

July 5, 2006

The National Human Rights Commission of Thailand
422 AMLO Building Phya Thai Rd.
Pathum wan District
Bangkok 10330, Thailand

Dear Commissioner,

The Human Rights Program at the University of Minnesota has been working with the Hmong community to address the issue of grave desecration at Wat Tham Krabok, Saraburi, Thailand. We believe that the exhumations in October and December 2005 in Wat Tham Krabok violated the international human rights of family members, including the right to be free from discrimination, the right to manifest one's religion or belief, the right to culture and the right to family.

The Human Rights Program has been working to: (1) prevent further digging of graves at Wat Tham Krabok; (2) locate the whereabouts of the remains that have been exhumed; and (3) return the remains to family members.

I am enclosing with this letter a questionnaire developed by our program seeking more information about the desecrations. We believe this information is vital to our ability to resolve this matter. I urge The Commission to investigate the issues in this questionnaire and respond to the Human Rights Program.

I am enclosing for your information the communication sent by our program to the U.N. Special Rapporteurs on Racism and Religious Intolerance, asking for urgent action in order to prevent any further desecration of graves, to locate and return the remains of the Hmong ancestors buried at Wat Tham Krabok to their relatives who have been grievously affected by these actions.

Thank you again for your willingness to address this difficult situation. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Frey
Director