



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THAILAND  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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**Closing Remarks**

**by**

**H.E. Mr. Cherdchai Chaivaivid**

**Ambassador and Permanent Representative  
of the Kingdom of Thailand to the United Nations**

**at the Commemoration of the International Day of Vesak 2026**

**12 May 2026 at 15.00 - 17.00 hrs.**

**ECOSOC Chamber**

**UNHQ, New York**

**Venerable Monks,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

1. It is an honour for me to deliver the closing remarks at the commemoration of the International Day of Vesak this year.
2. This annual event has become **a well-established tradition here at the United Nations Headquarters** since Thailand and Sri Lanka jointly tabled General Assembly resolution 54/115 in 2000.
3. Nearly three decades since its adoption, I am encouraged to witness **the growing recognition of Vesak at the global level**. We have seen increasing participation from Member States, including the presence of national clergy, reflecting the universal resonance of Lord Bhudda'sthese teachings.
4. I would like to **express our sincere gratitude to the Venerable Panakara for the keynote speech as well as monks from Japan, the Republic of Korea, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, and Thailand** for their meaningful participation. I also extend my appreciation to our dear colleagues and friends of diverse faiths and beliefs who have joined us today.

**Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

5. The full moon in the month of May is the Day of Vesak. It marks the three pivotal events in the life of the Lord Buddha—his birth, enlightenment, and passing. The observance of Vesak not only allows us to commemorate his life and journey, but also **offers an opportunity for reflection on ourselves and on the teachings that continue to guide us in addressing the challenges of our time**.
6. Each year, on this commemorative day, I have the honour to **bring the teachings of the Lord Buddha into our shared reflection**. This year while the world is still marked by uncertainty and division—the principle of the *Threefold Training* offers meaningful guidance.

7. *Sīla* (ศีล), or ethical conduct, reminds us of the importance of self-discipline, responsibility, and moral integrity. **It calls on us to uphold principles, rules, and international law** that safeguard peace and ensure that our actions do no harm to others.
8. *Samādhi* (สมาธิ), or mental concentration, teaches us the value of calmness, mindfulness, and restraint. In a world often driven by tension and division, **inner peace and clarity of mind remain essential for meaningful dialogue and peaceful resolution of conflicts.**
9. And finally, *Prajñā* (ปัญญา), or wisdom, encourages us to look beyond immediate interests and develop a deeper understanding of our interconnected world. **Such wisdom is essential in shaping inclusive, sustainable, and long-term solutions to the complex challenges facing humanity today.**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

10. On this occasion, let us carry forward the spirit of Vesak, guided by this practical wisdom. Let us strive for balance, cultivate inner peace, and work together towards global harmony.
11. I thank you.