

False “false monks and nuns” & real “false monks and nuns”

by Piya Tan

We read in the papers of "false monks and nuns" masquerading in robes to collect donation from unsuspecting and soft-hearted people. Since they are not monastics in the first place, they are actually the false "false monks and nuns".

In fact, they are inspired by the examples of the real "false monks and nun" who have all the things that lay people have and enjoy, and much more. Have you ever met a "poor" monk today (except for the forest monks, perhaps)?

Monastics today live in comfortable palatial mansions called temples, complete with all the comforts of a modern home, drive around in their own cars, have large bank accounts, and own property. We almost never see the alms bowl of such monastics. The point is even good karma soon runs out...

The Buddha in the Suttas sits on a pile of grass to meditate, and lives a simple life of abstinence and wisdom, teaching others compassionately to overcome suffering.

What are the benefits of living a simple life, even as a lay person? In fact, we can say that it is easier today to awaken to spiritual liberation as a lay person: at least we try to keep to the five precepts.

Let us remind and empower ourselves with the Buddha's simple lifestyle and teachings, that bring awakening to us in this life itself (even for a lay person). For those who wait, may not get the chance to be reborn as a human being at all.

Not being awakened is like being stricken with a chronic serious illness and not knowing it. Let us start taking the Dharma medicine NOW, and be the growing number of practitioners who *know* they will attain awakening in this life itself:

Please join us in our study on:

Venaga,pura Sutta (A 3.63) (The discourse at Venaga,pura) The Buddha's qualities & virtues of simplicity and freedom

To download the Venaga,pura Sutta (A 3.63), click here:

http://dharmafarer.googlepages.com/A3.63_Venagapura_S_sd21.2.pdf,

or go to <http://dharmafarer.googlepages.com>,

Then go to "Anguttara Nikaya Page" and click on the Sutta.

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