

Lexington Minuteman: Lexington students support imprisoned Buddhist

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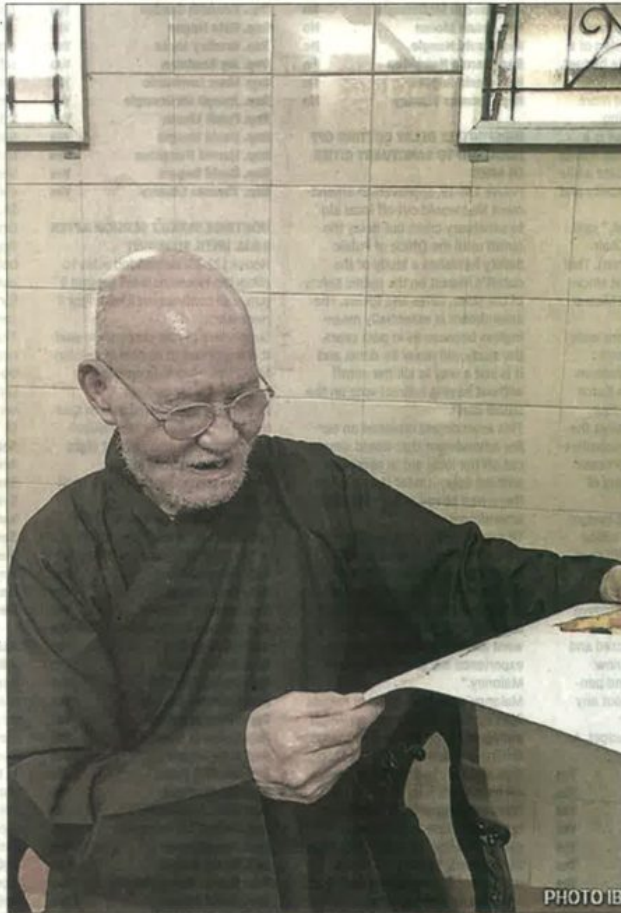
Lexington students support imprisoned Buddhist

Lexington High School students, including Senior High Youth Group members Jordan O'Hare-Gibson and Jane McKenney of First Parish Lexington, sent letters of support for Thich Quang Do, patriarch of the Unified Buddhist Church of Vietnam, asking for his release from house arrest.

The letters, sponsored by the Lexington chapter of Amnesty International, reached him in late January. The letters praised Thich Quang Do for his efforts to restore religious freedom and human rights in Vietnam, and asked for his release from house arrest. Other Lexington High School students who wrote letters included Lucie Nolden, Grace Abe, Emily Chen and Aradhna Johnson.

Thich Quang Do recently received the letters at the Thanh Minh Zen Monastery in Ho Chi Minh City, where he is under house arrest. Enclosed was a packet of cards, letters and drawings from Lexington High School students and Senior Youth Group members of the First Parish Church in Lexington, expressing support for Thich's efforts for religious freedom and human rights in Vietnam. Since Thich Quang Do's communications are monitored and censored by the Communist authorities, the letters were sent through the Vietnam Committee on Human Rights (an organization based in Paris that acts as a watchdog for human rights issues in Vietnam) and the International Buddhist Information Bureau to ensure that they reached Thich Quang Do. These letters were also the result of the efforts of Al Jacobson, of Lexington, on behalf of Amnesty International. Jacobson encouraged the Lexington youth to write to the Buddhist patriarch.

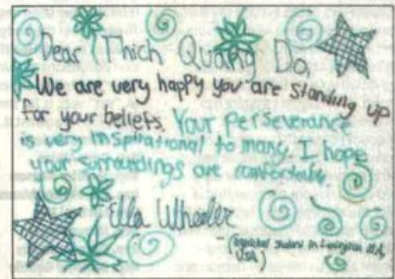
Thich Quang Do asked Committee President Võ Văn Ái to thank the students of Lexington High School, members of Amnesty International and church groups for their gesture.



Lexington High School students sent letters of support for Thich Quang Do, patriarch of the Unified Buddhist Church of Vietnam, asking for his release from house arrest. [COURTESY PHOTO]



Thich Quang Do, patriarch of the Unified Buddhist Church of Vietnam, receives letters of praise. [COURTESY PHOTO]



Lexington High School students sent letters praising Thich Quang Do. [COURTESY PHOTO]

Quê Me

Quê Me: Action for democracy in Vietnam & Vietnam Committee on Human Rights
<https://queme.org/en>
