



five-year detention period, extended annually, ended. The international community quickly condemned the junta's decision to extend her detention.<sup>2</sup> On 6 June, the SPDC indicated that Daw Suu could be detained up to 27 November 2009 under the 1975 State Protection Law.<sup>3</sup>

### Locked away, but never forgotten

Despite the regime's desperate efforts to keep Daw Aung San Suu Kyi away from the public eye, the pro-democracy leader continues to command deep respect all over the country. Over the past year political activists, students, monks, and ordinary citizens have continued to express their support and solidarity for Daw Suu.



- **19 June 2007:** Defying threats, attacks, and arrests, pro-democracy activists and ordinary citizens participated in celebrations for Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's 62<sup>nd</sup> birthday in various locations across Burma.<sup>4</sup>
- **4 September 2007:** SPDC authorities arrested activist Mya Mya San for holding a prayer vigil for Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at Rangoon's Shwedagon pagoda.<sup>5</sup>
- **18 September 2007:** SPDC authorities arrested activist Naw Ohn Hla while on her way to Rangoon's Shwedagon Pagoda to pray for the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Reuters (28 May 08) Indonesia joins in criticism of Myanmar over Suu Kyi; UN News Center (27 May 08) Myanmar: Ban Ki-moon 'regrets' continued detention of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi; DPA (28 May 08) UNHCR condemns extension of Suu Kyi's detention; EU Presidency (29 May 08) Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the EU on the extension of the house arrest of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi; AP (29 May 08) Myanmar approves all pending visas for UN aid workers; CNN (28 May 08) Anger at extension of Suu Kyi's detention; Mizzima (28 May 08) Junta faces condemnation for extending Suu Kyi's detention; Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs (28 May 08) Media Release: Australia Regrets Extended Detention of Aung San Suu Kyi

<sup>3</sup> Permanent Mission of the Union of Myanmar to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva, Switzerland (06 Jun 08) Rebuttal Statement by His Excellency U Wunna Maung Lwin, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of the Union of Myanmar at the Eighth Session of the Human Rights Council

<sup>4</sup> Reuters (20 Jun 07) Myanmar's Suu Kyi turns 62 under house arrest; Irrawaddy (19 Jun 07) Suu Kyi celebrates birthday under house arrest; Mizzima News (19 Jun 07) Thousands celebrate Suu Kyi's 62nd birthday; Irrawaddy (19 Jun 07) Suu Kyi celebrates birthday under house arrest; Irrawaddy (19 Jun 07) Suu Kyi celebrates birthday under house arrest; DVB (19 Jun 07) NLD members targeted in slingshot attacks

<sup>5</sup> AFP (05 Sep 07) Defiant protesters stage new rally in Myanmar

<sup>6</sup> Irrawaddy (18 Sep 07) Naw Ohn Hla arrested; Irrawaddy (18 Sep 07) Prominent Burmese woman activist arrested in Rangoon

- **22 September 2007:** During the days of demonstrations that became known as the “Saffron Revolution”, a crowd of 2,000 monks and civilians passed a roadblock and walked to the lakeside house where Daw Aung San Suu Kyi remains detained. Daw Suu greeted the demonstrators from her gate in her first public appearance in more than four years.<sup>7</sup> The rally was a strong assertion of unity between the monks and the pro-democracy movement.
- **23 September 2007:** Armed riot police prevented a crowd of about 400 monks and demonstrators from approaching Daw Suu’s home again.<sup>8</sup>
- **27 May 2008:** Police arrested at least 15 NLD members as they marched from the party headquarters to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi’s residence.<sup>9</sup>

### Talks with Daw Suu: The SPDC’s desperate bluff

The SPDC came under intense international pressure over the bloody crackdown on the August-September 2007 nationwide anti-junta protests. In an effort to appease world opinion and prevent closer scrutiny by the UN Security Council, the regime attempted to persuade the international community that it was serious about starting dialogue with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

On 4 October, SPDC Chairman Sr Gen Than Shwe said he was willing to meet with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi under certain conditions. Demands included that Daw Suu abandon confrontation with the junta and withdraw calls for the imposition of sanctions.<sup>10</sup>

On 8 October, the SPDC appointed Maj Gen Aung Kyi as the junta’s Liaison Minister to hold talks with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.<sup>11</sup> He was the fourth official designated to liaise with Daw Suu since 1994.<sup>12</sup>

On 8 November, UN Special Advisor on Burma Ibrahim Gambari met with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi for about an hour at Rangoon’s Seinle Kantha state guesthouse.<sup>13</sup> In the evening, Gambari read a statement in Singapore on behalf of the detained pro-democracy leader. In her statement, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi expressed her willingness to cooperate with the SPDC to start **“a meaningful and time-bound dialogue with the SPDC leadership [...] as early as possible.”** Daw Suu also indicated that any dialogue with the junta would require taking into consideration **“the interests and opinions of as broad a range of political organizations and forces as possible, in particular those of [the] ethnic nationality races.”**<sup>14</sup>

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi’s 8 November statement received widespread support from Burma’s pro-democracy organizations and ethnic groups.<sup>15</sup>

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and SPDC Liaison Minister Maj Gen Aung Kyi met five times between October 2007 and January 2008.<sup>16</sup> Following her last meeting with Aung Kyi on 30 January 2008, Daw

<sup>7</sup> AP (24 Sep 07) Myanmar celebrities support monks in wave of anti-government protests; New York Times (23 Sep 07) Challenge to Myanmar’s junta gains momentum

<sup>8</sup> Irrawaddy (23 Sep 07) Police bar second visit by monks to Suu Kyi’s home

<sup>9</sup> AFP (27 May 08) Myanmar arrests Aung San Suu Kyi allies; Mizzima News (27 May 08) Opposition youths marching to Suu Kyi house arrested; Irrawaddy (27 May 08) NLD members arrested; Suu Kyi’s sentence extended

<sup>10</sup> AP (04 Oct 07) Myanmar junta chief willing to meet opposition leader Suu Kyi - but with conditions; AP (05 Oct 07) Myanmar leader willing to meet Suu Kyi; Reuters (04 Oct 07) Myanmar junta sets Suu Kyi talks conditions; AFP (04 Oct 07) Myanmar junta chief willing to meet Suu Kyi if she drops demands; AFP (06 Oct 07) Suu Kyi appears on state TV as under-fire Myanmar frees monks

<sup>11</sup> AFP (08 Oct 07) Myanmar junta names point man for relations with Suu Kyi; BBC (08 Oct 07) Burmese junta appoints go-between; New York Times (09 Oct 07) Myanmar appoints liaison to dissident; AP (25 Oct 07) Suu Kyi Meets Junta’s Official

<sup>12</sup> Irrawaddy (09 Oct 07) Junta Appoints Liaison Officer for Suu Kyi

<sup>13</sup> Irrawaddy (08 Nov 07) Gambari Meets Suu Kyi

<sup>14</sup> AP (08 Nov 07) Text of Aung San Suu Kyi’s statement released by U.N. envoy; AP (08 Nov 07) Suu Kyi says she is ready to cooperate with junta; Reuters (08 Nov 07) Myanmar’s Suu Kyi says ready to cooperate with govt; Bloomberg (09 Nov 07) Gambari Says Suu Kyi, Myanmar Junta Set for ‘Substantive’ Talks

<sup>15</sup> IMNA (12 Nov 07) Ethnic welcome Daw Suu’s message

<sup>16</sup> Reuters (25 Oct 07) Myanmar’s detained Suu Kyi has talks with junta; AP (25 Oct 07) Suu Kyi Meets Junta’s Official; AP (26 Oct 07) Show of Force in Myanmar on Anniversary; DVB (26 Oct 07) Daw Suu meets liaison minister; AP (09 Nov 07) Myanmar lifts some restraints on Suu Kyi; AP (09 Nov 07) Suu Kyi resigned to Myanmar house arrest; AP (10 Nov 07) Myanmar’s Suu Kyi tells colleagues she is ‘very optimistic’ over prospects for talks; AP (10 Nov 07) Suu Kyi is front-page news in Myanmar; AFP (10 Nov 07) Myanmar’s Suu Kyi says ‘time for healing’ after junta meeting; AP (10 Nov 07) Myanmar junta says it’s putting energy into reform as Suu Kyi gets rare front-page billing; AFP (11 Nov 07) Suu Kyi meets party, junta; AP (19 Nov 07) Myanmar’s Suu Kyi

Suu expressed her dissatisfaction with the talks and the lack of any time frame for dialogue.<sup>17</sup> Daw Suu reportedly said she feared the junta was toying with her and the talks might give rise to “false hope”.<sup>18</sup>

### Text of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's 8 November statement

“I wish to thank all those who have stood by my side all this time, both inside and outside my country. I am also grateful to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, for his unwavering support for the cause of national reconciliation, democracy and human rights in my country.

“I welcome the appointment on 8 October of Minister Aung Kyi as Minister for Relations. Our first meeting on 25 October was constructive and I look forward to further regular discussions. I expect that this phase of preliminary consultations will conclude soon so that a meaningful and timebound dialogue with the SPDC leadership can start as early as possible.

“In the interest of the nation, I stand ready to cooperate with the Government in order to make this process of dialogue a success and welcome the necessary good offices role of the United Nations to help facilitate our efforts in this regard.

“In full awareness of the essential role of political parties in democratic societies, in deep appreciation of the sacrifices of the members of my party and in my position as General Secretary, I will be guided by the policies and wishes of the National League for Democracy. However, in this time of vital need for democratic solidarity and national unity, it is my duty to give constant and serious considerations to the interests and opinions of as broad a range of political organizations and forces as possible, in particular those of our ethnic nationality races.

“To that end, I am committed to pursue the path of dialogue constructively and invite the Government and all relevant parties to join me in this spirit.

“I believe that stability, prosperity and democracy for my country, living at peace with itself and with full respect for human rights, offers the best prospect for my country to fully contribute to the development and stability of the region in close partnership with its neighbors and fellow ASEAN members, and to play a positive role as a respected member of the international community.”

### A year in review

- **27 August 2007:** Hollywood actor Jim Carrey released a video on YouTube that expressed support for Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.<sup>19</sup>
- **6 September 2007:** Hollywood celebrities urged the UN to help win freedom for Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.<sup>20</sup>
- **30 September 2007:** Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met with UN Special Advisor on Burma Ibrahim Gambari at Rangoon's Seinle Kantha state guesthouse.<sup>21</sup>
- **1 October:** US Senate adopted a resolution calling for the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.<sup>22</sup>
- **2 October 2007:** Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met with UN Special Advisor on Burma Ibrahim Gambari at Rangoon's Seinle Kantha state guesthouse for a second round of talks.<sup>23</sup>
- **2 October:** US House of Representatives adopted a resolution calling for the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.<sup>24</sup>
- **4 October 2007:** Sr Gen Than Shwe said he was willing to meet with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi under certain conditions.<sup>25</sup>

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meets liaison minister; VOA (19 Nov 07) Burma's Detained Opposition Leader Meets With Government Liaison; AFP (20 Nov 07) Suu Kyi meets with Myanmar official; DVB (20 Nov 07) Daw Suu has third meeting with liaison minister; AFP (11 Jan 08) Aung San Suu Kyi meets Myanmar junta official; Reuters (11 Jan 08) Detained Suu Kyi meets Myanmar junta minister; Reuters (30 Jan 08) "Prepare for worst", Suu Kyi tells Myanmar

<sup>17</sup> Reuters (30 Jan 08) "Prepare for worst", Suu Kyi tells Myanmar

<sup>18</sup> Reuters (30 Jan 08) "Prepare for worst", Suu Kyi tells Myanmar

<sup>19</sup> Brisbane Times (29 Aug 07) Movie star Carrey pleads for Myanmar's Suu Kyi in YouTube

<sup>20</sup> Reuters (06 Sep 07) Stars urge UN's Ban to help Myanmar's Suu Kyi

<sup>21</sup> AP (30 Sep 07) U.N. Envoy, Myanmar Democracy Chief Meet

<sup>22</sup> AFP (02 Oct 07) US eager for UN envoy report on Myanmar

<sup>23</sup> Mizzima News (02 Oct 07) Gambari concludes Burma visit, meets Suu Kyi again

<sup>24</sup> AFP (02 Oct 07) US eager for UN envoy report on Myanmar

<sup>25</sup> AP (04 Oct 07) Myanmar junta chief willing to meet opposition leader Suu Kyi - but with conditions; AP (05 Oct 07) Myanmar leader willing to meet Suu Kyi; Reuters (04 Oct 07) Myanmar junta sets Suu Kyi talks conditions; AFP (04 Oct 07) Myanmar junta

- **8 October 2007:** SPDC appointed Maj Gen Aung Kyi as the junta's liaison officer to hold talks with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.<sup>26</sup>
- **13 October 2007:** Canadian government announced it would confer honorary citizenship on Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.<sup>27</sup>
- **24 October 2007:** Daw Aung San Suu Kyi marked her 12th year under detention.<sup>28</sup>
- **25 October 2007:** Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met for the first time with the SPDC Liaison Minister Maj Gen Aung Kyi at Rangoon's Seinle Kantha state guesthouse.<sup>29</sup>
- **8 November 2007:** UN Special Advisor on Burma Ibrahim Gambari met with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi at Rangoon's Seinle Kantha state guesthouse.<sup>30</sup>
- **8 November 2007:** Daw Aung San Suu Kyi released statement on national reconciliation.<sup>31</sup>
- **9 November 2007:** Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met with four officials of her party at Rangoon's Seinle Kantha state guesthouse, the first time she had been allowed meet with party officials since May 2004.<sup>32</sup>
- **9 November 2007:** Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met with SPDC Liaison Minister Maj Gen Aung Kyi at Rangoon's Seinle Kantha state guesthouse.<sup>33</sup>
- **19 November 2007:** Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met with Liaison Minister Maj Gen Aung Kyi at Rangoon's Seinle Kantha state guesthouse.<sup>34</sup>
- **20 December 2007:** The City of Rome awarded Daw Aung San Suu Kyi the "Rome for Peace and Humanitarian Action" prize.<sup>35</sup>
- **11 January 2008:** Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the SPDC Liaison Minister Maj Gen Aung Kyi met in Rangoon.<sup>36</sup>
- **24 January 2008:** Spain awarded Daw Aung San Suu Kyi the "Abogados de Atocha" for her work for political reconciliation.<sup>37</sup>
- **30 January 2008:** Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met with senior NLD members in Rangoon and slams the SPDC over stalled talks.<sup>38</sup>
- **30 January 2008:** Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met with SPDC Liaison Minister Maj Gen Aung Kyi in Rangoon.<sup>39</sup>
- **19 February 2008:** SPDC Foreign Minister Nyan Win said that the SPDC's constitution will bar Daw Aung San Suu Kyi from participating in elections.<sup>40</sup>
- **8 March 2008:** UN Special Advisor on Burma Ibrahim Gambari met with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.<sup>41</sup>

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chief willing to meet Suu Kyi if she drops demands; AFP (06 Oct 07) Suu Kyi appears on state TV as under-fire Myanmar frees monks

<sup>26</sup> AFP (08 Oct 07) Myanmar junta names point man for relations with Suu Kyi; BBC (08 Oct 07) Burmese junta appoints go-between; New York Times (09 Oct 07) Myanmar appoints liaison to dissident; AP (25 Oct 07) Suu Kyi Meets Junta's Official

<sup>27</sup> Mizzima News (17 Oct 07) Honorary citizenship for Suu Kyi

<sup>28</sup> PR Newswire (24 Oct 07) Amnesty International demands release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi as she marks 12th year under house arrest

<sup>29</sup> Reuters (25 Oct 07) Myanmar's detained Suu Kyi has talks with junta; AP (25 Oct 07) Suu Kyi Meets Junta's Official; AP (26 Oct 07) Show of Force in Myanmar on Anniversary; DVB (26 Oct 07) Daw Suu meets liaison minister

<sup>30</sup> Irrawaddy (08 Nov 07) Gambari Meets Suu Kyi

<sup>31</sup> AP (08 Nov 07) Text of Aung San Suu Kyi's statement released by U.N. envoy; AP (08 Nov 07) Suu Kyi says she is ready to cooperate with junta; Reuters (08 Nov 07) Myanmar's Suu Kyi says ready to cooperate with govt; Bloomberg (09 Nov 07) Gambari Says Suu Kyi, Myanmar Junta Set for 'Substantive' Talks;

<sup>32</sup> AP (09 Nov 07) Myanmar lifts some restraints on Suu Kyi; AP (09 Nov 07) Suu Kyi resigned to Myanmar house arrest; AP (10 Nov 07) Myanmar's Suu Kyi tells colleagues she is 'very optimistic' over prospects for talks; AP (10 Nov 07) Suu Kyi is front-page news in Myanmar; AFP (10 Nov 07) Myanmar's Suu Kyi says 'time for healing' after junta meeting; AP (10 Nov 07) Myanmar junta says it's putting energy into reform as Suu Kyi gets rare front-page billing; AFP (11 Nov 07) Suu Kyi meets party, junta

<sup>33</sup> AP (09 Nov 07) Myanmar lifts some restraints on Suu Kyi; AP (09 Nov 07) Suu Kyi resigned to Myanmar house arrest; AP (10 Nov 07) Myanmar's Suu Kyi tells colleagues she is 'very optimistic' over prospects for talks; AP (10 Nov 07) Suu Kyi is front-page news in Myanmar; AFP (10 Nov 07) Myanmar's Suu Kyi says 'time for healing' after junta meeting; AP (10 Nov 07) Myanmar junta says it's putting energy into reform as Suu Kyi gets rare front-page billing; AFP (11 Nov 07) Suu Kyi meets party, junta

<sup>34</sup> AP (19 Nov 07) Myanmar's Suu Kyi meets liaison minister; VOA (19 Nov 07) Burma's Detained Opposition Leader Meets With Government Liaison; AFP (20 Nov 07) Suu Kyi meets with Myanmar official; DVB (20 Nov 07) Daw Suu has third meeting with liaison minister

<sup>35</sup> Mizzima News (20 Dec 07) Aung San Suu Kyi awarded "Rome for Peace and Humanitarian Action" prize

<sup>36</sup> AFP (11 Jan 08) Aung San Suu Kyi meets Myanmar junta official; Reuters (11 Jan 08) Detained Suu Kyi meets Myanmar junta minister

<sup>37</sup> Irrawaddy (24 Jan 08) Suu Kyi wins another Award

<sup>38</sup> Reuters (30 Jan 08) "Prepare for worst", Suu Kyi tells Myanmar

<sup>39</sup> Reuters (30 Jan 08) "Prepare for worst", Suu Kyi tells Myanmar

<sup>40</sup> BBC (19 Feb 08) Burma confirms draft constitution

<sup>41</sup> AP (09 Mar 08) UN special envoy to Myanmar meets Suu Kyi after rebuff by government; AFP (06 Mar 08) UN envoy arrives in Myanmar to push for reforms; Xinhua (06 Mar 08) U.N. special envoy meets Myanmar FM

- **10 March 2008:** UN Special Advisor on Burma Ibrahim Gambari met with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi for a second time before leaving Burma.<sup>42</sup>
- **1 May 2008:** Hollywood actors began a month-long video campaign to win support for Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.<sup>43</sup>
- **3 May 2008:** Cyclone Nargis damaged the roof of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's house.<sup>44</sup>
- **5 May 2008:** Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Maxime Bernier hosted a ceremony to confer honorary Canadian citizenship to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.<sup>45</sup>
- **6 May 2008:** US President George W. Bush signed legislation that conferred Daw Aung San Suu Kyi with the Congressional Gold Medal, the US Congress top civilian honor.<sup>46</sup>
- **23 May 2008:** Daw Aung San Suu Kyi cast absentee ballot in the SPDC's constitutional referendum at her home.<sup>47</sup>
- **27 May 2008:** SPDC extended Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's detention by another year.<sup>48</sup>
- **6 June 2008:** SPDC said that the extension of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's detention was legal.<sup>49</sup>
- **11 June 2008:** State-run newspaper New Light of Myanmar said that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi deserved "flogging punishment as in the case of naughty children" because she threatened national security.<sup>50</sup>

### International support and calls for her release

- **19 June 2007:** British Prime Minister Tony Blair called for the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.<sup>51</sup>
- **29 July 2007:** ASEAN Foreign Ministers sharply criticized the SPDC for keeping Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in detention. The Philippines was joined by several other nations in calling for the release of Daw Suu.<sup>52</sup>
- **24 September 2007:** Germany's Foreign Ministry called for the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.<sup>53</sup>
- **19 November 2007:** Philippines warned that it was unlikely to ratify the ASEAN Charter unless the SPDC restores democracy and frees Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.<sup>54</sup>
- **30 November 2007:** UN Special Advisor on Burma Ibrahim Gambari said that the SPDC must release Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.<sup>55</sup>
- **4 January 2008:** US First Lady Laura Bush urged the SPDC to free Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.<sup>56</sup>
- **3 January 2008:** Czech FM, Karel Schwarzenberg, called on the SPDC to release all political prisoners, including Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.<sup>57</sup>
- **25 January 2008:** Philippines President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo called for ASEAN leaders to unite for the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.<sup>58</sup>
- **29 January 2008:** EU Special Envoy to Burma Piero Fassino urged the SPDC to free Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.<sup>59</sup>
- **11 February 2008:** UK called for the immediate release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.<sup>60</sup>

<sup>42</sup> Reuters (11 Mar 08) U.N. envoy leaves Myanmar as fails to convince junta

<sup>43</sup> Irrawaddy (01 May 08) Burma Activists Tap Celebrity Power for Suu Kyi

<sup>44</sup> AP (08 May 08) Suu Kyi's house roof blown off

<sup>45</sup> Ottawa Citizen (06 May 08) Canada pays tribute to Burma's detained dissident leader

<sup>46</sup> AFP (06 May 08) Myanmar says cyclone death toll tops 22,000

<sup>47</sup> Bangkok Post (23 May 08) Suu Kyi allowed to vote, ballot taken to her home

<sup>48</sup> Reuters (27 May 08) Myanmar extends Suu Kyi house arrest; Irrawaddy (27 May 08) NLD members arrested; Suu Kyi's sentence extended

<sup>49</sup> Permanent Mission of the Union of Myanmar to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva, Switzerland (06 Jun 08) Rebuttal Statement by His Excellency U Wunna Maung Lwin, Ambassador/Permanent Representative of the Union of Myanmar at the Eighth Session of the Human Rights Council

<sup>50</sup> Reuters (11 Jun 08) Myanmar junta says Suu Kyi deserves to be flogged

<sup>51</sup> Mizzima News (19 Jun 07) British Prime Minister calls for release of Daw Suu

<sup>52</sup> Reuters (29 Jul 07) SE Asia group urges democracy in Myanmar

<sup>53</sup> Deutsche Welle (24 Sep 07) Berlin Expresses Sympathy for Protests in Myanmar

<sup>54</sup> AP (19 Nov 07) Manila says ASEAN Charter likely a nonstarter unless Myanmar restores democracy

<sup>55</sup> AP (30 Nov 07) Suu Kyi must be released, Gambari says

<sup>56</sup> AFP (04 Jan 08) Laura Bush urges pressure on Myanmar junta

<sup>57</sup> AFP (04 Jan 08) Czech call on Myanmar to take democratic path

<sup>58</sup> PDI (26 Jan 07) Arroyo ups pressure to free Aung San Suu Kyi

<sup>59</sup> AFP (29 Jan 08) EU envoy calls for release of Myanmar's Aung San Suu Kyi

<sup>60</sup> PTI (11 Feb 08) Britain calls for Suu Kyi's immediate release

- **18 February 2008:** EU said that the SPDC should free Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and all other political prisoners to show it was serious about transition to civilian rule.<sup>61</sup>
- **19 February 2008:** Singapore FM George Yeo said that the SPDC's decision to bar Daw Aung San Suu Kyi from participating in elections was odd and out of date.<sup>62</sup>
- **27 May 2008:** UK Foreign Secretary David Miliband urged the SPDC to free Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.<sup>63</sup>
- **27 May 2008:** Indonesian FM Hassan Wirayuda urged the SPDC to release Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.<sup>64</sup>
- **28 May:** UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Louise Arbour called on the SPDC to "unconditionally" release Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.<sup>65</sup>
- **28 May 2008:** French Foreign Minister Kouchner called on the SPDC to "free without delay" Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.<sup>66</sup>
- **28 May 2008:** German Foreign Ministry called on the SPDC to immediately release Daw Aung San Suu Kyi along with all other political prisoners.<sup>67</sup>
- **28 May 2008:** Canada's Foreign Affairs Minister David Emerson called on the SPDC to release Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and all other political prisoners.<sup>68</sup>

## SELECTED BIOGRAPHY

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### Personal information

**19 June 1945:** Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is born in Rangoon.

**19 July 1947:** Her father, General Aung San, considered the father of Burmese Independence, is assassinated.

**1960:** Moves to India where her mother, Daw Khin Kyi, is Ambassador. She later continues her studies in the United Kingdom.

**1969-1971:** Assistant Secretary, Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, at the UN Secretariat in New York.

**1972:** Marries Michael Aris and joins him in Bhutan, where she becomes Research Officer in the Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

**1973:** Returns to England for the birth of Alexander in London.

**1977:** Birth of her second son, Kim, at Oxford.

**1985-1986:** Visiting Scholar at the Center of Southeast Asian Studies in Kyoto University, Japan.

**1 April 1988:** She returns to Burma to take care of her sick mother.

**24 September 1988:** Becomes NLD General Secretary.

**27 December 1988:** Daw Khin Kyi dies.

**27 March 1999:** Michael Aris dies of cancer in London. His last request to visit Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, whom he had last seen in 1995, is rejected. The junta urges Daw Suu to join her family in the UK, but she knows that doing so means she will not be allowed to return to Burma.

### Daw Suu meets the Burmese people

**26 August 1988:** During nationwide mass demonstrations for democracy, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi takes a leading role in the movement and addresses half a million people in front of the Shwedagon Pagoda in Rangoon.

**July 1988 - October 1999:** As leader of the NLD, tours the country extensively and delivers over a hundred public addresses during campaign rallies in Rangoon, Tenasserim, Pegu, Magwe, Sagaing, and Mandalay Divisions and in Kachin and Mon States.

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<sup>61</sup> Reuters (18 Feb 08) Freeing dissidents seen as vital to Myanmar transition

<sup>62</sup> CNA (21 Feb 08) George Yeo says Myanmar's ban on Aung San Suu Kyi odd

<sup>63</sup> Press Association (27 May 08) Burma keeps Suu Kyi under guard

<sup>64</sup> AP (27 May 08) Indonesian foreign minister urges Myanmar not to renew Suu Kyi's house arrest

<sup>65</sup> Hindu (29 May 08) UN HR head calls for release of Suu Kyi

<sup>66</sup> New York Sun (29 May 08) Burma's Detention of Democratic Leader Angers Countries

<sup>67</sup> Deutsche Welle (29 May 08) Germany Urges Burma to Free Political Prisoners

<sup>68</sup> Edmonton Sun (29 May 08) World leaders outraged at detention in Myanmar

**May 2002:** Following her release from house arrest, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi leads a convoy of NLD members and supporters to visit around 135 Townships in 12 States and Divisions, where she is warmly welcomed by tens of thousands of people.

**3 April 2003:** Daw Aung San Suu Kyi begins an 11-day campaign tour in Chin State. Thousands of people turned up to greet the pro-democracy leader despite threats from local authorities.

**May 2003:** Daw Aung San Suu Kyi tours Kachin and Shan States, and Mandalay and Sagaing Divisions in the weeks leading up to the 30 May Depayin massacre.

### **Detention/Releases**

- **20 July 1989:** Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is placed under house arrest and disqualified from running in the May 1990 elections.
- **10 July 1995:** Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is released from house arrest.
- **21 September 2000:** Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and other NLD leaders attempt to travel to Mandalay by train. SPDC authorities place Daw Suu under house arrest.
- **6 May 2002:** SPDC releases Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.
- **30 May 2003:** The regime detains Daw Aung San Suu Kyi following the Depayin massacre.

### **Attacks/Harassment**

**13 March 1996:** Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is forced to cancel trip to Mandalay to attend supporters' trial after the train coach she booked on develops a last-minute fault. She later tells reporters the SLORC trying to prevent her meeting the people.

**1996 to 2000:** Daw Aung San Suu Kyi defies travel bans and continuously attempts to travel outside Rangoon, but roads are blocked and train coaches left behind in order to prevent her departure.

**10 November 1996:** Two hundred USDA members rock Daw Suu's car, hit it with iron bars, and smash the rear window, while SPDC troops watch.

**23 July 1998:** Daw Aung San Suu Kyi spends several days in her car after being blocked by police when trying to leave Rangoon to meet with NLD officials. A five-day standoff is forcibly ended by the military.

**12 August 1998:** Daw Aung San Suu Kyi leaves her home to meet members of her political party outside Rangoon. As in previous attempts, authorities blocked her en route.

**5 April 1999:** Daw Aung San Suu Kyi confronts an SPDC Army unit ordered to aim their rifles at her while campaigning in the Irrawaddy delta.

**2 September 2000:** Two hundred riot police surround Daw Suu's motorcade near Dala, Rangoon Division, and force them to return to Rangoon after a nine day stand-off.

**25 December 2002:** During Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's trip to Arakan State, SPDC authorities in some areas place roadblocks to stop her vehicle.

**30 May 2003:** NLD members and supporters accompanying Daw Aung San Suu Kyi are attacked by pro-junta thugs near Depayin, Sagaing Division. As a result, more than 100 NLD members and elected MP, supporters, monks and students are arrested, killed, wounded and missing. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is subsequently detained.

### **Failed dialogue**

**October 2001:** The SPDC and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi began talks with the SPDC on national reconciliation. The specific details of the process were not known, as both sides agreed to maintain the substance of their discussions confidential.<sup>69</sup> UN Special Envoy for Burma Razali Ismail was the catalyst behind the "secret talks" between Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the military regime.<sup>70</sup> Razali and Daw Suu meet more than 20 times between August 2001 and March 2004.<sup>71</sup> The dialogue eventually collapsed following the Depayin massacre and Daw Suu's ensuing detention.

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<sup>69</sup> CHR, 58<sup>th</sup> session, Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/231, 18 March 2002, UN Doc E/CN.4/2002/35 Para 4

<sup>70</sup> A detailed chronology of the talks is available online at [www.irrawaddy.org](http://www.irrawaddy.org)

<sup>71</sup> Irrawaddy (01 Apr 07) Meetings with Aung San Suu Kyi

## LIST OF HONORS

<b>Year</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Institution, Place</b>
1990	Honorary Fellow	St Hugh's College, Oxford, UK
1990	Rafto Prize	Thorolf Rafto Foundation, Norway
1991	Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought	European Parliament
1991	Nobel Peace Prize	Nobel Foundation, Norway
1991	Honorary Member	International PEN - Norwegian Center
1991	Humanities Human Rights Award	US
1991	Honorary Member	PEN, Canada
1992	Marisa Bellisario Prize	Marisa Bellisario Foundation, Italy
1992	Annual Award	International Human Rights Law Group, USA
1992	Honorary President	London School of Economics Students' Union, UK
1992	Honorary Member	PEN, UK
1992	Honorary Life Member	University of London Union, UK
1992	Honorary Professional Fellowship	Law and Society Trust, Sri Lanka
1992	Honorary Doctorate in Political Science	Thammasat University, Thailand
1992	International Simon Bolivar Prize	UNESCO
1992	Prix Litteraire des Droits de l'Homme	Nouveaux Droits de l'Homme, France
1992	Honorary Member	World Commission on Culture and Development - UNESCO
1993	Member	Academie Universelle des Cultures, France
1993	Rose Prize	Labour Movement's International Forum, Denmark
1993	Victor Jara International Human Rights Award	Center for Human Rights and Constitutional Law, US
1993	Member of the Advisory Board	Francois-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights, US
1993	Honorary Doctorate of Laws	University of Toronto, Canada
1993	Freedom of the City	City of Giugliano, Italy
1993	Bremen Solidarity Prize	City of Bremen, Germany
1993	Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding	India
1993	Premio Mujer Progresista	Federacion Mujeres Progresistas, Spain
1994	Honorary Doctorate	Free University of Brussels, Belgium
1994	Honorary Advisor	Forum of Democratic Leaders in the Asia-Pacific
1995	Freedom of the City	City of Aversa, Italy
1995	Prize for Freedom	Liberal International
1995	Honorary Doctorate of Laws	Queen's University, Canada
1995	Thakore Visiting Scholar Award	Simon Fraser University, Canada
1995	Honorary Doctorate of Civil Law	University of Oxford, UK
1995	IRC Freedom Award	International Rescue Committee
1995	Prize for Freedom	Liberal International
1996	Order of Australia	Australia
1996	Asia Human Rights Award	Federation of Human Rights of Asia, Japan
1996	W. Averell Harriman Democracy Award	National Democratic Institute, US
1996	Rajiv Gandhi Memorial Award	Art and Culture Foundation, India
1996	Empty Chair Award	Women of the Year Lunch, UK
1997	Honorary Doctorate of Legal Sciences	Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic
1997	Honorary Doctorate of Letters	Sydney University of Technology, Australia
1997	Honorary Doctorate of Letters	California Chapman University, USA
1997	Honorary Doctorate of Law	University of Natal, South Africa
1997	Honorary Doctorate of Law	America University, Washington DC, US
1997	Distinguished Alumni Award	Delhi University, India

1997	Honorary Citizenship	City of Rome, Italy
1997	Honorary Doctorate of Letters	Glasgow University, UK
1997	Woman of the Year Award	Pearl S. Buck Foundation, US
1997	International Award	St. Angela's Peace and Justice Group, Republic of Ireland
1997	Profiles in Courage Award	Kennedy Society of Denmark, Denmark
1998	Honorary Doctorate of Law	Cambridge University, UK
1998	Freedom of the City	Oxford, UK
1998	Honorary Doctorate of Laws	University of Wales, Cardiff
1998	Honorary Doctorate of Laws	University of Bristol, UK
1998	Honorary Doctorate of Laws	University of Melbourne, Australia
1998	Honorary Degree	Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium
1998	Honorary Degree	University of Bath, UK
1999	Honorary Degree	Bucknell University, US
1999	Freedom Award	International Republican Institute, US
1999	Freedom of the City of Dublin	City of Dublin, Republic of Ireland
2000	CAW Nelson Mandela Human Rights Award	Canadian Auto Workers (CAW), Canada
2000	Presidential Medal of Freedom	US
2001	Collage United Nations Award	Richard Hillinger, Germany
2001	International Social Welfare Prize	University of Southern California, US
2002	UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence	UNESCO
2002	Al Neuharth Free Spirit of the Year Award	Freedom Forum, US
2003	MTV Humanitarian Award	MTV Europe, UK
2004	Gwangju Human Rights Award	May 18 Memory Foundation, South Korea
2004	Honorary Doctorate of Laws	Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada
2004	Honorary Citizenship	City of Paris, France
2004	Honorary Doctorate in Politics, Philosophy, and Economics	Rangsit University, Thailand
2005	Outstanding Women in Buddhism Award	Outstanding Women in Buddhism Award Committee
2005	Honorary Doctorate in Political Science	Thammasat University, Thailand
2005	Freedom of the City	City of Edinburgh, UK
2005	Freedom of the City	Galway, Republic of Ireland
2005	Honorary Membership	UNISON, UK
2005	Olof Palme Prize	Olof Palme Foundation, Sweden
2006	Freedom from Fear Award	Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute, US
2007	Netaji Subhas Award	Netaji Subhas Foundation, India
2007	Honorary Doctorate of Law	University of Cape Town, South Africa
2007	Freedom of the City	City of Glasgow, UK
2007	Honorary citizenship	Canada
2007	Rome for Peace and Humanitarian Action	City of Rome, Italy
2008	Abogados de Atocha Prize	Abogados de Atocha Foundation, Spain
2008	Honorary Doctorate of Letters	Colgate University, US
2008	Congressional Gold Medal	US
2008	Freedom of Dundee	City of Dundee, UK