

## The United Nations Day of Vesak 2012

Visakha Puja Day is the day that commemorates the Lord Buddha's birth, enlightenment, and passing away. This day is remarkable because the great amazing events in the Buddha's life which occurred on the same full-moon day. Thus, the United Nations recognise the Day of Vesak to be an important day for the world.

It was great and delightful that Thailand -- the world's centre of Buddhism -- hosts this conference in 2012; and Buddhists all over the world also recognise this year is BuddhaJayanti, that is the celebration of the becoming of Lord Buddha; since the Enlightenment to the present time, it is 2600 years ago. Thus, Thailand welcomes Buddhists from all over the world attended the conferences and meetings to discuss about the way to eternally sustain Buddhism.

On behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture, Thai government officers, respectfully thank to Thai Sangha, with the support from Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University (MCU) for this conference to reach the objectives and also bring peace to all Thais.

Nattawut Saikeur

Ministry of Agriculture