



## **Foundation Project**

### **Buddha House**

#### **Activity Report 2019**



<b>Content</b>	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>
1. Property description	3
2. Activities of the Buddha House	6
3. Dharma activities 2019	7
4. Plans for 2020	9

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## 1. Property description

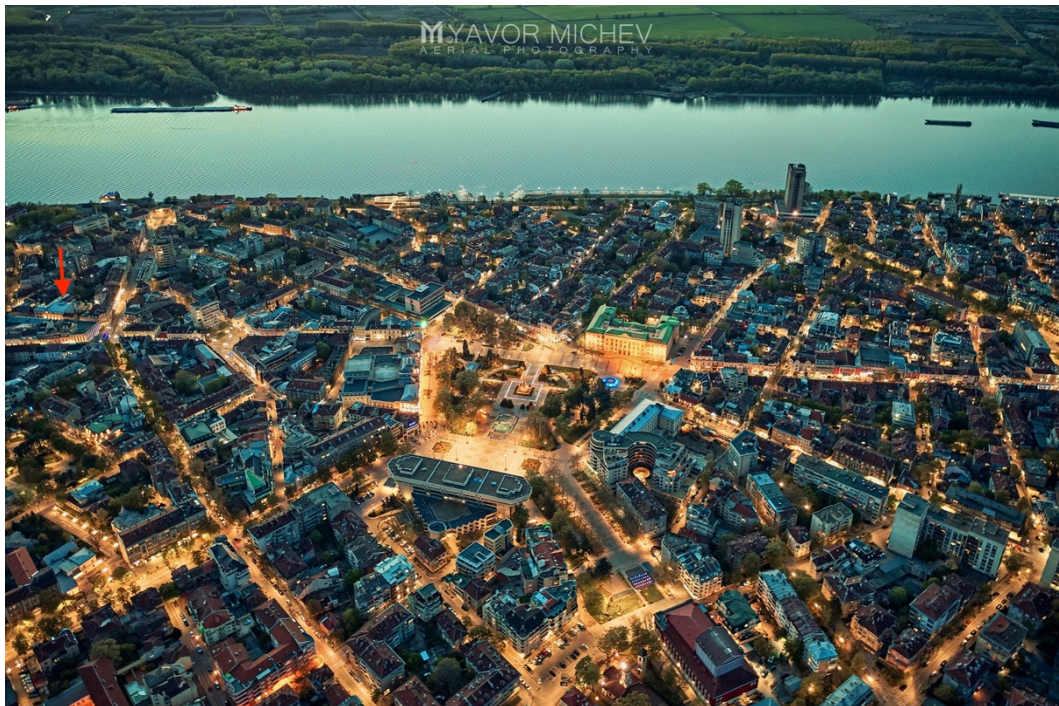
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Diamondway Buddhist centre Buddha House, Ruse, Bulgaria

Registration Numbers:

- Land register of Ruse, Bulgaria N 119, vol. II, reg.N 3883, case N 211, recorded on 4 October 2010
- Day of purchase: 04 October 2010

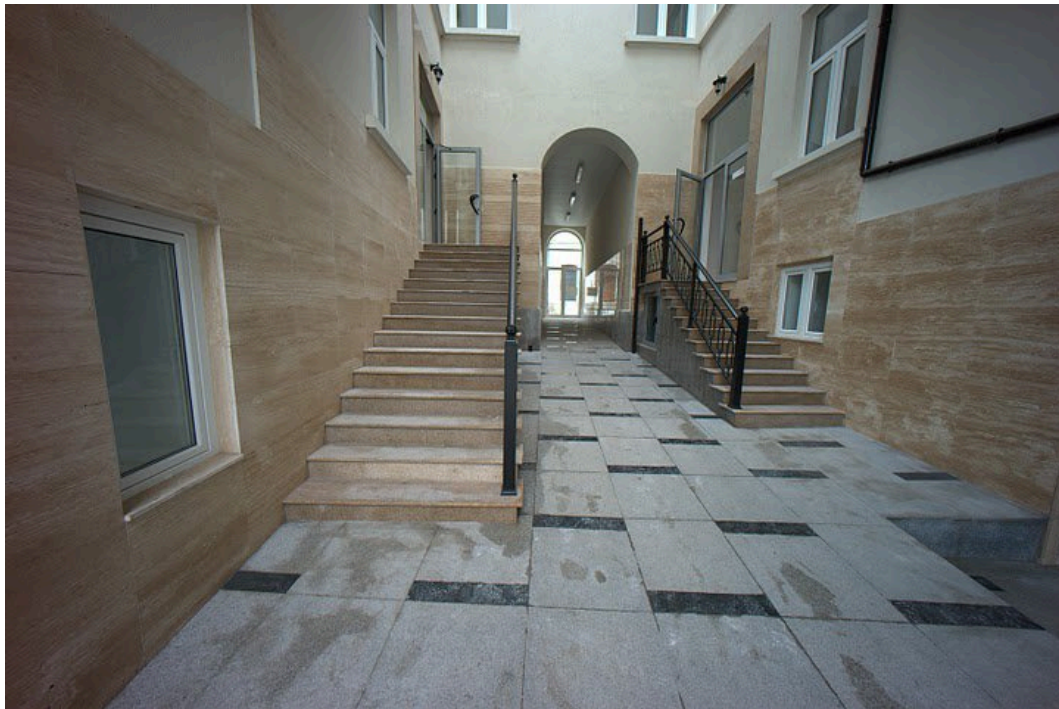
Buddha House's property is located in the city centre of beautiful Ruse. The city of Ruse is famous for its architecture and is rich in history. It's located on the Danube river.



The main house of the property was built in 1920. It was renovated so that it can become a Buddhist centre and a residential house. Next to it there is an older building which needs full renovation and it's not used in any way. The two buildings are connected through a big and beautiful courtyard. In this courtyard, as a continuation of the main house, there is a three-floor building which Buddha House rents to outside companies.







The Buddhist centre's part of the building consists of two meditation halls called Gompas. One of them is on the first floor, close to the main entrance so that it can provide easy access for the newcomers.

The second gompa is bigger and is on the second floor of the building. It is mainly used for the daily personal practices of the local buddhist practitioners as well as for lectures and buddhist courses.

The Buddhist center has 9 rooms which can be used for residents, long-term guests and friends visiting. There is a big kitchen and social place, dharma shop and library, a room for storage and other needs of the center.

At the main entrance there are two big halls, one of them functions as a public café and the other one is used for public lectures and other events.

The basement of the building now functions as a restaurant which also uses part of the courtyard garden.



## 2. Activities of the Buddha House

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As all other Diamondway Buddhist centres, Buddha House gives the precious chance for all who are interested to meet and get familiar with the Buddhist teachings.

For more than 5 years every Wednesday an introductory Buddhist lecture was held at the event hall of Buddha House. Also other public activities gave the chance to the Ruse society to get to know Buddha House, its purpose and the people that support Lama Ole's work.

Every day there is a guided XVI Karmapa meditation open for newcomers.

The residents of the Buddhist centres during the years held these activities and the running of the centre, supported by the local practitioners.

Buddha House has also publishing activities, it publishes and distributes Lama Ole's book in Bulgaria.

Part of the building is rented to outside companies and the profit from this supports the maintaining of the building.

### 3. Dharma activities 2019

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In 2019 two big dharma courses took place in Buddha House – the 9-th anniversary of Buddha House and the 8<sup>th</sup> Karmapa meditation course. These two events gathered together buddhist friends from all over Bulgaria and even abroad.

The main activities – the everyday guided meditations, the meditation weekends, public events and so on continued during 2019.



We also managed to finish the reconstruction of our kitchen and social place, which now looks amazing and gives a lot space for much more people. This project started in 2017 and lasted for two years. It was a common work between professionals who did the heavy construction part and buddhist friends who used there knowledge, skills and time to make this happen. The joyful efforts brought a wonderful result – a place that gives us the opportunity to spend more time together.









As every year in order to maintain the building, plenty of small repair and construction activities took place. The heating and cooling system is central for the whole building, it is 10 years old already and it needs maintenance, which we have to provide regularly.

#### 4. Plans for 2020

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To organize the annual big courses – Buddha House anniversary and 8<sup>th</sup> Karmapa course.

To continue the everyday dharma activities and guided meditation.

To change the floor of the basement where the restaurant is.

To re-build the wall in the courtyard.

To keep the offices in a good shape with some renovation of the interior.