

A BIBLIOGRAPHY ON BUDDHISM AND HUMAN RIGHTS

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BUDDHISM AND HUMAN RIGHTS

The subject of Buddhism and human rights can be approached in a variety of ways and through a number of academic disciplines. Issues of a philosophical, historical, legal, political, cultural, sociological, ethnographic, economic and even ecological nature can all be raised under this rubric. There is an expanding literature on women and human rights, and many case-studies of the treatment of minorities and indigenous populations in Buddhist countries. It will be noted that the majority of the available literature deals with contemporary aspects of the subject, and there is a noticeable absence of historical and philosophical studies on the connection between human rights and Buddhist doctrine and practice.

Many of the items listed below are taken from the excellent bibliography of Claude E. Welch Jr. and Virginia A. Leary *Asian Perspectives on Human Rights* (Westview Press, 1990), Part Four. This bibliography contains English language material published between 1976 and 1990, and readers are referred to this source for further particulars. Curiously, it contains next to nothing on Tibet, and I would welcome information about publications on this topic (or indeed on any of the sections below) for inclusion in updates to the present bibliography.

ONLINE RESOURCES ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Project Diana is an online resource containing bibliographies on the Rights of Women and Indigenous Peoples at the University of Cincinnati College of Law (<http://www.law.uc.edu/Diana/bib/womensrights.html> and <http://www.law.uc.edu/Diana/bib/ipr.html>). Two other online bibliographies may be of interest, both of which are available from Coombs Computing Unit, Australian National University, which maintains the Clearinghouse for Social Sciences & Asian/Pacific Studies Subject Oriented Bibliographies (<http://coombs.anu.edu.au/CombswebPages/BiblioClear.html>). The bibliographies are No.39 feminism and world politics [S.Peterson & L.Gonick. 1993. 42Kb. E-Archive: Carnegie Mellon U,USA] and No 97 women-and-buddhism-bibl.txt [W.Bodiford. 1995. 18Kb. E-Archive: ANU,Australia].

The Human Rights Brief is a publication of the Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law in conjunction with the Washington College of Law at The American University.
<http://sray.wcl.american.edu:80/pub/journals/hmnrghs.htm>

ARRANGEMENT OF THIS BIBLIOGRAPHY

Due to the nature of the subject-matter a bibliography on human rights could be arranged in almost infinite ways, and in what follows the same item will often be found under more than one heading. The headings below have been chosen because they seem relevant to the needs of students approaching the subject of human rights from a Buddhist perspective. They are:

Human Rights and the West
Human Rights and Other Cultures
Human Rights and Religion
Human Rights and Buddhist Teachings
Women and Human Rights
Burma
Nepal
Sri Lanka
Thailand
Vietnam

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WOMEN AND HUMAN RIGHTS

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