

Virtual Vesak 2564th Buddha Poornima Celebration & Global Prayer Week
 Thursday, 7 May 2020 | 06:30 AM IST (GMT +5.5) Onwards
 Organised by INTERNATIONAL BUDDHIST CONFEDERATION
 Collective Wisdom United Voice

Vesak Address by Eminent Masters

<p>His Holiness 37th Drikung Kyabgon Chetsang Rinpoche, Supreme Head of the Drikung Kagyu Order of Tibetan Buddhism, India</p>	<p>His Holiness Khondung Ratna Vajra Sakya Rinpoche, 42nd Sakya Trizin, Head of Sakya order of Tibetan Buddhism, Sakya Dolma Phodrang, Dehradun, Uttaranchal</p>	<p>His Eminence 7th Shechen Rabjam Rinpoche, throne holder of Shechen Lineage of Nyingma Tradition and Head, Shechen Monastery, Nepal</p>	<p>His Eminence 7th Kyabje Yongzin Ling Rinpoche, Drepung Loseling Monastery, India</p>
<p>Most Venerable Aryawangso, Abbot, Buddhapojharipunchai Forest Monastery, Lamphun, Thailand</p>	<p>His Eminence the 4th Chogtrul Gyangkhang Rinpoche, Head Abbot Palyul Namdroling Monastery, Karnataka</p>	<p>Most Venerable Bhante B Sri Saranankara Nayaka Maha Thero, Chief Monk (Judiciary of Malaysia & Spiritual Advisor to Maha Karuna Buddhist Society and President, IBC, Malaysia</p>	<p>Most Venerable Jetsunma Tenzing Palmo, Founder, Dongyu Gatsal Ling Nunnery and President, IBC, Himachal Pradesh</p>
<p>Venerable Dr Dhammapiya, Convener of the Buddha Poornima Diwas National Organizing Committee & Secretary General, IBC</p>	<p>Most Venerable Bhikkuni Dhammananda, Abbess, Songdhammakalyani Monastery and Former Deputy Secretary General, IBC</p>	<p>His Eminence 20th Bakula Rinpoche, Head Lama of Pethub Monastery, Ladakh and Mongolia</p>	<p>Venerable Bhikkhu Sanghasena, Founder & Spiritual Director, Mahabodhi Meditation Centre and Executive Member, IBC</p>
<p>Ven. Khenpo Chimed, Member of Parliament, Nepal & Secretary, IBC</p>	<p>Most Venerable Buddhapriya Mahathera, President of Bangladesh Boudha Kristi Prachar Sangha, Bangladesh</p>	<p>Venerable Dhammapala Bhikkhu, Founder Brahma Vihara Monastery Retreat Centre, Malaysia and Former Deputy Secretary General, IBC</p>	<p>Prof. (Dr.) Kuldip Chand Agnihotri, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Central University of Himachal Pradesh</p>

Watch LIVE stream on : [facebook.com/ibcworld.org](https://www.facebook.com/ibcworld.org) [youtube.com/c/IBCWorld/live](https://www.youtube.com/c/IBCWorld/live)

IBC Celebrates Virtual Visak Buddha Poornima

The International Buddhist Confederation (IBC) in association with Bodhgaya Temple Management Committee (BTMC), IBC chapters and several partner organizations had put together a unique and blessed opportunity to witness and participate in the ceremonies and prayers from the most sacred sites of Buddha Dharma- Lumbini in Nepal, Bodhgaya, Sarnath and Kushinagar. The Secretary General of IBC, Ven. Dr. Dhammapiya, the Convener of the National Buddha Poornima Celebrations explained “We were compelled to organise a Virtual Visak day because of Covid-19 obligations.

He welcomed the Supreme heads of the Sanghas from Bhutan, Nepal, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos, Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, China, Mongolia, Uganda, Kenya, Russia, South Africa, The US, The Tibetan Sangha and India, and expressed IBC’s gratitude for their messages and prayers.

The Virtual Vesak- Buddha Poornima and Global Prayer Week received phenomenal response of more than 2.5 lakh and 20 lakh viewers joining respectively from 27 countries.

Ven Dr Dhammapiya emphasized the need for prayers and refuge in the blessing of Triple Gem, adding that its need is greater than ever before especially while the humanity is going through probably the worst crisis in recent times.

A major highlight of the event was the exposition of the Holy Buddha Relics amidst prayers from Rajaguru Sri Subhuthi Maha Vihara, Waskaduwa, in Sri Lanka. Later in the day, the programme included Live Streaming of other ceremonies and prayers from

- ❖ The Sacred Garden Lumbini, Nepal,
- ❖ Mahabodhi Temple, Bodhgaya, India,
- ❖ Mulgandha Kuti Vihara, Sarnath, India and
- ❖ Parinirvana Stupa, Kushinagar, India
- ❖ Special Pirith Chanting from Ruwanweli Maha Seya in the sacred and historic Anuradhapura stupa premises, Sri Lanka
- ❖ Prayer and Lighting of lamp from Boudhanath, Swayambhu, Namu Stupa, Nepal

Vesak – Buddha Poornima, is the Triple Blessed Day of Tathagata Gautam – Buddha’s birth, enlightened awakening and Maha Parinirvana – all were observed this year on 7 May, 2020.

The event is also being dedicated as Global Prayer Week to pray for the victims of Corona virus contagion and honouring the medical professionals and first responders in the frontline of humanity’s fightback against the pandemic.

The week saw live streaming of chanting, prayers, religious ceremonies, messages, speeches, Dhamma talks, performances and presentations through FaceBook, IBC Apps, Instagram, You Tube, Mandala App, and many other online channels. Apart from Monks and Nuns many lay persons also participated in the 7-day virtual programme. Hundreds and thousands of Buddhists and non-Buddhists alike witnessed and benefitted from this virtual holy event.