



Burmese American Democratic Alliance

Advocating freedom for the People of Burma

Statement of Support for Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's Recent Actions

Date: August 26, 2008

We absolutely support Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in making a great stand even under detention; she has refused to meet with the UN special envoy Ibrahim Gambari, as currently being reported. Her vision, judgment, courage and leadership in highlighting the failed efforts of the United Nations (UN) and the State Peace & Development Council's (SPDC) one-sided position could not come sooner. We fully stand by her decision.

We share the concern expressed by the spokesperson of her party, National League for Democracy (NLD) over Mr. Gambari's "yet another failed visit to Burma". UN's 20 years long efforts to bring peace, freedom and genuine democracy to the people of Burma has been unsuccessful. The UN has allowed the military to strengthen and tighten the power grip, while brutally crushing the dissidents and the people of Burma, including the Buddhist monks.

The people of Burma have already paid a huge price for the UN's inability to deter oppression and dictatorship, and solve Burma's problems politically. As a result, the country and the people have sunk much deeper into misery, poverty and chaos brought about by the tyranny of the brutal regime. Precious time should no more be wasted by using echelon diplomacy nor the military dictators be allowed to continue one-sided policies and forceful establishment of their rule. Time is running out for the UN to produce meaningful results and save Burma and her people.

The one and only true will of the people of Burma is to realize the results of the 1990 elections in which NLD, led by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi won a landslide victory. The regime continues to resist the will of the people and of the international community by denying the rightful leadership to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and her NLD party. It is a long overdue responsibility of the United Nations to bring about effective political dialogue between all stake holding parties and the military.

We completely reject the regime's planned sham election in 2010 to erase the 1990 election results and to formalize military rule in Burma. It is a part of the process of so called road map to democracy that is not only illegal, but also staged with despicable acts such as holding the referendum while half of Burma's population was devastated by the May 2008 Cyclone Nargis. The people of Burma will once again be forced at gunpoint to participate in the fake voting process of the planned 2010 elections.

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi has refused to accept food since August 15, 2008. We want to express strong concern over her health situation and continued detention. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was violently attacked, captured and put under house arrest since May 30, 2003. Her continued detention is unlawful and we fear for the safety of her life.

The regime must release Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and all political prisoners including Buddhist monks and student leaders as a first step towards peacefully resolving Burma's issues.

We call upon the United Nations Security Council and the international community to do their utmost to:

1. Request UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon himself to go to Burma and help start a meaningful and effective political dialogue.
2. To secure the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and all political prisoners immediately.

Executive Committee

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