

Central University of Tibetan Studies Sarnath, Varanasi, India

Date: 10th May, 2013

<u>Message</u>

The full moon day of Vesak is celebrated throughout the world as the day of the three great events of the Buddha's life i.e. the Birth, Enlightenment and Mahaparinirvana. The United Nations has recognized the day in 1999. Since 2004, this day is being celebrated mostly in Bangkok, Thailand hosted by the Royal Thai Government and organized by Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University (MCU). I am glad to know that with the blessings of the Supreme Sangha Council and the support of the Royal Thai Government, the two day celebration of the 10th United Nations Day of Vesak will be held at United Nations Convention Center in Bangkok, Thailand on 21st and 22nd May, 2013.

I am happy that with the celebration of this great day, the message of peace of the Buddha would be disseminated to ten directions through the participants from all around the world. The modern world is desperately in need of inner peace in order to maintain balance between the material world and spirituality. Therefore, I am sure that the celebration will be instrumental in giving the message of peace to the people of world.

Prof. Geshe Ngawang Samten Vice Chancellor