



WEEKLY UPDATE: 11 April - 17 April 2022



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Situation Overview

1,756+ KILLED

13, 282+ ARRESTED

10,238+ DETAINED

1,976 EVADING ARREST



Set Fire to the Dictatorship

The Myanmar military is guilty of committing hundreds of human rights violations. Legions of soldiers, commanders and Generals are all continuing to show a disregard for the lives of civilians, including women, children and the elderly who have been inhumanely shot down. Among the many villainous campaigns used by the junta to deter dissent and wreak havoc, the act of arson has been used to demoralize civilians as the soldiers burn down their homes, villages and places of sanctuary including monasteries and churches, and even camps for internally displaced people.

Human rights group, *Myanmar Witness*, developed a tool in which they tracked accounts of fires deliberately set by the Myanmar junta with a legend key identifying levels of confidence in how they determined the possibility of the fires set. During the first week of April alone, the junta is accused of setting fire to hundreds of homes in eight townships in Magway, Mandalay and Sagaing region. According to Data for Myanmar, since 1 February, almost 10 000 homes have been destroyed by the military in their ongoing selfish bid for power.

ND-Burma member organizations have been documenting cases of arson and intentional scorching of homes in villages in their respective target areas. The *Chin Human Rights Organization* (CHRO) reported that as of March 2022, over 5,000 homes have been destroyed in Chin State since February 2021 and since September 2021, Thantlang Township has suffered from ongoing artillery and arson attacks by the regime 26 times.

In southeastern Myanmar, the *Human Rights Foundation of Monland* documented that at least 35 homes were set on fire by the junta, and 13 motorcycles also scorched during the first week of April 2022. An investigation by Reuters confirmed the torching of villages in the region as the junta deliberately uses arson as a tactic to annihilate civilian livelihoods. The attacks have been described as a 'campaign of terror' by United Nations officials. Since 5 March 2022 alone, approximately 750 homes from 13 villages have been destroyed by the junta.

These acts are further evidence of the junta's attempts to destroy evidence of their warrantless raids and brutal assaults on civilians and their possessions. Urgent international accountability and a coordinated response to these atrocities is long overdue. The longer global actors wait to respond, the worse the situation will unravel.



Human Rights Violations

TORTURE

FORCED DISPLACEMENT

RAIDS



Yangon: The fate of a four-year old boy remains unknown after he was abducted by the Myanmar junta at his preschool on allegations that his parents were involved in supporting the Civil Disobedience Movement and the People's Defense Forces. The junta has violated laws meant to protect and uphold the rights of children, including killing 132 and detaining an additional 216. The National Unity Government reported two children are facing a death sentence.

Yangon: A committed anti-junta People's Defense Force leader in Yangon was brutally tortured and killed by the regime. Chan Min Naung was a former humanitarian aid worker who joined the resistance. Before being killed, he endured severe torture.

Ywar Nan village, Sagaing region:: A raid by the Myanmar military junta led to soldiers killing seven civilians and destroying the homes of nearly half of the villagers. Among those killed included a 70 year old woman.



Conflict in Myanmar

Approximately 889,900 people remain internally displaced across Myanmar due to clashes and instability.



CHIN STATE

The opposition forces in Chin State have successfully managed to hold off many of the Myanmar junta's offensives. In response, the terrorist regime has scorched villages, and desecrated religious buildings, including dozens of churches.

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KAREN STATE

Recent airstrikes deployed by the Myanmar military in Karen State continue to threaten civilian livelihoods. Fighting broke out along the border in Lay Kay Kaw as the junta targeted Karen armed groups

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SAGAING REGION

Civilians remain trapped in Sagaing region where the worsening military junta offensives are made worse by the lack of humanitarian aid reaching the most vulnerable.

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CHIN STATE

The opposition forces in Chin State have successfully managed to hold off many of the Myanmar junta's offensives. In response, the terrorist regime has scorched villages, and desecrated religious buildings, including dozens of churches.

This week, a hillside village in Matupi was set on fire by the junta which is home to approximately 300 Chin villagers. The raid and possibility of further attacks forced people to flee, uncertain of when they will be able to return home to their villages.

In northeastern India, which borders Chin State, the government of Mizoram has been granting identity cards to civilians fleeing violence in Myanmar. Nearly 30,000 have sought refuge and safety in 11 districts of Mizoram since 1 February 2021.





KAREN STATE

Recent airstrikes deployed by the Myanmar military in Karen State continue to threaten civilian livelihoods. Fighting broke out along the border in Lay Kay Kaw as the junta targeted Karen armed groups. No civilians were hurt, but forty Myanmar military soldiers were reportedly killed. This attack is only the latest in which Myanmar soldiers are increasing their offensives.

ND-Burma member organizations who are active in Karen State and border areas have reported that increased militarized activities have left civilians fearful of the unknown. Local livelihoods have been seriously compromised as the threat of landmines and indiscriminate firing by the junta poses serious threats to safety and security of villagers. The Human Rights Foundation documented at least four airstrikes in Karen State in the month of March alone.

There were more reports of fighting on 14 April when clashes between the junta and Karen National Liberation Army engaged in warfare in Lay Kay Kaw, Myawaddy District for approximately three hours. There were no initial reports of casualties.





SAGAING REGION

Civilians remain trapped in Sagaing region where the worsening military junta offensives are made worse by the lack of humanitarian aid reaching the most vulnerable. Witnesses and victims of the junta's assaults in Sagaing region have been seeking justice and reparations for the many attacks perpetrated against them and their communities. Civilians have said that the atrocities are not slowing. Air and ground strikes remain an unfortunate constant in their daily lives. Testaments of victims indicate their homes and villages have been 'destroyed in a second.'

As military junta convoys continue to relentlessly attack villages and deprive innocent people of their fundamental rights, the urgency to respond remains even greater. In February 2022 alone, over 50 000 people were forced to flee their homes across the country. Sagaing region has been heavily targeted due to the strong hold and success of civilian opposition forces who are committed to overthrowing the military junta.





Timeline of Events

THIRD WEEK OF
APRIL 2022

11 - 17 APRIL

11

Two local female travelers from Mon State were seriously injured by the junta's indiscriminate gun firing while traveling to Thanbyuzayat town this afternoon, according to the Human Rights Foundation of Monland

12

Health workers in Myanmar expressed concerns over the lack of funding and support for HIV and tuberculosis patients since the failed coup. ND-Burma spoke to health workers who confirmed these anxieties.

13

The Embassy of Canada - Yangon issued a statement honoring the resilience of the Myanmar people and their hope for a more peaceful and prosperous New Year.

14

Members of the illegal junta attended military organized Thingyan activities. The vast majority of the country boycotted all festivities.

15

The National Unity Government Union Minister for Foreign Affairs met with the EU Ambassador to ASEAN to discuss partnerships and pathways forward for peace in Myanmar.

16

The National Unity Government Ministry of Human Rights released their regular newsletter of human rights violations committed by the military junta.

17

Myanmar remains on the list of 'top ten countries' with the most worrisome conflicts as the humanitarian, political and economic crisis threatens civilian livelihoods.





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