

Don't Worry and Be Happy III

Radio Thailand Dhamma Talk
by
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24 September 2560
8.30 ~ 9.00 am



Namo Tassa Bhagavato Arahato Sammasambuddhassa.

Homage to the Blessed One, Noble One, and Perfectly Self-Awakened One.

Good morning and welcome to the 'Radio Thailand Dhamma Talk.' I am Venerable Phra Shakyavongsvissuddhi of Mahamakut Buddhist University, your host for this morning's Dhamma Talk. This is a weekly Dhamma sermon brought to you by Radio Thailand to keep you reminds of your spirituality based on the teachings of the Buddha and attuned them to your needs in the chaotic modern life.

Last two weeks, I have been presented to you the dhamma talk given by the late most venerable Dr. K. Sri Dhammananda of Malaysia on the topic 'don't worry be happy.' Today, I am going to present the final part of the late Venerable's talk. However, before getting to it I would like to share with you some good news which is going to take place this week in the headquarters of the UNESCO at Paris in Republic of France.

We all know that deep in our hearts of all Thai people how much we love our late King Bhumibol Adulyadej, the Rama IX. It is only 32 days left that we have to accept the truth of impermanency that even the royal body of the Late His Majesty will be no more with us forever. Certainly, the royal cremation will again spell everyone's mind to be sad and sorrow and force us to accept the reality of the world.

Prior to the royal cremation there is an effort made by Buddhists around the world to do something in memory of the beloved late Majesty. The World Fellowship of Buddhists is organizing an international peace conference as a tribute to the late Majesty at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris. This is an international effort to dedicate their love and respect they have toward the late Majesty. The International Peace Conference is equally welcomed by the UNESCO and joined hand in hand with Buddhists around the world to make this conference a remarkable world event in honour of the late Majesty. To support this noble international effort, the Royal Thai Embassy in Paris and the Permanent Delegation of the Kingdom of Thailand to UNESCO have been working extremely hard with full dedication.

The three-day International Peace Conference is taking place at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris during the 26-28 September 2017. The main theme for the first day of the conference is 'Creating Sustainable Society of Peace: A legacy of King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand.' On the 26th September, the first day of the international peace conference, UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova and UNESCO Chairperson Michael Worbs will pay their tribute to the late monarch by delivering their speeches at the UNESCO main conference hall. There will be more international dignitaries from the UNESCO representing different parts of the world to pay their tribute to the late majesty. The meeting will be chaired by Thai Ambassador to France and permanent Thai delegate to UNESCO, His Excellency Sihasak Phuangketkeow.

To present a unique Thai Buddhist merit making ceremony dedicating to the departed King Rama IX of Thailand, 10 Thai Buddhist monks will perform Buddhist funeral chanting at the

royal portrait of the late king in the UNESCO conference hall. This will be the first time to held such a Buddhist ceremony in the premise of the UNESCO in front of all international ambassadors and dignitaries.

The morning will be followed by messages of tribute to the late Majesty by leaders of Buddhist organizations from several countries such as China, Japan, Australia, South Korea, Malaysia, and Nepal. In addition to the UNESCO ambassadors, staff and dignitaries the conference will be attended by over 1,000 international Buddhist communities around the world.

The afternoon session of the conference will be academic session. There will be four keynote speeches from scholars around the world about the Late His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej. The first academic paper is on “Guidance for a Broken World: The Buddhist Ethics of King Bhumibol of Thailand.” This will be presented by Prof. Stephen B. Young, the Global Executive Director, CAUX ROUND TABLE. Prof. Young, former professor of Harvard University and most importantly he is the son of His Excellency Kenneth Young, who was Jack Kennedy’s Ambassador to Thailand in the early 1960s. He is very familiar to Thailand and in fact he was the person who found one of the UNESCO World Heritages of Thailand, the Ban Chiang archeological site in 1966 while he was a student of anthropology and government student at Harvard College. We can call him a fan of the late His Majesty and he had a royal audience with the late majesty himself. His presentation will reflect the insight and wisdom of the late monarch in healing our broken world.

The second presentation will be more focused on material evidence and reality how Thailand had taken the late Majesty’s words seriously in developing Thailand. The topic, ‘Sufficiency Economy to Sustainable Development Goals: His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej’s Compassion in Action’ aptly give a real picture for international audience about how the late monarch had dedicated his life for developing Thailand till His Majesty was awarded the unique title of the Development King by the United Nations. In this context, there is no better speaker than Dr. Porametee Vimolsiri, Secretary General of the Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board of Thailand who gears Thailand development.

The third presentation will change mood of the international audience by the speech of a Thai Buddhist monk. This part of the presentation is on my shoulder. I will be presenting the late Majesty under the topic of ‘Dharmikaraja: The King of Sustainability.’ Of course, my focus will be showing how deep the knowledge of the late majesty had on Buddhism and its application in secular form. I will be giving my analytical view on background of His Majesty’s Sufficiency Economy principal and why the late majesty is the King of Sustainability.

The last but not least will be very exciting presentation under the topic of ‘King of Digital Innovation : From “What did the Buddha teach to Borobudur.” The Austrian world renown film producer Prof. Titus Leber is none other than the scholar who had produced an interactive digital production entitled What did the Buddha Teach under royal patronage of the late Majesty. Having learnt from his first production he launched another very daring production of making interactive digital production of the World heritage site of Borobudur of Indonesia. He is combing both of his jaw dropping production to his presentation by referring to the late Majesty as King of digital innovation.

In addition to the paying tribute by international dignitaries, Buddhist funeral ceremony, and academic presentations in honour of the late Majesty King Rama IX, the foyer of the conference hall will be fully displayed with the royal exhibition and video presentations of the Late His Majesty. The video production is produced by the Ministry of Culture of Thailand.

The exhibition and video exhibition inform international audiences not only about the royal life and activities but update with the information on the preparation for the royal cremation in October and how Thai people felt in general to this coming event.

While the second and third day of the conference will dedicate to international peace conference including issues such as interfaith, peace and Buddhism. The presenters are scholars from around the world and will be attended by many ambassadors at UNESCO and other international audiences.

This international peace conference will be the unique gathering of UNESCO dignitaries and Buddhist communities around the world to show their love and respect to the late HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand. This shows that it is not only Thai people who felt great lost but the great lost with the demise of the late monarch is equally echoed in the hearts of all Buddhist communities abroad.

With this information may I present you with the final part of the Dhamma talk given by the late Venerable K Sri Dhammananda on don't worry be happy. Here is the late Ven. Concluding his dhamma talk.