

## Dhamma Rasmi

Vipasana Centre Queensland

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### *Dhamma Rasmi*

Dhamma Rasmi (meaning 'Ray of Dhamma') is set in a delightful area known as the Sunshine Coast, in a subtropical hinterland setting just 25 kilometres from the sea and a popular tourist destination. Pomona (a Greek word meaning 'goddess of fruits') enjoys good rainfall, mild winters and tropical summers. The township sits at the base of the remnant of a large volcano called Mount Cooroora. Well connected by rail and bus, Dhamma Rasmi is a 10-minute, two-kilometre walk from the township.

When purchased, the land comprised 40 acres with five dams, established gardens, an orchard and one habitable cottage. The Centre land slopes gently down, on an east/west access, from either side to a small tree lined creek. The local Council approved a Centre to be built for 52 people.

In 1993 a further 20 acres of forested land behind the Shanti Patar ('Plateau of Peace') as purchased. The first 10-day course was conducted in temporary buildings in October 1989. Goenkaji and Mataji visited the Centre later the same year.

In 1992, an octagonal hall, designed to seat 200 meditators was completed along with two bathroom blocks and student accommodation consisting of two cottages. The hall was partitioned to provide temporary old student accommodation. In 1996 a spacious kitchen with adjoining dining halls was constructed followed by an office complex including male and female server rest rooms. In 2001 two more masonry accommodation blocks were built and lastly in 2004 an assistant teacher complex was built. This includes interview room, office and two assistant teacher residences.

Dhamma Rasmi hosts up to 21 ten-day, 4 each children and teenagers, Satipaṭṭhāna tthana and 4 three-day old student courses each year.

In May 2005 the local Council approved construction for single accommodation rooms for each student, 22 with attached bathrooms, extensions to the existing dining rooms, a separate office building complex and a pagoda

This approval secures the future growth of Dhamma Rasmi that has already become well established and well regarded amongst the local community. The gardens continue to blossom and with large expansions of park-like land many wild kangaroos find refuge in the peaceful atmosphere.