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PRESS RELEASE

Birthday of imprisoned Burmese Nobel Peace Prize laureate in Prague

Events of Burma Center Prague in support of Burmese Democracy movement on 17 and 19 June 2006 in Prague

Prague, 13 June 2006 – On 19 June, people all around the world will support the Burmese democracy movement by commemorating the 61st birthday of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the leader of the Burmese democracy movement and the only Nobel peace prize laureate imprisoned. Last year the people of the Czech Republic “celebrated” Aung San Suu Kyi’s 60th birthday with the Burmese community in Prague. This year again, the Czech and Burmese people in Prague will pay tribute to Daw Suu.

With the appeal “Arrest yourself”, we invite everybody who wishes to support Aung San Suu Kyi and the people of Burma by staying at home for 24 hours on Saturday, 17 June. This event will also take place with the active participation of the Burmese refugees in the Czech Republic. Similar events will take place in various places all over the world.

On the birthday itself, Burma Center Prague with the kind co-operation of Czech Buddhists, will hold a meditation session in Prague dedicated to Aung San Suu Kyi and the people of Burma.

Burma Center Prague will also co-operate and participate at the happening “Rose for Aung San Suu Kyi and Burma” at Václavské náměstí in Prague and at the discussion in the cinema Světozor, co-organized with the organization People in Need.

Background information: Burma, a southeast Asian state officially known as “Union of Myanmar”, makes headlines as a country ruled by one of the world’s toughest military regimes. In the recent months, the situation has been getting considerably worse. Some western countries, among them the Czech Republic, have taken leadership in urging the international community to take action. Former Czech President Vaclav Havel and Archbishop Desmond Tutu have commissioned a report “Threat to the Peace: A call for the UN Security Council to act in Burma”.

The Burmese community in the Czech Republic together with the Czech and international supporters of Burma has recently formed the non-profit organization Burma Center Prague. Its registration is presently under way.

Further information about the events and the situation in Burma can be obtained at:
info@burma-center.org