



AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL – LAOS
 FREE Seng-Aloun Phengphanh & Thongpaseuth Keuakoun

The morning of 26 October 1999, the annual water festival, 5 members of the Lao Student Movement for Democracy (LSMD) were arrested for attempting to unroll posters at the National Assembly building. They were charged with treason and each given a 10-year prison sentence. LSMD’s concerns were for free education, a multi-party democracy, free and fair elections, and release of political prisoners.

All five men believe to be **Prisoner of Conscience** by Amnesty International, were arrested for peacefully exercising their rights to freedom of expression, association, and assembly, **which are rights under Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)**.

Seng-Aloun Phengphanh’s and Thongpaseuth Keuakoun’s 10-year prison sentences were extended to 20 years. In May 2014 authorities said they have 2 yrs + 7 months remaining. They remain in **Samkhe Prison in Vientiane**.

We strongly urge **Seng-Aloun Phengphanh and Thongpaseuth Keuakoun** be immediately and unconditional released. Pending their release ensure that they are **treated humanely**, with regular access to their families and medical care in accordance with international human rights standards.



We also request an immediately launch of an investigation into the circumstances of **Khamphouvieng Sisaath’s** death in prison in 2001 as a result of severe punishment by prison guards. Those responsible must be brought to justice.

We ask that you ensure that Laos upholds its human rights obligations as a state party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and respects the rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly.



Keochay apparently was released in 2002 but not known until 2006. **Bouavanh Chanhmanivong** was released in 2013

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Send to: Dr Thongloun Sisoulith, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 3 Singha Road , Vientiane. Lao People’s Democratic Republic
Copy to: Phongsavat Boupha, Head of the President's Office and Chair of the National Steering Committee on Human Rights, Presidential Palace, Setthathirath, Vientiane, Lao People’s Democratic Republic
Copy to: HE Seng Soukhathivong. Embassy of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic. 2222 S Street, NW. Washington, DC 20008 embasslao@gmail.com