



# FREE BURMA'S POLITICAL PRISONERS NOW!

## Ko Ko Gyi



<b>Name:</b>	Ko Ko Gyi
<b>Age:</b>	47 in 2008
<b>Organisation:</b>	88 Generation Students group
<b>Role:</b>	Leader
<b>Previous Prison Term:</b>	More than 13 years
<b>Current Sentence:</b>	65 years & 6 months
<b>Detained:</b>	Monghsat Prison, Shan State

*“We paid the price with our families, our youth and our society. But we are satisfied with that sacrifice.”*

Ko Ko Gyi, March 2005, following his release from prison.

in March. Two students were shot dead by riot police on 13 March. Many students from all over the country attended peaceful rallies on their campuses to protest against the brutal crackdown. Together with his friends, Ko Ko Gyi led the peaceful rally on his campus on 15 March. The next day he and many other students were brutally beaten by police as they tried to march to the Rangoon Institute of Technology. Ko Ko Gyi was also closely involved in the popular uprising on 8 August that year. He was first detained in April 1989 for about 6 weeks, then again in December 1991. He was eventually released in March 2005, after spending more than 13 years in prison. He established the 88 Generation Students group with Min Ko Naing and other friends in September that year. Aung Kyaw Oo, a former political prisoner and colleague of Ko Ko Gyi, stayed with him for several months after he himself was released from prison in July that year. He remembers Ko Ko Gyi as honorable and brave. One day Ko Ko Gyi was accompanying two women activists back to their homes by bicycle. They were followed by an intelligence agent on motorbike. Ko Ko Gyi asked him to stop following them, but when he persisted, he threatened him with an umbrella he was carrying. The intelligence agent fled on his motorbike. Ko Ko Gyi was recently sentenced to 65 years and 6 months.

## About Ko Ko Gyi

Ko Ko Gyi is known as a gifted strategist, and clear thinker. He is second-in-command to Min Ko Naing in the 88 Generation Students group. In 1988, Ko Ko Gyi was a few months away from his graduation as a final year student of International Relations at the University of Rangoon when popular protests began

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