

URGENT ACTION

COMMUNITY LEADER RELEASED

Community leader U Sein Than, who had been sentenced to two years in prison in Myanmar for the peaceful exercise of his rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, has been released under a presidential amnesty.

Community leader **U Sein Than** was released on 30 July 2015 from Insein prison, in Yangon, Myanmar's largest city. He was among 11 prisoners of conscience released as part of a presidential prisoner amnesty. He had been serving a two-year sentence for taking part in a series of peaceful protests in response to failures by the authorities to resolve his community's land dispute – the community from Michaungkan, Yangon, have alleged that the Myanmar military confiscated their land in the early 1990s, and have been protesting for its return and for compensation for their losses. U Sein Than was charged with multiple counts of protesting without permission, under Article 18 of the Peaceful Assembly and Peaceful Procession Law, and one under the Yangon Municipal Act.

Amnesty International welcomes the release of U Sein Than, but he should never have been imprisoned in the first place. Amnesty International is continuing to campaign for the release of all prisoners of conscience in Myanmar.

Thank you to all those who sent appeals. No further action is requested from the UA network.

This is the second update of UA 218/14. Further information: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/asa16/021/2014/en/>

Name: U Sein Than
Gender m/f: m

Further information on UA: 218/14 Index: ASA 16/2236/2015 Issue Date: 6 August 2015

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