

UNITED NATIONS DAY OF VESAK 2024 (BE 2567)



Vesak Goodwill Message from Brazil

Distinguished participants of the 2024 United Nations Day of Vesak,

It is a great honor to gather once more in this beautiful land, under the auspices of the Sangha Supreme Council of Thailand, the Royal Thai Government, ICDV, MCU, Mahamakut Buddhist University, Department of Religious Affairs under Ministry of Culture in Thailand, and the National Office of Buddhism. As we come together to celebrate the most significant day for Buddhists around the world, we are reminded of the profound importance of our shared journey.

This year's theme, "The Buddhist Way of Building Trust and Solidarity," is particularly pertinent in our current global context. Trust and solidarity are not mere ideals; they are essential practices that form the foundation of a peaceful and harmonious society. The Buddha's teachings guide us towards fostering these values in our daily lives, encouraging us to look beyond our individual selves and to embrace a collective spirit of understanding and cooperation.

In the Dhammapada, the Buddha teaches us that "A good friend who points out mistakes and imperfections and rebukes evil is to be respected as if he reveals a hidden treasure." This wisdom underscores the significance of trust and solidarity in our relationships. True friendship and community are built on the pillars of honesty, support, and mutual respect. These principles are crucial in addressing the challenges we face today, from social inequality to environmental crises.

Throughout history, the teachings of the Buddha have provided a guiding light in times of turmoil and uncertainty. By cultivating trust and solidarity, we can confront and overcome the egotism and division that plague our modern world. The practice of compassion, kindness, and empathetic joy, as taught by the Buddha, are powerful tools for healing and uniting communities.

As Buddhist educators and practitioners, we have a unique role in promoting these values. Our efforts to teach and embody the Dharma can help transform societies by nurturing a sense of interconnectedness and shared purpose. This gathering is an opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to these ideals and to inspire one another in our collective mission.

Let us take this occasion to deepen our practice of trust and solidarity, both within our Buddhist communities and in the wider world. Together, we can create a future where understanding and cooperation prevail over discord and division. May our actions be guided by the teachings of the Buddha, and may we all strive towards a more harmonious and enlightened world.

May all beings be happy, may all beings be peaceful, may all beings be liberated.

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