



**Mahamakut Buddhist University Message
To Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University
On the occasion of Buddhajayanti:
The celebration of 2600 years of the Buddha's Enlightenment
31 May and 1-2 June 2555/2012**



At the dawn of the Vesak full moon 2600 year ago, when the Buddha achieved complete enlightenment, the first words that came to him were:

"Seeking but not finding the House Builder, I travelled through the round of countless births. Oh, painful is birth ever and again! House Builder, you have now been seen. You shall not build the house again. Your rafters have been broken down; your ridge-pole is demolished too. My mind has now attained the unformed *nibbana* and reached the end of every kind of craving." (Dhammapada: 153-54.)

This very first ever utterance of the Buddha not only describes the Buddha's doctrinal realisation which marks the end of his Enlightenment experience but it also depicts the essence of his Buddhahood and his doctrines.

It has been nine consecutive years that Thailand has been chosen by world Buddhists as a venue for celebration of United Nations Day of Vesak Celebration. This unique gathering has been a biggest congregation of Buddhist representatives from around the globe. For example, this year's congregation are comprise of Buddhist represents from 84 countries who are gathering to celebrate the 2600 years of Buddha's Enlightenment with various activities including Buddhist academic seminars.

The theme of this year's celebration is 'The Buddha's Enlightenment for the Wellbeing of Humanity.' This truly mirrors in the Buddha's own first utterance quoted above. The Buddha's announcement of Enlightenment is in fact tells the story of not finding the source of suffering one suffers endlessly. With his Awakening he discovered the cause of suffering and he successfully destroyed all causes of suffering. This led him to *nibbana* the ultimate mental state of wellbeing a human can accomplish. The Buddha's doctrine, therefore, ultimately leads humanity to a balanced physical and mental wellbeing.

I wish the conference will proceed with a success and fulfil all aims.

Acting Rector
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