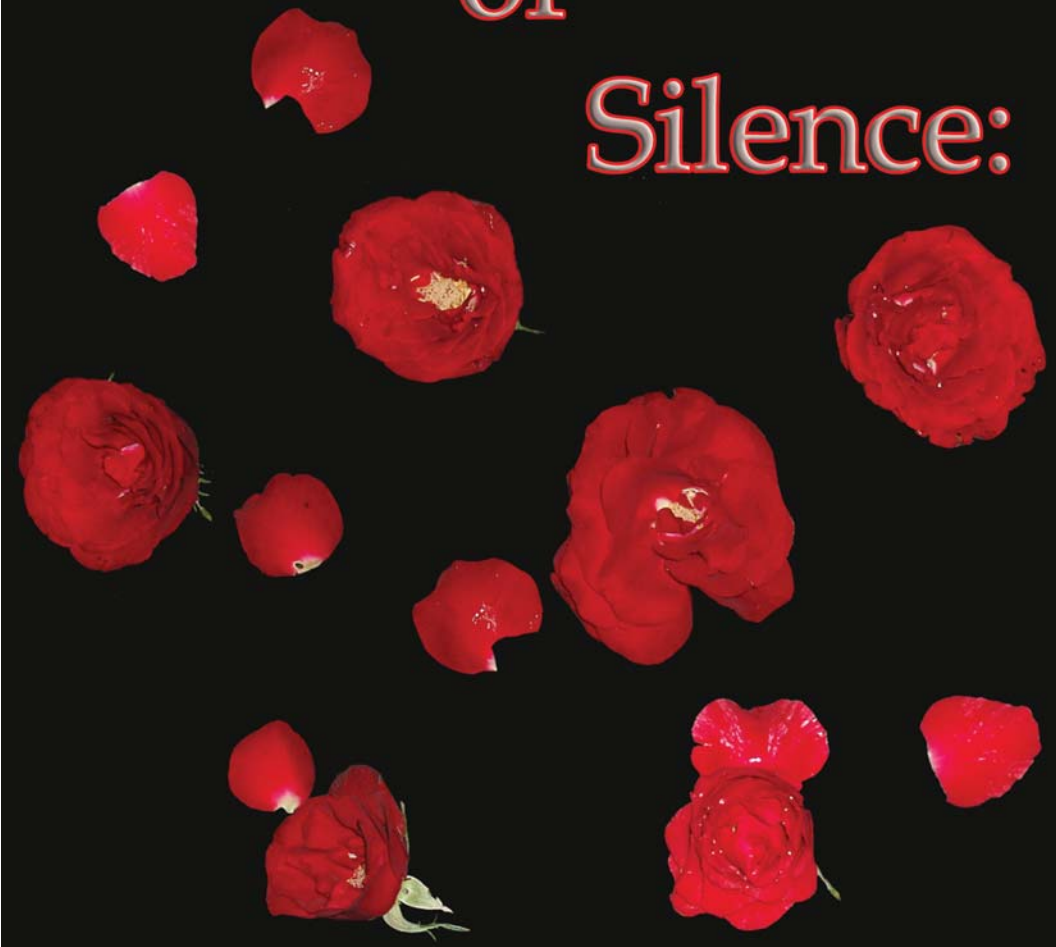
Eight Seconds of Silence:



The Death of Democracy Activists Behind Bars

Assistance Association for Political Prisoners
(Burma)

Eight Seconds of Silence:

The Death of Democracy Activists Behind Bars

Assistance Association for Political Prisoners
(Burma)

Publishing and Distribution

Assistance Association for Political Prisoners
(Burma)

May 2006

Copy
1500

Address
AAPP
P.O Box 93
Mae Sot
Tak Province 63110
THAILAND

Email
aappb@cscoms.com

Website
www.aappb.org

Acknowledgements

In writing this report, the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP) seeks to honor the democracy activists who died while behind bars. They are modern day martyrs in the struggle to free Burma.

We also commend the bravery of the families of deceased democracy activists for their willingness to share information regarding their loved ones, and for their courage in calling on the authorities to reveal the true circumstances surrounding their loved one's death.

We would like to thank all the former political prisoners, democracy and human rights activists who provided information to us. We likewise appreciate the efforts of the staff and members of the AAPP to compile information, provide translations, write the report and assist with editing.

We further thank the staff and members of Burma Action Ireland and the US Campaign for Burma for their editorial comments which helped us to improve on the content of the report. We also wish to thank them, and Burma Campaign UK, for helping our report reach the international community.

We appreciate the time taken by Ye Tun Oo to complete the layout of the report.

The AAPP is grateful to the National Endowment for Democracy for providing the facilities used to research and write this report.

We are further grateful to Development Coorporation Ireland for generously providing the funding which made this report possible.

The publication of this report has been funded by Development Cooperation Ireland.

"I grieved so much as if my heart was broken. I still feel hurt and very upset when I see his picture. I still burst into tears when I look at his picture. I tell myself that it would have been better if I could replace him because I am over 60 years old now. I cried in front of them (the authorities), saying my son shouldn't be dead yet. And I prayed for others not to face a similar tragedy to mine…

I wouldn't be that sad if my son was a criminal. Obviously, he was not. He died for his country and that's why I can't feel anymore.

I don't want to blame them [authorities] further since they are absolutely out of control. My son died because they closed their ears and didn't want to listen to us. I would feel less hurt if he had died in my hands.

I just pray that there will be no more deaths like my son's in the future. And if I ever offended them [authorities] in my previous life, I hope I gain release from my sufferings in this life."

-Daw Than Aye speaking about her son, Ko Khin Maung Lwin

"I am not looking to accuse a person for my father's death by saying "Why did he die and who made him die?" I understand clearly who is responsible. It is not a person; it is the bad political system. Of course, the military dictatorship is responsible. That is why I don't have any personal feelings of hate or bitterness. There have been too many lives lost and blood sacrificed under the military dictatorship. There have been too many lives damaged. I am trying to console myself as this has not just happened to my father."

-Ko Kyaw Zaw speaking about his father, U Kyi Tin Oo

"I will never forget that my father introduced my siblings and I to the history of Burma, especially the student movement. Our country is very beautiful. There are many rivers, mountains and delightful natural scenes, but there has also been many sounds of crying, moaning and anger. Missing fathers and sons, mothers and daughters, husbands and wives, brothers and sisters...they scream while searching, crying from the torture. Whenever political activists die in prison or the interrogation center, their families have no right to bury the bodies of their loved ones. Our nation is overwhelmed with grief. Many activists have been killed by the junta. I want peace and stability for my country. I pray that those who sacrificed their life for democracy and human rights, including my father, can find rest."

-Ko Salai Yaw Aung speaking about his father, U Saw Win (MP)

Contents

Foreword

Executive Summary 17

Recommendations 19

I. Introduction 22

II. Interrogation Centers 22

III. Prisons 24

IV. Labor Camps 26

V. Disappearances 27

VI. After Release 27

VII. Death 28

VIII. Conclusion 29

Appendix A (i): List of Interrogation Deaths 30
Appendix A (ii): Biographies of Interrogation Deaths 31

Appendix B (i): List of Prison Deaths 39
Appendix B (ii): Biographies of Prison Deaths 45

Appendix C (i): List of Labor Camp Deaths 122
Appendix C (ii): Biographies of Labor Camp Deaths 123

Appendix D (i): List of the Disappeared 126
Appendix D (ii): Biographies of the Disappeared 128

Appendix E (i): List of Deaths after Release 133
Appendix E (ii): Biographies of Deaths after Release 134

Appendix F (i): Map of Burma's Prisons and Labor Camps 144
Appendix F (ii): List of Burma's Interrogation Centers 145

Foreword

Nothing is more revealing about the situation of human rights in a country than the existence of political prisoners. They embody the denial of the most basic freedoms essential to humankind, such as freedom of opinion and assembly. Moreover, the very manner in which such persons are treated further reflects upon the level of esteem in which a Government holds its own people. At least 1,156 of Myanmar's citizens are behind bars, without access to the guarantees of due process, for the exercise of their political rights. The judicial system, far from affording individuals basic standards of justice, is employed by the Government as an instrument of repression to silence dissent.

From the outset of my work on Myanmar, I made a point of visiting and reporting regularly on the plight of political prisoners. Aside from my own appraisal of the conditions of detention, I have always counted on the credible information provided by the Assistance Association of Political Prisoners.

The following report unveils the tragic deaths of democracy advocates and human rights defenders in Myanmar's detention sites or shortly after their release. As I write, news has emerged that yet another political prisoner has died in custody. The death of U Ko Oo brings to nine, the total number of political prisoners known to have died since early 2005 alone.

The deplorable conditions of places of detention in Myanmar are well-documented. Allegations of incommunicado detention, torture, ill-treatment, poor diet, substandard hygiene levels, absence and denial of adequate medical attention, are all too commonplace. Such conditions and treatment are generating and exacerbating the serious health problems of prisoners. It is of deep concern that since January 2006, the International Committee of the Red Cross which was carrying out formidable work in Myanmar is no longer free to make independent and confidential visits to places of detention.

As I have proposed in the past in connection with other heinous violations of human rights, I believe that it is now time for the international community to urge the Government to establish an independent enquiry into the rapidly mounting deaths of political prisoners in Myanmar. Such an investigation should seek the accountability of those responsible and compensation for the victim's families. It should also include the cases of disappearances.

This report further serves to vividly highlight the urgency for the Government to accede to core international human rights instruments so as to prevent the death of another Myanmar citizen.

In recognition and fulfillment of its pledge first made fifteen years ago and repeatedly since, to honor the political will of the people of Myanmar, the release of all remaining political prisoners will signal the preparedness of the Government to now rise to its outstanding responsibility. Once freed, they could have a decisive role in Myanmar's long-anticipated transition to democracy. The postponement of democratic reform can be justified no longer.

I applaud the remarkable group of committed advocates who comprise the AAPPB, for their steadfast dedication to bringing to light the hidden world of Myanmar's prisons. They truly merit the encouragement and support of the international community. I also commend Development Cooperation Ireland and the other organizations which supported the publication of this report.

The lives of those whose names are inscribed upon these pages are powerful symbols of the tenacity and courage of the people of Myanmar to resolutely strive for the realization of democracy and the exercise and enjoyment of fundamental rights and freedoms.

Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro

United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar

Foreword

The Burmese government, like most dictatorships, does its best to hide the crimes it commits against its people. Perhaps on some level it knows that what it does is shameful. But more likely, it views secrecy as another means to torment its persecuted opponents. It tells them: "Not only will we harm you physically, but no one in the world will know we did this to you. No one will know that you suffered. No one will know that you even existed. And if they do not know, they will not care."

By documenting the scourge of torture in Burma's prisons, the AAPP shines a light on the government's cruelty, and restores to its victims some of the dignity that their government tries to deny them. The report catalogues in meticulous detail the names, the stories, and the fate of political prisoners who were tortured, in many cases to death, simply because of their peaceful pursuit of human rights. It will help ensure that these good people are remembered and honored, and that the officials who persecuted them are one day held accountable for their crimes.

The report also reminds us of the horrors the Burmese democracy movement must endure to pursue its aims, and its remarkable moral courage in staying the course. Its efforts have repeatedly been met with violence, yet it has never fought fire with fire — it has stuck steadfastly to a non-violent path. Its members have been ruthlessly persecuted, many killed, others imprisoned or forced into exile, yet still it preaches reconciliation with the military government of Burma. All it truly demands is dialogue — a solution to Burma's problems that is negotiated calmly between its government and its people.

As the report shows, many courageous Burmese have been willing to risk torture and death rather than renounce their beliefs or give up their non-violent struggle. Those around the world who have supported the cause of human rights in Burma, and who face comparatively little risk, also must not give up or let up. The report rightly urges the U.N. Security Council to become engaged on Burma, including by appointing a commission to investigate the commission of human rights crimes there.

The Burmese government's policies clearly threaten the Burmese people; they also threaten the stability of Burma's neighbors and thus merit Security Council action. All nations should support this effort.

Tom Malinowski
Washington Advocacy Director
Human Rights Watch

Foreword

In May 2005, a young man in Burma sat down in a local restaurant to eat his dinner. While eating, he was suddenly accosted by several men and taken to an unknown location. Seven days later, he was dead.

Aung Hlaing Win was tortured to death in one of Burma's many interrogation centers. His only crime was being a member of the National League for Democracy (NLD), a political party in opposition to the brutal rule of Burma's military regime. Three days after his death, the authorities finally informed Aung Hlaing Win's family of his fate, claiming his death was a result of a heart attack, not torture. They further tried to bribe his family into keeping silent, and cremated the body of Aung Hlaing Win without the family's consent. The authorities responsible for Aung Hlaing Win's death have been identified, yet no action has been taken to hold those responsible accountable.

Such has been the all too common fate of several political activists detained since 1988. Since the democracy uprising in Burma in 1988, the military regime has brutally suppressed all opposition through the use of arbitrary detention, torture and ill-treatment. Torture and ill-treatment has subsequently been the cause of death for many democracy activists in Burma.

Torture in Burma's interrogation centers and prisons is brutal and systematic. Political prisoners are subject to extreme physical assaults resulting in internal bleeding and unconsciousness. Those who survive the beatings are left with physical pain for the remainder of their lives.

In Burma, torture is not limited to physical assaults, but extends to the authorities maintenance of general prison conditions and the ineptness of the prison health care system. Prison authorities routinely and deliberately aggravate prison conditions and deny medical care to political prisoners, causing a level of suffering tantamount to torture.

Some political prisoners have been forced to work in Burma's gulags, labor camps spread through out the country where prisoners are made to do back-breaking work on starvation rations. Political prisoners have died in the labor camps.

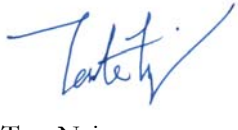
A number of political prisoners have disappeared. For these prisoners, their fate is a mystery, and their families must endure the agony of not knowing where their loved ones are, whether they are alive or dead.

For those who survive prison, life afterwards is extremely difficult. The inability to afford proper medical care has led to the deaths of many political prisoners shortly after their release. Additionally, the mental anguish that political prisoners have had to endure often proves too much, and a few political prisoners have consequently committed suicide.

Burma's interrogation centers and prisons are reflective of the broader political situation in the country. The conditions and treatment endured in these locations reveal the intention and policies of the military regime. Torture is state policy in Burma. It is condoned by the ruling regime with the expressed purpose of eliminating any opposition to their continued rule. When torture or ill-treatment results in death, the authorities use the deceased person as an example. Fear of a similar fate to their dead colleagues, friends and family members silences many in Burma.

The Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP) has compiled information for all known cases of death in custody since 1988. However, it is not possible to know all cases of death in custody, or even to have complete information for all the known cases. Additionally, since the military coup in 1962, democracy activists in Burma have faced arbitrary detention, torture, ill-treatment, and even death. The full truth of these cases remains unknown as well. Only when Burma is a free and democratic society will the true extent of the military regime's crimes be known.

Within Burma's prisons, a parallel struggle to that outside the prisons has been taking place. It is a struggle against the injustice and brutality of the authorities. It is a struggle for democracy and human rights. Though this report exposes the brutality that has led to the deaths of democracy activists, it also shows the courage of these fallen men and women. While they did not live to see the realization of their dream, their memory is carried in the hearts of those who continue to struggle for the realization of a free Burma.



Tate Naing
Secretary
Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (Burma)

Executive Summary

After the 1988 people's uprising in Burma, thousands of people were arrested and imprisoned. Nearly all have faced torture or ill-treatment at the hands of the authorities. Such torture and ill-treatment has resulted in death for many.

The Assistance Association for Political Prisoners has documented the cases of 127 democracy activists who died after enduring torture or ill-treatment in custody. Due to the political situation in Burma, all cases of death in custody are not known. Further, many details of the known cases cannot be collected.

Information in this report concerning the political background and the circumstances of death for each democracy activist was taken from their families, the former political prisoners who met the deceased in prison, publications of political parties, human rights organizations and even the SPDC, and documents from the prison and medical staff of the prisons. Over the course of a year, all relevant information was gathered and verified.

Of the at least 127 deaths, 90 have died in prison, 8 in the interrogation centers, 4 in the labor camps, and 10 shortly after being released from prison. 15 activists have disappeared from the prisons, and their whereabouts remain unknown to date.

Since early 2005 alone, 9 democracy activists have died behind bars. The increased number of deaths in the past year is reflective of the rise in torture and ill-treatment. It is also indicative of the State Peace and Development Council's (SPDC) policy. The SPDC is attempting to systematically silence political dissent in Burma. Torture and ill-treatment of political prisoners is one means by which they implement their policy.

This report looks at Burma's interrogation centers, prisons and labor camps to explain the cause of death for those who have passed away while detained by the military regime. Torture and ill-treatment are endemic in these locations. The general prison conditions and prison healthcare system are aggravated and cause a level of suffering equivalent to torture in the majority of political prisoners' cases.

The disappearance of political prisoners has occurred in fifteen documented cases, though there are likely several undocumented cases. A section of the report details the known cases of disappearance, and explains the regime's frequent withholding of information on a political prisoners' location in order to terrorize their families.

After release from prison, several political prisoners face physical and mental illnesses for which they are unable to receive treatment. The lack of treatment is due to varying factors, but primary among them is the lack of money and general knowledge about the health concerns of political prisoners. Several political prisoners have died from the inability to treat a basic illness. Further, the mental health care system in Burma is virtually non-existent, leaving former political prisoners with no means of relieving their mental suffering. Some political prisoners have committed suicide as a result. This report looks at the circumstances surrounding the deaths of those political prisoners who died shortly after release.

When political prisoners die, their families face many problems. The families of deceased political prisoners have often been informed of their loved ones death only after the authorities have cremated the body, so that any evidence of torture or ill treatment is destroyed. Additionally, the authorities are known to have pressured doctors into falsifying the results of their autopsy. Though most do not, if a family attempts to challenge the authorities' explanation for their loved ones death, they have no independent witnesses to verify their claims one way or the other.

The families of political prisoners have on some occasions been offered bribes to remain silent as to the cause of their loved ones death. Most reject the bribe, and a few have defiantly spoken about the real cause of their loved one's death. Further, families of deceased political prisoners often must bury their loved ones according to the direction of the authorities. Intelligence personnel often infiltrate funerals, noting which people attend so that they can later be detained and interrogated. The aftermath of political prisoners' deaths is explained in this report.

Finally, this report provides detailed information on the political background and death of nearly all documented cases of death in custody. These brief biographies are meant to demonstrate the brutality of the authorities and the innocence of the victims.

Though in a number of the cases of death in custody, the authorities responsible for the individuals' death are known, no action has ever been taken to hold them accountable. 127 democracy activists have been killed with complete impunity.

Currently, there are at least 1,156 political prisoners in Burma. Several are in poor and rapidly deteriorating health, and many are at risk for torture. If they are not released immediately, they will face the same fate as those who have died in custody.

Recommendations

The Assistance Association for Political Prisoners recommends that:

The United Nations (UN)

- The UN Security Council adopt a binding resolution to empower the Secretary-General in his efforts to facilitate national reconciliation and democratization in Burma;

- ❖ The UN form an independent commission to investigate human rights violations in Burma, particularly as regards arbitrary detention, torture, ill-treatment, and subsequent deaths;
- ❖ The UN Commission on Human Rights (or) the UN Human Rights Council take effective measures to end arbitrary detention, torture, ill-treatment and the resulting deaths of democracy activists in Burma's interrogation centers and prisons.

The State Peace and Development Council (SPDC)

- ❖ The SPDC release all political prisoners immediately and unconditionally;
- ❖ The SPDC release all severely ill political prisoners on humanitarian grounds;
- ❖ The SPDC ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the Convention Against Torture (CAT), and implement substantive measures to bring the behavior and treatment in the interrogation centers and prisons into compliance with these treaties;
- ❖ The SPDC allow an international commission, under the auspices of the UN, to investigate all allegations of torture, ill-treatment, disappearance and death in custody in a prompt, impartial and effective manner, and bring the perpetrators to justice according to the rule of law.
- ❖ The SPDC immediately enter into political dialogue with the National League for Democracy and ethnic representatives to carry out the necessary changes in Burma.

Governments

- ❖ Governments demand the SPDC release all political prisoners immediately and unconditionally;
- ❖ Governments call on the SPDC to allow an independent international commission to investigate all allegations of human right violations in

Burma, and to commit to taking the necessary action against those accountable for such violations;

- ❖ Governments call on the UN Security Council to adopt a binding resolution to empower the Secretary General in his effort to facilitate national reconciliation and democratization in Burma;
- ❖ Governments increase pressure on the SPDC economically, politically and diplomatically until it agrees to enter into dialogue with the National League for Democracy and ethnic representatives to make the necessary changes in Burma.

NGOs and International Organizations

- ❖ Organizations join the international campaign to stop arbitrary detention, torture and ill-treatment in Burma through advocacy and public statements;
- ❖ Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) work to build the capacity of former political prisoners to document human rights violations in the interrogation centers and prisons;
- ❖ NGOs seek to assist former political prisoners inside Burma with physical rehabilitation and psychological counseling for trauma;
- ❖ NGOs look to provide assistance to the families of political prisoners so that they are able to visit their loved ones in prison, assist their loved ones with health care needs, and address their own educational and professional needs.

I. Introduction

The cause of death for one hundred and twenty-seven democracy activists in custody since 1988 has been torture and ill-treatment.

In Burma's interrogation centers, prisons and labor camps, torture is widespread and systematic. The authorities deliberately inflict physical, psychological and sexual abuse to a degree causing severe and unrelenting suffering. Though one hundred and twenty-seven individuals have died from such torture, several more have been tortured to the point of death, only to somehow survive.

Several political prisoners have died only days or weeks after their release. This is the result of the inability of political prisoners to afford proper health care. Easily treatable diseases turn deadly, and many have then died needlessly.

There are fifteen known cases of disappearances after being taken into custody. These disappearances are likely a fraction of the actual number. Disappearance of a loved one is particularly cruel, as family members and colleagues are left to wonder whether their loved ones are alive or dead.

The difficulties that the families of deceased political prisoners must face shows the full scale of the military regime's cruelty. Often, the body of the political prisoner will be cremated before the family can view it, a false autopsy will be filed and the family will be offered a bribe to keep silent about the circumstances of their loved ones death. Families are made to adhere to the authorities' orders regarding funerals and intelligence personnel watch over the funerals, taking note of who comes. No one is allowed to rest in peace.

II. Interrogation Centers

Political prisoners are generally arrested at nighttime. They are taken from their homes without warrant, hooded and handcuffed, and made to lay down in a van. They are then brought to one of the country's interrogation centers where they are interrogated and most often tortured.

The torture in the interrogation centers is usually the most brutal. Political prisoners are denied food, water, sleep and the use of the toilet. They are questioned and threatened when they fail to give the answer the authorities want. The threats include threats of torture, rape, and death, not only of the political prisoner, but his colleagues and family members as well.

Among the physical torture endured,brutal beatings are the most common. These beatings frequently last until the prisoner falls unconscious. In many cases, the prisoner is forcibly woken from his or her unconsciousness to be tortured and abused again. Other physical torture includes: rolling an iron bar up and down the shins until the flesh is ripped; forcing political prisoners to hold unnatural positions for extended periods of time; forcing political prisoners to assume positions of an 'airplane,' 'motorbike,' 'semigwa dance,' or 'crocodile;' tying political prisoners down for an extended period of time with ropes or chains; water torture; beating a single spot on a prisoner's body for hours on end; burning with cigarettes, hot wax, lighters or electric rods; and electric shocks.

Among the mental torture inflicted is the use of incommunicado detention. When a political prisoner is arrested, neither their families nor a lawyer is informed of where they are being taken. It often takes weeks, months and even years to learn of a loved ones location. Incommunicado detention is a noted precursor to torture, as no one can be held accountable. It also causes untold mental suffering for the individual detained. Other mental torture includes: blindfolding and hooding a prisoner; blaming the prisoner for the torture; witnessing other prisoners being tortured; no legal recourse to defend oneself; false releases; lack of family visits; isolation and solitary confinement; playing on phobias; and using inappropriate titles of address.

Sexual abuse also occurs during interrogation, including: threats of rape; harassment; molestation; beating or electrically shocking an individual's

genitals; and one documented attemped rape of a male political prisoner with a dog.

At least eight people have died since 1988 while being interrogated.

After the authorities are satisfied with their interrogation of an individual, the political prisoner is then brought to one of the country's prisons. There they face not only the above described torture, but also the harshness of the general prison conditions and the deadly incompetence of the prison health care system, both of which often amount to torture.

III. Prisons

The conditions in Burma's prisons are among the worst the world over. Prisons are overcrowded and unsanitary. A variety of animals and insects inhabit the prison cells. Political prisoners are made to sleep on cold, concrete floors in thin, cotton uniforms. A chamber pot acts as a toilet, but is only allowed to be emptied once a day, giving rise to a horrible smell and maggots.

Political prisoners must stay with several other prisoners which facilitates the spread of disease. The showers of political prisoners are restricted to once a week, sometimes once a month. Prisoners are not given a proper amount of soap to clean themselves, and are made to use only around 7 to 8 plates of water when showering. Uniforms are soiled, but only allowed to be washed once a week. Female political prisoners face many problems during menstruation.

The food rations provided to political prisoners are of the poorest quality and of an insufficient amount. Political prisoners are generally given under or over cooked rice, watery curry, and a small amount of fish paste. Once a week they are allowed a small portion of meat, though it is often of the worst quality. The food given is dirty or contaminated by other objects. As a result, political prisoners are reliant on their families to receive sufficient, quality food. The authorities' decision to limit family visits has a real impact on the ability of political prisoners to remain nourished.

Families are also the main source of proper medical care for political prisons. The health care system in Burma's prisons is nearly non-existent. Patients must pay bribes to be allowed to stay in the hospital and receive care. Those unable or unwilling to pay bribes face numerous difficulties to stay healthy while in prison.

Political prisoners are rarely allowed to see the prison doctor, and often are instead examined by a medic. The medics frequently fail to conduct a proper examination, and many basic and easily curable diseases become deadly as a result. When a political prisoner is prescribed medication, they then face the challenge of being given the proper medicine.

Despite the fact that the International Committee of the Red Cross has donated numerous, high quality medicines to the prisons, political prisoners rarely ever benefit. These medicines are sold on the market, and prisoners are then given lower quality medicine. Many political prisoners have received fake medicine and even the wrong medicine. When injections are required, a single needle is often used on many patients without any attempt at sterilization. This has spread disease among prisoners; most notably it has led to some political prisoners contracting HIV/AIDS.

Prison hospitals are overcrowded, unsanitary and lacking a sufficient number of trained medical staff. Prisoners often decline to go to the hospital as they are afraid of catching diseases there. When a political prisoner is allowed to go to a hospital outside the prison, they are shackled and taken to a special 'guard ward.' Despite the weakness of the political prisoners, some have died with shackles still on their feet.

Another factor leading to the death of some political prisoners is the level of violence and abuse in the prisons not only from the authorities, but from the criminal prisoners as well. Political prisoners are kept in cells with criminal prisoners who have been given weapons and been encouraged by the authorities to abuse political prisoners. The criminals develop a hierarchical system by which they gain favor with the authorities and

intimidate political prisoners. Some political prisoners have died after beatings they received at the hands of criminals.

Section 10(A) of the State Protection Law allows for detention without charge or trial for up to five years and is often used to extend the already arbitrary and unjust prison sentences of the most active politicians. Keeping political prisoners in the described conditions for long periods of time results in permanent physical and mental problems, but has also led to the deaths of a number of political prisoners.

At least ninety political prisoners have died while in prison.

IV. Labor Camps

At least four political prisoners have died after being assigned to work in one of the country's many labor camps.

When political prisoners are sentenced, many are given a prison term with hard labor. In Burma, the use of forced labor for many of the regimes' development projects is rampant. The political prisoners forced to work in the camps are chosen in a lottery-like system without regard for their age or health condition. Those with money are able to bribe the authorities out of going to the camps.

Those taken to the labor camps face torture. They are made to carry out exhausting physical labor in the burning sun without adequate water or nutrition. The denial of sufficient nutritional intake in relation to the work being done is perhaps the primary factor behind the illnesses and death of many labor camp workers.

Those running the camps offer no sympathy, forcing individuals to work when they are clearly ill. Additionally, on site accidents are common due to the nature of the work being done (building roads, breaking rock, portering). Many have been left to die without any effort made to inform that individual's family.

V. Disappearances

The cases of disappearance after a person is detained are extremely difficult to document. As a result, only fifteen cases have been documented at this time. Disappearing people has been prohibited under international law, and in some cases has been classified as torture. In many cases, the likely fate of the disappeared is torture and death, but the lack of information creates uncertainty and false hope in the families of the disappeared.

The extent of the problem of disappearances in Burma remains to be investigated.

VI. After Release

When political prisoners are released, they face numerous hardships. One such hardship is the inability to find proper medical treatment for the physical ailments which they suffer. Former political prisoners are unable to pay for the extensive treatment and medications they need. Further, the health care system in Burma as a whole lacks the resources to properly address the physical suffering that results from torture and ill-treatment.

Political prisoners have also faced psychological torture while in prison. When released, they must attempt to rebuild their identity. They are often turned away from universities and jobs. If they do find work, they remain under the constant watch of the Military Intelligence. Their family and friends are watched as well, leading to an end to many relationships. The difficulty of reintegrating into society has further exacerbated mental suffering. In Burma, rehabilitation and counseling services are not offered, and there is a stigma attached to those with mental illnesses. As a result, former political prisoners do not address their psychological problems, and a few have subsequently committed suicide.

At least ten political prisoners have died shortly after their release from prison.

VII. Death

Political prisoners are often the main income earner in their family. Their death, in addition to the emotional suffering, places an enormous financial burden on those they leave behind. Family members are left to sell off possessions and seek work in order to manage their day to day survival.
When a political prisoner dies, their family is rarely informed immediately. In some cases, the authorities will order an autopsy and bury the body without consulting the family. Autopsies are a key way in which the true circumstances of a political prisoners' death are hidden. The military intelligence intimidates doctors into writing autopsies which falsify the reasons for death. If the family wants to contest the authorities' explanation for their loved ones death, they are unable to call independent witnesses. As families rarely challenge the authorities, autopsy reports are not made public.

The authorities are known to have cremated the bodies of deceased political prisoners so that the scars of torture and ill-treatment can not be seen. The family is not given a choice in the decision to cremate the body. Occasionally, the cremated remains are buried in the prison compound or in a graveyard without informing the family. When a family asks to be given the remains, they are denied.

Bribes have been offered to the families of deceased political prisoners in an effort to silence them. They are told not to speak about the true circumstances of their loved one's death, and threatened with harm if they do. Few families though have accepted the bribes of the authorities.

When a family is given the body of a deceased political prisoner, they must arrange for a funeral. Yet even funerals are controlled by the authorities. The authorities will tell a family that they are only allowed to hold the funeral at a randomly chosen time, which has resulted in family members missing their loved one's funeral. Furthermore, Military Intelligence officers attend the funerals of political prisoners to note who attends. These individuals can be detained and interrogated later for their political affiliations.

The oppression of the military regime extends even into death.

Conclusion

This report exposes the circumstances surrounding the deaths of one hundred and twenty-seven democracy activists. The cause of death in these cases was torture and ill-treatment. The torture is physical, psychological and sexual. Torture is also seen in the general prison conditions and the health care system, which brings about untold suffering which has resulted in death.

When political prisoners die, their families face additional hardships due to the cruelty of the authorities. False autopsy reports hide the true cause of death, while the authorities ensure that no action is taken to question their explanation regarding the death. The families' efforts to honor their dead are restricted and even prohibited by the authorities.

Impunity for the deaths in custody of political detainees has been complete. Though the names of those responsible for the deaths of several political prisoners is known, no action has been taken to hold them accountable. They are shuffled within the prison system, able to torture and ill-treat anyone in their charge. The investigation into and prosecution of those responsible for the one hundred and twenty-seven cases of death in custody of democracy activists is necessary for Burma to move toward a just system that respects the human rights of all its citizens.

Appendix A (i): List of Interrogation Deaths

Name	Date of Arrest	Date of Death	Organization	Age	Location of Death	Address
Aung Hlaing Win	1 May 2005	7 May 2005	NLD	30	Interrogation Center	Mayangone, Rangoon
Aung Min	6 Sep 1998	21 Oct 1998	NLD	53	Military Camp, Mandalay	Mandalay
Htay Lwin	3 Oct 2005	3 Oct 2005	NLD		Police Station	Aungmyae Thazan, Mandalay
Maung Ko@ Maung Lay	10 Dec 1990	11 Dec 1990	NLD	64	Interrogation Center	Natogyi, Mandalay
Maung Ko @ Min Thit	23 Oct 1990	9 Nov 1990	NLD	52	Interrogation Center	Pakokku, Magwe
Mohamad Elias	13 June 1992	19 June 1992	NLD	68	Interrogation Center	Maungdaw, Arakan
Saw Stanford	7 July 2005	July 2005			Interrogation Center	Eimme, Irrawaddy
Soe Htay	12 Apr 1991	16 Apr 1991	NLD	19	Interrogation Center	Rangoon

Appendix A (ii): Biographies of Interrogation Deaths

Name: (Ko) Aung Hlaing Win
Date of Arrest: 1 May 2005
Date of Death: 7 May 2005
Age at Death: 30

Aung Hlaing Win, son of U Maung Maung, lived in Mayangone Township, Rangoon Division and was a member of the National League for Democracy (NLD). He worked with his father-in-law on politics and organizing for the NLD.

On 1 May 2005, he was accosted at Lucky restaurant in downtown Rangoon by an unknown group of men, assumed to be soldiers. No one knew where he was taken.

On 10 May 2005 the commander of an interrogation center, Lt. Col. Min Hlaing, came to his family and informed them that Aung Hlaing Win died on 7 May 2005 from a heart attack while at the interrogation center.

According to the autopsy, confirmed by four medical specialists from North Oakkalapa Hospital, Aung Hlaing Win died before he got to the hospital and was sent to the hospital as a corpse. Dr. Zaw Zaw Oo and three other medical specialists found 24 external wounds on the body; 3 ribs were fractured, and a fourth rib was broken in two causing bruising to his heart. Bruising was also found around his throat and trachea, and his stomach and colon were found to be decaying.

When his family learned that their loved one had passed away, they released a statement. In this statement, the family said, "Ko Aung Hlaing Win passed away unexpectedly, or because of an unknown reason." But, the

authorities forced them to change the words to "Ko Aung Hlaing Win passed away because of general diseases."

Aung Hlaing Win was arrested without warrant and the authorities did not inform his family of his location or reason for arrest. He was subsequently tortured to death while being interrogated. The authorities then destroyed the body of Aung Hlaing Win without informing his family, and tried to intimidate his family into not speaking out by offering them money, which they refused to accept. The authorities not only tortured Aung Hlaing Win to death, but they concealed all information regarding the circumstances of his death. Lt Col Min Hlaing, Capt Sai Aung Win and Capt Zaw Min Kyaw were responsible for Aung Hlaing Win's death, yet no one has been held accountable.

Name:	(U) Aung Min
Date of Arrest:	6 September 1998
Date of Death:	21 October 1998
Age at Death:	53

Aung Min was the office manager of the National League for Democracy (NLD) Divisional Office (Mandalay Division), the joint secretary of North Eastern Township (Mandalay) and the chairperson of the NLD (Mawragiwa Quarter). He actively and loyally participated in the political activities of the NLD. He was arbitrarily arrested on 6 September 1998 by MI staff even though he had not committed any crime.

While in interrogation, Aung Min became ill due to the conditions in the detention center, but did not receive any medical attention. He died on 21 October 1998 while in interrogation.

According to his family, Aung Min did not have any health problems prior to his arrest.

His funeral was on 23 October 1998 at Kyarnikan cemetery and was attended by over 100 NLD members in uniform. The NLD then issued a statement, No. 96 (10/98), which called into question Aung Min's sudden death during interrogation.

Name:	(Ko) Htay Lwin
Date of Arrest:	3 October 2005
Date of Death:	3 October 2005
Age at Death:	30

Htay Lwin was arrested at 4pm on 3 October 2005 by local authorities, including chairman Ba Tint, and members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association (USDA). He was beaten brutally by Ba Tint and Tun Min Latt, a USDA member, as well as other unidentified police, during interrogation.

At 10pm the same day, he was taken to No. 4 Police Station. When his wife tried to visit him, she was not allowed to see him or provide him with dinner. Around midnight, a car belonging to the USDA came to the police station to retrieve the corpse of Htay Lwin and send it to Mandalay General Hospital.

The next morning, Htay Lwin's wife was called to the hospital and informed of her husband's death. She was told to bury her husband immediately, with the expenses being paid by the USDA and police. Though she initially refused, demanding the corpse be returned to her, eventually the police intimidated her into burying him right away. She was informed that she would receive 300,000 kyat (USD 300) as compensation.

The case was reported to the Chief of Police, as well as the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Htay Lwin: Mourners View Htay Lwin's Body

Htay Lwin: Corpse

Name:	(U) Maung Ko (alias) Min Thit
Date of Arrest:	23 October 1990
Date of Death:	9 November 1990
Age at Death:	52

Maung Ko was born in Pakokku Township, Magwe Division in 1936. His parents were U Tin and Daw Saw Yin. In 1968, he earned a BA degree from the Workers' College (Rangoon). He then worked as a manager for the Port Authority Department until 1986. He also studied in England, Germany, Norway and Sweden.

During the 1988 pro-democracy uprising, he actively participated in the demonstration as the general secretary of the All Burma Port Workers' Union.

He then became a member of the National League for Democracy (NLD) when the party was formed. Later, he performed his political duties as a member of the NLD's Social Supporting Committee and the Organizing Committee, Tenasserim Division branch.

He was arrested on 23 October 1990 for attending the "Parallel Government Establishing Meeting" convened in Mandalay on 29 September 1990.

Maung Ko was detained and interrogated at the Yay Kyi Ai interrogation center. He died on 9 November 1990 as a result of torture he endured during interrogation.

His body was sent to Rangoon General Hospital. The medical staff identified the body as Maung Ko's and informed his family. There were many wounds on his neck and the lower part of one of his legs was completely shattered.

When Maung Ko died, Ms. Sadako Ogata, a representative of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, was in Rangoon. General Saw Maung, Chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council at the time, said while in Mandalay:

"We have no torturous means to interrogate anyone. That guy confessed to what he did and to his future plans, and soon after he hung himself with a blanket. We are not responsible for his death."

Maung Ko: Corpse

Maung Ko: Left Leg. The wounds on his legs are believed to be the result of torture by electric shock.

Name: (U) Mohammad Elias
Date of Arrest: 13 June 1992
Date of Death: 19 June 1992
Age at Death: 68

Mohammad Elias from Maungdaw Township, Arakan State was the secretary of the NLD branch in his native town. In June 1992, a bomb exploded in his township, and the authorities soon accused him of planting this bomb. He was arrested on 13 June 1992.

During interrogation, Mohammad Elias was brutally tortured. The authorities, knowing he was a Muslim, forcibly poured pig fat into his mouth.

As a result of the torture he endured, he was sent to Maungdaw township hospital on 9 June 1992. He died there on 19 June 1992. The authorities claimed that he died of a stomach ailment. However, he had been in good health before he was arrested.

Name: Saw Stand Ford
Date of Arrest: July 2005
Date of Death: July 2005
Age at Death: 40

Saw Stand Ford, of Karen ethnicity, was a middle school teacher. On 7 July 2005, over thirty local people in Ah Thoke Township and Ta Gu Seik Village of Einme Township were arrested, including Saw Stand Ford.

Light Infantry Battalion 93, based in Myaungmya Township, carried out the arrests. They thoroughly searched for weapons they believed the villagers were holding for the Karen National Union (KNU) in the church in Ta Gu Seik village, the village cemetery and residents houses. The soldiers did not find any weapons.

During the interrogation period, the soldiers used torture, including electric shocks. As a result, Saw Stand Ford died.

Among the detainees, sixteen villagers were sent to Rangoon. The interrogation period in Rangoon lasted more than one month. Eventually, all were freed on 12 August after receiving severe torture.

Before they were freed, the authorities asked the villagers not to talk about the interrogation to anyone, especially foreign media. The authorities also said that the government would sponsor development projects in the village and give 300,000 Kyats (about USD 300) as compensation for Saw Stand Ford if they did not speak about how he died.

However, Saw Stand Ford's family refused the compensation. They instead asked the authorities to punish the persons responsible for his death.

Name:	(Ko) Soe Htay
Date of Arrest:	12 April 1991
Date of Death:	16 April 1991
Age at Death:	19

Soe Htay was a member of the National League for Democracy (NLD). On 12 April 1991, he was arrested and sent to Military Intelligence Unit 12 (MI-12).

Four days after he was arrested, he died. His death is believed to be the result of torture.

Appendix B (i): List of Prison Deaths

Name	Age	Previous Law	Date of Arrest	Date of Death	Prison Term	Prison	Org	Address
Aik Ko	31	5-j, 17/1	Oct 1990	13 Oct 1993	8 Years	Thayet	Student	Hlaing, Rangoon
Arsars ,Ven	35	5-j, 17/1	Jan 1991	15 Mar 1996	10 Years	Thayet	Monk	Lamadaw, Rangoon
Aung Kyaw Moe	38	5-j, 17/1	20 July 1989	13 May 1998	20 Year	Tharawaddy	BCP	Kamayut, Rangoon
Aung May Thu	61	5-j, 10(A)	Aug 1989	17 Sep 2002	20 Years	RGH	NLD	Tharawaddy, Pegu
Aung Myint Thein	37	5-j, 17/1	July 2005	5 Nov 2005	Detained	Insein	DPP	Shwe Paukan,
Rangoon								
Aung Naing			1998	Jun 2005	7 Years	Kale	Student	Rangoon
Aye Lwin	38	122/1,	Oct 1988	Dec 1992	Life	Insein		Thingangyun, Rangoon
		302/2,149			Sentence			
Aye Mu(Ma) Maung Thaw	21	17/1	16 Sep 1997	May 1998	5 Years	Tavoy	MDUF	Thayetchaung, Tenasserim
Ka@Ba Thaw	65	5/A, 5/B	5 Oct 1989	11 Jun 1991	20 Years	RGH	NLD	Kyauktada, Rangoon
Bo			1999	1999		Insein	Civilian	
Bo Than	70	122/1	1983	Mar 1997	Death	Insein	KNU	Nyaunglebin, Pegu
Done					Sentence			
Bo Tha Khu		122/1	1982	1998	Death	Insein	KNU	
					Sentence			
Chit Htaung	50		1989	19 Dec 1990		Myingyan	NLD	Phasawng, Kayah
Cho Gyi	38	17/1	July 1990	1993		Mandalay	NPF	Mandalay
Gaung Shay	20	17/1	1991	1992	3 Years	Mergui	KNU	Mergui, Tenasserim

Name	Age	Previous Law	Date of Arrest	Date of Death	Prison Term	Prison	Org	Address
Hamit	21	17/1	1988	1988	Death Sentence	Insein	Student	
Hla Khin	43		Aug 1998	31 May 1999	Detained	Insein	NLD	Shwepyitha, Rangoon
Hla Shwe		17/1	1991	1996	10 Years	Myingyan		Bogale , Irrawaddy
Hla Than	49	122/1	23 Oct 1990	2 Aug 1996	25 Years	RGH	NLD MP	Kemmendine, Rangoon
Hse Shi	23	17/1	1989	18 Oct 1990	7 Years	Insein	KIA	Kachin State
Htay Aung	37	5-j		1995	7 Years	Insein	Lawyer	
KhinMg Aye	57	5-j	May 1996	2002	7 Years	Mandalay		Mandalay
Khin Mg Lwin	38	124(A) 17/20	5 Jan 1998	11 Jan 2006	10 Years	Putao		Dawbon, Rangoon
Khin Mg Myint	42	17/1	28 Oct 1997	21 July 2004	8 Years	Kale	NLD	Latha, Rangoon
Khin Mg Myint		17/1, 122	1991	2001	Life Sentence	Myingyan	KNU	Bogale, Irrawaddy
Khin Mg Myint	63	17/1	6 Nov 1989	16 Feb 1993	20 Years	Insein	PPP	Dedaye, Irrawaddy
Khin Mg @ Bo Set Yaung	68	17/1-2	2 Nov 1989	7 Mar 1990	20 Years	Insein	BCP	Bahan, Rangoon
Khing Sein	53	17/1	Jan 1999	16 Jan 1995	8 Years	RGH	PPP	Prome, Pegu
Ko Lay	50	5-j	Mar 1990	1992	7 Years	Mandalay	NLD	Bamaw, Kachin
Kyar Gyi			1989	1992	10 Years	Myingyan		
Kyaw Din	58	505/B	20 Oct 1997	24 Jul 1999	2 Years	Wakema	NLD	Wakema, Irrawaddy

Name	Age	Previous Law	Date of Arrest	Date of Death	Prison Term	Prison	Org	Address
Kyaw Myo Thant	27	5-j	Jul 1989	20 May 1990	18 Months	Maubin	DPNS	Bogale,Irrawaddy
Kyaw Soe	22	17/1	Jan 1988	Feb 1989		Insein	Student	Insein,Rangoon
Kyi		17/20	1992	1994	6 Years	Tharawaddy		Tharawaddy,Pegu
Kyi saung	60	5-j	21 Dec 1995	May 1996	Detained	Myaungmya	NLD	Myaungmya,Irrawaddy
La Khong Lay@Tin Maung Myint		5-j		20 June 2001		Mandalay	NLD	Madaya,Mandalay
Leo Nichols	65	17/20	April 1996	22 June 1996	3 Years	Insein	Diplomat	Norway
Mahn David	58	17/1	1989	12 July 1992	8 Years	Insein	ABKO	Wakema,Irrawaddy
Mai Aik Pan	40	17/1	2 Oct 2001	31 July 2002	7 Years	Moulmein	PSLF	Man Hsan,Shan State
Maung Ko	58	5-j, 17/1	1996	15 Nov 2002	14 Years	Insein Hospital	CPB	Kyaukpadaung, Mandalay
Maung Maung Aye	24	5-j	4 Aug 1989	5 July 1991	5 Years	Tharawaddy	NLD	Kamayut,Rangoon
Maung Maung Aye	59	505/B	Sep 1999	21 June 2002	4 Years	Bassein	NLD	Labutta,Irrawaddy
Min Thu	50	5-j	28 Apr 1998	13 June 2004	7 Years	Insein Hospital	NLD	Rangoon
Min Tun Wai	42		26 May 2005	29 May 2005	5 Days	Moulmein	NLD	Kyaikmayaw,Mon State
Mya Shwe	54	5-j	Dec 1996	27 Apr 1999	7 Years	Tharawaddy	NLD	Sanchaung,Rangoon
Myat Thu	48	333	Feb 1997	May 1997	2months	Taungoo	NLD	Taungoo,Pegu
Myint Maung	65	5-j	24 Aug 1991	Nov 1995	5 Years	Pegu	NLD	Kyauktaga,Pegu

Name	Age	Previous Law	Date of Arrest	Date of Death	Prison Term	Prison	Org	Address
Myint Swe	32	122/1	24 Oct 1988	8 June 1996	20 Years	Thayet		Dala,Rangoon
Myo Win		17/1-2		1990		Pegu		Dawbon,Rangoon
Nai Aung Lun	45	122/0, 386/1	July 2003	28 Sep 2005	Life Sentence	RGH	NMLP	Mon State
Nyo Win	59	10/A	18 June 1989	8 Mar 1991	10(A)	Insein Hospital	PPP	Shwe Kyin,Pegu
Nyunt Zaw	35	17/1,5-E	Aug 1991	1 Jan 2000	7+7Years	Tharawaddy	ABSDF	Henzada,Irrawaddy
Oo Tha Tun	82	5-j	7 Mar 1990	14 Aug 1990	3Months	Sittwe	ALD	Myauk U,Arakan
Sai Pha Than	64		11 Sep 2002	11 Oct 2002	Detained	Kengtung	NLD	Shan State
Saw David	58	5-j	Jun 1989	2 Aug 1992	4 Years			Karen
Saw Do Saw @Saw Than	50	17/1-2	Mar 1997	10 Oct 2003	20 Years	RGH	KNU	Karen State
Saw Elther		122/1	Oct 1991	May 1998	10 Years	Myingyan		Bogale,Irrawaddy
Saw Haryay	56	17/1	2000	2001	10Years	Myaungmya		Lattputa,Irrawaddy
Saw Hla Chit	57	17/1	31 Mar 1991	13 Mar1997	8 Years	Insein		Bogale,Irrawaddy
Saw Kyaw Lwin	50	17/1	Oct 1991	Aug 1992	10 Years	Myingyan		Ngapudaw,Irrawaddy
Saw Pow Htay			June 1989	1994	Death Sentence	Insein	KNU	
Saw Sa Do Saw	53	122/1	1982	12 Dec 2003	Death Sentence	Insein	KNU	Lepa Dan,Irrawaddy
Saw Tin Myint	48	122	1982	1 Aug 2001	Death Sentence	Thayet	KNU	Lepa Dan,Irrawaddy

Name	Age	Previous Law	Date of Arrest	Date of Death	Prison Term	Prison	Org	Address
Saw Win@ Kyaw Zaw Lin	61	5-j,6-1	23 Apr 1991	7 Aug 1998	11 Years	Tharawaddy Hospital	NLD(MP)	Htilin, Magwe
Saw Yin Thit	35	122/1	Oct 1991	Jan 1996	20 Years	Myingyan		Bogale, Irrawaddy
Sein Hla	75	17/1	Nov 1990	1992	10 Years	Insein	CPB	Yankin, Rangoon
Sein Win	54	10/A	Oct 1988	8 Jan 1991	10/A	Insein Hospital		Thongwa, Rangoon
Shein Tin	52	5-j,17/1	Feb 1994	28 Jan 2004	7+3 Years	Taungoo Hospital	PPP	Rangoon
Si Thu @ Ye Naing	35	5-j,10/A	June 1991	12 July 2001	10Years +10/A	Tharawaddy	Student	Sanchaung, Rangoon
Soe Win	74	17/1-2	July 1990	3 May 1992	20Years	Insein	PVO	Mayangone, Rangoon
Sotpatar Manne	30	122/1, 21/A	June 1989	1992	14 Years	Taungoo		N/Okkala, Rangoon
Tha Tun	82	5-j	May 1990	19 Aug 1990	3 Years	Insein	ANLD	Arakan
Than Htwe@ Ba Ba	25	17/1	1989	1990	Detained	Tavoy Hospital	ABFSU (Tavoy)	Tavoy, Tenasserim
Than Tun	27	122/1	1989	1997	10 Years	Taungoo		Thingangyun, Rangoon
Than Win						Insein	NLD	Maubin, Irrawaddy
Thein Tin	56	10/A	18 Mar 1996	Feb 1998	10/A	Insein	NLD	N/Okkalapa, Rangoon
Tin Aung	50	5-j		1998		Bassein		Wakhema, Irrawaddy
Tin Hlaing@ Tin Haung		5-j	Dec 1991	1994		Insein	NLD	N/Okkalapa, Rangoon

Name	Age	Previous Law	Date of Arrest	Date of Death	Prison Term	Prison	Org	Address
Tin Maung Win	51		23 Oct 1990	18 Jan 1991	25 Years	Insein	NLD	Khayan, Rangoon
Tin Shwe (Monywa)	67	5/A, B, J	Nov 1990	8 June 1997	18 Years	Insein	NLD	Monywa, Sagaing
Tun Aung Kyaw	52		1999	2003		Held	NLD	Mandalay
Tun Sein	60	5/j	1991	19 Feb 1996	10 Years	Insein		Kemmendine, Rangoon
Win Bo	39	5/j	1997	26 Aug 2000	21 Years	Moulmein		Mawlamyine Gyunn, Irrawaddy
Zaw Myo Htet @Zaw Zaw	28	122/1, 386/1	16 July 2003	19 Oct 2004	2 Years	RGH		Min Hla, Mandalay
Zawtika,Ven.	60	5/j	22 Oct 1990	Dec 1992	3 Years	Insein	Monk	Puzundaung, Rangoon

Appendix B (ii): Biographies of Prison Deaths

Name:	(Ko) Aik Ko
Date of Arrest:	October 1990
Date of Death:	31 October 1990
Age at Death:	31

In 1988, Ai Ko was a student at the Workers' College, as well as a service man. During the 1988 popular democracy uprising, he provided supplies for the demonstrators. Later, he served as an organizer for the Workers' College Union. In addition, he worked at the Mingaladon Workers' Union in the Mingaladon Tatmadaw (Army) Garment Factory.

Ai Ko was arrested in October 1990 and was accused of having connections with an unlawful organization. On this charge, he was given 7 years imprisonment with hard labor. He was then transferred from Insein to Thayet prison on 23 November 1991.

At beginning of 1993, Ai Ko became ill. His body temperature was fluctuating between extremes. Therefore, he requested the prison authorities allow him to seek treatment at the prison hospital. His request was denied.

In October 1993, he was again suffering from a serious fever. When other political prisoners complained to the prison authorities that he should have proper treatment, he was brought to the prison hospital. In the prison hospital, the medic, Sergeant Kyaw Myint, injected him with Vitamin B and glucose without conducting a proper examination. As a result of this neglect, a few hours after the injection, Ai Ko died at Thayet prison hospital. After his death, an autopsy revealed that he was suffering from malaria and typhoid. He was 31 years old when he died.

Even though Ai Ko died of malaria, a common disease contracted by political prisoners, the prison hospital failed to test for malaria prior to his death.

Name:	Rev. Arsara
Date of Arrest:	23 January 1991
Date of Death:	25 March 1996
Age at Death:	35

Rev. Arsara lived in Thayet Taw Monastery, Rangoon. He actively participated in the Young Monks Union during the 1988 people's uprising. After the military coup in 1988, he fled to the Thai-Burma border as the authorities wanted to arrest him.

In May 1989, he went back to Rangoon. On 3 October 1990, several monks, including Rev. Asara, marched from Ngar Htat Gyi Monastery to Shwe Dagon Pagoda.

On 23 January 1991, the Military Intelligence arrested him and sentenced him to ten years imprisonment under Section 5 (J) of the 1950 Emergency Provisions Act. In November 1991, he was transferred from Insein prison to Thayet prison.

In January 1996, Rev. Arsara became very ill and suffered from jaundice. However, initially, he was not allowed to go to the hospital. On 12 January 1996, he was allowed to go to the hospital in Thayet prison. At that time, his health condition was rapidly deteriorating. On 14 March 1996, the authorities sent Rev. Arsara to Thayet Township hospital. He passed away the next day.

The prison authorities at the time were Chief Warden Ba Shin and Jailer Khin Maung Swe.

Name:	(U) Aung Kyaw Moe
Date of Arrest:	20 July 1989
Date of Death:	18 May 1998
Age at Death:	38

Aung Kyaw Moe actively participated in the 1988 pro-democracy uprising and eventually joined the United National Democracy Party (UNDP) where he continued advocating for democracy and human rights.

On 20 July 1989, he was arrested by the Military Intelligence and accused of contacting the Communist Party Burma (CPB). For this, he was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment with hard labor.

He was then sent to Insein prison, and in 1996 transferred to Tharawaddy. During his prison life, he was well-respected because of his honesty and sacrifice. He treated all his fellow prisoners with respect and compassion.

After his sentence was reduced to 10 years, due to the 1993 amnesty, he was set to be released in 1997. However, the authorities continued to detain him without offering a reason.

At this time, several political prisoners were being detained past the expiry of their prison sentences, under section 10(A) of the State Protection Law. Feeling this to be unjust, several prisoners decided, on 8 May 1998, to demand that the authorities release those who had completed their sentences. Aung Kyaw Moe joined U Kyi, Ko Thein Htoo, Ko Myint Yee, Ko Kyaw Oo Nyo, Ko Thein Zaw and U Aung Than in making this demand.

On the Superintendent's weekly inspection, they threatened to go on a hunger strike if the authorities did not meet their demand. When the authorities failed to comply, the seven began their hunger strike.

The authorities responded by shackling the prisoners and placing them in solitary confinement. Further, they were denied any drinking water. All this was meant to break the spirit of the hunger strikers, but they persisted in their strike.

While the other prisoners were transferred to different prisons, Aung Kyaw Moe remained alone in Tharawaddy, forced to assume poun-zan positions and threatened with severe action if he did not end his strike.

On 12 May 1998, the authorities entered Aung Kyaw Moe's cell a final time, warning him of impending torture if he did not end his hunger strike. Aung Kyaw Moe replied that he would stay on his hunger strike until he died. Angered by this response, the authorities took him out of his cell and beat him unconscious. They then took him back to his cell, denying him any medical treatment. The next day, 13 May 1998, Aung Kyaw Moe died from the torture he received at the hands of the prison authorities.

The authorities did not inform Aung Kyaw Moe's family about his death. When his family heard from other people that he had died, they questioned the prison authorities as to the cause of his death. They were told that he died of sudden illness and that it was necessary to bury him at once. However, the authorities did show the family a picture of Aung Kyaw Moe's corpse, which was clearly covered with scars from the torture he had received.

Name: (U) Aung May Thu
Date of Arrest: 24 August 1989
Date of Death: 17 September 2002
Age at Death: 61

As a student, Aung May Thu joined the All Burma Federation of Student Unions (ABFSU) and became chairman of the ABFSU Oakpo Township Branch. He was in charge of the organizing committee of the Rangoon District Student Union (Tharawaddy Branch) from 1960-62.

In 1963, during the internal peace movements, he led the Four District Demonstration, marching from Minhla to Kantawmin Garden in Rangoon. He also demonstrated against fraud in the Southeast Asia Games Festival. He was arrested in the union building compound on 30 November 1963 and sent to the notorious Coco Island prison in 1965.

He participated in the hunger strike in Coco Island in 1968 and, as the strike was successful, was taken back to Insein prison. He was released from Insein prison on 12 April 1972, but was later rearrested and detained in August 1976. He was then detained a third time on 6 April 1984.

In October 1988, he joined the National League for Democracy (NLD) and later became the chairperson of the NLD (Minhla Branch). He was arrested for a fourth time on 24 August 1989 and sentenced to 10 years imprisonment under the Emergency Provisions Act, Section 5 (J), by a Military Tribunal held in Insein prison on 6 November 1989.

Although he completed his 10 year prison term on 6 November 1999, he continued to be detained under section 10 (A) of the State Protection Law.

Aung May Thu suffered from a persistent fever for 15 days in September 2002, and was hospitalized in Tharawaddy prison. He died two days later on 17 September 2002.

Aung May Thu: Corpse

Aung May Thu sacrificed his life for his country, serving nearly 25 years in prison for his efforts to bring democracy and human rights to Burma. He ultimately died from the neglect of the authorities for the well-being of political prisoners.

At the Cemetery: Aung San Suu Kyi and Aung May Thu's family

Name: (U) Aung Myint Thein
Date of Arrest: July 2005
Date of Death: 5 November 2005
Age at Death: 37

Aung Myint Thein lived in No. 12 quarter, Shwe Pauk Kan Township, Rangoon. He joined the Democracy and Peace Party after the 1988 people's uprising.

Later, he became a human rights activist and collected information on the human rights situation in Burma. He did so at great risk to his personal safety, and with the knowledge that his actions could lead to his arrest.

On 28 August 2005, the authorities held a press conference in which they announced that ten people had been arrested, including Aung Myint Thein. They reported that Aung Myint Thein was 'given training on the world's labor disputes, employer-employee issues and participated in a mass organizational course for three days.' These activities were deemed a threat to the rule of the SPDC.

After he was sent to Insein prison, he was charged under Section 16 (3), Section 17 (1) of Unlawful Association Act and Section 5 (e) and (j) of the 1950 Emergency Provisions Act.

In prison, Aung Myint Thein suffered from severe lung disease. His suffering was compounded by the lack of health care in the prison. He was also reportedly tortured during the interrogation period. Four months after being sent to Insein prison, he died at 2:00 pm on 5 November 2005. At 6:00 pm, officers of the local police department went to his residence. They told his family members that he died in prison from diarrhea.

The next morning at 5:00 am, his five siblings went to Insein prison. The authorities allowed three of them to view the corpse. They told the authorities that they wanted to cremate the corpse the next day. The authorities refused and urgently arranged to have the cremation at 11:30 am that day in Yay Way cemetery.

Name:	(U) Aye Lwin
Date of Arrest:	October 1988
Date of Death:	December 1992
Age at Death:	38

Aye Lwin lived in Thingangyun Township. He actively participated in the 1988 people's uprising. After the military coup in late 1988, he was arrested. He was accused of raiding the Thingangyun Township Police Department during the uprising.

On 19 November 1989, he was sentenced to death under Section 122 (1), 302 (2) and 149 of the Criminal Procedure Code. The authorities gave amnesty to prisoners in 1989. As a result, his death sentence was changed to twenty years imprisonment.

Aye Lwin took part in a hunger strike with other political prisoners in Insein prison in 1990. He was subsequently severely tortured.

In 1992, after an argument with a warden, he was beaten and put in solitary confinement. He was seriously injured and vomited blood. He did not receive any medical treatment and later died in solitary confinement in 1992 December.

Two political prisoners complained to the authorities when Aye Lwin was tortured and put in solitary confinement. The authorities responded by torturing both of them.

Name:	(Ma) Aye Mu
Date of Arrest:	16 September 1997
Date of Death:	May 1998
Age at Death:	21

Ma Aye Mu was born in Byat Wi Tha village, Theyetchaung township, Tennasserim Division. Her parents were U Maung Sein and Daw Aye Tin. She belonged to Mergui/Tavoy United Front (MTUF) based in Tennasserim Division.

On 16 September 1997 around 6:00 am, she and three other women ran into soldiers in Yay Pu village, Theyetchaung Township. The soldiers were led by Captain Kyaw Thu and belonged to Unit No. 2 of No. 267 Light Infantry Battalion (LIB). The women were arrested.

In the evening around 4:00 pm, the troops left for Kyel Chan Village. Captain Kyaw Thu stayed in the house of U Maung Lwin, the chairman of Village Law and Order Restoration Council (VLORC). The soldiers stayed in seven houses in the village. The detainees were put in the residency of U Ohn Nyunt.

At around 9:00 pm, Captain Kyaw Thu took Aye Mu to the house where he was staying for interrogation. She was raped once. About 10:00 pm, she was sent back.

On 17 September, at about 9:00 pm, she was taken away again. She was raped and sent back at about 10:00.

Finally, she was sent to Tavoy prison and received five years imprisonment.

Aye Mu was raped and tortured during interrogation and while in prison. Her health deteriorated, but Tavoy Prison had almost no medical treatment for the prisoners. Authorities finally sent her to a hospital outside the prison.

However, Aye Mu died in prison in the second week of May. The prison authorities did not inform her family about her death. Captain Kyaw Thu (now Lieutenant Colonel Kyaw Thu) is currently based in Division No. 44.

Name:	(U) Ba Thaw (alias) Maung Thaw Ka
Date of Arrest:	5 October 1989
Date of Death:	June 1991
Age at Death:	65

Ba Thaw was a major in the Burmese Navy. After he retired from the Navy, he became a writer. His pen name was Maung Thaw Ka, and he was an expert at writing satire. He blatantly criticized the political system and policy of the Burmese Socialist Programme Party (1962-1988). He translated several poems and writings into Burmese. His famous book "Battle Ship 103" is based on his experience in the Navy.

Ba Thaw actively participated in the 1988 pro-democracy uprising, joining with other writers to petition the military to stop shooting demonstrators. He also appealed to his fellow navy men to stand on the side of the people. He served as chairperson of the Journalists Union.

After the military coup, political parties and organizations were allowed to form. He co-founded the National League for Democracy (NLD) and became in charge of the Sagaing Division branch.

Because of his appeals to the Navy, he was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment when he was arrested in 1989. He was accused of trying to factionalize the Navy.

His books were banned at this time. Long after his death, in 1998, one of his books, "Guru of Poetry" was allowed to be published.

Ba Thaw suffered from paralysis before he was arrested. In prison, he suffered from a stroke as a result of the torture he received after he participated in the September 1990 Hunger Strike in Insein prison. He received little medical treatment. He requested the authorities to give him specialized treatment. He was repeatedly denied.

After suffering from a severe heart attack in June 1991, he was sent to Rangoon General Hospital. He died three days after being hospitalized. His death appears to be directly linked to the torture and ill-treatment he received while in prison.

The prison authorities at the time were Jailer Pyone Cho and Prison Doctor Soe Kyi.

Name:	(U) Bo Than Done
Date of Arrest:	1982
Date of Death:	March 1997
Age at Death:	70

Bo Than Done was born in Nyaung Lay Bin district. He was a platoon leader of the Karen National Liberation Army, Karen National Union. He was arrested on duty in 1982 during the Pegu Mountains Recapturing Operation. He was sentenced to death in 1983 under Section 122 (1) of the High Treason Act.

His sentence was reduced from death to life imprisonment under the regime's General Asylum 4/89 on 21 January 1989.

Due to aging and malnutrition, he suffered from several different diseases.

In January 1997, Bo Than Done was transferred from Insein Prison Hospital to Rangoon General Hospital, where he was held in the guard ward, as his kidney disease worsened. When he was in Rangoon General Hospital, he suffered from memory loss, failing nerves and had great difficulty talking. He died in the guard ward on the third week of March 1997.

Many of the Karen prisoners have died in prison due to malnutrition, as they are unable to contact or receive support from their families living in remote areas.

Name:	(U) Chit Htaung
Date of Arrest:	1989
Date of Death:	19 December 1990

Chit Htaung served as a Sergeant in the Meiktila Artillery while Burma was under Japanese control during the World War II. After the war, Burma briefly became a democratic country and he became an assistant to the Minister for Kayah State Affairs.

In the 1988 pro-democracy uprising, he led the people from Phasawng in Kayah state. After the 1988 military coup, he became a member of the National League for Democracy (NLD) Phasawng Township branch. After he was chosen as the NLD nominee for Phasawng constituency during the run-up to the 1990 election, he was arrested.

Chit Htaung is remembered as saying, during his time in Myingyan prison:

"They (military leaders) were shamed in front of the international community because of the 1988 pro-democracy uprising. Therefore, they are trying to kill us one by one

and systematically. We think we will win if we survive this killing and get out of prison alive."

Chit Htaung was transferred back and forth from Loikaw prison to Meikhtila prison to Myingyan prison. While in Myingyan prison, he noticed that he had asthma, which required medicine that the prison could not provide. As his family could only visit him once every three months, he was unable to get the proper medicine. On 18 December 1990, after repeated requests by Chit Htaung and his fellow political prisoners, the prison authorities finally took him to the hospital. He died in the hospital on 19 December 1990 as a result of the wilful neglect of the authorities.

Name:	(Ko) Gaung Shay
Date of Arrest:	1991
Date of Death:	1991
Age at Death:	20

Gaung Shay lived in Ka Byin Village, Mergui Township, Tenasserim Division. He was a Karen ethnic and an activist in the underground movement. In 1991, he was arrested in a house in Wa Kone Village. The house owner and a member of the Karen National Union were also arrested at this time.

Gaung Shay received three years imprisonment with hard labor under section 17 (1) of the Unlawful Association Act. He was sent to Mergui prison.

In Mergui prison, prisoners were not given enough rice, and they never received the required weekly ration of meat. They were denied drinking water, and only allowed to shower twice a month at which time they had to line up in the hot sun. The prison was very crowded as the authorities

put about a hundred prisoners in a hall suitable for not more than fifty prisoners. Gaung Shay became weak as a result. Later, he died of diarrhea.

The prison authorities at the time were Chief Warden Aung San and Wardens Bin Sai, Win San and Nyunt Han.

Name:	(U) Hla Khin
Date of Arrest:	26 August 1997
Date of Death:	31 May 1999
Age at Death:	43

Hla Khin was a member of the National League for Democracy (NLD) Shwe Pyi Tha Township branch.

While Aung San Suu Kyi was planning a campaign trip to Anyarsu, Hla Khin was arrested on 26 August 1998.

On 6 September 1998, while initially detained at Riot Police Battalion (9), he was later taken to Light Infantry Battalion (219) in Ye Mon Military Town where he continued to quarrel with the Military Intelligence (MI) personnel.

After his interrogation at Ye Mon, Hla Khin was transferred to Insein prison. The authorities claimed that he hanged himself in the prison cell.

In an NLD statement on 8 June 1999, the NLD noted the following:

"The authorities in announcing his death alleged that he indulged in alcohol which resulted in brain damage and suicide. This is questionable. He had been imprisoned for nine months. How was it possible for him to have access to liquor? If he had that

affliction, did the authorities take any remedial steps? It is not impossible for this disease to be cured.

His family members are in great shock and were not able to give any explanation whatsoever to the members of the League when inquiries were made. It is very likely that they had been threatened and intimidated by some person or organization. No response was obtained to questions about whether the family was given permission to view the corpse or to bury it. However on the 7th day after his death, in accordance with Buddhist beliefs and custom, the League offered prayers and food to Buddhist monks on his behalf."

The prison authorities at the time were Chief Warden Lu Hla and Prison Doctor Soe Khaing.

Name:	(U) Hla Than
Date of Arrest:	23 October 1990
Date of Death:	2 August 1996
Age at Death:	49

After retiring from the army after serving as a Sergeant between 1965 and 1967, Hla Than became a lawyer. During the 1988 democracy movement, he joined the Rangoon Lawyers' Council. When the National League for Democracy (NLD) was founded, he became the chairperson of the NLD's Kyemmendine Township branch, Rangoon Division.

He was elected as a Member of Parliament from the Coco Island constituency. He was imprisoned in Insein prison for working to form a parallel government. He was given 25 years imprisonment.

He was given an additional 7 years imprisonment after he worked with other political prisoners to send a letter to Yozo Yokota, UN Special Rapporteur for Burma.

After suffering from a dangerously high fever, Hla Than was taken to the guard ward at Rangoon General Hospital. He died there on 2 August 1996. According to his medical record, he was HIV positive. It is possible that he contracted HIV while in Insein, as doctors and medics often fail to sterilize syringes used on political prisoners. Several former political prisoners have noted the lack of proper care in administering injections, and the general lack of proper health care while in the prison, all of which likely led to Hla Than's death.

The prison authorities at the time were Chief Warden Shwe Kyaw, Warden Saw Zin Mya and Prison Doctor Thin Phay.

Name:	(Ko) Hsi Shi
Date of Arrest:	1989
Date of Death:	18 October 1990
Age at Death:	23

Hsi Shi lived in Kachin State. He was a part-time soldier in the Kachin Independence Army (KIA). He and some KIA soldiers were arrested in 1989 in Kachin State. They received seven years imprisonment each. They were moved from Myitkyina prison to Insein prison. They were not allowed prison visits, as they did not have contact with their families.

In early October 1990, Hsi Shi became seriously ill with malaria. He repeatedly requested that the authorities send him to the prison hospital.

The prison doctor went around the prison once a week. On 16 October 1990, Hsi Shi waited for him to come.

In the morning at 9:00 am, he was moved to another location in the prison as the Director General of Prison Department was to visit Insein Prison on that day. When the Director General went back at noon, Hsi Shi was taken back to his cell. He almost passed out, but was not sent to the hospital. Some time after 9:00 pm, he passed out and the authorities sent him to the hospital ward in prison. Two days later, he died.

The prison authorities at the time were Jailer Tun Soe and Prison Doctor Soe Kyi.

Name:	(U) Khin Maung Aye
Date of Arrest:	May 1996
Date of Death:	2002
Age at Death:	57

Khin Maung Aye was born in Mandalay, central Burma. He was arrested in May 1996. It was learned that he had a book entitled "From Dictatorship to Democracy" written by Gene Sharp. He was given seven years imprisonment under the Section 5 (j) of the Emergency Provisions Act.

He suffered from gastric ailments in Mandalay prison. As a result, he stayed in the hospital ward in prison for about two years. In 2002, his stomach problem worsened. One day after he vomited blood, he died.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) met with him about four times while visiting the prisons. The ICRC reportedly encouraged the

authorities to free Khin Maung Aye due to his health condition, but the authorities refused.

Khin Maung Aye died a few months before his prison term was completed.

The prison authorities were Chief Warden Aung Zin and Jailer Zaw Win.

Name:	(U) Khin Maung Lwin (alias) Nay Min Aung
Date of Arrest:	5 January 1998
Date of Death:	11 January 2006
Age at Death:	38

Khin Maung Lwin was born in Dawbon Township, Rangoon. He was the son of U Aung Kyi and Daw Than Aye. His participated in the 1988 nation wide democracy movement as part of the Green Stars Youth Front.

After the demonstration, he worked for the Democracy Party and Patriotic Youth Organization. In 1995, Khin Maung Lwin was a witness in a rape trial. The authorities claimed he gave false testimony, and he was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment. In 1996, he was released.

On 5 January 1998, he sent 38 copies of a letter entitled "Help" to the State Buddhist Monk Council, military leaders and Aung San Suu Kyi. The letter said:

"People are in a dilemma. The state leaders should show understanding of the problem. The monks in the past requested the leaders to understand for the sake of the nation. It is time for the monks to request once again."

Khin Maung Lwin was arrested for this letter. On 4 March 1998, he was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment for sedition under Section 17 (20) of the Printers and Publishers Act (1962) and Section 124 (a) of the Criminal Procedure Code.

On 17 May 1998, he was moved from Insein prison to Kale prison. On 5 May 2002, he was moved to Loikaw prison. On 29 December 2002, he was moved to Putao prison.

In Putao prison, he suffered from hypertension, heart disease, malaria, urinary tract problems and hemorrhoids. He and his family repeatedly requested the prison authorities, the International Committee of the Red Cross and intelligence personnel to allow for treatment in a township hospital. The prison Chief Warden also reported his case to the Prison Department five times. The prison doctor recommended that he needed to have proper treatment. However, he was not allowed to go to the hospital.

On 10 January 2006, he passed out and died in Putao prison at 9:30 am.

The prison authorities at the time were Jailer Tun Myint Thein.

Name:	(U) Khin Maung Myint
Date of Arrest:	28 October 1997
Date of Death:	21 July 2001
Age at Death:	42

Khin Maung Myint was the son of U Khin Maung Toe and Daw Myint Myint. He was an activist during the 1988 people's uprising. He became a member of National League for Democracy (NLD) after it was founded in late 1988. NLD's Latha Township branch was based in his house.

In 1995, he became a member of a working committee in Rangoon Division. The committee was responsible for the founding of the NLD's Rangoon Division Youth Wing. He was also a member in the Supporting Committee for the Central Youth Wing.

Khin Maung Myint was arrested on 28 October 1997 following an attempt by the NLD to hold a meeting with Aung San Suu Kyi and NLD youth in Mayangone Township in Rangoon. On that day, the military authorities blocked a delegation of NLD members from holding the meeting. Many NLD members were forced into waiting vehicles and dumped near townships outside Rangoon.

On December 1997, he was imprisoned under Article 5(j) of the 1950 Emergency Provision Act and under the Gambling Act. He was sentenced to one extra year imprisonment under the Gambling Act because when the Military Intelligence (MI) personnel searched his house, they found the corner piece of an illegal lottery ticket.

Khin Maung Myint's elderly mother and family members had a difficult time trying to visit him in prison, as the authorities moved him from Insein prison to Kale prison. Like other prisons around the country, Kale prison,

located in northeastern Burma, is notorious for poor accommodation and insufficient food.

Khin Maung Myint was infected with malaria in Kale prison. He was repeatedly denied medical treatment outside prison.

On the afternoon of 21 July 2001, authorities finally sent him to the hospital outside prison. He died at 4pm that day in the hospital.

Name:	(U) Khin Maung Myint
Date of Arrest:	June 1989
Date of Death:	16 February 1993
Age at Death:	63

Khin Maung Myint served as a liaison between Thakin Soe and Bo Ne Win during the Japanese occupation of Burma. At that time, he was only fourteen.

Khin Maung Myint was a well-known student leader in Burma. As an executive committee member of the All Burma Federation of Student Unions (ABFSU) in 1953, he fought for student rights and for democracy for the whole country.

When the People's Progressive Party (PPP) emerged in 1959, he became a member of the central committee and eventually became the general secretary. When the Union National United Front (UNUF) was set up by merging progressive political parties, he served in the chairman's committee. Calling for an end to the civil war and for internal peace, Khin Maung

Myint actively led Pegu Township during the Internal Peace 6 Districts Demonstration.

In 1965, all the leaders of the People's Progressive Party were arrested after refusing to disband, as the military regime had outlawed all political parties. Khin Maung Myint was sent to Coco Island in 1969 where he refused to participate in the so-called "self-reliance" program. He also refused to accept the "Honorary Citizen" award given by the Burmese Socialist Programme Party (BSPP).

As a former student leader, Khin Maung Myint advised demonstrators during the 1988 pro-democracy uprising. After the military coup, he became chairperson of the People's Progressive Party when it was reestablished. He then set out to make anti-regime speeches around the upper Burma region.

He was arrested in June 1989 and sentenced to 20 years imprisonment on 6 November 1989 under the Unlawful Associations Act.

Khin Maung Myint sacrificed himself for his country, as is seen in his multiple detentions under various un-democratic and brutal regimes.

At the end of 1991, Khin Maung Myint began to suffer from dysentery. He was hospitalized in Insein prison in 1992. After suffering from chronic dysentery for over a year, he died in Insein prison on 16 February 1993 from the authorities and doctors ineptitude in treating his illness.

The prison authorities at this time were Prison Doctor Soe Kyi.

Name: (U) Kinn Sein
Date of Arrest: January 1991
Date of Death: 16 January 1995
Age at Death: 53

Kinn Sein was born in Prome City, Pegu Division. His father was U Ngwe San. He was active in the underground movement for the Burma Communist Party (BCP), while earning his living as a dentist. He joined the People's Progressive Party (PPP) when political parties were allowed to form after 1988. He became the vice chairman of PPP (Prome District).

He was arrested by the Military Intelligence in January 1991. He was sentenced to 8 years imprisonment under the Unlawful Association Act, Article 17 (1), for his contacting the BCP on 30 May 1991.

Kinn Sein suffered from a chronic fever and fainted in October 1994. Because he fainted frequently and was so weak, he was sent to Insein Prison Hospital. When the prison doctors were no longer willing to treat him, he was sent to the guard ward of Rangoon General Hospital. Two days before his death, he was transferred from the guard ward to another ward on the first floor of Rangoon General Hospital. He died on 16 January 1995.

Although the Military Intelligence (MI) informed his family that he had died of TB, it was reported that a doctor had confirmed that Kinn Sein died from AIDS.

The prison authorities at this time were Chief Warden Tha Oo, Jailer Soe Myint, Prison Doctor Thinn Phay.

Name: (U) Khin Maung
(alias)Bo Set Yaung
Date of Arrest: 1989
Date of Death: March 1992
Age at Death: 68

Bo Set Yaung was from Zigon Township, Pegu Division. He graduated from Military Academy Class 3 when Burma was under Japanese rule. He was a military officer in the revolution against Japanese rule.

General Ne Win's repressive military government (1962-1988) awarded him for his activities in the revolution. He refused to accept the award.

In 1989, he was arrested and accused of being in contact with the Communist Party of Burma. He received harsh torture during a long interrogation period in Yay-Kyi-Ai, a notorious MI center. On 2 November 1989, he was sent to No. 5 Special Military Tribunal in the Insein prison compound. He received five years imprisonment under Section 5 (J) of the 1950 Emergency Provisions Act.

Bo Set Yaung's wife received five years imprisonment and his eldest daughter received twenty years imprisonment.

Bo Set Yaung's health worsened as a result of torture during interrogation. He was also getting old. He was made to stay on the cold concrete floor of a tiny cell for over two years. He received poor medical treatment in prison hospital when his health condition deteriorated. He died in the prison hospital.

Authorities claimed that Bo Set Yaung's death was related to heart problems which even he did not know about.

The prison authorities at the time were Chief Warden Ohn Phay and Prison Doctor Soe Kyi.

Name: (U) Ko Lay
Date of Arrest: March 1990
Date of Death: 1992
Age at Death: 50

Ko Lay was from Bamaw township, Kachin State. He was a member of the National League for Democracy. There was a ceremony held on the two year anniversary of Phone Maw's (a student activist) death on 13 March 1990. Ko Lay was arrested for his participation in the ceremony.

He was charged under Section 5 (j) of the Emergency Provisions Act and sentenced to seven years imprisonment. The authorities sent him to Bamaw prison. In April, he was moved to Mandalay prison, middle Burma.

He had heart disease before his arrest and had already had two operations. When he was about to be arrested, the doctor had already planned for a third operation.

In Mandalay prison, Ko Lay informed the Chief Warden about the treatment he should have, but he was refused proper treatment.

Eventually, he was sent to Mandalay hospital when his health condition worsened. A few days after arriving to the hospital, he died.

The prison authorities at this time were Chief Warden Tun Aung Kyaw, Jailer Chit, and Prison Doctor Aye Cho.

Name (U) Ko Oo
Date of Arrest: April 2000
Date of Death: 23 March 2006
Age at Death: 64

Since the NLD's founding, Ko Oo was an active member. He became the secretary of Thayet Township, and made his residence the party's office. After the Committee Representing People's Parliament (CRPP) was formed in 1998, he was detained for a short period of time after refusing to remove

the party signpost from his house. He further refused to resign from the party despite pressure from the Military Intelligence (MI). His son was also arrested, falsely charged and imprisoned.

Ko Oo was arrested by the MI in April 2000 and given two years imprisonment under Articles 363 and 505 (b) of the Criminal Procedure Code. Seven years were later added to his sentence, making a total of nine years imprisonment.

While in prison, Ko Oo suffered from serious arthritis and gastritis, yet the authorities did not provide adequate medical treatment. Moreover, he was referred to the hospital only at the last minute. His liver problems developed as a result of poor nutrition and insufficient medical care. He died from complications with his liver at Thayet Hospital on 23 March 2006.

Name:	(U) Kyaw Din
Date of Arrest:	2 July 1997
Date of Death:	19 October 1997
Age at Death:	58

Kyaw Din was chairman of the National League for Democracy, Wakema Township branch, Irrawaddy Division. The Military Intelligence personnel arrested him on 24 July 1997 and accused him of spreading rumors and committing an offence against the public order. He was sentenced to 2 years imprisonment under section 505 (b) of the Criminal Procedure Code for spreading rumors.

Kyaw Din suffered from pneumonia, kidney problems and hypertension while he was in prison. The authorities sent him to Myaungmya hospital on 19 October 1997. He died in the hospital at 5:30 pm the next day.

On 26 December 1997, the NLD noted his death in a paper entitled "Cracking down on the legally registered NLD:"

"(Kyaw Din) was reportedly ill for unknown period and sent to Myaung Mya hospital on 19 October 1997. At that time, there was no chance for him to live. He reportedly died on 20 October 1997 because he had diarrhea as a result of improper meals. His family asked the authorities not to cremate the dead body within three days according to the tradition. The Myaungmya prison authorities did not listen to the family and cremated the body on 21 October 1997. Then, his family requested to collect the remaining bones and ashes. The authorities denied their request. They sent the family back to Wakema Township as soon as they cremated the body."

Name:	(Ko) Kyaw Myo Thant (alias) Japan Gyi
Date of Arrest:	July 1989
Date of Death:	20 May 1990
Age at Death:	27

Kyw Myo Thant was born in Bogale township, Irrawaddy Division. He was a final year university student specializing in history when he took part in the 1988 pro-democracy uprising. He became the secretary of DPNS's Bogalay township branch. In his capacity as secretary, he wrote a letter to the Chairman of the then Township Law and Order Restoration Council inquiring about the arrest of party members in his township. He was then arrested under the Act 2/88 and accused of breaking marshal law. He was sentenced to 18 months.

In prison, Kyaw Myo Thant insisted that he was arrested unlawfully without reason and demanded to be treated as a political prisoner. The prison authorities responded to his demand by severely beating and torturing him. Due to the harsh torture and beatings, Kyaw Myo Thant was unable to eat well or digest food properly. His health then began to deteriorate. As he did not receive appropriate medication or treatment, his health situation

worsened day by day. In May 1990, he became unconscious and was hospitalized. The doctors found that his digestive system had broken down completely. Though the doctor tried to treat him, he eventually died on 20 May 1990.

The prison authorities at this time were Chief Warden Tin Win, Jailer Myint Htoo and Medical Staff Tin Win.

Kyaw Myo Thant's Funeral:
Funeral Procession Led by DPNS Members

Kyaw Myo Thant's Funeral: Cremation

Name:	(U) Kyi
Date of Arrest:	1992
Date of Death:	25 September 1994

Kyi actively participated in National League for Democracy. In 1992, some former political prisoners from the Democratic Party for A New Society wrote a report based on their prison experiences. The report was entitled "Hell in Tharawaddy Prison."

Kyi was arrested after he helped distribute this report. He received six years imprisonment and died while in Tharawaddy prison.

The prison authorities Chief Warden Myint Thein, Jailer Tin Tun and Prison Doctor Phyo Wai Aung.

Name:	(U) Kyi Saung
Date of Arrest:	21 December 1995
Date of Death:	May 1996
Age at Death:	60

Kyi Saung was from Irrawaddy Division. He took part in the 1988 people's uprising and became a member of the National League for Democracy (NLD). His position in the NLD was Joint Secretary of the Myaungmya Township branch.

Kyi Saung joined the Karen New Year ceremony in Warpya Village, Myaungmya Township. He read the NLD's Karen New Years message during the ceremony.

The authorities arrested him without giving any reason and sent him to Myaungmya prison. Later, he was charged under Section 5 (J) of the Emergency Provisions Act.

Kyi Saung was getting old, and his health had worsened from the interrogation period. Five months after arriving in prison, he died in May 1996.

Name:	(Mr.) Leo Nichols
Date of Arrest:	5 April 1996
Date of Death:	22 June 1996
Age at Death:	65

Leo Nichols was an Australian citizen who worked as honorary consul to Burma for Norway (1969) and Denmark (1978).

In 1993, he was appointed as honorary consul for Norway, Denmark, Finland and Switzerland. During his time in Burma, he became close friends with

Aung San Suu Kyi. As a result, the junta intensely disliked him.

On 5 April 1996, he was arrested in Rangoon. He was accused of illegal possession of fax machine and telephone switchboard. On 20 May 1996, he was sentenced to three years imprisonment and made to pay a USD 5,000 fine. He was sent to Insein prison.

The authorities interrogated Leo Nichols almost every night in the first days of his arrest. His health condition was worse each time he returned from the interrogation room, according to political prisoners in Insein prison who shared a cell with him. Further, he suffered from hypertension and diabetes.

On 22 June 1996, he died in Insein prison.

Ohn Gyaw, then Foreign Minister, claimed that Leo Nichols died in Rangoon General Hospital (RGH) while he was having a meal. However, eyewitnesses said that he was sent to RGH after his death.

His family members were not able to take part in his funeral. The diplomatic community sought answers from the regime regarding Leo Nichols death, but a truthful explanation has yet to be given.

The prison authorities at the time were Chief Warden Shwe Kyaw and Warden Thin Phay.

Name:	Mahn Da Weik
Date of Arrest:	1989
Date of Death:	12 July 1992
Age at Death:	58

Mahn Da Weik was born in Wakema Township, Irrawaddy Division. In 1950, his village was attacked by government troops. Soldiers burnt the

village to the ground, and raped or killed the villagers. Two of Mahn Da Weik's sisters were killed.

Mahn Da Weik later participated in political movements. On 6 November 1963, there was a six province demonstration for peace building in Burma. Mahn Da Weik acted as a committee member for the demonstration. At that time, he was also Chairperson of the Karen National Union.

In 1963, the military government stopped the ongoing peace talks with armed groups. Student leaders and dissidents were arrested. Mahn Da Weik was one of them. He was put in prison for seven years without trial. After his release, he secretly worked for the Karen ethnic people against the military dictatorship.

In 1978, he was sentenced to death for high treason. In 1980, the government announced a general amnesty on prisoners around the country, and he was released.

In 1988, Mahn Da Weik participated in the people's uprising. In 1989, he was arrested after he secretly contacted the Karen National Union on the Thai-Burma border. He received eight years imprisonment.

While in prison, Mahn Da Weik had to sleep on the cold concrete floor. As a result, he suffered from a paralyzing stroke in 1992. The authorities did not give him proper medical care. He was left in his cell for weeks.

On 29 June 1992, he was sent to Rangoon General Hospital. Thirteen days later, he died. Authorities claimed that he died from lung cancer.

Before he died, his hands and legs were put in handcuffs and stocks.

The prison authorities at the time were Chief Warden Ohn Phay and Prison Doctor Soe Kyi.

Name:	Mai Aik Pan
Date of Arrest:	2 October 2001
Date of Death:	31 July 2002
Age at Death:	40

Mai Aik Pan was the son of Aik Heang and Ei Yueal. He became a member of the Palaung State Liberation Party (PSLP) in 1984, a party which would later refuse to sign a ceasefire agreement with the regime. He was sent to the National Democratic Front (NDF) headquarters as the representative of the PSLP in 1986.

He was one of the founders of the Palaung State Liberation Front (PSLF) on 12 January 1992 and was assigned to the Central Executive Committee.

At the first convention of the PSLF held in July 2000, he was elected as joint secretary. He was instrumental in the establishment of the Paloung Youth Cooperative Working Committee and the Palaung Women's Organization based on the Thai-Burma border.

He was arrested by the Military Intelligence near the Thai-Burma border on 2 October 2000 while he was in the underground movement. He was sent to Moulmein prison and put on trial where he was sentenced to 7 years imprisonment under Articles 17 (1) and 13 (1) of the Unlawful Association Act. When he was arrested, his health was good.

Mai Aik Pan was hospitalized at Moulmein General Hospital due to his deteriorating health on 22 July 2002. On 26 July, the prison doctor submitted an official letter about Mai Aik Pan's health to the Superintendent of the prison, asking for Mai Aik Pan to be allowed to go to a hospital outside the prison. He was sent to a general hospital outside the prison around 1:30 in

the afternoon of 31 July, 2002. He died of dropsy at about 3:15 the same day. Prison authorities then informed his family about his death.

The prison authorities at the time were Chief Warden Thet Shay, Jailer Kyaw Than Myint and Prison Doctor Soe Win.

Name:	(U) Maung Ko
Date of Arrest:	10 December 1990
Date of Death:	11 December 1990
Age at Death:	64

Maung Ko was born in Mandalay City in 1926. His parents were U Thein and Daw Ngwe Thae. He went underground in 1949 and became a member of the Communist Party of Burma (CPB). When the CPB formed a Special Provision consisting of Kyaukse, Tada-U, Myingyan, and Natogyi townships in 1955, he became a political organizer for the Special Provisional Army. In 1959, he was arrested for the first time in Myinmu Township and sentenced to two years imprisonment.

In 1976, some young people in Mandalay went underground to join the CPB. Military Intelligence personnel arrested and interrogated Maung Ko to get information about them.

In 1987, while implementing the underground activities of the CPB, Military Intelligence chased after him. He then went to Mong Koe CPB headquarters.

In September 1988, he became the secretary of the 4828 Committee of the CPB and sneaked back inside the country to continue underground activities. Military Intelligence arrested him in December 1990.

Maung Ko was interrogated at Military Intelligence Unit 1 (MI-1) in Mandalay. He died from the brutal torture he received there.

Name:	(U) Maung Ko
Date of Arrest:	1996
Date of Death:	15 November 2002
Age at Death:	58

Maung Ko was born in Kyauk Padaung Township, Mandalay Division. He was first arrested by then General Ne Win's Burma Socialist Programme Party (BSPP) government in 1979. He was accused of forming a left-wing literature study group. In 1980, he was released from Mandalay prison under the general amnesty decree 2/80.

In 1988, he joined National League for Democracy (NLD). He became a member in NLD's election committee, Kyauk Padown Township branch, before the 1990 multi-party general election.

While living in Kyaukbadown Township, Maung Ko was arrested in 1996. He was sentenced to 14 years imprisonment under the 1950 Emergency Provisions Act 5 (J) and Article 17(1) of the Unlawful Association Act. He was accused of having contact with the Communist Party of Burma.

Maung Ko was transferred from Insein prison to Tharawaddy prison in 1997. He was routinely tortured while in prison.

His health condition worsened in Tharawaddy prison beginning in 2002. Because he did not receive treatment, though his condition was obvious, his heart disease rapidly worsened. The authorities shuffled him from the Tharawaddy prison hospital to the Insein prison hospital and back when his condition seemed to improve.

He was sent to Insein Township hospital when his condition later again worsened. Eventually, on 15 November 2002, he died of a heart attack in the hospital.

Name: (U) Maung Maung Aye
Date of Arrest: September 1999
Date of Death: 21 June, 2002
Age at Death: 59

Maung Maung Aye was born in Labutta Township. His parents were U Kyaw Sein and Daw Ohn Shin. He graduated from Government Technological Institute and also received a law degree.

During the 1988 pro-democracy uprising, he took a leadership role in his township's general strike. He joined the NLD when it was founded in late 1988.

In September 1999, Military Intelligence arrested him because of his involvement in the *9999* movement. He was sentenced to 4 years under Act 505 (b) of the Criminal Procedure Code, for disseminating rumors.

Maung Maung Aye first became ill at Myaungmya prison and was transferred to Pathein prison on 4 June 2002. As the doctor in the prison hospital was not able to treat him, he was then hospitalized at Bassein Hospital on June 21. He died at 2:15 pm on 25 June 2002 while in the hospital.

Name: (Ko) Maung Maung Aye
Date of Arrest: July 1989
Date of Death: 23 July 1991
Age at Death: 24

Maung Maung Aye was born in Kamaryut Township, Rangoon. He was a member of National Democracy Party (NDP).

He was arrested in July 1989, and accused of distributing pamphlets which threatened state security. He was charged under Section 5 (J) of the Emergency Provisions Act and sent to Insein prison. On 4 August 1989, he was given five years imprisonment.

In November 1989, he was moved to Tharawaddy prison.

Maung Maung Aye was seriously ill in July 1993. He was sent to the prison hospital ward on 23 July and died the same day. The prison authorities said that his death was related to a lung problem.

The prison authorities at the time were Chief Warden Myint Thein and Prison Doctor Khin Maung Thein.

Name:	(U) Min Thu
Date of Arrest:	28 April 1998
Date of Death:	13 June 2004
Age at Death:	50

Min Thu was born in Rangoon. His father was U Kyaw Shein. He was a lawyer and member of National League for Democracy.

In 1998, a book entitled "Burma's Student Movement" was published. The authorities arrested the politicians, student activists and former student leaders believed to be involved in writing the book. Min Thu was arrested on 28 April 1998. Later, he was sent to Insein prison and sentenced to seven years imprisonment under Section 5 (j) of the Emergency Provisions Act.

Min Thu suffered from hypertension, heart disease and a bulbous growth on his bones. Therefore, he had to go to the prison hospital in Insein. In the first week of June 2004, the authorities sent him to the Insein Township hospital. A few days later, he died.

According to his family, the state run newspapers did not accept his obituary notice.

The prison authorities at the time were Chief Warden Hla Kyi, Jailer of Hospital Ward, San Win and Prison Doctor Soe Khaing.

Name:	(U) Min Tun Wai
Date of Arrest:	May 2005
Date of Death:	29 May 2005
Age at Death:	42

Min Tun Wai lived in Khaing Sabel Street, Kyaikmayaw Township, Mon State He belonged to the National League for Democracy, Kyaikmayaw Township branch.

On 26 May 2005, the Kyaikmayaw Township Court sentenced him to five days imprisonment for drunkenness and starting fights in the street. After being sentenced, he was sent to Moulmein prison right away.

On May 28, 2005 (at about 8:10 pm), Min Tun Wai became delirious. He was then made to lie face down as a rope was tied around his arms and legs. As he struggled violently, several criminal prisoners, assigned by the prison authorities as prisoners in charge or night watchmen, beat and kicked him severely. He was repeatedly punched in the face and about the head by these prisoners. His lips were badly bruised from the beating, and he called out his daughter's name incessantly all night.

This incident took place at Ward 1 on the ground floor at the right side of the main entrance.

There was a lackey named Myo Win (prison number 8342/C, C stands for Convicted) in that ward. He governed the ward on behalf of the jailer, and gave the night watchmen bludgeons and clubs. He allowed them to beat other prisoners. The warden also allowed them to beat and strike the other prisoners. The worst of the night watchmen was Nyan Tun Aung (prison number 8962/C, sentenced to one year imprisonment for defecting from the army) and Tun Ko (prison number 8952/C, a child soldier, 17, who also defected from the army). Nyan Tun Aung and Tun Aung (sentenced to one month imprisonment) punched and beat Min Tun Wai's body, face, back and chest repeatedly. When Min Tun Wai lost consciousness, they rested for a while. And then they beat him again and again. Whenever Min Tun Wai regained consciousness, he murmured his daughter's name.

As a result of this torture, on 29 May 2005 (at about 4:00am) Min Tun Wai died.

Min Tun Wai's body was given to the prison doctor by the Superintendent of Moulmein prison. The doctor did not accept his corpse. Therefore, his corpse was sent to an outside hospital for an autopsy. The autopsy revealed that he had bruises and wounds all over his body, as well as a broken hand. Though his sentence was only to last five days, he was in fact tortured to death.

The prison authorities ordered the prisoners in charge and the night watchmen not to discuss this case. U Tin Maung Ohn, a jailer who served as a duty officer that night, claimed that Min Tun Wai tried to climb the rafters in the ward and had fallen on his face which caused the wounds and bruises on his corpse. However, the reality is that U Tun Tun, the senior jailer, and U Tin Maung Ohn allowed the beating to take place, and actually encouraged those prisoners in charge or night watchmen to beat and punch other prisoners.

Because the ICRC had requested the prison authorities not to deal with bludgeons and clubs, they found a way around this restriction by allowing the prisoners in charge and the night watchmen the right to hold bludgeons and clubs.

The prison authorities at that time were Tun Tun and Tin Maung Ohn.

Name: (U) Mya Shwe
Date of Arrest: December 1996
Date of Death: 27 April 1999
Age at Death: 54

Mya Shwe lived in Sanchaung Township, Rangoon. He actively took part in the National League for Democracy (NLD) since it was founded in 1988.

He regularly attended the public gatherings in front of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's residence after her release in 1995. Even after the authorities restricted those gatherings, he routinely attended.

Mya Shwe also actively helped and supported the December 1996 student movement. After that movement, Military Intelligence arrested several NLD members, including Mya Shwe.

The Northern Insein Provincial Court sentenced him to seven years imprisonment. He was then transferred to Tharawaddy prison on 15 November 1997.

In late 1998, Mya Shwe was suffering a severe toothache when the Chief Warder was doing a routine prison inspection. The prison authorities accused him of showing disrespect, and then beat him. They then shackled him and put him in a solitary confinement cell.

Even when his punishment period was over, he was not sent back to his original cell block, but rather placed in a cell with other criminal prisoners. At the time, his health condition worsened.

Mya Shwe also suffered from diarrhea. He often went to the prison hospital for weight loss, low blood pressure, and malnutrition. As the authorities did not take effective action or administer proper treatment, he was in a critical, life-threatening condition in 1999. In April, he was moved to Tharawaddy Township hospital where he died a few days later on 27 April 1999.

The prison authorities at the time were Chief Warden Win Myint, Jailer Aung Maw Oo and Prison Doctor Aung Than.

Name:	(U) Myat Thu
Date of Arrest:	21 February 1997
Date of Death:	May 1997
Age at Death:	48

Myat Thu was born in Nyuan Sa Khan village, Taungoo township. His parents were U Phoe Phuu and Daw Kyi. While he was at Moulmein University in 1970, he participated in the student movement. As a result, he was expelled. In 1973, he was allowed to again attend university where he received his Bachelors of Science.

During the nationwide people's uprising in 1988, he was among the first people in Taungoo township to participate in the strike against the military government. He was detained for one day.

After the military coup in September 1988, he and some activists set up a local branch of the National League for Democracy (NLD). He was the chairperson of NLD Executive Committee (EC), Taungoo Township.

He was detained when the political parties were about to nominate their representatives for the 1990 election. He was freed after the process was finished. As a result, he was not allowed to participate in the election.
In October 1991, Military Intelligence Unit 3 (MI-3) arrested him and interrogated him for a few days.

On the evening of 21 February 1997, all EC members were arrested. Police officers, soldiers and intelligence personnel arrested them. They were detained in the compound of No. 39 Light Infantry Battalion.

Later, they were used as porters when the SPDC troops began military operations against the Karen National Union. Myat Thu was eventually freed from being a porter in the military operation. His health condition had deteriorated.

Soon after being released from being porter, the local authorities went around town with loudspeakers to collect the "porter fee." They claimed that those who did not pay would be arrested and forced to become porters. Myat Thu was angry as he was just freed from being a porter. He then destroyed their loudspeakers and amplifier. As a result, he was arrested and charged with showing defiance to the authorities. He was sentenced to two years imprisonment.

His health condition had deteriorated as a result of working as a porter for six months. In prison, he had to sleep on the concrete floor, and there was a lack of medical treatment. He was sent to Taungoo Township Hospital, but it was too late for treatment. He died in May 1997.

Name: (Ko) Myint Swe
Date of Arrest: 24 October 1988
Date of Death: 8 June 1996
Age at Death: 32

Myint Swe was from Dala Township, Rangoon. He enthusiastically participated in the 1988 people's uprising. On 24 October 1988, he was arrested while raiding a local police department during the uprising. He was moved from Insein to Thayet prison.

In June 1996, there was a dispute between him and Khin Maung Swe, a prison official in Thayet prison. As a result, he was sent to a cell in which a mentally-ill prisoner was kept. He repeatedly reported to the prison authorities that it was dangerous for him to stay with such a person. The authorities neglected him. A few days later, the mentally-ill prisoner beat Myint Swe to death using a yoke.

The prison authorities at the time were Chief Warden Ba Shin and Jailer Khin Maung Swe.

Name: Naing Aung Lun
Date of Arrest: July 2003
Date of Death: 28 September 2005
Age at Death: 45

Naing Aung Lun is the son of U Bo Gyi. He worked in New Mon State Party (NMSP), which signed a ceasefire agreement with the military government in 1995.

In July 2003, nine activists, including Naing Aung Lun, were arrested in Rangoon. Some of them had been collecting information about forced

labor. They were accused of high treason and starting riots. They were taken to Insein prison.

On 28 November 2003 they were sentenced to death under Section 122 (1) of the Criminal Procedure Code.

After their lawyers appealed, their death sentences were changed to life imprisonment on 12 May 2004.

In prison, Naing Aung Lun's health condition deteriorated. He was sent to the hospital ward and then the Insein Township hospital. Early in September 2005, he was moved to Rangoon General Hospital.

On 14 September, Norway-based Democratic Voice of Burma claimed that he was infected the HIV virus. At about 9:00 am on 28 September, he died.

The authorities informed the NMSP about his death.

The prison authorities at the time were Chief Warden Soe Tin.

Name:	Naw Thin Su
Date of Arrest:	16 September 1997
Date of Death:	10 February 1998
Age at Death:	27

Naw Thin Su was a Karen ethnic woman. She was born in Taung Pyauk village, Thayetchaung Township, Tennasserim Division. Her parents were

Saw Thee Swe and Naw Tin Si. She belonged to the Mergui/Tavoy United Front (MTUF) based in Tennasserim Division.

On 16 September 1997, around 6:00 am, Naw Thin Su and three other women ran into soldiers in Yay Pu village, Thayetchaung Township. The soldiers were led by Captain Kyaw Thu and belonged to Unit No. 2 of No. 267 Light Infantry Battalion (LIB). The women were arrested.

In the evening around 4:00 pm, the troops left for Kyel Chan Village. When they arrived, Captain Kyaw Thu stayed in the house of Maung Lwin, the chairman of Village Law and Order Restoration Council (VLORC). The soldiers stayed in seven houses in the village. The detainees were put in the residency of U Ohn Nyunt.

At around 9:00 pm, Second Lieutenant Khin Maung Zaw took Naw Thin Su for interrogation. She was put in the house of U Thein Shwe, a member of the VLORC. She was raped twice. The next day, she was sent back around 3:00 am.

On September 17, at about 10:00 pm, she was taken away again. She was raped and sent back at about 11:00.

Finally, Naw Thin Su was sent to Tavoy prison and sentenced to five years imprisonment. Naw Thin Su was brutally raped and tortured during interrogation and while in prison. As a result, she died in Tavoy prison on 10 February 1998.

The prison authorities claimed that her death was related to a health condition. They did not inform her family about her death. Captain Kyaw Thu (now Lieutenant Colonel Kyaw Thu) is now in Division No. 44. Second Lieutenant Khin Maung Zaw (now Major Khin Maung Zaw) is now in No. 104 Light Infantry Battalion.

Name: (U) Nyo Win
Date of Arrest: 18 June 1989
Date of Death: 8 March 1991
Age at Death: 59

Nyo Win was born in 1932 in Shwekyin Township, Pegu Township. His parents were U Kyin Swam and Daw San Yin.

While he was at Rangoon University, he was one of the committee members in the "Friendship Reading Club," which students used to read and discuss literature.

He had a leading role in the student movement calling for the establishment of a national education system, ending the civil war and finding peace.

From 1954 to 1960, he was an executive committee member of the All Burma Federation of Student Unions (ABFSU). He also was general secretary of the University Student Union and chairperson of the Student United Front.

In 1963, he was arrested for his involvement in the armed struggle and imprisoned for nearly two years. He was arrested again in 1968 and served over a year in prison.

He participated in the 1988 pro-democracy uprising in the Post-War and Independence Era Old Students Association. He made anti-dictatorship speeches around the country.

When political parties and organizations were allowed to form, he became the joint-secretary of the People's Progressive Party and the general secretary of the League of Democratic Alliances.

He was arrested on 18 June 1989 and detained under section 10 (A) of the State Protection Law.

While in Insein prison near the end of February 1991, Nyo Win began to suffer from a sore throat in addition to tumors and boils which were beginning to cover his body. He was not provided the proper amount of water to drink or shower, causing his disease to worsen. Only when he could not eat or drink did the authorities take him to Insein General Hospital. By then, his disease had spread and was untreatable. He died on 8 March 1991 as a result of the prison's inadequate health care.

Nyo Win was known to have endured much torture, along with other members of the People's Progressive Party,

The prison authorities at the time were Chief Warden Ohn Phay, Jailer Pyone Cho and Prison Doctor Soe Kyi.

Name:	(U) Nyunt Zaw
Date of Arrest:	August 1991
Date of Death:	1 January 2000
Age at Death:	35

Nyunt Zaw was born to U Lay Nyunt and Daw Tin Kyi in Ruby quarter, Henzada Township, Irrawaddy Division in 1965. He received his degree in mathematics from Bassein College in 1987.

He was in charge of the organizing committee of the All Burma Federation of Student Unions (ABFSU, Henzada District).

Nyunt Zaw fled to the Thai-Burma border after the military coup in August 1988 and joined the All Burma Student Democratic Front (ABSDF). He slipped back into Burma in 1990 to carry out some of his work, and was eventually arrested by the Military Intelligence (MI) in August 1991. He was sentenced to seven years imprisonment for his contact with anti-regime groups.

While in Insein prison, he, along with twenty-two other political prisoners, attempted to contact the United Nations about the inhumane prison conditions and to publish a journal commemorating the Diamond Jubilee of the University of Rangoon. As a result, they were sentenced to an additional seven years imprisonment under section 5(e) of the Emergency Provisions Act.

He was transferred from Insein to Tharawaddy prison on 15 November 1997.

Nyunt Zaw suffered from dysentery in July 1999 which progressively worsened. However, the doctor mistakenly diagnosed his illness as tuberculosis and he was thus given TB medicine, not the medicine that he needed. In September 1999, he was suffering from a stomach ache and his belly became swollen. The doctor, again mistakenly, determined that he was suffering from cancer and so treated Nyunt Zaw for such. Two months later, on 1 January 2000, Nyunt Zaw died.

An autopsy later revealed that he had in fact died from liver cirrhosis.

The prison authorities at the time were Chief Warden Win Myint, Jailer Tin Tun and Prison Doctor Aung Than.

Name: (U) Oo Tha Tun
Date of Arrest: 7 March 1990
Date of Death: 14 August 1990
Age at Death: 82

Oo Tha Tun was born on 23 November 1917 in Mrauk-U Township, Arakan (Rakhine) State. He was an Arakanese scholar and distinguished historian. He also studied Buddhism.

When political parties were allowed to form in late 1988, he join the Arakan League for Democracy (ALD). In the 1990 general election, he was a candidate in Kyauktaw Township, Constituency 2.

After the election campaign in Pyar Chaung village, Minbya Township, the authorities arrested Oo Tha Tun. As a result, he was not able to take part in the election in May 1990, and U San Tha Aung of the "Mro (or) Khami National Solidarity Organization" was then elected for the constituency.

The authorities charged Oo Tha Tun under Section 5 (J) of the Emergency Provisions Act and sentenced him to three years imprisonment. He was sent to Sittwe prison.

In prison, U Oo Tha Tun's health condition deteriorated as he was getting old. He did not receive enough food or health care. On 14 August 1990, he died in prison.

The Thailand-based Irrawaddy Publishing Group's "Death in Custody" report (Second Edition, 1999) noted that his death was due to "lack of sufficient medicine and proper health care."

The junta responded to this in a statement entitled "The Truth" as follows:

"U Tha Tun was 75 years old and a Pyi Thu Hluttaw representative for Kyauktaw Township Constituency-2 and a patron of the Rakhine League for Democracy of MraukU Township, Rakhine State. He made instigative speeches with the intent to break up national unity, and his speeches were recorded and distributed. Hence, he was sentenced on 22-5-90 to three years' imprisonment under Section 5(j) of the Emergency Provisions Act.

While serving his sentence in Sittway Prison, he died of a cerebral hemorrhage in the prison hospital on 14-8-90. To say that he died due to the lack of sufficient medicines and care is a false accusation because he was being given medical treatment at the prison hospital. However, cerebral hemorrhage causes sudden death."

Name:	Sai Pha Than
Date of Arrest:	11 September 2002
Date of Death:	October 2002
Age at Death:	64

Sai Phat Than played a leading role in the 1988 pro-democracy uprising. He participated in the movement to form the National League for Democracy, Shan State branch.

Sai Pha Than went to farmers around Kengtung Township and collected information about selling rice. The Burmese authorities often force farmers to sell their paddy at a low price. Farmers have to sell a set amount of paddy in paddy buying centers. The authorities also instruct the farmers to grow certain qualities of paddy. If any farmers fail to do so, she or he will be punished.

Military Intelligence personnel frequently threatened Sai Pha Than to stop his activities, but he ignored them.

Sai Pha Than was arrested on 11 September 2002 by Captain Min Thu Aung and Sergeant Maung Kyaw of Military Intelligence Unit 22 (MI-22), the Special Branch, Policemen and members of the Ward Peace and Development Council. At the same time, Saw Nandi, the chairperson of Kengtung Township NLD branch was arrested.

They were interrogated at MI- 22.

On 25 September, Sai Pha Than's mother died. He was allowed to mourn at his mother's funeral. After this, however, he was sent to prison. He was in good health at this time. Later, he was sent to Kengtung prison.

A few days after arriving in Kengtung prison, Sai Pha Than's health began to deteriorate.

When he was sent to the hospital on October 10, he had to be placed on a stretcher, as he was unable to walk. At 5pm the same day, his family was allowed to visit him in the hospital, but he was unable to speak. While his family provided him with all the medicine he needed, carefully attending to him all night long, Sai Pha Than died at 7:38 am on 11 October 2002.

An autopsy revealed that Sai Pha Than had a wound on his right side when he died, as well as fluid in his brain, liver cirrhosis, yellowed skin and intestines. The doctor concluded that he suffered from malaria in the brain and jaundice. The doctor, however, was watched by the authorities, which likely means that, as with most doctors in Burma's prisons, he felt pressure to write what the authorities wanted with out regard for medical ethics.

When Sai Pha Than's friend, Saw Nandi was released on 6 July 2005, he stated to the Democratic Voice of Burma that he believed the authorities had poisoned Sai Pha Than:

"There (at the interrogation center), they fed us well. In the morning, they gave us tea and fried rice and for lunch, rice and curries. On the day they were going to send us to

prison, they didn't give us the lunch we usually had, but a cup of tea. As it was unusual and rather strange, I didn't drink the tea and threw it away. Then, I became very worried for Sai Phat straight away. We were reunited at the prison. I asked him if he drank the tea and he told me that he drank it as he was very hungry. Only then did I know that he was poisoned by the military intelligence. Sai Phat became ill after a week and the people concerned gave him injections and medicines. I had to look after him for awhile. A week later, his condition was so bad that he could not speak. When I asked prison authorities to send him to hospital, they told me that they were only responsible for his detention and that only the intelligence people could take him away. Then, the intelligence took him away and I only heard later with sadness that he died in the hospital."

Name:	Saw El Thar
Date of Arrest:	October 1991
Date of Death:	May 1998
Age at Death:	38

Saw El Thar was arrested on October 1991 in Bogalay. He was charged under the Unlawful Associations Act, Article 17 (1), and sentenced to 10 years imprisonment.

Saw El Thar was weak and his health deteriorated because his family could not visit and support him. He died due to lack of nutrition and the lack of proper healthcare in Myingyan prison.

Saw El Thar was an ordinary civilian. He was unjustly arrested. Some prisoners in Myingyin have estimated that around 60 Karen ethnic prisoners, who were also arrested unjustly, have died in Myingyan prison. But, communication among prisoners is not allowed, and so the names of the dead and the circumstances of their death cannot be recorded.

The prison authority at the time was Chief Warden Lu Hla.

Name:	Saw Sardusaw
Date of Arrest:	1982
Date of Death:	12 December 2003
Age at Death:	52

Saw Sardusaw was born in Thayetchaung village, Letpadan Township, Pegu Division. He once worked as a school teacher, and was a member of the Karen National Union (KNU).

In 1982, under the KNU's Pegu Mountains Restoration Operation, Sardusaw was located in the Pegu Mountains and was arrested by the Burmese Socialist Programme Party troops. He was sentenced to death on 24 February 1983.

Although the regime has made several general amnesty announcements (in 1989, 1992, 1993 and 1997), Saw Sardusaw's sentence was only reduced from death to life imprisonment in 1989, reflecting the Military Intelligence's (MI) decision to detain political prisoners, especially ethnic minorities, for extended periods of time without respect for their own declarations of amnesty.

Due to his detention of more than twenty years, and the possibility that he would be held under inhuman conditions indefinitely, Saw Sardusaw's mental and physical health began to deteriorate. On 24 November 2003, he was hospitalized in the guard ward of Rangoon General Hospital. He died at 11:30pm on 12 December 2003, and was buried the next day at Yay Way cemetery.

The prison authorities at the time were Chief Warden Hla Kyi and Prison Doctor Soe Khaing.

Name: Saw Win
Date of Arrest: 23 April 1991
Date of Death: 7 August 1998
Age at Death: 61

Saw Win was born on 14 May 1938. His parents were U Kyaw Nyunt and Daw Aye Hla. He lived in Htilin Township, Magwe Division.

While he was in university, Saw Win participated in the Student Front, University Student Union, and Friendship Reading Club.

After graduating, he worked for the Botataung Newspaper as a sports reporter and assistant editor. He wrote various commentaries and feature articles in the Botataung Newspaper, Ngwetaryee Magazine and Forward Journal. His pen name was Kyaw Zaw Lin.

Several of his feature articles, particularly "Time" and "Chin-Burmese Friendship," were well known.

Eventually, he stopped writing to run his own business, as his family needed the income. During this time, he was frequently taken and questioned by the authorities.

In the 1988 pro-democracy uprising, he supported and gave guidance to the young students. In the 1990 Election, he was elected as a Member of Parliament (MP) from Htilin constituency, Magwe Division, representing the National League for Democracy.

He was arrested on 23 April 1991 and imprisoned for eleven years under Section 5 (J) of the 1950 Emergency Provisions Act and Article 6 (1)

(abusing public property), wrongly accused of running an unlawful wood business.

The authorities told Saw Win (once in 1992 and again in 1995) that he would be released, but he remained in prison until his death.

Saw Win suffered from chronic asthma while in Tharawaddy prison, and was hospitalized at Tharawaddy District Hospital due to his worsening asthma and hypertension on 5 August 1998. Two days later, on 7 August, he died. The authorities had not provided him with the proper medical care.

The prison authorities at the time were Chief Warden Win Myint, Jailer Tin Tun and Prison Doctor Aung Than.

Name: Saw Yin Thit
Date of Arrest: 1991
Date of Death: January 1996

In 1991, the SPDC troops raided the Karen soldiers' hidden arsenal in Bogalay Township, Irrawaddy division. As a result, there was shooting between the SPDC troops and Karen soldiers. Later, SPDC troops, using heavy weapons and helicopters, raided several villages around U Ni Su village. The troops burned down buildings and killed the villagers they suspected of helping the Karen soldiers.

The villagers still alive were arrested and interrogated. Hundreds of the villagers died during the interrogation period. The rest were sent to the prisons around Burma after receiving ten years to life imprisonment. One of the villagers arrested was Saw Yin Thit**,** who received ten years imprisonment under the Unlawful Association Act, Section 17/1.

Though Saw Yin Thit was strong and healthy when he first entered Myingyin prison, he died in January 1996 from lack of nutrition and proper medical care.

At that time, political prisoners in Myingyin were not allowed to share their food. When the authorities noticed that food had been shared, they would torture and place those prisoners in solitary confinement.

Name: Saw Hla Chit
Date of Arrest: 1992
Date of Death: 13 March 1997
Age at Death: 57

Saw Hla Chit was born in Bogale Township, Irrawaddy Division. He was a Karen ethnic and a Christian priest. He was arrested for having contact with the Karen National Union and sentenced to eight years imprisonment.

In Insein prison, he became ill several times. In March 1997, the authorities sent him to Rangoon General Hospital. A few days later, he died.

The prison authorities at the time were Chief Warden Shwe Kyaw, Jailer Saw Zin Mya and Prison Doctor Soe Naing.

Name: Saw Htoo Saw (alias) Saw Than
Date of Arrest: March 1997
Date of Death: 10 October 2003
Age at Death: 50

Saw Htoo Saw belonged to the Karen National Union (KNU). In combat between the SPDC troops and KNU soldiers on 10 October 1996, he was captured after he was wounded in the right leg by a bullet.

In March 1997, a Military Tribunal in Moulmein Township sentenced him to twenty years imprisonment under Sections 17 (1) and (2) of the Unlawful Associations Act.

The authorities sent him to Insein prison on 23 April 1997.

On 20 April 2003, he was sent to Rangoon General Hospital to receive treatment for lung cancer.

In June and July 2003, he received radiotherapy treatment. He agreed to a surgical operation in August. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) donated medicine to him.

On 2 October, Father Bruno of Rangoon's St. Paul's Church went to the guard ward of the hospital and encouraged Saw Htoo Saw, praying for him.

On 8 October, he was removed from the guard ward for an operation.

On 9 October, between 9:00 am and noon, he was operated on and was unable to sleep that night.

On 10 October, Father Bruno went to visit him again for encouragement and ran into Cap. Myo Tun Tint of Military Intelligence Unit 14 (MI-14), who treated Father Bruno impolitely.

At 3:27 pm, Saw Htoo Saw passed away.

His funeral was attended by one family member, four persons from the church, three hospital workers, three police officers and one intelligence personnel.

The prison authorities at the time were Chief Warden Hla Kyi and Prison Doctor Soe Khaing.

Name:	Saw Kyaw Lwin (alias) Kyaw Lwin
Date of Arrest:	October 1991
Date of Death:	August 1992
Age at Death:	Over 50

Saw Kyaw Lwin was from the Karen ethnic group. He was born in Ngapudaw Township, Irrawaddy Division, and was a member of the Karen National Union (KNU).

In October 1991, the SPDC troops attacked the villages around Bogalay Township. Saw Kyaw Lin and many Karen villagers were arrested.

Saw Kyaw Lin was sentenced to ten years imprisonment under Section 17 (1) of the Unlawful Association Act.

Early in 1993, he and the other Karen prisoners arrested at the same time were moved from Insein prison to Myinggyan prison.

When they reached the gate of Myinggyan prison, the prison authorities wrapped them in blankets and beat them brutally. Later, they were all placed in solitary confinement.

The prisoners were not allowed enough food to eat, and gradually Saw Kyaw Lwin's health deteriorated.

In August 1993, he asked the authorities to give him more to eat, shouting out that he was hungry. The authorities did not give him the meal he requested, and instead harshly beat him until he passed out. They immediately sent him to the Myinggyan Township hospital, but he died a few hours after reaching the hospital.

The prison authorities at the time were Chief Warden Lu Hla.

Name:	Saw Tin Myint
Date of Arrest:	1982
Date of Death:	1 August 2001
Age at Death:	62

Saw Tin Myint was born in Irrawaddy Division. He belonged to the Karen National Union (KNU).

In 1982, KNU attempted to seize the Pegu Mountains they once occupied. They had several battles with the junta's troops.

Saw Tin Myint was arrested in one of these battles. On 24 February 1983, he was sentenced to death under Section 122 (1) of the Criminal Procedure Code for high treason.

In 1989, the military government announced a general amnesty. Some prisoners were freed under this amnesty, while others had their prison sentences commuted. Saw Tin Myint's death sentence was commuted to life imprisonment. However, he was unclear as to how long he had to stay in prison.

Saw Tin Myint's health condition worsened due to malnutrition, lack of family visits and support and the nearly 20 years spent in prison. When he fell ill, he became extremely weak due to the lack of nutrition. On 1 August 2001, he died in Thayet prison.

Name: (U) Sein Hla (alias) Iron Sein Hla
Date of Arrest: November 1990
Date of Death: 1992
Age at Death: 75

Sein Hla joined the Burmese Communist Party (Red Flag BCP) when the party was formed in 1946. He led the police protest during the 1946 general protest. He became a member of the central committee after the BCP party had become an underground party. In 1972, he supported the policy of the BCP party "to discuss peace despite the possibility of being arrested. He was subsequently arrested, but released a couple of years later. He was involved in the "Political Theory Study Group" convened at Thakin Soe's house after Thakin Soe's release in 1980.

Sein Hla was arrested in 1990 for associating with a student who had secretly entered Burma to complete work for the All Burma Student Democratic Front (ABSDF). He was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment.

Sein Hla died at the Insein Prison Hospital at the beginning of 1992 due lack of nutrition and the poor prison health care system.

Name: (U) Sein Win
Date of Arrest: October 1988
Date of Death: 8 January 1991
Age at Death: 54

Sein Win, nicknamed Yangyi Aung, was born in Yangyi Aung village, Thongwa Township, Rangoon division.

He was an executive committee member of the University Student Union in 1959-60 and later became the deputy chairperson.

As a student, he led many demonstrations and other activities. Students relied on him for his bravery, activeness and dedication. While participating in an anti-imperialist demonstration in 1961, he was beaten repeatedly on his back by the Union Government's police causing him to become disabled.

During the events of 7 July 1962 he led many students. Also, during 1963, he became a member of what was known as the "peace troops" at the "international peace meetings." Because of this, he was sent to Coco Island by the Burmese Socialist Programme Party (BSPP) where he participated in a hunger strike demanding an end to the BSPP using the island to confine prisoners sentenced to life.

A ceremony for political prisoners due to be released was convened in the hall of Insein Prison in 1972. During the ceremony, Sein Win refused to shake hands with prison authorities saying "I never shake hands with enemies."

When the 1988 democracy uprising began, he was an influential teacher in the area, and led the joint strike committee comprised of three townships (Kyauktan, Thongwa, Kayan). When the police decided to surrender their weapons during the uprising, they gave them to Sein Win.

As a result, Sein Win was arrested under the Weapons Act, but received no formal sentencing.

Because of the low quality of prison food and inhumane prison conditions, he began to contract diseases in his liver and colon. His abdomen became swollen, but still he received no treatment. He was then unable to eat. Eventually, he was sent to Insein General Hospital for surgery. He underwent surgery with the iron-shackles still around his ankles. The operation was not a success and he died around 8 pm that evening.

Name: (U) Shein Tin
Date of Arrest: February 1994
Date of Death: 28 January 2004
Age at Death: 68

Shein Tin served in the Inndine COD battalion during the Anti Fascist People Freedom League (AFPFL) era until 1967. He was arrested for his connections with the Burma Communist Party (BCP) in 1967. He was released from Insein prison in 1970. He then became a member of the People's Progressive Party (PPP) in 1988. When the PPP was declared illegal in 1989, he continued his party duties underground.

He was arrested by the Military Intelligence (MI) again in 1994 for contacting the BCP. He was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment with hard labor under the Emergency Provisions Act, section 5 (J), and the Unlawful Associations Act, Article 17 (1), in February 1994.

Shein Tin was transferred from Insein to Taungoo prison in November 1997. He was hospitalized at Taungoo General Hospital as his health began to deteriorate in January 2004.

Despite being diagnosed with lung cancer and being in such pain that he was moaning incessantly, the prison authorities still brought him back to Taungoo prison. Days later, as he clearly was dying, the prison authorities had no choice but to send him to Taungoo General Hospital. He died of lung cancer on 28 January 2004 while being prepared for transfer to Insein General Hospital.

When Shein Tin died, he was only a couple days away from completing his ten-year sentence. Still, he was not allowed to die peacefully in his home, as the MI refused to allow him, or other political prisoners, remission days.

Name: (U) Sithu (alias) Ye Naing
Date of Arrest: June 1991
Date of Death: 12 July 2001
Age at Death: 35

While Sithu was a second year botany student at the University of Rangoon (Kemmendine Campus), he participated in the 1988 pro-democracy uprising.

Prior to August, he was involved in several demonstrations demanding democracy and human rights, including the Red Bridge Movement (March 16) and the Rangoon University Student Demonstration (March 17). Along with 116 other members of various organizations, he was actively involved in petitioning the military regime to form a National Interim Government.

After the military coup on 18 September 1988, he assisted the All Burma Student Democratic Front (ABSDF).

When explosions rocked the Mandalay Electrical Power Corporation and Sanchaung Township, Sithu was arrested and sentenced to 12 years imprisonment by a Special Military Tribunal on 30 December 1991.

When asked by the judge during his trial whether he was guilty or not, he replied, "Don't ask me if I am guilty or not. I don't recognize your right to judge me. Charge me as you like. But, this is unjust."

In August 1995, he was transferred from Insein to Tharawaddy prison. Even though he completed his prison term on April 2, 2001, he continued to be detained under section 10 (A) of the State Protection Law. The Minister of Home Affairs, Tin Hlaing, remarked at this time that "his rebel mind is still strong."

At this time, though, his health began to deteriorate.

When Sithu began to display flu-like symptoms, he informed the prison doctor, but was simply told to take "paracetamol," one of the few medicines provided in the prisons. After suffering a 103 degree temperature, labored breathing and chronic coughing for four days, he told the doctor and again was dismissively told to take "amoxycillin and benedryl".

On June 25, 2001, Sithu's fever reached 105 degrees, which led the doctor to recommend "septrim" in addition to the other medication mentioned. When his fever reached 107 degrees four days later, Sithu was finally taken to the prison hospital.

Sithu's health continued to decline. His breath continued to be labored, and he could no longer eat, leading to severe dehydration. The doctor simply treated him with machinegun therapy, and guessed that he might have malaria and paratyphoid.

As Sithu had suffered from malaria in February 2001, this recurring illness weakened his immune system. Finally, on 6 July, the Tharawaddy Township doctor and a specialist examined him and ordered the authorities to give him medication, namely "septrim," which is an antibiotic pill, and "cefomtral," which is an antibiotic injection. By this time, Sithu's lungs were swollen and his liver enlarged.

He was then taken to a special ward of Tharawaddy General Hospital (the "guard ward" reserved for political and other prisoners) on 7 July, and by July 12 he was dead.

Name:	(U) Soe Win
Date of Arrest:	July 1990
Date of Death:	3 May 1992
Age at Death:	74

Soe Win was born in Rangoon. His father was U Chit Maung and his mother was Daw Sein Daing. He was a younger brother of Bo Zeya, a member of Thirty Comrades. He himself was a member of the People's Comrades led by General Aung San.

In 1956, he worked at the Rangoon Ten Mile Chicken farm as a manager. He later resigned from the job and joined the People's Comrades party. After the 1963 peace talks between the Communist Party of Burma (CPB), led by Thakhin Than Tun, and the Revolutionary Council, led by General Ne Win, failed, Soe Win was arrested, and later released in 1970.

In January 1987, he contacted the CPB and participated in underground activities.

When the State Peace and Development Council allowed political parties to form, he founded People's Comrades, and became its General Secretary. He was arrested in July 1990 and accused of having contacts with illegal organizations. He was charged under sections 17/1 and 17/2 of the Unlawful Associations Act and was sentenced to 20 years.

In the beginning of 1992, he was taken to Insein prison hospital as he was suffering from dysentery and diarrhea. He died on 3 May 1992.

Name: (Ko) Than Htway (alias) Ba Ba
Date of Arrest: 1989
Date of Death: 1990
Age at Death: 25

Than Htway was born in Myaung Palel Quarter, Tavoy Township, Tenasserim Division. He studied at State High School No. (1), Tavoy Township. He took a leading role in the 1988 people's uprising in Tavoy. He also worked for the Tavoy District Student Union. The day after the military coup in September 1988, he and all members of the Student Union went to the No. 10 Battalion of the Karen National Union.

In early 1989, he went back Tavoy Township to participate in the underground movement, but he was arrested. After being tortured in an interrogation center, he was sent to Tavoy prison.

Than Htway died while in prison, charged under section 17 (1) of the Unlawful Associations Act. At that time, there was a soldier who was imprisoned for murder. The prison authorities appointed him as the prisoner-in-charge, and he and the authorities cracked down on the political prisoners.

In early 1990, Than Htway was put in solitary confinement because he complained about the oppression of prisoners. He told the authorities that he was suffering from a stomach disease. The prisoner-in-charge, Tin Shwe, and other prison staff attacked him repeatedly using batons. He was seriously injured and vomited blood. Five days later, the authorities sent him to the Tavoy Township hospital for medical treatment. The next day he died in the hospital's guard ward.

The prison authorities at this time were Chief Warden San Thein, Jailer Tin Shwe (alias) Michael, Maung Aye and Tun Win.

Name: (U) Thein Tin
Date of Arrest: 18 March 1996
Date of Death: 18 February 1998
Age at Death: 56

Thein Tin was a student leader in the early 1960s. He was a columnist for several monthly magazines. His pen names were Tin Thein Maung and Pa-Hta-We Maung Tin. He lived in Innwa Street, South Okkalapa Township, Rangoon.

He actively participated in the 1988 pro-democracy uprising. Later, he became a member of the Township Organizing Committee for the National League for Democracy.

He became an assistant at the Rangoon Divisional Organizing Committee for the NLD in 1989. He worked with Tin Maung Win, an elected MP from Kayan constituency, who also died in prison.

Thein Tin was arrested and detained under section 10(A) of the State Protection Law on 18 March 1996 as the regime was attempting to oppress the NLD, by arresting its most active members, after the release of Aung San Suu Kyi from house arrest.

Thein Tin was well-known for meticulously taking care of his health, and actually ran a pharmacy, making him knowledgeable about the various medicines available in Burma. He was even licensed to practice acupuncture.

When he was detained, he was unable to receive visits from his family, and only allowed to receive one package from them. His family was entirely

unaware of his health condition.

He was rushed to the emergency room of Rangoon General Hospital on 3 December 1997. His wife was allowed to see him the next day. He told his wife that he had suffered from severe dysentery for four months in prison. He could not get boiled rice regularly, and so was malnourished. Lacking any medication, his health was deteriorating. As Thein Tin was a pharmacist, he was well aware of the medication he needed (for his liver), but he was denied the proper medicine by the authorities and instead given medication for gastric illnesses.

While his family desperately tried to help him for over two months, they were unable to properly do so due to the indifference of the authorities. He was given over 20 injections, and even had a blood transfusion. It was too late, though, and Dr. Khin Maung Win of the liver ward at Rangoon General Hospital informed his family on 15 February 1998 that he would only live for a few more days.

Only when he was surely going to die did the Minister of Home Affairs decide he could be released. Upon his release on 15 February, however, he was immediately taken to the hospital. He died on 18 February 1998.

The prison authorities were Chief Warden Shwe Kyaw, Jailer Chit Maung and Prison Doctor Soe Khaing.

Name: (U) Tin Maung Win
Date of Arrest: 23 October 1990
Date of Death: 18 January 1991
Age at Death: 51

Tin Maung Win was born on 20 November 1939. His parents were U Myo and Daw Than Shin.

While he was in high school and university, he participated in various associations related to student affairs, literature, and sports.

He was arrested and detained by the Burmese Socialist Programme Party (BSPP) from December 1963 to September 1970.

During the 1988 pro-democracy uprising, he participated in the uprising as a member of the post-WWII Old Student Leaders Organization.

When the National League for Democracy (NLD) was formed, he was part of the Divisional Organizing Committee and chief of the Rangoon Division Organization Committe

Tin Maung Win was elected in the Khayan (2) constituency in the 1990 general election.

He worked to organize the Gandhi Hall Conference of the Members of Parliament, and was thus arrested in October 1990.

From his arrest to his death, Tin Maung Win was not allowed visits from his family or colleagues. Only through the family visits of other political prisoners did his family learn that he had chronic dysentery. Although his

family tried to send him the medicine he needed, the prison authorities did not allow this.

He died in Insein prison on 18 January 1991. His family was informed the next day about his death, and told they could attend his funeral in Kyantaw cemetery. Prison authorities informed his family that he died of leukemia.

Tin Maung Win did not get medical treatment while he was suffering from chronic dysentery. When his family saw his body after he died, his body was nearly a skeleton. His family found a wound between his eyebrows. Though he had had kidney disease, he was frequently tested by doctors to ensure he remained healthy. Prior to his arrest, he had received a clean bill of health, which means that his death from "leukemia" is unlikely.

Name: (U) Tin Shwe
Date of Arrest: 29 November 1990
Date of Death: 8 June 1997
Age at Death: 67

Tin Shwe was born in Monywa on 5 April 1930. He attended Rangoon and Mandalay universities between 1952 and 1960, and was a leader in student union movements.

After his education, he joined Thakhin Ko Daw Hmaing's Internal Peace Association and participated in internal peace movements and efforts to stop the civil war. He eventually became a lawyer and author, penning several books using the pen name, Monywa Tin Shwe.

During the 1988 pro-democracy uprising, he participated actively in the uprising. He was the Vice-Chairman of the Burma Lawyers' Union and the Chairperson of the Insein Township Strike Committee.

Tin Shwe was one of the founders of the National League for Democracy (NLD).

After Aung San Suu Kyi was placed under house arrest, he tried to perform his duties while evading arrest in Mandalay Division. When the regime did not hand over power after the 1990 elections, he secretly worked to form a parallel government and was subsequently arrested.

The unsanitary and inhumane prison conditions made Tin Shwe's health steadily decline. After two heart attacks, he was hospitalized at Rangoon General Hospital twice in April 1997. The regime denied his family's request that he be allowed to see a heart specialist.

Tin Shwe died from a heart attack, and the regime's purposeful negligence, in Insein prison on June 8, 1997. He is survived by his wife Daw Myat Thu and three sons.

Name:	(U) Tun Sein
Date of Arrest:	1992
Date of Death:	19 February 1996
Age at Death:	60

Tun Sein was born in Rangoon. He studied politics while working at Hlaing Gunny Factory, Rangoon. He was a true follower of Thakhin Lay Maung, a well known politician. He was also a member of the Labor Union of the United National Unity Front.

When the peace talks failed in 1963, many politicians, including Tun Sein, were arrested. He was sent to Coco Island prison. Following a hunger strike at the island demanding that political prisoners in bad health be sent back to the mainland, Tun Sein was taken back.

He was released and hired at a jute factory in 1973. He participated in the Labor Strike in 1974 and was arrested and imprisoned a second time. He was released under the general amnesty in 1981.

During the 1988 pro-democracy uprising, he set up the "Union of Prisoners in 1970s" and participated in the uprising. After the military coup, he helped his colleagues who formed political parties. Due to his activities, he was arrested by the Military Intelligence and sentenced to 10 years in prison.

On 19 February 1996, Tun Sein died at the Insein prison hospital from general deficiency due to lack of family support, and malnutrition due to poor prison food.

Name:	(U) Tun Aung Kyaw (alias) Thakhin Mipwar
Date of Arrest:	1997
Date of Death:	2003
Age at Death:	52

In 1990, Tun Aung Kyaw was arrested and sentenced to five years imprisonment with hard labor. During that time, he suffered from tuberculosis, and therefore had to visit the jail hospital many times. He was released at the end of 1994.

After being released, Tun Aung Kyaw treated his disease, but lacked the money for proper care. As a result, his health worsened. However, he still

continued to be involved in political movements for democracy and human rights. In 1997, while in the hospital, Military Intelligence raided the hospital and arrested Tun Aung Kyaw. He was sentenced to seven years imprisonment with hard labor.

After Tun Aung Kyaw was released from prison, he was involved in the 2003 Depayin Massacre in which Aung San Suu Kyi and members of the NLD were attacked. As he tried to escape from the authorities, he was caught and beaten to death.

Name:	(U) Win Bo
Date of Arrest:	1997
Date of Death:	26 August 2000
Age at Death:	39

Win Bo, a former army captain, was arrested on the way back from the Venerable Thu Mingalar Linkarra of Kabaaye Maha Gandharyone Monastery. He went there to deliver a petition from the Head Monk of the Shwe Kyin Sect, which included one thousand monks' signatures and was intended for Senior General Than Shwe, former dictator U Ne Win and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

The Shwe Kyin Sect is the strictest religious organization. It teaches and disciplines the monks to obey all the rules of Buddha (vinaya patimokkha). Normally, monks from this sect were not involved in politics, even during the 1988 people's uprising.

The SPDC was worried about the sect's participation in politics as it would encourage other monks from the whole country to participate. Consequently, the SPDC asked the head monk of the Shwe Kyin Sect to stop their activities. However, Win Bo was arrested for his role as messenger.

He was sentenced to twenty one years imprisonment under Article 5 (J) of the Emergency Provisions Act and Article 17 (20) of the Printers and Publishers Act.

On 6 July 2000, he was moved to Moulmein prison together with some other prisoners from Insein prison.

In Moulmein prison, he was killed by twenty three prison employees for defending prisoners' rights.

These are the events leading up to his murder:

(1) He quarreled with Sergeant Chit Kyaw, who was the assigned prison guard, during jail closing time, at about 5:30 pm on August 15, 2000. Coincidentally, in the same evening, two convicts escaped from the prison.

(2) There was a rape case in Moulmein prison on August 18, 2000. Maung Aye, a prisoner who was the disciplinary in-charge, raped a prisoner who was a deserter. Win Bo was informed about this by the victim. Once he became aware of this case, he requested Sergeant Chit Kyaw to let him see the warden of the jail. One member of the Military Intelligence (5) listened while he was met and complained to the prison authorities, including Sergeant Chit Kyaw, on behalf of the rape victim. Maung Aye was then sent to a punishment cell for the rape he committed.

(3) Maung Aye shouted abuse the whole night, but no guard stopped him. Win Bo complained to the assigned Sergeant Chit Kyaw and denounced their inability to follow rules and regulations. The junior warden, Chit Maung, and Sergeant Chit Kyaw framed Win Bo in the case of the two criminal prisoners who escaped on August 15, 2000.

Win Bo and his two friends and fellow political prisoners, Moe Kyaw Thu and Zaw Min Min Latt, were accused of having contact with the two escapees and of organizing strikes in the prison. They were then reported to the senior warden of the jail.

Win Bo, Moe Kyaw Thu and Zaw Min Min Latt were brought to punishment cells with their hands cuffed behind their backs. They were placed in the cells so four empty cells lay between them. They were then stripped naked and flogged with one inch diameter wooden sticks by twenty three prison guards until the guards were satisfied. Win Bo's ribs were broken during the beating because he was hit harder than others.

One of his ribs punctured his liver. He demanded to see a doctor for treatment, but no one listened to him. He died an hour after the flogging.

The prison authorities at the time were Chief Warden Htay Win, Warden Chit Maung and Jailer Tin Maung Cho.

Name:	(Ko) Zaw Myo Htet (alias) Zaw Zaw
Date of Arrest:	16 July 2003
Date of Death:	19 October 2004
Age at Death:	28

Zaw Myo Htet, a university student, was arrested with other eight activists on 16 July 2003. He was given the death penalty under Section 122 (1) and 386 (1) of the Criminal Procedure Code. He was accused of trying to assassinate military leaders and trying to destroy the country's peace and stability.

Zaw Myo Htet's lawyer asked that his client be released without charge, but the authorities would not relent, as Zaw Myo Htet was known to support insurrection against the state. Eventually, the death sentence was commuted to 3 years imprisonment. The Supreme Court of Burma on 14 October 2004 further reduced the sentence to a 2 year prison term.

As he was suffering from jaundice, he was sent to Insein Prison Hospital. However, as his health situation worsened, he was transferred from the prison hospital to the emergency ward of Rangoon General Hospital for better treatment on 5 October 2005.

Because Rangoon General Hospital was unable to provide medicine in a timely manner, his family provided him with the needed medicine. Although he was given an intravenous glucose drip, it was too late for him. While he was given treatment, his liver was damaged such that it was not functioning properly. The prison authorities never provided him with the needed medicine. As a result, he died on 19 October 2004 at 3pm in the emergency ward of Rangoon General Hospital. He was 28 years old.

When his family asked a charitable organization in Rangoon to arrange a public funeral for their loved one, their request was denied and they were told that only the prison authorities were allowed to bury him.

Name:	Rev. Zawtika
Date of Arrest:	October 1990
Date of Death:	December 1991
Age at Death:	60

Rev. Zawtika was one of the famous Sayadaws of the renowned Shwe Phone Pwint monastery in Rangoon. He was one of six Sayadaws from the monastery who participated in the pattan nikkujjana kamma (Religious Strike) in October 1990. He was later arrested by the Military Intelligence (MI) along with other five monks. He was derobed by force, and sentenced to 3 years imprisonment. Though he was derobed by force, he continued to observe the precepts of monk hood until his death.

Rev. Zawtika's health condition worsened during December 1992 and he was taken to Insein prison hospital. After a few days, he was transferred to the 'guard ward' of Rangoon General Hospital. Within a few days, he passed away. Though Rev. Zawtika's legs were disabled, he was in iron shackles at the time of his death.

Appendix C (i): List of Labor Camps Death

Name	Date of Arrest	Date of Death	Organization	Age	Location of Death	Address
Cho Gyi	July 1990	1993	NPF	38	Labor Camp	Mandalay
Ko Lay	Mar 1990	1992	NLD	50	Labor Camp	Mandalay
Maung Maung San	21 Feb 1998	1998	NLD	59	Labor Camp	
Min Thu		April 1997	NLD		Porter	Taungoo, Pegu
Saw Tun Nwe	21 Feb 1998	Feb 1998	NLD	75	Porter	Taungoo, Pegu

Appendix C (ii): Biographies of Labor Camps Deaths

Name: (U) Cho Gyi
Date of Arrest: July 1990
Date of Death: 1993
Age at Death: 38

Cho Gyi actively took part as a leader of a Nan Shay marching column in Mandalay during 1988 pro-democracy uprising. He became a central executive committee member of the National Political Alliance.

He was also an artist. He drew a portrait of Thakhin Ko Daw Hmaing, a well-known writer and peace builder of Burma, to raise funds for the Alliance. He took part in the NISC after the Alliance was annulled by the military authorities. While he was performing his duties with NISC, he had to evade arrest by Military Intelligence. Eventually, he was arrested in July 1990.

Cho Gyi was transferred from Mandalay prison to Myikyina prison in Kachin State. He was sent to Sunprabon labor camp. In 1993, as his health condition had deteriorated, he was sent to Myitkyina prison hospital. He died two days later while in the hospital.

The authorities claimed that he had escaped from the labour camp and died from diarrhoea in Mandalay General Hospital on 7 August 1990.

Name: (U) Min Thu (aka) U Maung Gyi
Date of Arrest: 21 Feb 1997
Date of Death: 1997
Age at Death: 55

U Min Thu (aka) U Maung Gyi received his primary school education from Taungoo convent mission school, and received his middle and high school education from Mandalay No. (2) State High School. He graduated from university in Mandalay with a degree in psychology.

During the 1988 uprising, he was involved in the Taungoo Shwe San Daw people's movement. He served as a treasurer in the NLD Taungoo branch after the military coup in 1988. He was arrested in October 1991 for his connections with the PLF (People Liberation Front). He was 51 years old at that time.

He was sentenced to 3 years imprisonment with hard labor on March 13, 1992. He spent over 2 years in prison before being released in 1994.

He was later arrested again, and sent to the frontier area as a porter. He could not walk because he had to carry a heavy bag on the rough road, and he was not provided enough food. Old age and bad weather further exacerbated his condition. Those people unable to walk and carry were beaten by the soldiers.

Finally, Min Thu died in jungle because of ill treatment. His dead body was thrown into a hole in the jungle, along with that of another political detainee and porter, Saw Tun Nwe.

U Min Thu left behind his wife and two children.

Name:	Saw Tun Nwe
Date of Arrest:	21 February 1997
Date of Death:	February 1997
Age at Death:	75

Saw Tun Nwe was born in Taungoo Township, Pegu Division. He belonged to the National League for Democracy (NLD), and was the vice chairperson of NLD Executive Committee (EC), Taungoo Township.

In the evening of 21 February 1997, all EC members were arrested. Police officers, soldiers and intelligence personnel arrested them. They were detained in the compound of No. 39 Light Infantry Battalion.

The detainees were kept in the military barracks. Later, they were used as porters during SPDC troops' military operations against the Karen National Union.

For several days, they had to walk for miles in the jungle while being forced to carry heavy weapons until they reached the battle area. The weather in the area was bad.

Saw Tun Nwe, 75, died on the way. Before he died, he received beatings and little food. The porters later said that they left the dead body of Saw Tun Nwe in the jungle because they did not have any opportunity to bury him.

Appendix D (i): List of The Disappeared

Name	Age	Date of Arrest	Date of Disappearance	Organization	Prison	Address
Khin Maung Cho	39	Nov 1992	25 Mar 2002	MDUF	Mergui	Ka Htee Village, Thayetchaung Township, Tenasserim Division
Shwe Baw	35	Nov 1992	25 Mar 2002	MDUF	Mergui	Kinshaeyart, Tavoy Tenasserim
Tin San	30	Nov 1992	25 Mar 2002	MDUF	Mergui	Chaungwa Pyin Village, Tavoy Township, Tenasserim
Naing Oo @ Aung Naing	31	Nov 1992	25 Mar 2002	MDUF	Mergui	Taung Pyant Village, Thayet Chaung Township, Tenasserim
Kyaw Naing @ Kyaw Lwin	32	Nov 1992	25 Mar 2002	MDUF	Mergui	Peinnaltaw Village, Tavoy Township, Tenasserim
Than Zaw	31	Nov 1992	25 Mar 2002	MDUF	Mergui	Gon Nyin Seik Village, Thayet Chaung Township, Tenasserim
Ohn Lwin	41	Nov 1992	25 Mar 2002	MDUF	Mergui	Winkabaw Village, Tenasserim
Cho Lwin@ Ma Lwin(F)	30	Feb 2002	July 2002	NLD	Kawthaung	Hsidek Village, Thayetchaung Township, Tenasserim
Kyaw Aye	21	Feb 2002	July 2002	NLD	Kawthaung	Thakyentaw Village, Longlon Township, Tenasserim
Kyaw Naing Soe	26	2002	17 Sept 2002	MDUF	Kawthaung	Kywechan Village, Tavoy Township, Tenasserim
Tin Tun		2002	17 Sept 2002	ABSDF	Kawthaung	Tavoy Township, Tenasserim

Name	Age	Date of Arrest	Date of Disppearance	Organization	Prison	Address
Maung Shwe@ Bike Pu		2002	17 Sept 2002	MDUF	Kawthaung	Tavoy Township, Tenasserim
Kyaw Myint		2002	17 Sept 2002	MDUF	Kawthaung	Tavoy Township, Tenasserim
Thinn Pe	30	5 Sep 2002	5 Sept 2002		MI-19	Win Kapaw, Mergui Township, Tenasserim
Ba Sein	27	May 2002	2002		MI-19	Saw Phyar Village, Mergui Township, Tenasserim

Appendix D (ii): Biographies of the Disappeared

Seven Political Prisoners Disappear

In November 1992, nine members of the Myeik-Dawei United Front, an opposition group based on the Thai/ Burma border, were arrested when they attempted to re-enter Southern Burma to collect information and organize residents in the area. The nine opposition members were arrested in Kyeini Taung village, Bokepyin Township, Tenasserim Division, by Major Tun Aung Kyaw and other members of the Burma Army Light Infantry Division (LID) 432. After their arrest the prisoners were taken to the LID 432 military base where they were subjected to interrogation and torture. From the military base, the detainees were sent to Mergui Prison, in Tenasserim Division. Here they were subjected to further torture and mistreatment, including being forced to stand for long periods of time with an iron rod placed horizontally between their shackled legs, and being kept in cells measuring only 8 x 12 ft, for two years. At no time during the almost 8 years that they spent in detention, were any of these individuals formally charged with any crime, or given a trial. In addition, those detained were also denied any contact with their families or with representatives from the International Committee of the Red Cross.

In April 2001, two of the original nine detainees were released. On 25 March 2002, at 8pm the remaining seven prisoners were removed from Mergui Prison by Major Soe Hlaing of LID 265. Inside sources report that the prisoners were taken to an undisclosed location on Done Kyun Island, located in Kyunsu Township, Tenasserim Division. At present the whereabouts and condition of these seven political prisoners remains unknown. Before they were taken from Mergui Prison the detainees were reported to be in poor health as a result of the physical and psychological torture that they had been subjected to, and the poor living conditions in the prison. AAPP has received unconfirmed reports that these seven prisoners were executed upon arrival to the island.

The seven political prisoners who have disappeared from Mergui prison include:

1) Name: (U) Khin Maung Cho

2) Name: (U) Shwe Baw

3) Name: (Ko) Tin San

4) Name: (Ko) Naing Oo (alias) Aung Naing

5) Name: (Ko) Kyaw Naing (alias) Kyaw Lwin

6) Name: (Ko) Than Zaw

7) Name: (Ko) Onh Lwin

Two Political Prisoners Disappear from Kawthaung Prison

In February 2002, seven members of the Thayetchaung branch of the National League for Democracy (NLD) were arrested as a result of their political activities. The arrests took place in Ngapyaw Or village, in the western part of Zar Dead Gyi Island, Tenasserim Division. The NLD members were reportedly subjected to severe torture in detention before being sent to Kawthaung prison. In the first weeks of July 2002, two of the seven prisoners, Cho Lwin (alias Ma Lwin) and Kyaw Aye were taken from Kawthaung prison by soldiers from LIF 262 and LIF 267 led by Captain Tin Maung Win. Cho Lwin and Kyaw Aye were reportedly taken to Ngapyaw Or Village, Zar Dead Gyi Island, but there has been no confirmation of their location since they left Kawthaung prison.

1) Name: (Ma) Cho Lwin (alias) Ma Lwin (Female)

2) Name: (Ko)Kyaw Aye

Four Political Prisoners Disappear from Kawthaung Prison

On 17 September 2002, Sergeant Thein Myint, the commander of LIF 224 and LIF 262, took four other political prisoners from Kawthaung Prison and reportedly brought them to Makyonkalit Village, Lam Pake Island, Tenasserim Division.

Three of these prisoners, Tin Tun, Kyaw Lwin and Maung Swe (alias Bike Pu), had previously been arrested in Thailand by Thai police while traveling by boat to Ranong. After their arrest, Thai authorities deported them directly back to the military authorities of LIF 262. As all three were members of political opposition groups, they were arrested and sent to Kawthaung Prison.

Two other opposition group members, San Lwin and Kyaw Naing Soe were picked up separately by Thai police in Ranong. After being detained for six days at the Ranong police station, Thai authorities handed San Lwin and Kyaw Naing Soe directly over to Sergeant Tin Saw from LIF 262. Both men were then sent to Kawthaung Prison. Later in 2002, San Naing (alias) San Lwin was transferred to Insein prison.

The fate of the four prisoners who were taken from Kawthaung Prison to Makyonkalit Village, Lam Pake Island is unknown. Family members of the prisoners have confirmed that they have had no access to their relatives since they were taken from Kawthaung Prison.

Prisoners missing from Kawthaung Prison include:

1) Name: (Ko) Kyaw Naing Soe

2) Name: (Ko) Tin Tun

3) Name: (Ko) Maung Shwe (alias) Bike Pu

4) Name: (Ko) Kyaw Myint

Two Men Disappear Following Arrest by Military Intelligence

On September 9, 2002, a farmer, Thinn Pe, was arrested by members of Military Intelligence Unit 19 (MI-19) in Kangal Ward, Mergui, Tenasserim Division. Despite the fact that Thinn Pe was not known to have any political affiliations, he was charged with having contacted members of political opposition groups. Since the time he was taken into custody by members of MI-19, Thinn Pe's whereabouts remain unknown. Another farmer, Ba Sein, was arrested at the same time, and has likewise disappeared.

1) Name: (Ko) Thinn Pe

2) Name: (Ko) Ba Sein

Appendix E (i): List of Deaths after Release

Name	Age	Date of Arrest	Date of Death	Prison Term	Organization	Previous Law	Address
Bo Ni Aung	42	1991	12 Jun 2001	10 Years	ABSDF	17/1	Tamwe, Rangoon
Twin Zar Oo@ Kauk Kyay	25	July 1991	1995	4 Years	ABBEFU	5-j	Mandalay
Kyaw Min	66	20 May 1996	1 May 1999		NLD (MP)	5-j	Pazundaung, Rangoon
Kyi Tin Oo	60	1 Mar 1994	24 July 2004	14 Years	CPB	5-j , 17/1	Hlaing, Rangoon
Thuta Aung	31	31 Dec 1991	Aug 1997	6 Years		17/20	Kemmendine, Rangoon
Wanay Soe @ Nay Win	45	1998	20 July 2004	10 Years	NLD	5-j , 17/1	Ye, Mon State
Yawada,Ven	12	Aug 1990	29 Jan 1999	12 Years	Monk's Union		Mandalay
Zaw Win Tun	24	21 Oct 1988	30 Dec 1988		Student		Tharkayta, Rangoon
Khin Maung Gyi		2001	Feb 2005	3 Years	ALD	17/1	Myrauk U, Arakan State
Nay Win Aung	22	Dec 1988	Dec 1988		Student	17/1	Hmawbe, Rangoon

Appendix E (ii): Biographies of Deaths after Release

Name: (U) Bo Ni Aung
Date of Arrest: 1991
Date of Death: 6 June 2001
Age at Death: 42

After the 1988 democracy uprising, Bo Ni Aung joined the All Burma Students' Democratic Front (ABSDF) on the Thai-Burma border. He eventually returned secretly to the country, but was arrested for his involvement with the ABSDF in 1991. He was brutally tortured by the MI. During this time, he was injected with a drug which made him reveal information unconsciously, and subsequently he became paranoid as to what might happen to him. Further, he suffered from various diseases throughout his prison term.

Bo Ni Aung was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment, which was later reduced to 10 years under a general amnesty. At this time, his health started to deteriorate rapidly. Though he was transferred to Thayet prison, he was soon sent back to Insein Special Prison for medical treatment. He was suffering from problems such as a weak heart, hypertension and mental illness, but he was not allowed to see a doctor. He also often had seizures, for which he was injected with a sedative at least two or three times a week.

When receiving these injections, used and dirty needles were used on the patients. A sign in the hospital would inform the patient of the number of needles available for that day. The MI informed him that if he wanted to be treated at an outside hospital he was have to sign a statement agreeing not to discuss the torture he had endured while in interrogation. A former political prisoner who was with Bo Ni Aung at the time recalled him saying,

"I couldn't promise not to say anything about MI's brutal torture in order to get treatment because they are trying to cover up the truth."

Bo Ni Aung still managed to survive his prison term, but died shortly after release due to HIV/AIDS contracted in prison.

Name: (U) Khin Maung Gyi
Date of Arrest: 2001
Date of Death: February 2005

Khin Maung Gyi, a member of the Arakan League for Democracy, from Myauk U township, Arakan State was arrested in 2001. Under Section 17 (1) of the Unlawful Association Act, he was sentenced to three years imprisonment. He was held in Sittwe prison, Arakan State.

Though Khin Maung Gyi was released at the end of 2004, his health condition quickly deteriorated as a consequence of ill-treatment in prison. He died in February 2005.

Name: (U) Kyaw Min
Date of Arrest: 21 May 1996
Date of Death: 1 July 1999
Age at Death: 66

Kyaw Min was born on 9 November 1933. He lived in Pazundaung Township, Rangoon. His parents were U Ba Kyaw and Daw Aye Kyi. In the Rangoon University community, he was well known as Architect U

Kyaw Min. He went to the United States when he was a third year student in Rangoon University. In 1957, he graduated. From 1958 to 1960, he taught at Rangoon University.

When the National League for Democracy (NLD) was founded in 1988, he was appointed to the Central Executive Committee.

In the 1990 general elections, he was elected from the West Bassein Constituency 2, Irrawaddy Division.

He was arrested in 1991 and charged under Sections 5 (a), (b) and (j) of the Emergency Provisions Act. He was released on May 20, 1992.

He was detained again between 21 May 1996 and May 1998 in Insein prison. At that time, he was infected with jaundice. He died after his release on 1 May 1999.

Name:	(U) Kyi Tin Oo
Date of Arrest:	1 March 1994
Date of Death:	24 July 2004
Age at Death:	60

Kyi Tin Oo was born in Sakargyi Township, Irrawaddy Division in 1944. U Tun Kyi and Daw Tin Sar were his parents.

He was imprisoned twice under the Burmese Socialist Programme Party (1962-1988) for his political activities. His first period of imprisonment lasted three years, and his second period lasted four years.

He was detained for a few months after the military coup in 1988.

On 1 March 1994, the regime arrested five people, including Kyi Tin Oo, accusing them of having contacts with the Communist Party of Burma. They were charged under Section 5 (j) of the Emergency Provisions Act and Section 17 (1) of the Unlawful Associations Act. He was subsequently sentenced to 15 years imprisonment.

Kyi Tin Oo was released from Insein prison on 26 March 2004.

Kyi Tin Oo suffered from diabetes, hypertension and heart disease resulting from the torture and lack of nutrition he endured while in the interrogation centers and prisons. His health steadily deteriorated during his 10 years in prison. His thigh was pierced with a sharp bamboo stick during interrogation, and his wound was still dripping pus when he was released.

Kyi Tin Oo passed away from a heart attack at 6:30 am on 24 July 2004.

Name:	(Ko) Thuta Aung
Date of Arrest:	March 1991
Date of Death:	August 1997
Age at Death:	31

Thuta Aung lived in Rangoon's Kemmendine Township. He actively took part in the 1988 nationwide democracy movement, and later joined the Rangoon District Student Union.

In March 1991, the junta reopened the universities, which had been closed since 1988. Thu Tha distributed pamphlets in Rangoon University. The

pamphlets were about freedom of education. Military Intelligence Unit 14 (MI-14) subsequently arrested him.

On 21 December 1991, he was tried by a Military Tribunal in the Insein prison compound and given six years imprisonment.

In Insein prison, his health condition deteriorated and he was sent to the prison hospital ward. In the prison, the prison doctors usually use only one needle when they give treatment to the prisoners. As a result, diseases are easily spread among the prisoners.

Thuta requested the doctor use a disposable needle for treatment, but the doctor neglected his request, and he did not receive any treatment. A week later, Thuta's health deteriorated and he requested medical treatment. The doctor gave him treatment using what he said was a disposable needle.

On 9 April 1993, Thuta was released under a general amnesty. He received a medical check-up in a local clinic, and was informed that he was infected with HIV. After becoming sick several times in July 1996, he finally went to Rangoon General Hospital (RGH). The doctor at RGH informed him that he had AIDS. He was sent to the hospital for communicable disease in Rangoon. One month later, he left the hospital though his health was getting worse. He died in August 1997.

Thuta was a second year student studying for a Master of Science, majoring in physics before he was arrested. He also taught private tuition classes in mathematics and physics. He is known to have remained celibate and stayed away from drug use.

The invitation letter for his funeral noted that he died from a communicable disease he was infected with in prison.

Name: (Ko) Thwin Zar Oo
(alias) Kauk Kway
Date of Arrest: July 1991
Date of Death: 1995

Thwin Zar Oo studied at No. 11 State High School of Mandalay and participated in the High School Student Union during the 1988 democracy movement.

In 1989, he joined the High School Student Union in Mandalay Division, and contributed satires to underground publications such as the Ottamma Journal and the Yoma Journal. He wrote satires against the military government under the title of "Let me tell what I know."

In July 1991, he was arrested while he was ill and having medical treatment. Aung Aung, Nyi Nyi Win (alias) J Gyi, Kyaw Thin Aung and Nyein Chan were arrested at the same time.

Thwin Zar Oo became thin and had jaundice. He asked the authorities to contact his family to obtain the medicine he needed, but they refused.

Later, all those arrested received three years imprisonment each. The health care situation in Mandalay was poor, and as a result Thwin Zar Oo's health condition deteriorated. 1994, he was released from Mandalay prison.

Thwin Zar Oo's health condition continued to worsen, but his family could not afford the proper health care. Finally, he was not able to walk. In 1995, he died.

Name: (U) Wanay Soe
(alias) Nay Win
Date of Arrest: April 1999
Date of Death: 20 July 2004
Age at Death: 45

Wanay Soe was born in Ye Township, Mon State. He graduated from Rangoon Painting and Carving School. Between 1975 and 1988, he published two books of poems in the Rangoon University compound. He served as editor of Pyit Hmu Magazine for a period of time. His real name was Nay Win, though he preferred to use his pen name.

In 1984, he volunteered in the "Reading and Writing for All" campaign in his township. Later, he became a teacher at the Ah Sin Village Monastery School.

During the 1988 uprising, he was the strike leader in the village. After the National League for Democracy (NLD) was formed in late 1988, he became the secretary of the NLD branch in his village. In 1989, he was arrested and charged under Section 5 (j) of the 1950 Emergency Provisions Act and sentenced to two years imprisonment. He was freed in 1991.

In 1996, he joined the Ye Township NLD branch. At the end of 1998, he was re-arrested and charged under Section 5 (J) of the 1950 Emergency Provisions Act and under Section 17 (1) of the Unlawful Associations Act. He was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment. Although he was released from Moulmein Prison on 24 June 2004, he was still suffering from liver problems.

Wanay Soe suffered from liver cancer and dropsy in prison at the beginning of June 2004. His health situation became life threatening within a month because the prison authorities did not provide him any medical treatment.

When he was released, his health situation was beyond treatment. Less than one month after his release, on 20 July 2004, Wanay Soe passed away due to liver cancer at Moulmein General Hospital.

Name:	Rev. Yawada
Date of Arrest:	August 1990
Date of Death:	29 January 1990
Age at Death:	52

Venerable Sayadaw Yawada was the Chairman of the Mandalay Division Sangha Thamaggi (Mandalay Monks' Union). He led the Aindawyar column during 1988 pro-democracy uprising.

Sangha Thamaggi published the Ottama monthly journal which featured anti-military dictatorship poems, articles, and cartoons.

After the junta de-legitimized the National Political Alliance, Ever Green Youths, and the People's Progressive Party, Rev. Yawada participated in the NISC, which was an umbrella organization of Mandalay-based political forces from 1989 to 1990. He was the No. (1) spokesperson among four of the organizations.

He had once sent letters of objection to the Sangha Nayaka and Department of Religion regarding the selection of representatives to the whole Burma Sangha representatives' meeting held in Rangoon in 1990.

NISC published the Ahlinyaung journal which explained human rights violations in prison, as well as other human rights violations. The military

regime's actions were compared to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Rev. Yawada led the annual commemorative movement on 8 August 1990 and the Pattan nikkujjana kamma (Religious Strike) in October.

In October 1990, he was arrested and de-robed by force by the Military Intelligence. During interrogation, he was electrically shocked and beaten severely until he vomited blood. He was then sentenced to 12 years imprisonment and sent to Mandalay prison. He was later transferred to Ohbo prison (new Mandalay prison).

Ohbo prison was newly built at that time. Therefore, the cement floors were still wet, and the location was in a wide, barren plain. Rev. Yawada's health condition subsequently worsened day by day. Under the circumstances, the authorities did not provide efficient medical treatment. Though monks must have all their meals before noon, Rev. Yawada was provided daily offerings late in the afternoon. His mental and physical conditions deteriorated.

He was released in August 1998.

Though he received the proper medical treatments after his release, he passed away on 29 January 1999 from the illnesses he contracted in prison.

Name:	(Ko) Zaw Win Tun
Date of Arrest:	21 October 1988
Date of Death:	30 December 1988
Age at Death:	24

Zaw Win Tun was a third year student at Rangoon University, majoring in physics, when the 1988 people's uprising occurred. He was a student leader during the uprising, and was subsequently targeted by the authorities for

arrest. On 21 October 1988, Zaw Win Tun was finally arrested with his father.

Both were brutally tortured at an interrogation center. As a result, Zaw Win Tun was seriously injured, and was unable to stand.

On 16 November 1988, the authorities released Zaw Win Tun, but he was unable to move from his bed for a month. On 30 December 1988, he died.

Though unable to confirm, Zaw Win Tun's death is believed to be the first death from torture in the interrogation centers or prisons after the 1988 uprising.

Appendix F (i): Map of Burma's Prisons and Labor Camps

Appendix F(ii): List of Burma's Interrogation Centers*

Name	Location	Concerned Area
Ye Kyi Ai	Central Military Intelligence, Rangoon	All Burma
MI-1	Mandalay	Mandalay Division
MI-2	Taungyi	Taungyi
MI-3	Pegu	Pegu Division
MI-4	Irrawaddy	Irrawaddy Division
MI-5	Moulmein	Mon State
MI-6	Mayangone	Rangoon
MI-7	Dagon	Hlaing, Kamayut, Bahan, Dagon, Alon San Chaung, Kemmendine
MI-8	Myitkyina	Myitkyina
MI-9	Lashio	Lashio
MI-10	Sittwe	Sittwe, Rakhine
MI-11	Prome	Pandaung, Pegu Division
MI-12	Burma Rifle Regiment-4	Thingangyun, Tamwe, Mingalar Taung Nyunt, Bahan
MI-13	-	-
MI-14	Botahtaung	Kyauktada, Pabedan, Latha, Lanmadaw
MI-15	Meiktila	Meiktila
MI-16	Mandalay	Mandalay
MI-17	Kale	Kale
MI-18	Buthi Daung	Buthi Daung
MI-19	Mergui	Tenasserim Division
MI-20	Monywa	Monywa
MI-21	Bamaw	Bamaw
MI-22	Kengtung	Kentung, Shan State
MI-23	Kunheng	Kunheng, Shan State
MI-24	Tachilek	Tachilek
MI-25	Pa-an	Pa-an, Myawaddy, Kawkarik
MI-26	Dagon Myo Thit	Dagon Myo Thit, Rangoon
MI-27	Loikaw	Kayah State
MI-28	Mawlaik	Mawlaik, Sagaing Division
MI-29	Langhko	Langkho, Shan State

Name	Location	Concerned Area
MI-30	-	-
MI-31	Yuzana Garden City	Rangoon
Airforce MI-1	Mingaladon	Insein, Mingaladon
Navy MI-1	Irrawaddy Navy Base	Botahtaung, Puzuntaung, Tanyin
Navy MI-2	Irrawaddy Navy Base	Botahtaung, Puzuntaung, Tanyin
Navy MI-3	Irrawaddy Navy Base	Botahtaung, Puzuntaung, Tanyin
Defense Services Military Security-1	Highland, Prome Road	All Burma
Special Branch (Headquarters)	Aungthabyai, Mayangone	All Burma
Police Intelligence (Headquarters)	Kyauktada	All Burma

*There are several unknown and inaccessable locations where political prisoners have been interrogated. Political prisoners are sometimes interrogated in government 'guest houses' and on military bases which prohibit civilian access.

References

News Sources
British Broadcasting Corporation
Democratic Voice of Burma
Irrawaddy
Khit Pyaing
Radio Free Asia
The Voice of Arakan
Voice of America

Organizations
Amnesty International
Human Rights Watch
Human Rights Documentation Unit
Reporters Without Borders
US State Department

Publications
A Star Falls Behind Bars. Win Tint Tun. August 2001.

Burma: A Land Where Buddhist Monks are Disrobed and Placed in Dungeons. Assistance Association for Political Prisoners. November 2004.

Burma's Democratic Movement. Ven. Khay Mar Sara. All Burma Young Monks Union. December 2002.

Death in Custody. Irrawaddy Publishing Group. Second Edition. 1999.

Forever a Revolutionary. Assistance Association for Political Prisoners. October 2002.

Letters from Burma. Aung San Suu Kyi. Penguin Books. January 1997.

Missing Letters, Missing Poems. Nyan Zan. Series of 11 articles published in Moe Gyo and Khit Pyaing. 2003-2005

Spirit for Survival. Assistance Association for Political Prisoners. September 2001.

Stories from the Cemetery of the Living. Nay Linn. March 2000.

The Darkness We See: Torture in Burma's Interrogation Centers and Prisons. Assistance Association for Political Prisoners. December 2005.

State Peace and Development Council
The Communist Party's Movements for State Power. August 5, 1989

The Conspiracy of those who are Reliant on External Elements Acting as Stooges, and Foreign Nations Interfering in the Internal Affairs of the State. September 9, 1989.

The CPB, KNU and Sein Win's Destruction of the Country. 15 December 1990.

Web of Conspiracy, Complicated Stories of Treacherous Machinations and Intrigues of BCP UG, DAB and some NLD leaders to Seize State Power. 12 July 1990

*The title for this report is in reference to the eight seconds of silence generally observed at the funerals for those democracy activists who have died since the democracy uprising in 1988.

About the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners-Burma (AAPP)

The campaign to improve prison conditions is part of the human rights struggle.

What is the AAPP?

Since the 1988 popular democracy movement was crushed in a ruthless crackdown by the military regime, thousands of people have been arrested, tortured and given long prison sentences for their beliefs and political activities. Moreover, even after political prisoners are released, they continue to face horrible treatment. The military uses all available means to intimidate and harass former political prisoners in order to prevent them from conducting political activities. When extraordinarily sensitive occasions take place in the country-such as the anniversary of the 1988 pro-democracy uprising- former political prisoners are usually re-arrested, interrogated and detained for an unlimited amount of time without reason. The military regime also uses many different tactics to attempt to isolate former political prisoners from society. The main weapon of the junta in marginalizing former political prisoners is denying them economic and educational opportunities. For these reasons, many former political prisoners are forced to live in exile. Many former political prisoners who previously gave assistance to their fellow political prisoners wanted to continue these activities. In order to be effective and efficient in performing these activities, and to honor student leader Min Ko Naing, arrested by the regime in March 23,1989 and only recently released after 16 years in prison, a group of former political prisoners established the AAPP on the 11th anniversary of Min Ko Naing's arrest.

What We Do:

1. Assist families of political prisoners to visit their loved ones.

2. Support political prisoners by providing necessities, such as food and medicine.

3. Monitor prison conditions.

4. Publicize arrests, torture, prison conditions and life stories of imprisoned political activists and artists.

5. Advocate before international bodies; provide information to Amnesty International, International Committee of the Red Cross, Human Rights Watch, etc.

6. Assist former political prisoners with their mental and physical rehabilitation from torture and isolation.

Objectives:

1. To report on the military regime's oppression of political prisoners presently detained in various prisons.

2. To encourage the support of international governments and organizations in pressuring the Burmese military regime to stop current and further persecution of political prisoners.

3. To secure political prisoners' fundamental human rights, and to provide them with basic necessities, such as food and medicine.

4. To protect political prisoners upon their release from harassment and intimidation by the military regime, including when they are looking for employment, continuing their studies, associating with friends and colleagues, and especially if they decide to resume their political activities.

5. To aid in the reconstruction of the former political prisoners' lives, including both their mental and physical well-being.

"As I have proposed in the past in connection with other heinous violations of human rights, I believe that it is now time for the international community to urge the Government to establish an independent enquiry into the rapidly mounting deaths of political prisoners in Myanmar. Such an investigation should seek the accountability of those responsible and compensation for the victim's families."

-Mr. Paulo Sergio Pinheiro
United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar
Foreword, Eight Seconds of Silence: The Death of Democracy Activists Behind Bars

Assistance Association for Political Prisoners
(Burma)