



Buddhismo Theravada México A.R.

April 8, 2011

**Message to the United Nations' Day of Vesak Celebrations and
Buddhist Conference 2011/B.E. 2554**

Vesak is the most important date in the Buddhist calendar. In the Theravada countries this date is used to mark a new Buddhist year. Therefore this year's Vesak will mark the beginning of the year 2554 since the Buddha's passing away.

This eighth international celebration represents a continuing effort to bring together Buddhist leaders, academics, scholars and participants from an increasing number of countries to commemorate the three important events in the life of the Buddha, His Birth, Enlightenment and Passing Away, and also to discuss our main subject: Buddhist Virtues in Socio-Economic Development.

Since last year, when we celebrated the seventh international celebration of Vesak, many of the events that have happened in the world bring to the forefront of our attention the urgent need of putting into practice the Buddha's teachings of ethics and compassion. Therefore, in this auspicious occasion let us renew our personal commitment to work for the global development of these much-needed qualities.

On behalf of the Mexico Delegation I would like to express our gratitude to the organizers of this important event for making possible this large congregation of Buddhists from every corner of the world to discuss and exchange ideas on how to make a better world under the Buddha's main guidelines of wisdom and compassion.

May the Buddha's teachings illuminate the way of all of us for the peace and welfare of all beings!

Bhikkhu Nandisena

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