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**A voice for Burma:**

**Comment:**

**24 May 2007**

**HOW THE INTERNET HAS CHANGED THE COURSE OF EVENTS IN BURMA:**

18<sup>th</sup> May 2007 , Oxford University UK , a debate on whether the internet has the power to democratise, or, bring about the reverse?

The very fact ‘Chairman’ Bo Aung Din; the Parliamentary Democracy Party (Burma) was an invited speaker at the worlds most prestigious debating arena, does in its self play witness to the power of the internet toward informing people of the truth, who otherwise would have to depend on the conventional media machine along with its misinformation and contorted interpretations.

The PDP, being the largest active opposition party struggling for democracy in Burma, has been, since its re-emergence, kept out of the worlds media for reasons we can only guess, though mostly accurate guesses, which would probably be odds on. However; we will not go into that this time around as we all know the answer.

The internet, has allowed a free for all open platform. It has opened the door, to what was, a locked and unreachable cubicle, where questioning the deceitful, debating the suspicious, was impossible. In Burma's case, the military regime prevents the use of the internet unless it is strictly under their control, the penalty for misuse under their terms, can mean a period of long and arduous imprisonment or even death. Under similar terms, the worlds media chose to block out all other opposition to the military regime other than the NLD, with Suu Kyi at its head. The last, has in effect, prevented democracy from taking root, the very thing the so called ‘free press of the free world’ is supposed to stand for? It also sends the message that had the NLD taken office that all opposition would be ignored, even persecuted?

The impact of this politically motivated act, has allowed the suffering to continue for an extra 17 years after a failed election, without a hint of progress, quite the opposite in fact.

**The ‘PDP’ had a duty to the people to make changes; it has by using the internet!**

After numerous attempts to persuade the media to give other opposition parties a platform, and, after being advised to leave politics by the British Foreign office, *(for a British representative to advise a Burmese democratic political opposition leader, to stand away from the politics of his own country, is an outrageous, bigoted and inflammatory remark, and speaks volumes about how policy of one country attempts to control life and death in another!)* No doubt the excuse will be that it was for the good of Burma, even perhaps the world? But of course the truth is very different! Certain people have now started to choke on those words because they totally misread the character of; ‘Chairman’ Bo Aung Din, (PDP Burma) and were completely ignorant of his past!

The internet was chosen by; 'Chairman' Bo Aung Din, (PDP (Burma) together with its central committee, as the platform in which to promote the party and its policies. Already, the internet had provided a platform for open debate among Burma exiles and foreign Burma watchers alike.

Unfortunately, fear of standing out against the regime or the NLD, NCGUB, together with its henchman Sein Win, was still holding back true feelings held by many. Until that was; the PDP paved the way by speaking the truth and confronting those who were profiting from Burma's dilemma and holding back progress toward democracy. It opened all the flood gates. Today, open debate on the internet, covering Burma's situation is probably undertaken more so than any other political bench in the world today! Only the internet could have provided such a tremendous opportunity to promote what the worlds media blocked out! For a people who felt trapped and were forced to submit to indoctrination imposed by the worlds media are now beginning to brush aside the blanket of obscurity and see things as they really are, and more importantly, are acting accordingly!

Because of the internet, the PDP has been able to reach the world, as well as the people of Burma. It has helped, no; it has changed, the way people previously perceived freedom of speech, and the impact it has on world events. It will invariably change the political course of all powers, whether tyrannical or democratised?

Those who control the internet or more so the satellites which allow it to function, could simply shut it down, the same way they could shut down the mobile phone system. They prefer however; too monitor what goes on. Who cares? What the internet does besides allowing an information highway as its termed, is for those who would normally stay silent, to speak out. This works to benefit those who monitor and those who offer information and of course, those who seek it. It does not matter if the authorities watch and listen, so long as those seeking information receive it. The watchers cannot inflict their authority on millions of people, and if they remove the leading voices, the information highway will still continue to grow. At a guess, the military for example, are probably years, even decades, technically more advanced, than any other part of society, if they're not, we are in trouble. So let them watch & listen.

The world is moving toward a time where every individual, wants his/her say, compared to the Britain of yesteryear as an example, where a democratic people voted as their parents did, without ever really knowing what it is exactly, that they are voting for!

Today's politicians have to consider this phenomenon. No more can they calculate votes by simply counting on the 'workingman's' inherited support, nor indeed the other side of the coin.

The British people have for countless decades, been individually minded in private, always voicing their opinions, but have 'mob' tendencies, whenever called upon to vote. They do not want to be labelled as outcasts in their communities, or worst still, to be called a snob. 'Why did you vote Labour then' one would ask, "well, I cant betray my father, or my social standing, can I?

It works the same way in all areas of our society, or at least it used too!

The internet is changing attitudes with far reaching consequences for the way our world perceives democracy. The attitude of; present day democracies, (*democracies said with tongue in cheek*) 'this is good for us, but you cant have it just yet because your demise is our reward and comfort', is fast disappearing with the aid of the internet!

The rapid change in both; outside & inside attitudes towards Burma's situation and the pace in which the 'Parliamentary Democracy Party' has changed the way the whole political spectrum is now viewed, is proof of how the Internet is a force for democratisation!

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**24 May 2007**

### **CELEBRATION & DISPAIR**

As another new year is celebrated so to is the honourable quest of the PDP. The Parliamentary Democracy party has put hope back into the minds of the people of Burma. For what became, total despair, "*brought about by inadequate and selfish, egotistic individuals, who allowed Burma's suffering to drag on so they could profit from it*", has been replaced with feasible prospects. We say feasible, because even at this level of optimism created by the selfless efforts of the PDP, there is still much to do, and only the people of Burma can make it happen.

The PDP, has since its re-emergence, opened the door for a number of new and exciting groups, which hopefully will move in the direction of becoming political parties representing all of Burma's population, allowing democracy to grow into the multi-party society it richly deserves.

The PDP, has not only educated the world on Burma's true historical events from WW2, to the present day, which beforehand, had been distorted to meet the requirements of a few dastardly individuals, and we may add, some western governments, but has also informed those who wish to undermine the pro-democracy movement and its multi party system, that no amount of hype or spin, will prevent the inevitable!

The world calls for the release of Suu Kyi, and so it should be, and for all those who dwell in misery of Burma's prisons.

Representatives of UK-org, having just spent three months touring the border areas with the odd clandestine excursion into Burma, found their trip, though not surprisingly, lacking in support for the NLD, NCUGB. Indeed, to mention these groups, drew anger and heated debate, so questions were only put to the people if they first mentioned these groups. The topics focused primarily around the PDP, signs of which were obvious by the PDP flags.

**For some villages, previously having no electric or water, can now boast of these utilities thanks to the PDP. Unfortunately however, the funding is not there to help more villages, but the PDP is working toward that goal, and calls upon Burma supporters to contribute what they can afford.**

Burma's refugees, just as with all refugee camps world wide, live in conditions which are deplorable, and is heart breaking for those of us who do not have to endure them. Reports on the Thai Burma border camps will be published at a later date. Because of the tight restrictions applied to gaining access to these camps made open visits impossible, clandestine procedure was necessary.

UK.org, representatives were invited to attend New Year celebrations at a number of PDP zones. It was obvious by the numbers of people who attended at each zone that support for the PDP is growing faster than anyone could have previously forecast.

So, what is it that the PDP is doing right, as opposed to the NLD, NCGUB, doing wrong?

The answer is clearly defined; 'The PDP as a political party, strive to help their countrymen & women, without seeking and without expectation of personal reward. They are doing this from their own pocket money with no help from any outside body, so are limited to how fast they can advance, but advance they do!

The NLD and NCGUB, strive to help themselves to status and reward, without any expectations for their country, other than a slippery slope to oblivion. They do get help from outside bodies, in the form of millions of dollars, and they, stopped moving forward weeks after the 1990 election and moved into reverse not long after that.

We have never ever seen signs of help from these two bodies, given to the people of Burma, during the many trips our representatives have made over the years, both along the borders and inside Burma.

We ask again, where has all the millions of dollars gone? The people of Burma are entitled to know. What is more, the 'Parliamentary Democracy Party' (Burma) has every right as the most senior political party, to request on behalf of the people, nay, the right to demand, answers!

Seventeen (17) years since an election, and what has it brought?

It has made some people rich who previously had nothing; it brought fame and fortune to one particular individual who beforehand, was a wife and mother with a famous name as her only inheritance.

The West's 'eager' participation at prolonging Burma's suffering by blanketing any news that did not support the NLD or Suu Kyi, making a united front line of assault against the regime impossible and has deferred progress, drastically, but fortunately, due to the PDP's stand and be counted stance, has at last begun to crumble under the shear weight of new information made possible via the internet. The realisation that others have claim in deciding Burma's future also, has strengthened the resolve of the people of Burma!

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**29 May 2007**

**BURMA'S SECOND LOST OPPORTUNITY?**

**It must not miss the next!**

Since the sad days of post 1962, compared to the period before, when Prime Minister U Nu was the democratically elected leader of Burma, there have been two major events which could have given Burma back its freedom. Unfortunately, both events led to nothing, leaving the people of Burma to their terrible fate.

All it takes is one person to scuttle the hopes and dreams of millions. Matters are made worse when that person believes he/she is beyond reproach, a state of mind, which cancels out the likelihood of any form of debate, much like, 'Hitler' of Nazi Germany. This person will crave attention, is unscrupulous and will turn on his compatriots at the drop of a hat if threatened or intimidated. Together, with a few naïve, gullible cohorts, perhaps from both sides of the fence, to supply funding, he/she can manipulate and coheres those around them, focusing mainly, on those who are weak minded and fail to recognise the disastrous road they are being led down because they are drowning in their own lust for greed and favour.

Fortunately however; much like 'Hitler's' little escapade, whose downfall was instigated by the very people he trusted, today, inside the NLD, NCGUB, the scenario is much the same. They want to discard the bad apples, but do not know how to go about it. Ironically, as sad as it may be, it also relates to the position of those members of the SPDC, who also want too tidy up their house, but do not know how?

Some say that for every virus, there is a cure somewhere on the planet. The same can be said when it comes to counter measures against man made disasters. Just as one person can bring disaster and chaos, so too, can one bring calm with order. In this case, there is one retiring man; he has no dreams of grandeur, no selfish ambition to further his self interest. He has loyal friends and compatriots of the same standing. He has 'no' self interest cohorts outside of his circle. He has no overly ambitious, naïve or unscrupulous individuals hanging on for favours. He has no money coming from any other source, except minimal amounts from those he stands up for. Yet this man, against all the odds, has moved mountains with dedication and loyalty. One may well ask, "where has he been hiding"? Well, it does not really matter, because he is here now!

Because of this same man, people now have true comparisons to judge for themselves, which before hand did not exist. The tyrannical tendencies of the regime are clear cut, a person knows exactly where they stand, whereas; the NLD and the NCGUB, which in reality are the same, both displaying passive tendencies in the open, when the fact of reality is very different. Their farcical struggle to oppose the regime since 1990, has revealed that both want complete autonomy. Neither is willing to debate, with anyone on any side of the fence!

Unlike the regime, which is openly tyrannical, the NLD and NCGUB, cow beneath sheep's clothing, but their tendencies is all wolf!

For years after the 1990 election, people had to rely on those in sheep's clothing, (NLD, NCGUB) to represent them in their struggle for freedom, unaware of their true motives.

Even after it became clear to see that their ineptness at politics was joined at the hip with greed, lust for power at any cost, providing it was not their personal loss, those dedicated democracy fighters still stayed loyal, giving both groups, the opportunity to honour those who put them where they are.

Eventually, it took one man to stand up at great risk to him self and his compatriots, to confront these fraudsters and betrayers of the people of Burma , 'Chairman' Bo Aung Din (PDP). His appearance has been a gust of fresh air into Burma 's one sided political arena. Although he expected attacks from all sides, those who knew, or indeed know this man, or, know of him, are also blatantly aware of his pedigree, and none, have grounds in which to criticise his character or his combined knowledge and active participation in Burma's long struggle for democracy. The very fact this man has gone unopposed in 'open debate', reveals a great deal about the silent respect he commands from all sides. Naturally of course, there are those, who are fearfully envious of his portfolio relating to Burma 's struggle. These people are cowards when it comes to confronting 'Chairman' Bo Aung Din in the open, because they know he will topple them from the pedestal they built for themselves at the cost of people's suffering! But just like the SPDC, their fate will befall them when truth emerges.

1994, Burma once again, had the chance to make a lasting peaceful impact on its future. The election of 1990, was long gone, and had no chance of revival under what was its core leadership.

The country had fallen back into pit of despair with even heavier chains than before. This was a heart breaking and painful experience for those who had fought for so long to free their country from tyrants. These same individuals, civilians, forced to wear warrior clothing, who for decades had suffered the agonies of fighting in the jungles of Burma against a cruel regime, were suddenly cast back into that same role after the uneventful period stemming from the 1990 election.

To those of inherent wisdom, the late but not forgotten, 'General' Bo Mya (KNU) 'Chairman' Bo Aung Din of today's PDP, is another, and of course there are others, too many to mention here, but the two named are the most prominent because of their historical station in Burma' politics. It was they who had total commitment to the people of Burma , without a selfish bone in their bodies.

During 1994, after four years of fruitless activities by the NLD and their cohorts, it was concluded with others; that a solution to Burma 's problem, was to become united in opposition to the regime holding power, and to gain recognition from the world, which in this case was so. This would have far reaching consequences for the regime, because with the world recognising the newly, but temporary, government of Burma (Liberated area) with Genera Bo Mya as President, and Suu Kyi as Prime Minister, support would have flooded in, making it very likely to have forced the regime into submission without to much bloodshed. However! One man with his craving for power, his egotistic, utterly selfish and gross insubordination toward his own people, had other ideas, because to move in that positive direction, meant he would become an unimportant nobody, even though he was offered a prime ministerial position. He wanted the 'clan' to rule the roost!

‘Sein Win’ of the NCGUB, has the tendencies of a dictator. He would love dearly, and probably, dreams about uniforms with all the gold embroidery, with cardboard medals and symbols, straight out of a children’s toy shop, standing on a platform looking down upon his people, or rather the people under his control. He most likely has a uniform hidden away and wears it in the privacy of his bedroom admiring himself in the mirror? This is the man together with the NLD, who betrayed, Burma . Perhaps Suu Kyi was not aware of events; she will have to tell the world the answer to that. Never the less, because of gross selfish ambitions, the people of Burma were denied this opportunity, and are still being betrayed today!

‘Chairman’ Bo Aung Din PDP, has great courage to stand up and confront these people. He does it for Burma , not for himself. No one else has shown the same courage, more importantly, the dedication and loyalty to the people of Burma in facing the devil head on. ‘Chairman’ Bo Aung Din, standing up for Burma ’s freedom, has already ‘cheated’ *‘to avoid by luck or skill’* the assassin on earlier occasions. Though one might ask the question, from under whose roof did the assassin sleep?

‘Chairman’ Bo Aung Din chooses both his words and timing carefully, he does not allow personal likes and dislikes interfere with his political decisions. He is not a person who enjoys criticising or condemning others, but when sixty million people are suffering a life of misery, he will stand up to anyone, no matter who they think they are, or what evil they can bring to bare! He has reached a landmark victory in his quest to highlight Burma ’s political frontline corruption, making way for those with genuine dedication and loyalty toward their fellow countrymen/women, in freeing Burma . Through his leadership, there are a number of protégées to take his place in the event of a natural or un-natural departure. Every day, he sits on the edge of a precipice. He has already made great personal sacrifices through the years, but for Burma , he will sacrifice everything.

**Note:**

The NLD said they would never compromise with the regime; when the question was put to Suu Kyi on four occasions, about how the regime would be treated if they handed over power, Suu Kyi bluntly replied “it will be up to the cabinet”. One way to frightened off any chance of the regime to stand down, was an answer like that. There was no tactful diplomacy applied as one would expect over such a sensitive and politically far reaching question carrying with it potentially explosive consequences, which of course ignited, burying Burma even deeper into the clutches of the regime! That was a cataclysmic political blunder, which cost Burma its freedom. After such fierce and arrogant views then, now, it’s said that Suu Kyi wants to talk shop, and even offers amnesty to the regime.. I wonder why the change of heart? Tut, tut.

Who do these people think they are too constantly change policy at a drop of a hat because they realise that people are tired of them, or more to the point, the ‘Parliamentary Democracy Party’, under ‘Chairman’ Bo Aung Din, has shattered their little bubble?

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