

URGENT ACTION

STUDENT LEADERS RELEASED

Student leaders Phyo Phyo Aung and Lin Htet Naing (aka James aka Aung Thant Zin) were released on 8 April after all charges against them were dropped by courts in Myanmar.

Phyo Phyo Aung and her husband **Lin Htet Naing**, student leaders and members of the All Burma Federation of Student Unions (ABFSU), were released on 8 April after courts in Myanmar dropped all charges pending against them. The releases came a day after the new government announced that it would work to release all prisoners of conscience as soon as possible.

Secretary General of the All Burma Federation of Student Unions (ABFSU), Phyo Phyo Aung had been in detention since her arrest on 10 March 2015, following a violent police crackdown on largely peaceful student protesters in the town of Letpadaung, in Bago Region. They had been protesting against the new National Education Law, which they claim curtails academic freedom. She and scores of others were charged with a range of criminal offences in connection with the protest. Phyo Phyo Aung, as one of the leaders of the student movement, was also charged later with multiple counts of protesting without permission for peaceful demonstrations she held between November 2014 and March 2015. She had been facing over 13 years in prison.

Phyo Phyo Aung's husband, Lin Htet Naing – a member of Central Executive Committee of the ABFSU –, was arrested on 3 November 2015 following months in hiding. He had been facing politically motivated charges for participating in a peaceful protest in Yangon on 10 March 2015, held in response to the violent crackdown against student protesters in Letpadaung, in Bago Region. Similarly to his wife, Lin Htet Naing has also been charged with protesting without permission during peaceful demonstrations between November 2014 and March 2015. He had been facing over nine years in prison.

Phyo Phyo Aung and Lin Htet Naing should have never 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 252/15. Further information: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/asa16/3492/2016/en/>

Name: Phyo Phyo Aung (f) and Lin Htet Naing (m)
Gender m/f: Both

Further information on UA: 252/15 Index: ASA 16/3836/2016 Issue Date: 13 April 2016

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**

