



BUDDHISMO THERAVADA MÉXICO A.R.

Apartado Postal No. 19 C.P. 91300 Banderilla, Ver. México

✉ admin@btmar.org 🌐 www.btmar.org ☎ 01-228-811-0080

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Message to the United Nations' Day of Vesak Celebrations and Buddhist Conference 2010/B.E. 2553

It is an honor and a pleasure to have been invited as the representative of Mexico to the United Nations' Day of Vesak Celebrations and Buddhist Conference. 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 Vesak will mark the beginning of the year 2553 since the Buddha's passing away.

This seventh international celebration represents a continuing effort to bring together Buddhist leaders, academics, scholars, and participants from 83 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: The Global Recovery – The Buddhist Perspective.

The Enlightenment of the Buddha is a constant reminder of the need for us to develop wisdom and compassion. Therefore this auspicious occasion is an opportunity to renew our personal commitment to develop these much-needed qualities.

On behalf of the Mexico Delegation I would like to convey the pure wish that this Vesak would mark the beginning of a new Buddhist year where much progress can be made towards the accomplishment of peace through non-violence and to find viable solutions to reduce the enormous suffering that exists in the world.

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

Bhikkhu Nandisena

Venerable Bhikkhu Nandisena
Head of Mexico Delegation
Abbot Dhamma Vihara, Mexico
Spiritual Director of Buddhismo Theravada México AR