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# news release

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## CANADA CALLS FOR RELEASE OF BURMESE NOBEL LAUREATE

Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan, on behalf of Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet, today denounced the continuing detention of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi by Burmese officials. On the fifth anniversary of the opposition leader's detention, Canada calls upon the Government of Burma to release the Nobel Peace Prize winner and all other political prisoners.

"Canadians share the outrage of the international community that for five long years Daw Aung San Suu Kyi has remained under house arrest, isolated from the people of Burma and from the outside world. This remarkable woman's sole offence has been to promote democracy and human rights in her country by peaceful means," said Mr. Chan.

The Secretary of State urged the Government of Burma to pursue seriously Daw Suu Kyi's offer of talks, saying it would represent a positive step towards reconciliation, democratic development and genuine reform in Burma.

Although her arrest precluded her from campaigning in the 1990 election in Burma, Daw Suu Kyi's opposition party won the contest in a landslide victory.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

Media Relations Office  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
(613) 995-1874