



Press Release

***At UN Ambassador Munir Akram Highlights Buddha's
Enduring Influence and Call for Peace***

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Ambassador Munir Akram has said that the life and teachings of Buddha have profoundly influenced the world, especially the Asia-Pacific region, which boasts a rich Buddhist heritage. He said the Indus Valley civilization, now part of Pakistan, saw Buddhism thrive for over 2000 years.

“In the great ancient city of Taxila, in Swat and in Takht-e-Bai, there were Buddhist universities, which welcomed students from across the region. Buddhism spread and flourished from there,” he added.

Speaking during the commemoration of International Day of Vesak organized jointly by the Permanent Missions of Sri Lanka and Thailand, Ambassador Akram said that Buddha's teachings emphasize timeless principles for human coexistence: compassion, wisdom, peace and non-violence. He said that the commemoration of Vesak Day is a good moment to renew our commitment to these values

The Pakistan UN envoy further said that Pakistan along with the Philippines, regularly presents a resolution on the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace, which calls on States and the faith leaders to promote inclusion and unity and combat racism, xenophobia, hate speech and violence.

“We must foster a culture of peace and non-violence that benefits humanity, especially future generations, creating an environment conducive to harmony and mutual understanding.”

Ambassador Munir Akram said that these principles of human conduct and behavior are also reflected in the major religions and beliefs of the world. He said that Buddha's message of peace aligns with the fundamental purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter. Within the UN, it is incumbent upon Member States to promote and ensure strict adherence to the Charter's principles, particularly against the use of force and the suppression of peoples and their human rights, he maintained.