



EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA
BANGKOK

The Buddha's Enlightenment for the Well-Being of Humanity

The Day of Vesak is the most sacred day for all those who have chosen Buddha's teaching as the guide for their behavior. Since the United Nations recognition of Vesak, as a celebration for all Buddhists around the world, thousands of people who profess this religion joint together each year on the first full moon day in May or in June if it is a leap year to show their appreciation for the great contribution that Buddhism has made to the spiritual enrichment of the human being during more than two millennia.

Today when the world is facing one of the most difficult periods in the history of mankind, with bloody wars caused by greed and individualism, with millions of people living in abject poverty, ignorance and despair, many of them even without hope of survival, while a handful of humans squandered fortunes, today, when the planet is in danger of succumbing to the great climatic changes provoked by irresponsible treatment to mother nature, there is no doubt that the teaching of Buddha and specially dedicating this auspicious celebrations to the Buddha's Enlightenment are particularly significant.

And this is because these celebrations involve a message of love, peace, understanding, human solidarity, sincerity, fairness, and respect for the diversity among the human beings, as well as perseverance to achieve noble goals instead egoism. Such a message coming out of the heart goes far beyond the limits of Buddhism and becomes universal principle, essential to the future of humanity.

These are the same principles guiding the Cuban people and its leaders for more than fifty years to overcome many obstacles on the long road toward a better future, much more brilliant, where the searching for welfare and happiness for everyone is the main motivation in human behavior. The world has witnessed how Cuba has honored these principles in offering its friendship and solidarity to other peoples of the world.

Therefore, in this auspicious occasion, I want to convey through this message all our appreciation for the important contribution made by the great teachings of the Buddha to the strengthening of the most precious human values. Especially I would like to express my deep appreciation and respect to His Majesty King Bhumibol Adhulyadej, who has been the most illustrious and exemplary propagator of the teachings of Buddha among Thai people and also among the entire Buddhist world.

I would also like to show my deep gratitude to the organizer of the Day of Vesak here in Thailand for the possibility of sending this message of friendship and expressing my sincerest wish for present and future successes in this magnificent celebration.