



## YOUTH BUDDHIST SOCIETY OF INDIA (YBS)

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Dear Ven / Friends in the Dhamma,

Youth Buddhist Society of India, based in Mainpuri and Sankisa, Uttar Pradesh, has been inviting authentic teachers of Buddha Dhamma from time to time in order to introduce people to the liberating path of Lord Buddha. To further this process and also in order to increase the enthusiasm and development of the local Shakya people, His Holiness the Dalai Lama has been requested second time to visit us and teach and we are delighted to inform all of you that He has accepted to do so from 3-6 December 2018 at Sankisa.

Sankisa is steeped in Buddhist history. This is where Buddha descended to earth having given teachings to his mother in the Tushita heaven. The King Asoka in approx. 223 BC built a stupa with an elephant that nowadays, albeit in its decrepit condition, is still a witness to Sankisa's glorious past. Holiness's visit will be a boon in the areas of cultural, social, spiritual, educational and regional progress. Also renowned Chinese pilgrim-scholar Huiyen Tsang spoke of an Ashokan pillar and a mahavihara with a thousand monks when he visited.

Nowadays, even without the benefit of a functioning Buddhist Institution or an educated Sangha in the area, local Shakyas and Buddhists for decades have been trying to understand and bring the teachings into their daily lives.

YBS India has been broadcasting the significance etc of Sankisa since 1986, boosting awareness of Buddha Dharma as well as history of the holy place.

His Holiness's visit will accelerate Sankisa's recent appreciation of its proud past and present significance, boost the morale of the Shakya people who are still in a majority in the area and lead to unity amongst the people of Sankisa and the surrounding areas, as well as open up more possibilities for tourism.

Buddha has said that the gift of the Dhamma excels all other gifts. We are making preparations for the 10,000 people who are expected to attend H. H. Teaching for four days, and to cover their board and lodging will require a large amount of financial resources.

Therefore, in order for us to successfully accomplish this meritorious event involving the blessings of His Holiness and the receiving of Holy Dharma of **Boddhichariyavatar** (The way of Bodhisattvas) in Sankisa, we have great need of your kind financial support and dhamma generosity.

We offer our heartfelt thanks to you for helping to make this extraordinary gathering possible.

With respectful good wishes in Dhamma

Organizer:

Youth Buddhist Society of India (YBS)