



**Sri Lanka International Buddhist Academy (SIBA)  
Pallekele, Kundasale 20168, Sri Lanka**

**Message from Rector - SIBA**

It is with great pleasure that I write this message on the occasion of the 9<sup>th</sup> International Celebration and Conference of United Nations Day of Vesak and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Academic Conference of the International Association of Buddhist Universities, organized and sponsored by the Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University (MCU), Thailand. I am extremely happy to learn the three days of great assembly of international scholars, leaders, and practitioners of our generation, who have been rendering tremendous services for the enhancement and enrichment of both Buddhism and Buddhist Studies in their localities throughout the world. As this year's celebration coincides the commemoration of 2600 years of Buddha's enlightenment, the planned international symposium on *The Buddha's Enlightenment for the Well-being of Humanity* becomes timely, and it goes hand in hand with the conference theme of IABU, *Buddhist philosophy and praxis*. It is, therefore, the duty of our generation of scholars, researchers, and Buddhist leaders who meet at this celebration to endeavour in helping the world fully grasped the enlightened message of the compassionate Buddha, enabling them practice that message to experience peace and happiness within and without while also ensuring the wellbeing of all.

On behalf of the Sri Lanka International Buddhist Academy, an affiliated institute of MCU, I take this opportunity to extend my warm wishes to the Most Venerable Prof. Dr. Phra Dharmakosajarn and his active and committed staff, and also the delegates who come to Thailand for presenting their research findings, sharing their views and experiences, exchanging holy blessings, and also developing friendship and mutual cooperation, for a fruitful and wonderful religious celebration and academic exercise.

Prof. G.A. Somaratne  
Rector - SIBA