



Ambassador H.E. Mr. Tran Quang Hoan
Embassy of Vietnam
12 Victoria Road
London W8 5RD

Excellency, I write on behalf of the UK Network of Engaged Buddhists to inform you of our grave concern at reports of the events at the Bat Nha Monastery in September. On 27 September 370 young monks and nuns who were peacefully practicing in the tradition of Ven Thich Nhat Hanh at the Monastery were set upon and forced to evict by a mob of people in the presence of police officers.

After being beaten and forced to march 15 kilometres in pouring rain, whilst two of the senior monks were taken away by the police and are now under house arrest a third monk is missing.

The Community is now at the Phuoc Hue Temple thanks to the compassion of the Abbot, but the conditions are far from satisfactory.

We are appalled at what seems to be an attempt to close this community and to stop the right of faith practice. As UK Buddhists we know that the teaching of Ven Thich Nhat Hanh are for peace and wisdom and we would ask you, in practicing compassion to transmit to your Government our serious concern and urge that this community be left to practice in peace for the benefit of Vietnam and the world.

Yours respectfully in the Dharma

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