

## Declaration of Understanding of the Hindu - Buddhist Dialogue



19 – 20 June 2010, Colombo

This is the Statement of Understanding of “the Buddhist and Hindu Dialogue in Sri Lanka” held on 19 – 20 June 2010 at the Conference Hall, Mahabodhi Society, Sri Lanka with the participation of Buddhist and Hindu leaders.

### **Introduction:**

The two-day Dialogue attended by eminent Hindu saints from India and Buddhist monks and scholars from Sri Lanka concluded successfully on 20 June. Many distinguished scholars including respectable Chancellors, Vice-Chancellors, Professors, educationists and religious leaders of Sri Lanka participated in this important Dialogue with 10 prominent Hindu saints arrived from India.

The honourable Prime Minister of Sri Lanka visited Mahabodhi Society in the morning

of 19 June and met the Hindu saints. He was accompanied by some other ministers as well.

Participants in the Dialogue were unanimous about bringing harmony and unity between Hindus and Buddhists. There was a resolve to restore the strong bonds that have existed between Hindus and Buddhists for more than 2 millennia in the present society.

The Mahabodhi Society, Sri Lanka and the Acharya Sabha, India have resolved to play a prominent role in this endeavor.

The Mahabodhi Society is maintaining a strong relationship and unity with the Hindu community in India also. Several Buddhist sacred places in India are maintained and looked after by the Society. This harmony should be enhanced further.

Agreed points of the Dialogue are as follows:



1. Necessary steps should be taken to promote mutual trust and confidence between Hindus and Buddhists and also to enhance harmony between the two religious communities. The value of unprejudiced fairplay must be upheld.
2. Required steps should be taken to renovate Buddhist and Hindu places of worship in the North and the East of Sri Lanka, which were destroyed during the period of conflict.

3. Appropriate action should be taken to put and end to conversion of Hindus and Buddhists to other religions through force, fraud and allurement.

Participants in the initiative expressed their commitment to continue this Dialogue in future also.

**Ven. Banagala Upatissa Nayaka Thero**  
*President, Mahabodhi Society, Sri Lanka*

**HH Swami Dayananda Saraswati**  
*Convener, Hindu Dharma Acharya Sabha,*  
India

**Sri Swami Dayananda Saraswati, Convener of Acharya Sabha**  
accompanied by

Sri La Sri Muthukumara Swami Thambiran Swamigal of Sri Kashi Math, Tirupanandal,  
Shaktasri Shivlingeswhwar Swamigal of Kamakshi Adheenam, Kamatchipuri,  
Sri Kumaraswamy Tambiran of Dharmapuram Adheenam,  
Sri Swami Samvidananda Saraswati of Kailash Math, Nasik,  
Sri Ooran Adigal of Vadalur,  
Swami Brahmeshananda of Tapobhoomi, Goa,  
Sri Kumara Gurupara Swamigal of Siravai Adheenam,  
Sri Shanmuga Adigalar of Kaumara Madalayam  
and  
Sri Govinda Hari, Secretary of Acharya Sabha  
attended Hindu-Buddhist dialogue.

