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**Message from Karenni National Progressive Party's Headquarters
on the 73rd Anniversary of Karenni Martyrs' Day**

Fellow Karenni, Leaders and Service Members of Karenni Resistance

Today is the 73rd Anniversary of Karenni Martyrs' Day. Every year on this day, we gather to honor and remember our fallen heroes. It is an auspicious day to commemorate the brutal killing of Karenni resistance leader and chairman of Karenni National Organization Gobi Turee by the Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League government of the newly independent Burma on September 8, 1948.

Seventy three years have passed but we cannot forget. On this day we remember all of our martyrs who have given their lives - from the beginning of Karenni resistance to regain our independence from the expansionist Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League government to the current struggle for equality, democracy, and self-determination. We remember the countless Karenni who have sacrificed in so many ways along with our resistance fighters for the liberation of Karenni people throughout the course of our struggle.

But a mere remembrance will not do our martyrs and their sacrifices justice. As long as we are still denied to possess our righteous and fundamental rights that our martyrs have paid for in blood, we must continue the fight and fulfill their dreams. In light of the current political unfolding in Burma, all Karenni must particularly unite to uproot all forms of dictatorship and earn our political dreams. Our unity must be unbreakable for the sake of our long term national and state's interests.

Though our fight may have started as a fight to regain our independence and self-determination, the Karenni struggle was never solely for Karenni. Generation after generation, we have worked with our fellow oppressed nationalities in Burma for democracy, equality, and self-determination for all. As such, we must capitalize on the strong political and revolutionary spirits we are witnessing nationwide and step up our fight to liberate Burma from tyranny.

An oppressive system may make unity hard to achieve. Unity may be a thing easier said than done. However, if we stand on the values that all human beings are free and equal, and pursue a just political cause, we will overcome the challenges posed by disunity. We will be able to withstand the harsh conditions and punishing tests of a resistance, and come out victorious. And we will do so all by the strength of unity.

In a resistance struggle for liberation, we all may have sacrificed more or less. But no sacrifice is greater and more honorable than those made by our fallen. Therefore, let us honor our martyrs with our dedication and hard work from wherever we are and whatever role we are in. Only then will we be able to prove our work worthy of the blood our heroes shed. This resistance journey has been long. But one day we will reach our destination. And on that day, we will embrace what is rightfully ours; build a new, peaceful, and harmonious union with all nationalities across the nation; and fulfill the dreams of our martyrs.

Headquarters

Karenni National Progressive Party

8 September 2021