


Political Prisoner Profile

AAPP CASE NO.:	0027			
NAME OF POLITICAL PRISONER:	De Nyein Lin			
GENDER:	Male	Ethnicity:	Burmese	
DATE OF BIRTH:	27 August 1988	Age:	19	
RELIGION:	Buddhist			
PARENTS NAME:	U Zaw Zaw Min and Daw Htay Htay Win			
EDUCATION:	Final Year (Geology), Rangoon Western University			
OCCUPATION:	Leader of All Burmese Federation of Student Unions (ABSFU)			
LAST ADDRESS:	#778, Sein Yadanar Street, Sint Ngu Quarter, Phaw Kan Market, Insein Township, Rangoon			
ARREST DATE:	23 October 2007			PHOTO DATE: April 2008
SECTION OF LAW:	143, 147, 505/b, 295/a, 6			
SENTENCING HISTORY:	6 yrs & 6 mths + 4 yrs + 5 yrs			
COURT HEARING:	Sanchaung Township Court			
NAME OF PRISON:	Insein Prison, Khamti			
RELEASE DATE:				
IMMEDIATE HEALTH CONCERNS:	<p>On 26 May 2009, De Nyein Lin's mother Daw Htay Htay Win visited Hkamti prison. De Nyein Lin has had an ongoing fever, faint and unable to keep food and water down from 8 to 12 May 2009. Although he has received medicine, De Nyein Lin has still been denied access to a medical doctor. He has also had a blood test for Malaria; so far, the family has not been informed of the results.</p>			
CURRENT STATUS SUMMARY:	<p>On 13 February 2009, De Nyein Lin was transferred to the remote Khamti Prison, 1,200 miles from his family in Rangoon, in Sagaing Division in the north-western Burma. De Nyein Lin's mother told <i>Democratic Voice of Burma (DVB)</i> on 23 February 2009, that she had gone to the prison to see her son and found that he had been transferred. "I learnt my son was going to be transferred to another prison when I visited him on Thursday..My son told me he knew about that too but he wasn't sure when or where they were going to send him." (DVB13022009)</p>			
CAREER BACKGROUND:	<p>De Nyein Lin is the grandson of U Saw Win, the <i>National League for Democracy (NLD)</i> MP of Htee Lin Constituency, who died in Tharyarwaddy Prison on 7 August 1998. Both De Nyein Lin's father and grandfather were actively involved in the 1988 uprising. De Nyein Lin shared their experiences with fellow activists attending the annual memorial day on 8 August 2007, to remember those who gave their lives for democracy in 1988. He took a leading role in the September 2007 demonstrations with the 88 Generation students. The junta accused him of holding the Fighting Peacock Flag (symbol of the struggle for democracy) and leading the march of some 30,000 protesters from San Chaung Township. After the demonstrations, with the help of fellow activist Aung Min Naing, De Nyein Lin went into hiding to avoid arrest.</p>			
ARREST DETAILS:	<p>On 12 October 2007, authorities firstly arrested De Nyein Lin's close friend, Thein Aye, when they came to his house searching for De Nyein Lin and could not find him. (Thein Aye suffers from mental illness. It has been said that the family has received no information about Thein Aye's whereabouts or</p>			

condition since his arrest). Then De Nyein Lin was then arrested on the night of 23 October 2007 at the Parami Apartment Building (Thamine). Aung Min Naing was arrested earlier that same day.

DETAILS OF IMPRISONMENT:

On 16 January 2008, while De Nyein Lin was in detention, his family along with the family of first-year mathematics student Ye Myat Hein wrote a letter to the prison administration department requesting that they be allowed to sit their exams in detention. The families sent their letter to the director of the department, which comes under the Ministry of Home Affairs. De Nyein Linn's mother Daw Htay Htay Win told *Democratic Voice of Burma (DVB)* "My son needs to resit four subjects, and I don't know yet if he will be given this permission or not," she said. Copies of the letter were also sent to the minister of home affairs, major-general Maung Oo, and to the minister of education, a professor at Rangoon Western University, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Insein prison administrator. (DVB28012008)

On 14 September 2008, De Nyein Lin was charged, along with fellow students Sithu Maung, Ye Min Oo and Ko Kyi Phyu, by Sanchaung Township Court without bringing him to court. The charges included disrupting the stability of the state and causing public alarm.

On 5 November 2008, it was reported that authorities took steps to move the trial of De Nyein Lin from relevant township courts in Rangoon to courts inside Insein prison. Nyi Nyi Hlaing, De Nyein Lin's lawyer, told *Democratic Voice of Burma (DVB)* "Court officials told me that the prosecutor of my client, Sanchaung [township] police chief Kyaw Kyaw, stated there is a security risk in local courts and that he made a request to move the trials to Insein prison," said Ko Nyi Nyi Hlaing. "I contended that it was wrong to make such a move as nothing had ever gone wrong at the local courts before. According to the regulations on court hearings, a trial must be held openly in front of the public and the families of those involved. It's our job as pleaders to plead for our clients and if I am accused of contempt of court for doing so, I will go to prison if I have to. This is my job." (DVB05112009)

On 19 November 2008, De Nyein Lin was sentenced to six years and six months imprisonment on charges relating to his involvement in anti-government demonstrations, family members reported. The sentence was handed down by a court in Rangoon's Sanchaung Township. He was also sentenced, later on, to four more years by Htantabin township court on further sedition charges and for inciting public. De Nyein Lin's father Zaw Zaw Min was sentenced to 65 years earlier in the month on 11 November 2008. (Irrawaddy 19112008) and (Mizzima19112008).

During De Nyein Lin's trial, on 11 December 2008, his mother told *Radio Free Asia (RFA)* she still believed in what both her son and her husband were fighting for. "I'm not upset—I am honored and proud. They are fighting for the truth and, because of this, I am proud of them," she said. "Let them do what they want, our family won't be discouraged. We will support them no matter what. I told my son and my husband that even when I grow old with grey hair and I am walking with a cane, I will keep coming to see them." (RFA11122008)

On 5 February 2009, De Nyein Lin was given an additional five-year jail term, bringing his total sentence to 15 and a half years. South Dagon township court imposed the additional sentence for charges under the Unlawful Association Act, according to family members. (DVB05022009)

This profile was prepared by the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (Burma) on 25 April 2008, and was updated on 4 May 2008.