

# BUDDHIST PEACE

*Posted on February 3, 2024 by staff*



*While the most recognizable symbol associated with **Buddhist** peace might be the swastika, it's important to remember its complex history and varied interpretations.*

### **The Swastika:**

- In Buddhism, the swastika, known as "manji," represents the Buddha's auspicious footprints or his teachings.
- It's typically left-facing, unlike the Nazi symbol, and holds positive connotations like good luck and spiritual well-being.
- However, due to the symbol's appropriation by hate groups, its public display can be sensitive and misunderstood.

### **Beyond the Swastika:**

- Numerous other symbols embody Buddhist peace concepts:
  - **The Dharmachakra (Wheel of Dharma):** Represents the Buddha's teachings and the cycle of life, death, and rebirth.
  - **The Lotus Flower:** Symbolizes enlightenment and spiritual growth emerging from muddy beginnings.
  - **The Bodhi Tree:** Where the Buddha attained enlightenment,signifying wisdom and inner peace.

### **Remember:**

- When discussing Buddhist peace symbols, be mindful of the swastika's baggage and use it with caution.
- Explore the rich tapestry of other Buddhist symbols that represent peace and enlightenment.

