

MILITARIZING BUDDHISM: THE COST OF A STATE RELIGION

Michael Jerryson
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Thursday, October 25, 2007
12:30 PM

Orfalea Center Seminar Room
1007 Robertson Gym



Since January 2004, random attacks on Buddhist monks and locals have provoked a growing distrust and fear throughout Buddhist and Muslim communities of southern Thailand. During the last several years, Michael Jerryson has conducted fieldwork in this region, participating in international workshops and conferences on solutions to the escalating violence. Looking at the influence religion brings to a violent climate, he examines how Buddhist monks affect the violence, and conversely, how the violence affects the Buddhist monks.

Michael K. Jerryson is a PhD. Candidate in the Department of Religious Studies at UC Santa Barbara. His earlier work was on Mongolian Buddhism and his study *"Mongolian Buddhism: The Rise and Fall of the Sangha"* was recently published with Silkworm Books, 2007. Currently, he is researching the relationship between Southern Thai Monks and violence and is in the process of co-editing a volume with Mark Juergensmeyer titled **Buddhist Warfare**.



*Directions: The Orfalea Center location is the detached ground-level wing of offices on the left just outside the Ocean Road entrance to Rob Gym.