

MESSAGE



The Buddha's life is a saga of sojourn from ordinary to extra-ordinary. He was born as Prince Siddhārtha of Kapilavastu, of course with all possible worldly ease and comforts available those days, which he could enjoy for the whole life, but despite that, nothing could keep him tied up with them and seeing human miseries in various forms, he renounced everything available in the household life and set out in search of some lasting solutions of such miseries. His enlightenment at Bodhgaya, upgraded him from an extra to an extra-ordinary person, who spent his rest of life in the service of all beings by showing the path to emancipation. Although his mortal journey came to an end with his Mahāparinibbāna at the age of 80 years at Kushinagar, he continued with the same objective in the form of Dhamma and Vinaya through his Saṅgha, which is still continuing.

The Vesak day marks the above three great happenings of the Buddha's life—his birth, his enlightenment, and his demise. For all of us and so to say for the entire human race, the Vesak Day is to remember that Unique Extra-ordinary personality and pay our gratitude for the path of philanthropy and altruism he showed to us for 'attasukha' as well as for 'lokasukha', by following which we can help others to get rid of miseries and can do good to ourselves and move towards the object of Eternal Bliss or Emancipation (Nibbāna).

It is matter of great pleasure that Mahachulalongkorn Rajavidyalaya University, Wangnoi (Thailand) with the mandate from the United Nations, celebrates the Vesak Day and gives all of us an opportunity to pay our homage to the Great Master.

I congratulate the organizers and wish the 2648th Vesak Day a grand success.

“Bhavatu Sabba Maṅgalaṃ.”

एष धर्मः समात्मः

(Prof. Dr. Baidyanath Labh)