Nuns in the Chinese Buddhist sect of Chan

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[illegible]

The spirit of essential *Mahayana* Buddhist doctrines assumes equality between male and female, although in the mundane world the position of Buddhist women is lower than that of Buddhist men. The Chinese *Chan* Buddhist tradition, following the egalitarian teaching of One-Mind of enlightenment, advocates non-discriminating, universal Buddhahood accessible to every sentient being, whether male or female.

Nevertheless, women's status and spiritual capacities have not been upheld as highly in Buddhist history as they have by the Chinese *Chan* School. Although the Buddha acknowledges that "women, having gone forth from home into homelessness in the *Dharma* and discipline proclaimed by the Truth-finder, are able

6) **Ven. Naotunne Wimalagnana**
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