

ANCIENT RELIGIOUS PLACES AT DISPUTE INTERNATIONAL BORDER AREAS: CASES FOR PEACEFUL MANAGEMENT

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ABSTRACT

There are several world heritage sites around the world. Many famous religious places are accepted for registration as world heritage sites. Some of those religious places are ancient places with great value. Of interest, some specific places locate at the dispute international border areas. For management of those cases, the international deal is very important and peaceful management is the important thing. In this article, the authors introduce and discuss on two important cases, Preahvihear or Praviharn temple and David Garejamonastery.

KEYWORDS: World Heritage, Ancient, Religious, Dispute, International, Border.

INTRODUCTION

There are several world heritage sites around the world. Many famous religious places are accepted for registration as world heritage sites. Some of those religious places are ancient places with great value. Of interest, some specific places locate at the dispute international border areas. For management of those cases, the international deal is very important and peaceful management is the important thing. In this article, the authors introduce and discuss on two important cases, Preahvihear or Praviharn temple and David Gareja monastery.

SPECIFIC CASES

PRAHVIHEAR OR PRAVIHARN TEMPLE

This is an ancient hindusism temple located at the dispute international border between Thailand

and Cambodia, namely Dongrekmountain. The place is the complex of a very big old khmer temple but it is not functional as present religious site. The dispute international border area occurred for several decades and there were some wars and conflicts in this area in the past. At present, most parts of the temple are accessible from Cambodia and some parts are accessible from Thailand.

DAVID GAREJAMONASTERY

This is an ancient orthodox monastery located at the dispute international border between Georgia and Azerbaijan. This place is still functional in Georgian part. Most of the complex is in Georgia while some parts locate in Azerbaijan.

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(A).Preahvihear or Praviharn temple



(B).David Gareja monastery

Figure 1. Some ancient religious places at dispute international border areas

DISCUSSION

The international conflict at the border area is not uncommon problem and usually needs peaceful management. Sometimes, the specific conflict areas have valuable heritage site. The present article presents two very famous ancient religious places at dispute international border areas. These two places are well-known globally. Nevertheless, there are also many small sites that are little known.

In fact, the dispute area usually locates at the remote part of each country. The common transportation problem is usually seen. The poor health condition of the local people is also common. For example, the malaria and helminthiasis is highly endemic at area around Preahvihear [1 - 2]. To have a peaceful agreement usually needs the third party help and collaboration between the two conflict nations. The important concept for dealing of the problem

should be the unity in co-management of the conflict site.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: None

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