



Foundation Project

Copenhagen Victory Stupa

Copenhagen Buddhist Center

Svanemøllevej 56

DK-2100 Østerbro

<http://kbh.buddha.dk/>

Activity report 2019



Description of the stupa project

The center in Copenhagen was established in 1972 and is one of the first Buddhist centers in the West. It moved to its current location on Svanemøllevej 56, 2100 Copenhagen in 1975. It was founded by Lama Ole and Hannah Nydahl.

In Copenhagen, we have two houses belonging to the Buddhist Center and a very beautiful, big garden.

In June 2017, it was decided by Lama Ole Nydahl to build a stupa in this garden. The plans were further developed from the beginning of 2018 and Lama Ole Nydahl asked Sherab Gyaltsen Rinpoche to guide the process. The stupa was inaugurated in July 2019.



A stupa is one of the most recognizable Buddhist architectural structures. It symbolizes Buddhist activity and according to tradition it is said to create peace and harmony and bring great blessing to its surroundings as well as those who encounter it. The stupa is in accordance with Lama Ole Nydahl's and Sherab Gyaltsen Rinpoche's wish a Stupa of Complete Victory, also known as Long Life Stupa. This type of stupa symbolizes the Buddha's agreement to extend his life by three months due to a wish from his students.

A Polish architect made the drawings. An initial working group was formed to gather information about how to build the stupa. Later, specific working groups were formed – e.g. information group, building group, garden group, economy group, fundraising group.

It was decided that the stupa should be approximately 5 meters high, made of granite as white as possible. Inside the stupa there should be a life tree (a piece of real wood), which symbolizes the energy channel of the Buddha. The granite was carved in Norway and delivered to Denmark (85 tons) – more specifically, a mason was found in Jyderup in West Zealand, who took on the big job of crafting



the giant blocks of granite into the very detailed form of a stupa (42 tons). Below you can see a very big piece of the white Tolga Granite from the granite quarrey in Norway.



We also needed to make a foundation for the stupa – the foundation was made of concrete, which was poured into a big hole in the garden – see below.





– below you can see how the big pieces of granite was mounted and put on the foundation and the bottom of the stupa.



Finally, in July 2019 the stupa was built and we were able to invite friends from all over the world to inaugurate the stupa.



The course lasted for three days and several thousand people took part in the celebration.

