



## NEWS

- Politics
- Business
- Sci-Tech
- Social
- Lifestyle
- Sports
- International
- Education
- Travel

## IN DEPTH

## LIFE IN VIETNAM

## PHOTOGALLERY

## RESOURCES

## STOCK MARKET

## EXCHANGE RATES

## WEATHER

## WEEK IN FOCUS

## SEARCH

Go

## Vesak conference issues Hanoi declaration

08:58' 17/05/2008 (GMT+7)

*VietNamNet Bridge - Buddhists participating in the Fifth International Buddhist Conference on the United Nations Day of Vesak pledged to urge international communities to strengthen their efforts towards world peace.*



In the Hanoi declaration issued on May 16, the conference participants also resolve on improving the quality of life for all the people.

The declaration runs as follows:

“We, the participants from seventy four countries and territorial regions of the International Buddhist Conference on the United Nations Day of Vesak at the National Convention Center, Hanoi, Vietnam, from May 13-17, 2008 (B.E. 2552), gratefully acknowledging that the Conference on Buddhist Contribution to Building a Just, Democratic and Civilised Society has been generously supported by the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Vietnam Buddhist Sangha, have unanimously resolved the following:

1. To urge international communities to strengthen their efforts towards sustainable world peace in promoting dialogue, mutual trust, respect, and human dignity among different religions and nations, through the light of Buddhist wisdom and compassion.

2. To promote prevention of conflict and war, especially by means of disarmament including prohibition of tests of nuclear weapons, production of chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons and the prevention of the pollution of oceans and inland waters.

3. To enhance economic, social, environmental and spiritual development throughout the world, in order to achieve a higher quality of life for all the

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## Politics



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## Business



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## Sci-Tech



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people.

4. To advocate for social justice, democracy and good governance in all sectors of society, in order to bring peace and security within and among nations.

5. To acknowledge that social and economic development cannot be secured in a sustainable way in the absence of peace and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

6. To contribute towards legal and administrative measures for the protection and improvement of the environment, at both national and international levels, in order to commit to a healthy and productive life in harmony with the environment.

7. To affirm that climate change and other forms of environmental damages are already harming human well-being, and that urgent action is required to minimise these changes.

8. To stress on pursuing active measures to halt the misuse of our natural resources, a modern-life trend which has resulted in ecological imbalances, which increase the threat of climate change and endanger all life on the planet.

9. To recognise and respond to the moral and spiritual needs of individuals, families and the communities at large.

10. To recognise the need for solutions to global social problems, especially poverty, unemployment and social injustice.

11. To acknowledge the continuing need for modernisation of education for monastics and laypeople, to enable them to meet challenges of local and global issues and crisis.

12. To provide basic education and improve the quality of education, especially for girls, women and deprived groups, in order to remove every obstacle that hampers their active participation in social life.

13. To strengthen family bonds by emphasising the Buddhist principles of harmony, understanding and compassion for stable marriages and individual happiness.

14. To stress on the growing importance of information technology and provide guidance for the wise use of technology to serve social interests.

15. To develop materials for the internet that can be easily accessed by users to bridge the gap between those in developed regions and those in under-developed societies with limited resources.

16. To support major international Buddhist events including the Second World Buddhist Forum in China in November 2008, the Fifth World Buddhist Summit in Japan in 2008, the First Conference of International Association of Buddhist Universities, Bangkok, Thailand, in September 2008, as well as the activities of the World Fellowship of Buddhists (WFB) and Inner Trip Reiyukai International (ITRI).”

(Source: VNA)



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19/5

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→ Foreign kids maintain  
the legend of Uncle Ho

→ Posters on President  
Ho Chi Minh on display

→ Hennessy Concert  
returns with world's  
leading flutist

→ Yen Tu and Ninh Binh  
celebrate Buddha's Day

#### Sports



Haiphong return  
to top place

→ Public Security, HCM  
City take champs

→ When kings are chased

→ Thong Lao's winner  
puts HAGL in top spot

→ HCM City triumph at  
National Team tourney

- UN Day of Vesak 2008 wraps up (17/05/2008)
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- Wild tigers attack cattle in Kon Tum (16/05/2008)
- Forecasters predict unusual weather patterns (16/05/2008)
- Court verdicts to be made public (16/05/2008)
- Afraid of quake, VN's students in China want to come home (16/05/2008)
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- Vietnam's Vesak indicates religious freedom (16/05/2008)
- Man claims \$35.5 million compensation for injustice (16/05/2008)
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- City waterways face landslide risk (15/05/2008)
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SEARCH

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