

URGENT ACTION

MYANMAR HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS RELEASED

Six human rights activists have been released from prison following a Presidential pardon in Myanmar on 17 April.

Human rights activists **Naw Ohn Hla**, **San San Win** (aka Lay Lay), **Sein Htwe**, **Nay Myo Zin**, **Tin Htut Paing** and **Than Swe** were released from Insein prison in Yangon, Myanmar's largest city, on 17 April. They were released as part of a Presidential pardon which saw the release of 83 prisoners, including prisoners of conscience Amnesty International has campaigned for.

The six had been imprisoned for participating in a peaceful protest on 29 December 2014 in Yangon. The demonstration was calling on the authorities to investigate the shooting to death of protester Khin Win by the police at the controversial Letpadaung copper mine in Sagaing Region, central Myanmar. In May 2015 the activists were each sentenced to four years and four months in prison under a number of articles of the Penal Code, including "rioting", and for protesting without permission under the Peaceful Assembly and Peaceful Procession Law. They were also charged with additional counts of protesting without permission in other Yangon townships, and some had also received further prison sentences in connection with their other peaceful activities.

While Amnesty International welcomes the release of these six human right activists, the fact remains that they should never have been arrested and imprisoned in the first place.

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

This is the second update of UA 2/15. Further information: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/asa16/1682/2015/en/>

Names: Naw Ohn Hla (f), Sein Htwe (f), San San Win (f), Nay Myo Zin (m), Tin Htut Paing (m), and Than Swe (m)

Gender m/f: Both

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