



**AMBASSADOR OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE  
BANGKOK**

**UNITED NATIONS DAY  
OF VESAK CELEBRATIONS 2013 (B.E. 2556)**

This year marks the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United Nations Day of Vesak, which coincides with the 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Anniversary of His Holiness Somdet Phra Nyanasamvara, the Supreme Patriarch of Thailand. On this special occasion, I would like to extend my best wishes to all Buddhists in Thailand and other parts of the world.

The world has become more inter-connected, and we are all global citizens. As global citizens, our actions have an impact on others. So it is important to promote deeper understanding of people of different cultures and religions through education. This year's theme of "Education and Global Citizenship: A Buddhist Perspective" is therefore both meaningful and timely. Many valuable lessons can be drawn from Buddhist teachings, such as the importance of suspending judgement and making objective observations. Efforts to promote education and share perspectives will benefit Buddhists as well as people of other religions.

Singapore is a multi-racial and multi-cultural nation where people of different religions live together in peace and harmony. As a global citizen, we would like to see such peace and harmony prevail among people of different ethnicities, cultures and religions across nations. We also have much to learn from one another, Buddhists and followers of other faiths.

As we celebrate the United Nations Day of Vesak, let us continue to foster deeper understanding and mutual respect to help make the world a more peaceful and vibrant place for everyone.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Siew San Chua'.

Mrs Chua Siew San  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
of the Republic of Singapore to the Kingdom of Thailand