

## (2) Dehumanization

4 Levels of Hate

## DEHUMANIZATION

The second level of hate is dehumanization. It is using words that aim to dehumanize another person, which involves downgrading and labeling an 'out-group' to something that does not represent a human being. These words may have a negative meaning or aim to downgrade an individual or group to a lower status. For example, referring to another person as an animal, pest, or disease or germ. The danger in depicting certain groups as being less than human, is that it may allow an in-group to not feel guilty or justify the use of violence against an out-group.

## EXAMPLE OF DEHUMANIZATION IN SOUTHERN THAILAND CONFLICT

### 1. TOK CHA PALA LI JING

**General definition:** In Pattani Malay, this word means a bald head monk. It combined two words Tok-Ja means a monk and Pa-La-Li-Jing means bald head.

**Why it's offensive and inflammatory:** This word has been used to condemn or insult Buddhist monks and Buddhism since the conflict in Southern Thailand began. Monks, Buddhist temples, and Thai Buddhists have become targets in the conflict. As a result, Buddhists in the area have become untrustworthy of Islam and Muslims, which has led to some social gaps between the religions.

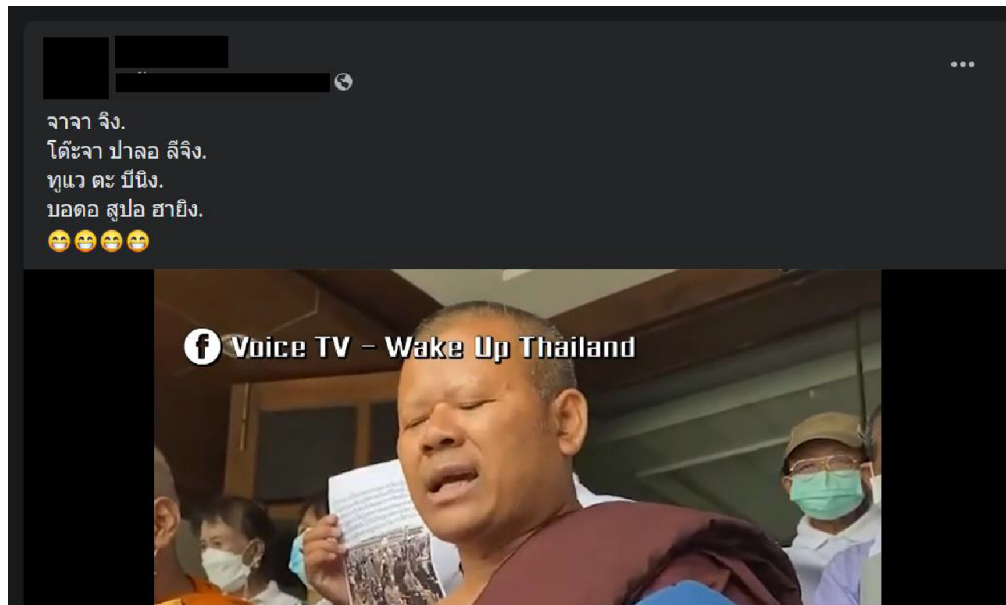
The word has also been reproduced as a poem that mocks and insults Buddhist Monks:

Ja Ja Jing (Earthworm)

Tok Cha Pala Lijing (Bald head monk)

Tuwae Tak Bining (He can't have a wife)

Bodo Supa Anjing (stupid like a dog)

**Sample post:**

A Facebook user posted Tok-Cha-Pala-li-jing poem on shared post news about a Buddhist protection movement group submitting a letter to the Governor of Bangkok on September 5th, 2022, to show their dissatisfaction with him wearing a thawb (Arab male clothing) when he attended an exhibition "Efforts of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Serving Muslim Brothers" hosted by the Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Bangkok.

**Alternative word(s) that could be used:** A monk (Phra-Song or Phra), Tok-Cha, or refer to facts without using hate speech when talking about Monks and Buddhism.

## 2. Latthi Thalay Trai

**General definition:** This word has been used negatively against Muslims. Mostly used by people who hate Muslims or have a fear of Islam - Islamophobia.

**Why it's offensive and inflammatory:** Latthi Thalay Trai or Puak Latthi Thalay Trai (a group of Muslims) is used negatively towards Muslims. This refers to Islam originating from the Arabian Peninsula or the present-day Middle East, within the desert. Thus, Islam is a religion that comes from the land of the desert, and Muslims are people who follow their beliefs in the desert land. A number of Thais

use the term as an expression of prejudice. This term often refers to stereotypes that Muslims are outdated because they believe in a religion from the desert. Such a case might be similar to how some Thai people use Kon Ban Nok to refer to peasant or village people in a negative way. Another sample is calling people who live in forest areas Kon Par (forest people in a negative way) which means they are far away from civilization and the modern world.

### Sample post:



There was a post tagging 12 Facebook users with a picture of an Islamic orator and captioned, *"This doctrine is deceitful. It was just trying to imitate (other). @the mentioned orator is a leader of Latthi Thalay Trai. He claimed the Buddha is an Islamic prophet"*.

**Alternative word(s) that could be used:** Muslim, Islam