

Forest Sangha Calendar

2020 ❁ 2563

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The monthly Dhamma reflections are adaptations of transcribed and translated teachings  
contained in *The Collected Teachings of Ajahn Chah*, available for download at  
[www.forestsangha.org](http://www.forestsangha.org)

## LUNAR OBSERVANCE DAYS ● ◐ ◑ ◒

These days are devoted to quiet reflection at the monastery. Visitors may come and take the  
precepts for the day and join in all or part of the extended evening meditation.

The dates for the lunar calendar are determined by traditional methods of calculation,  
and are therefore not always the same as the precise astronomical occurrences.

## THE MAJOR FULL MOON DAYS FOR 2020 / 2563

*Māgha Pūjā* · February 8 ('Sangha Day')

Commemorates the spontaneous gathering of 1250 arahants to whom the Buddha  
gave the exhortation on the basis of the Discipline (*Ovāda Pāṭimokkha*).

*Vesākha Pūjā* · May 6 ('Buddha Day')

Commemorates the birth, enlightenment and passing away of the Buddha.

*Āsālhā Pūjā* · July 5 ('Dhamma Day')

Commemorates the Buddha's first discourse, given to the five *samaṇas*  
in the Deer Park at Sarnath, near Varanasi. The traditional  
Rainy-Season Retreat (*Vassa*) begins on the next day.

*Pavāraṇā Day* · October 2

This marks the end of the three-month *Vassa* retreat. In the following month,  
lay people may offer the *Kaṭhina*-robe as part of a general alms-giving ceremony.

## WEB ADDRESS FOR THIS FOREST SANGHA COMMUNITY

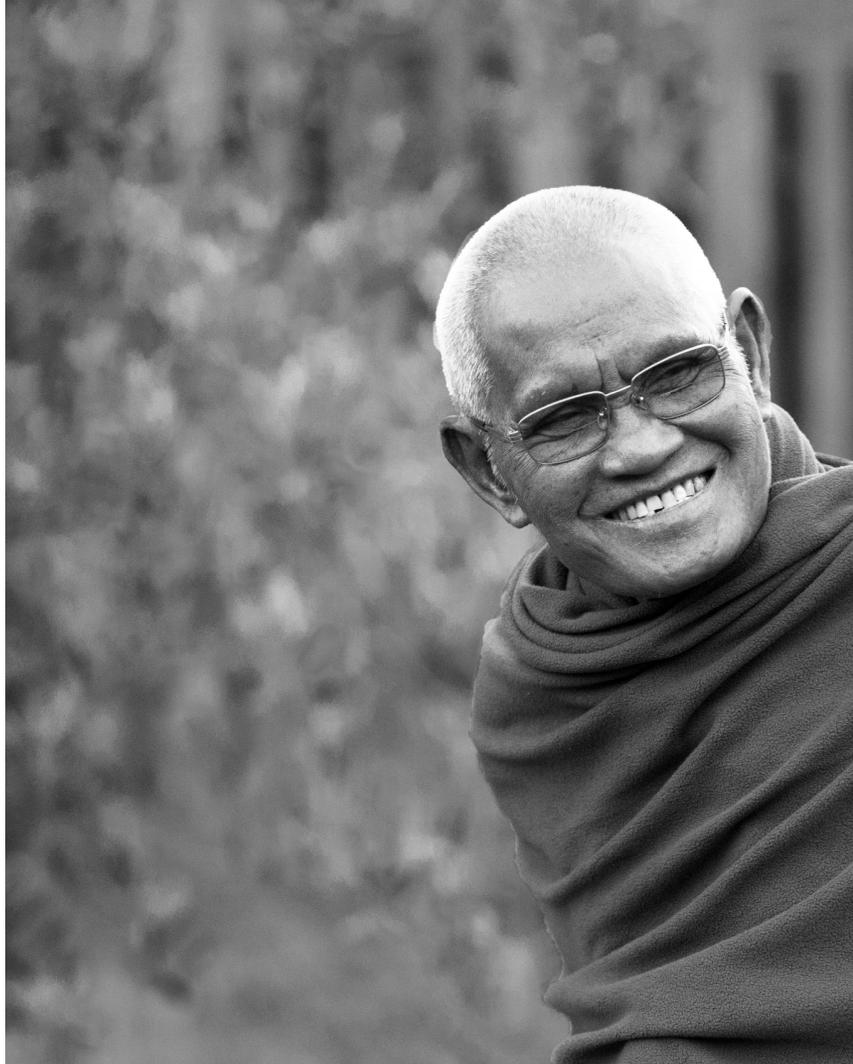
[www.forestsangha.org](http://www.forestsangha.org)

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Aruna Ratanagiri Buddhist Monastery

[www.ratanagiri.org.uk](http://www.ratanagiri.org.uk)

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Whatever arises in the mind,  
 just watch it. No picking  
 and choosing between  
 good and bad, fast and slow.  
 No me, no you, no self at all.  
 Just what there is.  
 It's very simple.  
 Cling to nothing.

# January

2020/2563

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
		1	2 	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 *	17 	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

\* Jan 16: Ajahn Chah Memorial Day

Jan 9  15 days Hemanta 4/8  
 Jan 24  15 days Hemanta 5/8



On this Path  
there's only abandoning.  
We practise to uproot  
all views stemming  
from self-importance.

## February

2020/2563

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
					1 	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 * 	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 
17	18	19	20	21	22 	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	

\* Feb 8: Māgha Pūjā

Feb 8  15 days Hemanta 6/8  
Feb 22  14 days Hemanta 7/8

Birth, old age, sickness, and death. When you see these clearly, you will be able to let go of praise and blame, gain and loss, pleasure and pain, honour and insignificance.



# March

2020/2563

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
						1 
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 					

Mar 8  15 days Hemanta 8/8  
 Mar 23  15 days Gimha 1/8



Whether liking or disliking  
 arise, just see them all as  
 'uncertain'. This is how to  
 get close to the Buddha,  
 to get close to the Dhamma.

# April

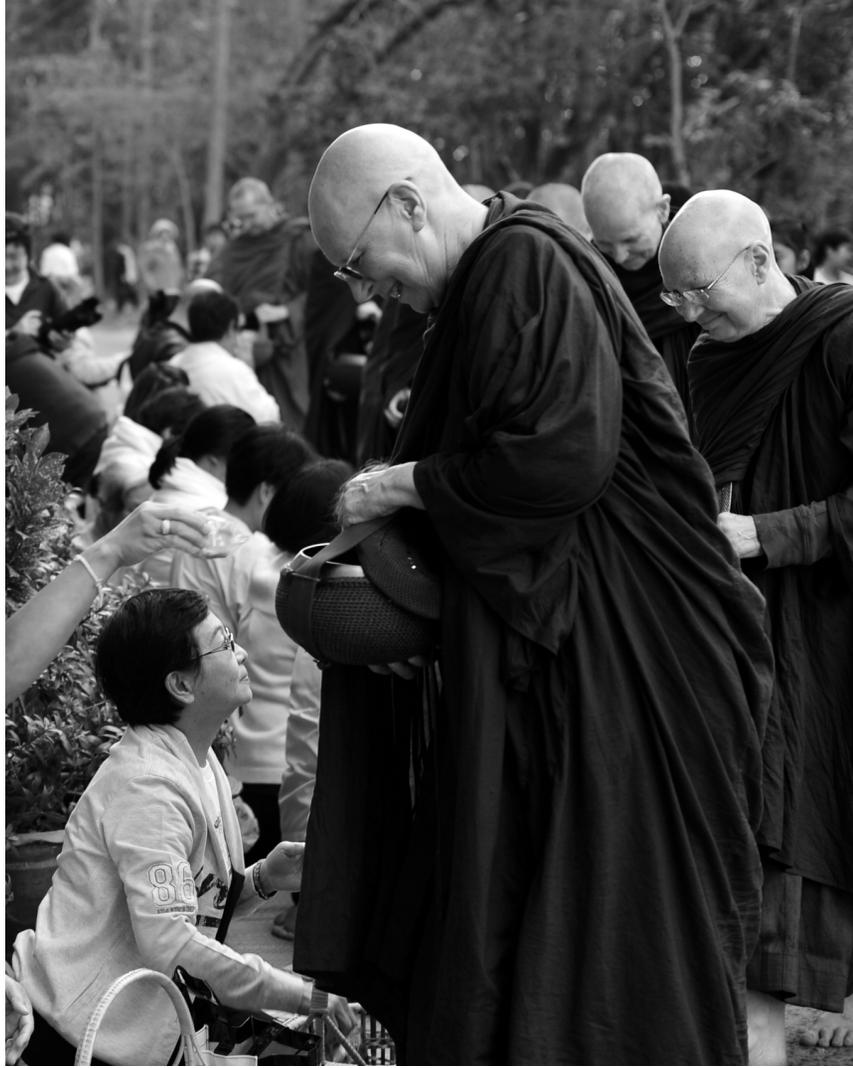
2020/2563

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 ○	8	9	10	11	12
13 *	14	15 ◐	16	17	18	19
20	21 ●	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 ◑	30			

\* Apr 13: Thai New Year, Songkran

Apr 7 ○ 15 days Gimha 2/8  
 Apr 21 ● 14 days Gimha 3/8

Would you get upset  
at a small crooked tree  
in the forest for not being  
tall and straight like some  
of the others? Don't judge  
other people.



# May

2020/2563

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6 * ○	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 ◐	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 ●	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 ◑	30	31

\* May 6: Vesākha Pūjā

May 6 ○ 15 days Gimha 4/8  
May 21 ● 15 days Gimha 5/8



Dukkha, or suffering, is the first of the Four Noble Truths. Most people just want to get away from it. In reality it is through contemplating this suffering that we find wisdom.

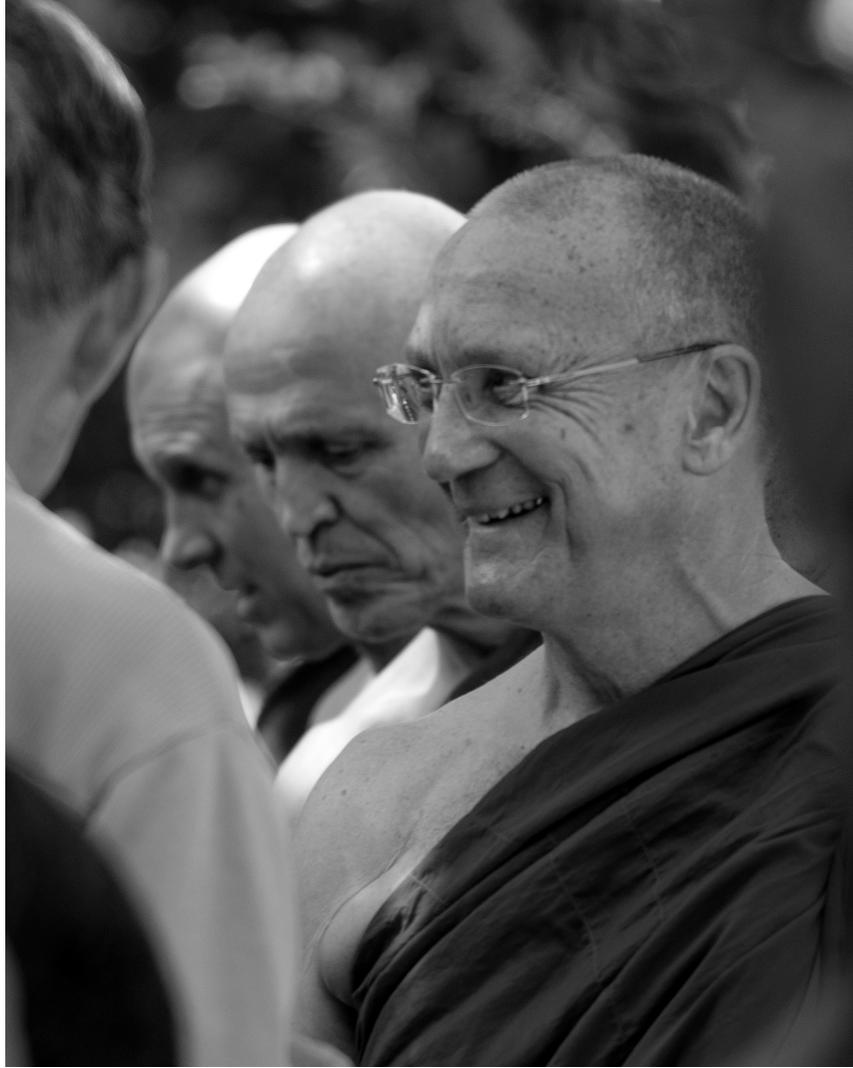
# June

2020/2563

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1	2	3	4	5 ○	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 ◐	14
15	16	17 *	18	19	20 ●	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 ◑
29	30					

\* Jun 17: Ajahn Chah's Birthday

Jun 5 ○ 15 days Gimha 6/8  
 Jun 20 ● 15 days Gimha 7/8



Our practice is not about trying to achieve anything. It is simply about looking directly at the mind. But you must have patience. With great patience and endurance gradually you will learn.

# July

2020/2563

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
		1	2	3	4	5 * ○
6 •	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 ◐	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 ●	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 ◑	29	30	31		

\* Jul 5: Āsāḷhā Pūjā  
 ♦ Jul 6: First Day of Vassa

Jul 5 ○ 15 days Gimha 8/8  
 Jul 20 ● 15 days Vassāna 1/8



In the beginning we hurry to go forward, hurry to go back, and hurry to stop. We keep practising until we reach the point where it seems that going forward is not it, going back is not it, and stopping is not it either! This is when it is finished.

# August

2020/2563

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
					1	2
3	4 ○	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 ◐	13	14	15	16
17	18 ●	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 ◑	27	28	29	30
31						

Aug 4 ○ 15 days Vassāna 2/8  
 Aug 18 ● 14 days Vassāna 3/8



This heart of ours lives in a cage, and there's a raging tiger in that cage. When our unruly heart doesn't get what it wants, it makes trouble. Hence the need for the discipline of meditation.

## September

2020/2563

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	1	2 ○	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 ◐	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 ●	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 ◑	26	27
28	29	30				

Sep 2 ○ 15 days Vassāna 4/8  
 Sep 17 ● 15 days Vassāna 5/8

Some people get obsessed with states of absorption. Such states can be fun to play around with, but you must know the proper limits. Similar to the way we know the limitations of children compared to adults.



# October

2020/2563

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			1	2 *•○	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 ◐	11
12	13	14	15	16 ●	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 ◑	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 ○	

\* Oct 2: Pavāraṇā

♦ Oct 2: Last Day of Vassa

Oct 2 ○ 15 days Vassāna 6/8

Oct 16 ● 14 days Vassāna 7/8

Oct 31 ○ 15 days Vassāna 8/8



Don't just do as you like; don't indulge your thinking mind. Stop this slavish following. You must constantly go against the stream of ignorance. This is called 'discipline'.

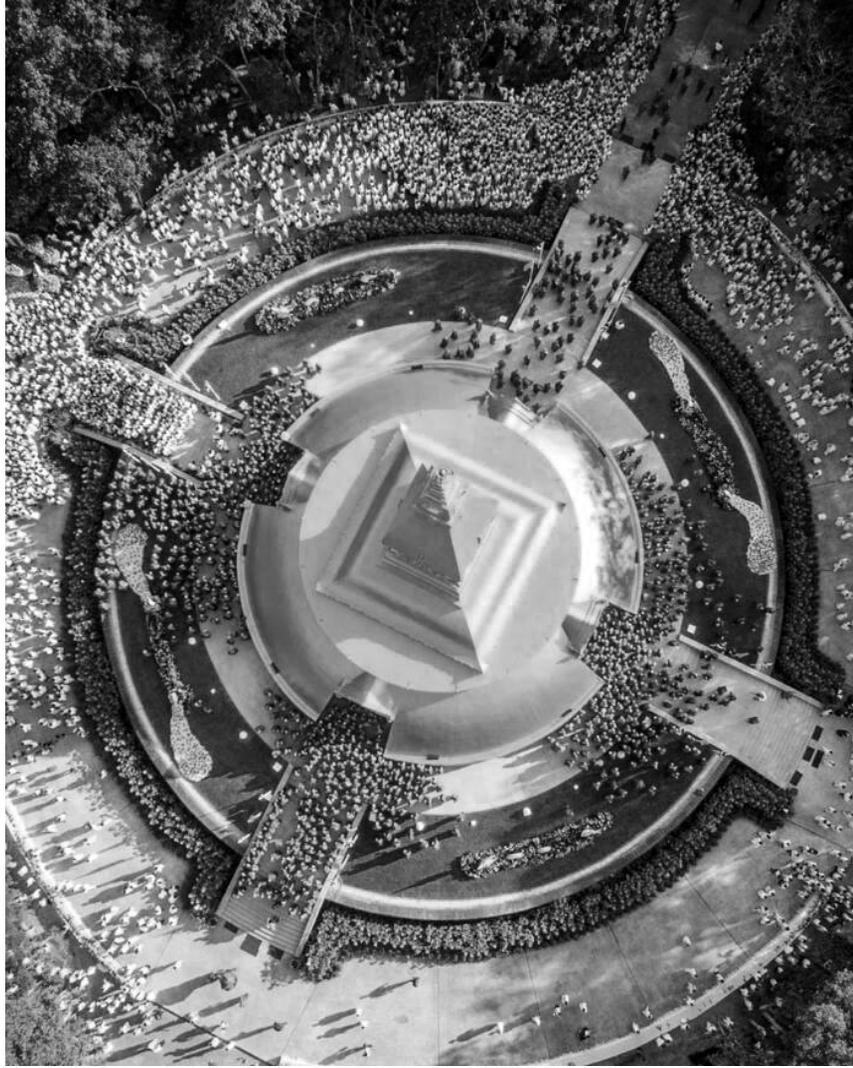
## November

2020/2563

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 						

Nov 15  15 days Hemanta 1/8  
 Nov 30  15 days Hemanta 2/8

When the mind  
 is at one with Dhamma  
 it is beyond the reach of  
 conventions, it is beyond  
 language. We can just speak  
 about the ways and means  
 of realizing it.



# December

2020/2563

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 <span style="color: brown;">◐</span>	9	10	11	12	13
14 <span style="color: brown;">●</span>	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 <span style="color: brown;">◑</span>	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 <span style="color: orange;">○</span>	30	31			

Dec 14 ● 14 days Hemanta 3/8  
 Dec 29 ○ 15 days Hemanta 4/8

# 2020 / 2563



<sup>1</sup> Jan 16: Ajahn Chah Memorial Day

<sup>2</sup> Feb 8: Māgha Pūjā

<sup>3</sup> Apr 13: Thai New Year, Songkran

<sup>4</sup> May 6: Vesākha Pūjā

<sup>5</sup> Jun 17: Ajahn Chah's Birthday

<sup>6</sup> Jul 5: Āsāḷhā Pūjā

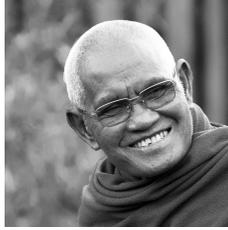
<sup>7</sup> Jul 6: First Day of Vassa

<sup>8</sup> Oct 2: Pavāraṇā

<sup>9</sup> Oct 2: Last Day of Vassa

**January**

Luang Por Liem visiting  
Santacittarama, Italy



**February**

Almsround, Thailand



**March**

Luang Por Jundee and  
Ajahn Vajiro, Portugal



**April**

Tudong, Thailand



**May**

Nuns on almsround,  
Wat Nanachat, NE Thailand



**June**

Almsround, Portugal



**July**

Temple Opening, Abhayagiri  
Monastery, California, USA



**August**

Upasampada, Cittaviveka, UK



**September**

Pabbajjā, Aruna Ratanagiri, UK



**October**

Almsround, Pacific Hermitage,  
US



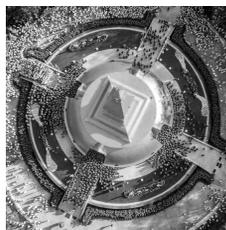
**November**

Almsround, Thailand



**December**

Luang Por Chah Memorial Day,  
Wat Pah Pong NE, Thailand



## BRANCH MONASTERIES

Western disciples of Ajahn Chah

The portal page for this community worldwide is:

[www.forestsangha.org](http://www.forestsangha.org)

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