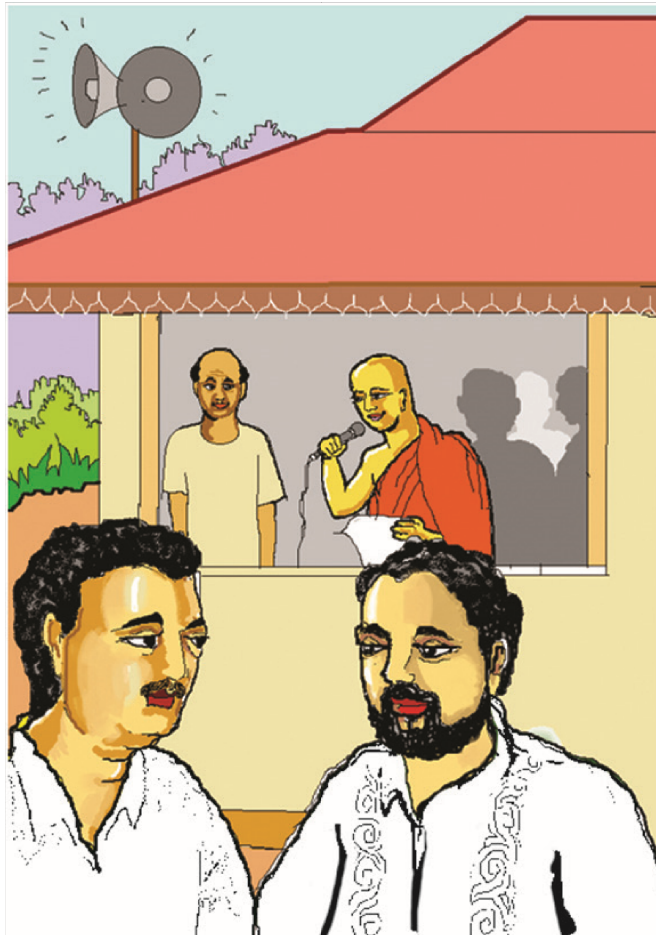


# The Closest Bond 1

" One who lives by the Dhamma is protected by the Dhamma."  
-The Buddha

## Activity 1 Act Out



It is the Poson Full Moon Poya day. The Chief Monk of the temple, Venerable Nanda is announcing the programme for the afternoon and the evening. Two devotees, Mr. Perera and Mr. Sirisena are at the temple listening to the announcements.

Announcer: May the Triple Gem bless all of you. It's indeed a pleasure to see so many devotees gathered here. We've had some special programmes since this morning. For the afternoon, the Dhamma discussion will start at 2 o' clock. Devotees who would like to attend this event, please proceed to the preaching hall.

Mr. Sirisena : I'm attending the Dhamma discussion. How about you?

Mr. Perera : I'll be there too. I attended last month's discussion. It was very good. I learnt many things.

Mr. Sirisena : Unfortunately, I couldn't come. I was away.

Announcer: There will be a meditation programme conducted by the Most Venerable Attangalle Sumedha at 4 p.m. in the Bodhi terrace.

Mr. Perera : An open air place is ideal for meditation. I hope it won't rain.

Mr. Sirisena : Not likely. The sky is clear.

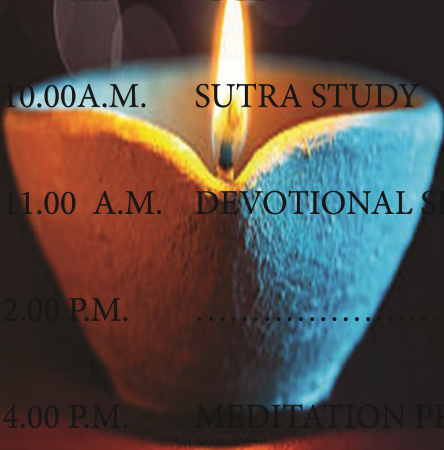
Announcer: The evening devotional service will be held from 6.30 to 7.30 p.m. and the Dhamma sermon delivered by Venerable Inamaluwe Rathana will start at 8 p.m.

Mr. Sirisena : Well, I can't stay for the devotional service but I will come back for the sermon.

Mr. Perera : Same here. It's almost time for the Dhamma discussion. Let's go in.

## Activity 2 - Reading

Read the conversation and complete the programme.



POSON POYA DAY PROGRAMME	
6.30 A.M.	SIL PROGRAMME
7.00 A.M.	MORNING DEVOTIONAL SERVICE
9.00 A.M.	DHAMMA SERMON
10.00 A.M.	SUTRA STUDY
11.00 A.M.	DEVOTIONAL SERVICE
2.00 P.M.	.....
4.00 P.M.	MEDITATION PROGRAMME
6.30 P.M.	.....
8.00 P.M.	.....

### Activity 3

Write the missing noun or verb.

Noun	Verb
announcer/announcement	announce
discussion	.....
.....	meditate
devotion/devotee	.....
.....	deliver
information	.....
.....	celebrate

### Activity 4

Write the missing adjective or adverb.

Adjective	Adverb
special	specially
unfortunate	.....
devoted	.....
annual	.....
necessary	.....

### Activity 5 - Listening

You will hear an announcement. Listen to it and select the correct answer.

e.g. Programme: Sil programme / Shramadana campaign

1. Date: 29<sup>th</sup> of April / 5<sup>th</sup> of May
2. Time: 9 a.m. / 9 p.m.
3. Place: Buddhagaya Temple / Buduraja Vehera Temple
4. Cleaning tools: necessary / not necessary
5. Meals : will be provided / will not be provided



## Activity 6 Group Work

Read the given announcement, then select one of the events given below and write an announcement. Read it to the class.

### Announcement

We would like to remind our devotees that the Annual Final Rain-Retreat (Kathina) ceremony and Bodhi Pooja will be held at Kattakaduwa Temple on 21<sup>st</sup> April. It will start at 7.00 p.m. *The Perahera* with the Kathina Robe<sup>1</sup> will leave the temple premises at 4.00 a.m. The perahera will go around the village and return to the temple before sunrise.

<sup>1</sup> Special robe made during the rain retreat

#### A Bodhi Pooja

Conducted by:  
Venerable Galagama  
Chandrarathana  
Venue: Siri Sumamna  
Temple, Homagama  
Date : 12th March  
Time : 6 p.m.

#### A Dhamma Sermon

Delivered by: Venerable  
Wewala Piyadassi  
Date : Sunday, 27th  
November  
Time: 4 p.m.  
Place: Maha Vihara  
Temple, Anuradhapura

#### Vesak Poya Day Sil Programme

6.00 a.m- Observing Sil  
7.00 a.m- Morning  
devotional programme  
9.00 a.m- Meditation  
programme  
11.00 a.m- Buddha Pooja  
1.30 p.m. - Dhamma  
sermon – delivered by  
Venerable Ananda  
3.00 p.m- Dhamma  
discussion  
5.00 a.m- Concluding Sil  
observance (*Sil Pavarana*)

### Activity 7 - Reading

Read the notice and answer the questions given in the Activity 03 of the work book Unit 1.

#### KNOW WHAT YOU BELIEVE

A Weekly Dhamma Discussion Programme for Young Adults

Topics for discussion include:

- Developing Ourselves – The life of the Buddha
- Auspices in Life - Mahā Mangala Sutta
- Loving Kindness – Karaniyametta Sutta
- The Buddhist Path to Success – Sigālovāda Sutta

Every Sunday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Mettarama Pirivena

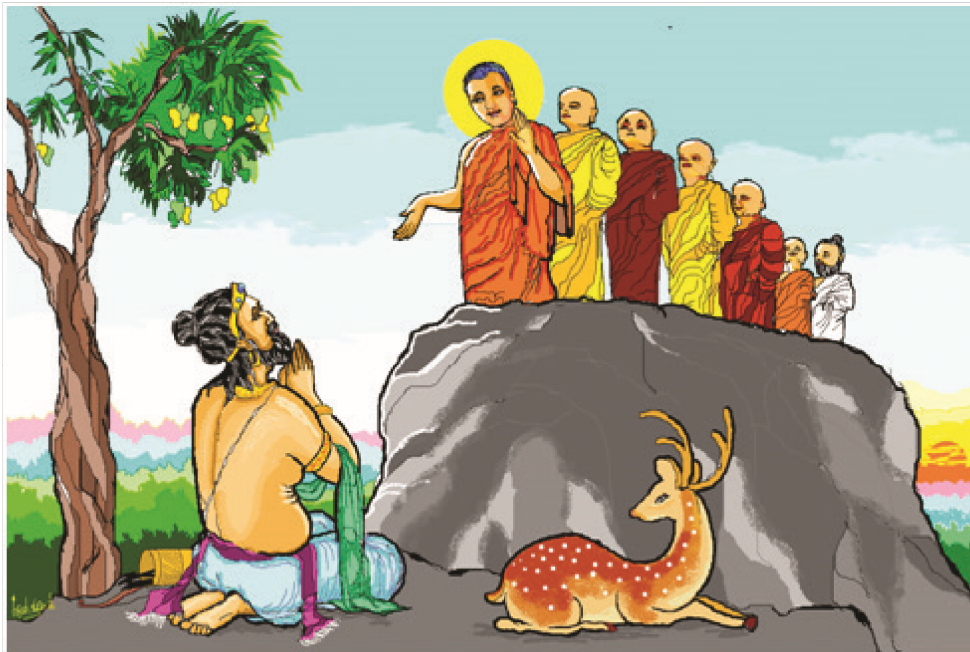
Each discussion will be followed by a one-hour mediation session

All are Welcome!

### Activity 8 - Pronunciation

Write words of your own in which the given letters are silent.

Silent "k"	Silent "h"	Silent "e"
knife	honour	home



Poson Poya day celebrates the introduction of Buddhism to Sri Lanka. Sri Lankan Buddhists believe that it was the day that Arahata Mahinda Thero arrived in Sri Lanka and met King Devanampiyatissa who was out hunting. This historical meeting between Arahata Mahinda Thero and King Devanampiyatissa took place on a high rock called Mihintale. This meeting happened 236 years after the Passing Away of the Buddha. On that particular day, while the King went out hunting in Mihintale, all at once he heard somebody calling him by his name “Tissa, Tissa”. He looked around in surprise and wondered who could be so bold as to call the King by his name. Then he saw Arahata Mahinda standing on the rock with the other monks. He dropped his bow and arrow immediately. The King asked Arahata Mahinda who he was and why he was here. To which Arahata Mahinda replied that he was the son of Emperor Ashoka and he had come here out of compassion for the King. Arahata Mahinda also said that he was here to preach the Dhamma of the Buddha to the people of this country. After explaining this to the King, Arahata Mahinda began to ask the following questions.

Arahat Mahinda Thero : Oh! King, what is this tree?

King : It's a mango tree, Venerable Sir.

Arahat Mahinda Thero : Are there any more mango trees?

King : Yes, Venerable Sir, there are many more mango trees.

Arahat Mahinda Thero : Are there trees other than this mango tree and those other mango trees?

King : Yes, Venerable Sir, but they are not mango trees.

Arahat Mahinda Thero : Are there any trees other than those mango trees and the other trees?

King : Yes, Venerable Sir, it's this mango tree.

Arahat Mahinda Thero : Oh! King have you any relatives?

King : There are many.

Arahat Mahinda Thero : Are there any others who are not your relatives?

King : Yes.

Arahat Mahinda Thero : Is there anybody else other than your relatives and those who are not related to you?

King : Yes, Venerable Sir, there's myself.

After this discussion Arahat Mahinda Thero was convinced that the King was intelligent enough to follow the Dhamma.

### **Activity 9 - Reading**

**Answer the following questions.**

1. Why is the Poson Poya important for Sri Lankan Buddhists?
2. When was Buddhism introduced to Sri Lanka?
3. Who brought Buddhism to Sri Lanka?
4. Where did Arahat Mahinda Thero and King Devanampiyatissa meet?

5. Why do you think Arahat Mahinda Thero asked the above questions from the King?

### Activity 10 - Writing

Use the given facts and write a short description about Arahat Mahinda Thero.

- born in India
- son of King Dharmashoka
- brother of Sanghamiththa Theri
- brought the message of Buddhism to Sri Lanka
- arrived in Sri Lanka in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century B.C
- came with six others ...
- preached Dhamma

### Learning Point

#### Reference (Back and Forward)

*Read the following sentence.*

- I. When King Devanampiyatissa heard someone calling **him** "Tissa", **he** looked around in surprise.
- In this sentence the two pronouns **him** and **he** refer to King Devanampiyatissa. The reader has to look back to understand what they refer to.
- II. When **he** heard someone calling **him** "Tissa," King Devanampiyatissa looked around in surprise.
- In this sentence also the two pronouns **he** and **him** refer to King Devanampiyatissa. The reader has to look forward to understand what the pronoun **he** refers to.

### Activity 11 - Grammar

Read the sentences and write what the underlined words refer to.

1. Grandmother hurried to the temple as she did not want to be late for the Dhamma discussion.

she - .....

2. As he entered the gate of the school, Naradha heard the bell ring.

he - .....

3. Meditation is good for you. It helps to reduce stress.

It - .....