



# FREE BURMA'S POLITICAL PRISONERS NOW!

## Nilar Thein & Kyaw Min Yu aka Jimmy



<b>Names:</b>	Nilar Thein & Jimmy
<b>Ages:</b>	37 & 40 respectively
<b>Organisation:</b>	88 Generation Students group
<b>Roles:</b>	Leading members
<b>Previous prison terms:</b>	Over 9 years and 15 years respectively
<b>Current Sentences:</b>	65 years each
<b>Detained:</b>	Thayet Prison and Taunggyi Prison, respectively

*"I love my daughter. I had to leave her, but I believe she will later understand why."*

Nilar Thein, March 2008.

Jimmy are both committed pro-democracy activists. Jimmy was very involved in the 1988 protests. He was arrested in 1989, and spent over 15 years in prison. Nilar Thein has always been very brave. Even at the age of fifteen, she was also closely involved in the 1988 protests. Later, she played a leading role in the December 1996 student demonstrations. When military intelligence officers came to arrest her, she struggled and fought. She received an extra three years in prison for that, making a total of ten years. The couple are both members of the 88 Generation Students group, and both led anti-commodity price rise demonstrations in August 2007, the protests which led to the Saffron Revolution. Jimmy was arrested on 21 August, but Nilar Thein managed to escape. Even though her husband had been arrested, Nilar Thein led the protest march the next day, together with other women activists. Afterwards she was forced into hiding, and left her baby daughter with relatives because it was too dangerous to bring her along. Even from her hiding place, she carried on her work. Together with other women activists, she signed a letter urging the United Nations to help protect women in Burma from human rights abuses. At the time, in a media interview she said, "[We] are living in danger now, as is our leader Daw Aung San Suu Kyi. We are submitting this letter to prevent the same thing happening again in the future." Nilar Thein was on the run for over a year. The authorities eventually arrested her in September 2008. On 11 November 2008, Nilar Thein and Jimmy were both sentenced to 65 years in prison. They are currently held in different prisons. They cannot see each other or their baby daughter.

## About Nilar Thein & Jimmy

Nilar Thein and Jimmy got married in May 2006. They met for the first time in Tharawaddy Prison, when they were both serving long sentences. They have a baby daughter, who was born in May 2007. Nilar Thein and

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