



VIPASSANA
Newsletter Collection

From January 2000 to December 2001

Part - 4

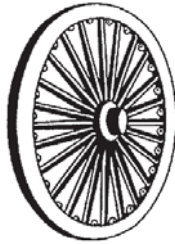
Vipassana Research Institute

Vipassana

Newsletter Collection Part 4

[From January 2000 to December 2001]

A collection of articles by Vipassanācārya
Shri Satyanarayan Goenka and other meditators
published in Vipassana Newsletter



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Vipassana Newsletter

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The Value Of Dhamma Service

(The following is adapted from a Dhamma discourse to Vipassana meditators at Dung Kwang School, Kaoshiung, Taiwan on 24 August 1998.)

The Enlightened One gave us the noble path, walking on which we can reach the final goal of full liberation from all misery.

As we progress on the path we keep purifying the mind. As the mind gets purified it naturally starts overflowing with the qualities of love, compassion, and goodwill for others. While walking on the path of liberation, one not only works for one's own liberation but also for the liberation of others by helping them to come on the path of Dhamma. The Buddha's path is for one's own liberation as well as the liberation of many others.

As one progresses on the path, one keeps developing different *pāramitās*—qualities which help one to cross the ocean of life and death. When these *pāramitās* are fulfilled, it becomes easy to reach the final goal.

Dāna is a very important *pāramī*. And, according to the words of the Enlightened One, the *dāna* of Dhamma is the greatest of all.

Why is it the greatest? Let us understand.

According to the law of nature, the seed that we sow will give fruits, many fruits and each fruit will contain the same type of seed. If we give *dāna* of food, then the fruit will be that we will get sufficient food in our present life and future lives.

According to the same law of nature, whatever type of *dāna* you give, you will get that type of fruit in the future in a greater quantity. When you give the *dāna* of Dhamma, the