

Site Visit Guide for Jivaka Project

Student's name:

Date:

Required Releases:

(1) Release of copyright: I realize that all written content I produce for this project will be edited, combined with materials written by other students, and posted online in a publicly available database online. Photos, audio recordings, and multimedia materials generated may also be edited and posted publicly. I realize that I may not be individually credited for the work I have contributed to this project. I relinquish all rights to the materials I have produced or will produce for this project, and donate all of it to the project with the understanding that this material will be made available publicly.

By signing here, I agree to the above statements: _____

(2) In the space below, please specify any potential conflicts of interest that arose during the interview and/or temple visit. For example, please specify if someone made a special connection or concession for you, if you have any previous relationship or ongoing commitments with the temple or any of its members, or if there were any offerings brought or payments made during the visit. Any other potential conflicts of interest must be detailed in full.

1. Basic information

Temple name:

Date visited:

Is the address of temple correct on our map? If not, what is the exact address?

People in attendance during interview:

I asked permission to take notes, to take photos/video/audio recording, and to make all information collected public via our website: YES NO

If permission is given, please take high-quality photos of:

- the exterior of the main building
- any major outdoor shrines
- the interior of the main hall
- the main altar.

Basic contact information for temple (URLs, social media, phone):

2. Preliminary interview questions

Is the temple affiliated with a particular temple in the homeland, or was it founded separately in the U.S.? If this temple is a branch of another temple elsewhere, what is that temple's name and location?

What is the main cultural/linguistic/ethnic representation of the members of this temple? (Examples: Cambodian, Thai/Lao, African American, etc.)

If the answer to the previous question is "Chinese," please specify whether it's PRC, Taiwan, or elsewhere, and what dialect they mainly speak (Mandarin, Cantonese, etc.).

What sect or kind or lineage of Buddhism do they practice at this temple? (Examples: Zen, Theravada, non-sectarian, etc.) If it is unclear, please have the interviewee write the words in their native language:

How many monks/nuns currently live at this location (if any)?

When was the temple established at this location? Did it move here from another location? When was that temple established?

What days/times do they hold services that are open to the public? Is it OK for students to return for a longer visit at that time?

3. Information gathered through observation (only for observation of public events)

Describe the main demographic characteristics of the people you see using this temple? (For example, is it mostly older people or are there families with young children in attendance? Is there a balance of women and men?)

Describe the neighborhood and the local setting of the temple in as much detail as you can (use information gathered on-site and/or using demography tools):

4. Detailed information about health and medicine

For the following questions, provide as much detail as possible. We are interested in exploring ways that Buddhism connects with any physical, mental, social, or other aspects of wellbeing, so keep your questions very broad. Avoid asking basic questions about Buddhism, pre-determining the answers you will receive, or passing judgment on anything you are told. Ask only follow-up questions that clarify what you have been told.

What are this temple's teachings about health, illness, and healing?

Next, we would like to find out if there are any special prayers, chanting, meditation, visualizations, community gatherings, health fairs, any services provided by the temple to members, or any other ways that the temple's activities connect with healthcare. Ask for specific details about any practices that are mentioned, again in an open-ended way that doesn't predetermine the answer.

What practices does this temple engage in that are related to overcoming illness or staying healthy?

Is there anything else they would like to tell us that we haven't yet asked about?