



A BUDDHIST CONCEPT OF  
**REBIRTH**



*Published by*  
**MALAYSIAN BUDDHIST  
CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY**  
PENANG • MALAYSIA

## **A BUDDHIST CONCEPT OF REBIRTH**

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**FOREWORD FROM  
CHIEF MONK**

**MAHINDARAMA  
BUDDHIST TEMPLE**

*I*n commemoration with the MBCS 10th Anniversary, I wish to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Bro Aw Kim Fatt, Chairman of Malaysian Buddhist Cooperative Society (MBCS) on publishing the Dhamma publication entitled “A BUDDHIST CONCEPT OF REBIRTH” which also incorporates a “PRACTICAL ASPECT” as well as an audio recording in compact disc entitled “PĀLI CHANTING FOR FUNERAL / MEMORIAL SERVICE” for free distribution to the Buddhist community.

This Dhamma publication is intended to help the Malaysian Buddhist community, especially those unsure or ignorant of the process of rebirth, re-engineer their minds and annihilate the unnecessary fear of death. The funeral service guidelines are made simple and easy to understand to ensure that the laity can practise them effectively. This manual serves as a guide on conducting a Buddhist funeral/memorial service which is beneficial to both the living and the dead (transfer of merits).

I hope that this Dhamma publication will help the laity understand the Buddhist concept of rebirth and the noble road to Nibbāna.

*May the Triple Gem bless you and your family  
with longevity, good health, prosperity,  
peace and happiness always!*

VENERABLE E. INDARATANA



**FOREWORD FROM  
CHAIRMAN**

**MALAYSIAN BUDDHIST  
COOPERATIVE SOCIETY**

On behalf of Malaysian Buddhist Cooperative Society (MBCS) and myself, we are happy to publish the Dhamma publication entitled “A BUDDHIST CONCEPT OF REBIRTH” which also incorporates “PRACTICAL ASPECT” as well as an audio recording in compact disc entitled “PĀLI CHANTING FOR FUNERAL / MEMORIAL SERVICE” for free distribution to the Buddhist community.

MBCS had printed similar publications, however, this special publication differs in terms of providing more detailed guidelines dedicated to help the Buddhists to acquire a comprehensive understanding of the entire Buddhist practices in terms of rebirth. This Dhamma publication also incorporates a manual on how to effectively deal with the dying and deceased and how to conduct a simple, solemn and dignified funeral service. In addition, the inclusion of Pāli Chanting For Funeral / Memorial Service in audio compact disc can guide the laity to conduct a funeral service.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt gratitude and sincere thanks to Venerable E. Indaratana for his spiritual guidance in making this Dhamma publication possible.

Special thanks to Bro Sunanda Lim Hock Eng for his creative layout and design of the book and the audio compact disc.

Grateful thanks to Bro Nicholas Ong Peng Lay of Starz Music Academy for the free audio recording of the compact disc, “PĀLI CHANTING FOR FUNERAL / MEMORIAL SERVICE”.

Grateful acknowledgement to Bro Alwin Aw Wen Hoe and Sis Linda Ling Ai Ing who assisted in proof reading of my draft for this manual.

This manual is dedicated with *mettā, karuṇā, muditā* and *upekkhā* to the Mahā Saṅgha members who supported MBCS in funeral service arrangement and memorial services to MBCS members and the Buddhist community.

Sincere appreciation to Sis Didi Chan Ai Lee and Bros Kelvin Lim Chee Teck, Sim Boon Lee and Chin Kian Hee who assisted in the MBCS funeral service project.

I wish to also place on record my profound appreciation to the funeral service feedbacks from the members of the bereaved families.

To all of them I wish to say a very big *Sādhu! Sādhu! Sādhu!*

*Sukhi Hotu*

AW KIM FATT

23rd January 2008