

INSIGHT

WTC COMMUNITY WEEKLY

Happy Vesak Day

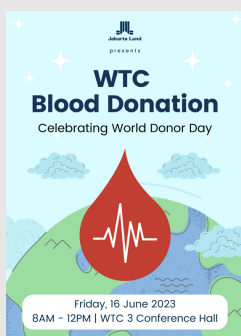
Borobudur, Indonesia's most famous Buddhist temple, will be front and center this coming weekend as the world celebrates Vesak. As the most sacred day of the Buddhist religion, Vesak commemorate the birth, the attainment of enlightenment and the passing away of the Buddha.

Last night, 32 monks from Thailand who walked to Indonesia in part of the Thudong ritual has arrived at the Liong Hok Bio temple. The monks arrived in Magelang at 18:00 local time, and upon arrival, their feet were washed by members of the temple's congregation using water and roses as a form of respect for the monks who are considered teachers. They are also joined by monks from Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia and expected to arrive at Borobudur on June 1st.

Thudong is a ritual performed by *bhantes* (Buddhist monks) which involves walking long distances to emulate the Buddha. Monks participating in Thudong this year commenced their journey from Thailand on March 23, 2023, and arrived in Batam, Riau Islands, on May 8. Their on foot journey is estimated to be about 2.600 kilometers long.

Yours truly,
the community editor

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