



GIÁO HỘI PHẬT GIÁO VIỆT NAM THÔNG NHẤT HÓA KỲ

VIETNAMESE AMERICAN UNITED BUDDHIST CONGREGATION

HỘI ĐỒNG GIÁO PHẨM

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MESSAGE OF TET (THE LUNAR NEW YEAR) - 2026

Nam Mo Shakya Muni Buddha

Respectfully to Great Masters, Venerable Monks and Nuns, Buddhist Youth Family and Buddhist Followers,

This New Year falls on a weekday, and we all have to go to work. However, Vietnamese people in the United States still preserve this sacred New Year holiday in our new homeland. We converge at the temple, family, and community... to celebrate the New Year together, continuing to preserve our heritage tradition over thousands of years. Every ethnic group has its own holiday tradition. New Year of each community shows its own characteristics. And The United States is a country of human kindness and multiculturalism.

No matter where the Buddha disciple lives, he vows to make a symbol of a small lamp to enlighten himself, a lamp lighting from unwavering dedication, self-esteem, humility and compliance with all the laws. No place is perfect in this world, because not all of us are perfect. If this life has little meaning and contributes a little benefit to all people, it is because we want to cultivate blessings for ourselves. People with a blessed heart will live in the ocean of blessings. We thank the Vietnamese community in the United States, a community full of challenges in the early years, but we have overcome and stand up firmly. Because of that our children's generations have succeeded very well. We have the right to affirm we are worthy of living because we are living in meaning.

Dear monks and nuns, The United States of America, and Vietnamese community needs you, those who have left behind everything, to come here to practice Buddhism. Of course, in the new country, we encounter many odds from language, culture, customs and beliefs. But as a surfer, the higher the waves, the more elite we are. Our Bodhisattva hearts, our great vows, all difficulties do not make us lose but help us gain more compassion and

right wisdom. Let's rely on the strength of our Shanga community and reaffirm our committed vow that I devote my heart to the sacrifice of our Buddhism.

Today's society is wavering. We need to be calm and wise. Our fulcrum is the river of Dharma because this river surpasses all obscurities and purifies enough for everyone to bathe. Society has always been struggling and being patient is necessary to be able to fill human gaps and lameness. Challenge is a great joy. We challenge ourselves between ignorance and wisdom, between insecurity to be safe, and between American dreams that do not come true. We accept the challenges so that we can feel the exhilaration of victory.

On behalf of the Vietnamese American United Buddhist Congregation, I join hands to pray to the Three Treasures, the sacred souls of our nation to protect all of us in the year of Horse to meet many merits, prosperity and synergy. New year, new month starts from today's new day.

Nam Mo Maitreya Bodhisattva Buddha.

Buddhist Calendar 2569, California, January 1, 2026.

The Head Master of Shanga Council

TM. Hội Đồng Giáo Phẩm GHPGVNTNHK



PS: This Message is translated by Mrs. Thien Tuong