

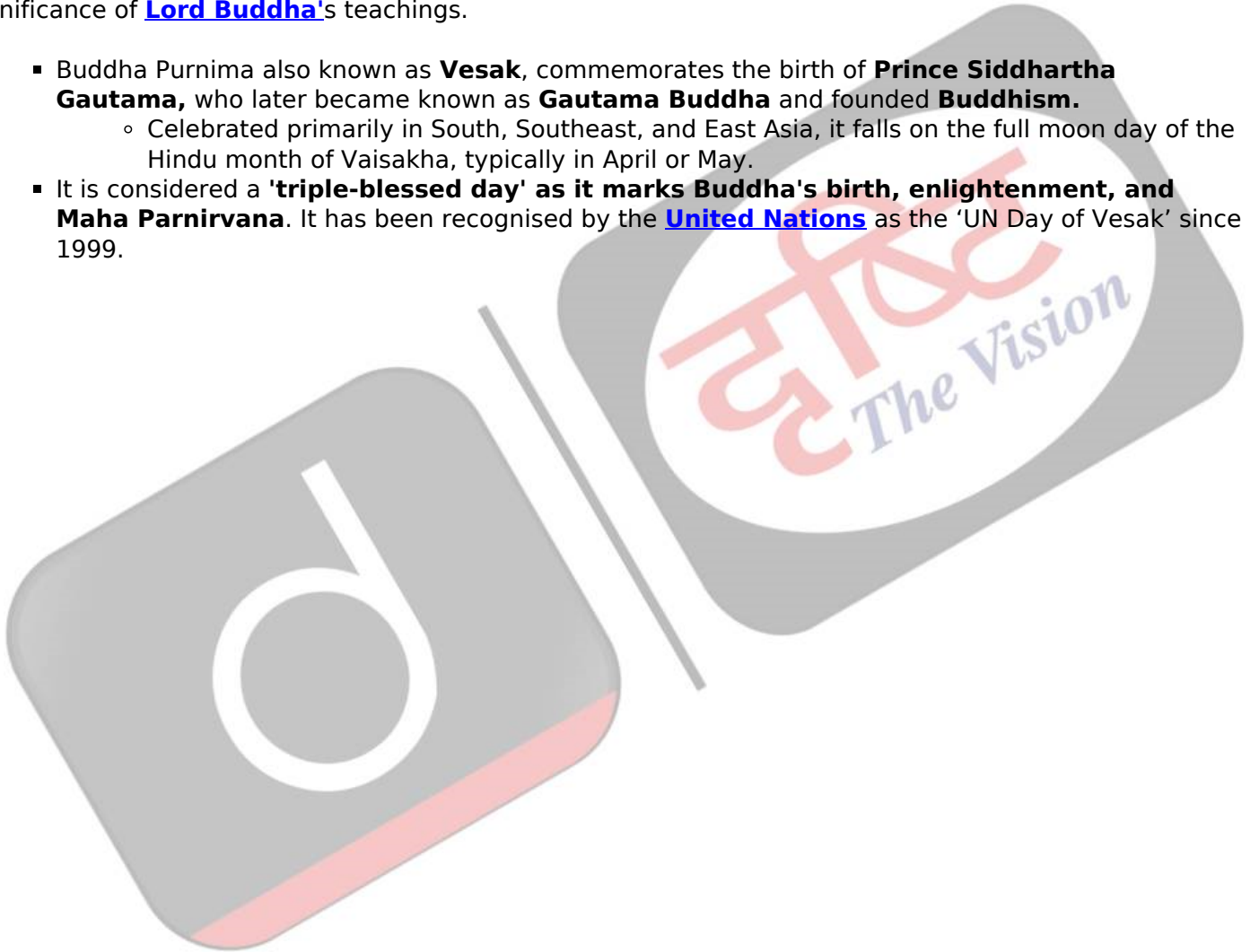


Buddha Purnima

[Source: PIB](#)

The President of India extends greetings on the occasion of [Buddha Purnima](#), highlighting the significance of [Lord Buddha's](#) teachings.

- Buddha Purnima also known as **Vesak**, commemorates the birth of **Prince Siddhartha Gautama**, who later became known as **Gautama Buddha** and founded **Buddhism**.
 - Celebrated primarily in South, Southeast, and East Asia, it falls on the full moon day of the Hindu month of Vaisakha, typically in April or May.
- It is considered a '**triple-blessed day**' as it marks **Buddha's birth, enlightenment, and Maha Parnirvana**. It has been recognised by the [United Nations](#) as the 'UN Day of Vesak' since 1999.



GAUTAM BUDDHA

Believed to be 8th of the 10 incarnations of Lord Vishnu (Dashavatar)

BIRTH

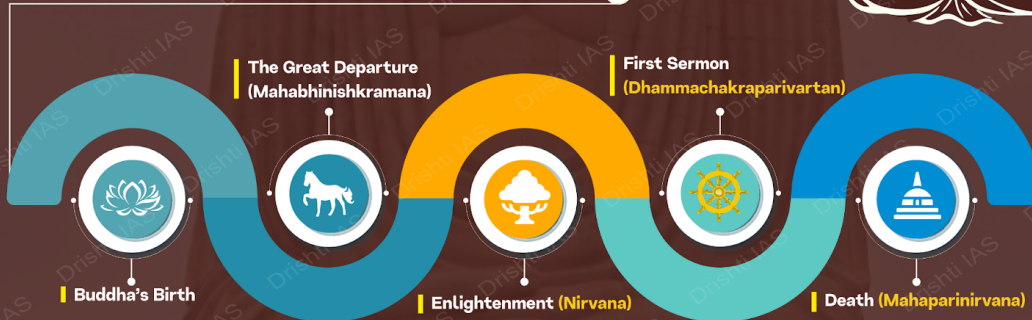
- Born as Siddhartha (563 BC)
- Birthplace - **Lumbini** (Nepal) near **Kapilavastu**

PARENTS

- Father - elected ruler of Kapilvastu; headed **Shakya republican clan**
- Mother - princess from **Koshalan dynasty**



IMPORTANT EVENTS



Buddha referred to himself as **Tathagata** (one who has thus come/gone) and has been addressed as **Bhagavat** (in Buddhist texts)

CONTEMPORARIES

- Vardhaman Mahavira
- Bimbisara
- Ajatshatru

OTHER IMPORTANT PLACES ASSOCIATED WITH BUDDHA

- Bodh Gaya** (Enlightenment) (named Buddha after attaining enlightenment)
- Sarnath** (first sermon)
- Vaishali** (last sermon)
- Kushinagara** (death place (487 BC))

Read more: [Buddha Purnima](https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/buddha-purnima)

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/buddha-purnima-2>