



# WRITE FOR RIGHTS

---

## GLOBAL WRITE-A-THON 2009

### VIETNAM: HUMAN RIGHTS LAWYERS JAILED

**H**uman rights lawyers **Le Thi Cong Nhan**, age 30, and **Nguyen Van Dai**, age 40, were jailed in May 2007 for “conducting propaganda against the State.” Amnesty International considers them prisoners of conscience and is calling for their immediate and unconditional release.

Le Thi Cong Nhan and Nguyen Van Dai are well known in dissident circles in Vietnam as outspoken human rights lawyers. Nguyen Van Dai provided legal advice to dissidents and represented some in court, including imprisoned Protestant Christians claiming persecution by the state. In interviews with Voice of America, Radio Free Asia and other media, the two lawyers called for respect for human rights in Vietnam.

Le Thi Cong Nhan and Nguyen Van Dai were arrested in March 2007 by Hanoi Investigation and Security Police and tried by Hanoi People's Court in May 2007. Nguyen Van Dai was sentenced to five years' and Le Thi Cong Nhan to four years' imprisonment, under Article 88 of the Penal Code, for “conducting propaganda against the State.” Their sentences were reduced by one year each on appeal in November 2007, but both must serve additional sentences of house arrest upon release from prison. Nguyen Van Dai will be under house arrest for four years, while Le Thi Cong Nhan must serve three.

In 2006 Nguyen Van Dai founded the dissident Committee for Human Rights in Vietnam, which documents human rights violations. He was also one of the original signatories to the Bloc 8406 online petition, Manifesto 2006 on Freedom and Democracy for Vietnam, launched on 8 April 2006.

Le Thi Cong Nhan, who was a member of the Committee for Human Rights in Vietnam and a supporter of Bloc 8406, was also the spokeswoman for the Vietnam Progression Party, one of several pro-democracy political parties and groups formed in 2006 without official approval. It called for democracy and freedom of expression and association, and for human rights to be respected.

# YOU CAN HELP:

## WRITE A LETTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER:

- Calling for the immediate and unconditional release of Le Thi Cong Nhan & Nguyen Van Dai;
- Calling on him to ensure that while detained, they are allowed regular family visits, and receive appropriate medical care.

### MAIL TO:

Prime Minister  
Nguyen Tan Dung  
Office of the Prime Minister  
Hoang Hoa Tham  
Hanoi  
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

Fax: 011-844-3823-1872

Salutation: Dear Prime Minister

International airmail postage is \$0.98.

## WRITE LETTERS OF SUPPORT TO LE THI CONG NHAN AND NGUYEN VAN DAI:

Please send messages of hope and support to Le Thi Cong Nhan and to Nguyen Van Dai. A sample message:

“Greetings from [name of your town]. You are in our thoughts and hopes for the future.”

### MAIL TO:

Nguyen Van Dai  
Prison camp K1  
Xa Ba Sao  
huyen Kim Bang  
thi xa Phu Ly  
tinh Ha Nam  
SOCIALIST  
REPUBLIC  
OF VIETNAM

Le Thi Cong Nhan  
Prison camp 5  
phan trai 4  
Yen Dinh  
Thanh Hoa  
SOCIALIST  
REPUBLIC OF  
VIETNAM

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE GLOBAL WRITE-A-THON, VISIT:  
[www.amnestyusa.org/writeathon](http://www.amnestyusa.org/writeathon)

