Preface

This timely text is being published to honor the International Recognition of the Day of Vesak 2007/B.E. 2550 celebrations to be held from 26-29 May 2007 at Buddhamonthon, Nakhon Pathom Province and at the United Nations UNCC, in Bangkok, Thailand.

This text will be useful to initiate a wider dialogue on the ever-growing difficulties arising from younger members of the Sangha who are unable to fully adapt to the ancient circumstances found in the Vinaya-Pitaka of Theravada Buddhism. Senior Buddhist monastic and recognized Buddhist scholars were selected to offer words concerning the Vinaya and the importance of the characteristics they chose to write on. I am pleased to initiate the publication of these articles to make them available to a wider audience and hope the words mentioned herein, contribute greatly towards Buddhist academia.

One of Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University's up-and-coming American Buddhist scholars was selected to edit the articles, written mostly by our Thai monastic-academics. I recognize his hard work, opinions and diligence to ready these texts before the date of publication. Additionally, the Publication Committee for the International Day of Vesak is recognized for their hard work, long working hours, attention to details, and other efforts too numerous to mention here.

May all beings benefit from the Buddhadhamma!

(Most Venerable Prof. Dr. Phra Dharmakosajarn) Rector of Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University Chairman, United Nations Vesak Day International Organization Committee