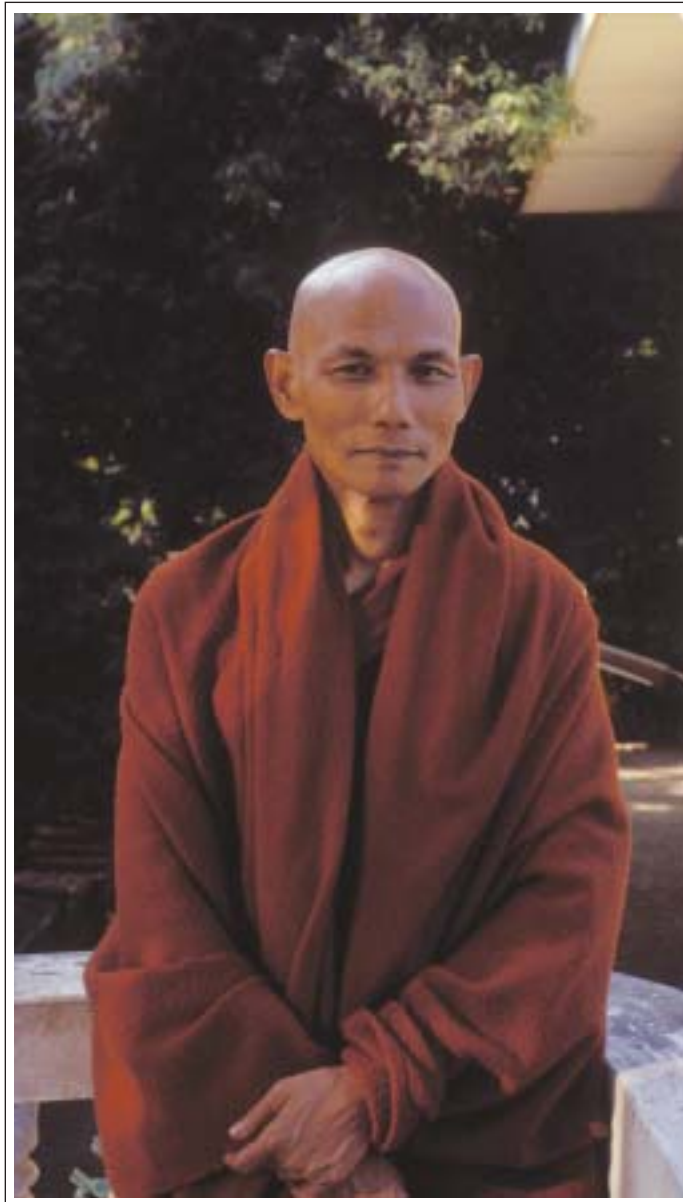


Fundraising for Sayadaw U Sasana and the GanGawMying Monastery



At 26 years old, Sayadaw took the *Vinaya Pali Paragu* exam, passing this difficult test with the highest score. The *Pali Paragu* is so rigorous that there are years when no one passes this exam.

The next year, he again did a 100-day retreat with Ven. Mahasi Sayadaw and Ven. Sayadaw U Pandita. In those days, Sayadaw said, the teaching was extremely strict and often he was asked to go with very little, or at times, no sleep at all.

At 33 years old Sayadaw became an assistant teacher of scriptures, and at the age of 45 years, he became a full meditation teacher. Sayadaw U Pandita has appointed him a Nayaka Sayadaw. This means that he is fully qualified to teach independently and set up his own monastery. This title is not easily given; a monk must show exceptional qualities and have over 20 continuous vasas (20 years) as a fully ordained monk.

Sayadaw is one of the senior teachers at the Panditarama Forest Meditation Center's annual two month international retreat.

THE CENTER

The GanGawMying Monastery is a small urban study (pariyatti) center, about 15 minutes from downtown Yangon. Located several blocks off the main road, it is accessed through narrow winding dirt roads.

This modest piece of land (under one acre with one building already on it) was originally donated in 1989 to Ven. Sayadaw U Pandita. Sayadaw U Pandita spent one year there with Sayadaw U Sasana also in residence.

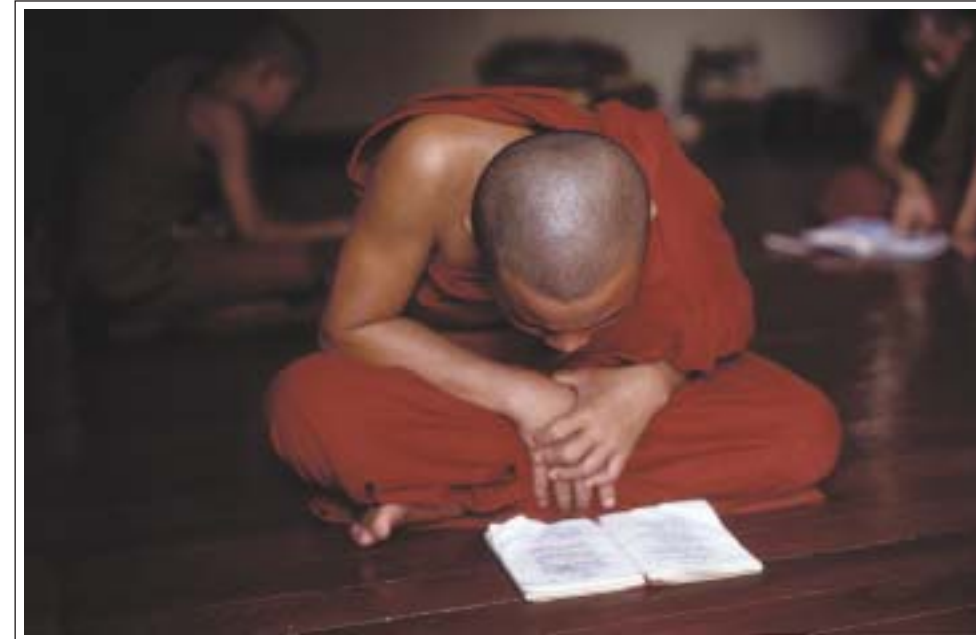
In 1990, Sayadaw U Pandita left GanGawMying Monastery in the capable hands of Sayadaw U Sasana to develop into a study center for young monks and novices. At that time, Sayadaw U Sasana was recovering from a severe illness and only took in a few students. Today the center provides training for over 65 full-time students.



SAYADAW U SASANA also known as the Zeyawadi Sayadaw, was born November 30, 1936 in Launglon, Myanmar, located about 300 miles below Yangon, near the Thai border. He was the youngest of 10 children.

His parents had always wanted him to become a monk and not be involved in worldly pursuits. He became a novice at 12 years old and said he immediately felt at home in that environment.

When Sayadaw was 23 years old a friend introduced him to the Mahasi style of meditation. His first retreat of 100 days was under the guidance of the Ven. Mahasi Sayadaw and Ven. Sayadaw U Pandita.



BUILDINGS & FACILITIES

A new dining hall and kitchen building also provides residence quarters for monks on the second

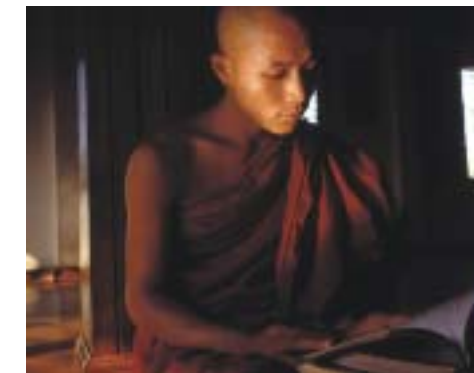


and third floors. The center's original two-story building is used as a study hall. The Sayadaw's residence is in a third building with additional teaching space on the lower floor.

In 2002, a new building was designed to allow 10-15 additional students an opportunity to practice meditation under Sayadaw's guidance. The completion of this three-story building will proceed when enough funds are raised for its construction.

THE CENTER DESPERATELY NEEDS FUNDS

Study centers in Burma are not often visited by lay practitioners or used for retreats, and thus are not as well funded as meditation centers. They are, however, vital to the training of Buddhist monks and the continuity of traditional Buddhist teachings. Aside from Alms round, the GanGawMying Monastery exists through the generosity of its benefactors.

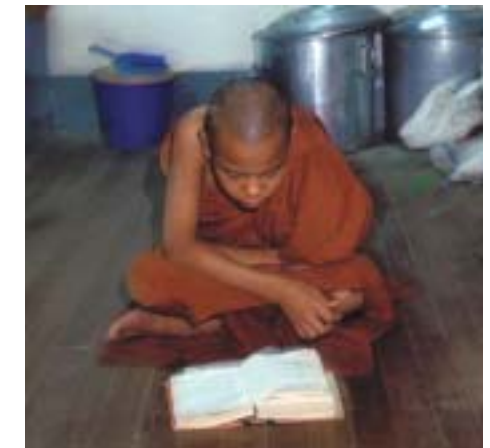


In most meditation centers in Yangon, a large percentage of meals are donated by supporters. At GanGawMying Monastery, few meals are donated because of the high cost of food in that region due to nearly 40% inflation.

At times the center is not able to provide fully-balanced meals for its 65 students, and the monks are unable to finish their studies, simply from lack of adequate nourishment. Protein deficiency is the most serious aspect of their food shortage.

TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION OF SAYADAWS

Myanmar is a country that holds a rare gem in its midst. In this region, the direct lineage of the Buddha's teaching has been passed on from generation-to-generation for over 2500 years. It is now our responsibility and honor to continue this lineage by supporting young monks who have the opportunity to be taught by one of the most qualified teach-



ers in the world. As the Sayadaws of tomorrow, they are the future of this Buddhist tradition

Many of us will be forever grateful for being given the chance to practice meditation under true Buddhist masters. It is well for us to remember that these present-day, highly skilled, and well-trained Sayadaws, were once young monks themselves who relied on the support of the Dhamma Community.

FUNDS REQUIRED TO RUN AND MAINTAIN THE CENTER

The following costs will support on 65 Samaneras (young monks) and 3 Teachers

GENERAL DONATIONS IN ANY AMOUNT ARE DEEPLY APPRECIATED, OR CONSIDER SENDING AN AMOUNT THAT WILL FUND ONE OF THE CATEGORIES BELOW.

FOOD

Just \$1.00 per day for each person (\$30 per month) provides breakfast, lunch and juice. This amount also ensures an acceptable amount of protein. (Monks will still need to go on alms rounds to supply other staples.)

Center's Monthly Total: \$2,040
Per Person: \$30

HEALTH CARE

Since the center does not have funds for any extra costs, a student who has a serious health problem will need to return to his home for medical care.

There are basic concerns that inevitably must be attended to at the center. These include care for minor illness, accidents or injuries.

Center's Monthly Total: \$50 -75

BOOKS AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES

These are essential tools for a young monk studying to pass the different level exams. Each student must be able to pass tests in order to qualify to be a teacher someday. Samaneras commonly study eight hours a day for 5-10 years. Textbooks are used for 2-3 years.

Basic textbook & materials costs for a 3-year period -
Per Student: \$300

Each year there are 2-3 monks who are studying for the higher level Dhammacariya exams. Their books are much more expensive, and are kept for many years.

Advanced textbooks for 1-year
Per Student: \$300

MISCELLANEOUS SUPPLIES

This includes two sets of robes each year, toiletries and other maintenance supplies for the center.

Center's Monthly Total:\$40

ESTIMATED ANNUAL FUNDS REQUIRED TO RUN THE CENTER

Food	\$24,480
Textbooks & Supplies	\$ 7,500
Health Care	\$ 900
Misc. Supplies	\$ 500

Total - \$33,380 per year

NEW CONSTRUCTION

Construction has already begun on the last building the center needs (and has room for). The finished building will be 32'x72' and three stories high. It will function as a meditation hall and residence building.

Currently there is no place for meditation training. The monks are usually sent to another center such as Panditarama or the Mahasi Sasana Yeiktha.

Total Building Cost: \$100,000

PLEASE COPY OR CLIP THIS FORM AND SEND WITH YOUR DONATION

General donations in any amount are deeply appreciated, or consider a donation that will fund one of the categories below.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Country _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Amount of Donation \$ _____

Please use my donation for the following category:

- Food and Health Care \$ _____
- Books and Study Supplies \$ _____
- Building Fund \$ _____
- General Fund \$ _____

ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE. DONORS WILL RECEIVE A RECEIPT FROM SADDHAMMA FOUNDATION WITH OUR TAX ID NUMBER TO USE FOR THEIR INCOME TAX DEDUCTION.



Mail Donations to:

**SADDHAMMA
FOUNDATION**

5459 Shafter Ave.
Oakland, CA 94618

Tel: 510-420-1039
www.saddhamma.org
retreat@saddhamma.org

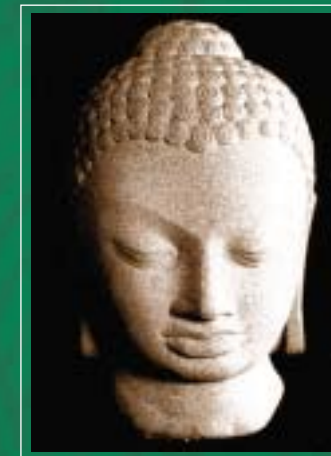
All funds will be given to Sayadaw U Sasana as soon as possible. A list of donors will also accompany the donations.

Or you may visit The GanGawMying Center and offer your donation directly to Sayadaw himself.

(If you are traveling to Myanmar, and wish to visit the center, you may contact the Saddhamma Foundation at 510-420-1039 for more information and directions to the center.)

This brochure has been gratefully donated by Barbara Janus and Kenneth Morris of USA. / Photos by Jarek Michalski

Join us in Supporting a New Generation of Buddhist Masters



The **GANGAWMYING MONASTERY**, near Yangon, is devoted entirely to the preparation and training

of young monks. Under the guidance of the Venerable **SAYADAW U SASANA**, students undergo rigorous training and practices to eventually become full-fledged Dhamma teachers. The ages of young monks at the center range from 12 to 23 years old, come from many parts of Myanmar, and represent a wide variety of ethnic groups.