Myanmar: Suu Kyi's Detention Extended

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Myanmar's military junta has extended the period of house arrest for Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the Nobel Peace Prize-winning pro-democracy leader, a Home Ministry source said today. The source said it was unclear if the extension was for six months or one year. Security outside Suu Kyi's lakeside home in the capital, Yangon, had been stepped up ahead of the extension of her detention, with armed police and barricades preventing any traffic from passing. Hope for her release by the military rulers of Myanmar, formerly Burma, had swelled when the junta made the surprise decision to allow a United Nations envoy to meet with her last week. Suu Kyi, 60, has spent more than 10 of the past 16 years behind bars or under house arrest. Her latest stretch of detention started "for her own safety" on May 30, 2003 after clashes between her supporters and pro-junta demonstrators.