

ALAN CLEMENTS is an author, performing artist, media activist, and founder of the World Dharma vision. As the first American to ordain as a Buddhist monk in Burma, he lived for nearly five years in a Rangoon monastery training in Buddhist psychology and mindfulness meditation under the guidance of two of the most respected meditation teachers of the modern era, the late Mahasi Sayadaw and his successor Sayadaw U Pandita.

In 1984 he was forced to leave the country by the dictatorship, with no reason given. He has returned numerous times to witness and document the human rights violations in that country. Subsequently, he has been “blacklisted” from reentering the country by the regime.

He is the author of a number of books and films, including, “*Burma: The Next Killing Fields?*” (1990, with a foreword by the Dalai Lama; (co-author) “*Burma’s Revolution of the Spirit*,” (Aperture 1995, with essays by eight Nobel Peace Laureates); “*Natural Freedom — The Dharma Beyond Buddhism*” (Sounds True 2000), “*Instinct for Freedom*” (nominated as the best spiritual teaching/memoir in 2003), “*Spiritually Incorrect - In Defense of Being Human*,” “*Swimming Through Stone*,” and “*The Voice of Hope — Conversations with Aung San Suu Kyi*,” which moved Alice Walker to write, “Every leader in the world should read this book at least once.” And former US President Jimmy Carter stated: “*The Voice of Hope* is a message the world should hear.” His most recent book “*A Future to Believe In — 108 Reflections On The Art and Activism of Freedom*” (World Dharma Publications 2012) has received distinguished praise from such noteworthy people as, Dr. Helen Caldicott, Joanna Macy, Dr. Vandana Shiva, Bill McKibben, Paul Hawkin, and many others.

He is the co-founder and director of the Burma Project USA, World Dharma Publications, and the World Dharma Online Institute (WDOI).

Clements is also a political/spiritual satirist, and performs his acclaimed one-man show “*Spiritually Incorrect: In Defense of Being Human*,” to audiences around the world.

He has been interviewed for NBC’s Nightline, Global National, ABC Australia, CBC Canada, CBS Evening News, Talk to America, the New York Times, the Guardian, Newsweek and Time magazines, Conscious Living, Yoga Journal and numerous other media.

In addition, he has presented to such organizations as Mikhail Gorbachev’s State of The World Forum, The Soros Foundation, The United Nations Association of San Francisco, and delivered a keynote address at the John Ford Theater for Amnesty International’s 30th year anniversary. Alan’s web site is: www.AlanClements.com.