


Political Prisoner Profile

AAPP CASE NO.:	0077			
NAME OF POLITICAL PRISONER:	Nay Zar Myo Win			
GENDER:	Male	Ethnicity:	Burmese	
DATE OF BIRTH:	26 May 1979	Age:	30 in 2009	
RELIGION:	Buddhist			
PARENTS NAME:	U Myo Win and Daw Hla Hla Win			
EDUCATION:				
OCCUPATION:	National League for Democracy (NLD) Youth Member; and All Burma New Generation Front (ABNGF) Member			
LAST ADDRESS:	Dawbon Township, Rangoon Division			
ARREST DATE:	5 January 2008		PHOTO DATE: Apr 2008	
SECTION OF LAW:	Forming of Organizations Law No. 6/88, Section 6			
SENTENCING HISTORY:	5 years on 14 November 2008			
COURT HEARING:	Kyauktada Township Court held inside Insein Prison's compound			
NAME OF PRISON:	Yemethin Prison, Mandalay Division			
RELEASE DATE:				

IMMEDIATE HEALTH CONCERNS:

CURRENT STATUS SUMMARY:

Nay Zar Myo Win is a 30-year-old man who is now serving a 5-year prison sentence at Yemethin Prison for his involvement in political activities. *(See details below.)*

Prison Transfer History:

- Nay Zar Myo Win was originally detained at the **Kyauktada Police Station** for nearly three weeks.
- On 21 January 2008 Nay Zar Myo Win was transferred to **Insein Prison** in Rangoon Division for 10 months until he received his 5-year prison sentence.
- On 25 November 2008 Nay Zar Myo Win was transferred to **Yemethin Prison** in Mandalay Division.

Yemethin Prison is approximately 483 kilometers (300 miles) away from his family in Dawbon Township of Rangoon Division. Transferring political prisoners to distant prisons is one of the tactics used by the regime to further punish prisoners and increase the burden on their families and friends who provide necessary medicines, food, and other support.

CAREER BACKGROUND:

Nay Zar Myo Win is a National League for Democracy (NLD) Youth member. The National League for Democracy (NLD) is 1991 Nobel Peace Prize winner Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's pro-democracy political party, which won the 1990 multi-party democratic elections by a landslide victory; however, the results were not acknowledged by the ruling military regime, and the party was prohibited from forming the government.

Nay Zar Myo Win is also a member of All Burma New Generation Front (ABNGF).

On 15 May 2007 Nay Zar Myo Win was arrested together with 28 other NLD members and activists, including high-profile activist Su Su Nway. Several pro-democracy groups in Burma led prayer campaigns throughout early 2007 to peacefully call for the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and all other political prisoners. On 15 May 2007 the group held a prayer meeting in the early morning at Arthawkayama Monastery in Dawbon Township, and then went to Insein Township later in the morning to hold a second prayer meeting. Upon arriving at a bus stop in Insein Township all 28 members were arrested by approximately 50 plain-clothed members of Swan Arr Shin, a government-appointed militia group of civilian

political informers. At least one member was badly beaten, and they were taken to an interrogation center where they were questioned for several days. The 28 members were then divided into smaller groups, with each sent to separate police battalions. After spending over a month in detention without being charged for any crimes, the police began releasing the members, with the last of the group being released more than two months from the date of arrest. Ironically, the government-backed MRTV-3 called the prayer campaign, an “act of saboteurs,” attempting “to destroy peace and stability and ignite violence...by visiting pagodas and marching in procession, praying for the release of political prisoners.” (MRTV-3 16May2007; Human Rights Watch’s *Personal Statement from Saw Kyaw Kyaw Min* 16Dec2008; and Democratic Voice of Burma 15May2007 and 18May2007)

ARREST DETAILS:

On 5 January 2008 Nay Zar Myo Win was having dinner around 10:15pm when he was arrested at his home in Dawbon Township. Local Ward Authority Myo Thein, Police Intelligence Ko Ko Zaw, and Surgeon Ko Ko Soe entered the house without a warrant and said they had questions to ask him at the local authority’s office. He was surrounded by firefighters, members of the government-backed Union Solidarity and Development Association (USDA), and Swan Arr Shin while he was taken to their jeep.

DETAILS OF IMPRISONMENT:

Nay Zar Myo Win was tried at Kyauktada Township Special Court held inside Insein Prison concurrently with four other NLD Youth members, including Aung Zaw Oo, Kyaw Kyaw Lin, Kyaw Zin Win, and Kyi Kyi War (Kyaw Zin Win’s wife). Their defense lawyer was Saw Kyaw Kyaw Min.

On 14 November 2008 Nay Zar Myo Win and his four co-defendants were each sentenced to five (5) years in prison under the following law:

1. Forming of Organizations Law No. 6/88, Section 6 – Forming an organization without permission (5 years max.)

Three of Nay Zar Myo Win’s co-defendants also received additional sentences that same day as follows:

- Kyaw Zin Win received an additional 11 years, totaling 16 years in prison;
- Kyi Kyi War (Kyaw Zin Win’s wife) received an additional 6 years, totaling 11 years in prison; and
- Kyaw Kyaw Lin received an additional 8 years, totaling 13 years in prison.

After the sentencing Nay Zar Myo Win’s father told Mezzima, "I feel upset for my son but have no regrets. They did what they did, based on their belief and conviction and chose the way by themselves..." (Mezzima 15Nov2008)

This profile was prepared by the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (Burma) on 27 November 2009.