



# PITTSBURGH BUDDHIST CENTER

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24<sup>th</sup> September, 2007

## First Katina Ceremony on 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2007

Katina ceremony is one of the most important events in the Buddhist calendar. It is an annual robe offering ceremony to mark the completion of the Rainy Retreat (Vass na) which falls within July full moon to October full moon. During the Rainy Retreat Buddhist monks observe particular precepts and resolution while living in a chosen monastery and lay Buddhists engage in a more devoted practice under monks' guidance. Following month of the Rainy Retreat is called the Month of Robe Offering in which lay Buddhists can offer robes to monks who have completed the Rainy Retreat. A special single robe, which is called Katina, is prepared following rules and customs prescribed by the Buddha as the key offering of this ceremony. Other offerings can be done along with this special robe. Katina ceremony is considered as the most powerful and rewarding meritorious act since it requires three month long practice and preparation.

The Pittsburgh Buddhist Center, Pennsylvania is preparing to conduct its first Katina ceremony this year. Four monks have observed Rainy Retreat in the center. Katina ceremony is scheduled to be held on Sunday, October 28, 2007 under guidance of Ven. Nehinne Ariyagnana, the abbot of the center. All devotees and friends are invited to attend this important annual meritorious event.

### Program

- 11: 00 am - Offering to the Buddha
- 11: 45 am - Alms Giving to the Community of Monks (Sanghika Dana)
- 01: 30 pm - Offering of the Katina Robe
- 01: 45 pm - Dhamma Sermon on the benefits of Katina Offering
- 02: 30 pm - Pirith Chanting and Dedication of Merits
- 03: 00 pm - End of Ceremony

Those who wish to contribute to the Katina Robe offering may send their donation to Pittsburgh Buddhist Center before 25<sup>th</sup> October 2007. Additional robes for the use of resident monks can be offered. If you wish you to sponsor for additional robes, please call to the center. For details of the ceremony please visit our website.

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**Pittsburgh Buddhist Center is a Non-Profit Organization**