



International Tipitaka Chanting Council

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PRESS RELEASE

SECOND TIPITAKA CHANTING CEREMONY SANKASYA INDIA NOVEMBER 11-14 2015

October 21, 2015

The second Tipitaka Chanting Ceremony will be held from November 11th -14th 2015 at the ancient site of Sankasya, India. It is expected that over 200 senior monks and their followers from the Theravadin tradition of Buddhism will come from the countries of Myanmar and Thailand. Close to one thousand laypeople are also expected to attend. The event will begin with a colourful opening ceremony in a specially erected food tent before a procession to the main Sankasya stupa with lay participants in national costume. LBDFI will also donate a stupa to the Youth Buddhist Society of India during the closing day of the event.

Sankasya is particularly important in the history of Buddhist India. Revered as the site where the Lord Buddha returned to earth accompanied by Mahabrahma and Indra from the heavenly realms after teaching the Abhidamma to his mother and other celestial beings, the ancient township was also the place where the Abhidamma was compiled for the Sangha of Buddhist monks. The site is particularly authentic, being marked with an early brick stupa and meditation park surrounded by the earth walls of the original settlement.

The gathering is a collaboration between the International Tipitaka Chanting Council (ITCC) and the Youth Buddhist Society of India (YBS), supported by the Light of Buddhadharma Foundation International (LBDFI) and friends from Thailand. Chanting will begin at the YBS site along with an erected tent for food offering. Dharma talks will be given by the Venerable monastics on the subject of Abhidamma and all participants will be given a free copy of the Abhidamma Pitaka along with other Buddhist materials.

Commenting on the event, Wangmo Dixey, Executive Director of LBDFI and Council Member of the ITCC said: *“it is very auspicious that we are holding the second Tipitaka Chanting Ceremony at Sankasya, the site where the Buddha came back to earth from Tushita heaven. There is a general revival of Buddhism in India, and it is wonderful that these valuable ceremonies are generating such interest.”*

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www.tipitakachantingcouncil.org*

For further information on the International Tipitaka Chanting Council please see the website: www.tipitakachantingcouncil.org. The ITCC will host chanting ceremonies in Sankasya, Nagpur and Bodhgaya during 2015.

For further information about the Light of Buddhadharma Foundation International, please see the website: www.lbdfi.org.

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