



Riga Zen Center & Jurmala Zen Center
7, Konkordijas street, Jurmala, Latvia, LV-2015
www.dzen.lv

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Congratulatory Messages from Latvian Sangha of Riga and Jurmala Zen Centers to participants of United Nations Day of Vesak Celebrations & Buddhist Conference 2011

It's my big honor to address the participants of the United Nations Day of Vesak Celebrations and Buddhist Conference 2011 in Thailand.

Buddhist teaching and active Sangha have existed in Latvia for more than a century. Latvia is a small European country near the Baltic Sea. In different historical periods of our country, Buddhist practitioners of different schools shared the Dharma to people of different nations. Latvians and Russians, Jewish and Germans, Polish and Swedish cultures mix in Latvia, and for all of them Buddha teaching has the same true value and importance.

Our Sangha exist more than 10 years, and our delegates 3 times visited Thailand during celebration of United Nations Day of Vesak. We met many new Buddhist friends from all over the world. Now we have constant contact with Sanghas in Belarus, Estonia, Ukraine and Russia. We organize Dharma Talks of Zen monks in our neighbor country Estonia only because of personal contact made here, in Thailand, during previous conferences.

We are glad to meet here our old friends from Asia, Europe and Latin America and we hope to have more new friends. It's our big pleasure to spend a few days of Conference with representatives of Buddhist communities from different schools of Buddhism.

We hope that our meetings and talks during this Conference with fellow Buddhists will be useful to all participants in finding correct ways of selfless action in everyday life. We hope, that these meetings will help not only enjoy the warm friendly atmosphere of the event (and gain some extra kilos because of delicious meal☺), but also to meet goals of the main theme stated as "Buddhist Virtues in Socio-Economic Development".

We are grateful to His Majesty the King of Thailand and Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University (MCU) of Thailand for organizing such event and we wish to all participants to spend a good and useful time here in Thailand for benefits of your Sangha's and all sentient beings.

Dana Lahtionova Secretary of Latvian Sangha of Riga and Jurmala Zen Centers	Aleksandrs Lahtionovs a.a. Abbot of Latvian Sangha of Riga and Jurmala Zen Centers
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