Lighting the Mahabodhi – an offering to the sacred Mahabodhi Mahavihara

For Buddhists everywhere – regardless of tradition, school or lineage – there is no more sacred place on this earth than the place where Sakyamuni Buddha realized the truth and attained enlightenment. Bodhgaya is a powerful unifying force for all Buddhists: Every year, hundreds of thousands of practitioners – from Sri Lanka to China to Russia to the Americas – visit the ancient Mahabodhi Temple. Sadly, these pilgrims are also aware of the neglect and inferior conditions that prevail in Bodhgaya and at the temple, including deteriorating physical structures and poor lighting. Over the years the authorities have made major improvements to the Mahabodhi Temple and its surroundings. In that spirit they have now authorized Siddharthas Intent India in partnership with Khyentse Foundation and Vana Foundation to install an outstanding, sustainable lighting system of the highest quality in the entire Mahabodhi complex.

The new lighting, that has been approved and will be owned by the Mahabodhi Temple Committee, will highlight the magnificent splendour of the main temple and all places of worship, be aesthetically pleasing, and improve the safety and comfort of pilgrims. It will be adaptable to special Mahabodhi Temple rituals and needs. Offering of Aloke, or light, is one of the most fundamental practices in Buddhism, symbolizing clarity, insight and wisdom. We warmly invite you to join us in one of the largest and most lasting light offerings in the history of this World Heritage site:

The lighting will meet top international standards, be durable and trouble-free in operation and maintenance, be ecologically sensitive and energy efficient, and sharply reduce light pollution. Starting in 2019, the project will take two years to complete in order to minimize disruption and fully respect archaeological sensitivities.

Please see https://www.lightingthemahabodhi.in/ for full details, artistic images, and opportunities to contribute. The new lighting, that has been approved and will be owned by the Mahabodhi Temple Committee, will highlight the magnificent splendour of the main temple and all places of worship, be aesthetically pleasing, and improve the safety and comfort of pilgrims. It will be adaptable to special Mahabodhi Temple rituals and needs. Offering of Aloke, or light, is one of the most fundamental practices in Buddhism, symbolizing clarity, insight and wisdom. We warmly invite you to join us in one of the largest and most lasting light offerings in the history of this World Heritage site:

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An initiative of Siddhartha’s Intent India, with support from Khyentse Foundation and Vana Foundation.

www.lightingthemahabodhi.in