

CAO DAI CHURCH  
88<sup>th</sup> Year  
Tay Ninh Temple

REPORT

This report was prepared on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of the 8<sup>th</sup> month of the Year of the Snake (9/12/2013) at the home of Mrs. Ta Thi Thu Nga, age 47, in Long Xuan Religious Unit, 16<sup>th</sup> Religious Area, Holy City (Ninh An Hamlet, Bau Nang Village, Duong Minh Chau District, Tay Ninh Province).

Mrs. Nga invited traditional believers and a number of members of the legislative, executive and judicial committees of the Cao Dai Church to worship the Almighty God. Mrs. Nga had submitted a request to the Patriotic Front and People's Committee of Bau Nang Village. The latter replied that "...if you do not request the local, government-sanctioned ritual unit to conduct this service, you will commit the crime of sowing division among religious adherents. We order you to refrain from having this service conducted. Otherwise the People's Committee will expose you to the community as the law prescribes. You would be a bad person who sets bad examples for your children and their offspring, if you carried on. Should you engage in this Cao Dai celebration on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of the 8<sup>th</sup> month of the Lunar Year, the law shall deal with you in full force.

Being an ardent believer in the Almighty, Mrs. Nga proceeded with the orderly and solemn service at noon on 9/12/2013. Some of the believers arrived early and managed to enter her house. Many others could not because several undercover agents working as assistants to the government-sanctioned religious oversight committee stopped them. Public security agents were present, but did not intervene.

After the service, the believers who managed to attend tried to leave. The religious committee and many supporting characters harassed and stopped them. Mrs. Nga's relatives and a number of other believers requested help from the religious affairs department, the interior ministry office in Tay Ninh, the public security offices of Tay Ninh Province, Duong Minh Chau District, and Bau Nang Hamlet. The undercover government agents assaulted a number of believers as they set for home, including Assistant Deacon Phung Van Phan, Parish Leader Hua Phi, and Mrs. Ta Thi Thu Nga's family members.

Among the believers who could not come inside to attend the service, a number of individuals were victimized by the religious oversight committee and undercover agents who confiscated their cell phones and video recorders. The victims included Quyen, Tien, Nguyen Thi Mong Nguyen (she lost 2 I-phones and 17,950,000 Vietnamese \$). Public security agents watched the crimes being committed but did not intervene, even when the aggressors threw stones at Mrs. Nga's house and damaged the front door as the occupants tried to barricade themselves inside for their own safety.

We, adherents of the original Cao Dai Church, had to document the fact that the Tay Ninh government colluded with the government-sanctioned Cao Dai Church in attempting to erase our original Cao Dai Church. It is now 6:15 pm and the attackers still surround Mrs. Nga's house in which we are taking refuge. Therefore we prepared and signed this report to demonstrate the following:

- The government has denied religious freedom to the original Cao Dai Church
- Public security and the local government disregard the law and oppress citizens

At 6:30 pm the government lifted its siege.

Signed by:

- Phung Van Phan (Si Tai or Archivist rank) & Tran Tan Gap (Si Tai rank) of Tri Hue Area
- Ngoc Nghe Thanh (Le Sanh or student priest), Nguyen Phu Hiep (Giao Thien rank) of Town of Tay Ninh
- Hua Phi (Chanh Tri Su or Village Lead rank) of Lam Dong
- Nguyen Kim Lam (Chanh Tri Su rank) & Nguyen Bach Phung (Chanh Tri Su rank) of Vinh Long
- Tran Thi Ngon (Thong Su or Village Legislator rank) of Cay Xieng
- Tran Buu Ngoc (Thong Su rank) of Bau Nang Village
- Nguyen Quoc Buu of Bau Nang Village
- Nguyen Thi Soi of Cay Xieng
- Pham Kim Thu of Hao Duc
- Nguyen Thi Du (Pho Tri Su or Deputy Village Lead rank)
- Dang Thi Ri & Tran Thi De of Cay Xieng
- Tran Ngoc Diep (Thong Su rank) of Binh Hoa
- Huynh Thi Luong of Cay Xieng
- Ta Thi Thu Nga of Bau Nang Village
- Truong Huu Duc of Hamlet 2, Tra Vong, Tan Bien
- Nguyen Tru Bi (Pho Tri Su or Deputy Village Lead rank) of Hamlet 2, Tra Vong
- Nguyen Van Khoi & Nguyen Hoang Phi of Hamlet 2, Tra Vong, Tan Bien
- Le Van Duc (Thong Su rank) of Cau Truong Hamlet
- Nguyen Thi Hong of Cay Xieng
- Duong Van Bia, Le Thanh Cuong & Nguyen Kim Dung of Hamlet 4, Tra Vong
- Nguyen Thi Trang of Suoi Ong Dinh Hamlet
- Dang van Chon & Nguyen Thi Thu Van of Hamlet 3, Tra Vong
- Dang Thi Khue of An Hoa
- Nguyen Tuyet Phuong of Truong Luu
- Vo Thi Nguyen of Long Hai, Hiep Tan, Tay Ninh
- Thai Hai Thanh (Le Sanh) of Hiep Tan, Tay Ninh
- Ha Thong Dam (Chanh Tri Su rank) of Lang Chu, Tay Ninh
- Nguyen Kim Hanh of Hoa Thanh
- Vo Van Liem (Pho Tri Su rank) of Truong Luu, Tay Ninh
- Dang Van Dao (Thong Su rank) of Binh Duong