

Myanmar Extends Dissident's House Arrest

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By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

YANGON, [Myanmar](#), May 27 (AP) — The pro-democracy leader [Daw Aung San Suu Kyi](#) will remain under house arrest for another year, a government official in Myanmar said Saturday.

The extension of a six-month detention order by the nation's junta, not yet officially announced, occurred despite international pressure and kept Myanmar at odds with the [United States](#) and most of the West. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the news media.

Mrs. Aung San Suu Kyi, 60, has spent about 10 of the past 17 years in detention. In 1991, she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. She was most recently taken into custody on May 30, 2003, after her motorcade was attacked by a pro-junta mob as she toured northern Myanmar. Saturday was the last day of the latest order that has kept her in her home in Yangon, formerly Rangoon. She is forbidden visitors and telephone contact with the outside.

The government's rationale for detaining her was that she could threaten public order.

In Thailand, Foreign Minister Kantathi Suphamongkhon said, "I was hoping the release should come today." He added, "We would like to see Myanmar back in the realm of the international community, so progress in national reconciliation is something of importance."

The West has isolated Myanmar, also known as Burma, since the National League for Democracy won an election in 1990 but was barred by the military from taking power.

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