

# LEADERSHIP COUNCIL FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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July 9, 2008

Venerable Thich Quang Do  
Deputy Leader  
Unified Buddhist Church of Vietnam  
Thanh Minh Zen Center  
90 Tran Huy Lieu Street  
District Phu Nhuan  
HCM City, Vietnam

Dear Venerable Thich Quang Do:

On behalf of the Leadership Council for Human Rights, I write to extend our heartfelt condolences to you and to all members of the Unified Buddhist Church of Vietnam (UBCV) in light of the recent passing of the Most Venerable Thich Huyen Quang, 4<sup>th</sup> Supreme Patriarch of the Church.

Most Venerable Thich Huyen Quang was a lifelong champion of religious freedom and human rights in Vietnam. We express our solidarity with the UBCV in its peaceful struggle to worship freely, a cause to which Most Venerable Thich Huyen Quang dedicated his life.

The Leadership Council joins the international human rights community in calling on the Vietnamese government to end its restrictions on religious freedom, including unjust restrictions placed on the UBCV and its leadership.

We hope that Ambassador Michalak will personally attend Most Venerable Thich Huyen Quang's funeral, and that the memorial services will be organized according to the Church's wishes, without government interference. As we mourn the death of this great man, we honor his life and his powerful legacy.

With deepest sympathy,



Kathryn Cameron Porter

Cc: His Excellency Le Cong Phung, Ambassador  
The Honorable Michael Michalak, Ambassador