



**Message
from
His Excellency Mr. Chumpol Silapa-archa
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Tourism and Sports**

Since the Enlightenment of Ascetic Siddhartha on the Vesak Day, Buddhism has greatly taught humanity to live their lives peacefully by practicing “the middle path,” referring to a way of maintaining a balance in one’s life, with the ultimate goal to end all suffering and desire. In the midst of today’s society, when we have to confront many challenges and difficulties, Buddhism still remains as powerful and applicable philosophy to follow as ever.

As this year’s Vesak Day marks the auspicious occasion of the 2,600th anniversary of Sambuddha Jayanti, I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University and all organizing committee who are involved in arranging the 9th celebration of United Nations Day of Vesak on 31 May – 2 June 2012 with the specific aim of commemorating the 80th anniversary of Her Majesty the Queen’s birthday and the 60th anniversary of His Royal Highness the Crown Prince’s birthday. This event will not only help promote the perception of great moral value of Buddhism, but vitally encourage people to follow the doctrine to make the best out of this world and life hereafter.

Therefore, by the grace of the Holy Triple Gem, may the 9th celebration of United Nations Day of Vesak be blessed with success, so that it can be the resort for all Buddhists and mankind over the world, and bring the prosperity to the religion forevermore.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chumpol Silapa-archa'.

(Chumpol Silapa-archa)

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Tourism and Sports