



United Nations Vesak Day

I extend my warmest greetings and best wishes for the celebration of the United Nations Vesak Day. Almost 20 years ago, the United Nations General Assembly recognised Vesak to commemorate the birth, enlightenment and passing of Buddha.

The day holds a special place in the hearts of all followers and reminds us to aspire to be a positive force in life. It's associated with messages of peace, compassion, goodwill and service to humanity. Freedom of religion is a fundamental aspect of Australian society and democracy, not just in observance but also in the support that many religious organisations provide in the community to those less fortunate.

I commend the Buddhist Federation of Australia for organising the 2019 UN Vesak celebration and wish all those attending a happy and peaceful Vesak Day.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

The Hon. David Coleman MP