

Free Hkun Htun Oo and all Political Prisoners in Burma

Mai Soong Kha,

Dear friends, we urgently request you to support our petition to the United Nations Security Council to pressure the Burmese Junta to release Hkun Htun Oo, other Shan leaders and all political prisoners in Burma, and to enter into an all inclusive dialogue for democracy in Burma.

There are two ways that you can sign the petition, online or handwritten signature. These notes provide a detailed explanation of the processes. Please only sign once using one method of signing the petition.

SIGNING THE PETITION

1. Online petition

The web address (URL) for the petition letter that will be sent to Mr. Kofi Annan, Secretary General to the United Nations, member states of the UN Security Council, leaders of ASEAN and countries that have close economic links with Burma can be found at:

<http://www.PetitionOnline.com/fppb/petition.html>

The URL for the actual signature form is at:
(This is a separate link on the letter page above):

<http://www.petitiononline.com/fppb/petition-sign.html>

This form asks for a NAME and an E-MAIL ADDRESS as required fields, and also allows entry of an optional COMMENT and LOCATION (for example, city and country). Please complete these fields and submit your 'signature'.

2. Pre-printed form.

Forms are available either attached to this e-mail, or from a number of Tai websites. The following websites have PDF versions of (i) the petition letter and (ii) the signature form.

www.tai4freedom.info/petition1.htm, www.taigress.info/petition1.htm, www.tai-nation.org

We request that you download copies of these two documents and print them. The computer you use should already have the Adobe reader which automatically displays the PDF file and allows for printing and saving copies of the files. If it does not then the 'help' page on www.tai4freedom.info provides assistance in resolving this. In fact, please print several copies of the signature form, and use it for your own signature and also to collect signatures from friends and family, especially those who do not have access to the internet, or who prefer to use the form.

The signature form has three fields to complete: (i) Signature, (ii) Name, (iii) Location. Please sign in the first column using your usual signature, print your name in the second column, and enter your location (city and country) or e-mail address in the third column.

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When you have signed the form and collected as many signatures as possible, please post the form to the address given on the form. This address is a UK address. There are addresses for UK and Japan given at the end of this note. If you live in another country, either send via air-mail, scanned in high quality by e-mail, or check with your local Shan/Tai group who may have arrangements for collecting forms centrally for forwarding to the main UK address.

CONFIDENTIALITY

We understand that some individuals wish to support the petition, but do not wish to reveal their identity. We can assure all signatories that the information held by Global Shan Community will only be used for the purposes of this petition, unless individuals have specifically indicated otherwise.

For those of you who have concerns for release of your identity (for instance, you live in Burma, you will be returning to Burma, or you have family in Burma and believe that your own or your family's safety and security may be compromised), then please follow the following rule: (i) select a 'pen-name', (ii) create an e-mail account using that pen-name, (iii) sign the form using your pen-name and new e-mail account. You may wish to indicate your location only by country.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding this matter, then please contact either Global Shan, or your local Shan/Tai organisation who should be able to give advice.

At present, we intend that the signed forms and the printout of names and e-mail address are used for the petition letter sent to the UN Secretary General and possibly also some other world leaders (e.g. chairman of ASEAN) to demonstrate the actual extent of support that our petition has attracted.

GLOBAL SHAN COMMUNITY

The Global Shan Community is a loosely united group of Shan/Tai organisations and individuals from around the world who have been brought together with the express purpose of creating and implementing this petition. Global Shan Community is not affiliated to any one group, nor does it profess to support or endorse any particular organisation or group.

Address for communication and for returning signature forms:

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Weston-super-Mare	201 Kuroda Kata
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