



## **The Hon. Anthony Albanese MP**

### **Leader of the Opposition**

#### **DAY OF VESAK**

I send you my warmest greetings for the Australian observance of the Day of Vesak, when the light of the full moon gives the cue to commemorate the birth, enlightenment and passing of Sakyamuni Gautama Buddha.

Guided by that celestial glow, we reflect on how even so many centuries have failed to dim the Buddha's wisdom. If anything, the passage of time has only served to emphasise its power.

With the flowers, candles and joss sticks you take to the temple to lay at your great teacher's feet, you remind us that everything – including life itself – will one day wither away or burn out. Nothing grounds us so much as that knowledge. Your meditation and your hymns in praise of the Buddha, the Dharma and the Sangha are an act of devotion, and a profound proclamation of your Buddhism.

As Australians we celebrate both our differences and our common ground, drawing such great strength from our breadth as a society. Vesak and the Buddhist community are an important part of that.

On behalf of my colleagues, I wish you the best on this auspicious day.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Albanese', written in a cursive style.

**The Hon. Anthony Albanese MP**  
Leader of the Australian Labor Party  
Federal Member for Grayndler