

Dinh Quan Cao Dai Temple

Founded in 1970, this temple served 500 Cao Dai followers in Dinh Quan District, Dong Nai Province. On November 19, 2008, the 1997 Sect sent its representatives to take over the temple; they were met with strong resistance by the Cao Dai followers. The temple's Administrative Office explained to the intruders that the temple belonged to the Cao Dai Religion, not the 1997 Sect.

On Sunday December 27, 2009, members of the 1997 Sect returned, this time escorted by government officials. They attacked the Cao Dai followers at the temple but failed to take over the temple. The following day they came back, escorted by thugs, public security agents, military personnel, and local government officials. They punched, kicked, and beat all Cao Dai followers who happened to be present at the temple. They also damaged parts of the temple. Overwhelmed by this brutality, the Cao Dai followers had to flee from their temple. Members of the 1997 Sect moved in and occupied it. In 2017, they demolished the Dinh Quan Cao Dai Temple.



Cao Dai Temple in Dinh Quan, Dong Nai Province, seized and demolished by the 1997 Sect (photo taken on November 21, 2017)

On January 13, 2018, Mr. Nguyễn Thành Tâm, Head of the 1997 Sect, attended the groundbreaking ceremony for a new temple of the 1997 Sect to be built on the grounds of the old Cao Dai temple.



Mr. Nguyễn Thành Tâm, Head of the 1997 Sect, at the groundbreaking ceremony, January 13, 2018



Mr. Nguyễn Thành Tám, Head of the 1997 Sect, at the groundbreaking ceremony, January 13, 2018