



DHAMMAKAYA FOUNDATION

PRESS RELEASE

Condemnation of Abusive Behavior toward Senior Monk and Buddhist Place of Worship

On 28 May 2016, an entertainment party called “*Trasher Bangkok*” was organized at ZEN Event Gallery, 8th floor, Central World Building, Bangkok. In the party, a stage show aimed at ridiculing and defaming Phrathepyanmahamuni (Most Venerable Dhammajayo) and Wat Phra Dhammakaya was given to the public. Manipulated and falsified images of Phrathepyanmahamuni were demonstrated on stage and false information was presented to the audience. Images of Maha Dhammakaya Cetiya, a revered Buddhist shrine created out of the faith of people from around the world, where statuettes of a million Buddhas are enshrined, were used in the show and were presented in false and inflammatory manner. These images were used without permission from Wat Phra Dhammakaya. In the show, actors were dressed as Buddhist monks, an act of which is prohibited by law.

We are deeply disturbed and sadden by this act of disrespect toward a high-ranking Buddhist monk and a revered Buddhist place of worship. This was done despite the fact that Thailand is a Buddhist country and the world’s center for Buddhism.

As Buddhists, we condemn this act of disrespect. Our legal team is now gathering evidence to build cases against any and all individuals who are a part of this contemptuous act. No one will be exempt from our legal action—from the main perpetrators to their supporters and promoters, to anyone who spreads this falsified information or material to the public. Further, we will seek the

help of Office of National Buddhism to put a stop to this kind of contemptuous behavior by anyone so that the integrity of our religion is protected.

Please be guided accordingly.

Supporters and Followers of Wat Phra Dhammakaya

29th May 2016

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