

# Day 20

Sept. 20, 2004 (Twentieth Day)

□ The Hunger Strike Campaign for Freedom and Democracy in Burma is only hours away. One of the hunger strike activists, Daw Khin San Nwe said "I am all excited and looking forward to the beginning of the Hunger Strike with new found energy."

□ She continued by saying, "If you look on the surface, I'm the only woman in this hunger strike group. But in spirit, I believe that all the wishes of the women of Burma are with me and I believe they are encouraging me to face the upcoming challenges with determination and dignity."

□ Together with Daw Khin San Nwe (National League for Democracy - Liberated area), Ko Maung Maung Tate (Music League of Burma), Ko Wai Htun (Assistance Association for Political Prisoners - Burma), Ko Khin Zaw (National League for Democracy), U Han Lin and Ko Win Shwe from International Campaign for Democracy in Burma (ICDB) are charged with passion and motivation for the upcoming hunger strike campaign.

U Han Lin also added, "The fact that we will be staging a peaceful fight for the people of Burma, who have been suffering so much under the repressive regime, is very satisfying. It's time to shed light on the abuses and atrocities being committed against the innocent people of Burma by the military regime."

□ The activists initially planned to show their disapproval of the regime at the missions of Association for South East Asian member countries by peacefully marching and protesting. However, due to the urging of others to rest in preparation for the next day's Hunger Strike campaign, the activists gave up the idea of marching to the missions.

□ Instead, the seven of them were busy preparing a letter for Mr. Kofi Annan, Secretary General of United Nations, as well as the list of invitees and the details of the next day's ceremony.

□ Additionally, the activists were drafting affidavit letters for the upcoming Hunger Strike campaign so that no one would be held responsible if they were to die during the course

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Ko Min Sun Min (718-434-5292)  
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Ko Zaw Gyi, Ma Nang Sun Nun (917-509-3771)  
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of the campaign, as they have pledged to continue the strike for an indefinite period. The activists went to a notary public, Ms. Isabel Reyes, with some witnesses to notarize the affidavit. The affidavit read as follows:

□ "For United Nations to take serious action on Burma's pressing issues, I, the undersigned, will be staging a hunger strike for an indefinite period. I alone have determined to undertake this hunger strike. No one has encouraged nor forced me to take this action. This is my own decision. Whatever happens as a result of this hunger strike campaign, no one is responsible for my welfare but me...."

□ As long as the military regime continues to suppress its people, and as long as no rule of law exists in Burma, the people of Burma may never go free. If needed the activists are willing to give up their own lives for the people of Burma.

□ *Dear Friends and Supporters of Freedom and Democracy in Burma,*

□ *Please note that a ceremony is planned to mark the successful completion of the Long Freedom March and the beginning of the Hunger Strike campaign. The ceremony will take place on 21 September 2004, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM, in front of United Nations (at Dag Hammarskjold Plaza on the corner of 47th Street and 1st Avenue).*

□ *Prime Minister in exile, U Sein Win, and the Chairman of the National League for Democracy (Liberated Area), U Win Khet, will attend the ceremony. In addition, leaders from numerous organizations that the activists had met during the course of Long March journey as well as other friends and supporters will be attending the event. At the end of the ceremony, the seven activists will remain behind to begin the Hunger Strike. The Hunger Strike will last for an indefinite period and is an effort to encourage the United Nations to take serious and effective action on Burma's pressing matters.*

□ *While the hunger strike activists are peacefully staging their campaign, Democratic Forces in New York will have a photo gallery presenting the ruthlessness of the military regime's atrocities. For those who are unable to make it to the opening ceremony on 21 September 2004, Democratic Forces in New York would like to welcome all people from around the world to assist and support these seven Hunger Strike activists by taking action to support their cause. To support and show solidarity with the activists, supporters are encouraged to hold similar events in front of United Nations offices in their respective countries. Friends and supporters from the New York Community and from communities within the United States are strongly urged to contact the following committee members to help and assist in this campaign.*