

Vasai Virar Vipassana Samiti

Mayfair Virar Garden Complex,
Virar West.



The Centre



The entrance to the centre is modest in appearance , profound in purpose.

The board at the entrance displays the full schedule of Anapana and Vipassana courses being regularly conducted by the Samiti-a reflection of the active and growing Dhamma work in this region.

About the Centre

Activities and Programs conducted regularly

- Vasai Virar Vipassana Samiti has been organising Vipassana activities for over 2 years at Mayfair Virar Garden Complex, Virar West.
- Regular activities include: Group Sitzings, One-Day Courses, Children's Courses, Introduction to Vipassana Sessions, and Learning Anapana Sessions.
- Single gender 3 days residential courses are held every month.



Growth of the Centre

Expansion of Courses

- The first 10-day course for old male students was successfully completed in May.
- Regular single-gender 10-day courses and teenager courses are expected to begin by end of the year.



Courses & Student Participation

First Female 3-day course
was conducted
successfully.



Introduction to
Vipassana and Anapana
for parents of children
during children course



Children course in 2023 at
Mayfair Virar gardens
meditation facilities. 18
children participated.



Vision & Origin

How the Vision of the Centre Began

- This facility was envisioned by our Teacher, the late Shri Mahasukh Khandhar ji, more than 10 years ago.
- Group sittings began in an unfinished clubhouse structure — reached by climbing 4 floors of almost double the normal floor height!
- After Covid, temporary facilities were set up and since then, group sittings, 1-day & 3-day courses along with children's courses, are being conducted smoothly.
- The search for a permanent land for a regular center is ongoing.

Historical Significance of the Region

- The Vasai–Nalasopara–Virar region forms an important part of the ancient cultural landscape of India's western coast.
- Long before modern cities, this region was closely connected with the spread of the Buddha's teaching of Dhamma.
- Bahiya Daruciria — traditionally considered to have attained Arahantship in the shortest time by listening to just a few words from the Buddha — is believed to have lived in or near this region.
- Arahant Puṇṇa Mantāniputta is also closely connected to this region.



Supparaka-The Sacred Land of Arahant Punna

पुण्ण भन्ते का जन्म इसी सुप्पारक बंदरगाह
एक गृहपती के घर में हुआ था. वय प्राप्त होकर
वह यहाँ के एक प्रमुख व्यापारी बन गए और
व्यापार हेतु श्रावस्ति चले गए, वहाँ भगवान के
संपर्क में आकर प्रवर्जित हो गए. भगवान की
अनुमति लेकर वह सोपारा आकर उन्होंने इस
प्रदेश में धम्मका प्रचार प्रसार किया, और यहाँ
पर चंदनमाला नाम की गंधकुटी बनवाकर
भगवान को आमंत्रित कर दान दिया था. यहीं
पर उन्होंने परिनिर्वाण प्राप्त किया. यह प्रदेश
भन्ते पुण्ण कुलपुत्र के तपोबल से पुनित है 🙏.
अगले स्लाइड में जो हम अशोककालीन स्तूप
देखेंगे वह इसी मूल चंदनमाला गंधकुटी पर
बनवाया गया है



Sopara Stupa & Emperor Ashoka

- The excavated Sopara Stupa is located approximately 5 km from the center.
- Ashokan rock edicts (8th and 9th) were discovered in the Sopara area.
- These edicts confirm the region's importance during Emperor Ashoka's era.
- They further affirm this area's deep connection to the broader spread of the Buddha's teachings under Ashoka.



Center Facilities

- Two air-conditioned Dhamma halls dedicated to meditation.



Center Facilities

- An air-conditioned dormitory for residing students.



Center Facilities

- Assistant Teacher's room.



Center Facilities

- 3 student rooms with attached bathroom and toilet.



Center Facilities

- Common bathrooms and toilets for participating students.



Center Facilities

- Ample walking space within the center for breaks between meditation sessions.



Center Facilities

- Parking facility available for students arriving by car.



Center Facilities

- A special mention for our ***new in-house kitchen*** — a small but significant step. For the first time, teachers and dhamma servers prepared meals right here on the premises, serving the 10-day course students with care and dedication.



Completion of the First 10 day course

The Metta session of our first 10-day course just concluded. 40 sadhaks came together for this occasion.



A Vision Becoming Reality

Plans for a Permanent Meditation Centre

- The centre aims to establish a permanent Vipassana meditation facility near the Sopara Stupa.
- It aspires to continue spreading the teachings of Dhamma in this historically significant region.

From an unfinished clubhouse reached by climbing four flights of stairs...

...to regular courses and plans for a dedicated full-fledged center rooted in one of India's most ancient Dhamma land.

May all beings be happy. May all beings be peaceful. 🙏