



ADPAN condemns Myanmar Death Sentence imposed on Political Opponents

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Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The Anti-Death Penalty Asia Network (ADPAN) is appalled by the rejection of the appeal by activist Khaw Min Yu and lawmaker Phyo Zeya Thaw and two other political prisoners against the death sentence imposed by a military tribunal.

Since the military coup, Myanmar has witnessed a rise in the number of death sentences issued by military tribunals, accompanied by a growing prevalence of extrajudicial killings involving protestors and pro-democracy activists in Myanmar. In addition to violence resulting directly from the coup, the military junta has resumed its military campaigns across Myanmar, leading to large-scale killings, arbitrary detentions and displacement of civilians in several states.

The Tatmadaw has no legitimacy as a government and must cease the atrocities committed against the people of Myanmar. Execution of world-renowned human rights activists, lawmakers and political actors will only further contribute to the Tatmadaw's besmirched history of human rights violations and atrocities and deprive the Myanmar of the peace, stability and growth it deserves.

ADPAN echoes the sentiment of the ASEAN Parliamentarian for Human Rights (APHR) that the executions are nothing less than cold-blooded political assassinations and call on the Tatmadaw's senior leadership to return democracy to Myanmar and put an end to executions and extrajudicial killings.

For and on behalf of ADPAN (Anti-Death Penalty Asia Network)

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ADPAN is the peak regional body for organisations committed to the abolition of the death penalty across Asia-Pacific, with members from approximately 22 countries within the region. As such, ADPAN maintains that the death penalty violates the right to life, that it is the ultimate form of cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment and that the death penalty should be entirely abolished internationally.