



## MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND

As the largest annual observance of Buddha's Birthday worldwide, Brisbane's Buddha Birth Day Festival continues to delight people of all ages and cultures.

The Southbank Parklands has proudly hosted the Buddha Birth Day Festival for 22 years, and over this time it has evolved into one of the largest cultural festivals in Australia.

Brisbane has whole-heartedly embraced the festivities, with more than 200 000 people of all cultures, ages and background expected to attend in 2018.

The festival boasts three days of wonderful experiences, with highlights including more than 30 international food stalls at the International Vegetarian Food Village, thousands of red Chinese lanterns that culminate in the Arbour Lantern tunnel, and the nightly Light Offering Ceremony.

Queensland is home to more than 66 000 Buddhists, and even more identify with the Buddhist ideals of happiness and peace. This festival shines a light on these people, educating about Buddhism and Asian culture in a warm and friendly environment.

The Queensland Government is proud to support such an inclusive celebration of positivity and harmony.

Fo Guang Shan Chung Tian Temple and the Buddha's Light International Association of Queensland jointly partner to bring this festival to fruition, uniting our State's diverse communities.

I hope you all enjoy Buddha's Birth Day Festival, celebrating the importance of understanding, mindfulness and harmony.

**ANNASTACIA PALASZCZUK MP  
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND  
MINISTER FOR TRADE**