



ព្រះរាជាណាចក្រកម្ពុជា
ជាតិ សាសនា ព្រះមហាក្សត្រ



វត្តភ្នំព្រះវិហារ

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Congratulatory Message Samdech Preah Agga Mahasangharajadhipati Tep Vong, the Great Supreme Patriarch of Cambodia

I take great honor and pleasure to send a goodwill message on the auspicious occasion of the UN Day of Vesak celebrations, to be held in Bangkok, Thailand, on May 22-26, 2010.

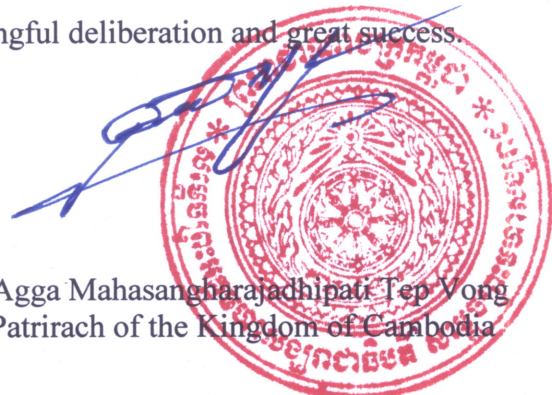
I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to congratulate the International Committee for United Nations Day of Vesak, Thai Sangha Supreme Council, the Royal Thai Government and Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University, for making great effort in successfully organizing this event.

The Day of Vesak which commemorates the Birth, the Enlightenment, and the Passing away of the Lord Buddha, is the most important event in the Buddhist calendar and Buddhists all over the world regardless of sectarian inclination such as Theravada, Mahayana, Vajrayana or other schools. Today We are gathered here to celebrate together the Day of Vesak not only to show the unity, friendship, and cooperation among Buddhists, but also we will debate on the themes concerning Buddhist contribution to world peace and sustainable development, look for concrete practical solutions to great challenges confronting the world today, and find ways to protect and promote Buddhism.

Buddhism is embedded with profound theories and philosophies that can provide the world with genuine peace and bliss and that science and material world have failed to achieve. The fact is that in the world today science can provide everything like pleasure and happiness through materialism, but it is only artificial one. Running after those things through what science provides, humankind get stress and conflict with oneself, family, community, society etc., and sometimes it leads to war. According to Buddhism, serenity, peace, and harmony in the world begin with individuals through practicing meditation, loving-kindness, compassion, patience, and non-violence.

Even though the teaching of the Buddha is great and conducive to peace and harmony, if we don't put it into real practice, it will not bring any good to us. Therefore, by coming together to commemorate this great event, we will have the opportunity to discuss and share with each other our knowledge and experiences so that we may have better understanding of the Buddha's teaching and draw more inspiration to work more indefatigably for the sake of peace, harmony and prosperity in the world.

I would like to wish the celebrations a meaningful deliberation and great success.



H.H. Samdech Preah Agga Mahasangharajadhipati Tep Vong
The Great Supreme Patriarch of the Kingdom of Cambodia