



## Returning to the Buddha Homeland

Bodhisattvas arise from suffering. If we don't see suffering in the world, how do we cure it? I always preach paying attention to world events to cultivate the spirit of Bodhisattva. As long as the problem is within reach of our review, we commit to deliver a helping hand.

Recently, Tzu Chi volunteers from Malaysia and Singapore visited Nepal. With Dr. Chen leading the team, they encountered a little boy crawling on the ground, trying to feed into his mouth from a rolling milk bottle. The team picked up the child to nurse it as if he was one of their own. That is bodhisattva's love.

After some investigation, the parents were found to have physical and mental issues, so the boy was left to feed on his own. Volunteers immediately dispatched supplies to help this family and continued assessments for future assistance. Volunteers arrived in Buddha country to make contacts. I believe this family's fate will change.

Buddha's birthplace was Lumbini, Nepal. Two thousand and five hundred years ago, Buddha witnessed human sufferings; today we see the same poverty and suffering in more or less the same environment.

I am particularly grateful for the joint effort by volunteers from two countries. They started assessing the need for medicine, education, and construction aids. Additional visits are planned to deliver free medical outreaches, enabling bodhisattva's footprints in Buddha's homeland.



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We found a building in Lumbini which could serve as a prospective staging ground for Tzu Chi. Dr. Chen will assess the possibility for a medical clinic there; apart from basic medicines and equipment, we need the appropriate medical personnel for a longer term involvement.

This unusual encounter is like finding a needle in a haystack. For people suffering, isn't that a connection? Can we not help to turn their lives around? Tzu Chi volunteers' visits will engage the locals and emphasize the importance of benevolence. I hope we will join hands to safeguard people's health and livelihood, using the energy of love.

