

Vesak Celebrations

The Buddha Day



Shanthi Vihara Dhamma School

Dhamma School Lessons for KS1



What is Vesak?

Vesak or Buddha Day, is the most important Buddhist festival of all.

The festival of Vesak celebrates three major events in the life of the Buddha:

1. **The Birth of Prince Siddhartha**
2. **The Enlightenment of the Buddha**
3. **The Passing away of the Buddha**



What Happened on Vesak Day?

- Prince Siddhartha was Born. He walked on 7 lotus flowers.



What Happened on Vesak Day?

- Prince Siddhartha attained enlightenment.



What Happened on Vesak Day?

- The Buddha passed away.





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Where and When is Vesak Celebrated?

It is widely celebrated in Asia and in many places. It is an official public holiday. Vesak is celebrated in full moon day of May every year. This year Vesak celebration is on 26th May in Sri Lanka.



How Is Vesak Celebrated?



We make Vesak lanterns and decorate our home and temple with colorful Vesak lanterns.

How Is Vesak Celebrated?

Houses and streets are decorated with Buddhist flags and flowers.

Buddhists meet together in the temples and learn more about the Buddha's teachings.

Devotees offer alms to Venerable monks in the temple.

Buddhists walk around the Buddha statue with candles at night. This is to remember that the Buddha showed people how to become enlightened.



Exercise:

- 1. When do we celebrate Buddha day?**
- 2. What is the significance of Vesak Day?**
- 3. What do we do on Vesak day?**
- 4. Explain one significance of Vesak day.**
- 5. Draw any major event of Lord Buddha and color it.**