

Tentative Programme

The 14th United Nations Day of Vesak Celebrations 2017

Theme: Buddhist Teachings for Social Justice and Sustainable World Peace

Venue: Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH), Colombo, Sri Lanka and Sri Dalada Maligawa in Kandy, Sri Lanka

Programme: 12-14 May, 2017 (2561 B.E.)

Thursday, 11 May, 2017	
All Day	Arrival of Participants at the Bandaranaike International Airport , Registration at the Hotel Lobby
1900 hours	Dinner at Hilton Hotel
Friday, 12 May, 2017-Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH), in Colombo, Sri Lanka	
0800 - 0830 hours	Arrival of participants at BMICH
0830 - 0900 hours	Buddhist and Political leaders enter the Conference Hall
0900 - 0930 hours	Video Documentary Film
0930 - 0935 hours	Lighting of the Oil Lamp
0935 - 0940 hours	Recital of five precepts
0940 - 0950 hours	Welcome Address by Hon. Wijeyadasa Rajapakshe, the Minister of Justice and Budhasasana of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, Chairperson of the National Organizing Committee
0950 -1000 hours	Buddhist Symphony
1000 -1010 hours	Address by a Chief Prelate of Sri Lanka
1010 - 1020 hours	Address by the Most Ven. Prof. Phra Brahmapandit, President of the International Council for the Day of Vesak (ICDV)
1020 - 2025 hours	Address of Hon. Ranil Wickremasinghe, Prime Minister of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
1025 - 1040 hours	Address of H.E. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India
1040-1050 hours	Address of H.E. Maithripala Sirisena, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
1050 - 1100 hours	Group Photo-I (only heads of states and Supreme Patriarches)
1100 - 1115 hours	Group Photo-II (Country delegates and others)
1115 - 1230 hours	Lunch Break
1230 - 1240 hours	Issuing Stamps

1240 - 1340 hours	Continuation of Messages
1340 - 1415 hours	Keynote Address
14165 - 1600 hours	Goodwill messages
1600 hours	Return to Hotels
1830 hours	Departure from Hotels to Vesak Cultural Festival at Diyatha Uyana
1900 -2100 hours	Vesak Cultural Festival at Diyatha Uyana and onsite dinner
21.00 hours	Return to Hotels
End of the first Day	
Saturday, 13th May, 2017 (Second Day)	
800 hours	Departure from the Hotels
0830 hours	Arrival at BMICH
0845 - 0915 hours	Buddhist Chanting
0915 - 1130 hours	Panel Discussions
1130 - 1300 hours	Lunch Break
1300 - 1500 hours	Last Plenary Session Presentation of Panel Reports
1500-1600 hours	Open Questions and Answer Session
1600 - 1630 hours	Price Giving Occasion
1630 hours	Return to Hotels
1830 hours	Departure from Hotels to “ <i>Nelum Pokuna</i> ” Cultural Theatre
1930 -2100 hours	Cultural Programme at <i>Nelum Pokuna</i>
2100-2200 hours	Dinner at <i>Nelum Pokuna</i>
2200 hours	Return to Hotels
End of the Second Day	
Sunday, 14th May, 2017 (Third Day)	
0630 hours	Departure from Hotels
0700 hours	Arrival at the Fort Railway Station
0730 hours	Leaving to Kandy by a Chartered Train
1000 hours	Arrival in Kandy Railway Station
1000 -1030 hours	Welcome of Guests at the Kandy Railway Station

1030 - 1330 hours	Lunch Break
1330 - 1530 hours	Paying Homage to the Sacred Tooth Relic of the Buddha
1600 -1730	Closing Ceremony and Presenting of the Kandy Declaration
1730 - 1930 hours	Free Time and Dinner
1930- 2100 hours	Cultural Procession organized by Sri Dalada Maligawa
2100- 2130 hours	Return to the Kandy Railway Station
2200 hours	Return to Colombo by Train
End of the Third Day	
Monday, 15th May, 2017	Check out from the Hotels and Departure through Airport or joining the Cultural Tour