

Heritage site of Lord Buddha; A Sikkimese Buddhist Perspective

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Abstract

A long time ago there appeared a great king honored by multitude, and gradually formed the royal lineage son of the first monarch family in this world, and the emperor of 5 sects was formed, when the king received pure vows from the superior one, then there came a 5 universal monarch, they came from the pure descents of the Royal Lineage of Sakya King named Sakya Gyalpo Singi-dram, and he had four sons and four daughters and a part from these four the eldest son Suddhodana's lineage divided into two sons, they are Siddharat and Chungawa. There is different commentary maxim in Mahayana and Hinayana Buddhism. In brief at the southern world in which Lord Buddha performed the 12 Holy deeds and Legend History compatibility. Now in this text we explain the four major pilgrimage sites which were predicted by Lord Buddha.

Keywords: Sakya, Mahayana, Hinayana, Gyalpo, Iopen Pawo, Lunar month, Lumbini, Durkpa tsezhi.

Introduction

According to the Buddha's Visesagama prasnvrthi

1. The Birth place of Lord Buddha.
2. The place in which Buddha attend Enlightenment.
3. The Noble Teachings of Lord Buddha.
4. The Mahaparinirvana of Lord Buddha

After my parinirvana disciples those who have faith and follow me and listen to my teachings have to look after the four major pilgrimage sites.

As long as everyone lives, everyone has to take a round and prostrate in front of the stupa and those who have faith in novel teachings will surely take a higher rebirth.

According to the sutra composed by Iopen Pawo there are four major pilgrimage sites of Lord Buddha.

When you were born, chief among human beings

You took seven steps on this earth and said, "In this world I am supreme"

To you, oh wise one, I pay homage! Buddha was born in Lumbini Buddha attend Full enlightenment at Bodhgaya Buddha taught his first sermon at Varanasi Buddha attends Mahaparinirvana at Kushinagar.

The Birth place of Lord Buddha

In the olden days there lived two kings; they were king Devadaha and King Koliya in between their kingdom. There was a place called lumbini which was in the Southern district of Nepal called Rumend.

The Great Emperor Ashoka wrote that this is the place where Buddha was born and he erected an inscribed pillar marking the birth place of Lord Buddha, till date we can witness with our naked eyes.

Inside Monastery there is a white marker stone pillar in which it is written that Buddha took birth in this place.

In year 1995 Neh-hong brought ancient things and there we can spot the clay statue of Siddharatha and Yasodhara.



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The month when Buddha was born is considered to be the most precious month, and on the sixth lunar month Buddha entered in womb of Queen Maya Devi.

According to the Hinayana Buddhism countries like Sri Lanka, Burma, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia, and kombust they believe that Buddha was in the womb of queen Maya Devi from the full moon day of 6th lunar month till the full moon day of 3rd lunar month in which Buddha completes 9 months in the womb and took birth.

According to the Mahayana Buddhism Buddha was in the womb of queen Maya Devi from the full moon day of 6th lunar month till the 8th day of fourth lunar month in which Buddha completes 10 months and took birth.

Buddha was born to King Suddhodana and Queen Maya Devi in year 623 B.C. At the time Buddha was born without any harm to his mother and with lot of divine symbols and Buddha was born without any impure smell. And Buddha took birth from the right armhole of Queen Maya Devi.

The place in which Buddha attended Enlightenment

According to the sutra this is the place where Buddha attended enlightenment, the historical Buddha, also known as Sakyamuni Buddha or Sakya king attended enlightenment at the age of 35 under the Mahabodhi tree at Bodhgaya. And it is also the holiest pilgrimage site of Lord Buddha. It is believed that Buddha attended enlightenment at Bodhgaya which was then called Magada. In the present time it is known as the state of Bihar which is considered as the sacred site of Buddha. It is believed that all the thousand Buddha's will attend enlightenment at Bodhgaya.

Now the Buddha's time to attend enlightenment has come and at the time when he was passing by the forest one herb seller named Tashi came and gifted a bunch of herb to Buddha, and Buddha accepted the bunch of herb which was offered by the herb seller Tashi, and after that Buddha layout the bunch of herb and sat with crossed leg and leaned back under the boddhi tree, and stretched up his body straight and Buddha took an oath saying that,

May my body get parch here in this seat.

Even it takes a fabulous period of time to gain enlightenment.

Until and unless I do not attain enlightenment I will not move from this seat.

And took a promise and sat over the herb mat, and after that in the 14th day of twilight time he defeated mara, and the demon lost. And at the break of dawn time Buddha attend the knowledge of omniscience and Siddharatha became Buddha or (Sangay) and enlightenment one. And it was coincided by the full moon day of the 4th lunar month.

This is why Bodhgaya is considered to be the holiest pilgrimage site of Lord Buddha.

That's why the four major sects of Tibet,

which is Nyingmapa, Kagyupa, Sakyapa, and Gelukpa annually come at bodhgaya and perform the great prayer ceremony, they come with the large number of monks and nuns respectively and perform the grand ceremony at bodhgaya.

At the time of grand ceremony vendors and residency of bodhgaya and nearby the holy land get conducive on growth at the time yearly.

The Noble Teachings of Lord Buddha

According the sutra, Lord Buddha gave teachings of the four novel truths at Varanasi, they are;

1. The truth of suffering (Dukkha)
2. The truth origin of suffering (Samudaya)
3. The truth Cessation of suffering (Nirodha)
4. The truth of path to cessation of suffering (Magga)

The name Varanasi was given because it was in-between the river wrana and sea. And Buddha gave his first preaching at the place called Saranath.

After attaining the enlightenment on the full moon day of 4th lunar month, Buddha didn't taught or gave teachings and remained silent for next 7 weeks.

After that Bharma and Indra appeared in front of Lord Buddha and bowed down and Bharma offered precious gem and Indra offered thousand spokes and requested Buddha to give teachings in this world.

Buddha accepted and placed the holy site and from the prosperous thousand Buddha's throne made up of precious substances, Buddha took three rounds to the throne and bowed down the throne of past three Buddha's, and Buddha himself sat on the fourth throne and other got invisible.

And Buddha preached the first sermon to his five disciples and eighty thousands of devas and defines four novel truths and analyzes them in twelve aspects.

And his five disciples became the first people a part from Buddha to realize the Dharma.

Annually the 4th day of sixth month which is Durkpa tsege is observed as the auspicious festival yearly.

The Mahaparinirvana of Lord Buddha

According to the sutra, now Buddha entered to Mahaparinirvana

Kushinagar is the place where Lord Buddha Sakyamuni entered Mahaparinirvana when he reached 82nd year, Buddha displayed his final deeds of Mahaparinirvana at kushinagar,

Kushinagar is also the holiest pilgrimage site of Lord Buddha.

According to Ju Mipham Rinpoche:

The Treasury of Blessings, A practice of Buddha Sakyamuni!

Your wisdom body is like a space

And remain changeless throughout past, present, and future

Yet in this perception of those to be guided, you go through the display of birth and death.

Even so, let your form of body continue always to appear and performed holy deeds of Mahaparinirvana. And after that some of the disciples

also attend Mahaparinirvana. And Buddha handed over his disciples to kashyapa.

Now the final deed that Lord Buddha performed for his disciples was in the full moon day of 4th lunar month, and Buddha himself lay down under a sala tree and he was surrounded by his disciples from every direction and kept Buddha in center of his disciples and Buddha lay down towards right side and said. To gain or to meet Buddha is very hard; it's like an uh-dom-wha-ra flower, and all compounded phenomenon are impermanent.

And Buddha addressed his disciples for the final time and taught them the importance of devoting their life to find the true happiness.

According to the sutra of parinirvana; this was his final deed.

And Buddha slowly turned and placed his right hand under his head and kept his left hand to the left side of body, facing his head towards north and lay down in the position of singi-nyal-thab and peacefully attends Mahaparinirvana, and the place of Mahaparinirvana is considered as a holy pilgrimage site.

It takes 55 km by road from Gorakhpur in the state of U.P now the place known as Ma-thu-ku-war which was then kushinagar is considered as the holy pilgrimage site.

The reason behind to attain Mahaparinirvana at kushinagar was in his previous life he had taken a birth in royal family and ruled the place for many times and had performed spiritual activities, and in this present life also he considered to attend Mahaparinirvana and the final deed at kushinagar.

In this life if someone will visit at this mentioned pilgrimage site and will perform invocations will be blessed abundantly.

Conclusion

Lord Buddha arrived at the element of the universe And proclaim Dharma teachings just like blazing sun And the holder of teachings of masters and disciples may join on the same level

May such auspicious prevail and flourish for a long duration.

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