

**The Wheel of Dhamma Rotates Around the World - Iran**  
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*Iran Dhamma Geba, Mehrshahr of Tehran*

With groups of students from Iran going to sit courses in Dhamma Giri in India, since the 1990s, the wheel of Dhamma had begun to start rotating again in this ancient civilization and an important country in the Middle East. With the dedicated efforts of old students, the first ten-day was successfully organized near Tehran in August 1999. 13 students participated in this course. Soon, another five courses were organized in and around Tehran in the same year. From the experience of those serving courses, Iranian people have taken to Vipassana very enthusiastically, as if they had been long waiting for them dearly.

Since then, every year between 8 to 16 courses have been organized in and around Tehran and other cities like Ramsar, Klardasht and Mashhad for men and women separately. Last year, a Dhamma House has been organized near Tehran, where two ten-day courses and at least one one-day children course were organized every month.

The Dhamma House, located in suburb of Tehran, has six rooms and can accommodate around 33 participants in every course. The number of applicants for each course is usually high and the Dhamma House is normally overcrowded during courses with both male and females. Children courses have received warm appreciation from both parents and children as well.

For the past two years, efforts are underway for selecting an appropriate site for Vipassana Centre near Tehran. Recently the trustees have begun negotiations over a suitable 4.8 hectares site located in Mehrshahr, 40 Km away from Tehran and easily accessible from the capital city by the local city bus and Metro. To meet with the increasing demand, there is an urgent need to establish this centre.