

Zen Blooms Everywhere

WWSF Malaysia Conference Committee

The Whole World Is a Single Flower International Zen Conference 2020 will be held in Singapore October 15–20, and in Malaysia October 21–25. The theme of the conference in Malaysia is “The Whole World Is a Single Flower: Zen Blooms Everywhere.”

Zen here means not only the teachings and practice taught by Zen Master Seung Sahn, but all the paths leading to true peace, harmony and equality, the same aspiration of Zen Master Man Gong when he calligraphed “The Whole World Is a Single Flower” after the end of World War II.

There will be true peace and harmony only when there is true acceptance of one and other among individuals, among families, among religions and among nations.

We are different in form, but all of us have the same Buddha nature. When we fully embrace our differences and let go of our ego, we are able to utilize our functions to help all beings, thus achieving world peace. Through WWSF2020 events, we will share and promote to everyone the importance of the spirit of “The Whole World Is a Single Flower: Zen Blooms Everywhere”—WE ARE ONE.

Prior to the conference, the lead organizer, the Hoeh Beng Buddhist Temple, has organized a series of activities to introduce the teachings of Zen Master Seung Sahn and the Kwan Um School of Zen that point directly to our mind in enabling more people to have the opportunities to learn and practice Zen by hosting WWSF2020.

In January 13, 2018, we launched a “piggy bank” proj-

ect in support for the WWSF2020. For three years, Zen practitioners have been encouraged to save RM1 [*One ringgit, the monetary currency of Malaysia, equivalent to about U.S. 24¢. —Ed.*] every day with the vow “A Ringgit a Day, Fulfillment in a Thousand Days, Zen Home, Zen Community, Zen World—Whole World Is a Single Flower.” The Zen practitioners who participate in the piggy bank project can cultivate their kind deeds in offering and are also eligible to participate in the upcoming Whole World Is a Single Flower International Zen Conference. They will have the opportunity to have close association with Zen masters, guiding teachers and Zen practitioners from all over the world. The funds raised will be used in funding the conference.

In addition, we have also planned a series of activities such as a “Zen Living, True Living” meditation retreat, a Great Dharani one-day retreat, a WWSF2020 volunteer training camp and Meet the Zen Masters Series Events. We have invited Zen Masters Dae Kwang, Seong Hyang, Dae Kwan and Dae Bong to conduct meditation retreats, Zen workshops and dharma talks. We have spared no effort to introduce the teachings of Zen Master Seung Sahn to the public, so that more people can understand and benefit from the core teachings of the Kwan Um School of Zen—especially don’t-know mind and kong-an practice—striving toward the goal of “The Whole World Is a Single Flower: Zen Blooms Everywhere.”

Once again, dear friends from the Kwan Um School of Zen around the world, do not miss this triennial event. See you in Malaysia. ♦

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Photo: Hoeh Beng Buddhist Temple