



11 August 2009

The Honorable Senator Jim Webb
Chairman, Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations
The United States Senate

(C/O: U.S. Embassy, Rangoon)

Dear Senator Webb,

(1) We, three major dissident groups in Burma, the All Burma Monks' Alliance (ABMA), the 88 Generation Students (88GS), and the All Burma Federation of Student Unions (ABFSU), write this letter to you to express our concerns over your visit to our country and on your position towards situation in Burma.

(2) We learned from media that you are making a two-week trip to five countries in Southeast Asia and Burma is one of your stops. We are amazed that you visit our country at the time while the military regime is ready to deliver a verdict to our national leader Daw Aung San Suu Kyi for the crimes she never committed. The regime's intention is to continue to extend the detention of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, who is capable enough to derail their plan of legalizing the military dictatorship through the 2010 election.

(3) We are concerned that the military regime will manipulate and exploit your visit and propagandize that you endorse their treatment on Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and over 2,100 political prisoners, their human rights abuses on the people of Burma, and their systematic, widespread and ongoing attack against the ethnic minorities.

(4) According to the statement issued by your office, we learned that you visited our country in 2001, met only with leaders of the regime and business community. To realize the situation in Burma and suffering and desire of the people of Burma, we suggest you this time meet with leaders of the National League for Democracy party, which is mandated by the people of Burma to lead the country toward democracy through the 1990 election. We also suggest you meet leaders of ethnic political parties, who all won 67 seats in the 1990 election. We appreciate if you try to meet Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in detention and leaders of ethnic nationalities, students and Monks in prisons, such as Hkun Htun Oo, Min Ko Naing, Ko Ko Gyi, and U Gambira.

(5) We are surprise to learn that you have an intention to support the regime's 2010 election; even its constitution is imperfect. As we are in hiding to avoid the arrest, torture and imprisonment of the regime, we would not have a chance to meet you when you are in our country. Therefore, we would like to highlight our positions as follows for your understanding, respect and support.

(6) The National League for Democracy has already announced its position clearly. It will not participate in the 2010 election, until and unless (i) all political prisoners, including Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, are released unconditionally, (ii) a meaningful and time-bound dialogue between the military, NLD and ethnic representatives should be realized to reach a mutually-acceptable solution, and (iii) the 2008 constitution should be reviewed and revised to be acceptable for all parties concerned. We fully support the NLD and its demands and until and unless these conditions are met, we will not recognize the 2010 election.

(7) The 2008 constitution, unilaterally written and forcibly approved by the regime, is intentionally designed to grant supreme power in the hands of the military and its Commander-in-Chief, to limit the fundamental rights of the people, and to subordinate ethnic nationalities and abuse their rights. We will not accept this constitution coming to life through the 2010 election.

(8) The United Nations and the international community accept our demands as reasonable and necessary for national reconciliation and democratization in Burma. Therefore, they all, including the United States Congress and Administration, apply various measures on the regime to meet these demands. We appreciate the long standing support of the United State Senate for our non-violent struggle for democracy in Burma and we expect, as a U.S. Senator, you will urge the Burmese military regime to accept these demands and solve the problems in Burma peacefully through political dialogue.

Sincerely Yours,

All Burma Monks' Alliance
The 88 Generation Students
All Burma Federation of Student Unions

Copies sent to the following persons of the United States Senate.

The Honorable Senator Harry Reid, Majority Leader
The Honorable Senator Richard Durbin, Assistant Majority Leader
The Honorable Senator Mitch McConnell, Republican Leader
The Honorable Senator Jon Kyl, Assistant Republican Leader
The Honorable Senator John Kerry, Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations
The Honorable Senator Richard Lugar, Ranking Member, Committee on Foreign Relations
The Honorable Senator James Inhofe, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs
The Honorable Senator Diane Feinstein, Chairman, Select Committee on Intelligence
The Honorable Senator John McCain, Ranking Member, Committee on Armed Services

Copies sent to the following persons of the United States Department of State.

The Honorable Ms. Hilary Clinton, Secretary of State
The Honorable Mr. Kurt Campbell, Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of East Asia and Pacific
The Honorable Mr. Scot Marciel, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of East Asia and Pacific, and U.S. Ambassador to the ASEAN
The Honorable Mr. Larry Dinger, Charge de Affairs, U.S. Embassy in Rangoon

Copies sent to the National League for Democracy, the United Nationalities Alliance and domestic and foreign media.