



**EMBASSY OF
THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE
BANGKOK**

UNITED NATIONS DAY OF VESAK CELEBRATIONS 2012/B.E. 2555

On the auspicious occasion of the United Nations Day of Vesak, I would like to extend my sincere good wishes to Thai Buddhists and Buddhists all over the world.

This year marks the 2600th anniversary of Buddhajayanti. The Teachings and Wisdom of Lord Buddha are as pertinent and relevant today as they were over two millennia ago. The precepts of moderation, appeal to reason and open-mindedness, and the respect for equality are important and useful reminders of what is needed to transcend our differences and embrace our commonalities.

Buddhism teaches people that we are all part of an inter-connected community, and that one action feeds another and affects all others. This has been magnified by technology, as we become more closely connected and more integrated with each passing day and the effects of something happening far away can be felt in an instance. We must be more aware and even more mindful of our actions and how they can affect others.

As a multi-ethnic and multi-religious country, Singapore is fortunate that we have the commitment and contributions of Buddhists and believers of other faiths in safeguarding religious harmony, tolerance and mutual respect for all faiths in our nation.

As we come together to celebrate the United Nations Day of Vesak, let us also reach out to friends of other faiths to foster better understanding and celebrate our diversity.

Mrs Chua Siew San
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of
the Republic of Singapore to the Kingdom of Thailand