

## Vipassana Meditation Centre

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The Hong Kong Vipassana Meditation Centre is situated in north New Territories, north of the Kowloon Peninsula of Hong Kong, close to the border of China, and about 20 minutes drive from Shenzhen. The Centre is accessible from the Sheung Shui Train Station via mini bus, a 10 minutes trip. Sheung Shui is an important border town and is quite well developed. The famous Royal HK Jockey Club has a country club in Sheung Shui, and its back gate is 3 minutes' walk to our front gate. The Centre is located in a valley, with a little creek running in front of it.

The Centre is called HK Dhamma House. It is a temporary site with unsatisfactory facilities. Hence no Dhamma name has been given to it yet. The premises where the Centre is located was lent to us in early 1999, but has been operational under the current name since May 2000 when a legal trust was established.

The Dhamma hall can house 40 students and six Dhamma servers at full capacity. The dormitories (for Female 20 and Male 20) have metal double bunker beds. No meditation cells are available for now.

The Dhamma Hall is the best facility of the Centre in terms of equipment, air-conditioning and atmosphere. The Centre is close to nature, with reasonable vegetation cover, and birds of diverse species.

On average, 12 ten-day courses are conducted yearly with some short courses – one-day or 3 days for old students - fitted in between.

Last year, the Trust applied to the Government for a piece of land to build a permanent Centre. The Government has, in principle, offered a piece of land, subject to land cost compensation, in TungWan, Lantau Island. Lantau Island is the largest island where the Hong Kong Airport, the landing point of the future Hong Kong – Macao, Zhu Hai and Hong Kong Disney Land - are situated. The trustees are working closely with the Government. They have submitted to the Government, by 11th July 2005, a proposal to acquire the land at nil premium together with a detailed assessment report on the land to them. It is believed that the negotiation with the Government for the land price and other conditions shall start right after the submission, and will take about six months.