

Samanera Ordination Ceremony

Supplicant _____

Date _____

Location **Dhamma Sukha Meditation Center**

Annapolis, MO

Performed by Venerable Bhante Vimalaramsi,

Abbot

Those attending:

Samanera Ordination Ceremony

The Buddhist custom of ordination begins with the applicant's request to a Bhikkhu to permit him to receive a Samanera-ordination. The applicant, having received the permission, requests the Sangha to allow his head to be shaved.

[the applicant goes away and his head is shaved]

Having been shaved, he goes to a senior Bhikkhu and pays respect to him as a teacher by bowing down three times.

Then he makes supplication to the teacher and hands over a set of robes to him reciting a passage prescribed for the purpose. This done, he asks the teacher for the robes, which he puts on with the help of a male supporter.

After he has requested the teacher to ordain him a Samanera (novice), he formally takes up the Three Refuges and the Ten Precepts. He has now become a Samanera. As a Samanera he has to request the teacher to be his preceptor. Then, the preceptor gives him a new name in Pali.

The Procedure

Handing over the Robes to the Preceptor

Applicant : Venerable Sir. I would like to request you to take this set of robes in my hands and ordain me a Samanera out of compassion in order that I may become free from the cycle of suffering existences. **(say 3 times)**

[The applicant hands the robes over to the teacher and then bows 3 times.

Then he asks for the robes]

Asking the Preceptor for the Robes

Applicant: Venerable sir, I would like to request you to give me the set of Robes in your hands and ordain me a Samanera out of compassion in order that I may become free from the cycle of suffering existences
(Say 3 times)

[The applicant bows three times and the teacher gives him the robes. Then the applicant puts on the robes with the help of an attendant, this takes place in a private room]

Making a Request for Samanera Ordination

Applicant: Venerable Sir, I would like to request you to ordain me a Samanera in order that I may become free from the cycle of suffering existences and attain to Nibbana. **(say 3 times)**

Taking the Refuges and the 10 Precepts

Applicant pays homage to the Buddha:

Namo tassa bhagavato arahato samma sambuddhasa. (3 times)

I pay homage to the Exalted One, free from all defilements and perfectly awakened by Himself. (3 times)

Taking the Three Refuges

Buddham saranam gacchami

Dhammam saranam gacchami

Sangham saranam gacchami

Dutiampi Buddham saranam gacchami

Dutiampi Dhammam saranam gacchami

Dutiampi Sangham saranam gacchami

Tatiyampi Buddham saranam gacchami

Tatiyampi Dhammam saranam gacchami

Tatiyampi Sangham saranam gacchami

I take refuge in the Buddha

I take refuge in the Dhamma

I take refuge in the Sangha

For the second time, I take refuge in the Buddha

For the second time, I take refuge in the Dhamma

For the second time, I take refuge in the Sangha

For the third time, I take refuge in the Buddha

For the third time, I take refuge in the Dhamma

For the third time, I take refuge in the Sangha

Reciting The Ten Precepts For A Samanera

1] Panati pata veramani-sikkha padam samadiyami

I undertake the training precept to abstain from killing or harming living beings on purpose.

2] Adinna-dana veramani-sikkha padam samadiyami

I undertake the training precept to abstain from taking what is not given.

3] Abrahmacariya veramani-sikkhapadam samadiyami

I undertake the training precept to abstain from all sexual activity

4] Musavada veramani-sikkha padam samadiyami

I undertake the training precept to abstain from telling lies, harsh speech, slanderous speech, and gossip

5] Sura meraya-majja-pama-datthana veramani-sikkha padam samadiyami

I undertake the training precept to abstain from taking any kind of intoxicants.

6] Vikala-bhojana veramani-sikkha padam samadiyami

I undertake the training precept to abstain from taking solid food after the noon day meal (from 12:00 noon until dawn)

7] Nacca-gita-vadita-visuka-dassana vermani-sikkha padam samadiyami

I undertake the training precept to abstain from dancing, singing, music and any kind of entertainment show.

**8] Mala-ganda-vilepana-dharana-mandana-vibhusanatthana
veramani-sikkha padam samadiyami**

I undertake the training precept to abstain from the use of flowers, garlands, perfumes, unguents and things that tend to beautify and adorn a person.

9] Ucca sayana-maha sayana vermani-sikkhapadam samadiyami

I undertake the training precept to abstain from using high and luxurious beds and seats.

**10] Metta-saha gatena cetasa sabba-pana bhutenu veramani-
sikkha padam samadiyami**

I undertake the training precept to dwell with my mind pervading loving-kindness toward myself and all beings as often as possible in life.

Reciting of the Ten Dhammas in English

"There are these ten things which one who has gone forth [into homelessness] should reflect upon always, What ten?

1] "I am now changed into a different mode of life [from that of a layman]" I must reflect upon this, always.

2] "My life depends on others" I must reflect on this, always.

3] "I must now behave in a different manner" I must reflect on this, always.

4] "Does my mind censure me regarding the state of my virtue?" I must reflect on this, always.

5] 'Do my discerning friends in the Holy-life admonish me regarding the state of my virtue? I must reflect on this, always.

6] There will be a parting and separation from all those who are dear and loving to me" I must reflect on this, always

7] "Of kamma I am constituted. Kamma is my inheritance; Kamma is my origin; kamma is my kinsman; kamma is my refuge. Whatever kamma I perform, be it good or bad, to that I shall be an heir' I must reflect on this, always.

8] "How do I spend my nights and days?" I must reflect on this, always.

9] "Do I take delight in solitude?" I must reflect on this, always.

10] "Have I gained super-human knowledge which can be specially known to noble ones so that later when I am questioned by fellow monks or nuns, I will not be embarrassed?" I must reflect on this, always.

These are the ten things which one who has gone forth must reflect upon always.

Asking for a Preceptor

Applicant: Upajjhayo me Bhante hohi (say this 3 times)
Venerable sir, would you please be kind enough to be my
preceptor (say this 3 times)

Preceptor: Pasadikena Sampadehi.
Please, behave well.

Samanera: Ama Bhante
Yes, Venerable Sir, I will.

The Preceptor now gives the Samanera a new name.

End of Ceremony