# **Buddhist Festivals**



Siddhartha, the founder of Buddhism was born in India, had his first enlightenment at the age of 35. Buddhism followers believe that the way to Nirvana is through leading a moral life and meditation on the Eight-fold path. They believe in reincarnation and karma.

01/25/20--Chinese New Year



A three-day holiday in China and Hong Kong, the Chinese New Year is an important Chinese holiday that is celebrated in many areas with Chinese populations. While the regional customs and traditions vary across regions, it is traditional for the Chinese to give out gifts and clean and decorate their homes to sweep away ill-fortunes to welcome the incoming luck.

### 02/2/20--Nirvana Day



Celebrated by some Buddhist on February 28th. Nirvana Day is the celebration of Buddha's death when he reached total Nirvana, at the age of 80.

### 02/24/20—Losar



Tibbetan Buddhist New Year (Year 2139: the Water Dragon).

04/13-15/2020 - Songkran Festival



Celebrated in Thailand, Cambodia, Myanmar, Sri Lanka as the traditional New Year's Day

05/7/20—Wesak



Celebrated as one of the most important Buddhist festivals, Wesak celebrates the Buddha's birth, enlightenment, and death.

### 07/5/20—Wassana



Recognized as Buddha's first teaching, Wassana also marks the beginning of the 3-month 'Rains Retreat' for nuns and monks.

### 07/13-15/20 - Obon



The summer *Obon* season perpetuates the Buddhist tradition of honoring family ancestors, who are said to return to the mortal world to visit.

## 07/19/20 - Dhamma Day



This day commemorates the preaching of Dhammacakkappavattana Sutta which literally translated means "When the Wheel of Dharma is set to Motion". It is believed to be the day when Lord Buddha imparted his first teaching.

#### 9/28/2020 - Confucius's Birthday



10/1/20—Pavarana



This date marks the end of the intensive practice Buddha endured.

### 10/2/20—Kathina



Donations especially robes are given to monks to express gratitude.

## 12/8/20--Bodhi Day



According to traditions, Bodhi marks the day that Siddhartha Gautama became the historical Buddha by which he experienced his first enlighten.