

Historic Visit of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama to Mahabodhi International Meditation Centre



Leh, Aug 09 2026: The Mahabodhi International Meditation Centre (MIMC), Leh, was blessed with the historic and deeply auspicious visit of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama to its Devachan Campus today.

His Holiness's visit holds special significance as it comes 32 years after his first historic visit to the campus in 1994, when he inaugurated and blessed the Devachan Campus at a time when Mahabodhi was still largely a dream and a vision for the future.

Today, His Holiness returned to the same campus, blessing its continued journey of education, healthcare, meditation, humanitarian service, environmental responsibility, world peace, and universal compassion.

The programme began with a reverential welcome to His Holiness by Ven. Bhikkhu Sanghasena, Founder and Spiritual Director of MIMC, along with monks, nuns, students, staff, volunteers, and members of the Mahabodhi family.

As a mark of deep reverence and gratitude, Ven. Bhikkhu Sanghasena offered traditional offerings to His Holiness, followed by his address to His Holiness and the gathering. He recalled the historic beginning of the Devachan Campus and expressed profound gratitude for His Holiness's continued blessings and guidance over the past more than three decades.

Ven. Bhikkhu Sanghasena highlighted the guiding principles of Mahabodhi, particularly "Meditation in Action and Compassion in Action," inspired by His Holiness's teachings on compassion, wisdom, non-violence, universal responsibility, and the fundamental understanding that we are all one human family.

A particularly touching moment of the programme was the song offering by the students of Mahabodhi Residential School, who expressed their joy and gratitude through music. Students also presented an introduction to Mahabodhi Residential School, sharing its vision of holistic education and its commitment to nurturing compassionate, responsible, and socially conscious young people.

A major highlight of the visit was the laying of the foundation stone by His Holiness, followed by his blessing of a sapling. The occasion symbolised growth, renewal, environmental responsibility, and MIMC's continuing commitment to creating a more compassionate and sustainable future.

The gathering was further blessed by a gentle rainfall, which added an extraordinary sense of serenity and auspiciousness to the occasion. The light showers were warmly

received by those present as a beautiful blessing from nature, making the historic gathering even more memorable.

His Holiness subsequently visited the MIMC Buddha Park for World Peace, where he circumambulated the 1,000 Buddha statues (Stongsku).

The 1,000 Buddhas project is a major MIMC initiative dedicated to World Peace and the creation of a Global Family, reflecting His Holiness's enduring message that all human beings are members of one human family. The 1,000 Buddha statues stand as symbols of compassion, wisdom, peace, and humanity's shared aspiration for a better world.

During the visit, Ven. Bhikkhu Sanghasena also shared some of MIMC's future aspirations with His Holiness, including the proposed Mahakaruna University, envisioned as a centre dedicated to the study, practice, and propagation of universal compassion.

MIMC also expressed its profound gratitude for His Holiness's gracious message for the forthcoming International Black-Necked Crane Festival, an initiative being undertaken in collaboration with the UT Administration and international organisations to promote awareness, compassion, and responsibility towards the conservation and protection of the Black-Necked Crane and its fragile Himalayan habitat.

The Centre is also preparing to host the International Conference on AI, Spirituality, Education and Compassion next month. With compassion as a central guiding principle, the conference will explore how wisdom, ethics, spirituality, education, and human values can help guide humanity through the rapidly changing age of artificial intelligence.

The Devachan Campus today attracts thousands of participants from India and across the world for MIMC's educational, spiritual, humanitarian, environmental, meditation, and international programmes. The campus continues to evolve as a platform for dialogue, interfaith harmony, inner transformation, service, and the promotion of global peace.

For the Mahabodhi family, the return of His Holiness after 32 years represented the completion of a profound and meaningful circle.

What began with His Holiness's blessings in 1994 has grown into a vibrant centre serving humanity, and today's visit has renewed MIMC's commitment to carry this journey forward with greater dedication.

The Mahabodhi International Meditation Centre expresses its deepest gratitude to His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama for his precious time, compassionate presence, blessings, and continued guidance.

May His Holiness continue to enjoy excellent health, a long and meaningful life, and the strength to continue his noble mission of spreading compassion, wisdom, peace, non-violence, and universal responsibility throughout the world.

