



British Embassy  
Bangkok

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Office of the Ambassador  
British Embassy  
14 Wireless Road  
Bangkok 10330

Tel: +66 (0)2 305 8302  
Fax: +66 (0)2 305 8372  
[www.gov.uk/world/thailand](http://www.gov.uk/world/thailand)

## **UNITED NATIONS DAY OF VESAK CELEBRATIONS**

In 2013 Thailand once again plays host to the United Nations Day of Vesak Celebrations of the Birth, Enlightenment and Passing of the Sakyamuni Buddha, and I am pleased to be able to express my best wishes for the celebrations.

The UN's main Vesak celebrations have taken place in Bangkok since 2004, with the exception of the 2008 event held in Hanoi, Vietnam. This year the Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University is again the principal organiser of the event, which marks the 10th United Nations Day of Vesak.

With this year's theme as Education and Global Citizenship: A Buddhist Perspective, it is also a fitting time to celebrate the fact that the people of both Thailand and the United Kingdom enjoy freedom of worship, and we take joy in the celebrations of our diverse communities.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Kent'.

Mark Kent  
HM Ambassador