

NOW AVAILABLE

TAKING REFUGE

Lao Buddhists in North America

by Penny Van Esterik

ISBN #1-81044-04-01 • Price \$12.95 (plus shipping + GST)

This book discusses the exodus of Lao refugees to North America following the collapse of Saigon and Phnom Penh in 1975.

Van Esterik focuses on the least known group of Indo-Chinese refugees, the lowland Lao or *Lao Lum*, who comprised about half the population of Laos. While the Western media focused attention on the plight of the Vietnamese refugees, there has been very little scholarly interest in Lao emigration to the West.

This study examines Lao refugee resettlement and their attempts to recreate their Buddhist institutions in North

America. Utilizing data from Lao refugees in Toronto, Van Esterik provides the reader with a thorough examination of refugee adaptation through the perspective of religion. It is this integration of the role that Buddhism played in the refugee experience that distinguishes Van Esterik's study from standard political and legal examinations of refugee resettlement.

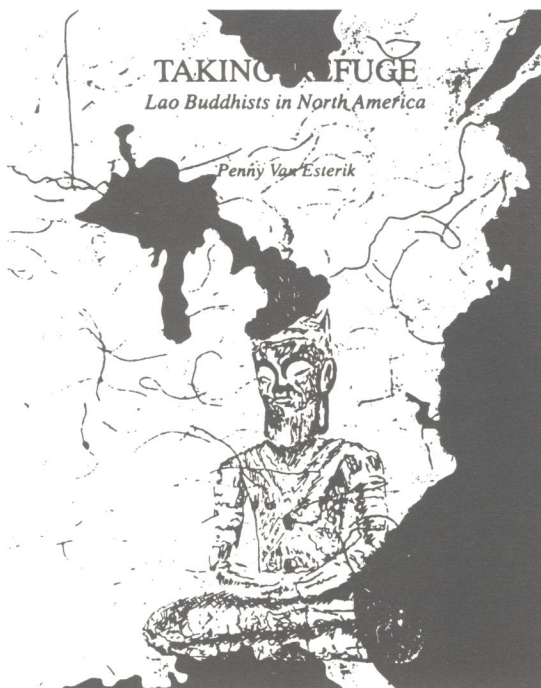
Taking Refuge: Lao Buddhists in North America is a copublication of the Southeast Asian Studies Program, Arizona State University and the Centre for Refugee

Studies, York University.

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Summer Course on Refugee Issues

York University
July 4 – 16, 1993

The Centre for Refugee Studies will inaugurate a summer course in July 1993 to provide fresh insights to people from several social sectors who are already familiar with some aspect of refugee issues. Enrolment will be limited to about fifty participants.

The course offers an overview of a range of refugee issues, an in-depth examination of current issues led by leading figures, and an opportunity to explore current developments.

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- Social Demography of Refugee Movements
- History of Nation States and Refugees
- Role of the UNHCR and International Organizations
- Law and Refugee Status

Week 2: Module 2/ Module 3 Special Units

- Refugee Protection and International Law *or*
- Settlement, Assistance and Solutions

Participants are encouraged to take the full two-week program, which will be taught at the graduate level.

Completed applications must reach CRS before April 30, 1993. Payment of the course fee of \$800 must be made before June 15, 1993. Accommodation and meals are additional. CRS hopes to provide some grants of up to \$500 towards course fees for eligible groups or individuals.

For further information, please contact:

Dr. Tom Clark, Summer Course
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CONFERENCE

GENDER ISSUES AND REFUGEES: Development Implications

Sponsored by the Centre for Refugee Studies and
the Centre for Feminist Research, York University

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MAY 9 – 11, 1993

The majority of the world's 17 million refugees are women and children. The working definition of the conference is that refugee experience is gendered. How women refugees are defined by the state is critical to their experience as refugees. Past work on refugees has usually failed to examine this process, and instead has focused attention on problems of refugee women. Refugee policy, research and programs have generally focused on two contradictory images of women refugees. The first view perceives women as vulnerable, at risk, and in need of protection. The second view regards women as critically important resources and decision-makers for development.

To redress these imbalances, the Centre for Refugee Studies and the Feminist Research Centre at York University will bring together a wide range of researchers, policy-makers and practitioners with interest and experience in gender issues and refugees.

The design of conference plenaries and each workshop will create a forum for dialogue between researchers, lawyers, policy-makers and practitioners.

For registration and further details, please contact:

Farhana Mather, Conference Coordinator

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