

विश्व शान्ति विहार VISHWA SHANTI VIHARA

मीनभवन, काठमाडौं, नेपाल (स्थापित: वि.सं. २०४१)

मिति:

Date: 3rd May 2011

The Most Venerable Prof. Dr. Dharmakosajarn

Rector, Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University President, International Association of Buddhist Universities President, International Council of United Nations Day of Vesak

Congratulatory Message-United Nations Day of Vesak Celebrations & Buddhist Conference 2011/B.E 2554

Dear Most Venerable Dr. Dharmakosajarn,

I feel honored to have an opportunity to congratulate you for taking steps to organize the Vesak celebration, the thrice significant, day: celebrating the birth, enlightenment and passing away of the Gautam Buddha, which has been recognized by the United Nations General Assembly resolution of 1999. I would like to express my solidarity in fulfilling the objectives of the event: to cooperate to develop Buddhist solutions to the global crisis and to collaborate in disseminating Buddhism through academic activities, religious ceremonies and ways of living.

In this new era of science and technology, *Pancha Sila* is and should still be the basic fundamental principle to respect each other's existence, the ongoing war and conflicts throughout the world show that the teachings of Gautam Buddha have not been sufficiently propagated. The deliberations on "Buddhist leadership and socio-economic development" will help build a harmonious society and also help in environmental preservation and restoration with wisdom for bringing awareness in the society. The fundamental principles of peace propagated by Gautam Buddha are to be studied, researched, analyzed, followed and then mobilized for creating and maintaining peace in the earth. I hope this conference plus the vesak celebration with a great gathering of 5000 people will help promote and disseminate these fundamental peace principles. The representatives from different countries will talk about Buddhism and global concerns and will find out solutions to eliminate hostility, violence, brutality, bloodshed, dominance, abuse and atrocity.

I believe this august gathering and the conference provide a picture of the unity of all Buddhist Sanghas all over the world. It is high time to push back the sectarian differences within Buddhism in the names of Theravada, Vajrayana and Mahayana and make efforts to come together to the original teachings of Gautam Buddha. The United Nations office in Kathmandu, Nepal has recognized the full moon day of Vesak and announced public holiday as in the previous years.

With great pleasure I would like to mention here that my own country Nepal which is the birth land of Buddha has been celebrating Vesak full moon day jointly with the United Nation office here, for the last five years.

Finally, I would like to wish this Vesak Celebration a great success in bringing awareness the society and help all to revere and follow Gautam Buddha's noble ideas and achievements.

Yours in the Dhamma,

Venerable Bhikshu Jnanapurnik Chief Abbot, Vishwa Shanti Vihara