



Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar
to the United Nations Office and other International
Organizations in Geneva
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9 July 2013

Dear Sirs,


I would like to refer to your letter of 2 April 2013, with regard to the detention of Mr. Ha Ri Shin Nyana.

I have received the following information from the authorities about the aforementioned matter:

- Shin Nyana was sentenced to 4 years' imprisonment under Section 295/295(a) of the Penal Code on 11 March 2010 and 5 years' imprisonment under Section 6 of the Law Relating to Forming of Organizations on 15 July 2010.
- Shin Nyana practised "Moe Pyar" doctrine. The Sangha Maha Nayaka summoned him seeking an explanation on his creed as it received numerous complaints against him. However, Shin Nyana did not appear.
- The Sangha Maha Nayaka, therefore, analysed the "Moe Pyar" doctrine in the absence of Shin Nya Na and members of "Moe Pyar".
- The Sangha Maha Nayaka found out that "Moe Pyar" doctrine regards the teachings of Theravada Buddhism as an evil doctrine and follows extreme practices contrary to the noble principles of Theravada Buddhism.
- Members of "Moe Pyar" gang made insulting criticisms and speeches and disseminated books, CDs and tapes to ridicule the teachings and practices of Theravada Buddhism. These activities ignited anger among the Buddhist devotees in Mandalay with the potential danger of confrontations and conflicts.
- The Sangha Maha Nayaka sent a request to the Ministry of Religious Affairs to prevent the spreading of the "Moe Pyar" teachings.
- The Ministry of Religious Affairs studied the case thoroughly and issued an announcement to prohibit the dissemination of "Moe Pyar" radical teachings and to disband the organizations that were disseminating "Moe Pyar" doctrine, in accordance with Section 13 Law Relating to Decisions Made in Cases of Disputes Over Religious Discipline, Section 6 of 1962 Printers and Publishers Registration Law, Section 188 of the Penal Code and Sections 13 and 14 of the Order Relating to the Authorization of Music Recording Business.

- On behalf of Shin Nyana, a complaint was lodged to the State Sangha Maha Nayaka by the members of "Moe Pyar" on 14 September 2012.
- In accordance with Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Section 34 of the State Constitution of the Republic of the Union Myanmar, every citizen has the right to freedom of conscience. Section 34 says: "Every citizen is equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess and practise religion subject to public order, morality or health and to the other provisions of this Constitution."
- Activities with the intention of wounding the religious feelings and insulting the religion of any person can disturb the stability of the general public.

Please accept, Sirs, the assurances of my highest consideration.


 9/7/2013
 (Maung Wai)

Ambassador and Permanent Representative

Mr. Tomas Ojea Quintana
 Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar

Mr. Heiner Bielefeldt
 Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief

OHCHR REGISTRY

11 JUL. 2013

Recipients :A.S.I.A.....
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