the basic infrastructure for other work, the Trust will work on it at the preliminary level.

2.1.3. Electrification

Electrification is major activities before we start major construction. GR Trust will opt for both hydro and solar energy. As there is no power cable till now, we shall request with electricity authority and manage to take the electricity at our cost.

2.1.4. Water System Management

As water is most important, we first require setting up the water sources. For this, the organization sets up the water system. We need to utilize lifting system of water. As per the survey of the team, the water has been found. However, we need to go with deep boring and lift the water at a different level. Further, the organization will also arrange the water supply for nearby villages. It will help locals avail the pure drinking water and engage in the project activates.

2.1.4.1. Working Office Set-up

In the beginning of the work in proposed location, we shall set up an office with the facilities of Store Room, Accounting and Basic Accommodation for the implementing team. This will ensure the items purchased are safe in store, the working team is safe and they get the hygienic environment to work.

2.2. Construction Phase (Second Phase)

After the Detailed Project Report is prepared and all required formalities with the line agencies are completed, GR Trust enters into the construction phase. The proposed project activities are hereunder which will be implemented as per the plan prepared.



Figure 3: Mother's Image 120 feet and Son's Image of 40 Ft

2.2.1. Maya Devi and Shakyamuni Buddha's Image of Seven Step

The image of Mayadevi, Mother of Shakyamuni Gautam Buddha, and seven-step walk of Buddha, which is very historic, will be built at the project location. It has been believed that Shakyamuni Gautam Buddha walked seven steps right after the birth. This image will clearly depict such facts that can be viewed by all visitors. As the place is going to be very touristic, we shall build every historic image of Buddhism as much as possible. The image of Maya Devi seeing Buddha's first 7 steps will be crafted. The statue of Maya Devi will be of 120 feet whereas Buddha's heights will be 20 Feet.

2.2.2. Maitri Buddha's Biggest Statute-cum Gumba Construction

Nepal is the birthplace of Lord Buddha and any work related to him will be of great importance.



As Buddhism has been an International Religion, developing tourism through Buddhism will be a key activity of GR Trust. In line with this, GR TRUST has planned to make the biggest Stupa/Image/Idol of Lord Buddha in proposed place so that all the followers including non-followers can come to observe the beauty and enjoy the serene beauty at the place. The height of the Idol will be at least 150 feet so that it will carry the value of being tallest. The Statute will stem from the Big Gumba where Lama rituals are observed.

2.2.3. Gumba Construction

At the base of the biggest statute, a state-of-the-art Gumba will be constructed to increase the uniqueness and attraction. The special idols, photos important materials in the fashion of Gumba will be placed to make it a culturally enriched. This will even help local communities to the person their cultural rituals at the Gumba. On top of that, the Tamang community does not have good Gumba and are having problems for observing birth, marriage, and death rituals. As the Gumba will be of a very good standard, it will help attract tourist and enjoy the ever-best time in our project location. The unique Gumba and biggest Statue of Shakyamuni Gautama Buddha will be a great attraction of Buddhist Centre. However, the size and height will be fixed in talk with supporting partner/donor and available budget. The tentative rooms around such a big idol of Buddha will at least be 100.

3. Construction of Stupa

The stupa is a usually dome-shaped structure (such as a mound) serving as a Buddhist shrine.

Thus, GuruRimpoché Trust has proposed to make a beautiful Stupa at the top of the hill. The Stupa will serve the local communities where 80% of the people are from Buddhism ground. At the serene environment, this will serve as the attraction of the Buddhism and no-Buddhism as well. This will be an exemplary Stupa in Nepal, which is built according to the design as shown in the picture. However, the detailed project plan will be finalized after a talk with the supporting partner.



4. Meditation Centre

According to research, 10-30% people in this world are suffering from depression and mental problem. Many incidents of suicide, work pressure is not new to us. The youths have been undergoing the wrong paths, and the peace and prosperity of the world are simply at stake. Meditation is one of the best tools we have to counter the brain's negativity bias, release accumulated stress, foster positive experiences and intentions, and enjoy the peace of present moment awareness.

A large body of research has established that having a regular meditation practice produces tangible benefits for mental and physical health. Viewing all these facts and assimilating the Buddha's Path, GR trust has planned to make a Community Hall at our project site where 500 people can take the joy of meditation at once. The center will significantly contribute to strengthening the inner peace and mindfulness of individuals. The project location is the best location for this activity and it will be an exemplary meditation center in Nepal.

5. Chán Kan (Chán Kan /Gupha Dhyana Kendra)

Gupha Dhyan is a hardcore meditation, which is vital in the spheres of Buddhism. In Nepal, it is estimated that more than 1200 Stupas (Stupas) have been built. However, it is noteworthy to mention that there is not any separate Dhyana Kendra (Meditation Centre known as Gupha Dhyan). This Dhyana Kendra would serve as a vital meditation centre in Nepal, which is developed in the Buddhist Fashion.

GR Trust has planned to make a building with 108 rooms where an individual can perform the hard-core meditation- Chan without getting into the contact of person and external environment. It will have separate rooms with all basic amenities for the mediator, which ensures their hygienic life, serene environment and better health.

The person, who wants to stay hard-core Dhyana for a longer or shorter time (for e.g. three years, three months three days 3 hours 3 minutes) will enjoy this facility for the first time in Nepal. Construction of such Meditation Rooms is a milestone project in the sphere of Buddhism in Nepal. The building will be made very scientific and natural so that the dhyanees will have better wellbeing and good health during his/her meditation

The project location is in the center of Jungle with cool breeze blowing round the year. It is very close to the metropolitan city but it holds the beauty of mountains/Himalayan, where the Dhyanees (one who meditates) can have a very peaceful meditation. The size of each Room: 10 Ft/12 Ft with attached restroom, kitchen cabinet within it.

6. Establishment of Hospital

GR Trust will establish a hospital (specialized for old age) which will cater services to both public and monks/nuns. The hospital will be of 100 beds eventually.

Seniors will be able to be cared for, given healthy food and a place to live with inner peace. Seniors who are alone or do not have someone to take care of them will also be adopted under the programmed. Buddhist Monks and devotees of above 60 years will be welcomed to the proposed to this hospital, which will also support accommodation. All basic amenities such as accommodation, food, clothing, medicine and other such facilities shall be provided. However, the general ward will also be maintained to provide the service to the general public. Senior citizens who do not have a family to support them in their old age will also get a special care and treatment peaceful life. A 100-bed hospital is envisioned to live with. The treatment will be carried out using both the allopathic and Ayurveda method.

7. Organic Farming for the devotees and monks who serve in our project areas

We believe that what we eat determines most of our thinking pattern and intention of mind. Thus, GR Trust has planned for providing right food/healthy food produced with the feeling of peace in mind so that the people who visit our premises of 100 Hectares will rejoice not only the calm environment but also pure/organic food that directly helps boosts the health. We shall involve local farmers, our team, and experts to produce such organic and life changing productions. The concept is that

with the meditation, right food, excellent green environment, the visitors will have a heavenly feeling.



8. Develop and operate accommodation facilities for guests, monks, devotees and meditation practitioners

From the different study, it is found that appropriate dwellings boost the mentality and performance of the people. We would like to provide such accommodation where people

from various spectrum come and enjoy the serene environment where service with love and affection is carved to the people. Selfless service for tourists, visitors, monks, and guests are the motto of GR Trust. In addition, the accommodation/hotel shall be of the level of three stars to match the nature and people's expectation.

The rooms proposed in the building are:

- Single Room
- Standard Double Room
- Superior Double Room
- Triple Room
- Deluxe Suite
- Dormitory

9. Public School Support

For developing the areas, the trust will equally work on the social capital development. Though public opinion guides these activities in the days to come, we have proposed to support a public school improvement plan.

10. Children and Old Age Park

The main ideas of creating a park is to provide a beautiful environment with the blessings of Buddha and children and elderly citizen cannot be left. Thus, we propose to develop a park for both elder and children where they can spend quality life.

11. Shopping Mall

For allowing the visitors to buy quality goods and foods, a standard shopping mall will be established. We provide religious to fashionable items to let the visitors enjoy in the shopping center. Later it will be a place where people would like to spend time for both recreation and shopping.