



Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (Burma)

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The Trial of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi

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The first day of the trial against Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, her colleagues Daw Khin Khin Win and Daw Win Ma Ma and US citizen John William Yettaw began today at 10.30 am and finished this afternoon at around 2pm local time.

Four lawyers (U Kyi Win, U Hla Myo Myint, U Nyan Win and Daw Khin Htay Kywe) represented Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. Daw Khin Htay Kywe, U Hla Myo Myint and U Nyan Win also represented National League for Democracy party members Daw Khin Khin Win and Daw Win Ma Ma. Lawyer U Khin Maung Oo represented John William Yettaw.

There are two judges in the case, U Thaung Nyunt from Rangoon Northern District Court and U Nyi Nyi Soe from Rangoon Western District Court.

Lt. Colonel Police Special Branch Officer Zaw Min Aung read out the statement of prosecution against Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, her colleagues and John William Yettaw. Her lawyers were able to raise counter-questions to Zaw Min Aung.

Security preparations have been underway since yesterday evening. Insein Road is closed off to traffic, and barbed wire fencing has been erected. Riot

police; members of the regime-affiliated militia, Swan Arr Shin; the regime's social organisation Union Solidarity and Development Association; and the Fire Brigade were all present. This morning NLD Youth members distributed black ribbons [and possibly armbands]. NLD Youth member Htwe Thein and others [names unknown] were arrested and taken away by security officers. They have now been released and are back at their homes.

NLD co-founder and Central Executive Committee member U Win Tin and hundreds of NLD members and supporters tried to enter Insein Prison compound to listen to the court hearing, but were prevented from doing so by security forces. Some youth and monks were seen wearing headbands and holding placards which said, "Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is not guilty."

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and her colleagues are being held in a guesthouse facility located within Insein prison compound. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi passed on a message that she is fine, and prays that others are in good health.

Trial will resume at 10 am tomorrow, Tuesday 19 May.

- ENDS -

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