

## Buddha in the Boardroom Preface

Humanistic Buddhism advocates the application of transcendental spirit to handle mundane affairs, we pay special attention to the happiness and well being of people in this present life. Even though Buddhism and modern social enterprises may belong to different scopes, but ultimately they are still part of life and cannot do without the management of people and issues.

A successful entrepreneur must not only possess professional knowledge and work ethics, he must have the aspiration and spirit to establish new undertakings. To ensure a successful business, one must winnow truth from falsehood and be consistent in words and deeds. If one wishes to further benefit the society, he must have unswerving determination and be down to earth, only then will he be able to realize his dream step by step. On the other hand, the operations of Buddhists' enterprises hope to leave societal development, aspiration and contribution to this world; kindness, service and good affinity for their friends and faith, enlightenment and merits in their lives.

Although Buddhists handle matters in an organized and planned manner, it eventually differs from most enterprises whose primary motive is profit. This is because Buddhists contribute without asking for rewards, their intention is to benefit the masses and contribute to the development of Buddhism. Based on the wisdom of the Dharma and the spirit of selfless contribution, Buddhists are able to repay the society by creating enterprises that benefit all. If business enterprises can put aside the 'only-profits' mentality and learn from Buddhist entrepreneurial spirit, they will attain greater achievements and be able to make greater contributions to the country and society.

Dr Field holds a PhD in Human Resource Management and has been a business consultant for more than 30 years. Senior entrepreneurs respect him for his valuable insight and contributions made to human resource management. In this book, *Buddha in the Boardroom*, Dr. Field uses the Four Noble Truths to analyze and reflect on the workings of the economic system. It also shows us the way to apply the Buddha's message of joyfulness to the business community and help us work towards a happier family, career and life. This coincides with the ideal of Humanistic Buddhism that I advocate.

Dr. Field visits I.B.P.S. Toronto regularly to discuss the Buddha's teachings. I advocate Humanistic Buddhism and firmly believe that it must be practiced in our daily lives. It is indeed rare that one is able to apply Buddhist theories on everyday practice, such an equal emphasis is commendable. I joyfully pen this preface.

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Sept 2004



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