



Activities of the National League for Democracy in May 2010

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National League for Democracy (Liberated Area)

1 May

The NLD issued a statement on May Day

The NLD urged the ILO including the SPDC government to stand for the rights of workers inside and outside of the country in a statement on May Day. The statement described the present plight of workers in Burma and their sporadic strikes as well as the underlying causes of these problems. According to the statement, workers are subject to conditions that do not meet international standards.

May Day ceremonies

A ceremony commemorating May Day was held in Bogalay Township, Irrawaddy Division. U Aung Pe, a former teacher from Twan Te Township, made a solo demonstration against authorities on May Day by collecting plastic bags on the street and dumping them on a trash pile. He is no longer allowed to continue teaching since authorities withdrew his license due to his involvement in politics.

2 May

NLD presented a ritual ceremony for victims of the cyclone in Bogalay

Bogalay NLD members presented a ritual ceremony for the victims of Cyclone Nargis, which hit Irrawaddy delta in 2008. NLD members donated *swan* (food) to “Mingalar Setkwin” monastery, and the head monk gave a sermon to the donors.

3 May

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi house resumed renovation

The Rangoon municipal government allowed Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to resume renovation of her residence after about four months of delay due to a motion by her elder brother U Aung San Oo to halt repairs works. The Rangoon (Yangon) City Development Committee issued a written order to her representative allowing renovation of her home.

NLD declared that it has used 140 millions in kyat for donation

U Ohn Kyaing, chairperson of the Cyclone Nargis Aid Committee, said that the NLD donated 140 million kyat to victims of Cyclone Nargis, which hit the southern part of Burma. NLD members went to affected areas and donated money and materials, including deep water and hand-pump wells. They also cleaned drinking water ponds within 45 days after the Cyclone. U

Ohn Kyaing stated that people in affected areas still desperately need drinking water, healthcare and education as they recover from the devastating cyclone.



4 May

Donating swan to monks

Daw May Win Myint, leader of the Women's Wing, held the 149th swan donation ceremony and prayer service for the release of political prisoners at the headquarters of the NLD. They donated swan (food for lunch) to 155 monks and five nuns. The ceremonies have been held since June 26, 2007.



CRPP urged people to protest against the upcoming elections

The Committee Representing People's Parliament (CRPP) held a meeting at the headquarters of the NLD. The CRPP decided to stand together with the NLD and urged citizens to cooperate with the NLD. The CRPP is a committee composed of representatives of the NLD and parties of ethnic nationalities.

5 May

NLD forced to remove signage from offices

The Madaya Township NLD in Mandalay Division decided to remove their signboards on township NLD chairman Khin Maung Than's house. The NLD Pegu (Bago) Township also

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decided to remove signboards at the chairman's house (at No. 92, 23rd street, Pan Hlaing Quarter).

Other offices including the NLD headquarters kept their signboards and flags flying. Daw Aung San Suu Kyi ordered the headquarters not to remove its signboard and flag. The NLD headquarters directed its township offices to decide regionally whether to keep them, depending on local conditions. She told NLD members through U Nyan Win, her lawyer, that she will never turn her back to the people or the struggle for democracy.

In Tanintharyi Division, landlords of some NLD offices in Yay Phyu, Thayet Chaung, Laung Long Townships were forced by authorities to take down signboards. On May 6, the NLD was forced to remove a signboard in Palay Township.

NLD member beaten

U Chit Tin, a member of Yay NLD Organizational Committee, was beaten by members of the Union Solidarity and Development Association (USDA) and Swan Arrshin. He was severely injured and is now in the Shwegondaing Special Clinics undergoing operations after being transferred from a local hospital. The USDA bribed the local police station 1.2 million kyat (approximately 1,200 US dollars) and forced them to close the case.

NLD's application turned down by High Court

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's application to the High Court on behalf of the NLD and 26 members of parliament representing NLD to annul articles of the Political Party Registration Law and reinstate elected representatives from the 1990 elections was rejected. The NLD submitted two applications to the High Court, both of which were turned down without legal proceedings. The High Court summoned U Kyi Win and U Nyan Win, lawyers for the NLD, and informed them that the applications were not accepted.

NLD donated two deep water wells

The NLD went to two villages, Byant Gyi Myit Kyoe and Myaung Thar, in Mawhyun Township, Irrawaddy Division, and donated two deep water wells costing 2 million kyat each. U Ohn Kyaing, Chairperson of Nargis Aid Committee, and members U Kyi Win, Daw Myint Myint Sein, Daw Le Le and Daw Khin Htay Kywe held a small donation ceremonies in those villages.

6 May

Event held at the NLD headquarters

The NLD held an early celebration of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's birthday by giving children of political prisoners financial assistance for their education. The NLD provided 23,000 kyat (23 US dollars) to 127 children of NLD members.

About 150 members attended the ceremony in which Vice Chairperson U Tin Oo and Secretary U Win Tin delivered speeches. They declared that the NLD headquarters would not close or take



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down its signboard and flags because the NLD had not been disbanded. U Win Tin told members that they would continue NLD's politics in a form of 'Body Politics'.

07 May

The NLD continued its work at the headquarters

NLD leaders held a meeting at 10:00 a.m. to discuss politics and share news with about 70 party members, youth and members of the Women's Wing. The NLD continued to keep its party signboard and flag up.

Some members of the NLD formed a new party

Some executive committee members of the NLD, including U Khin Maung Swe, U Thein Nyunt and Dr. Than Nyein, formed a new political party under the temporary name of "National Democratic Force (NDF)" to register for upcoming elections.

NLD members sentenced to prison

Ko Zaw Min Tun and Ma San Dar, a couple and members of the NLD in Twan Te township in Rangoon Division, were charged with disturbing government officials after they helped a patient in a hospital when a doctor did not provide proper medical treatment. The couple spoke out against various injustices in their community, including bribery by authorities, recruitment of child soldiers and harassment by government officials. They were sentenced one year and one and a half years under section 353 of the Criminal Code.

09 May

NLD members arranged to meet regularly

NLD members from Taung Gyi in Shan State made arrangements for regular meetings. After the local police forced the office in Taung Gyi to close, members in townships including Taung Gyi, Nyaung Shwe, Shwe Nyaung, Aung Pan and He Ho in Shan State made the decision to meet monthly to discuss the current situation and activities. These members are helping people living with HIV/AIDS and political prisoners and planning to expand their work in social assistance.

10 May

NLD leaders meet with Mr. Kurt Campbell

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi held a one-hour meeting with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Mr. Kurt Campbell at the government guest house. Mr. Campbell also met with other NLD leaders at the residence of the U.S. ambassador in Rangoon including Chairman U Tin Oo, U Win Tin, U Nyan Win, U Myint Wai, U Soe Myint, U Than Tun, U Hla Phay, U Han Thar Myint, Daw May Win Myint and U Ohn Kyaing,.

In their meetings with Mr. Campbell, NLD leaders urged the U.S. government and the international community to increase pressure on the military regime and not to recognize the results of the upcoming election, which lacks the credibility and inclusiveness demanded by the international community.

The U.S. embassy in Rangoon released a statement from Mr. Kurt Campbell summing up the two-day visit and describing the NLD: "Although having been denied a legal framework in

which to operate by the regime's own flawed rules, its leadership remains committed to working on behalf of and for the Burmese people.”



11 May

High Court grants Daw Aung San Suu Kyi special leave to make an appeal

The High Court in Rangoon granted Daw Aung San Suu Kyi special leave to appeal against the extension of her house arrest by 18 months. After the Supreme Court rejected her first appeal against the court verdict on her house arrest on February 26, she resubmitted the special appeal and the court accepted it.

NLD members donated water in Pegu Division

NLD Women's Wing members donated water to villagers in Pegu Division, where wells and ponds have dried up because of drought and severely hot weather. More than 60 villages in Pegu Division were facing severe water shortages after record high temperatures across Burma had accelerated evaporation of ponds and reservoirs. Villagers in the townships of Pegu, Waw, Thanatpin, Kawa and Daik Oo, all in Pegu Division, lack water for drinking and bathing.



NLD women's affairs leader Dr. May Win Myint, central committee member Daw Aye Aye Mar and Pegu Division NLD women's affairs leader Daw Hla Hla Moe paid for 1,100 drinking-water bottles (20-litre) in Thanatpin. The bottles were distributed to villages in need in co-operation with Pegu and Thanatpin NLD Youth members. Drinking water distribution was started on a small scale by Pegu Division NLD Youth members on May 2, and they were joined by Pegu City

businessmen, who bought water bottles from bottling plants and distributed them.

12 May

Second attempt at lawsuit submitted to Supreme Court in Naypyidaw

Lawyers on behalf of the NLD sent an appeal letter to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court in Naypyidaw. The first attempt at filing a lawsuit on April 30 to contest election practices was denied by the High Court on May 5 because, according to the court, the application did not meet the procedures. The lawyers lodged a complaint that the High Court did not provide reasons for which the application did not meet the procedures.

Shops around NLD office forced to close down

The local municipal department ordered about 50 shops, including road-side shops around the headquarters of the NLD, to close down before May 13.

13 May

Well-known activist supports the NLD and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's decision

Ko Htin Kyaw, a Burmese activist who was imprisoned 12 years and six months for taking part in the 2007 demonstrations in Rangoon against the sudden rise of fuel price, supported the decision of the NLD and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi not to participate in the upcoming elections.

NLD members distributed leaflets about the NLD's appeal to the people

NLD members in Mandalay, Magwe and Sagaing Division and Karen State distributed leaflets among the public containing the message, "Citizens have the right not to vote in the coming election." They also distributed a letter of appeal released by the NLD to the public. The letter of appeal to the people offered an explanation for the NLD's decision not to re-register for elections, apologized for not being able to realize the results of a fair election and affirmed its continued work for democracy by peaceful means.

14 May

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi met with her lawyers

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was allowed to meet her lawyers, U Nyan Win and U Kyi Win, to discuss the grounds for her special appeal to the Supreme Court against the 18-month extension of her house arrest. Her lawyers also discussed the NLD and political matters with her.

They also conferred about other lawsuits against the Political Party Registration Law, complaints about the municipality's block on the destruction of a house inside her compound and her continued existence. During the discussion, she expressed deep concern over the water crisis currently facing the people. She urged the NLD to expand its program to help those in need of water.

16 May

Activists in Israel protested for the NLD

Burmese activists in Israel protested against the Burmese regime in support of the NLD in front of the Burmese embassy in Tel Aviv, saying that the NLD would continue to exist, no matter what. A pro-democracy Burmese group, Burma Action, led the protest. Demonstrators displayed

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posters with messages such as, “We want Democracy,” “NLD is the people's leader” and “Free pro-democracy leader, Aung San Suu Kyi,” while chanting slogans in support of the NLD.

20 May

The NLD Central Executive Committee members met with Czech diplomats

The NLD Central Executive Committee members including U Tin Oo, U Win Tin, U Ohn Kyaing, U Soe Myint, U Han Thar Myint met with Deputy Foreign Minister and diplomats from the Czech Republic at the British embassy. The Czech delegation also met with Ma Phyu Phyu Thin, who is working for people living with HIV/AIDS.

Thakhin Soe Myint, NLD leader, died

U Soe Myint (a) Thakin Soe Myint died in his sleep at his home in Rangoon. U Soe Myint was a member of the NLD Central Executive Committee and Secretary of the Rangoon Division Organizational Committee.

21 May

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi summoned over her house repair

On May 28, The High Court summoned the lawyers of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and U Aung San Oo, her elder brother, to present arguments in a dispute over renovations of her residence. The Rangoon City Development Committee (City Municipality) issued an order to allow renovations to resume on April 29. On May 13, U Aung San Oo appealed the Rangoon Division Court's rejection of his plea to the High Court.

27 May

The NLD marked 20th anniversary of its victory in 1990 elections

NLD members held a ceremony at U Tin Oo's house for the 20th anniversary of its landslide victory in the 1990 elections. U Tin Oo, Vice Chair, U Win Tin and Daw May Win Myint talked about the 1990 elections and related matters in commemoration of the victory of the NLD in 1990. Daw May Win Myint, leader of the NLD Women's Wing, gave 5,000 kyat (5 US Dollars) to each of the 36 detained NLD members.

A splinter group of NLD registered their party

A group of splinter NLD leaders registered their party at the Election Commission in Naypyidaw under the name “National Democratic Force.” They disagreed with the NLD's decision not to register the NLD and participate in the upcoming elections.

The last letter of Prime Minister Gordon Brown to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi

Mr. Gordon Brown, former Prime Minister of Britain, wrote a letter to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi before he left his office at No. 10 Downing Street. His letter stated, “This is one of the last letters I write as Prime Minister and I want it to be to you, to champion your cause for democracy in Burma and to say I will do everything I can to support you. You are, for me, what courage is and I will fight for you to be free and your people [to be] free’.

28 May

Protests for the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in Sri Lanka

Citizens of diverse religions gathered in front of the Burmese embassy in Colombo, Sri Lanka to protest the Burmese military regime and call for the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. Over 50 activists, including Buddhist, Catholic and Muslim religious leaders, attended the protest.



NLD member's sentence extended

The sentence of Ko Kyaw Moe Naing, an NLD youth, was extended 10 years based on charges under the Electronic Act. This 10 years is in addition to the four and a half years of his original sentence. He was originally charged with distributing Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's photos with fellow NLD youth members at Tarmwe Township.

30 May

Commemorating ceremonies for Depayin massacres

Commemorating ceremonies were held by NLD members across the country on the 7th anniversary of the Depayin massacres. Members from about 20 townships in Mandalay Division, Shan State and Pegu Division gathered at Meikhtilar to mark the event. Ceremonies were also held at Yaynanchaung in Magwe Division, Pa-an in Karan State, Taung Gote in Rakhine State, Mongaung Township in Kachin State and Min Hla in Pegu Division. NLD members donated *swan* to monasteries to commemorate those killed in the massacre.

NLD sent 'Congratulation Letter' to the President elect of the Philippines

U Tin Oo, Vice Chair, U Win Tin, U Nyan Win, U Ohn Kyaing and U Han Thar Myint went to the Embassy of the Philippines and gave a Congratulation Letter for Mr. Benigno Simeon "Noynoy" Cojuangco Aquino III who is being elected as the President of the Philippines, representing the Liberal Party which is a member of the Council of Asian Liberals and Democrats (CALD).



31 May

NLD leaders met with diplomats in the German Ambassador's residence

NLD leaders including U Tin Oo, U Win Tin, U Han Thar Myint, U Ohn Kyaing and U Nyan Win met with diplomats from Europe based in Bangkok, Thailand and diplomats from the embassies of the UK, Italy, France and Germany. They discussed the positions of the NLD regarding the current political situation and upcoming elections in Burma.

**Documented by Information Department
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