

**World Religions**  
**Buddhism in the World Today**  
**A Seminar**

*How does Buddhism influence world events today? We will look at three examples of recent events and examine how Buddhist philosophy can have an impact. Read the articles about China and Tibet, Sri Lanka and the Tamil Tigers, and Aung San Suu Kyi in Myanmar and be prepared to discuss the following:*

China: Tibetan Monks Detained After Riot: Other Developments

1. How do religious activities designed to effect political power reflect Buddhist philosophy? Use specific examples from the article.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Based on the events described, does religion have a useful place in politics, or does it cause conflict?

Sri Lanka Declares Victory Over Tamil Tiger Rebels

1. Is this conflict religious or political? Explain.

Aung San Suu Kyi: The Lady of Burma

1. Discuss the influence of Buddhism and Hinduism on Aung San Suu Kyi's actions.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How do you think the concept of emptiness might be helpful to Aung San Suu Kyi?