

*Closing Speech by Ian Green: **Pennsylvania***

NAMO BUDDHAYA  
NAMO SHAKYAMUNI BUDDHA  
NAM MO BON SU THICH CA MAU NI PHAT

Most Venerable Thich Minh Anh, Venerable Sangha, Honoured Guests, Brothers and Sisters.

The Jade Buddha for Universal Peace is being taken on a tour of the world in the wish that it will inspire everyone who sees it to follow the path of peace.

Today is the closing of the last temple of the Jade Buddha first tour of USA. Minh Dang Quang Pennsylvania concludes a tour which has taken in 24 cities and a total audience in USA of over 1 million people in USA. This brings the total who have seen the Jade Buddha around the world to 5 million.

My Master Lama Zopa Rinpoche called the Buddha the Jade Buddha for Universal Peace and he said that this Buddha would “illuminate the world with the light of peace”. I am so happy to see the light of peace shining so brightly here in Pennsylvania.

Minh Dang Quang could only have the Jade Buddha for 5 days because we are on a tight schedule for the sailing to Germany. But in that 5 days we had 20,000 people come to see the Jade Buddha and the feeling of peace and harmony has been so wonderful.

We congratulate Thich Minh Anh and all the volunteers who have worked so hard to create this magnificent and sacred presentation of the Jade Buddha.

After Europe the Jade Buddha then travels to Sri Lanka, Asia including a return trip to Vietnam.

After the world tour concludes in 5 or more years the Jade Buddha will come to its final home at the Great Stupa of Universal Compassion in Bendigo, Australia.

Some of you may have heard that my Master Lama Zopa Rinpoche has recently suffered a severe stroke. He is now recovering in hospital in Bendigo. Please join me in praying for his speedy recovery. I also pray that the lasting legacy of the Jade Buddha in Pennsylvania will be the spread of peace throughout this community.

Thanks once again to organizing committee and thank you all.

May the Buddhadharma flourish. May peace break out around our world.

NAM MO HOAN HY TANG BO TAT MA HA TAT