

We strongly urge:

The Burmese military regime to immediately release Nai Yekha, Nai Cheem Gakao, and all political prisoners in Burma including Hkun Htun Oo, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, and other ethnic leaders.



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JOIN THE CAMPAIGN TO FREE POLITICAL PRISONERS IN BURMA

Nai Yekha Mon Political Prisoner



On July 17, 2003, the Burmese military regime unjustly sentenced Nai Yekha and his colleagues to death because of their political activities to help bring freedom and democracy in Burma. The regime accused them committing conspiracy to overthrow the military government. The sentences were later reduced to life in prison. Nai Yekha and his colleague Nai Cheem Gakao have been in a notorious Burmese jail ever since.



How You Can Help

1. Ask your government/representatives to contact the Burmese Embassy in your country and inquire about the status of Nai Yekha and Nai Cheem Gakao

2. Urge General Than Shwe to release Nai Yekha and Nai Cheem Gakao

Address: Senior General Than Shwe – Chairman, State Peace and Development Council, Ministry of Defence, Naypyidaw, Union of Myanmar

3. Sign a petition at <http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/freenaiyekha>

4. Help spread the word!

More information, please visit <http://www.eumon.org/naiyekha>

Who is Nai Yekha?



“Whatever you do, do not forget to put the interest of public first.” An excerpt from his lecture.

Nai Yekha was born in Kannee village, Kawkreik Township, Burma, on July 1, 1959. He was a student at Moulmein University in the early 1980s when he became interested in politics. During his college years he was an active member of All Burma Federation of Student Unions (ABFSU). He received a Bachelor of Science degree in 1982, and became a teacher at the Middle-School of Kawkreik town. At the same time he was also actively involved in ABFSU’s activities including the advocacy for youth on the issues of freedom and justice in Burma.

The ABFSU largely contributed to the 8888 general uprising which protested against the rule of dictatorship and called for a democratic change in Burma. The military regime, now known as the State Peace and Development Council (SPDC), responded to the public uprising by gunning down about 3000 peaceful demonstrators.

Nai Yekha continued his works as a political activist inside the country until he fled to the Thai-Burma border to escape arrest by the Burmese authority. Nai Yekha joined the New Mon State Party, an armed-group that has been fighting for democracy and Mon national self-determination for almost five decades.

A Popular Public Organizer and a Good Teacher

Soon after he joined the NMSP he was elected as chairman of the Moulmein district. However, he preferred to continue working as a teacher and public organizer. He was later appointed as a vice-chairman of the Department of Public Relations and the principal of the NMSP’s school of politics. He taught political ideology to the party’s members and local people.

The NMSP signed the cease-fire agreement with the SPDC in 1995. Nai Yekha again started his organizing and teaching inside Burma because he believed that public awareness and involvement would bring changes in Burma. He taught political awareness and political defiance to local people including monks, students, women, and farmers. He encouraged them to form associations and organizations based on their interests in order to strengthen the civil society in Mon State. He became a threat to the Burmese authority as his activities gained popular support from the Mon people. Consequently, the Burmese military regime arrested Nai Yekha and his colleagues on July 17, 2003 with the accusation of conspiracy for overthrowing the Burmese military regime. Nai Yekha and his colleagues were unjustly sentenced to death. The sentences were later reduced to life in prison. However, one of Nai Yekha’s colleagues, Nai Ong Lorn (45 yrs) died in jail from an unknown cause on 28 September 2005.



Nai Yekha was lecturing on political defiance to monks and students. This picture was taken a few days before he was arrested by the Burmese military regime.



Mehm Aie Chan, son of Nai Yekha. He would greatly appreciate your help for the release of his father from notorious Insein Prison.

Nai Yekha’s family

Nai Yekha is married to Mi Chit Khin, a High School teacher at Kawkreik, and they have three children, Mi Cakkawaa, Mi Kon Kroi, and Mehm Aie Chan.

Both of their daughters Mi Cakkawaa and Mi Kon Kroi graduated and are working at the Mon Education Department which is operated by local Mon community.

Schools under the Mon Education Department are often harassed by the SPDC and are often ordered to shut down because the teaching of Mon language is illegal in Burma.