

**WRITE  
FOR  
RIGHTS**

AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL



# JAILED FOR ATTENDING HER FIRST PROTEST

**DORGELESSE NGUESSAN**

**📍 CAMEROON**

ABN 64 123 456 789



**CHALLENGE  
INJUSTICE.**

# DORGELESSE NGUESSAN | CAMEROON

Dorgelesse (she/her) has always dreamt of owning a thriving beauty institute. Two years ago, the single mother and hairdresser was just starting to expand her hairdressing business to include manicures.

On 22 September 2020, Dorgelesse's dream was shattered when she was arrested during a protest in Douala, Cameroon. It was her first ever protest. She had never been politically active before, but her concerns about the state of Cameroon's economy led her to join the demonstrations.

When the peaceful protest began, security forces fired rubber bullets, tear gas and water cannons to disperse protesters. As Dorgelesse turned into an alleyway, police followed her and fellow protesters and blocked them in. They arrested

her and took her to a police station, where she was held in a cell with 22 other people in terrible conditions.

On 29 September 2020, Dorgelesse was transferred to Douala Central Prison, where she still remains. She was charged with "insurrection, assembly, meetings and public demonstrations" and tried by a military court. She was sentenced to five years in prison on 7 December 2021.

Dorgelesse is the breadwinner of her family. Her 18-year-old son has sickle cell anaemia, and the family are struggling to pay for his medication. Dorgelesse is desperate to be reunited with them.

**Tell Cameroon to free Dorgelesse today**



## ACT NOW

Tell the Cameroonian authorities to release Dorgelesse from prison immediately and unconditionally, as she has been detained solely for peacefully exercising her right to freedom of expression and assembly.

Grab a petition and start collecting names and emails, or write a letter with the salutation "Dear President,".

## SHOW DORGELESSE YOU'RE WITH HER

Print off the solidarity letter template and send Dorgelesse your message of solidarity and hope.

### Post your petitions, letters and solidarity letters to:

Amnesty International Australia,  
Locked Bag 23,  
Broadway NSW 2007  
Australia

**Make sure you post them to us by 31 January 2023.**

We'll post them to the target, include them in the handover in February 2023 and make sure that Dorgelesse gets your solidarity messages.