

Applying international law to inter-religious issues:

I: Conversion of Buddhist children
through an orphanage

II: Disturbing devotees at Mahabodhi
temple through Moslem prayer calls.

1. Proselytism (conversion)

CHRISTIANS USING AN ORPHANAGE AS A MEANS TO CONVERT BUDDHIST CHILDREN

This case was found on the home page of a Christian orphanage in Thailand: **Care Corner Orphanage Foundation** 152, Moo 12, Ban Don Ton, Tambon Yuwa, Amphur Sanpatong, Chiang Mai 50120, Thailand.

Website of this organisation: <http://www.carecornerorphanage.com/>

“to raise up an army
for His Kingdom
in Thailand”



“For over eighteen years, *Care Corner Orphanage* has been a place where orphaned and underprivileged Thai children have found a loving home and a place to learn about the love of Jesus.”

(Source: <http://www.carecornerorphanage.com/>)

“The goal of the ministry is to provide spiritual development based on the Bible, basic education, primary health care and the utmost moral guidance as they grow.”

(Source: <http://www.carecornerorphanage.com/>)

“We believe the Lord has called us to raise up an army for His Kingdom in Thailand, and to be a beacon for the Lord wherever we are.”

(Source: <http://www.carecornerorphanage.com/>)

“We are committed to establish the career of these children by creating jobs and micro enterprises and to train them into “tentmakers”* and full-time servants for the ministry*.”

(Source: <http://www.carecornerorphanage.com/>)

*Missionaries with jobs

*Missionary work

ICCPR, article 18, 4.

The States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to have respect for the liberty of parents and, when applicable, legal guardians to ensure the religious and moral education of their children in conformity with their own convictions.

IS IT RELEVANT HERE?

2. Use of public space

“Ban Mosque Loudspeakers harassing devotees at Buddhagaya’s Mahabodhi Temple”

Posted on May 14th, 2014 by *Shenali D. Waduge*

<http://www.lankaweb.com/news/items/2014/05/14/ban-mosque-loudspeakers-harassing-devotees-at-buddhagayas-mahabodhi-temple/>



Picture map of the Mahabodhi Temple showing the mosque at approximately 60 meter's length from the main shrine can be found here:

- <http://wikimapia.org/#lang=en&lat=24.695685&lon=84.991495&z=18&m=b>

“The continuous daily disturbance of the solemn proceedings at the **Mahabodhi Temple at Buddhagaya** and the harassment of the Buddhist devotees gathered there through the screeching sound of **the call to prayer (Azan) by loudspeakers at a newly established Mosque close to the Mahabodhi Temple**, the holiest Buddhist shrine in the world, is the most striking example of the abuse of religious freedom.”

Source: <http://www.lankaweb.com/news/items/2014/05/14/ban-mosque-loudspeakers-harassing-devotees-at-buddhagayas-mahabodhi-temple/>

“Meditation, recitation of Buddhist ‘gathas’ and religious conduct like silent contemplation at Buddhagaya are disturbed by the amplified noise emanating from the mosque. This is highly uncalled for especially when it is morally incorrect and unethical **to disturb the place of worship of another religion.**”

Source: <http://www.lankaweb.com/news/items/2014/05/14/ban-mosque-loudspeakers-harassing-devotees-at-buddhagayas-mahabodhi-temple/>

ICCPR, article 18, 3:

Freedom to **manifest** one's religion or beliefs may be subject only to such limitations as are **prescribed by law** and are necessary to protect ... the fundamental rights and freedoms of others.

IS IT RELEVANT HERE?