

Speech at the Presentation Ceremony of “Prabuddha Prathanporn Loka-satawassa-nusorn” at the 21th World Scout Jamboree, the United Kingdom of Great Britain July 29, 2007

**Honorable Guests,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentleman,**

It is my great honour and pleasure to be here in the United Kingdom of Great Britain, the originator of the scout movement, as the host of the 21th World Scout Jamboree during July 28 to August 8, 2007. More than 40,000 enthusiastic participants from around the world, including 100 scout commanders, scouts and girl scouts from the Kingdom of Thailand, have joined this special event since it represents the centenary of the World Scout Movement.

His Majesty King Bhumiphol Adulyadej of Thailand is Chief Commander of the National Scout Organization of Thailand, and scouts nationwide deeply appreciate His Majesty's kindness to the Thai Scout Movement. This year, we celebrate the King's 80th Birthday Anniversary, and to mark this auspicious occasion, the Thai Ministry of Education and the Office of the National Scout Executive Commission invited scouts and public nationwide to donate money for the making of a Buddha image which we have named “Prabuddha Prathanporn Loka-satawassa-nusorn”. The base of the Buddha image, with permission from the Office of His Majesty's Principle Private Secretary, carries the royal emblem to commemorate this very special year. It represents our invitation to the international community to join us in honouring His Majesty the King.

On the occasion of the centenary of the World Scout Movement, the Thai delegation has brought the “Prabuddha Prathanporn Loka-satawassa-nusorn” from Thailand to present to the UK Scout Association in order to replace the old Buddha image that was given by the Thai people 40 years ago.

At this auspicious moment, on behalf of the Kingdom of Thailand, all Thai scouts and the Thai people, I would like to present the grand and impressive “Prabuddha Prathanporn Loka-satawassa-nusorn” to the United Kingdom of Great Britain to be placed in Buddha Sala at Gilwell Park in order to be worshipped by the Buddhists worldwide. We sincerely hope this Buddha image will be in the good care of British citizens for years to come.

Thank you