



— BUDDHIST RESOURCE FOR —

SHOW THE LOVE

2021

[SHOWTHELOVE.ORG.UK](https://showthelove.org.uk)



THE
CLIMATE
COALITION

| #SHOWTHELOVE



“Interdependence is a fundamental law of nature. Even tiny insects survive by cooperating with each other.”

The Dalai Lama

“It is our collective and individual responsibility to preserve and tend to the environment in which we all live.”

The Dalai Lama

“If we continue abusing the Earth this way, there is no doubt that our civilization will be destroyed. This turnaround takes enlightenment, awakening. The Buddha attained individual awakening. Now we need a collective enlightenment to stop this course of destruction.”

– Thich Nhat Hanh

“The world is an intricately interwoven web of infinite relations. When we apply this worldview to matter and to all living things, including people, we can see the world as one great life entity. This is the true entity of our own life.”

– Daisaku Ikeda





“Today we live in a time of great crisis, confronted by the gravest challenge that humanity has ever faced: the ecological consequences of our own collective karma.....We have a brief window of opportunity to take action, to preserve humanity from imminent disaster and to assist the survival of the many diverse and beautiful forms of life on Earth. Future generations, and the other species that share the biosphere with us, have no voice to ask for our compassion, wisdom and leadership. We must listen to their silence. We must be their voice, too, and act on their behalf.”

– David L. Loy and Bhikku Bodhi (*Buddhist Declaration on Climate Change 2009*)

“This is a dark time, filled with suffering and uncertainty. Like living cells in a larger body, it is natural that we feel the trauma of our world. So don’t be afraid of the anguish you feel, or the anger or fear, because these responses arise from the depth of your caring and the truth of your interconnectedness with all beings.”

– Joanna Macey





*Buddhism teaches the **interdependence** of all things as well as a deep respect for all life. Human beings are interconnected with nature and all other living beings in an intricate web that is illustrated in the metaphor of Indra's net, which has a precious jewel at the intersection of each thread. These jewels in turn reflect the other myriad jewels, together creating a beautiful sparkling universe, showing how we human beings are in no way separate from our surroundings.*

Furthermore, the Buddha taught the deepest respect for all life and the concept of karma, in its original meaning of 'action' – in thought, word and deed. The law of cause and effect reminds us of the potential we all have to transform through our actions and behaviour, ourselves and our environment.

The Buddha also taught that we humans suffer from the three poisons of greed, ill will or anger, and delusion, which on a societal level lead to hunger, war and ecological destruction. We can transform these states into generosity, loving kindness and the wisdom to recognise that my well-being is in no way separate from your well-being, or from the well-being of the earth. We all have the potential to awaken or become enlightened to this understanding of the true nature of life and how our own lives are part of a vast interdependent web of life.

We can choose to follow the Bodhisattva path which is to work towards freeing ourselves and others from suffering and to impart joy, to work together, to connect with nature and each other and to collectively cultivate awakening in these times of conflict and confusion. These Buddhist principles amongst others can help us to engage with ourselves, other people and our environment more deeply, and to become more actively engaged in our social and cultural contexts as agents for change.





The Eco Dharma Network

Created in response to the climate emergency. We are a network of Buddhist communities working to strengthen our capacity for climate action and to coordinate wide-ranging initiatives. We are currently running a series of webinars and informal online gatherings and workshops to resource Buddhists as well as building a movement towards COP26 in collaboration with other faiths and organisations.

The Climate Coalition

A group of 140 organisations, representing 22 million people across the UK. Together we are the UK's largest group of people dedicated to action on climate change. This February, join us to 'Show the Love' and help create a country where we no longer contribute to climate change.

The past year has been a year like no other. The devastating impacts of the pandemic have impacted us all, and made us value what we love more than ever. We know our best chance at rebuilding goes hand in hand with tackling the climate crisis. We need our leaders to protect everything we love and deliver a healthy, green and fair recovery. Later this year, the UK will host the United Nations climate summit. This is our opportunity to lead the world into a cleaner, greener future, but first we need to invest in the solutions to the climate crisis at home.

We can all connect more deeply with the climate emergency and with the earth through our Buddhist practice and by taking action. The rest of this pack is full of ideas on how to take part in Show the Love and take action to protect the people, place and live we love from climate change.

Ways to #ShowTheLove

Ever since the start of Show the Love, communities across the UK have demonstrated year-on-year that beautiful things are possible when people work together. Things may look a bit different this year, but you can still show the love! Here are some ways you can get involved:

GET CREATIVE AND MAKE A GREEN HEART

You can find ways to do this in our Green Heart action pack at showthelove.org.uk. You can then wear or share your green heart with your friends and family. You can even send one to your MP to encourage them to **#ShowTheLove** for a cleaner, greener future. There is a postcard to send to your MP at the back of this pack.

HAVE A CONVERSATION ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE

What do you care about? What do you love that you want to protect from climate change? What actions do we as Buddhists need to take together? Have a conversation with a neighbour, friend or a work colleague - where is most important for you to start a conversation about climate change?



DISCUSS WITH YOUR CENTRE OR SANGHA WHAT ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE COLLECTIVELY

CREATE A GREEN HEART DISPLAY

Window displays have brought joy to many communities over the past year as we've spent much more time at home. Create green hearts and use them to decorate a window, noticeboard or front garden over the Valentine's Day weekend- the 12th - 15th of February - to show the love to your community.

CONNECT WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

Although life remains unusual, there has never been a better time to club together with your local community. This February, connect with others in your area such as community groups and local faith communities. Organise an online talk about why you care about climate change, the work you are doing to tackle climate change, and explore how you can work together to help create a cleaner, greener future this year.

Share the love on social media

If you use social media, please take a photo of yourself and share it online with the hashtag **#ShowTheLove**. This is a way of coming together as part of the national campaign online, alongside people of many faiths and none.



Notes to the organisers:

You can download additional postcards like the one featured in the back of this pack on showthelove.org.uk if individuals want to print out their own and send it to their MP.

Additional resources are also available on showthelove.org.uk if you would like to get more involved in Show the Love, for example with craft or youth and children's activities.



The Time Is Now For A Cleaner, Greener World That Works For Everyone

Our declaration brings together people from all walks of life with businesses, community groups, MPs, local decision makers to send a strong and unified message that **#TheTimeIsNow** to take urgent action to protect what we love from the climate crisis.

We want to reach one million voices before the UN Climate Summit. Encourage your congregation to add their name to the declaration at thetimeisnow.uk, and send a postcard to your MP to ask them to commit to **#ShowTheLove** by championing climate action. You can also sign up to the Declaration as a Buddhist community.



STEP 1

Add your name to the declaration at thetimeisnow.uk - you can sign up as an individual and as a community too.



STEP 2

Fill in the postcard and add a bit about why you've signed the declaration so your MP knows why you care about climate action.



STEP 3

Fold your postcard, attach a crafted green heart if you've made one.



STEP 4

Pop the postcard in an envelope and send it your MP. You can find their constituency surgery address at members.parliament.uk or alternatively send it to (addressed to them) to House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA.



STEP 5

Keep an eye out for their response.



NBO
NETWORK OF
BUDDHIST ORGANISATIONS



**The time is now to protect what we
love from the climate crisis.**

thelimatecoalition.org

#SHOWTHELOVE

Dear **MP**

**I want to see urgent action to protect what I
love from the climate crisis.** I've added my voice
to The Climate Coalition's Declaration because I
care about...

Before the UK hosts the world at the UN Climate
Summit in November, we need to show global
leadership by ensuring our recovery gets us on
track to a cleaner, greener world that works for
everyone. **Will you #ShowTheLove by
championing climate action this year?**

Please show your support by:

- Signing The Climate Coalition's Declaration for
a Healthy, Green And Fair Tomorrow (please
email campaigns@thelimatecoalition.org to
sign)
- Sharing a photo of this green heart on Twitter
pledging your support to protect all that we
could lose to the climate crisis - don't forget to
tag @thelimatecoalition and use #ShowTheLove

Thank you,

Name:
Postcode:
Email/Phone:
Organisation/Group:

thelimatecoalition.org

