



## **AAPP and FPPS Call for the Release of All Political Prisoners Before the Signing of the National Ceasefire Agreement and the 2015 General Election**

The Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP) and the Former Political Prisoners Society (FPPS) jointly call for the release of all political prisoners prior to the signing of the National Ceasefire Agreement and the 2015 General Election, if national peace and reconciliation is to take effect.

The people of Burma and the international community are looking to the ceasefire agreement and the election as defining moments for Burma's future as a peaceful, democratic state. With the National Ceasefire Agreement anticipated to be signed in early October, it is imperative that all political, civil and ethnic activists be released so that they can be active participants in the peace talks.

There are currently 95 political prisoners incarcerated in Burma's prisons with an additional 465 people awaiting trial for political actions. Many of those incarcerated have been actively working towards strengthening and bettering Burma for the good of all its peoples. Continuing to detain these political prisoners through these historic events will only serve to further obstruct Burma's progression to peace and democracy.

AAPP and FPPS call on the government to release all political prisoners, and activists facing trial before the signing of the National Ceasefire Agreement and the 2015 General Election.

Additionally, AAPP and FPPS urge all political parties, Members of Parliament and ethnic armed organizations involved in signing the National Ceasefire Agreement to call on the government to end its oppression of political activists and to release them unconditionally.

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