



Karen National Union
Supreme Headquarters
Kawthoolei
www.knuhq.org

Thalay New Moon, Day 1, 2761 (KE)
January 2, 2022

KNU President General Mutu Say Poe's Felicitation Letter Sent to Karen New Year Day of 2761 Karen Era (KE)

Today, January 2, 2022 being Day 1 of Thalay New Moon, is the Karen New Year Day of the Year 2761 (KE). On such an occasion of transitioning to the New Year, concerning the entire Karen nation, I extend the best wishes to the Karen people and the people in the whole country to have unbreakable moral strength, unity, and moreover to overcome all adversary and to be completely filled with all kinds of prosperity.

Dear All the Karen Nationals,

The New Year Day, concerning the entire Karen nation, is a salient characteristic among the national characteristics relating to the Karen people's culture, life, customs and traditions. This Karen New Year Day, concerning the entire Karen nation, has been recognized since the time of the British government, resulting from the endeavor of far-sighted Karen leaders, and thus it is a heritage left by the great leaders. Accordingly, the Karen New Year Day, concerning the entire Karen nation, is a great and sacred heritage, and it is a day that must be maintained and honored generation after generation.

We, the Karen people, have in full our national history, language, literature, customs, traditions and cultural practices, which are our national attributes. The Karen people are a nation and to remain as a nation eternally and for continual development, the future generations have the responsibility to pass on, without end, our own national attributes, generation after generation. We must maintain and elevate our own Karen national attributes, in consonant with time.

Similarly, it is the duty of every Karen for the Karen people to develop and be prominent with dignity, amidst the world. As a nation, it is especially necessary for all of us to thrive actively and to be imbued always with the inclination for progress. Moreover, diligence, unity and the ability to cooperate, with one mind in the life of our people, are the vital points for eternal existence as a nation.

Dear All the Karen Nationals,

Enshrining respect and recognition in the constitution of a country for the language, literature, customs, traditions and culture of a people have direct relation to that people's growth and development. What is meant is that a country, with a diverse historical background, traditions, customs and cultures, must provide in its constitution to respect and value the diversity. However, in our own country, in addition to the absence in the constitution of provisions maintaining and promoting the diverse cultures, national characteristics and appropriate rights, there have been clandestine repressions, scheme and effort constantly, with the intention of eliminating the peoples with diversity.

Dear All the Karen Nationals,

Repressions and injustices are consequences of the incapability to recognize the rights relating to equality. Moreover, they cause conflicts between the nationalities and, the ruling elites and the ruled. The best course for resolving the disparity in rights, political problems and conflicts is to resolve them peacefully by political means. The KNU has called for the resolution of problems by political means throughout the successive eras. However, the ruling elites throughout the successive eras do not have the political will and mature political views.

The KNU on its part has known that peace cannot absolutely be established in the country if the political problems cannot be resolved through negotiation, after ceasefire. For that reason, the KNU has invested much time, effort and expenses for ceasefire, resolution of political problems by political means, for the establishment of a federal union having equality and self-determination, for prosperity of the people, and for the development of the country, and the building of internal peace. The KNU has cooperated, in the best possible way, with the political parties, ethnic revolutionary resistance organizations, and the people. The people and the INGOs have supported and cooperated with the KNU, immensely. However, the seizure of power by the military, once again, has made useless all the endeavors of the KNU. For that reason, so long as the military dictators are far from the desire to resolve the political problems by political means with correct intention, true negotiation and effort for building in-country peace would not arise. We are now witnessing distinctly the launching of armed resistance by the people and the new generation youths in the whole country, who have come to realize the objective conditions and true happenings.

Dear All the Karen Nationals,

It is not adequate for a people to be pious, labor honestly, learn and gain modern knowledge and education, and being diligent in life so as to exist with national dignity, to be endowed fully with national attributes and develop in consonant with time. We have to relentlessly oppose and demolish the unjust political systems which are a barrier to the regaining of our rights, which have been taken away by force, and our national development. Furthermore, for the bright future of our people, every one of us, in our own respective corner, must resist all the adversaries which are going to destroy our national attributes.

For that reason, due to the currently developing hazards, all our Karen organizations must stand up boldly for our national cause and strive in unity, for the future growth in life and development of the Karen people. In the currently developing political circumstances, everyone, who regards oneself as a Karen, and every Karen organization, must make a supreme effort in the Karen national interest.

Dear All the Karen Nationals,

May all the Karen people, who are honoring and celebrating the new year, concerning all the Karen people, be able to nourish strong Karen national spirit and unity, and overcome all forms of fear. I would like to urge all the Karen people, living inside and outside of the country, and in various countries of the world, to take a vow under the one and only Karen national flag, and be true to the national cause. I wish and pray for every Karen to be able to carry out, in his/her own respective corner, the national duties until the victory is achieved completely. In the Karen new year of 2761, may all the citizens and the entire people to be able to overcome all dangers!

**President
Karen National Union
Supreme Headquarters
General Mutu Say Poe**