

Creating harmony between yourself and the world

Ground-breaking ceremony of Kwan Yin Chan Lin Zen Meditation Center—a new Zen Meditation building in Singapore on May 20, 2008

Zen Master Dae Kwang

Thank you for coming to this auspicious event. Auspicious means special or important. Why is this event special or important? Why is it important to open this Zen Center?

Buddha was born into this world because of the suffering of all beings. That is also the purpose of the Zen Center. The Zen Center is a place of practicing, and for people to come practice together to help relieve the suffering of all beings. So how many places in the world can you go to make harmony between yourself and all beings? Unfortunately, there are very few. So this Zen Center is important because it is a place for us to come and find our true self and help the world. This is what the Buddha did. This is what many human beings after Buddha have done, and that is also our job as human beings.

I want to thank you for supporting this Zen Center. Please come here and practice together, and together we can help this world. Thank you.



Gye Mun Sunim, JDPS

On May 20, 2008, Kwan Yin Chan Lin Zen Meditation Center had its ground breaking ceremony at its new location, Number 21 Lorong 25 Geylang. The ceremony was graced by Zen Master Dae Kwang, Dr. Ong Seh Hong, MP for Marine Parade GRC, Mr. Ang Mong Seng, BBM, MP for Hong Kah GRC, and sangha from various parts of the world.

The purpose of having a meditation center is to make a provision for people to come and practice together, find our true self, and help the world.

The abbot of Kwan Yin Chan Lin Zen Meditation Center, Gye Mun Sunim JDPS, said the meaning of ground breaking is to act together, and ultimately every one of us can attain happiness. He further added that the Zen Center does not belong to an individual in particular. It belongs to every one of us; and it is important for us to come and practice, to understand what we really are, attain our true self, and help the world. The Buddha taught us that there is actually no true “I”, every one of us has the same substance, and every one of us can attain our true self—our true nature and true substance. “When we attain our true selves, the earth has not an inch of soil”—only when we attain our true substance is it then no longer necessary to build this Zen Center.

Today, the world is full of disasters. The recent twin disasters in Myanmar and Sichuan exemplified that we are in a world of impermanence, where lives and homes are destroyed. To help the world, we need to have energy, and the Zen Center provides the place for us to recharge, so that we can extend our hands to help the world.

To build a Zen Center requires an auspicious cause and conditions. Kwan Yin Chan Lin Zen Meditation Center has organized an ongoing fundraising campaign “3650 Great Bodhisattva Vow” for its building funds, to appeal to 3650 kind donors to simply save a dollar a day, for a three-year period. In a year, there are 365 days, and by doing a good deed each day, every day is a good day. The current estimate of the construction fee is five million dollars.

The abbot added that when the Zen Center is completed, Kwan Yin Chan Lin Zen Meditation Center’s next task is to prepare a group of people to help those in need, and through this together-action the true meaning of the groundbreaking ceremony is manifested. We hope that through shared effort from every individual, the new Zen Center can be completed soon, to provide a place for practice so as to find our self and the true purpose of life.

