

# Free Hkun Htun Oo

## Free our Shan State Leaders



*“The Ethnic Nationalities’ main aim is to get equality and self-determination in political and administrative affairs. As long as they get this, I don’t think they will break away.”*

Hkun Htun Oo  
Shan Nationalities League for Democracy (SNLD)

## **Free Khun Htun Oo, Free our Shan State Leaders**

Already a year has passed since thirty political leaders from Shan State who were peacefully advocating for political reform were arrested by the Burmese military regime.

Among the political leaders who were arrested on 8-9 February 2005 were Hkun Htun Oo, leader of the Shan Nationalities League for Democracy, which won the majority of seats in Shan State in the 1990 election, and Maj. Gen. Hso Ten, Chairman of the Shan State Peace Council, an alliance of Shan ceasefire armies.

Despite international calls for their release, Khun Htun Oo and other Shan State leaders remain under detention. On 2 November 2005, after secret trials, they were given lengthy prison terms by the regime for charges ranging from “defamation of the State” to “illegal association.”

63-year-old Khun Htun Oo was sentenced to 93 years imprisonment; 106 years was given to 67-year-old Sao Hso Hten; 85 years to SNLD General Secretary Sai Noot, and 75 years to other Shan State political leaders.

As further punishment, the various political leaders were transferred to prisons in different remote regions of Burma. Khun Htun Oo is in Putao Prison, in Kachin State, northern Burma. Sao Hso Hten has been sent to Hkamti, in Sagaing Division, northwestern Burma; Sai Noot is in Kalemmyo, also in Sagaing Division. Other leaders have been sent to prisons in Arakan State, western Burma.

One of those sent to Arakan State, 59-year-old U Myint Than, who was sentenced to 79 years, with hard labour, died of chest pains and a stroke on May 2, 2006, without receiving proper medical treatment. He had been tortured.

The United States and the European Union have condemned these unjust prison sentences. On November 7, 2005, the US called on the regime to release Hkun Htun Oo, Aung San Suu Kyi and all other political prisoners “immediately and unconditionally, and to allow their full participation in a meaningful political dialogue leading to genuine national reconciliation and the establishment of democracy.”

Some of the Shan State Leaders who were unlawfully arrested and imprisoned by the Burmese military regime include:

- *Hkun Htun Oo, Chairman, the Shan Nationalities League for Democracy (SNLD)*
- *Sai Nood a.k.a Sai Nyunt Lwin, General Secretary, Shan Nationalities League for Democracy (SNLD)*
- *Sai Hla Aung, Executive Committee member, SNLD*
- *Sao Tha Oo, Executive Committee member, SNLD*
- *Ma.j Gen. Hso Hten, Chairman, Shan State Peace Council (SSPC)*
- *U Myint Than, Spokesperson, New Generation – Shan State (NGSS) - (passed away)*
- *U Htun Nyo, New Generation – Shan State (NGSS)*
- *U Ba Thin, Shan State National Races League for Democracy, (SSNRLD)*
- *Sai Myo Min Htun, New Generation-Shan State*

**We urge people around the world to call on your governments:**

- to condemn these unlawful imprisonments and demand the immediate release of Hkun Htun Oo, other Shan State leaders and all political prisoners in Burma
- to pressure Burma's military regime to immediately implement a nationwide ceasefire and begin tripartite dialogue with the National League for Democracy and genuine representatives of the ethnic nationalities to begin a meaningful process of political reform
- to act immediately to bring Burma to the UN Security Council

**Some of the Shan State leaders who were arrested and imprisoned for years by the Burmese military regime (SPDC) in Taunggyi and Rangoon on February 8-9, 2005**



**Hkun Htun Oo  
SNLD**



**Sai Nood a.k.a  
Sai Nyunt Lwin SNLD**



**Sai Hla Aung  
SNLD**



**Sao Tha Oo  
SNLD**



**Maj. Gen. Hso Hten  
SSPC**



**U Myint Than  
NGSS**



**U Htun Nyo  
NGSS**



**U Ba Thin  
SSNRLD**



**Sai Myo Min Htun  
NGSS**

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