

Manerplaw Agreement to Establish a Federal Union of Burma

31 Junly 1992

Burma is a country where indigenous nationalities have lived together in adjacent territories for the last several millenia. It belongs to all indigenous nationalities.

Only when a true Federal structure is established based on the desires and aspirations of all the indigenous nationalities will Burma stand united and stable. With this intention, General Aung San and indigenous leaders signed the Pang Long Agreement on February 12, 1949. But that agreement was never enacted in practice.

Currently because of the chauvinistic behavior of the fascist military dictatorship of the Burma Socialist Programme Party (BSPP) and the State Law and Restoration Council (SLORC), the indigenous nationalities are deprived of their ethnic rights. Democracy and basic Human Rights of the people are also abused. National unity has been destroyed and civil war is going on unabated.

Thus, indigenous nationalities and all the peoples must topple the military dictatorship and set up a true Federal Union where equality, right of self-determination, democracy and basic Human Rights are guaranteed.

To attain equality, freedom, unity, security, fraternity, trust and development in the Federal Union, the main tasks which are necessary are to topple the SLORC military dictatorship and to establish democracy, peace and true Federal Union. To achieve these aims, the:

1. National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma (NCGUB)
2. National League for Democracy, Liberated Area (NLD-LA)
3. Democratic Alliance of Burma (DAB), and
4. National Democratic Front (NDF)

have resolutely agreed to the following at Manerplaw on July 31, 1992.

1. We will struggle together to end Chauvinism and the fascist military dictatorship of the SLORC.
2. After ending the SLORC military dictatorship and when freedom and peace are attained, a true national convention involving all indigenous nationalities and all political parties will be convened.

3. We will draw up a true Federal Union constitution in accordance with the desires of indigenous nationalities and all peoples.
4. We will follow the principles that no nationality shall have special privileges and no restrictions will be imposed on the basic rights of any nationality or minority in the Union.
5. We will build a Federal Union where all indigenous nationalities enjoy equality, rights of self-determination, democracy and basic Human Rights to the fullest extent. In doing so:

a. The Kachin, Karen, Chin, Mon, Burman, Arakan, Shan peoples, etc. will have National States incorporated in a Federal Union of States.

b. The National States will assign certain power to the Federal Union and the remaining powers will be exercised by the National States including legislative, administrative and judicial powers.

c. The Federal Union will consist of two houses of Parliament: The National Assembly (Upper House) and The People's Assembly (Lower House).

d. In accordance with the principle of civilian supremacy over the military the Federal Union and State armies will be put under the direct supervision of the Elected Governments.

e. The legislative, administrative and judicial branches of the Federal Union Government will be checked and balanced in power, and the judiciary will be independent.

f. The Constitution will be designed to prevent any re-emergence of Chauvinism and fascist dictatorship in the future.

<http://www.karen.org/history/docs/mnpldoc.htm>

MAE THA RAW HTA AGREEMENT
ETHNIC NATIONALITIES SEMINAR
Mae Tha Raw Hta

We, leaders of Arakanese, Chin, Kachin, Karen Karenni, Mon, Pa-O, Palaung, Lahu, Shan and Wa ethnic nationalities, representing the various organizations as well as the nationalities, attended the seminar held from January 7 to 14, 1997 at Mae Tha Raw Hta in Kawthoolei.

We, leaders of nationalities mentioned above, after frank and cordial discussions in depth, have agreed upon the following terms.

1. Agreement relating to Political Aims

- (a) To dismantle the military dictatorship and establish peace in the country;
- (b) To practice the democratic political system;
- (c) To achieve the rights of equality and self-determination for each and every nationality;
- (d) To establish a federal union.

2. Agreement Concerning the SLORC's National Convention

The sham National Convention being held by the SLORC, presently, is for the perpetuation of military dictatorship. Since absolutely no rights will be gained for the ethnic nationalities, we, the Ethnic Nationalities Seminar, do not in any way recognize the SLORC's National Convention and agree to oppose it.

3. Agreement Regarding Tri-partite Dialogue

We, the Ethnic Nationalities Seminar, accept the tri-partite dialogue agreed to by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, and called for by the resolutions of the UN and international organizations. The tri-partite dialogue must include three forces, namely the force composed of the National Democratic Front (NDF), Union Nationalities League for Democracy (UNLD), Peace and Democratic Front (PDF) and other ethnic nationalities, the Pro-democracy forces led by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, and the SLORC military clique.

4. Agreement Relating to Federal Union

We, the Ethnic Nationalities Seminar, unanimously agree to establish a genuine federal union composed of national states having the full rights of national equality and self-determination.

5. Agreement Relating to Economic Policy

Regarding the economic policy, we, the Ethnic Nationalities Seminar, agree to practice a market economic system and invite foreign investments. However, as foreign investments, at present,

are benefiting the SLORC military dictatorship only and increasing its oppressive power, we strongly object to them.

6. Agreement Relating to Narcotic Drugs

We, the Ethnic Nationalities Seminar, unanimously agree to cooperate with international narcotic drug eradication organizations for the eradication of the entire business of narcotic drugs, including cultivation, production and trafficking.

7. Agreement Regarding Pro-democracy Forces

We, the Ethnic Nationalities Seminar, agree to raise the fight, on all sides, in the fields of politics, diplomacy and people's action, for the dismantling of the SLORC military dictatorship. In this struggle, we agree also to join hands with prodemocracy forces led by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, and act unitedly and simultaneously for the achievement of rights of the nationalities as well as democratic rights. Moreover, we acknowledge the National League for Democracy (NLD) led by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi as the winner of 1990 general election in accordance with the true will of the people and democratic process, we fully support all acts of opposition against the SLORC, by it.

8. Agreement Relating to ASEAN

We, the Ethnic Nationalities Seminar, agree to send letters to ASEAN, requesting it to delay, indefinitely, acceptance of Burma under the SLORC, as a member of the organization.

9. Agreement Relating to Alliance

We, the Ethnic Nationalities Seminar, agree unanimously to help the National Democratic Front (NDF), the nation-wide alliance body of the ethnic nationalities, into a politically, militarily and organization to be a more solid entity.

10. Agreement on Reunion

We, the Ethnic Nationalities Seminar, agree to maintain and implement the results of the seminar and to have a reunion at least once a year.

SIGNATORIES

1. (Gen. Aung Than Lay) Karen National Progressive Party
2. (Col. Khun Okker) Pa-O People's Liberation Organization
3. (Col. Maha Sean) Wa National Organization

4. (Col Sai Pao Sing)United Wa State Party
5. (Mai Aik Phone)Palaung State Liberation Front
6. (Col. Zau Seng)Kachin Independent Organization
7. (Khing Myat Kyaw)All Araken Students and youth congress
8. (B. Kya Oo)Lahu Democratic Front
9. (Nai Han Tha)New Mon State Party
10. (Khing Soe Naing Aung)Araken Liberation Party
11. (Khun Na Ruh)Kayan New Land Party
12. (Sao Oac Kesi)Shan United Revolutionary Army
13. (Slai Shwe Kha)Chin National Front
14. (Khun Home)Shan Democratic Union
15. (Gen Saw Bo Mya)Karen National Union
16. Individual Delegates
 1. Chao-Tzang Yawnghwe
 2. Naw Louish Benson
 3. Khun Marko Ban

<http://www.enburma.net/index.php/agreements/43-agreements/161-mae-tha-raw-hta-agreement-1997.html>

THOO MWEH KLO AGREEMENT
Seminar on National Solidarity
December 14,1998

Burma is a country inhabited by many indigenous ethnic nationalities. In the modern Burmese history, even though the consensus agreement between General Aung San and the leaders of indigenous ethnic nationalities had achieved national solidarity and obtained independence, this solidarity deteriorated along with the death of general Aung San.

As a consequence of long years of oppression under the military dictatorship, the national solidarity is in a vulnerable state of total disintegration. The immediate need of the people of all the nationalities, being the abolition of the military dictatorship and the building of a modern society with lasting peace and prosperity, could be achieved only through a consolidated national strength. Thus, the building of national solidarity is the main task of the people of all the nationalities, today. Just as the National League for Democracy (NLD), led by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, and the political parties representing the nationalities, jointly and actively have been undertaking the said task, we, the 23 organizations, whose signatures appeared below, successfully held the “Seminar on National Solidarity,” from the 12th to 14th of December, 1998, at Thoo Mweh Klo, Kawthoolei State, and unanimously reached the agreement given below.

1. The Seminar recognized that the 1947 Panglong Agreement and pledges contained in the Agreement, the 1990 Bo Aung Kyaw Street Declaration, the 1992 Marneplaw Agreement and the 1997 Mae Tha Raw Hta Agreement are the historic agreements representing the fundamental interest of the ethnic nationalities and the people.
2. The Seminar unanimously determined that the conflict prevailing in Burma is a conflict between the oppressive military dictatorship, on the one side, and the oppressed people of all the nationalities on the other, and as it has been intensifying, day by day, it is now approaching a decisive stage.
3. As a result of domination of the SLORC/SPDC military dictatorship, there was lack of democratic rights and loss of the rights of the nationalities, in present day Burma. Therefore, it was unanimously decided that the abolishment of the military dictatorship was the principal and common task of the country.
4. It was decided that all political parties, organizations and individuals, irrespective of race, religion and political ideology, were to join hands and work together, starting from the lowest possible stage, in the struggling for the abolition of the SLORC/SPDC military dictatorship.
5. The SLORC/SPDC has no right to lead in organizing and convening the National Convention. Therefore, the Seminar unanimously decided that the National Convention of the SPDC could absolutely not be accepted.
6. The Seminar unanimously decided to promote and practice the multi-party democratic system, in accordance with aspiration of the entire people of all the Nationalities.

7. The Seminar unanimously decided to establish a genuine federal union, composed of national states, having national equality and full right of self-determination.
8. The Seminar decided to support the demand for the convening of parliament, formation of the Committee Representing People's Parliament and the Parliamentary Affairs Committees by the victorious parties in the 1990 election, the National League for Democracy (NLD) and the 4 political parties representing the ethnic nationalities.
9. This Seminar decided to cooperate in the struggle for the emergence of tripartite dialogue, as an immediate task.
10. The Seminar welcomed and supported the active involvement of the United Nations and the international organizations for the establishment of peace and democracy in Burma. Since the 1998 UNGA Resolutions on Burma were correct, the Seminar unanimously demanded that they be implemented, in practice, by the responsible authorities.
11. The Seminar strongly condemned the involvement of the SPDC military dictatorship, as a principal partner, in the cultivation, by the responsible authorities.
12. The Seminar called upon foreign investors not to invest in Burma, so long as the SPDC military dictatorship was in power.
13. The Seminar decided that all the organizations attending the Seminar were to take the responsibility for the maintenance and implementation of the decisions and to form a Coordinating and Organizing Committee in order to continue for the implementation the decisions.

Signatories

1. U Tin Maung Thet
President
All Burma Muslim Union (ABMU)
2. U Myo Win
Secretary (2)
All Burma Students' Democratic Front (ABSDF)
3. U Myat Thu
President
All Burma Students' League (ABSL)
4. Ashin Kaymar Sara
Chairmonk
All Burma Young Monk's Union (ABYMU)

5. U Tha Noe
Secretary
Arakan League for Democracy (ALD)
6. Khaing Myo Min
General Secretary
Arakan Liberation Party (ALP)
7. Salai Shwe Khar
Secretary,
Foreign Affair Department, Chin National Front (CNF)
8. Salai Tha Nei Luai
Representative
Chin National League for Democracy (CNLD)
9. Saw Jacob
Central Organizing Committee
Communist Party of Burma (CPB)
10. U Zaw Naing Oo
General Secretary
Democratic Party for a New Society (DPNS)
11. Saw Shwe Hser
Vice-President
Karen National Union (KNU)
12. B. Kyah Oo
General Secretary
Lahu Democratic Front (LDF)
13. U Soe Lwin
Vice-Chairperson
Myeik-Dewai United Front (MDUF)
14. U Kyaw Hla
President
Muslim Liberation Organization (MLO)
15. U Deniel Aung
Member
Members of Parliament Union

16. U Than Htut
Secretary
National League for Democracy-Liberated Area (NLD-LA)

17. U Kyaw Htet
President
People Defense Force (PDF)

18. U Aye Saung
Secretary

General People's Liberation Front (PLF)

19. Khun Okker
President
Pa-O People's Liberation Organization (PPO)

20. U Aung Myint
General Secretary
People's Patriotic Party (PPP)

21. Mai Aik Phone
Joint-Secretary
Palaung State Liberation Front (PSLF)

22. Khun Kyar Nu
Representative
Shan Democratic Union (SDU)

23. Maha San
President
Wa National Organization (WNO)

24. U Maung Maung Latt
Member
Members of Parliament Union

<http://www.encburma.net/index.php/agreements/43-agreements/162-thoo-mweh-klo-agreement-1998.html>