

Congratulatory Message

Most venerable monks and nuns, and most respected world Buddhist leaders!

Representing Korean Buddhism, I offer my joyous congratulations for the 25th World Federation of Buddhist Conference commemorating the 60th anniversary of the WFB. I offer my humble gratitude to WFB President Phan Wannamethee and the Sri Lankan planning committee for all their hard work in preparation of the conference.

This year's conference is especially meaningful to celebrate 60 years of the WFB and to ponder the history and significance of the WFB. We can celebrate the great contributions to world peace and Buddhist unity along the history of the WFB. We can also work together for the future development of the WFB.

The WFB began in 1950 here in Sri Lanka brought together as fellow followers of Buddha. Since then, the WFB has contributed to the spreading of the Buddha's teachings for the betterment of the world. The WFB has also contributed to religious harmony as well as the cultural exchange between Buddhist nations. The conferences have been held in diverse countries to afford attendees an opportunity to learn about the local Buddhist culture. This conference has afforded an opportunity for meaningful exchange between the North and South Korean representatives over the years.

In short, I congratulate and celebrate the many contributions of the WFB in spreading the peaceful and beneficial message of Buddha as well as working for the greater unity and harmony among nations and religions. I pray the WFB will continue to

foster goodwill among all living beings and continue to contribute to the goodness of humankind and wellbeing in the world.

Lastly, I again offer my deep appreciation for the volunteers and efforts in making this conference a success. I pray for the successful and beneficial completion of the conference.

Ven. Jaseung

President, Jogye Order of Korean Buddhism

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