



MEDIA RELEASE

Twenty-eight Children From The Jamiyah Home Learn About Buddhism At The Asian Civilisations Museum

Member of Parliament for Marine Parade GRC, Dr Ong Seh Hong toured exhibition on Buddhism with more than 160 people, including the children, grassroots leaders and senior citizens

[1 March 2008, SINGAPORE] Twenty-eight children from the Jamiyah Children's Home got a glimpse into the extraordinary life of Buddha and the amazing journeys of Chinese pilgrims today at the Asian Civilisations Museum (ACM). The group toured the exhibition *On The Nalanda Trail: Buddhism in India, China and Southeast Asia* with Dr Ong Seh Hong, Member of Parliament for Marine Parade GRC. Dr Ong led the group of more than 160 people, including the children, grassroots leaders and senior citizens.

A major religion in the region, Buddhism is currently practised by more than 40 percent of the population in Singapore. By presenting this exhibition, the museum hopes to enhance inter-religious understanding as visitors from all faiths learn about the life of Buddha and its spread from its birthplace in India to China and Southeast Asia.

A key highlight of the show are the bone relics of Buddha, on loan with the special permission of the government of India. The exhibition also features some of the best and most important Buddhist art in Asia, including paintings from the Dunhuang caves along the Silk Road and fantastic sculptures from more than 2200 years ago. The exhibition presents a rare opportunity for the public to view these artefacts which have been gathered from lending institutions all over the world for the first time.



On The Nalanda Trail: Buddhism in India, China and Southeast Asia will be on display at the ACM till 23 March 2008.

About the Asian Civilisations Museum

The Asian Civilisations Museum's mission is to explore and present the cultures and civilisations of Asia, so as to promote awareness and appreciation of the ancestral cultures of Singaporeans and their links to Southeast Asia and the world. The Asian Civilisations Museum first began its operations at Armenian Street in 1997, moving to the historic Empress Place Building in 2003. The Armenian Street premises which will re-open as the new Peranakan Museum on 26 April 2008 will showcase the world's most comprehensive collection of Peranakan artefacts.

For more information and pictures, please contact:

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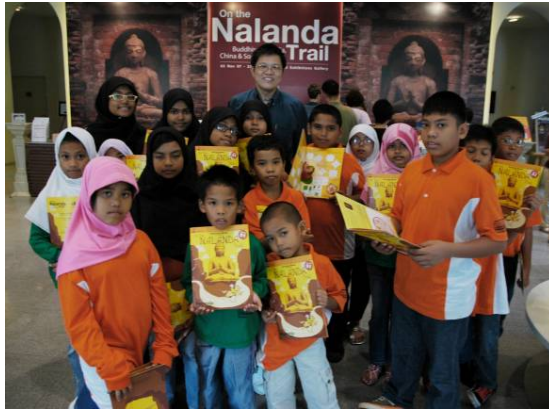
Address

1 Empress Place, Singapore 179555
Museum Front Desk: +65 6332 7798
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Opening Hours

Mondays : 1pm – 7pm
Tuesdays – Sundays : 9am – 7pm (to 9pm on Fridays)

Images & Captions



MP for Marine Parade GRC, Dr Ong Seh Hong with children from the Jamiyah Home at the Asian Civilisations Museum.



Led by ACM curator Dr Gauri Krishnan, MP for Marine Parade GRC, Dr Ong Seh Hong toured the *On The Nalanda Trail* exhibition with children from the Jamiyah Home.



MP for Marine Parade GRC, Dr Ong Seh Hong and children from the Jamiyah Home viewed stunning Buddhist art, including this 11th century stone sculpture from South India, weighing over 700kg.