



WEEKLY UPDATE: 23 May - 29 May 2022



Situation Overview

[READ MORE+](#)

Human Rights Violations

[READ MORE+](#)



Conflict in Myanmar

[READ MORE+](#)

Timeline of Events

[READ MORE+](#)



NETWORK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS DOCUMENTATION - BURMA

[See Past Weekly Updates](#)





Situation Overview

1,866+ KILLED

13,878+ ARRESTED

10,825+ DETAINED

1,979 EVADING ARREST



Humanitarian Crisis Worsening Amid Monsoon Season

The humanitarian crisis in Myanmar is worsening every day. As the monsoon rains begin, the plight of civilians desperately attempting to reach safety has become more dangerous and high-risk. With jungle terrain slippery and wet, fleeing quickly is a nearly impossible feat. As hundreds seek refuge in make-shift shelters along the Moei river banks neighboring Thailand, the rains have swept up relief sites in the wake of the flooding. Civil society organizations have been working to fill gaps into the provision of services.

However, the need is high and monetary and material resources are limited. The international community has been called upon to respond with urgency to the situation on the ground. These calls appear to have fallen upon deaf ears as the people of Myanmar struggle every day to survive on limited supplies of food and water with the growing threat of disease, sickness and attacks by the junta.

Ethnic health workers have reported rising cases of dengue fever but are facing shortages of medicine for treatment. Many of those who have become sick are children and the elderly. In addition to being malnourished, civilians are coupled with extreme fatigue and insecurity. The indiscriminate firing by the military junta means that many villagers dare not return to their homes. Landmines surround their homes and civilians are increasingly being abducted and forced to guide soldiers through unfamiliar terrain. Many of those taken into junta custody are young and lose contact with their families.

ND-Burma members have documented the worsening situation along the Thai-Myanmar border, and inside the country where displacement is on the rise. The junta has long spoken of 'peace' but their actions speak to the blatant unwillingness they have towards any meaningful acts which would prioritize peace over power. The people of Myanmar have always known that the junta is never sincere when they discuss 'peace.' The junta does not know what this means.

As a worsening humanitarian crisis looms, it is once again civilians who are forced to persevere. In reality, it should not be their burden to carry as they wait each day for the world to have a conscience and respond to the needs of those who are suffering at the hands of military impunity.



Human Rights Violations

TORTURE

FORCED DISPLACEMENT

RAIDS



Inpin village, Tabayin township, Sagaing region: The military junta scorched at least 30 homes on 25 May. The regime had been staying in Tabayin village, and then set it alight before they left on 26 May. All of the villagers were forced to flee for their lives.

Khin-U Township, Sagaing region: An elderly man, age 70 years old, was killed by the military junta when weapons were fired into his village. When the village began being attacked, he was unable to flee, and died in his home.

Myinmu Township, Sagaing region: Kyaw Nyi Zin, a youth just 21 years old, and a Mandalay medical student was targeted by the military junta and deliberately shot in the head in the vehicle he was in while traveling with his family to Monywa. Kyaw Nyi Zin had participated in the Civil Disobedience Movement.

Taunggyi, Shan State: A striking husband and wife, who are also doctors, were detained and sent to a military junta interrogation camp for refusing to work under the illegal regime. They have not been seen or heard from since 18 May 2022.





Conflict in Myanmar

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



KAREN STATE

The brutalities being deployed by the military junta in Karen State include widespread forced displacement, arbitrary arrest and the murder of innocent civilians.

[+READ MORE](#)

SAGAING REGION

Sagaing region has been embroiled in flames as scorched earth tactics by the military junta continue. Between 18 and 22 May, over 5000 people were yet again forcibly displaced by raids and arson attacks in Myaung Township. Dozens of homes and religious buildings were set alight by pro-junta militias as phone an

[+READ MORE](#)

SHAN STATE

Civilians in Shan State have had to bear the burden of a worsening conflict. Southern Shan State which borders Karenni (Kayah) State has been prone to identifying clashes, particularly in recent months.

[+READ MORE](#)



KAREN STATE

The brutalities being deployed by the military junta in Karen State include widespread forced displacement, arbitrary arrest and the murder of innocent civilians. The military junta and Border Guard Forces are continuing to engage in scorched earth tactics in Karen villages. In addition to the burning of homes, soldiers have looted civilian belongings including their possessions and livestock. Many have fled to caves as they fear the presence of soldiers. Thousands have been displaced across the State as the rainy season makes seeking safe haven all the more difficult. There are also growing food and medicine shortages. Over 1000 people are taking refuge along the banks of the Moei river where the rains have demolished their temporary shelters.

As the situation worsens, civilians are attempting to seek safety into neighboring Thailand. However, the closure of borders since the COVID-19 pandemic and the recent push-back of refugees fleeing Myanmar into Thailand has made options for safety even more limited. On 1 May, Thailand announced the reopening of border gates. However, very few people have been permitted to cross with reports of hundreds being arrested per day.





SAGAING REGION

Sagaing region has been embroiled in flames as scorched earth tactics by the military junta continue. Between 18 and 22 May, over 5000 people were yet again forcibly displaced by raids and arson attacks in Myaung Township. Dozens of homes and religious buildings were set alight by pro-junta militias as phone and Internet access largely remains cut off in at least eight townships. These townships include Kanbalu, Kani, Khin-U, Kyunhla, Monywa, Pale, Ye-U, and Yinmabin - all areas which have been hit especially hard by civilians who are fleeing the growing presence of the junta. It is also a deliberate attempt to slow the flow of information.

Artillery shelling was launched by joint forces of plain clothed military soldiers and the military junta. A clinic was also reportedly destroyed in the raid. At the moment, the number of military troops and junta backed forces outnumber the People's Defense Forces (PDFS) which limits their response to protect civilians. However, the opposition groups claimed that between 24 and 25 May 2022, there were significant losses of life as their attacks targeted the junta.

On the morning of 26 May, 10 000 villagers from 19 villages of Salingyi and Yinmabin sought safety following days of raids by the junta. Two residents who were abducted and used as porters were then reportedly shot by soldiers. Life in Sagaing region is becoming more and more difficult amid the growing instability across the area.





SHAN STATE

Civilians in Shan State have had to bear the burden of a worsening conflict. Southern Shan State which borders Karenni (Kayah) State has been prone to identifying clashes, particularly in recent months. Across the last two weeks, thousands of civilians have fled the outbreak of fighting and sought refuge. Joint forces of the People's Defense Forces (PDFs), the Karenni Nationalities Defense Force as well as locally based Loikaw, Moebye and Inle PDFs battle the regime.

The junta has responded to the attacks on their base with airstrikes. Approximately 20 000 refugees from 35 villages in the township were forced to flee. The mounting number of internally displaced people speaks to the humanitarian crisis in the country. Amid the rainy season, there is an even greater need for waterproof sheets and durable shelter than can stand up to the harshness of the conditions. There are inadequate supplies for IDPs who cannot be expected to cope well under the circumstances, especially as they are routinely displaced. Amid the rainy season, it is much more difficult to trek through the jungle, especially without getting food and materials wet.

Approximately 700 IDPs from Southern Shan State have sought safety in Phaikhun township. In Hsi Hseng Township, there are 5000 IDPs who are also facing food and supply shortages after fighting intensified in May 2022 in southern Shan State.

As the state engages in battles on multiple fronts, the Restoration Council of Shan State (RCSS) has confirmed that they have accepted the military junta's ceasefire and signed onto four agreements.





Timeline of Events

FOURTH WEEK OF MAY

23 - 29 May

23

The Blood Money campaign penned an open letter to Chevron stakeholders inquiring why their Directors insist on recognizing the junta as legitimate, when all the military has done is kill, rob and destroy the livelihoods of innocent civilians.

24

The Human Rights Foundation of Monland reported that Mon civilians are unhappy with the decision by the Mon Unity Party and the New Mon State Party to engage in a dialogue with the military junta.

25

Family members of de facto head of State, Aung San Suu Kyi, filed a complaint with the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention citing her situation as a 'judicial kidnapping.'

26

A military-run court in Rakhine State sentenced a man to nearly a dozen years in prison for unproven, alleged ties to a local People's Defense Force. He was detained on 29 January 2022, and faces charges.

27

Early Friday morning, youth activists in Monywa, Sagaing region, held a flash mob protest against the junta. They condemned the killings and called for a federal democracy.

28

A four-year Rohingya child was killed in a landslide in a Bangladesh refugee camp.

29

Russia and China blocked a UN Security Council statement on Myanmar crisis





<https://nd-burma.org/>

<https://twitter.com/NDBurma>

<https://www.facebook.com/theNDBurma>