



ကမ္ဘာတံခံကောမန်ချင်သွင်  
**OVERSEAS MON COORDINATING COMMITTEE**

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## **The Statement on the Arrest of A Mon Young Monk by the Burmese Military Regime**

January 27, 2010

We, the Overseas Mon Coordinating Committee (OMCC) strongly condemn the arrest, torture and the detention of a Mon Young Monk, Rev. Ajjae , by the military authority. Rev. Ajjae was arrested on the 7 January, 2010 in Thanbuzayat town, Mon State. He was accused of organizing anti-election campaigns in Mon State. He has been reportedly subjected to inhumane torture, disrobed and detained in a detention centre in Rangoon.

In fact, the arrest, torture and detention of the Mon young Buddhist monk is one of Burmese military regime's tactics and strategies to intimidate, suppress and clampdown on those who oppose the military regime's sponsored election in 2010. While pro-military regime's parties and organizations are supported and allowed to campaign for the election, the opposition parties and those who oppose the 2008 constitution and the subsequent election have been subjected to intimidation, suppression and clampdown. As a result, the movement of Mon activists including Mon Young Monks has been closely monitored by the Burmese military regime as the 5th Conference on Mon National Affairs, held from 27-29 December 2009 in a liberated area, unanimously rejected the SPDC's upcoming 2010 election. The conference was attended by delegates from the New Mon State Party, the Mon grass root organizations from inside Burma, Thailand and overseas.

The two major Mon political organizations, the New Mon State Party and the Mon National Democratic Front have also opposed the so-called 2010 general election in Burma unless there is an amendment to the 2008 Constitution which is widely perceived to be undemocratic. Based on the "104 Principles" of the previous convention, a new constitution has been drafted in favour of the domination of military in all aspects of national affairs. 25% of parliamentary seats have to be reserved for military representatives without having to be contested in an election. The 2008 constitution also favours former military officers to be the President with an absolute power, gives military the right to stage a coup d'etat, and military officers to be people with commanding powers in the different states and regions. The 2008 constitution fails to guarantee human rights, fundamental and equal rights for all citizens and ethnic nationalities.

The OMCC believes that it is the fundamental rights of all citizens and ethnic nationalities to freely express their opinions, oppose the constitution and the subsequent election they perceived that it is undemocratic. Instead of intimidating, suppressing and clamping-down on those who oppose the 2008 constitution and the subsequent 2010-election, the military regime should pay attention to the demand of opposition parties, ethnic nationalities, and people in Burma for a constitutional amendment prior to an election.



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Therefore, the OMCC demands that;

1. Mon Young Monk, Rev. Ajjae, who merely exercised his fundamental rights in expressing his opinion should immediately be released
2. The military regime pay attention to the demand of people in Burma for a constitutional amendment prior to the election, and
3. The international community not to recognize the military regime's sponsored election in 2010 or any future election without the amendment of constitution which is widely perceived to be undemocratic

**Overseas Mon Coordinating Committee (OMCC)**

*(OMCC is comprised of Monland Restoration Council (USA), Mon Canadian Society, Australia Mon Association, and Euro Mon Community)*

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