

MAHABODHI KARUNA MEDICAL CENTER
Bengaluru, India



Maha Bodhi Society, Bengaluru, was established by Most Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita in 1956 and since then the society has been serving through spiritual, educational, medical and humanitarian services to the needy people. Mahabodhi Maitri Mandala, its humanitarian service wing has established service activities in different parts of India.



Ven. Dr. Acharya Buddharakkhita, a Buddhist monk who has dedicated six decades of service to the sick and poor. Even at the age of 91 he is actively teaching meditation, writing books and serving the sick. He has built three hospitals, one specially for burn injuries in Bengaluru. He was the first to start hospital dana service where he distributed fruits to poor patients and gave counseling. He has written over 100 books Buddhism and working hard to present character building holistic moral education model.

Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita
Founder President of Mahabodhi Organizations

In Siddapura, one of the biggest slums of Bengaluru, (over 30% of people live in slums in Bengaluru) we have a piece of land. It is an earnest wish of Ven. Acharya Buddharakkhita to build and run a holistic community medical center there mainly for the disabled people. After successfully building Mahabodhi Burns and Casualty Center in the Victoria Hospital Complex, Venerable Acharya felt deeply to serve the disabled people, particularly the poor.



Accordingly a project has been planned to build and run a medical center purely on charitable lines. It will be absolutely free for rich and poor, based on the noble intention of offering Arogya dana – gift of health. In the modern times even health, the basic need of a human being, is sold for money. Though in a humble way, this medical center will serve everybody and give the gift of health totally free of charge to uphold humane qualities. We welcome one and all to support and be part of this noble cause.

Mission Statement: Health service being the basic necessity of all beings will be offered freely and special emphasis will be given to empower all kinds of disabled people physically, mentally and spiritually to alleviate sufferings and to enable them to live a life of satisfaction and dignity.

Objective of the Project: This is a project to help the suffering people, specially urban poor who have much more problems than the rural poor. It is our wish to build a healthy society which is morally strong, physically and mentally healthy, educationally and spiritually enriched.

Proposed Mahabodhi Karuna Hospital at Bengaluru, India



MAHABODHI KARUNA MEDICAL CENTRE

Service to the Disabled

Census 2001 has revealed that over 21 million people in India are suffering from one or the other kind of disability. This is equivalent to 2.1% of the population. If social disabilities are taken into account the number will go to double digits. Among the five types of disabilities on which data has been collected, disability in *seeing* at 48.5% emerges as the top category. Others in sequence are: in *movement* (27.9%), *Mental* (10.3%), in *speech* (7.5%), and in *hearing* (5.8%). Disability due to burns is also high in India. In Bengaluru alone 360 persons lost their lives and 2517 persons needed hospitalization for burn injuries during the last year.



Mahabodhi Home for Elders in Tawang

Due to a combination of poverty and absence of a rehabilitation tradition, the field of rehabilitation is very underdeveloped in India. As a general rule for developing countries, the WHO estimates that only 1-2% of patients who need rehabilitation actually has access to it.



Donation of Wheel Chairs and Regular Hospital Visits by monks

In 2001, the Karnataka Health Task Force published a report that highlights this lack of rehabilitation facilities, stating explicitly that there is an "overall lack of emphasis on preventive, promotive and rehabilitative care." Rehabilitation should be the main integrated health policy for any government or non-governmental organisation at this juncture.

The normal causes for disability are Arthritis, Cardio-respiratory diseases, Medical/surgical intervention, Burns, Stroke, Leprosy, Cerebral Palsy, Old age, Injury other than burns, polio and others.



Many poor children are under the care of Mahabodhi residential schools

Mahabodhi Karuna Hospital will try to serve patients of mobility or orthopaedic impairments, health impairments, hearing impairments,

blindness and visual impairments, speech or language impairments, mental illness or emotional disturbance, learning disabilities or other impairments due to any reason.

Many patients need regular dialysis. But it is quite expensive which poor people cannot afford. Mahabodhi will provide with the help of philanthropists and charity organisations free dialysis. We have plans to install two machines.

Meditation Therapy Center

Another important component of this center will be meditation therapy center. An entire floor will be dedicated to this program where meditation will be used as effective therapy and counselling to many suffering people. The monks and meditation experts of Maha Bodhi Society and also from other places ensure that the program runs successfully benefitting many people.



Since the approach will be holistic one Ayurvedic and Naturopathic medicine will be part of the project.

We are glad that the some specialist doctors will be offering volunteer service in their field of expertise. Many more volunteer doctors will be invited to participate in this project. *(You may also kindly request doctors to join us!)*

For the smooth running of all the services under the guidance of monks a team of dedicated doctors has been formed. Apart from volunteer doctors there will be regular appointed doctors providing daily free general consultation and treatment. With the help of donors our center will offer freely prosthesis, orthoses, hearing and visual aids, wheel chairs and

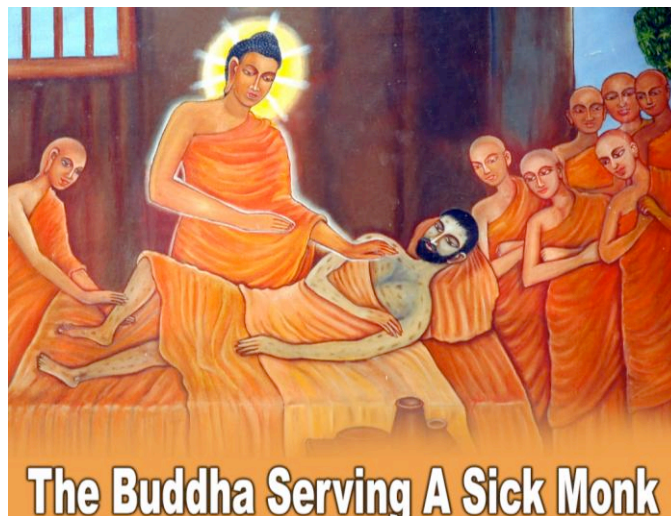
tricycles, braces, mobility and writing aids, rehabilitation aids, dialysis, physiotherapy, etc.

Following is the plan to develop this project. There will be three programs in this project, each one accommodated in a separate floor.

1. **Basement Floor:** This will be car parking floor
2. **Lower Ground Floor:** This floor will be Free Medical section. This section will consist of consultation rooms, treatment rooms for disabled people and labs.
3. **Upper Ground Floor:** Here Meditation center will be situated and it will be entirely dedicated to meditation, yoga and counseling.
4. **First and Second Floors:** These floors will have specialized medical services and will be resource generating wings.

Each floor will be about (300 sq.mts) or 3200 sq.ft. The total cost will be

Sl.No	Particulars	Amount In Rupees	Amount In US \$
1	Building construction of each floor 3300 sq.ft X Rs.1500 = 49,50,000 X 5 floors	2,47,50,000	4,58,300
2	Equipment for Free medical center	32,00,000	59,300
3	Furnishing of the Meditation hall and counseling room	2,00,000	3700
	Total	2,81,50,000	5,21,300



An appeal:

We appeal to you to join in this endeavor and help us to serve the suffering people. We request you to donate generously and earn immense merit.

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