



Message from
Admiral Surasak Rounroengrom
Commander-in-Chief, Royal Thai Navy
On the Occasion of the 10th Anniversary of
The United Nations Day of Vesak Celebration

In 1999 the Day of Vesak was recognized by the United Nations as another important day of the world. Appropriate arrangements have been made for international observances of the Day of Vesak ever since then to mark the three important events that occurred in the Buddha's life on the same date; these are the birth of the Buddha, his attainment of enlightenment, and his passing away. All Buddhists around the world will join today in walking clockwise around a sacred temple ground three times to commemorate the compassion of the Buddha, his wisdom and his purity showing mankind to love and have tolerance towards one another, thereby contributing to the enhancement of peace and harmony in the world for more than 2,600 years.

The 10th Anniversary of the United Nations Day of Vesak celebration is thus held in line with the UN resolution to commemorate the three great events of the Buddha, coupled with the celebration of the 100th Birthday Anniversary of His Holiness Somdej Phra Nyanasamvara the Supreme Patriarch of Thailand. The organizing of the celebration is, therefore, of great value to all Buddhist people, especially those who come from around the world to join in declaring to the world the principles of Buddhism as well as sharing their ideas for the common good on how to apply the teaching of the Buddha to their livelihood in harmony with the world and its currently prevailing economic situation.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to extend my best wishes to all the Buddhist leaders, academics and delegations on their great success in participating in the 10th Anniversary of the United Nations Day of Vesak Celebration 2013 and International Symposium.

Admiral

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Surasak Rounroengrom".

(Surasak Rounroengrom)

Commander-in-Chief