

# Situation

**Overview** 

2,074+ KILLED 14, 517+ ARRESTED 11,451+ DETAINED



## Health Workers are Not a Target

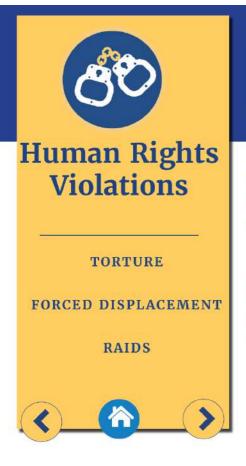
On World Health Day, which was marked on 7 April 2022, the Network for Human Rights Documentation – Burma, warned of increasing attacks by the military junta against health workers. The health sector is one of the many across the country which has been obliterated by the regime.

In the latest of horrific attacks against medics, four teenagers were among the nine people murdered in Shwebo township's Kunseik village while enroute to southeastern Sagaing region. They were all unarmed, and were traveling as a part of the Wetlet township branch of the Generation Z Special Task Force. The assault on life is part of a wider, systematic pattern of impunity. The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, Tom Andrews, has warned of growing attacks in Myanmar as a lack of action from the international community is failing to hold the junta to account.

Health workers play an integral role in the fabric of Myanmar society. Health is a human right, and subsequently that right to life is a core principle enshrined in human rights treaties, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. And yet – the military junta disregards the value of civilian lives, and has gone as far to destroy health infrastructure and violently assault health workers treating injured protesters or supporters of the prodemocracy movement. Since the attempted coup on 1 February 2021, at least 415 medics and medical institutions have been targeted by the military junta. The hostile environment has led to over 600 medics in hiding as they fear arrest from the regime.

In response to the rising attacks against health workers, the Karenni State Consultative Council (KSCC) called upon all armed groups, including ethnic revolution organizations, to uphold the security of health workers in Karenni State. The announcement followed the temporary detainment of a first responder who was investigated despite providing medical care under KSCC.

The junta has continued to weaponize aid and in doing so have also threatened stakeholders fulfilling any role to provide medical attention to vulnerable groups who require immediate and urgent medical attention. This situation is not sustainable and further demands immediate action and accountability. Health workers must be protected and granted access on humanitarian grounds to serve displaced populations, including civilians injured in conflict.











Falam Township, Chin State: A deaf woman and paralyzed men were both brutally killed by the military junta after a column of approximately 250 soldiers left Sagaing region. Following the brutal murders, the Chin National Organization warned locals not to travel on the Kalay-Falam road.

Loikaw Township, Karenni State: A civilian was killed when he was struck in the head by a bullet near a school while sheltering amid clashes between the Myanmar junta and Karenni defense forces.

Monywa Prison, Sagaing region: A transgender political prisoner detained in Sagaing region was sexually abused by a police officer according to LGBT Alliance–Myanmar.



For the first time, the number of displaced men, women and children in Myanmar has exceeded one million.







# CHIN STATE

In Chin State, military offensives are obliterating civilian livelihoods. Thousands have been forced to flee to neighboring borders as calls are routinely made for action and accountability from the international community. The military junta warrants absolutely no recognition nor legitimacy as the plight of civilians and their survival is regularly in limbo.

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### KAREN STATE

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### SAGAING REGION

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Two residents were killed, and several others suffered from injuries after a series of airstrikes was deployed against two Chin villages in Mindat Township. Among the areas targeted included a church and school. Prior to the attack, there were reportedly no clashes taking place which once again indicates the junta's indiscriminate firing in residential places. The bodies of those struck were badly disfigured and could not be identified. The news of the airstrikes comes as Myanmar accepted more weapons from Russia in their campaign of mass destruction. According to local media outlet Myanmar Now, nearly 300 civilians were killed in Mindat township in June 2022 alone. This number included a 14-year-old boy and two women.

ND-Burma affiliate member, the Chin Human Rights Organization, reported that a convoy of 17 military trucks heading towards Hakha from Kalay has left havoc in its wake. Two entire villages fled, and a deceased body was discovered in Falam Township as fighting continued to escalate.







# KAREN STATE

Civil society organizations have responded with alarm to the debilitating situation inside Karen State, Myanmar, where the junta has continued to deploy a series of sweeping assaults and attacks against innocent civilians. Last week, two children were among the 13 who were killed in airstrikes by the junta. Orders were carried out to bomb villages near the Thai–Myanmar border. Two monks were also killed. Villagers, fearful and terrified, were forced to watch the planes fly overhead as they worried when the bombs would fall, and if they would survive.

Attacks have been worsening since the end of June. Civilians have been abducted and forced to guide soldiers as human shields. According to Karen News, attacks have taken place in five districts of Kawthoolei including Doo Tha Htu, Kler Lwee Htu, Mutraw, Ternawtheri and Dooplaya. Internally displaced people have been targeted amid a growing need for medicine, food, shelter, and clothes. Despite the vulnerability of these groups, the junta has been relentless in their assaults against a largely unarmed civilian population.

International budgets must be increased to meet the growing needs of conflict affected refugees and those who have been forced to flee their homes due to civil war.







### SAGAING REGION

On 4 July 2022, approximately 5000 residents were yet again forced to flee their homes across ten villages in Tabayin Township, Sagaing region. Civilians fled as more military junta reinforcements were sent in. The monsoon rains have made escaping conflict zones much more difficult as crowded camps and rainy weather deters movement. The instability that has wreaked havoc across Sagaing region has made it impossible for locals to return home, with many saying that they are fearful of what awaits them in their abandoned villages. Children and the elderly have not been spared in the malicious attacks that have spanned the country. In Sagaing region alone, over 340 000 people have been displaced.

The magnitude of hostilities and the impacts on local people have been deeply traumatizing for those in Sagaing region. Human Rights Watch (HRW) reported that circulated media of civilians being killed is evident of a 'pattern of killings,' that HRW and others have documented. HRW also noted that international efforts to hold the military junta accountable for their vast crimes against humanity are falling short. Thousands of cases have been documented and collected which indicate that credible and reliable action is needed. This included a global arms embargo, and a referral of the situation in Myanmar to the International Criminal Court.







# Timeline of Events

First week of July

4 - 10 July

- The International Karen
  Organization called for urgent and swift international action to respond to the worsening situation in Karen
- Article-19 Asia ranked Myanmar 140/161 in a global ranking in their latest Global Expression Report.
- Myanmar junta foreign minister U
  Wunna Maung Lwin will again be
  barred from attending an upcoming
  ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting
  in Cambodia.

- The ABFSU, and North Dagon
  Oppressed People's Strike Coalition
  staged a joint rally in Yangon marking
  the 60th anniversary of the 7 July
  Revolution when General Ne Win's
  troops responded violently to a
  peaceful student protest.
- ND-Burma member, the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners, released a new report, "Accountability for the Junta Criminals."
- The Southern Monitor reported that 84 homes were set on fire by the junta between September 2021, and June 2022.
- The house of Tin Tun Thein, a senior lawyer and District Executive of the NLD in Ingyandon ward, Myitkyina, was sealed off, according to the Democratic Voice of Burma.









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