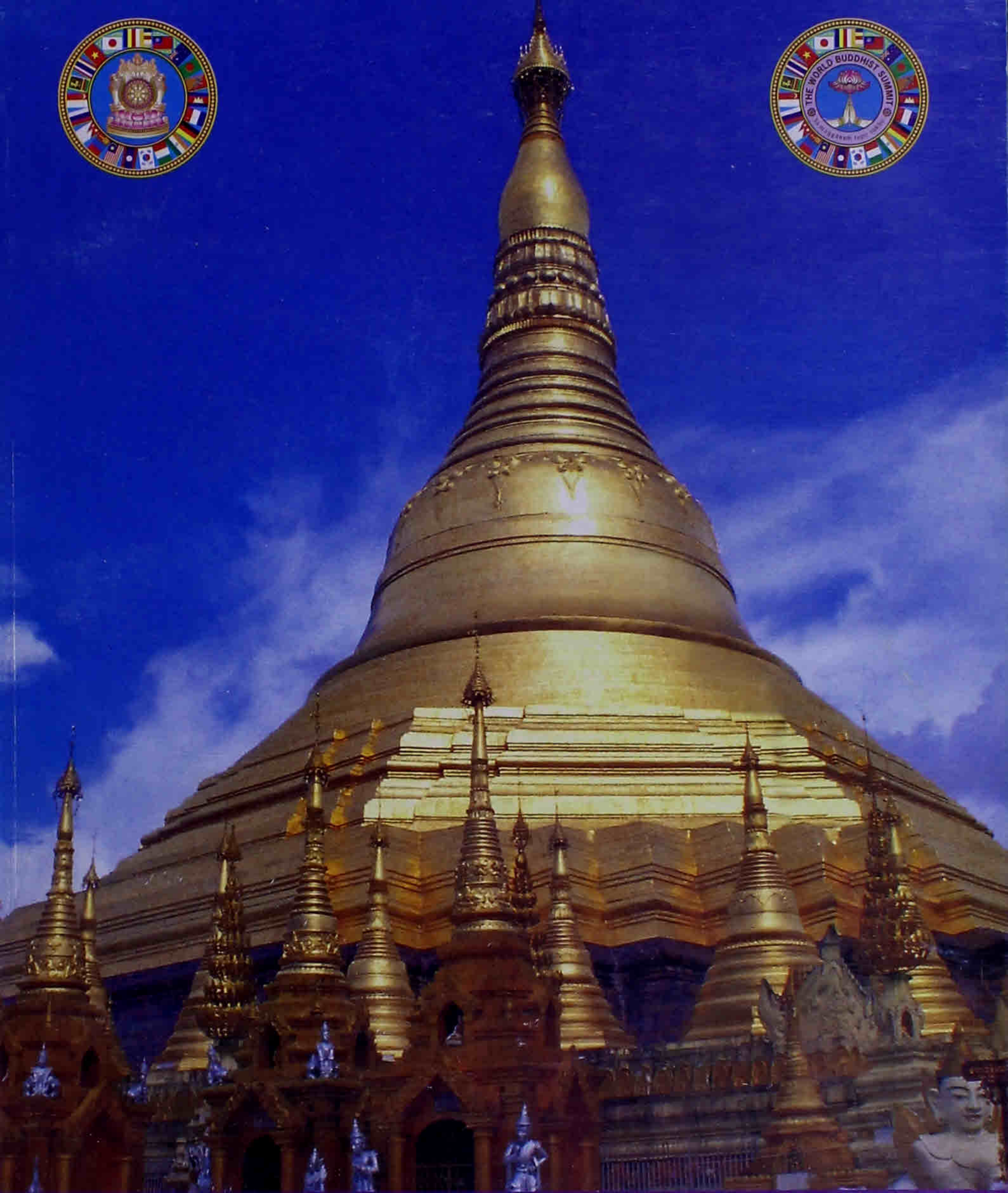




CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES

· BUDDHIST LEADERS OF THE WORLD

THE WORLD BUDDHIST SUMMIT

9, 10, 11 December, 2004 Yangon, Myanmar



CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES

BUDDHIST LEADERS OF THE WORLD

THE WORLD BUDDHIST SUMMIT

9, 10, 11 December, 2004 Yangon, Myanmar



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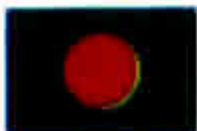


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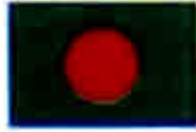


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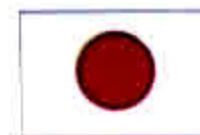
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MYANMAR

Senior Gen. Than Shwe
Chairman of The State Peace and Development Council



CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

FROM

SENIOR GENERAL THAN SHWE

CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

UNION OF MYANMAR

I am deeply honored to extend a congratulatory message on this auspicious occasion of the World Buddhist Summit.

The Government, the Sangha and the people are extremely happy and proud of the fact that this auspicious Summit is to be held in the Golden Land of Dhamma where Theravāda Buddhism is preserved in its pristine purity.

All those who gather in this Mahā Pāsāna Great Cave firmly believe that the timeless teachings of the lord Buddha is very relevant and essential to save the humanity made up of craving, desire and suffering.

Today, the world is witnessing numerous conflicts and crimes. All those evils result from greed (lobha), anger (dosa) and delusion (moha). We should rid the world of the roots of all evils and sow seeds of goodwill, tolerance, kindness and altruism for the sake of peace and prosperity.

The Lord Buddha's message of the four noble conducts--loving-kindness(mettā), compassion (karuṇā), appreciative joy (muditā) and equanimity (upekkhā)-- is the best path that will lead humanity to peace and harmony. Those teachings are valid not only for Buddhists, but for all humankind, regardless of race or creed. This universal message of the Compassionate Teacher, undoubtedly, can save humanity from the brink of despair, and lead humanity to a peaceful and prosperous world in which everybody can live in happiness.

I am convinced that this summit will be instrumental in promoting and propagating the Buddha's Teaching and will enable us to develop better understanding, friendship and cooperation, among Buddhist nations, and contribute to bring about peace and happiness to all mankind by generating tolerance, loving-kindness and compassion in our world.

On this occasion, I extend my respectful greetings and best wishes to all the participants for the success of this auspicious summit.

May all being be well and happy!



(Senior General Than Shwe)
Yangon





CAMBODIA

His Majesty Preah Bat
Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk
King of Cambodia



Goodwill Message

from His Majesty preah Bat

Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk

King of Cambodia

Your Holiness Chairman of State Samgha Mahanayaka Council,
Highly Respected Venerable Members of State Samgha Mahanayaka Council,
Ladies and Gentlemen:

The World Buddhist Summit assembling today in Yangon is in keeping with the pattern of regularity consistent with the success of the respected Buddhist Leaders of Myanmar, headed by State Samgha Mahanayaka Council and Ministry of Religious Affairs. It is particularly fortunate that such meetings provide for the faithful adherents of various traditions of one religion, the periodic opportunity to get together and experience a revival of their common adherence to the sublime teaching of the Buddha through their meeting and interchanges.

I am thoroughly convinced that mutual knowledge between the members of the various traditions of Buddhism, who are like members of a family enlightened by different flashes of the same light, will enable the community as a whole to enjoy greater self-confidence. This renewed confidence will give ever greater force to the universal message of peace and serenity that this community is to bear to the world in the noblest way, by speaking to the minds and hearts of all mankind, to bring to it ever greater happiness.

The message of the Blessed One came a very long time ago to the vast provinces that now make up the Union of Myanmar. Just as in Cambodia, it brought enrichment to an already very old civilization. My country also shares with these provinces the marvelous heritage left by the mission of the Holy Venerables Sonathera and Uttarathera, sent by the great king Asoka to the country of Suvannabhumi to teach the Dhamma, subsequent to the Third Buddhist council. The valley of the Mekong that bathes Cambodia is the eastern hinterland of the country of Suvannabhumi that is bathed by the majestic waters of the Irrawady to the west, and Khmer literature honors in its very pious and fervent memory the mission of these two venerable arahants.

The particular genie of our nations gave both original and diverse artistic and literary expressions to the teaching received from Buddha. The pilgrimages in the course of which Buddhist monks from various peoples of Asia, from the most ancient times, went to study about one another promoted interchanges and at times a brilliant literary work composed in one country but inspiring the artists of another. That is certainly the case, for example of

Jambūpatisutta of which the composition in the *Pāli* language originates from Myanmar out of compassion for the king of *Jambūpati*, who as excessively self-satisfied with his power and riches, the Buddha appeared miraculously to him, bedecked in jewels of such incomparable magnificence that the sovereign immediately understood the inanity of his pride and later became an arahant. This impressive account has been a powerful source of inspiration for Cambodian artists of the Middle Period, from which resulted the purely Khmer masterpieces featuring the orriate Buddha images of post-Angkorian art.

I express my most heartfelt and enthusiastic wishes for the success of the World Buddhist Summit. I hope that the spirit of concord, tolerance and openness that emerged so brilliantly at the Buddhist Conference held in Phnom Penh in December 2002 will prevail similarly at the meeting taking place this year in Yangon. I make a hearty expression of my respect to the Chairman and members of State Samgha Mahanayaka Council of Myanmar. I convey to the governmental authorities of the Union of Mynamar as well as to all the international delegates at this Buddhist Summit the five Buddhist wishes of longevity (*āyu*), health (*vaṇṇa*), happiness (*sukha*), success (*bala*) and understanding (*paṭibhāna*).



Norodom Sihanouk
King of Cambodia





INDIA

President
Republic of India



सत्यमेव जयते
राष्ट्रपति
भारत गणतंत्र
**PRESIDENT
REPUBLIC OF INDIA**

MESSAGE

I am happy to know that the Fourth Buddhist Summit – World Buddhist Summit is being held in the Union of Myanmar during December 9-11, 2004.

Lord Buddha's teachings have historically inspired religions, social and political leaders in our two countries and other parts of the world. Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Indian Nation, was deeply influenced by Lord Buddha's precepts and teachings which have eternal truth and universal significance.

The summit could be an occasion to renew humanity's faith in Lord Buddha's central message of "love for all lives", which is a key to restoring peace on the globe.

On this occasion, I extend my greetings and felicitations to all the participants and wish the Summit all success.


(A.P.J. Abdul Kalam)

New Delhi
October 21, 2004



BANGLADESH

PROFESSOR DR. IAJUDDIN AHMED
President The People's Republic of Bangladesh



No: 523 /1

Embassy of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Yangon, Myanmar.

The Embassy of the people's Republic of Bangladesh in Yangon presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the Union of Myanmar and has the honour to quote below a message of felicitations from His Excellency Professor Dr. Iajuddin Ahmed, President of Bangladesh, addressed to His Excellency Senior General Than Shwe, Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council and Commander- In- Chief of Defence services of the Union of Myanmar.

QUOTE:

HIS EXCELLENCY
SENIOR GENERAL THAN SHWE
CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT
COUNCIL,
COMMANDER-IN- CHIEF OF DEFENCE SERVICES
THE UNION OF MYANMAR

Your Excellency,

It gives me immense pleasure in conveying to Your Excellency our heartiest felicitations and greetings on the auspicious occasion the World Buddhist Summit to be held in Yangon on 09-11 December 2004.

Buddhism has not only professed a religion but also endowed the world with thriving civilization. the philosophy and spirit of Buddhism specially the tolerance and fondness for all living beings is very imperative in this critical juncture of human civilization. The humanitarian essence of Buddhism that has transcended over the span of time is equally having great appeal to the present day world.

I am confident that the Summit will bring the followers of Buddhism closer from around the globe and will imbue the ideals and spirit of Buddhism specially peace and harmony among different religions to the mankind in general and to the Buddhists in particular.

I am hopeful that following the Summit, existing bonds of friendship and cooperation between our two neighbouring countries will be further strengthened and consolidated in the years ahead to the mutual benefit of our two peoples.

Please accept, Excellency, my best wishes for your good health, long life and happiness as well as for the continued peace, progress and prosperity of the friendly people of the Union of Myanmar.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

PROFESSOR DR. IAJUDDIN AHMED
PRESIDENT
OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

UNQUOTE:

The Embassy would appreciate if the esteemed Ministry could transmit the above message to its highest destination.

The Embassy of the People's Republic of Bangladesh in Yangon avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the Union of Myanmar the assurances of its highest consideration.

Yangon, 20 July 2004

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Government of the Union of Myanmar
Yangon

Kind attn: Director-General (Protocol)





SRILANKA

Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga



ශ්‍රී ලංකා ජනාධිපති

இலங்கை சனாதிபதி

President of Sri Lanka

Message of Her Excellency the President of Sri Lanka

I am happy to send a message of good wishes to the World Buddhist Summit being held in Yangon Myanmar from 9 - 11 December, 2004. It is noted that this Summit coincides with the founding of the Amarapura Maha Nikaya in Sri Lanka which celebrates its 200th anniversary this year.

The Amarapura Maha Nikaya was established in Sri Lanka in the year 1803 after the visit of the Most Ven'ble Welitara Gnanatissa Maha Nayake Thero to the City of Amarapura in Burma (now known as Myanmar) and obtained the Higher Ordination from the Dhamma Rajadhi Rajaguru Sangaraja Maha Nayake Thero at the Swarnaguha Sima Malaka in Amarapura City. Since then the services rendered by the Maha Sangha of the Amarapura Maha Nikaya for the spiritual upliftment of the people of our country have been most outstanding and well recognized. We as Sri Lankans wish to place on record our appreciation of these services with a deep sense of gratitude. All Sri Lankans look forward to the continuation of this noble mission by the Maha Sangha of the Amarapura Maha Nikaya with dedication and commitment in the future too.

The great efforts being made by the Ven'ble Maha Sangha of the Amarapura Nikaya to ensure the advancement of our people as we well as to usher in peace amongst all sections of our multi-cultural, multi-lingual and multi ethnic society is a source of great encouragement. It is my sincere hope and wish that the deliberations of the Summit will help to spread the noble message of the Buddha and to ensure a peaceful world for all of us to live without fear and hatred.

May all beings be well and happy.


Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga
PRESIDENT

July 12, 2004



MYANMAR

Lt.-Gen. SOE WIN
Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar



Speech

by

Lt.-Gen. Soe Win

Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar

Your Holiness, Venerable Monks, Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen

It is an honour and a privilege for the people of Myanmar to host the World Buddhist Summit in Myanmar. First of all, I would like to offer my respectful greetings to all of you on this auspicious morning.

Today the Sangharajas, delegates, heads of states and ministers from foreign countries and the venerable monks and ministers from Myanmar are assembling here at the Fourth World Buddhist Summit.

It is a pleasure and an honour to pay respect and serve the mahatheras and Buddhist leaders from various countries assembled in this great cave with common purpose and objectives. In this hallowed cave the Six Buddhist Council - attended by about 2500 mahatheras - was held in 1954. This was also the venue where Buddhist leaders from Theravada and Mahayana countries assembled to celebrate 2500 years of the Buddha Sasana in 1958.

Today, Buddhist leaders from around the world are gathered again at this historical site to exchange views on the promotion and propagation of Buddha Sasana and on ways and means, which would contribute to bringing about peace and happiness for all mankind.

Exchange of views on the common issues with friendship and unity by the Buddhist leaders at the World Buddhist Summit is a mile

stone in the history of Buddhism. Despite the different traditions, sects and practices, we are all sons and daughters of the Sakyamuni Buddha. With regard to our objectives to understand the Four Noble Truths and to realize Nibbana, we are the same.

In the Buddhist scriptures, we note four Sangha conferences during the lifetimes of four Buddhas - Kakusandha, Konagamana, Kassapa and Gotama. In all these conferences, the Enlightened Ones preached the virtue of patience, forgiveness, loving-kindness, compassion, and the avoidance of evil - in deed, speech and thought, as the basic principles of the propagation of Buddhism. I believe these admonitions by successive Buddhas will continue to remain as fundamental principles today in the dissemination of the Buddha's teachings.

The Buddha preached: "The whole world is insatiable and always in need of something" (Uno Loko). The requirements of mankind can be divided into two kinds: physical and spiritual. Progress in science and technology can fulfil the physical requirements. However, the spiritual requirements of mankind can only be fulfilled by following the teachings of the Buddha.

Since the fourteenth century when science and technology made progress, moral values of patience, loving kindness, compassion and selflessness are on the decline. It is the Buddha Dhamma that can prevent this decline and promote these moral values. I hope that the Buddhist leaders will build a world enriched with spiritual values and thus bring about peace and happiness to all mankind.

Because of ideological rivalry and the arms race, the world is apprehensive and the hearts of the people are burdened. Dhamma can help heal the troubled hearts of mankind to cooler down and create peace and stability in the world. It is my sincere hope that the mahatheras and Buddhist leaders will strive to promote peace, stability and the truth of Buddha Dhamma.

Myanmar is a country, which received the teachings of the Buddha in His lifetime. According to religious chronicles, the Buddha visited Myanmar three times. As a Theravada country, Myanmar has preserved the pristine purity of the Buddha teachings for over two thousand years. The Government of the Union of Myanmar has formed the Ministry of Religious affairs with three departments and is allocating big budgets for the promotion and propagation of the Buddha Sasana. Nearly five hundred thousand monks and nuns are engaged in scriptural

studies and meditation practices at the State Pariyatti Universities, meditation centres, International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University and the World Buddhist Academy. These institutions are carrying out the following tasks:

- (a) promotion and propagation of the Buddha Sasana
- (b) disseminating Buddhist education (teaching and studying
- (c) protection of Buddhism.

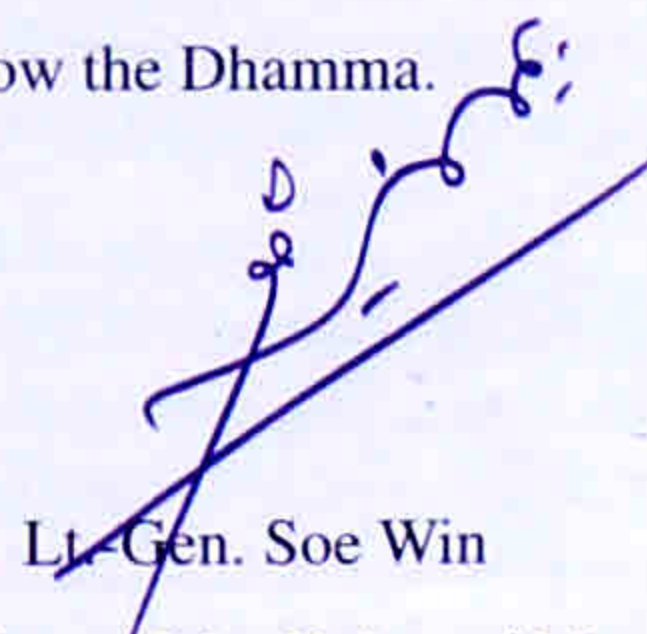
In Myanmar, these tasks are happily undertaken by the State, the Sangha and the people in united manner.

I also would like to extend my cordial invitations to the mahatheras, Buddhist leaders and observers who are attending this summit to visit again to Myanmar. I warmly invite all to come to Myanmar for pilgrimage, study of Buddhist scriptures, practice of meditation and research. We will do whatever we can to help our honoured guests.

Once again, I am deeply honoured to warmly welcome State leaders, Buddhist leaders, observers on behalf of the Government of the Union of Myanmar, fifty-one million citizens of Myanmar and five hundred thousand monks and nuns, I would also like to thank all of you for participating this event without caring your physical tiredness. The organizing committee has made arrangements to make your visit as comfortable and rewarding as possible. I hope you are happy with the preparations and arrangements.

May the teachings of the Enlightenment One (the Buddha)
last long in the world.

May all beings always follow the Dhamma.



Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar



BANGLADESH

KHALEDA ZIA
Prime Minister



Embassy of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Yangon, Myanmar.

No: 523/2

The Embassy of the People's Republic of Bangladesh in Yangon Presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Government of the union of Myanmar and has the honor to quote below a message of felicitations from Her Excellency Begum Khaleda Zia, Prime Minister of Bangladesh, addressed to His Excellency General Soe Win, Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar:

QUOTE:

HIS EXCELLENCY
GENERAL SOE WIN
PRIME MINISTER
GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF MYANMAR

Excellency,

On behalf of the government and the people of Bangladesh and on my own behalf. I extend to Your Excellency and through you to the friendly people of the Union of Myanmar our heartiest greetings and felicitations on the auspicious occasion of The World Buddhist Summit to be held in Yangon On 09-11 December 2004.

The philosophy of Buddhism specially the non-violence, tolerance and fondness have been associated with our history, thoughts ends conscience. The constitutional spirit of Bangladesh for the promotion of international peace and harmony has imbued with those ideals. In the present critical time of human history, the spirit of Buddhism has strong substance to promote peace, harmony among the religions, races and nations. In Bangladesh, we are constitutionally committed to communal harmony, tolerance and mutual respect for each other's faith as well

as obligated to ensure equality of rights irrespective of caste, creed and religious beliefs.

It is my firm belief that the Summit will give opportunity to get together the followers of Buddhism around the globe including Bangladesh. I am confident that the Summit will further strengthen and consolidate the friendly relations existing between our two peoples in the years to come.

I take this opportunity to convey my best wishes for your good health, happiness and long life and for the continued peace, progress and prosperity of the friendly people of the Union of Myanmar.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

KHALEDA ZIA
PRIME MINISTER
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
BANGLADESH.

UNQUOTE

The Embassy would deeply appreciate if the esteemed Ministry could kindly transmit the above message to its highest destination.

The Embassy of the People's Republic to Bangladesh in Yangon avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the Union of Myanmar the assurances of its highest consideration

Yangon, 20 July 2004

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Government of the Union of Myanmar
Yangon

Kind attn: Director-General (Protocol)





CAMBODIA
Samdech Hun Sen
Prime Minister



Samdech HUN SEN
Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia

Congratulatory Message

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to all Buddhist followers, the participants of the World Buddhist Summit in Yangon, the historic Capital of The Union of Myanmar.

It is my conviction that all the Buddhists including those from Cambodia still remember with deep gratitude the holding of the Third World Buddhists Summit in December 2002, in Phnom Penh of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and patronized by His Majesty Preah Bat Samdech Preah **Norodom Sihanouk**, the King of Cambodia, in the Throne Hall. The outcome of the Third Buddhist Summit reflects a unified consolidation of Buddhists around the world in their cooperation to support and promote our common faith in Buddhism, for the cause of peace, stability and harmony among people living in a society.

In this sense, the conference records the value and the sense of profound friendship and solidarity among all Buddhists from different sects and countries. This tradition, that has been adhered by every Buddhist followers and that has been maintained and transferred from generation to generation long time ago, leads us all toward a common goal of eliminating violence, aggression, jealousy and other dishonest and immoral acts, then turning to searching for harmony and coexistence under the lights of the Dhamma of Buddha.

Thus, the Third World Buddhist Summit achieved such the results which are of great importance, upon our Buddhists' role, in calling all mankind from every political affiliation to realize the dangers being of controlled by the power of *greed, violence and hatred* which are the frightening sins or evils; and come back to comply with the path of our Buddha.

In all these, I am strongly convinced that the World Buddhist Summit in Yangon will surely gain another momentum for global peace and generate more positive changes in exercising love and compassion, thus helping to reduce conflict and suffering, and making the world a better place to live.

With this conviction, on behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia I would like to earnestly wish the World Buddhist Summit every success, with the sponsorship of the Government of the Union of Myanmar.

Once again, I wish the spirit of the World Buddhist Summit remain in our hearts forever and become the symbol of firm unity among all the Buddhist followers across the world, who follow the Dhamma of our Buddha to create peace and progress.

Finally, may I wish all of you, the participants of this summit, the five gems of Buddhist blessing.

HUN SEN



NEPAL

Sher Bahadur Deuba
Prime Minister



The Prime Minister

*Kathmandu
Nepal*

June 21, 2004

Message

It gives me great pleasure to send this message of felicitations to the Government of the Union of Myanmar on the occasion of the hosting of the World Buddhist Summit in Yangon, Myanmar from 9 to 11 December 2004.

Shakyamuni Lord Buddha, the greatest apostle of peace was born in 623 B.C. in Lumbini, which lies in the southern part of Nepal. His teachings of peace, compassion and tolerance are as relevant in today's world as they were in the past.

We have just entered into the 21st century. The legacies of the last century like inter and intra-country wars, ethnic conflicts and host of other establishing factors have mushroomed in this world. The threat emanating from the existing stockpiles of both conventional and nuclear weapons still looms large. We, therefore, must remain effortful to maintain, promote and spread peace in our region and beyond. Mankind itself is responsible for propagating peace or making evil design of war. It is my fervent hope that this Summit would be successful event to highlight the growing importance of peace to the citizens of the world.

Peace and development complement each other. Without peace neither we can achieve economic development nor economic development be sustained. Viewed against this background, I believe that the convening of this Buddhist Summit in Yangon holds greater importance. I wish the Summit a great success.

Sher Bahadur Deuba
(Sher Bahadur Deuba)



VIETNAM

PHAN VAN KHAI
Prime Minister



Unofficial Translation

MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATION

**The World Buddhist Summit,
Yangon, Myanmar.**

On the occasion of the World Buddhist Congress, on behalf of the Government and the people of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, I would like to convey to the Congress our warmest congratulations and best wishes for the great successes of the Congress.

Hanoi, June 22, 2004

PHAN VAN KHAI
Prime Minister
The Socialist Republic of Vietnam



MYANMAR

SANGHA MAHANAYAKA COMMITTEE



ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်

နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့

မဟာနာယကကျောင်းတော်ကြီး၊ ကမ္ဘာအေးကုန်းမြေ၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့

တယ်လီဖုန်း: ဥက္ကဋ္ဌဆရာတော် -၆၅၁၀၀၇
ဒုတိယဥက္ကဋ္ဌဆရာတော် -၆၆၁၀၀၆၊ ၆၆၁၇၄၆
အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ဆရာတော် -၆၅၁၀၀၈
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ဝိနိစ္ဆယအဖွဲ့ငယ် -၆၆၁၀၀၅
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MESSAGE
FROM
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE SANGHA MAHANAYAKA
COMMITTEE
UNION OF MYANMAR
TO THE WORLD BUDDHIST SUMMIT

May the auspiciousness, good health and happiness fall on the guests who come to attend the World Buddhist Summit for three days.

I feel reassured for the bright prospect of Buddha Sasana as I see all the delegates in spirit of unity are making great efforts for the perpetuation, promotion and propagation of Buddha Sasana.

If all Buddhists throughout the world actively cooperate with each other, Buddha Sasana will continue to flourish for so long. The thriving of Sasana is as bright as the light from one thousand suns and moons shone on earth.

The essence of Sasana is Sīla (moral precepts), samādhi (mental discipline) and paññā (wisdom). If we analyze these three concepts we can elaborate as the Noble Eightfold Path: right understanding, right thoughts, right speech, right action, right livelihood, right effort, right mindfulness and right concentration.

Out of the Noble Eightfold Path, right speech, right action and right livelihood belong to the realm of Sīla (moral precepts). Right effort, right mindfulness and right concentration are the qualifications of samādhi (mental discipline). Right understanding and right thoughts are the components of Paññā (wisdom). The perpetuation of and flourishing of Sasana means the storing of Noble Eightfold Path in the hearts of mankind. Sakyamuni Gotama Buddha maintained that without following Noble Eightfold Path, there could not be arahats and sotapanna (stream enterers). Only by means of Noble Eightfold Path, the fire of defilements can be extinguished. "Except in my Sasana, there could not be any arahats who realized the Dhamma," so preached the Buddha in the Mahāparinibbāna-sutta. Even the Buddha attained Enlightenment and obtained Buddhahood only as a result of following the Middle Way or Noble Eightfold Path. The Noble Eightfold Path can be compared to pure cold water, which can put out the fire of defilements.

The people in the world are afflicted with the fire of lust, anger and delusion and face with different kinds of problems and dangers. Peace cannot be achieved just by propagating. The degree of success for getting peace depends on how much we can control lust, anger and delusion. therefore to establish a peaceful and prosperous world, the fire of lust, anger and delusion should be controlled not only by individuals, but also by making a great effort to propagate Noble Eightfold throughout the world.

Sakyamuni Gotama Buddha recommends in the Mahāparinibbāna-sutta that if the Saṅgha meet frequently to work for the Sāsana there is always prospect for success. Therefore by holding World Buddhist Summits frequently Buddhist leaders should discuss and draw plans for promoting and propagating the Sasana. All Buddhists should actively cooperate in this great endeavor to implement the plans for the promotion and propagation of the Sasana.

Chairman





BANGLADESH

H.H. SANGHARAJA DHARMASEN MAHATHERO



Goodwill Message

All beings be happy
H.H. SANGHARAJA DHARMASEN MAHATHERO
Aghamaha Saddhamma Jotikadhaja (Myanmar)
Supreme Patriarch
The Supreme Sangha Council of Bangladesh
Lord Abbot
Unainpura Lankaram
Bangladesh

The Venerable President of the world Buddhist Summit the Venerable secretary Genearl. The Office-bearers Members of Sangha Distinguished Officials of State Distinguished Delegates, Guests Ladies and Gentlemen.

Today I am extremely glad and happy to be invited to attend the Wold Buddhist Summit (World Buddhist Conference) at Mahapasana cave of Myanmar where the sixth Great Buddhist. Council was held I am greatly overwhelmed and proud of attending. At first I convey my respectful, greetings and best wishes to all esteemed participants. The summit is being held a such important moment that it has made a healthy opportunity for all participants to be united strongly with a pronounced aim of playing a vitae role for peace, tranquility, enlightenment, better understanding by conquering greed auger and ignorance which gave made us blind.

HONOURABLE PRESIDENT

We have strong belief and confidence that the World Buddhist Summit will pay a tremendous part in spreading the true Buddhist ideals and Philosophy in the 21st Century and bringing closer the different Buddhist Culturs of the world and consolidating the bond of. Fraternity among the Buddhists and maintaining. Relation with the people at the world in sprit of coexistence and co-operation friendship.

Man has conquered the space. He is even trying to elevate himself a super being but man has not been capable of conducting himself as a decent human being because having no love and compassion for others. Only material gains without spiritual acquisition do not provide true lasting happiness.

If we study world history concerning man's behaviors in the past, we will undoubtedly agree that modern man's moral conduct is not better than of his ancestors although. We tend to claim glorify of our civilization. Some modern thinkers are of the opinion that evil is a natural part of man's make up and trying to make him good and pure is simply and impractical and futile task. They point to the terrifying evil actions of murder, violence, rape, pillage carried on by all types of people. They argue that in spite of efforts of civilize man, we have continued to the horrors of persecution in almost every country. As such some thinkers are giving up hope of ever improving the human race of violence.

YOUR EXCELLENCY

Only Buddhism can protect man from violence. Lord Buddha teacher's man to live in peace and harmony. The great teacher Lord Buddha exhorted his followers not to take his teachings in blind faith but to accept them only after close investigation and enquiry as to whether the teachings are really acceptable according to ones's own commonsense intelligence and experience. His simple teaching is "Do good, shun evil and purify the mind". If we follow and practice the noble eight fold path and the five precepts in our every day life our mind will be purified and freed from all evils. Practice associated with wisdom giving birth to love and compassion are necessary for world peace. Hatred can never eradicated by hatred but only through love and compassion, which may be easily attained through meditation and practice.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

Now I would like to tell that some important steps should be taken for us to overcome the barriers created by difference among the Buddhist traditions, Cultures, and nationalities. It is high time to take positive and practical measures to reduce the distance among the numerous Buddhist fraternities like Theravada, Mahayana, Vajrayana. Kalachakrajyana, Sahajayana, Tibetan tradition, Zen and other functioning under different names and forge once for all the cordiality, Solidarity and oneness among all these traditions.

These different faiths and beliefs have led the conversion of Buddhists into other religions in some Buddhist and non-Buddhist countries of South

Asia. They suffer from various disease, Economically educationally and politically they are undeveloped. So I like to draw the attention of all participants in the Summit to eke out ways to stend by them.

HIS HOLINESS, VENERABLE AND EXCELLENCIES

The Buddhist people of my country Bangladesh are proud of their glorious passed tradition and heritage. The most outstanding monk, Bhikkhu Shilabhadra, the Principal of the biggest University in Nalanda was born in Comilla, Bangladesh. The most outstanding Saint Atisha Dipankar Srijan was bron in Bagrajogini Village of Vikrampur, Dhaka, Bangladesh, Profes-sor Benimadab Barua, First D.Lit of Indian Sub-continent and Asia was born in Mohamuni Pahartali, Chittagong, Bangladesh. The most dedicated and noble soul Karmagogi Kripasharan Mahathro was born in my village Unainpura Chittagong, Bangladesh. I like to draw the kind attention of es-teemed participants for come forward to revive our past glory.

In conclusion, I humbly pay my best respects and best wishes to the Ven. Monks and to the people of Myanmar where my venerable teachers late Ghyanishwar Mahathero and late Bangshawadip Mahathero carried on their Dhamma studies with the cordial help and cooperation from the gov-ernment.

Once again I would like to express Buddhist my deep thanks behalf of the people of Bangladesh to the organizing committee, the Budhist Summit, Government and people of Myanmar for their sincere hospitality and kind-ness.





CAMBODIA

H.H. Samdech Tep Vong,
The Supreme Patriarch of Mahanikaya Order of Cambodia



ព្រះបាទសម្តេចនាយករដ្ឋមន្ត្រី
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Message
from H. H. Samdech Tep Vong,
the Supreme Patriarch of Mahanikaya Order of Cambodia
to World Buddhist Summit

I have great pleasure and honor to send this congratulatory message to the World Buddhist Summit-World Buddhist Conference being held from December 9-13, 2004, at the historic and beautiful Maha Pasana Cave, the **venue** of the Sixth Great Buddhist Council, and at the Shwedagon Pagoda, in Yangon, the capital city of the Union of Myanmar.

I would like to avail myself of this precious opportunity to pay my profound **heartfelt** tribute to the Most Ven. Bhikkhusanghas for their untiring efforts to propagate the true teachings of the Buddha in the world for the sake of peace and happiness of all mankind. I also would like to extend my warm congratulation to the government, and the people of the Union of Myanmar, and to the organizing committee of Myanmar in successful planning and organizing the World Buddhist Summit, which is another epoch-making in the history of Buddhism.

The World Buddhist Summit has successfully brought all Buddhist traditions from all over the world together with the noble objective to make collective contributions to peace, harmony and prosperity of the world. Given the uncertainty of the world today, the eternal message of the Buddha is more needed than ever before, particularly the teachings on universal love, compassion, tolerance, non-violence and altruism.

Being one of the oldest religions on earth, Buddhism has enormously contributed to the world in all spheres, and has been a guiding lamplight to millions of people in the globe. Therefore, the holding of the World Buddhist Summit in which world Buddhist leaders and delegates take their invaluable part is extremely important. I'm confident that the Summit will succeed in promoting unity, solidarity and brotherhood not only among Buddhists but also among people meeting's noble objective of true peace, serenity, happiness and prosperity for all mankind.

I would like to wish the President and distinguished delegates of the World Buddhist Summit a grate success in their deliberations.

August 30, 2004

H.H. Samdech Tep Vong
The Supreme Patriarch of Mahanikaya Order of Cambodia



CAMBODIA

Sangharajah Bour Kry
Supreme Paratriarch of Dhammayuthinikaya
Order of Cambodia



Good will Message

Sangharajah Bour Kry
Supreme Paratriarch of Dhammayuthinikaya
Order of Cambodia

Your Holinesses,
Most Venerables, Venerables,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

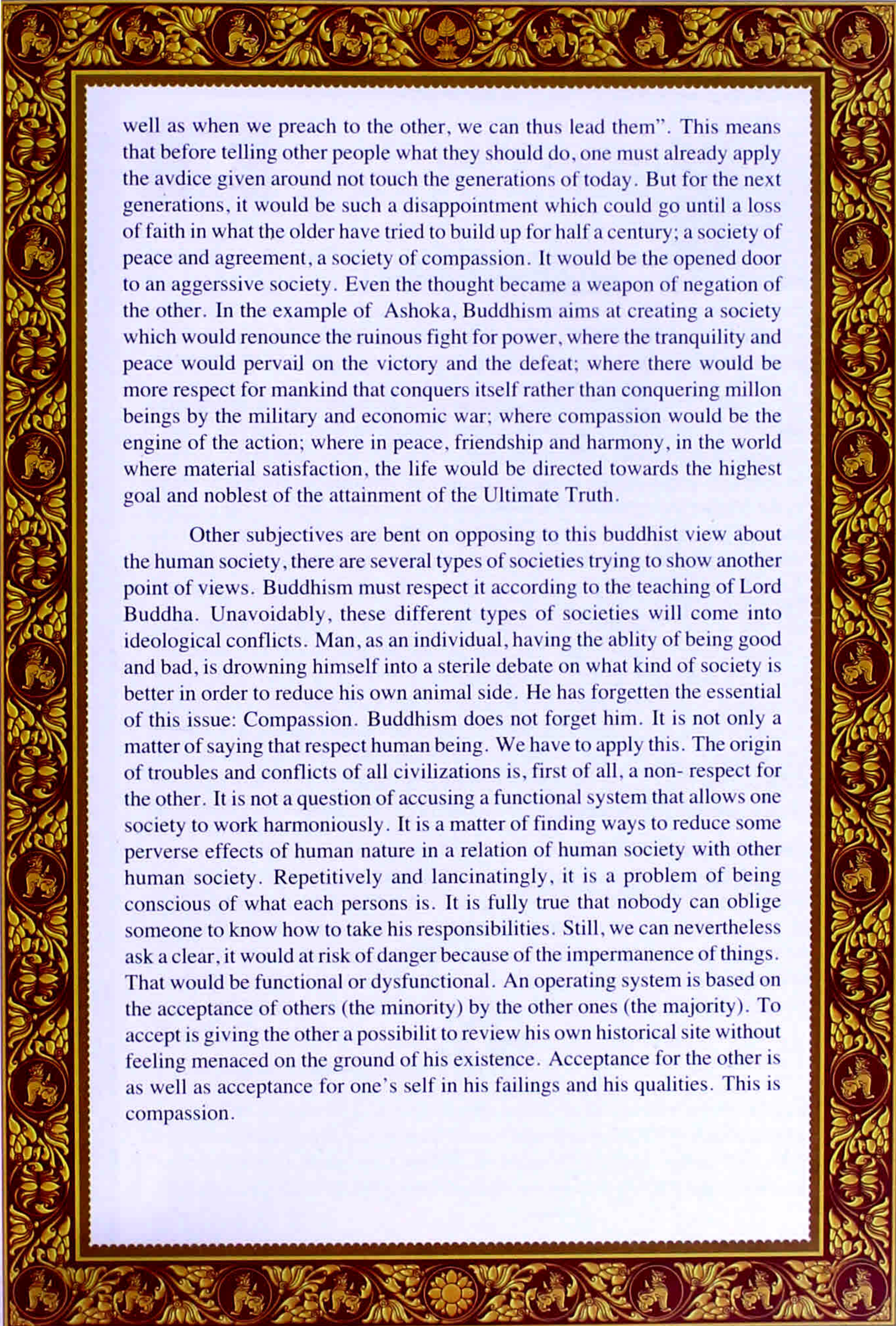
The world is blind; rare are those who see. The few person who see must educate the others and particularl the young generation to see better and more. "To See" does not mean to say to content ourselves to accept the things, the people and the events that materialize before our eyes. It is in fact to attempt to go beyond starting appearances. It is a kind of transcendence of the correctness of view. It is not a question either to seek something behind such or such small or large events. It will initially be necessary to exempt from the knowledge of the truth according to the Master, the absolute Truth is that there is nothing absolute in this world, that all in relative, is conditioned and impermanent. The young and the younger ones must acquire this notion of the Truth by understanding it in the following way: to see the things as they are without illusion or ignorance. The Truth the only thing that you could do is to see it and to understand it. To be able to understand compassion and universal love, it is necessary to understand the concept of truth. It the doctrine of the Dependent Origination (paticca Samupada) which is highlighted and is a synthetic method according to which nothing in the world is absolute, all thing being conditioned, relative and interdependent. It is relativity. The young people must spiritually intergrate the following formula stated by the Blessed One: "When this is that is; that is appearing, that appears; when this is not, that is not; this is ceasing, that cease. . . . But these who take truth as truth and delusion as delusion. Those who feed themselves in the pasture of accurate thinking will achieve the real. Then it will only be a question of pursuing the education of the young people by the development

and the improvement of one of the three essential elements of the training and the Buddhist discipline which is the ethical conduct.

This last one is based on the vast conception of this universal love and compassion for all living beings. A lot of fervent Buddhist laymen forget this great ideal of the teachings of the Master. Therefore, these Buddhist laymen lose themselves often to the dry philosophical and metaphysical ramblings on Buddhism by forgetting that a true Buddhist, understanding with intelligence and wisdom the things such as they are, are full with love and compassion for all the living beings. It is said from the beginning that the Buddha taught for the good of the great number, for the happiness of the great number, by compassion for the world." The young generations must understand that the ethical conduct comprises three factors the Right Speech, Right Action and the Right Livelihood. The Right Speech consists of abstaining from all forms of false and harmful words. One must say the truth, one must employ friendly, benevolent, pleasant and soft words that are meaningful and useful. one must speak at the right time and at a suitable place. If there is nothing to say. One will have to keep a "noble silence". The Right Action aims at promoting a moral, honorable and peaceful conduct and at helping the others in this way, Lastly, the Right Livelihood consists of abstaining from earning a living in an occupation that is harmful to others. The young people must understand that ethical and moral conduct aims at ensuring a happy and harmonious existence for them. They must learn that it is the essential foundation of any higher realization. The young people will be able to aspire to no spire to no spiritual development without this moral base. It is under this only condition that a society of compassion could be envisioned.

Your Holinesses,
Most Venerables, Venerables,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is not a matter of imposing a moral value but more about a code of conduct. Rulers tell common people that we are all equal whereas the fact in daily life proves them the opposite. It is therefore not surprising that compassion would not mean anything for the population. We want a good moral world. Yet, we have not given ourselves any means to achieve this goal. It appears that the so called international community did the choice of morality without demanding its implication. In this precise case, we must be willing to act in order to establish a better moral world at risk of being discredited. As the Lord Buddha said one day, "If we behave ourselves as



well as when we preach to the other, we can thus lead them". This means that before telling other people what they should do, one must already apply the advice given around not touch the generations of today. But for the next generations, it would be such a disappointment which could go until a loss of faith in what the older have tried to build up for half a century; a society of peace and agreement, a society of compassion. It would be the opened door to an aggressive society. Even the thought became a weapon of negation of the other. In the example of Ashoka, Buddhism aims at creating a society which would renounce the ruinous fight for power, where the tranquility and peace would prevail on the victory and the defeat; where there would be more respect for mankind that conquers itself rather than conquering million beings by the military and economic war; where compassion would be the engine of the action; where in peace, friendship and harmony, in the world where material satisfaction, the life would be directed towards the highest goal and noblest of the attainment of the Ultimate Truth.

Other subjectives are bent on opposing to this buddhist view about the human society, there are several types of societies trying to show another point of views. Buddhism must respect it according to the teaching of Lord Buddha. Unavoidably, these different types of societies will come into ideological conflicts. Man, as an individual, having the ability of being good and bad, is drowning himself into a sterile debate on what kind of society is better in order to reduce his own animal side. He has forgotten the essential of this issue: Compassion. Buddhism does not forget him. It is not only a matter of saying that respect human being. We have to apply this. The origin of troubles and conflicts of all civilizations is, first of all, a non- respect for the other. It is not a question of accusing a functional system that allows one society to work harmoniously. It is a matter of finding ways to reduce some perverse effects of human nature in a relation of human society with other human society. Repetitively and lancinatingly, it is a problem of being conscious of what each persons is. It is fully true that nobody can oblige someone to know how to take his responsibilities. Still, we can nevertheless ask a clear, it would at risk of danger because of the impermanence of things. That would be functional or dysfunctional. An operating system is based on the acceptance of others (the minority) by the other ones (the majority). To accept is giving the other a possibility to review his own historical site without feeling menaced on the ground of his existence. Acceptance for the other is as well as acceptance for one's self in his failings and his qualities. This is compassion.

Your Holinesses,
Most Venerables, Venerables,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

To reach such a state of mind, one has to endure and take patience that resorts more to calm and serenity than to a flurry of activities. Man will need some sort of an education, not only classical education which refers mainly to the acquisition of technical knowhow, but rather an education that stirs sensitivity and confirms it as the guardian of oneself.

It will be necessary for us to show, we the holders of the knowledge, the way to be followed to the younger generation which wish to begin a spiritual development. To show this way, we will have to show that Buddhism is a system which allows all, ordinary men and women, to put all the words of the Master into practice. It will be necessary for us to show by our example the way which leads to compassion and, by doing this, to happiness so that one day, all the individuals, men and women, apply the same words as Bouddha: "One can conquer million in the battle, but only the one who conquers himself, only him is the greatest conqueror."

May all beings live in Peace and Serenity.

Thank you for your attention.

Sangharajah BOUR KRY

Supreme Patriarch of Cambodia.





LAOS

H.H. Most Ven. Dr. Phra Maha Vichit Singiiaraj



Goodwill Message

Most Ven. Dr. Phra Maha Vichit SINGIIARAJ
President of Lao Buddhist Fellowship Organization to the World Buddhist
Conference In the Union of Myanmar
Loa PDR

My Homage to Triple Gem,
Esteemed the Presidium,
Distinguished delegates and guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is my pleasure and honor to make a speech to the significant Conference on behalf of the Lao Buddhist Delegation as well as the Lao Buddhist Fellowship Organization of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. Allow me to express my sincere thanks to the organizing committee the World Buddhist Conference, especially Thura Myint Maung minister for religious Affairs of Myanmar Government who invited us to this significant conference, held in the Land of Ukkalapa (Yangon) where two Brother Tapussa and Bhallika received Lord Buddha's eight Sacred hairs which have been shrined in Shwedagon Pagoda (Golden Pagoda) in the Union of Myanmar.

I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to express my best wishes and warmest congratulation to all eminent participants of this significant conference, which is taken place at a time when the world and the regional situation undergone complicated changes due to the scourge of terrorism and to facing economic crisis as well as any forms of the racial conflict in many regional of the world, but it generally trends towards world peace and cooperation among the nations on the basis of Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence.

Esteemed the Presidium.....

The Conference is a markable event in the history of Buddhism because it is taken place in Maha Pasana Guha where 2500 Venerable monks have assembled (Buddhist Council) to redacted Tipitaka in the Year BE. 2500 and now the Top Buddhists Leaders gather here to exchange views on how

to bring Lord Buddha's Teachings into wide propagation to people of the world in order to promote peace, justice, unity and peaceful coexistence. It is also to review the implementation of the spirits of the previous conference.

Concerning the propagation of Buddhism in Lao PDR, Venerable monks are used to carry out their daily routine by preaching and training the Dhamma (Buddhist doctrines) to lay devotees on the 8th, 14th and 15th day of a month, especially this year, Lao Buddhist Fellowship Organization General Conference was held to reform its organization in the country, samaneras ordination ceremony was performed and training course of Meditation was also organized for Venerable monks, novice and lay devotees.

To promote Lao Buddhist monks traditional role in the propagation of Buddhism and social welfares, Lao Buddhist Fellowship Organization has set up the Mettadhamma Project to prevent AIDS authorized by the Lao Government and under financial support by UNICEF to the Lao PDR. The Mettadhamma committee has convened a Seminar against Aids based on Five Precepts, Four Way of destruction and Eight Noble Paths.

Through the Seminar and Training Course, they understood the danger of HIV, AIDS, Drug and danger of four ways of destruction which are the danger to human beings and the main obstacle to economic and cultural development. In addition, Venerable monks and novice have paid their attention to renovate and maintain monasteries and Buddhist holy places. They also took part in giving free treatment to people with traditional medicine and planting fruit-tree, medicinal plants or herbs and industrial trees for environmental protection. The next plan of Buddhist Propagation is to continue to hold Meditation Training Courses in some more provinces for Venerable monks, novices, nuns and lay devotees, to preach the Dhamma to old and young people in the Buddhist holy days especially on 8th, 14th and 15th day of a month and the Dhamma preaching will be on Air, television, Newspaper Journal etc....

Respected chairman and participants,

The World Buddhist Conference should carry on the propagation of Buddhism and the culture to the world and Lead all Buddhist to practice Lord Buddha's compassion, to cooperate one another, and to work together for the realization of peace, happiness and tranquility of all mankind.

In order to fulfill the Conference Objectives, we Lao Buddhist as well as ethnic People share and fully support the conference and would like to call on Buddhist of all Sects, the disciples of the same Buddha to unite together to make our world a domain of peace, independence, Democracy, Unity and Prosperity.

May I wish respected chairman and participants good bealth. May the World Buddhist Conference crown with a grat success.

Subbe Satta Sukhita Honta

May all beings be happy.





MONGOLIA

His Eminence D. Choijamts



Goodwill Message

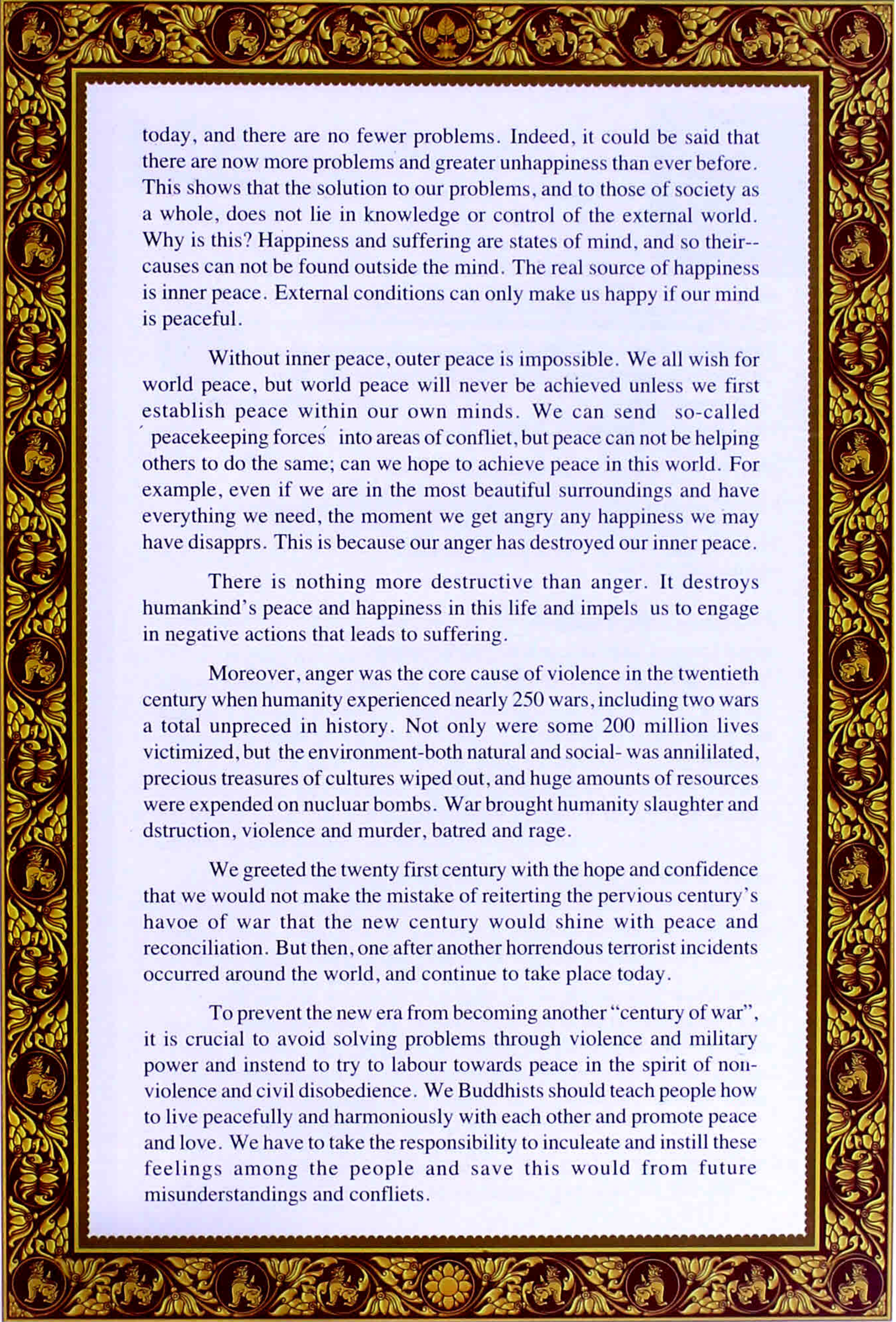
His Eminence D. Choijamts,
Abbot of Gandantegchnling Monastery,
Head of Mongolian Buddhists
Mongolia

Dear Dhamma friends,
Esteemed Participants,
Distinguished guests,
Ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure and privilege to convey my sincere congratulations of Japan; to the Buddhists of Myanmar as well as to the delegates from various countries who have come to participate in the Fourthe Buddhist Summit in the Maha Pasana Cave, Myanmar- Also my heartfelt thanks to the Organizing Commmittee for their their kind hospitality and good arrangements and I wish to pay tribute to all those involved in bringing peace and reconciliation over the world. I hope that the Buddhist Summit will play an important role to bring Buddhist together in unity, irrespective of differences of tradition, nationality and denomination.

According to the Buddhist teaching all living beings have the name basic wish to be happy and avoid suffering, but very few people understand the real causes of happiness and suffering. All sentient beings generally believe that external conditions are the real causes of happiness, and as a result people devote all their time and energy to acquiring these. Superficially, it seems that things can make people happy, but if we look more deeply we shall see that they also bring us a lot of suffering and problems. The Buddhist teaching of the Buddhist Truths demonstrates that if people wish to do away with suffering, they need first to understand its causes.

In recent year, mankind's understanding and control of the external world have increased considerably and as a result we have witnessed remarkable material progress, but there has not been a corresponding interest in human happiness. There is no less suffering in the world



today, and there are no fewer problems. Indeed, it could be said that there are now more problems and greater unhappiness than ever before. This shows that the solution to our problems, and to those of society as a whole, does not lie in knowledge or control of the external world. Why is this? Happiness and suffering are states of mind, and so their--causes can not be found outside the mind. The real source of happiness is inner peace. External conditions can only make us happy if our mind is peaceful.

Without inner peace, outer peace is impossible. We all wish for world peace, but world peace will never be achieved unless we first establish peace within our own minds. We can send so-called 'peacekeeping forces' into areas of conflict, but peace can not be helping others to do the same; can we hope to achieve peace in this world. For example, even if we are in the most beautiful surroundings and have everything we need, the moment we get angry any happiness we may have disappears. This is because our anger has destroyed our inner peace.

There is nothing more destructive than anger. It destroys humankind's peace and happiness in this life and impels us to engage in negative actions that leads to suffering.

Moreover, anger was the core cause of violence in the twentieth century when humanity experienced nearly 250 wars, including two wars a total unprecedented in history. Not only were some 200 million lives victimized, but the environment-both natural and social- was annihilated, precious treasures of cultures wiped out, and huge amounts of resources were expended on nuclear bombs. War brought humanity slaughter and destruction, violence and murder, hatred and rage.

We greeted the twenty first century with the hope and confidence that we would not make the mistake of repeating the previous century's havoc of war that the new century would shine with peace and reconciliation. But then, one after another horrendous terrorist incidents occurred around the world, and continue to take place today.

To prevent the new era from becoming another "century of war", it is crucial to avoid solving problems through violence and military power and instead to try to labour towards peace in the spirit of non-violence and civil disobedience. We Buddhists should teach people how to live peacefully and harmoniously with each other and promote peace and love. We have to take the responsibility to inculcate and instill these feelings among the people and save this world from future misunderstandings and conflicts.

Great effort must be exerted to flourish and spread the Lord Buddha's teachings to people in an easy and comprehensible way; to enrich our lives with spiritualism; to generate better understanding and strengthen human values, as the world today needs the Noble Buddha's teachings more than ever before. Furthermore, the close collaboration of Buddhists from different denominations and tradition increasingly necessary in the 21st century. Therefore, we must overcome boundaries created by differences between various Buddhist traditions, nationalities and cultures to promote peace and serenity in the world.

May all sentient beings be happy,

May all sentient beings be free from misery,

May all sentient beings never be separated from their happiness,

May all sentient beings have equanimity, free from hatred and attachment.

His Eminence Dr. Choijamls
Abbot Lama of Gandantegchenling Monastery
Head of Mongolian Buddhists





SRILANKA

Most Ven. Weweldeniye Medhalankara

Mahanayake Maha Thero



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MOST VEN. WEWELDENIYE MEDHALANKARA MAHANAYAKE MAHATHERO

Sasanawardhana Piriven Maha Viharaya,
Sri Sumanazara Mawatha,
Mirigama,
Sri Lanka.
Tel/Fax : 033-73274

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Goodwill Message

Most Ven. Weweldeniye Medhalankara Mahanayake Mahathero

Ramañña Nikāya

Sri Lanka

THE MESSAGE OF FELICITATION TO THE WORLD BUDDHIST SUMMIT

It gives me much pleasure in subscribing this message of felicitations to the world Buddhist Summit and all those participating delegates. I am also pleased to note that making arrangements to hold this supreme summit in the Ricky Cave of Myanmar is quite fitting and timely. In my point of view, we are quite fortunate enough to associate ourselves with this supreme summit to be held in the Rocky Cave of Myanmar which has earned great fame for providing accommodation for the sixth Buddhist convocation (Sangayana).

Assembling of world wide Buddhist religious sects in Myanmar which is fostered on the theories of Theravada Buddhist principles obviously bears witness to the fact that it would promote and strengthen the world peace which is the greatly felt need of the day.

At present the world thoroughly feels the need of world peace which is indispensable. We are all aware that even the strongest world powers at bay in the presence of escalating terrorism. The collective effort of the participating delegates arriving at the world Buddhist Summit to bring out unity and peace among nations is highly commendable. Peace is essential for those lack of humanity.

During the days of Buddha one Punna Manthani Putta Thero proceeding to the hamlet of Sunaparanthan met with the Blessed one

(Buddha) and in the dialogue with Buddha Manthani Putta states “Most Venerable Sir, the people of Sunaparantha are harsh in words and unruly and inhumane in action but I am happy that they didn’t thrash me. Most Venerable Sir, they thrashed me but they didn’t brutally kill me. Most Venerable Sir, I didn’t mind their killing me for I was happy that, I practiced celibacy. This is the great vision of our master lord Buddha. Anyone becomes subjected to untold hardships on his task of delivering the goods. Not being shaken of worldly matters is the law of eight worldly conditions. Anyone born to this world is shaken with threats and fears and that is the universality of worldly matters. Revenging on another gains nothing but repentance. The Buddha’s doctrine is based on the law of the cause and effect.

The present world Buddhist will surely be an occasion to voice the cry of peace through the gift of the preaching of Buddha. The Host of this summit gate Samgha Mahānāyaka Committee participating delegates to the world Buddhist summit deserve my compliments and thanks for their noble effort. I wholeheartedly wish the world Buddhist Summit a great success.



**Maha Nayake Maha Thero of the
Sri Lanka Ramanna Nikaya.**

Most Ven. Weweldeniye Medhalankāra Mahānāyake Mahā Thero
Sasanawardhana Piriven Maha Viharaya.
Sri Sumanasara Mawatha, Mirigama,
Sri Lanka, Tel : 033 - 73274





SRILANKA

Royal Pandit Ahungalle Wimalananditissa Maha Thero
Resident of Sri Lanka Amarapura Sangha Council



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The time has come to put the Lord Buddha's teachings into practice.

It is with great pleasure that I express my deep feelings regarding this significant event at the moment of World Buddhist Conference. I believe that conference will help to promote and propagate Dhamma throughout the world.

There is a great confusion in the world human society today. Intolerance and impatience were entered into each and every mind. We are experiencing the fear and suspicion. Those are considered as ordinary events in the life. Also people are motivated to see, to think and to treat everything with anger and hatred. It is an obstacle of seeing the hopeful side of the future in the human civilization.

Material Development of the world has come to the top It has become a threat to the mental and spiritual development. Due to lack of the knowledge which prevails within the Buddhist and Non-Buddhist societies, people think only to satisfy their senses. That is because people take in fertile things leaving out infertile things.

Now the knowledge has come to the top as an investment concept. But the world believe that it is incomplete and failure without good values and attitudes.

There are so many reasons for not spreading the Buddhism throughout the world like continuous war, violence, desire to ruin others, religious and racial conflicts and thought of oneself being superior to others. Man is alone now. Inter relationships have torn far apart. Team spirit was destroyed. The fear of war and terrorism prevails in everyone's mind. That is why we say it is essential to put the Lord Buddha's teachings into practice to eradicate this unrest. It is obvious through the activities of people being alone and selfishness.

We must educate them on four supreme qualities. We must inculcate in their minds the noble qualities like loving kindness, compassion, mildness and equanimity. The survival of Buddhism depends on man. Therefore let's really practice and live according to the teachings of Lord Buddha.

May the unrest disappear and the Buddhism shine in the world forever.

Royal Pandit Ahungalle Wimalananditissa
Maha Thero
President of Sri Lanka Amarapura Sangha Council
and Mahanayaka of Amarapura Chulawansika
Maha Nikaya.

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THAILAND

His Holiness Somdet Phra Nanasangvara
The Supreme Patriarch of Thailand



The Homily Message from His Holiness
Somdet Phrananasangvara
The Supreme Patriarch of
Thailand

On the occasion of the Buddhist summit, in Myanmar,
December 9 - 11, 2004

Dear Buddhist Delegates,

I am very pleased to have your letter of invitation to the Buddhist Summit during December 9 -13, 2004 in Myanmar. I regret that my bad health prevents me from attending the meeting. However, I will certainly have Thai Sangha delegates participate in the summit.

Changes in economics politics science and information technology (IT) are taking place rapidly everywhere. Human needs and desires follow them unavoidedly and endlessly. They force people to seek what they lack and desire. However, they can not meet everything they are in need of. So they suffer more or less. Buddhism plays its more important parts in such situations. The Buddhist instructions of the three signs of Being: impermanence, state of conflict and not-self may help people in sufferings understand what is happening; no one can get everything they want; nothing is permanent, it is not under your control.

Buddhism is the religion of refinement and elaboration; it is endowed with wisdom. The Buddha laid the stable foundation of his teachings step by step from low to high. That is, he first instructed a precept, afterward meditation and then wisdom respectively. The precept is the solid base of meditation which leads to wisdom. Without meditation, Wisdom will not occur and meditation will not appear without the precept. These teachings are of great advantages in human bodily, vocal and mental developments.

Development according to Buddhism, refers to a continual advancement of improvement. It is what to be preformed. Nations prosper due to the progression of their under developed parts. Of course, human beings in each nation are to be developed as well. Human development should begin with their under-developed mental improvement. Without this process, it is difficult to progress their other parts. Buddhism itself needs to be developed too. It is the Buddhist instructions that are applied to improve Buddhism. This Buddhist summit is for Buddhist development.

May I say amen to this good deed and wish all of you a great success in the Buddhist Summit for the good of many people all over the world.





MYANMAR

BRIG-GEN. THURA MYNIT MAUNG

President of the Working Committee
Minister for Religious Affairs



REPORT OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE OF THE WORLD BUDDHIST SUMMIT

The origins for holding the present World Buddhist Summit in Myanmar date back to the Second World Buddhist Propagation Conference held in Buddhamonthon, Nakhon Pathom, Thailand, in November 2000. At that conference, Myanmar was requested by the Nenbutsushu Buddhist sect of Japan to host the Fourth World Buddhist Summit because of the fact that nearly five hundred thousand monks reside in Myanmar, and Myanmar people are devout Buddhists. Myanmar became one of the founding members of World Buddhist Conference by virtue of being a signatory to the Joint Communiqué signed at the end of the conference. As Myanmar occupies central position in the Theravada world, the Myanmar delegation accepted the idea of hosting the Fourth World Buddhist Summit in 2004. At the Third Buddhist Summit held in Phnom Penh in 2002, the Myanmar delegation formally announced the acceptance to host the Fourth World Buddhist Summit in 2004.

Preparations for the World Buddhist Summit were started by the Myanmar Organizing Committee at the beginning of 2003. A working plan was drawn up with the formation of the Advisory Board of Mahatheras, Steering Committee, Working Committee and eleven sub-committees. The Prime Minister of Myanmar is the President of the Steering Committee and the Minister for Religious Affairs is the President of the Working Committee. Many coordination meetings were held under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister. The secretariat was also formed to take prompt action relating to the World Buddhist Summit.

Major renovation of the venue of the World Buddhist Summit, the Mahapasana Cave, took almost two years and cost a lot of money. So was the landscaping and greening for the Kabar Aye Pagoda compound. The cave was constructed in 1954, and major renovation was required for holding the World Buddhist Summit. Repairing the roof, ceiling

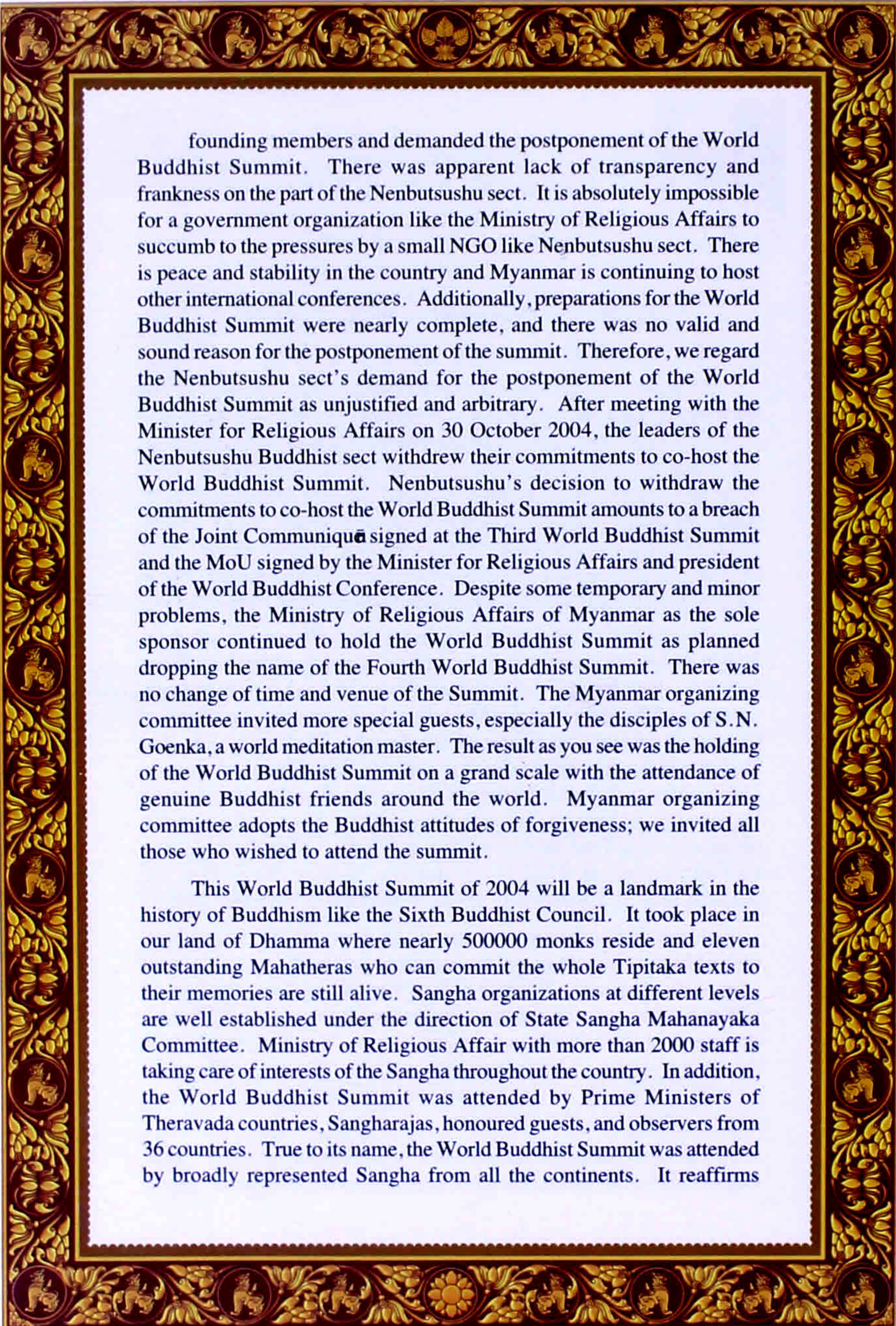
and walls were undertaken together with installation of new air-conditioning, lighting, audio-visual systems and covering the walls with acoustic tiles. The wall facing the audience is also decorated with gold lacquer. The six pillars inside the cave were gilded and decorated with jade tiles. A jade Buddha image with wooden pedestal was also placed on the main platform inside the cave for public veneration. Two main entrances to the great cave were decorated with jade stones. The Ministry of Forestry and private firms took responsibility for the landscaping and gardening around the cave.

Invitations to the world Buddhist leaders were extended by the Myanmar organizing committee. Founding members of the World Buddhist Conference, Buddhist leaders from world Buddhist associations and many observers from different parts of the world are invited. Myanmar organizing committee provided the cost of transportation, meals, hotels and sight-seeing for the VIPs and special guests. Many observers came to attend the World Buddhist Summit at their own expense. Myanmar organizing committee give every possible help to the honoured guests including local accommodation and transportation.

In addition to foreign guests, many Mahatheras and religious leaders inside the country were invited to attend the World Buddhist Summit. Mahatheras consisted of State Ovadacariya Sayadaws, members of the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, members of Central Working Committee of the Sangha, Tipitakakovida and Tipitakadhara Sayadaws, Rectors of the State Pariyatti Sasana Universities and the International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University, abbots of monasteries, monks from State Sangha organizations, and monks from Sangha universities. Members of pagoda trustees, members of religious organizations, persons who received the religious titles and members of public organizations were also invited.

According to the original plan, the Ministry of Religious Affairs of the Union of Myanmar and the Nenbutsushu Buddhist sect of Japan were to co-sponsor the World Buddhist Summit. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by both parties in December 2003 with agreement for cost sharing. As a host country, Myanmar was to bear the major expenses. Myanmar government born the cost of publication, security, airport fees, souvenirs, renovation of the venue, sight-seeing, dinners, holding the conference, etc.

Taking advantage of the change of prime minister in Myanmar in October 2004, the Nenbutsushu Buddhist sect of Japan organized some



founding members and demanded the postponement of the World Buddhist Summit. There was apparent lack of transparency and frankness on the part of the Nenbutsushu sect. It is absolutely impossible for a government organization like the Ministry of Religious Affairs to succumb to the pressures by a small NGO like Nenbutsushu sect. There is peace and stability in the country and Myanmar is continuing to host other international conferences. Additionally, preparations for the World Buddhist Summit were nearly complete, and there was no valid and sound reason for the postponement of the summit. Therefore, we regard the Nenbutsushu sect's demand for the postponement of the World Buddhist Summit as unjustified and arbitrary. After meeting with the Minister for Religious Affairs on 30 October 2004, the leaders of the Nenbutsushu Buddhist sect withdrew their commitments to co-host the World Buddhist Summit. Nenbutsushu's decision to withdraw the commitments to co-host the World Buddhist Summit amounts to a breach of the Joint Communiqué signed at the Third World Buddhist Summit and the MoU signed by the Minister for Religious Affairs and president of the World Buddhist Conference. Despite some temporary and minor problems, the Ministry of Religious Affairs of Myanmar as the sole sponsor continued to hold the World Buddhist Summit as planned dropping the name of the Fourth World Buddhist Summit. There was no change of time and venue of the Summit. The Myanmar organizing committee invited more special guests, especially the disciples of S.N. Goenka, a world meditation master. The result as you see was the holding of the World Buddhist Summit on a grand scale with the attendance of genuine Buddhist friends around the world. Myanmar organizing committee adopts the Buddhist attitudes of forgiveness; we invited all those who wished to attend the summit.

This World Buddhist Summit of 2004 will be a landmark in the history of Buddhism like the Sixth Buddhist Council. It took place in our land of Dhamma where nearly 500000 monks reside and eleven outstanding Mahatheras who can commit the whole Tipitaka texts to their memories are still alive. Sangha organizations at different levels are well established under the direction of State Sangha Mahanayaka Committee. Ministry of Religious Affairs with more than 2000 staff is taking care of interests of the Sangha throughout the country. In addition, the World Buddhist Summit was attended by Prime Ministers of Theravada countries, Sangharajas, honoured guests, and observers from 36 countries. True to its name, the World Buddhist Summit was attended by broadly represented Sangha from all the continents. It reaffirms

Myanmar's central position in the Theravada world and Myanmar's commitment to world Buddhist unity under the banner of the original teachings of the Lord Buddha. This summit will bring the timeless teachings of the Buddha to bear upon the worldwide problems of violence, terrorism and instability, and contribute to relaxation of tensions.

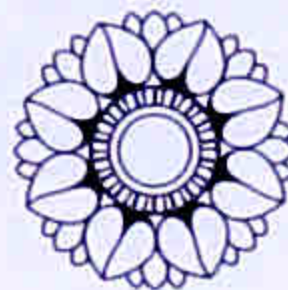
On behalf of the Ministry of Religious Affairs, State Sangha Mahanayaka Committee, 500000 monks and Myanmar People, Myanmar working committee would like to thank all those people who contributed their time, money and labour for the successful holding of the World Buddhist Summit. We would like to apologize for any shortcomings and inconveniences met by our honoured guests during their stay in Myanmar. We would also like to share our merits with all the sentient beings and, once again, we wish all of you every success and happiness.



Brig-General Thura Myint Maung

Minister for Religious Affairs
President of the Working Committee
The World Buddhist Summit

30 November 2004





MYANMAR
H.E. Maj-Gen Kyi Aung
Miniser for the Ministry of Culture



Message of Honour from H.E. Maj-Gen Kyi Aung
Minister for the Ministry of Culture, Union of Myanmar
to the World Buddhist Summit

I, Major General Kyi Aung, Minister for the Ministry of Culture, first and foremost pay my profound obeisance in the traditional Buddhist manner to the Most Venerable Patrons of Sangha, who are also Heads of the Buddha Sasana. And the Ministry of Culture supplicates metta to the Heads of State, Heads of Delegation, Representatives, the Buddhist Faithful and citizens of world nations for their good health, prosperity, physical and mental wellbeing and long life more than hundred years without any pain and disease.

Buddho Loke Samuppanno Hitāya Sabbapāṇiṇaṃ
Dhammo Loke Samuppanno Hitāya Sabbapāṇiṇaṃ
Samgho Loke Samuppanno Hitāya Sabbapāṇiṇaṃ

- The Enlightenment of the Buddhas is for the benefit and wellbeing of mankind.
- The emergence of the Dhamma is for the benefit and wellbeing of mankind.
- The emergence of the Sangha is for the benefit and wellbeing of mankind. This is the firm belief of all Buddhist faithful.

World Buddhist Summits are being held in full esteem, obeisance and true belief as they represent the real image of the Buddha, the Dhamma and the Sangha, revered by Buddhists throughout the world and it is true that millions of world Buddhist are longing for the fact that these summits will lead to the prosperity of mankind and to bringing them refuge.

Gautama attained Enlightenment as the Buddha in Maha Sakarit 103 (588 B.C.). The Buddha visited Myanmar several times, reaching Sunaprantā Desa, Tampadipa Desa, Ramanya Desa, Taninthayi Desa, Rakkhapura Desa, Yawnaka Desa and also several other parts of Myanmar and strove to firmly set up the Pillar of Buddhism likened to a

diamond bore-pile and hoisted the pennant of Arahataphala at its pinnacle. This has been chronicled as at over 2,500 years, parallel to the age of the great Shewdagon Pagoda.

Myanmar Nainggan, being the right land of victory for the Sasana, is so famous because The Buddha Himself conducted His mission here. And also because there are personal effects of the preceding Buddhas and the hair relic, the brow relic, collar bone, teeth and relics of big, small and medium sizes of the Gautama Buddha are enshrined in the pagodas of Myanmar which are so numerous that the pointed finger never misses one. Such being the case, Myanmar is famous as the Land of Buddha or the Land of Pagodas.

Many treatises the Buddha taught during his life-time are the Three Pitakas- (Suttanta, Vinaya and Abhidhamma) and the Five Nikkaya after delineation of which the Fifth and Sixth Buddhist Synods were held in Myanmar. Therefore, in Pariyatti Sasana and Patipatti Sasana there is no differentiation among the Sangha and the original texts are intact and followed to the latter. Because they have been followed correctly here, Myanmar has been proudly declared a Theravāda Buddhist Nation.

There are over 200,000 Sanghas and over 284,000 novices and nuns, totaling over 484,000, who get support and honour and add to the thriving of the seeds of merit in the Union of Myanmar. Our country shines with the brilliance and magnificence of the robes of the learned Bhikkhu Theras and Theris. Those Sasana Heroes have acquired by rote one, two and three sections of the Pitaka and are titled Tipitakadhara, Dvipitakadhara and Tipitakakovida. The original texts of the Pitaka are thoroughly versed and kept in their hearts. Therefore, the prospect of prosperity of the future Buddhist Sasana is most encouraging.

With full satisfaction of delight and strong devotion, I, Maj-Gen Kyi Aung, together with the heads of department, officials and families of my ministry, sincerely welcome and honour this great event—the World Buddhist Summit.

It is our ardent hope that this World Buddhist Summit will be able to work towards the accomplishment of the practice of basic Buddhist culture such as forgiveness, contentment, honesty and four sublime livings. In this way, Dhamma will spread worldwide, and every nation will have ample change of the effective and extensive practice of these virtues.

It is also our expectation that the Sangha Pitara, the Sangha Parinayaka and Heads of Buddhist Missions, Heads of State and the Buddhist Faithful will unanimously work together to alleviate the sufferings of the multitudes due to man-made and natural disasters and lead mankind to reach a state of refuge free from violence.

With these hopes, the Minister for Culture sends this message of honour and pleasure.

May the Buddha Sasana thrive further and perpetuate.

May virtuous words and deeds spread and prevail.

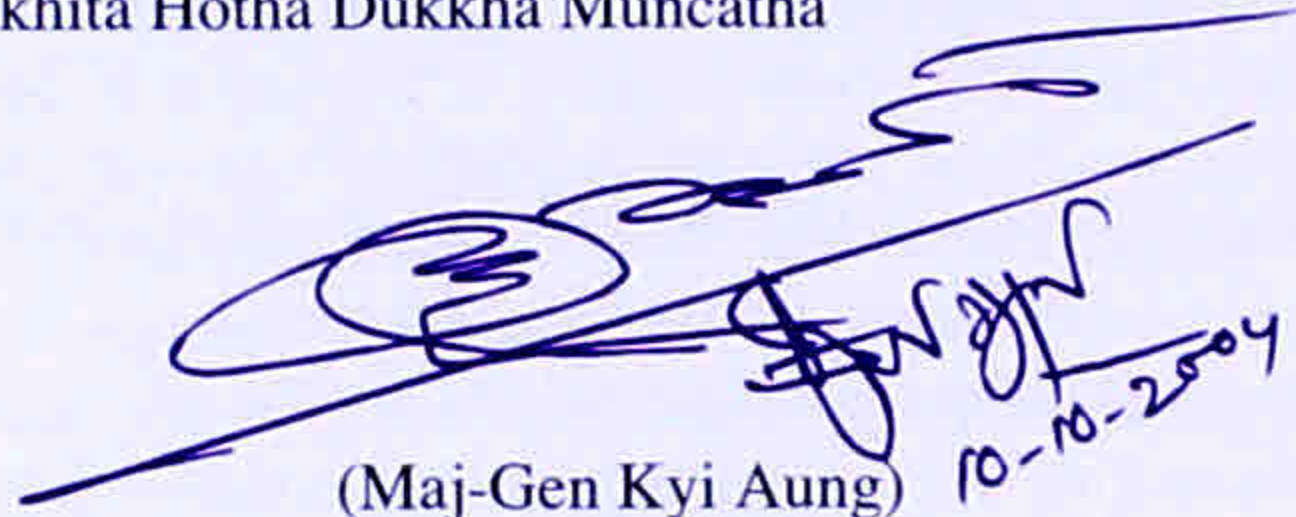
May unvirtuous words and deeds cease and disappear.

May the sublime state of mind and all virtues including compassion thrive in the hearts of all beings.

May the objectives and future programmes of the World Buddhist Summit succeed.

May all be able to work effectively toward the propagation and perpetuation of the Three Saddhama-Desanas of Buddha.

Sukhitā Hotha Dukkha Muñcatha



(Maj-Gen Kyi Aung)
Minister Ministry of Culture

10-10-2004



BANGLADESH
MOSHARE HOSSAIN SHANJAHAN
State Minister for Religious Affairs



Embassy of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Yangon, Myanmar.

No: 523/3

The Embassy of the People's Republic of Bangladesh in Yangon presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of the Union of Myanmar and has the honour to quote below message of felicitations from the Hon'ble State Minister for Religious Affairs, Mr. Mosharef Hossain Shahjahan, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, addressed to His Excellency Brig. Gen. Thura Myint Mang, Minister of Religious Affairs Government of the Union of Myanmar.

Quote:

His Excellency
Brig. Gen. Thura Myint Maung
Minister of Religious Affairs
Government of the Union of Myanmar.

Excellency,

I am delighted to know that the Government of the Union of Myanmar is holding The World Buddhist Summit in Yangon on 09-11 December 2004, I convey to Your Excellency and through you or who belong to the organization of the Summit my best wishes for the grand success of the auspicious occasion.

I believe that the Summit will congregate the followers of the Buddhism around the world. It will also inspire then to follow the ideals spirit of Buddhism with renewed devotion. I am also hopeful that the Summit will bring the peoples of our two countries closer and enhance people- to -people interaction in the years ahead for greater understanding and engagement between.

I would like to convey my best wishes for your good health
long life and happiness.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration .

Mosharef Hossain Shahjahan
State Minister for Religious Affairs
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

UNQUOTE:

The Embassy would deeply appreciate if the esteemed Ministry
could kindly transmit the above message to its highest destination

The Embassy of the People's of the Republic of Bangladesh in
Yangon avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of
Foreign Affairs, Government of the Union of Myanmar the assurances
of its highest consideration .

Yangon, 20 July 2004



Minister of Religious Affairs
Government of the Union of Myanmar
Yangon

Kind attn: Director - General (Protocol)



CAMBODIA

KHUN HAING
Senior Minister of Cults and Religions



ព្រះរាជាណាចក្រកម្ពុជា
ជាតិ សាសនា ព្រះមហាក្សត្រ

ត្រសូមឧបត្ថម្ភការ និង សាសនា

លេខ ០១១/០៤ គ. ឆ. ស

Phnom Penh, 31 August 2004

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

Esteemed Most Venerable,

On behalf of Cambodian people, the Royal Government of Cambodia and on my own behalf, I would like to extend my great respect to the Most Venerable and to all followers of the Lord Buddha. I appreciate very much of having the opportunity to attend the World Buddhist conference in the Union of Myanmar.

On this auspicious occasion I would like to present my profound admiration and respect to all Honorables and Venerables whose endeavor is to follow the enlightened way of Lord Buddha for the benefit of the world with his teaching and blessing, aiming at promoting understanding, tolerance, peace and prosperity among human beings.

In Cambodia, Buddhism is an important way of life for the larger part of our population since our eminent King Jayavarman VII in the 12th century. He established Buddhism in our country and helped villagers built and restored their own pagodas and temples. We, the people of Japan and Cambodia as the people all over the world, have the opportunity to absorb the teaching of Lord Buddha.

We are grateful to the tireless effort of the Most Venerable and all followers who work for the cause of the unity of Buddhism in preserving the teaching of Lord Buddha and spreading Dharma to the people of the world in order to attain peace and happiness for all human beings.

Please accept, your Most Venerable, the assurances of my highest consideration

Khun Haing
Senior Minister
Minister of Cults and Religions



KOREA
Chung Dong-Chca
Minister of Culture and Tourism



**Congratulatory Message from
Minister of Culture and Tourism Chung Dong-Chca
of the Republic of Korea
to the Buddhist Summit
Yangon, Myanmar
December 9-13, 2004**

On behalf of the 20 million Korean Buddhists, I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to you on the Buddhist Summit to be held in Yangon, Myanmar. Buddhist leaders from many countries will participate in this grand event.

We now face numerous threats to world peace. Many people still suffer from starvation and disease as well as the continuing danger of terrorism and war.

It is our great hope that the wisdom and mercy of Buddha will shed light on the future and relieve human suffering and ignorance.

I pray that this conference will be a significant occasion to promote a peaceful world through mercy and love, as well as to eliminate the fear of war and terrorism through close cooperation and mutual understanding among Buddhist communities around the world.

Thank you very much.

Chung Dong-Chca
Chung Dong-Chca
Minister of Culture and Tourism
Republic of Korea



SRILANKA

LAKSHMAN JAYAKODY
Advisor to He the President



The World Buddhist Summit

As it is hosted by the Ministry of Religious Affairs of the Union of Myanmar the World Buddhist Conference, the Buddhist Summit, holds its gathering with high expectations.

In Sri Lanka the three main Buddhist sects exist. The Siam, the Amarapura and the Ramanya Nikayas; and the last two obtained their Higher Ordination from Myanmar about 2 centuries ago.

In these two Sects the Culture of Myanmar personifies. The Myanmar Bhikkus give more weightage to Abhidhamma Pitaka and Bhavana along with the Suthra and the Vinaya Pitakas. We have had close links with Burma before the World War II in importing Rice and Teak Timber. Burma, was so close to us as Britain administered India, Burma and Ceylon as one unit and the Viceroy of India was its Head. Our Civil Services were controlled by Delhi until the Independence Movement. We all became free in the late 1940's. The first diplomat appointed by independent Sri Lanka, was to Burma. Buddhists monks and devotees learnt and interacted in the Burmese language. It was the Dhamma that kept the two countries friendly throughout the Centuries.

The Middle East and some Western countries should resort to Buddhist practices, where the Teachings and Human Duties performed by Buddhist will solve most of their problems. History states that Emperor Ashoka of India turned to Peace overnight following the Philosophy of the Buddha. We understand that the Foreign Policy of Myanmar is "strict Non-Aligned" so much so she did not join a power bloc in the world directly or indirectly.

May this Summit bring out the everlasting Truth of Buddhist Philosophy.

May the Yangon Summit strengthen the objectives of the World Buddhist Conference.

May this Historic Conference enshrine the words of the Buddha as it was done in the Maha Pasana Cave when the sixth Great Synod was held.

May the entire Mankind live in Peace.

Lakshman Jayakody

Advisor to HE the President

And Delegate of Sri Lanka



SRILANKA

Ratnasiri Wickremanayake
Minister of Buddha Sasana



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புத்த சாசன அமைச்சு – MINISTRY OF BUDDHA SASANA

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எனது இல.
My No.

ඔබේ අංකය
உமது இல.
Your No.

Message of Hon. Ratnasiri Wickremanayake, Minister of Buddha Sasana of the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

As the Minister of Buddha Sasana of the Government of Sri Lanka, it gives me great pleasure to send this message of felicitations and good wishes to the World Buddhist Summit to be held in Yangon, Myanmar, from 9th – 11th December 2004. The religious ties between Myanmar (former Burma) and Sri Lanka have been in existence from a long period of time since the establishment of Buddhism in Sri Lanka. The most important community of the Ven'ble Maha Sangha in Sri Lanka traces its present day spiritual descent through the Buddhist Maha Sangha of Burma. The Sri Lankan history records that the founding of the Sri Lanka Amarapura Maha Nikaya and the Sri Lanka Ramanna Nikaya too originated from this country.

I am made to understand that the World Buddhist Summit is to be held at the Maha Pasana Cave where the Sixth Great Buddhist Council was held. This event will make a significant milestone in the history of world Buddhism. Amidst barriers of regional and sectarian differences, the world Buddhists of different traditions and cultures will come

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135, Anagarika Dharmapala Mawatha, Colombo 7, Sri Lanka. දර්ශන / தொமைச்சு / Telephones : 326125-7 fax / பெலிக் / Fax : 424726
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424447 தொ : 437998
தொ : 424447 தொ : 437997
தொ : buddhasasana@eureka.lk தொ : buddhistconf@eureka.lk

together at this conference and exchange their views and ideas openly and frankly. I am certain that this will definitely strengthen the ties of friendship and improve the understanding among the various and different Buddhist sects and regions of the world. I am certain that this move will definitely pave a way for a lasting World Peace.

Hatred begets hatred. It can be overcome by compassion, kindness and love. Let us all get together and build a world free of tension, turmoil and usher our future generations to lead peaceful lives according to the teachings of Lord Buddha.

Finally, I take this opportunity to wish the Summit all success.

May all beings be well and happy.

With the blessings of the Noble Triple Gem.


Ratnasiri Wickremanayake
Minister of Buddha Sasana.



VIETNAM

Ngo Yen Thi

Chairman, Government Committee for Religious Affairs



**GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE FOR
RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS**

SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
Independence - Freedom - Happiness

Hanoi, August 12, 2004

**CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE
To the World Buddhist Summit Conference**

To:

**Your Most Venerable the Supreme Buddhist Leaders,
Esteemed Participants,
Distinguished Guests,**

Yangon, Union of Myanmar

Knowing of the International Buddhist Summit Conference being held in Yangon, Myanmar, on behalf of the Government Committee for Religious Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and myself personally, I would like to extend to you our sincere compliments and best wishes.

We firmly believe that, the Conference in the highly-constructive spirit, will achieve great success, make contribution to honor noble ideals about Enlightenment by Lord Buddha and fine values of humankind in order together with Buddhist followers and all nations through out the world to strive for peace, prosperity, peaceful contentment and mutual development, to propagate Lord Buddha's Teachings on Friendliness, Compassion, Joy and Equanimity, and Selflessness, for building a happy and prosperous future.

May the Conference be successful!
May all participants be healthy!



Best regards,

Ngo Yen Thi
CHAIRMAN

**GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE FOR RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM.**



VIETNAM

TRƯỞNG BAN
BAN TÔN GIÁO CHÍNH PHỦ



BAN TÔN GIÁO CHÍNH PHỦ CỘNG HOÀ XÃ HỘI CHỦ NGHĨA VIỆT NAM
Độc Lập - Tự Do - Hạnh Phúc

Hà Nội, ngày 12 tháng 8 năm 2004

Kính gửi: Ban Tổ chức và Quý vị Đại biểu tham dự
Hội nghị Thượng đỉnh Phật giáo Thế giới lần thứ IV,

Được tin Hội nghị Thượng đỉnh Phật giáo Thế giới lần thứ IV được tổ chức tại Yangon, Myanmar, thay mặt Ban Tôn giáo Chính phủ và nhân dân cá nhân, tôi xin trân trọng chuyển đến Ban Tổ chức Hội nghị và Quý vị đại biểu lời chào trân trọng và lời chúc mừng tốt đẹp nhất.

Chúng tôi tin tưởng rằng với tinh thần trách nhiệm cao, Quý vị sẽ làm hết sức mình để Hội nghị đạt kết quả cao nhất, góp phần tôn vinh những tư tưởng cao cả về giác ngộ của Đức Phật và những giá trị tốt đẹp của con người, để cùng với Phật tử và nhân dân toàn thế giới phấn đấu vì hoà bình, phồn vinh, an lạc và cùng phát triển, cùng nhau quảng bá tinh thần hoà bình, từ bi hỷ xả, vô ngã vị tha của Đức Phật và đoàn kết để xây dựng một tương lai thịnh vượng, hạnh phúc.

Kính chúc Ban Tổ chức Hội nghị và Quý vị đại biểu mạnh khỏe!

Kính chúc Hội nghị thành công viên mãn!

TRƯỞNG BAN

BAN TÔN GIÁO CHÍNH PHỦ



Phạm Ngô Yên Thi



UNITED NATION

Mr. Charles Petrie



UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

OFFICE OF THE RESIDENT COORDINATOR, YANGON, UNION OF MYANMAR

REFERENCE:

Message on the occasion of the Buddhist Summit 9~11 December 2004
By Mr. Charles Petrie, UN Resident Coordinator & UNDP Resident Representative
Yangon, Myanmar

On the occasion of the opening ceremony of the Buddhist Summit, it is a great honor and privilege to express our most sincere appreciation and congratulations to the people of Myanmar and to the Ministry of Religious Affairs of the Union of Myanmar for organizing the Fourth Buddhist Summit.

Myanmar has a long history of Buddhism. Buddhist teachings, cultures, traditions and values pose a strong bearings and influences over the daily lives of the Myanmar people.

Buddhism teaches people to be kind, compassionate, caring and to embrace all beings with Metta –pure loving kindness. It also teaches people to be peaceful, tolerant and create the culture of peace and tranquility for the development of the country.

In the growing world of extreme poverty, armed conflicts and terrorism, the teachings and principles of Buddhism; Metta- pure loving kindness is much more needed than ever before for caring and protecting the poor and the most vulnerable communities.

We wish the Summit every success in promoting the world's peace.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Yangon

UNITED NATIONS
13 October 2004



WHO

Dr. Agostino Borra



WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTE

COUNTRY OFFICE IN MYANMAR

Tel: (95 1) 212 606, 212 608, 212 609

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Government of the Union of Myanmar
Yangon, Myanmar

In reply please refer to:
Prière de rappeler la référence:

30 September 2004

Dear Sirs,

It gives me great pleasure to convey my warmest greetings to the organizers of the World Buddhist Summit which will be held in Yangon, Myanmar from 9 to 11 December 2004.

We are sure the outputs of the World Buddhist Summit will contribute to the process of peace, tranquility and harmony of global community.

On behalf of World Health Organization, we would like to take this opportunity to wish you all the success in your noble endeavours and assure you of our utmost cooperation.

With best regards.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Agostino Borra
WHO Representative to Myanmar

cc :
Organizing Committee
World Buddhist Summit
Yangon



CHINA

H.E. Mr. Li Jinjun



中 华 人 民 共 和 国 大 使 馆

No. 362/2004

The Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Union of Myanmar Presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar and has the honour forward here with a message of congratulations from H.E. Mr. Li Jinjun, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Organizing Committee of the World Buddhist Summit to be held from 9th to 11th December 2004.

This is my pleasure to present a congratulatory message to the World Buddhist Summit.

I hope the Summit will be satisfactory and successful!

The Embassy would be very grateful if the Ministry could convey the messages to departments concerned.

The Embassy of the People's Republic of China avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs the Assurances of its highest consideration.

Yangon, 25 November 2004

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Union of Myanmar
YANGON

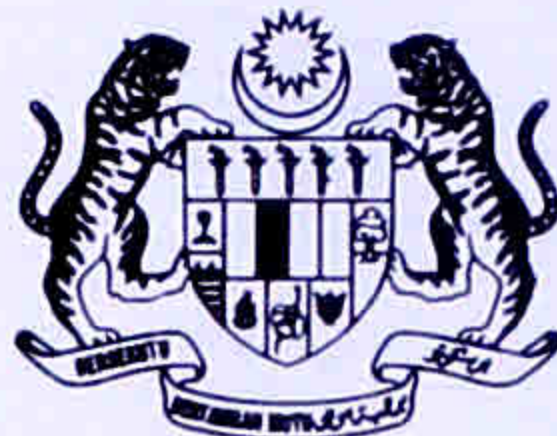




MALAYSIA

H.E. DATO' CHEAH SAM KIP

AMBASSADOR
Embassy of Malaysia



MESSAGE FROM AMBASSADOR OF MALAYSIA,
DATO' CHEAH SAM KIP
WORLD BUDDHIST SUMMIT
9 - 11 DECEMBER 2004
YANGON

1. It is my pleasure and honour to extend the Malaysian Government's sincere congratulations to the Government of the Union of Myanmar for hosting the World Buddhist Summit in Yangon from 9 to 11 December 2004.
2. The Summit is indeed an event of great significance not only to followers of the Buddhist faith but others as well. I am confident that the Summit, by bringing together followers of the Buddhist faith from diverse historical, geographical, racial and cultural background throughout the world and who are bonded together by a common religious practice, will further enrich mutual understanding not only among the participants but also others with different religious belief.
3. I wish the World Buddhist Summit great success in its deliberations.

Embassy of Malaysia
Yangon

30 September 2004





PAKISTAN

H.E. Mr. Muhammad Nawaz Chaudhry
Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan



Special Messenger

Embassy of Pakistan
Yangon

No.Pol.7/11/2004

It gives me great pleasure to extend my sincere felicitations to all concerned, on the auspicious occasion of World Buddhist Summit which is being held in Yangon on 9-11 December 2004.

This is a big event by all means. The noble teachings of lord Buddha which emphasize upon the values of tolerance, peace and compassion continue to be as inspiring and relevant as they always have been since ancient times. In fact, we can learn a great deal from lord Buddha's teachings to promote a climate of intra-religious harmony, moderation and peaceful coexistence, the need of which is being increasingly felt currently.

I wish the summit every success.

Muhammad Nawaz Chaudhry Ambassador,
Islamic Republic of Pakistan

November 24, 2004





PHILIPPINES

PHOEBE A. GOMEZ

Ambassador of the Republic of the Philippines



Basuguan ng Pilipinas

Yangon

Embassy of the Philippines

MESSAGE

I wish to extend warm felicitations and good wishes to the Government of the Union of Myanmar on the occasion of its hosting the World Buddhist Summit in Yangon on 9 to 11 December 2004.

I understand that this auspicious occasion is of singular importance to Myanmar, as well as to all Buddhists. I wish to congratulate the Organizing Committee for the work that they have done to ensure the success of this undertaking that will bring together Buddhists from all over the world to this beautiful country.

PHOEBE A. GOMEZ

Ambassador of the Republic of the Philippines
to the Union of Myanmar

Yangon 1 October 2004.



No. 50 Saya San Road, Bahan Township, P.O. Box 500, Yangon, Union of Myanmar
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RUSSIAN

Oleg V. Kabanov
Ambassador of the Russian Federation



**ПОСОЛ
РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ**

September 30, 2004

Dear friends,

I would like to take this opportunity to express, on the behalf of the members of the Embassy of the Russian Federation in the Union of Myanmar and on my own, our heartfelt felicitations and the warmest greetings to all participants in the World Buddhist Summit.

We are strongly confident that this meeting of the representatives of the world Buddhist community being held on the Golden Land of Myanmar, where the pure Buddha Teaching is flourishing, will make an invaluable contribution to promotion of tolerance and understanding among the peoples of the Earth, consolidation of peace and stability in the world.

Please accept our most sincere wishes of every success in all your endeavors.

Yours sincerely, Kabanov

Kabanov

Oleg V. KABANOV
Ambassador
of the Russian Federation

THE WORLD BUDDHIST SUMMIT
THE UNION OF MYANMAR
YANGON





SINGAPORE

H.E. MR. SIMON DE CRUZ
Ambassador of Republic of Singapore



Note No. 192/2004

The Embassy of the Republic of Singapore presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar and has the honour to refer to the latter's Note No. 20 01 06 dated 27 September 2004 requesting the Heads of Diplomatic Mission in Yangon to send messages of felicitations and good wishes to the Organizing Committee of the World Buddhist Summit to be held from 9 to 11 December 2004 in Yangon.

The Embassy has the further honour to convey the following message from HE Mr Simon De Cruz, Ambassador of the Republic of Singapore to the Union of Myanmar

"MY HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS TO THE UNION OF MYANMAR FOR HOSTING THE WORLD BUDDHIST SUMMIT FROM 9 TO 11 DECEMBER 2004 IN YANGON.

THE UNION OF MYANMAR, WITH ITS STRONG THERAVADA BUDDHIST TRADITIONS, IS IDEALLY PLACED TO HOST THE SUMMIT. THE SUMMIT WILL ALLOW PARTICIPANTS FROM MORE THAN 37 COUNTRIES TO EXCHANGE KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCES. IT IS ALSO AN EXCELLENT OCCASION TO SHOWCASE MYANMAR'S RICH THERAVADA BUDDHIST CULTURE AND HERITAGE TO THE WORLD. I AM SURE THE PARTICIPANTS WILL BENEFIT GREATLY FROM THIS EVENT.

I WISH THE BUDDHIST SUMMIT EVERY SUCCESS."

The embassy of the Republic of Singapore avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Myanmar the assurances of its highest consideration.

30 September 2004
Yangon

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Union of Myanmar





SRILANKA

D. M. M. Ranaraja
Ambassador of Sri Lanka



AMBASSADOR
OF SRI LANKA

MESSAGE OF THE AMBASSADOR OF SRI - LANKA FOR THE WORLD BUDDHIST SUMMIT

It gives me great pleasure to issue a message on the occasion of the convening of the World Buddhist Summit in Yangon, Myanmar from 09 - 11 December 2004. I am pleased to issue the message as the Ambassador for Sri Lanka - a country claiming heritage of 2500 years of Buddhist civilization.

The Summit is held under the patronage of the Government of Myanmar - a country upholding and preserving the norms and values of Buddhism to the letter and spirit. We highly value the contribution made by the Government of Myanmar for organizing the Summit.

This Summit provides an ideal platform to foster dialogue among the representatives of Buddhist countries and academics, in order to find ways and means of further uplifting and restoring the glory of Buddhism.

In a conflict-ridden world of today, Lord Buddha's teaching becomes even more relevant.

The whole world is in quest of lasting peace and happiness. Let the World Buddhist Summit be a beacon of light to enlighten the world that peace and happiness can be attained by following the path of "Lord Buddha's noble doctrine."

I conclude by wishing the World Buddhist Summit all the success with the blessings of Buddha, Dhamma and Sangha!

D.M.M. Ranaraja
Ambassador

Embassy of Sri Lanka, 34, Tawwin Road, Yangon, Myanmar. Phone : 222812. Fax :221509.



THAILAND

H.E. Mr. Suphot Dhiraknosol
Ambassador of Thailand



Message from His Excellency Mr. Suphot Dhiraknosol
Ambassador of Thailand
For the World Buddhist Summit

It is indeed a great honour and privilege for me to send my warmest welcome to all participants of the World Buddhist Summit, co-hosted by the Government of the Union of Myanmar, the land of golden pagodas where Buddhism flourishes and permeates among people.

The World Buddhist Summit not only symbolizes the religious ties that bind all Buddhists fellows together, but also provides an opportunity for us; both Theravada and Mahayana sects, to exchange views and unique experiences in practicing and propagating the teachings of Lord Buddha.

Religion has always played a significant role, in one way or another, in the long history of mankind. The world today is not exceptional. We are living in a world of rapid changes and uncertainties. The speedy development has introduced a wide range of advantages and disadvantages. Therefore, how to move steadily along these changes and how to live happily amongst these uncertainties is challenging.

As a Buddhist, the answer is rather simple. Just firmly uphold and apply the core philosophy of Lord Buddha's Teachings, the so-called 'Middle Path'. The 'Middle Path' implies not to be extreme. Scientifically and logically, every being needs a balance to prevent a fall. Therefore, if we follow the balancing 'Middle Path' it will eventually lead us to the state of stability.

How to live happily in the ever-growing violent world. 'Metta', one of the basic essences of the Buddhism wisdom, is the answer. 'Metta' is the opposite of hatred, anger, or resentfulness. Hence, we should have 'Metta' toward all living beings and always wish them happiness and joy. The mind filled with 'Metta' is a happy mind, a society filled with 'Metta' is a happy society, then, a world filled with 'Metta' is a happy and peaceful world. Therefore, let join hands to propagate all the practical doctrine of Buddhism to the needed world.

Lastly, I wish to commend the Government of the Union of Myanmar and all parties concerned for the tremendous efforts to organize this greatest events for Buddhist worldwide. As one of the dominant Buddhist countries, I would reiterate that Thailand stands ready to support the Union of Myanmar in every possible ways and means for the success of this supreme gathering.

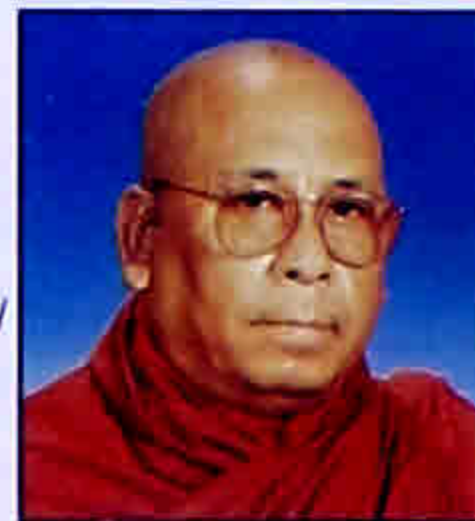
May the sacred power of Noble Triple Gems and merit gained from this World Buddhist Summit bless all of Buddhist fellows and bring about peace, unity and happiness to every part of our world, so that people of all religious beliefs could live harmoniously together.





MYANMAR

DR. ASHIN NYANISSARA
Chancellor of Sitagu International Buddhist Academy



KEYNOTE SPEECH

BY

BHADDANTA DR. NYANISSARA

Sītagū International Buddhist Academy

Sagaing Hills, Myanmar

Your Holinesses
Your Most Venerable Mahātheras
Distinguished Guests
Friends in Dhamma
Ladies and Gentlemen

First and foremost, I would like to convey my wish that may auspiciousness come to all the Buddhist leaders from many nations. I am also deeply honoured to deliver a speech on this important occasion.

Welcome to our golden land of Myanmar. We call our country the golden land because of golden pagodas, golden rice fields and golden Dhamma. We are happy and proud to host this World Buddhist Summit as a devout Theravada Buddhist nation where 500,000 monks reside with a strong and united State Sangha Mahānāyaka Committee. The Government, the people and the sangha organizations are united in the promotion and propagation of the Buddha Sāsana both inside the country and in the world.

The World Buddhist Summit is the most supreme and prestigious Buddhist conference ever held in the history of Buddhism. This Buddhist Summit surpasses the previous three Buddhist Summits in terms of number of participants, preparations and purpose. For two years, the Organizing Committee of Myanmar has invested a tremendous amount of their time, energy and money. We have definitely gained experience from the three previous summits to improve upon the planning for this World Buddhist Summit.

Many brainstorming sessions were held in Myanmar to work out the details of the World Buddhist Summit. For this conference, all Ministers and the Prime Minister of the Union of Myanmar, called many coordinating meetings to prepare for the successful holding of the World Buddhist Summit as a national event. All of us Buddhist as have also discuss this.

My sincere congratulations are in order for the Organizing Committee of Myanmar and the World Buddhist Leaders. Both Mahāyāna and Theravāda Buddhists around the World give moral support for the successful holding of the World Buddhist Summit and express their desire to attend the Summit. On behalf of the Organizing Committee of Myanmar, I would like to apologize to those who cannot be seated in the cave because of the limited seating capacity. It would not be too much to say that the World Buddhist Summit bears many characteristics of the Seventh Buddhist Council, with Myanmar as centre of Buddhism for purification, perpetuation and propagation of the original teachings of the Buddha.

With the benefit of hindsight I would like to draw your attention to the wonderful coincidence regarding the venue of this conference. This Mahāpāsana Cave has special historical and religious significance in the history of the Buddha Sāsana. In 1956, monks from five Theravāda countries, namely, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand, convened the Sixth Buddhist Council in this very cave to celebrate 2500 years of Buddha Sāsana. Sangharājas, Heads of State and Prime Ministers of the five Theravāda countries graced the occasion and read goodwill messages. Moreover, ten Mahāyāna countries including Japan participated in that great event. Today, fortyeight years after the convening of the Six the Buddhist Council, both Theravāda and Mahāyāna Buddhist leaders around the world are now gathering again in the same great cave to discuss Buddhist unity and cooperation and propagation of Buddha Sāsana.

The Buddha preached that frequent meetings and discussions among Buddhist leaders can contribute to the promotion and propagation of his teachings. In the Aparihāṇiya Sutta, the Buddha propounded the same thesis. Following the Buddha's advice for continuous discussion, the three main sects of Buddhism, namely, Theravāda, Mahāyāna and Tibetan Buddhism, are now meeting again at the Buddhist Summit to discuss the matters of unity and propagation, promotion, preservation and protection of Buddhism.

Undoubtedly, the Buddhist Summits are sending powerful Buddhist messages of tolerance and compassion to a turbulent world where the strong rules over the weak and the rich are reluctant to share with the poor. Also the Buddhist message of harmony and peace as we emphasize in the Summit motto will send vibrations to regions where violence, tension and death are the rule of the day and remind world leaders that power craving is self-defeating and will eventually end up in suffering and bloodbath. Lack of peace and harmony is bound to dislocate the family, society, nation, religion, environment and the world.

We must try our best until the world is convinced that the Buddhist teaching of lovingkindness, tolerance and compassion is the only panacea to cure the illness of mankind. Even if we achieve harmony and peace in the world we still have to fight poverty, diseases and ignorance which are the origins of human misery and the scourge of civilizations. The following are the five objectives for holding the World Buddhist Summit:-

- (1) To promote friendship, mutual understanding and cooperation among the Buddhist countries
- (2) To maintain Buddhist teachings and practice among the Buddhist countries
- (3) To promote Buddhist education based on the studies of Buddhist scriptures in nations of the world
- (4) To help create a peaceful world through the Buddhist teachings
- (5) To propagate the original teaching of the Buddha in the world

Let me go further to give you historical flashback of the Buddha's advice at a Sangha conference in his lifetime. His advice will be a very useful guideline for our meetings.

Nine months after his Enlightenment, the Buddha held the First All Sangha Order Conference at Veluvana Monastery in Rājagaha. At the Veluvana Sangha Conference, the Buddha approved Ashin Sāriputta as first monk leader and Ashin Mahāmoggallāna as the second monk leader to supervise the Sangha Organization.

The main points of Buddha's Ovāda (Admonition) at the conference were as follows:-

- (1) Patience (Forbearance) is the best virtue
- (2) The monk must not ill-treat the others.
- (3) The monk must not accuse, abuse, and blame the others.
- (4) Control your bodily, verbal and mental action.
- (5) The monk must be content with the food, residence and his sleeping place.
- (6) The monks must keep on practicing meditation.
- (7) Avoid all evil actions.
- (8) Avoid evil speech.
- (9) Avoid evil thoughts.
- (10) Try to purify the mind.

Therefore, following the Buddha's advice at the above meeting, we, the sons and daughters of the Buddha, should earnestly discuss the propagation of Buddhism for the benefit of mankind with patience, contentment and optimism at this conference.

The meaning of man in the sacred Pāli language is a rational being who could judge right or wrong and understand the relationship of cause and effect. When fear, worry, imagination and extreme thought often appear in man's heart, man cannot comprehend objective reality. Going beyond the rational limit, man's imagination runs wild and looks for a saviour. Therefore, fear and imagination are the origin of religion. When belief, worship and praying become the main features in a religion, God rather than man becomes the central figure.

The Buddha's Dhamma does not follow this line of thinking. The problems of human life can be found in the human body. The problem of fear, worry, dissatisfaction and suffering all happen in the human body. Therefore the solution to the problems is also to be found

in the human body. The human body is the proportional composition of mind, mental concomitant, and body. The mind and mental concomitant are not only the origin of the problems of human beings but also the solutions to these problems have to be found in them. This is called truth or Dhamma when the Buddha preached this regarding human beings. Religion is mainly based on the concept of God because the main idea of religion is belief and worship. On the other hand, the Dhamma synchronizes the actions of body, speech and mind. In the words of the Buddha, "Easy to do are things that are bad and not beneficial to self. But very, very hard to do indeed is that which is beneficial and good." If Dhamma is to be practiced by every individual, peace will be achieved individually. Individual peace is the starting point to move forward to world peace.

Four Big Tasks

There are two main points in Dhamma preached by the Buddha, namely, Noble Path and Noble Truth. The Buddha's sons and daughters have been carrying the message of Noble Path and Noble Truth from generation to generation and have preserved them for 2500 years. Although different Buddhists practice different traditions, there has been no dispute over the Noble Path and Truth. This is one of the significant features of Buddhism.

The Buddha's sons and daughters who live during the age of the Buddha Sāsana are all servants of the Buddha Sāsana. Because of the carrying over of this Buddha Sāsana, which the Buddha preached for fortyfive years, by generations of our brothers, sisters and teachers, we come to possess this Sāsana. For the younger generations of our brothers and sisters to continue to work over the Noble path to realize Noble truth and to enjoy the bliss of Nibbāna, we must carry out four big tasks effectively. They are the following:

- (1) To preserve Buddhism as the original teaching and to keep its pristine purity
- (2) To disseminate the original teaching of the Buddha effectively
- (3) To apply the modern method and technique in preservation, teaching, learning and research of Buddha Sāsana
- (4) To protect Buddhist historical sites, ancient pagodas, Buddha images, Buddhist literature and cultural heritage from natural disaster and destruction by opposition forces.

There are four essential requirements for protecting, promotion, propagation and teaching of the Buddha's teaching. They are as follows:

- (1) Man Power
- (2) Money Power
- (3) Material Power
- (4) Mind Power

When we talk about manpower, we need to mobilize the power of monks, government, educated persons, technicians and people from all walks of life for the promotion of Buddhism. Just as different nations with different political outlooks united in forming the United Nations, we Buddhists should try to unite our Buddhist nations and form United Buddhist Nations. In order to reach that stage, we need a powerful spirit of Buddhist brotherhood. The foundation of that spirit is friendship, understanding, forgiveness and patience. Added to these qualities are virtue and wisdom. I believe the present conference will contribute a great deal to friendship and mutual understanding among Buddhist leaders.

Without money power, we cannot undertake great religious projects effectively. During the Buddha's lifetime, a wealthy man named Anāthapiṇḍika built the Jetavana monastery for the Buddha at the cost of 540 million. For twentyfive years the Buddha along with his disciples spent their days in this monastery. The Buddha also preached many Suttas and many people became Arahats after listening to the Buddha's sermons. About 300 Buddhist Era, Emperor Asoka spent millions to build many religious buildings and pagodas and to send missionary monks to nine regions. The venue of the World Buddhist Summit, the Maha Pasana Cave, was built at the cost of 9 million Kyats (Myanmar currency) in 1952.

Nowadays the renovation of this great Cave cost 900 million Kyats. The sponsors of the World Buddhist Summit, the Government of the Union of Myanmar spent millions of dollars for this conference. There is no doubt that without money power, these grand projects cannot be implemented.

The same is true of material power. To make the Buddhist Summit a success, new audio-visual system, computers, mobile phones, transmission equipment, electrical appliances and a printing press had to be installed and used.

Moreover, the most important prerequisites for the promotion and propagation of Buddhism is mind power. However much money, material and manpower we have, without character, morale and virtue, we cannot implement any plan effectively. Virtue means disciplining of mind, body and speech. We as Buddhists have to keep the common virtue recommended by the Lord Buddha. We should store virtue of patience, loving-kindness and compassion and spirit of universal brotherhood in our hearts. At the same time, the kind-hearted person also must have a good sense of virtue. Therefore, out of four kinds of power, mind power is the main power for successful promotion and propagation of Buddhism.

By using these four essential powers judiciously, Emperor Asoka had done a great service to Buddhism. As a result of Emperor Asoka's missionary efforts, Buddhism spread to Greece, Turkey and Russia in the west and to the whole of Southeast Asia. It was recorded in the history of Buddhism that Emperor Asoka built thousands of temples and monasteries.

Since these four powers were not combined well and used in the Indian continent, the land of the birth of Buddha Dhamma became the land of the death of Buddha Dhamma. The big area of Buddhism has been reduced in size. Emperor Asoka's temples and monasteries became heaps of broken bricks. Therefore, at this World Buddhist Summit I would like to urge my brothers and sisters to safeguard, maintain and disseminate Buddhism to the best of their ability.

Buddhism and the Present-day International Situation

When we look at the international situation, we will find everything is in ferment lacking political, economic, social and military stability. The instability of the world starts with the unstable state of each individual, whose unfulfilment of desires pave the way for tensions and war. The history of the world is full of wars waged by persons of unfulfilled desires.

To dominate other peoples, to confiscate other peoples' property, to kill other peoples are the basic features of international society. Moral man seems to be creating immoral society. We seem to be back to the law of the jungle. Peace is the scarce commodity only few people can afford to consume. In the words of the Buddha "Everything is burning: the mind is burning, mental objects (ideas, etc.) are burning, burning with the fire of lust, with the fire of hate, with the fire of delusion; it is burning with birth, aging and death, with sorrows and with lamentations."

Beautiful world environment with mountains, forests, rivers and snow is defaced by factories which produce weapons for death and destruction. The earth which is full of precious gems became a graveyard as result of continuous wars. From the point of view of the law of nature, the root of these evils are cravings and desires.

Underneath the appearance of human being lie delusion, lust and anger. If we can identify the problems, we can now look for the solutions. In the same manner, if we know the cause of illness, we can find out the medicine to cure the illness. In other words, the Buddha is a great doctor who can heal the suffering of mankind. The tipitaka texts are like books with the prescription for the cure of human mental illness. Noble Truth and Noble Dhamma is the most effective medicine for patients of the world who are suffering from mental illness. It is the prime responsibility of the Buddha's sons and daughters to fulfil the needs of mankind by teaching them Dhamma. In order to educate a world that cannot comprehend the objective reality and to cure the world which is burning with lust and delusion, I strongly recommend opening more Buddhist centres around the world.

In many World Buddhist Conferences, world Buddhist leaders have tried every possible effort to bring Buddhist unity and cooperation. Because of these world conferences, the Theravadins, the Mahayanists and Tibetan Buddhists came to learn more about each other. Personal friendship and ties have also been forged. We need to take further steps towards drawing a concrete plan to translate our words into action. In this future plan we should do more networking with each other. We should especially form linkages among universities, monasteries and exchange scholars. International forums for Buddhist leaders are absolutely essential and should be regularly held for intellectual debates and exchange of ideas. We also should participate in these forums with understanding, patience and forgiveness to each other to reach our common goal. The recent conference initiated by Thailand based on the spirit of our Buddhist Summit to celebrate the day of Vesak or Buddha's Birthday at the United Nations Headquarter or other United Nations Offices is a step in the right direction. It augurs well for the future Buddhist unity and cooperation. Again, the International Conference on Theravāda and Mahāyāna Buddhism held in Thailand in July of this year also gave new impetus to Buddhist unity and cooperation.

For further implementation of plan for Buddhist unity and cooperation we need an institutional structure. I think it will take its

final shape in due course with progress of further discussion. Moreover, Buddhist education is also a very effective medium by which Buddhist sects will understand each other well. In short, our commitment to Buddhist unity and cooperation is indispensable and this World Buddhist Summit is a reaffirmation of our lofty ideals.

Although the Buddhist leaders are outwardly different in appearance, traditions and cultures, inside their hearts they are the same in cherishing the values of loving-kindness, forbearance, compassion and wisdom. The Eightfold Noble Path laid down by the Buddha is the common path we will have to take together. The Noble Truth of Cessation is our common destination which we are determined to reach in the end. Therefore, let us walk together in the common path with common values toward our common destination. I also pray that all the supreme Buddhist leaders and the delegates of the Buddhist Summit as a united group fulfil this sublime mission with noble aims and objectives.

May the Buddhist leaders be able to do more for the promotion and propagation of BuddhaSāsana.

May the Buddhist leaders help to solve the problems of mankind, while taking the Noble Path let us realize the Noble Truth of Cessation together.

May the Dhamma prevail everywhere.

May original Buddha Sasana exist in its purity.

May the sentient beings be free from suffering .

May sentient beings be well and healthy.

May all the Buddhist leaders work together for world Peace.



11.12.2004

Ashin Nyanissara (D.litt)

27 July, 2004



MYANMAR

DR. ASHIN NYANISSARA
Chancellor of Sitagu International Buddhist Academy



GOODWILL MESSAGE

from

Ashin Sīlānandabhivamsa

Rector Of The International Theravara Buddhist Missionary
University

It gives me great pleasure to extend my warm greetings and best wishes to all the participants in the World Buddhist Summit that is to be held in Yangon from 9 to 11 December 2004.

I am immensely pleased that the World Buddhist Summit is to be held in Yangon, the historic capital of the Union of Myanmar, under the guidance of the State Sangha Mahanayaka Committee and to be sponsored by the Government of the Union of Myanmar. I am convinced that the outcomes of this World Buddhist Summit will promote friendship and mutual understanding among the Buddhists all over the world and will play a leading role in the perpetuation, promotion and propagation of the sublime Teachings of the Buddha.

I sincerely hope that world Buddhist leaders will be able to fulfill the aims of the summit in accordance with Dhamma. As Dhamma means "righteousness", the Buddha's appeal to humanity is to be righteous to make the world a better place where all beings can live in peace and harmony.

Once again, would like to offer my sincere greetings and best wishes for the grand success of this World Buddhist Summit."

With the blessings of the "Three Jewels" the Buddha, the Dhamma and the Sangha, may all the participants be healthy and happy.

Ashin Silanandabhivamsa
Aggamahāpaṇḍita, D.Litt
Rector of the ITBMU



MYANMAR

BHADDANTA VANNITA

Rector of the State Pariyatti Sasana University
Mandalay



မြည်ထောင်စု မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်

နိုင်ငံတော်သံယမဟာနာယကအဖွဲ့

နိုင်ငံတော် ပရိယတ္တိသင်္ဂဟသနဉ် တက္ကသိုလ်

အောင်မြေသာစံမြို့နယ်၊ မန္တလေး

မှ: { နာယကချုပ် ၂၀၁၆.၂.၂၈
မော်ကွန်းထိန်း ၂၀၁၆.၂.၂၈
[ရုံးအဖွဲ့] ၁၆.၄.၂၀၁၆

စာအမှတ် _____
ရက်စွဲ _____

Goodwill Message

Auspiciousness to you all.

It is a great pleasure to meet the most venerable Theravāda and Mahāyāna monks and the Buddhist leaders from all over the world who are participating in this World Buddhist Summit. I would like to convey my appreciations to everybody including governmental officials of the State Peace and Development Council who endeavoured for the successful holding of this summit.

I am looking forward to the deliberations that will be made in this summit by the venerable monks and the Buddhist leaders participating. I, Bhaddanta Vaṇṇita, would like to give a suggestion on behalf of the State Pariyatti Sāsana University, Mandalay.

Nowadays, excessive greed, anger and ignorance of mankind have led to much unjustness — dominations, terrorisms, aggressions, bullying, disorders, etc.

Lust and drug abuse have brought about a hitherto incurable disease as AIDS which is threatening mankind. Deadly diseases such as mad cow disease and bird's flu have also appeared.

Man-made as well as natural disasters are threatening humanity.

Man-made disasters can be checked by the cultivation of virtues—bodily mental and verbal. As regards the virtues (sīla), the Buddha has taught the obligations to be fulfilled by the royalty and the citizens, by the parents and children, by the masters and their slaves, and by the monks and their lay followers.

The dangers caused by natural disasters, however, can be eased by taking preparatory measures to respond to emergencies created by such disasters. In this way, humanity may gain mental and physical wellbeing.

The Buddha pointed out Nibbāna as the liberation from all sufferings, which resulted from the eight worldly conditions. He also stated sīla samādhi and paññā as the “three trainings” to be fulfilled to gain Nibbāna.

Sīla means “moral practice”

Samādhi means “meditation”

Paññā is the wisdom that can free all beings, human, gods and brahmas, from all sufferings and bring about eternal peace.

I would like to advice you that these “trainings” are the ones that will lead all the living beings including humankind to tranquility.

To conclude, I believe that the humanity will be able to live in peace and harmony if we follow the Buddha’s guidance for the betterment of mankind, laity as well as monks:

1. holding frequent conferences (like this World Buddhist Summit)
2. work in harmony, and
3. to do what is right.



Bhaddanta Vaṇṇita
(Aggamahāpāṇḍita)

Rector

State Pariyatti Sasana University
Mandalay



ပြည်ထောင်စု မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်
 နိုင်ငံတော်သံယာဇာနည်ကဏ္ဍ
 နိုင်ငံတော် ပရိယတ္တိသဘာဝနှင့် တက္ကသိုလ်
 ကမ္ဘာ့အေးချမ်းရေး ရန်ကုန်မြို့

“ဝမ်းမြောက်ဖွယ်စကား”

ကမ္ဘာ့ဗုဒ္ဓဘာသာညီလာခံသို့ ကြွရောက်လာကြသော သဘာပတိ ဆရာတော် ကြီးနှင့်တကွ ပြည်တွင်းပြည်ပ ထေရဝါဒ၊ မဟာယာနဗုဒ္ဓဘာသာ ကိုယ်စားလှယ်များ ဖြစ်ကြသော ဆရာတော် သံဃာတော်များ၊ ဥပါသကာ ဥပါသိကာမများအတွက် ဆုမွန်ကောင်း တောင်းအပ်ပါသည်။

ဘုန်းကြီးသည် တိုင်းပြည်အသီးသီးမှ ဗုဒ္ဓဘာသာခေါင်းဆောင်များကို မိမိ၏ သဗြဟ္မစာရီ- သီတင်းသုံးဖော်ပုဂ္ဂိုလ်အဖြစ်လည်းကောင်း၊ ဉာတိမိတ္တ- ဆွေမျိုးလိုချစ်ခင် အပ်သော မိတ်ဆွေများအဖြစ်လည်းကောင်း သဘောထား ပါသည်။ ထေရဝါဒ မဟာ ယာန ခြားနားသော်လည်း ဗုဒ္ဓသာဝက-ဘုရားရှင်၏ တပည့်ချည်းဟူ၍ သဘောထားပါသည်။

မိမိတို့သည် ဗုဒ္ဓဘာသာဝင် ဘုရားရှင်၏ တပည့်များဖြစ်ရသည်မှာ လွန်စွာမှ ကံကောင်းကြပါသည်။ ဘုရားရှင်သည် နေ့စဉ်ပင် နံနက်ခင်း ညနေခင်း တို့၌ ဒုလ္လဘ-လွန်စွာမှ ရနိုင်ခဲ့သော အချက်ငါးမျိုးကို မိန့်တော်မူခဲ့ပါသည်။

- (၁) ဒုလ္လဘော ဗုဒ္ဓုပ္ပါဒေါ လောကသ္မိ- လောက၌ ဘုရားရှင်၏ ပွင့်ထွန်း ပေါ်ပေါက်လာခြင်းကို လွန်စွာရခဲ့၏။
- (၂) ဒုလ္လဘော မနုဿတ္တ ပဋိလာဘော- လူ့အဖြစ်(လူ့ဘဝ)ကို လွန်စွာရခဲ့၏။
- (၃) ဒုလ္လဘာ သမ္ပတ္တိ- မျက်စိစသော အင်္ဂါနှင့်ပြည့်စုံခြင်း၊ ရတနာသုံးပါးနှင့် သာသနာတော် ထွန်းကားသော အရပ်ဒေသ၌ နေရခြင်း၊ ရတနာသုံးပါးကို ကြည်ညိုသော သဒ္ဓါနှင့် ပြည့်စုံခြင်းဟူသော သမ္ပတ္တိကို လွန်စွာရခဲ့၏။

(၄) ဒုလ္လဘာ ပဗ္ဗဇ္ဇာ- ရှင် ရဟန်း သာမဏေအဖြစ်ကို လွန်စွာရခဲ့၏။

(၅) ဒုလ္လဘံ သဒ္ဓမ္မဿဝနံ- သူတော်ကောင်းတရားကို နာကြားရခြင်းကို လွန်စွာရခဲ့၏ ဟုမိန့်တော်မူခဲ့ပါသည်။(ဒီ၊ ၄-၁၊ ၄၇။ အံ၄-၁၊ ၄၉။)

မိမိတို့ ဗုဒ္ဓဘာသာဝင်များသည် ဤဒုလ္လဘတရားငါးမျိုးနှင့် ပြည့်စုံနေကြ သဖြင့် လွန်စွာမှ ကံကောင်းကြပါသည်။ ဗုဒ္ဓမြတ်စွာသည် တရားဟောတော် မူရာ၌ မဂ် ဖိုလ် နိဗ္ဗာန်ဟူသော လောကုတ္တရာအကျိုးသက်သက်ကိုသာ ဟောတော်မူသည်မဟုတ်ဘဲ လောကအကျိုးဖြစ်သောကျန်းမာရေး စီးပွားရေး ပေါင်းသင်းဆက်ဆံရေး စိတ်ချမ်းသာရေးစသော တရားတော်များကိုလည်း များစွာ ဟောတော်မူခဲ့ပါသည်။ ဤအချက်ကို မင်္ဂလသုတ်တော်၊ သိင်္ဂီလ သုတ်တော်စသော ကျင့်စဉ်များကိုကြည့်၍ သိနိုင်ပါသည်။ ငြိမ်းချမ်းရေး ရှုထောင့် က ကြည့်လျှင်လည်း ငါးပါးသီလ တစ်မျိုးတည်းဖြင့်ပင် ကမ္ဘာလောကရှိ သတ္တဝါ များအား မည်မျှ ငြိမ်းချမ်းရေး ချမ်းသာရေးကို ပေးနိုင်ကြောင်း သိနိုင်ပါသည်။ ဤငါးပါးသီလဆိုသည်မှာ ဤသာသနာတော်၌ အောက်ဆုံးကျင့်ဝတ်မျှပင် ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ထိုထက်မြင့်မြတ်သော သီလ သမာဓိ ဝိပဿနာ ကျင့်စဉ်များ များစွာ ရှိပါသည်။

ဤမျှလောက် အဖိုးတန်သော ဘုရားရှင်၏ အဆုံးအမသာသနာတော် မကွယ်မပျောက်အောင် ဗုဒ္ဓဘာသာဝင် ခေါင်းဆောင်များအားလုံး ညီညီ ညွတ်ညွတ်ဖြင့် စုပေါင်းဆောင်ရွက်နိုင်ကြပါစေ၊ ပြန့်ပွားအောင်လည်း ဆောင်ရွက်နိုင်ကြပါစေ၊ အပ္ပမာဒေန သမ္မာဒေထ- မမေ့ မလျော့ မပေါ့ဆသော သတိတရားဖြင့် မိမိတို့၏ စားဝတ်နေရေး၊ ကျန်းမာရေးကိစ္စ၊ ကုသိုလ်ကိစ္စများကို ပြီးစီးအောင်မြင်အောင် ဆောင်ရွက်နိုင်ကြပါစေ ဟု လှိုက်လှဲစွာ ဆုတောင်း မေတ္တာ ပို့သလိုက်ပါသည်။



GERMANY

Bhikkhu Sukhacitto
German Buddhist Union, Munich City, Germany



Goodwill Message Bhikkhu Sukhacitto

German Buddhist Union, Munich City, Germany

Respected Maha Sangha,
Distinguished Buddhist Leaders,
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Dharma!

I like to convey my deepest gratitude and congratulations to the organising committee to have made possible this noble congregation of the World Buddhist Summit in Yangon from 9th to 11th December 2004. It is indeed a rare occasion that so many leaders of one religion come together in harmony with the intention to discuss relevant topics concerning the Buddha Dharma.

Please let us think about those who can not join us there and today: some may have passed away already, others might have other commitments or could not afford to come, a number of practitioners live in solitude in remote places and are bent on meditation and many send us their good wishes for the success of this meeting.

Let us spend our precious time together wisely in order to help Buddha Sasana to be of benefit to many sentient beings. Let us overcome our prejudices against each other and meet in a real spirit of respect and openness. The Buddha gave in his teaching very helpful advice for the benefit of the growth and harmony of the Sangha.

As a western Buddhist monk living in Europe we are living in a very different cultural setup than in the Buddhist Asian countries. Many Buddhist teachers in the West are not ordained and people expect equality between women and men. As the Lord Buddha pointed out, women have the same spiritual potential for final liberation as men have. I do hope we can improve the education of Buddhist women and see more and more female Buddhist leaders attending such important meetings.

I wish sincerely this World Buddhist Summit will foster the strength of the Buddha's teaching and will reveal many insights into how to deal with the current challenges.

I feel very privileged having been invited and thank you all very much!



CHINA

THE BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION OF CHINA



中國佛教協會
THE BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION OF CHINA

To the Union of Myanmar Embassy

The Buddhist Association of China present our compliments to the Union of Myanmar Embassy in Beijing and wish to express our heartfelt thanks for your kindness that you invited our leaders to attend the 2nd World Buddhist Summit which will be held from December 9 to 11 in Yangon. As our leaders are very busy with their work at the end of the year, it is very difficult for them to find times to attend the summit and hope that we may have your understandings on it.

In order to promote the mutual understandings and traditional friendship between the peoples of China and Myanmar, we attach great importance to the matter that you invited Most ven. Sheng Hui, the Vice President of B.A.C. and the Abbot of Line Guang Monastery Beijing to pay official friendly visit to your great country and firmly believe that his visit to your great country in 2005 will be a great help to developing the friendly co-operations between the Buddhist Circles of our two countries. We shall inform you the finalized program for his visit to your country in 2005 later.

The Buddhist Association of China ourselves of this opportunity to renew to your Embassy in the assurance of our highest consideration.





GERMANY

VEN. LAMA LHUNDROP
Deutsche Buddhist Union, Germany



DEUTSCHE BUDDHIST UNION BUDDHISTISCHE RELIGIONSGEMEINSCHAFT

Myanmar, December 9th, 2004

Dear Most Venerable Representatives of the various Buddhist traditions!
Dear Most Venerable President of this Buddhist Summit!
Honourable Representatives of Various Countries

On behalf of the German Buddhist Union our delegation wishes to express its gratitude to the organizers of this World Buddhist Summit for making it possible to exchange on topics relevant to the preservation of the authentic Buddha dharma in modern times. It is a great joy for us to be able to participate in this exchange, since it will further unity and cooperation among the many followres of Lord Buddha's teaching, of which there are two main streams; the Theravada and the Mahayana, the latter one also including Vajrayana Buddhism.

In the part 2500 years the teachings of Shakyamuni Buddha have proven to be of profound help to people of a great variety of cultural backgrounds. On the basis of the unchanging canonical scriptures available in Pali and Sanskrit, the teaching of the Buddha has proven to be of astonishing flexibility, adopting itself to the different needs and inclinations of individuals seeking liberation from suffering, the state of ultimate happiness. Due to these varying responses to the needs of people over the centuries, many different Buddhist traditions have developed. All of them are rooted in the realization of the Four Noble Truths, the realisation of true happiness beyond the limitations of concepts and ego-centred fixations.

If over a Buddhist tradition or Buddhist country was to face a decline in its authenticity and its appeal to people, this would probably also be due to not truly actualising the Buddha's teaching in one's own mind stream and naturally and foremost, in the minds of the leaders of that tradition and country. Buddhist practitioners that are well-grounded, experienced and realized in the practices of discipline, meditative absorption and wisdom have always been

an inspiring example for others to follow, and a decline of Buddhist practice is unlikely as long as this is the case.

Buddhism is very young in Germany. But since its foundation in 1955 the German Buddhist Union has quickly developed into a platform of exchange that represents the different Buddhist traditions in Germany in their common effort to make the Buddha dharma available in this world. We now look back on a history of almost fifty years of successfully overcoming prejudices and misunderstandings between Buddhist schools (as well as with our non-Buddhist environment), and there has been a growth in mutual appreciation and understanding through coming to know each other better.

In this modern world travel distances can be covered much more easily than in the past, and consequently also the distances between the various Buddhist traditions tend to diminish. Thus we all come to appreciate the many beautiful flowers that have arisen from Lord Buddha's message in form of the different traditions of practice existing all over the Buddhist world. Let us all appreciate each other as being the various aspects of the manifold expressions of the Buddha's compassionate wisdom- a wisdom that provides a treasure grove of different means, suitable to all cultures, a wisdom whose single aim is to find complete liberation from suffering and to realize true peace. May this peace, characteristic of authentic dharma practice, a peace that manifests in freedom clinging to self-importance, spread from here and touch the heart of all beings!

With our best wishes,
Ven. Lama Lhundrop and the other members of the German delegation,
on behalf of the German Buddhist Union.



INDIA



Ven. Dr. D. Rewatha Thero
General Secretary of Mahabodhi Society



NAMO BUDDHAYA Maha Bodhi Society of India

(Founded by Anagarika Dharmapala in 1891)

[Registered under W.B.S.R. Act, 1961-Regn. No. S/2666/61 of 1915-16]

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Ref. No.....

Date August 10, 2004

MESSAGE

MAHA BODHI SOCIETY OF INDIA

Ven. Dr. D. Rewatha Thero
General Secretary

CENTRES & BRANCHES

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Sarnath Centre

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New Delhi Centre

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Lucknow Centre

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Lumbini Centre

Tel. : 0097771-80144

Bhubaneswar Centre

Tel. : 0674-400745

Mumbai Centre

Shravasti Centre

Nowgarh Centre

Chennai Centre

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OTHER COUNTRIES :

JAPAN, KOREA, HONG KONG,
ENGLAND, AMERICA, SRI LANKA

JOURNALS :

THE MAHA BODHI (in English)
DHARMADOOT (in Hindi)
SAMBODHI (in Hindi)
KALINGA (in Oriya & English)

From-

Ven. Dr. D. Rewatha Thero,
General Secretary,
Maha Bodhi Society of India

I am happy to learn that 4th World Buddhist Conference is being held at Maha Pasana Cave, where the sixth great council was held, in Myanmar.

It will mark a significant occasion for the Buddhist world. From the beginning of the first Buddhist Summit in Kyoto Most Ven. Kyuse Ensijoh, President of Buddhist Summit and Founder Priest of Nenbutsushu Sect, successfully able to combine Mahayana, Theravada and Vajrayana. After that I understood now in the Buddhist world there is no two world like Mahayana and Theravada. It was better achievement be got through the Buddhist Summit.

Maha Bodhi Society of India, an oldest Buddhist organisation in the world, founded by Anagarika Dharmapala, looking after all the Buddhist important places in India since more than century.

On behalf of the Maha Bodhi Society of India, I wish the conference all success.

Bhavatu Sabba Mangalam

General Secretary
Maha Bodhi Society of India



INDIA

Myanmar Student Monks



Goodwill Message from Myanmar Student Monks in India

Your Holiness
Most Venerable the Chairman of the State Samgha Council of Myanmar
Most Venerable Samgharajas
Venerable Buddhist leaders
Your Excellencies
Esteemed Delegates
Distinguished Guests
Ladies and Gentlemen in Dhamma

It is my great pleasure to be present at this auspicious occasion. I would like to express my gratitude to the Central Working Committee of the World Buddhist Summit for kindly giving me the opportunity to participate in it. I deeply appreciate having this rare opportunity to give this message on behalf of Myanmar Buddhist Monks who are studying for their further studies at Universities in India and to meet the Buddhist Leaders from every corner of the World on this auspicious occasion.

The slogan of Buddhism which Buddhist scholars have claimed and brought for centuries is that "the Buddha was enlightened for the happiness of all living beings; the Dhamma was discovered for the prosperity of all sentient beings, and the Noble Samgha appeared for the seed of merit which grows in the unique farm".

Accordingly, the Triple Gem came to exist in this world for the welfare of the majority especially human beings who could be able to realize the Noble Dhamma. Since the Lord Buddha has been enlightened till nowadays (a period of over 2500 years), innumerable beings realized their salvation from the ill of the worldly having the golden opportunity of listening to the Noble Dhamma from the Buddha himself and His Noble disciples.

As the Lord Buddha expounded "Beginningless is the life-circle" there are countless beings in countless worlds. But beings who had achieved the opportunity of realization of the Noble Message given by the Lord are hardly said to be countless considering the span of the world and the number of beings. Therefore, the Lord Buddha predicted His Sasana to have been enduring for 5000 years for the welfare of innumerable sentient beings.

Now our Lord Buddha's Teaching has passed over half of His Prediction. We should know how our Lord Buddha's Teaching had been running over those last 2500 years. Neglect will make us miserable and give unsolved problems to us. All

Buddhists must wake up and should be realize their respective responsibility according to the righteous way.

We have no time nowadays to make any discrimination between Theravada and Mahayana because we are all the Lord Buddha's offspring and each of us must know his or her respective duty for our Teaching of the Lord Buddha. We must exhibit the Lord Buddha's message to those who have lost their way in this miserable world by taking Real Sermons out of printed books. These are only the museum properties if they are not applied in practice.

Therefore, what all of us, the disciples of the Lord Buddha, must understand is that mere preservation and maintenance of the Teaching of the Buddha is not sufficient or adequate. The most important task for us is to propagate and promote it. In doing this, one is not enough or two are not sufficient or three are not adequate for it to be widespread and flourished all over the world. All of us must do this task by working or joining hands.

And whoever is performing this duty in the sense of responsibility should be supported by others in all three types of action physically, verbally and mentally, bearing in mind that his performance of the duty is for the sake of beings but not for the sake of himself. To take this duty, the Lord Buddha had sacrificed his innumerable lives in his previous time. We as his followers, knowing His Nobility, should follow suit.

After the Demise of the Lord, the Samgha led by Thera Mahā-kassapa had taken this duty. Now this duty comes and knocks on the door of hearts directly. Who could turn his face away from this? Anybody who has a sense of responsibility can not avoid this.

Subsequently we humbly and respectfully would like to request all the Honorable Samgha to perform this duty by working hand in hand for the welfare of the majority without making any discrimination between the different schools of Buddhism. In this World Buddhist Summit, we strongly believe that the Buddhist leaders and spiritual representatives from 40 countries will be able to find the ways to take this duty hand in hand.

On behalf of Myanmar student monks in India, I wish the World Buddhist Summit every success in its deliberations.

Read by
Sitagu Ashin Candasiri (Ph.D. Thesis)
Mumbai University, India



MALAYSIA

Ven. Dr. K Sri Dhammananda



Goodwill Message

Message from Ven Dr. K Sri Dhammananda
For
The World Buddhist Summit
Myanmar
Dec 9-11.2004

I note with pride and pleasure that the Buddhist Summit will be held in Myanmar from 9th - 11th December 2004. I am pleased that I have been able to attend all the previous gatherings of World Buddhist leaders in Japan, Thailand and Cambodia. At these gatherings all the world leader expressed their solidarity as well as their determination to protect and promote the Buddha Sasana so that future generations will also enjoy the great benefits that countless numbers of human beings have gained over the past twenty five centuries.

To organize an international event on this grand scale is no easy task and I would especially like to thank the organizer of each these event who went to such extraordinary lengths not only to ensure that the meetings were conducted with decorum and grandeur but that all the delegates were extremely well looked after. We also thank the organizers in the host countries for their effort. After these gatherings the leaders returned to their own countries with renewed vigor and determination to serve in the cause of Buddhism.

The world situation has changed dramatically since the First Summit in Kyoto, Japan in 1998. We saw the dawning of the Third Millonium amidst much celebration and hopes for lasting world peace. Unfortunately all these hopes were rudely shattered by the horrendous disaster of September 11 which saw the senseless destruction of the World Trade Center in New York and the end of thousands of innocent live. This unleashed another round of counter

attacks and a determined and ruthless effort to make someone pay for the crime. Unfortunately we have seen no end to the terrorism which is raging on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean and many innocent nations are unwillingly being drawn into the conflict.

More than at any other time does the world need the advice of Shakyamuni Buddha who said:

“Hatred can never be overcome with hatred

By love alone can it be quelled”

Buddhists of the world must stand united to condemn violence of any kind, for any reason. We need not try to blame any party but appeal for common sense and the wisdom to recognize our common human heritage strength. The world desperately needs compassion, not revenge or the threat of superior military strength. Terror and violence have never solved problems, they have only claimed innocent lives. I hope that at this Summit, we will jointly declare our desire for peace and goodwill so that human beings, no matter what religion they belong to, or whether they belong to no religion at all, will live in peace.

2001 is a historic one for all Buddhists, because it was in this year that the sacred spot where the Buddha was enlightened and Great Mahabodhi Temple in Bodh Gaya has been declared a World Heritage site by the United Nations. It is a fitting recognition of the importance of this site to nearly a fifth of the world's population. We are grateful to the Government of India for having celebrated this event fitting grander not only in New Delhi but the sacred site itself. The India Government has also declared its intention to upgrade the facilities for pilgrims to visit all the Buddhist holy sites in the country. It has already embarked on an ambitious program to improve transport, accommodation and security in these areas and future pilgrims can look forward to a trouble free stay in India during their pilgrimage in the future.

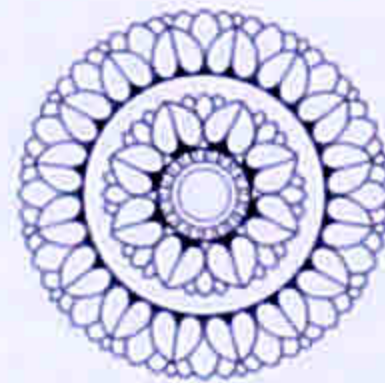
However we must take note of the fact that the management of the site is not yet completely in the hands of Buddhists. This has caused an enormous amount of unnecessary problems and I sincerely hope that the international Buddhist community can make

its opinions on this matter known to the authorities to correct this obvious anomaly.

We should also be concerned about the numbers of people in poverty stricken areas of Buddhist countries who are giving up their practice of Buddhism through what has come to be known as unethical conversions. This has caused much social disruption and the name of our sacred religion has been ridiculed and disgraced by foreign missionaries. We can not counter this kind of behavior through legislating or violence. I think Buddhist leaders must come up with some well planned, concerted efforts to provide the poor in Buddhist countries with the basic necessities of food, shelter, clothing and medicine so that they will not be lured away from their traditional cultures and beliefs.

In conclusion I wish to thank the organizers for making the World Buddhist Summit in Myanmar a reality and I wish them every success. May all your deliberations be fruitful and see the further development of the Sublime Buddha Sasana.

Sabbe Satta Bhavantu Sukhitatta.





BRAZIL

RICARDO SASAKI
Nalanda Theravada Buddhist Centre



Goodwill Message

Ricardo Sasaki

(Dhammacariya Dhammapala) Director, Nalanda Theravada Buddhist Center
Albita 194/701, 30310-160 Cruzeiro ,Belo Horizonte MG Brazil

Venerable monks,
distinct delegates and generous sponsors.

It is an honor for me to be present at the World Buddhist Summit held in the beautiful country that is Myanmar. That all Buddhists of the world should be united in peace is no more only a wishful thinking but a reality that grows year by year. How important are those events that mark this union of friendship and deep allegiance to the Triple Gem!

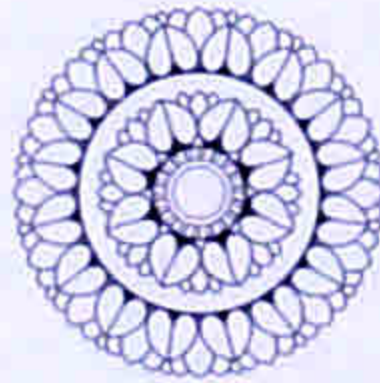
Buddhism came to Brazil through the Japanese immigrants aboard the first ship that ever arrived in Brazilian lands to bring Japanese workers eager to check its promising fertility. The ship Kasatomaru arrived in 1908. Buddhism grew in the following decades mainly within the community of Japanese immigrants that kept arriving in Brazil. My own father came in one of those first ships. Later, Chinese and Korean immigrants, also looking for better job opportunities, add their own kind of Buddhism. In 1967, the first and up-to-now only Sri Lankan Theravada Temple was opened in Rio de Janeiro. In 1989, I started the Nalanda Buddhist Center, the second Theravada center to be created in Brazil. But it was only in the year 2000 that the first Myanmar monk visited Brazil. My teacher Aggamahapandita Rewata Dhamma Sayadaw arrived in Brazil at my invitation in July 2000, blessed our center, performed Refuge Ceremonies and conducted meditation retreats. Since then our ties with Myanmar Buddhism only grew steadily.

The people of Myanmar has given the world the best gift, the Dhamma. Generation after generation, eminent Sayadaws and their lay sponsors have kept the light of Dhamma brightening this land, and generously shared with the people of the entire world. Now that technology is making communications easier and the distances shorter Buddhist countries are knowing better each other and learning to

communicate without prejudices and in harmony. I only have to thanks the Ministry of Religious Affairs, the Sitagu Ashin Nyanissara Sayadaw and the eminent Venerables ones overseeing the event, as well the wonderful people of Myanmar for this unique opportunity to listen and share the Dhamma in peace and harmony. May the generosity of these bear the best fruits.

May the Sasana prosper beyond limits,
May all beings find liberation,

May the Dhamma shine ever.
Ricardo Sasaki
(Dhammacariya Dhanapala) Director,
Nalanda Theravada Buddhist Center
Albita 194/701, 30310-160 Cruzeiro,
Belo Horizonte MG Brazil





NEPAL

Ven. Bhikkhu Jnanapurnik Mahathera



नमो तस्स लोकाहितस्स तथागतस्स
NAMO TASSA LOKAHITASSA TATHAGATASSA

फोन नं. ४८२९८४

विश्व शान्ति विहार VISHWA SHANTI VIHARA

मीनभवन, काठमाडौं, नेपाल
(स्थापित: वि.सं. २०४९)

मिति:
Date: ९.१२.०४

Message from the ven. Bhikshu Jnanapurnik Mahathera of Nepal on
The Buddhist Summit (World Buddhist Conference)
held in the Union of Myanmar on
9-11 December 2004

It is a great honor for me to extend felicitations and best wishes on behalf of the Buddhists of Nepal and the people of Nepal to the Buddhist Conference and the organizers on the periphery Summit Buddhist Conference December 9-11, 2004 in the Union of Myanmar.

Modern technologies have dragged people into the feudalistic world. In this context, Buddhism, the Eight Fold path and the four Noble Truths of Buddhism, would play the pivotal role in consolidating the war of terror through kindness, compassion, sympathy and equanimity and I believe that this would further strengthen the step in reducing the existing violence.

The world is no more a state of harmony, but has now been turned into a concrete desert where love and peace is dear. In this contrary, the series of steps undertaken by the World Buddhist Conference will prove to be a significant milestone. The spread of Buddhism in this world is remarkable, wherever it reached; it preached non-violence, tolerance and spiritual humanity. It urged humans to seek deeper understanding and pour love towards all beings. In this context, this conference would unanimously assist in bringing various minds together to overcome the

violence, terrorism and conflict present in the world, provide opportunity to share ideas and discuss on various problems pondering each day in various parts of the world.

Nepal, being the birth land of Gotama the Buddha, participation from this nation would also be conducive in attaining the goals of the Summit. I am very much hopeful that Nepal's participation in the Summit would be conducive in complete eradication of the situation underlying the territory. Overcoming the barriers of regional and sectarian differences, the participants from different parts of the world would get equal opportunity to share ideas on the present situation of the world and find out solutions to various aspects of Buddha's teachings. This would certainly prove the Summit being a major step for strengthening the cooperation between the different countries and people in reviving the True Peace, as the very nature of human mind and thoughts.

I appreciate the steps taken by the World Buddhist Conference for promoting the sublime teachings of Buddha. I believe that it would aid in fostering unity among the leaders of all Buddhist sects ensuring solidarity and brotherhood among them in order to sustain freedom and peace through teachings of Buddha to enrich human qualities and duties. In context of Nepal, the propagation of Buddha's teachings is negligible. Henceforth, the participation in this Summit would be a step in the attempts to revive Buddhism and propagating its importance to the mankind and that would definitely set on an effort in lessening the existing violence. This has also been felt of great necessity in this new era ravaged by violence, terrorism and conflicts.

Finally, I wish great success of World Buddhist Summit Conference and appreciate the organizer; or the great step prevailing world peace.



SINGAPORE

Ven. Weragoda Sarada Maha Thera
Founder/ Chief Monk/ Chief Administrator



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VEN. W. SARADA MAHA THERO

The Singapore Buddhist Meditation Centre
Founder/ Chief Monk/ Chief Administrator
Director-American Sri Lanka Buddhist Centre
Chief Monk-Jayanti Viharaya, Sri Lanka

It gives me great pleasure indeed to felicitate the organizers of the current Buddhist Summit in Myanmar, especially because this event represents a holy and significant chapter in the whole history of Buddhism in the world.

According to the perspectives of the Buddhist chronicles the very first Council was held in India, immediately after the great Demise of the Supremely Enlightened Buddha. A hundred years later, the Second Buddhist Council took place, one again in India under the patronage of King Kalashoka.

Two hundred and thirty six years after the passing away of the Supremely Enlightened Buddha Emperor Dhammasoka organized the Third Buddhist Council this too in India.

I traced this history to record that it was only Myanmar that held a formal and historical Buddhist Council, after those in India.

In this light, we are serenely joyous to record, that Myanmar is continuing this highly sacred Buddhist tradition, through this latest Buddhist Summit. This Buddhist Summit in Myanmar stems from the noble aim of perpetuating the eternal words of the Buddha the Superme.

The Buddhist in Myanmar is an event, whole time has unerringly come. The world is riven by violence, wars and alarming acts of violence. By and large, most men and women in our time have strayed away from the path of kindness, compassion and non-violence highlighted by the timeless Teaching of the Buddha.

The Buddhist world, and all those who highly esteem the spiritual well-being of mankind, will be extremely grateful to Myanmar for extending patronage to this high Buddhist Summit. The intention of this Summit is to make the humankind bearken to the timeless words of the Supreme Buddha the excellent Master of Peace. In this warravaged world, the serene world of the Buddha will very much like cooling, welcome drops of rain, in an arid and dreaty desert.

Members of the clergy and lay devotees will foregather in their thousands to contribute whatever they can, however small it could be, towards the success of this great and unparalleled Buddhist Summit. Speaking for myself. I feel deeply honoured to have been invited to participate in this history making spiritual event.

I am quite hopeful that the spirit of peace and harmony that will invariably radiate from this Buddhist Summit in Myanmar will prove a transforming force that will ensure a more wholesome world to all beings. I wish the Buddhist Summit all the success it so preeminently deserves.

May the blessings of the Triple
Gem shower, happiness tranquility and spiritual joy on all.
May all beings be happy and well.



Ven. Waragoda Sarada Maha Thero
Founder/ Chief Monk/ Chief Adminidtrator
The Singapore Buddhist Meditation Centre.



SRILANKA

MADAPATHA DHAMMASARA THERO
Director and Chief High Priest



MESSAGE OF VEN. MADAPATHA DHAMMASARA THERO OF SRI LANKA

The Leadership of the State Samghamahānāyakatherās have got together with the Buddhist Monks who are engaged in Buddhist missionary work in various countries and lay persons to make a strong organizing unit to hold the Buddhist Summit which I think is a very important event of the era.

The Most important factor is the get-together of various Buddhist Sects from various countries for discussion and disperse in unison.

“Samagga Sannipathitha Honthi - Samagga Uttahanthi”

To meet and rise in unison is what the Buddha expected of the Sangha.

“Sammagga Sammodhamana Avivadamana Keerodhadi Bhootha Angna Magnan Piya Chakku Hi”

To meet in unison without arguments and to live in harmony with loving kindness to each other is what the Buddha appreciated.

Therefore, it is my view that this summit to be held in Myanmar in 2004 is sure to develop harmony among the Sangha and the Buddhist people internationally. The support extended towards the success of this should be highly appreciated.

The interest and vision on the world peace are more relevant to this period than to any other. I wish and hope that this summit will be an eye-opener to those religious and nationalistic extremists.

With the determination to serve the Buddha Sasana Internationally.

Yours in the Dhamma

Madapatha Dhammasara Thero
Director & Chief High Priest
Parama Dhamma Chethiya Pirivena
Mount Lavinia, SRI LANKA

27th August, 2004



SRILANKA

Udugama Ratanapala Buddharakkitaḥidana



Goodwill Message

Udugama Ratanapāla Buddharakkitaḥidāna Mahā Nāyaka Thero
The Chief Tneumbent
Sri Lanka

It is great pleasure to send this message to world Buddhist summit (world Buddhist conference). All Sri Lankan Buddhist people stand with me to give heartfull thank to reverend chief secretary who plane or to give me this chance. The world Buddhist summit is an organization that Theravada, Mahayana Buddhist people get to gather and work to protect Buddhism for ever.

When we search about the world Buddhist people, we can see that they are divided on many cultures, many regions, many policies and so many. However, we come to here under one flag which follow The world lord Buddha's philosophy. We must encourage all Buddhist people in the world to compromise this situation frankly. I am happy to inform that we (all Sri Lankan Buddhist people) give full support to build up Buddhist World. I think this summit can work to develop interrelationship with all Buddhist people. In this way we must influence the other people to develop thier society, culture, country, region and the world. If may be the first step to make the world better place.

We must determinate to live as lord Buddhist followers to honour other cultures, other religions and other people in the way to make frankly world to us. Now we can see the Buddhism and Buddhist People are influenced very high level by the other religions. Other religions find out Buddhist People's poverty, and social problems very clearly. They are planning variety of project to carry out for this people. They gradually change our poor Buddhist People to their religion, Specially in Sri Lanka, I am regret to inform this situation. Some part of our country change community percentage of religion totally. But Buddhist people are not increasing. This Summit immediately works to plane out to protect Buddhist People. This is the most suitable time to it.

We must change those situations and make the world better place with prosperous future. I wish world Buddhist summit can work hard to heal the world people.

May Tripple gems bless you.



MYANMAR

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FROM RECTOR SAYADAW OF THE SITAGU INTERNATIONAL BUDDHIST ACADEMY
TO THE WORLD BUDDHIST SUMMIT IN YANGON, MYANMAR

The World Buddhist Summit that is held at the Great Cave of the Sixth Buddhist Synod at Kaba-Aye hill, Yangon, in the Union of Myanmar, is a landmark par excellence in Buddhist history, because this summit is attended by thousands of delegates from 45 countries.

I believe the delegates, Buddha's disciples, who attend this summit are able to discuss and decide on the cause of Loka and Dhamma with united mind, clear vision, pure heart and far sightedness.

The Buddha as Bodhisatta before he attained the Enlightenment being laid the three objectives down. He fulfilled the ten perfections that were virtues par excellence based on the five great renouncing the three practices.

The three objectives of the Buddha-to-be are as follows:

1. Buddhō bodheyyam : = to endeavour to become himself the Enlightened-One and to make others enlightened.
2. Tiṇṇo tāreyyam : = to endeavour to cross over himself the mass of suffering and to make others crossed over the mass of suffering.
3. Mutto moceyyam : = to endeavour to free himself from suffering and to make others free from suffering.

The Buddha when having attained the Enlightenment became the noblest man with great compassion for the world. The Buddha made His attempt to have the benefit of the world here and hereafter; to have cause and conditions for the benefit of the world; to experience the enjoyment and stable peace for the world.

The majority of people in the world lost their benefit, cause and condition and happiness. That is because of the ignorance of the Dhamma and not following of it. To make the end of dreadful and horrible terrorism and social problems that are hard to solve there is the only way. That is to walk on the dhamma path guided by the Buddha. I hope this Summit will be able to persuade the people of the world who have different territories, race, practice, tradition, religion, and view to walk together on the Buddha guided dhamma path .

May all people live happily in the world
of paradise where is prosperous, free from worry and fear by walking
on the Buddha's dhamma path!



Dr. Nandamalañamsa
May all beings be happy.



MYANMAR

Prof. Dr. Soe Yin
University of Yangon



Government of the Union of Myanmar
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UNIVERSITY OF YANGON
University P.O., Yangon, Myanmar

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Dated Yangon, the 20

GoodWill Message

from Dr. Soe Yin, Chairman of the Universities'
Buddhist Association, Yangon and Rector of
the University of Yangon,
to the Conference of the World Buddhist Summit

I am deeply honoured to have been given the privilege of sending a congratulatory message, as Chairman of the Universities' Buddhist Association, Yangon and Rector of Yangon University, on this most auspicious occasion - the Conference of the World Buddhist Summit. I deem it to be auspicious because it is associated with the peerless 'Triple Gem' - the Buddha the Dhamma and the Sangha. The venue of the conference, the Great Cave, is truly/appropriate as it had witnessed the convening of the Sixth Buddhist Council initiated by Myanmar 50 years ago, to commemorate the 2500th Anniversary of Buddhism, and in which Srilanka and other Theravada Countries in Southeast Asia participated. It also gives me great pleasure to be able to convey my highest regards to all the representatives from over 30 countries on this occasion.

The Union of Myanmar has long been recognized as a staunch Theravada Buddhist country. Since ancient times, its people have

accepted and practiced Lord Buddha's Teachings as their way of life, and kings as well as governments have professed and supported Buddhism wholeheartedly. It is well-known that Buddhism is a religion of Peace. The Teacher of Buddhism, Lord Buddha, himself was a great peace maker who delivered a number of discourses in which He dissuaded people from disputing and quarreling, and persuaded them to live in peace and harmony.

It is my sincere hope that we, the Buddhist nations, would take this unique opportunity provided by the World Buddhist Summit, to come together as one big family of Buddhists not only to preserve and further propagate Buddhism, but also to promote peace, harmony, friendly relations, mutual understanding, and co-operation among ourselves, as well as extend them to the rest of the world.

Finally, I would like to conclude my message with Buddha's saying, "Samaggaṇaṃ taposukha" - "Happy is the practice of unity."



Prof Dr. Soe Yin
Chairman of the Universities' Buddhist Association, Yangon
and Rector of the University of Yangon
Union of Myanmar

Dated : 16 November, 2004



INDIA

Dr. Ravindra Panth
Director, Nava Nalanda Mahavihara



Synopsis

World Buddhist Summit to be organized by the Central Organizing
Committee Yangon, Myanmar on
9-10-11 December, 2004

There is an urgent need today for a reassessment of the role of education in this rapidly changing world. The ideal of value education that many educators have begun to talk about today is the development of character. According to Buddhism 'End of education is character building'. This was the main concern in the ancient Nalanda University where making of man was given prime importance. That is why the university of Nalanda developed from a modest beginning, as a place where a small group of monk lived a life of meditation and contemplation, i.e., a Vihara, to eventually emerge as a full fledged university, a Mahavihara, a Centre for advanced study and research. That is why students came from far off places like China, Korea, Tibet, etc. to study and imbibe wisdom.

The educational system of Nalanda University was based on the personal relationship between pupil and teacher. The higher education was imparted to a select group of students, who lived in close touch with their teachers. In addition to intellectual development, care was also taken to develop the character of each student. This was done by the three aspects of training, i.e., Pariyatti or theory, Patipatti or practice and Pativedha or insight into the truth. The ultimate goal was to attain full knowledge. The contribution of the Mahavihara in the development of Buddhist education was tremendous.

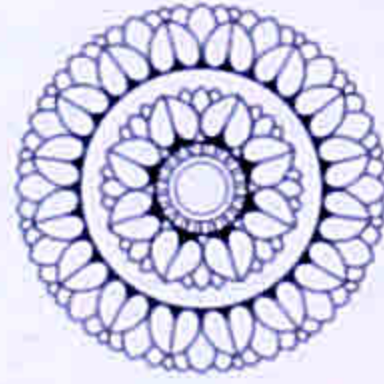
Due to conflicting forces, Nalanda Mahavihara was gradually deserted and eventually forgotten. The site was eventually reduced to mounds of earth. Francis Buchanan was the first to initiate a survey of the site in January 1812. However, it was Sir Alexander Cunningham who finally identified the complex of ruins of the Mahavihara in 1861-62.

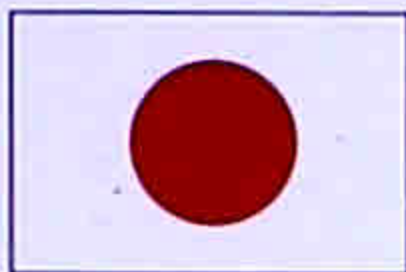
In the early 1950's, in order to revive the lost glory and the heritage of ancient Nalanda Mahavihara, His Excellency Dr. Rajendra Prasad, the first President of the Republic of India, declared that the

ancient seat of Buddhist learning at Nalanda would be revived. As a result Nava Nalanda Mahavihara was established by Government of Bihar to revive the glory and heritage of Nalanda with Bhikshu Jagdish Kashyap as its founder Director. Nava Nalanda Mahavihara continued to flourish under Kashyapji and several other Directors. This attracted many foreign monks and students from several regions like Myanmar, Thailand, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Tibet, Vietnam, Japan, Taiwan etc. and is still attracting students. The Nava Nalanda Mahavihara offers several courses related with Buddhism.

At present Nava Nalanda Mahavihara is an autonomous Institute under Department of Culture, Government of India and is affiliated with Magadh University Bodhgaya and Sanskrit University, Darbhanga and is keeping the continuity of the rich heritage of Nalanda.

Dr. Ravindra Panth
Director, Nava Nalanda Mahavihara,
Nalanda Bihar, India





JAPAN

YASUYOSHI NAKAJIMA
The Myanmar Economic Association



The Myanmar Economic Association, Japan

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Tokyo 160-0023 Japan

Phone: 81 3-3366-2858

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Goodwill Message

By
Yasuyoshi Nakajima

Good evening, Gentlemen,

I am Yasuyoshi Nakajima, chairman of the Myanmar Economic Association from Tokyo, Japan.

I would like to take this opportunity to express on behalf of the Myanmar Economic Association and on my own, our heartfelt felicitations and the warmest greetings to the World Buddhist Summit participants here. I feel very much honoured to be here and share this great moment with you all.

This year also falls on the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Myanmar and Japan, and doubles the auspicious events. We hope to extend our sincere best wishes for many more years of progress and success for both countries.

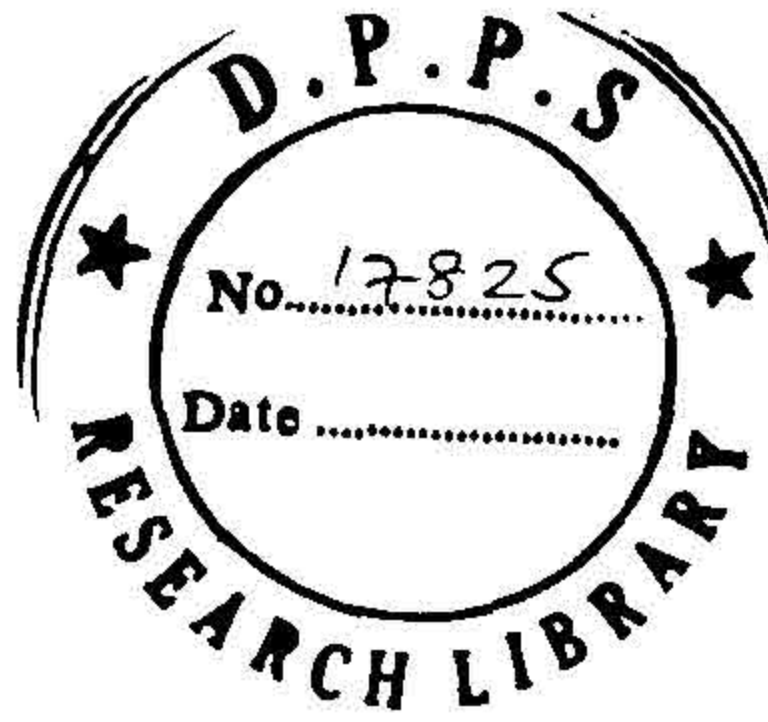
We are sure that the World Buddhist Summit is successful and satisfactory and highly value the contribution made by the Union of Myanmar for organizing the Summit. We have a strong belief that the World Buddhist Summit will have the significant meaning to bring together people of all Buddhist sects from 37 countries in the world and enlighten world peace and happiness based on universal values.

Thank you again for giving me such a precious opportunity. Thank you for all of this great evening. Let me conclude by wishing the World Buddhist Summit all the success and continued friendly relations between Myanmar and Japan. Thank you.


Yasuyoshi Nakajima

Chairman

The Myanmar Economic Association
Tokyo, Japan



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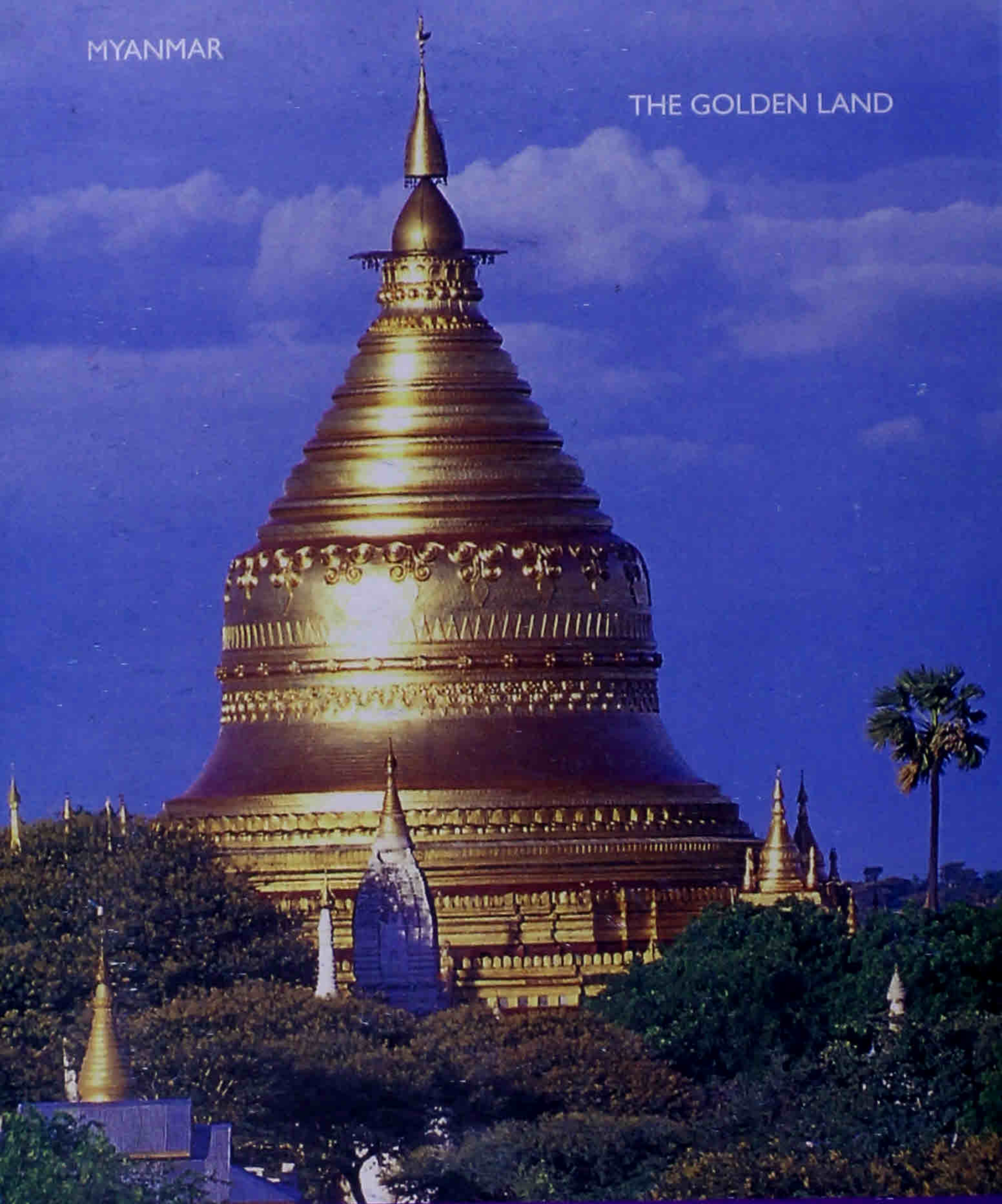
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MYANMAR

THE GOLDEN LAND



CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES
BUDDHIST LEADERS OF
THE WORLD

Distributed by Summit Working Committee

