

Attempts at Peace and Reconciliation in Myanmar: A Timeline



2010

- Under the military drafted 2008-Constitution, a national general election was held following a referendum issued in the midst of recovery efforts after the Nargis hurricane. The National League for Democracy boycotted this election.

2011 - 2013

- President U Thein Sein initiates peace reforms to try and garner international funding and support. The period marked the beginning of the 'peace process' in Myanmar.
- Active discussions with armed stakeholders attempted to reconcile past grievances and take steps towards national reconciliation.

2015

- The Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement is signed in October with eight ethnic armed organizations, though initially negotiations began with sixteen groups. Several dropped out citing a lack of faith in the process and disagreement on the terms.

2016

- The 21st Century Panglong Conference is held after the 2015 national elections in which the National League for Democracy (NLD) party led by Aung San Suu Kyi is victorious in a landslide election.
- Women's organizations advocated for greater participation of women in Myanmar's peace process, including for reforms to the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement which contains sexist and gender-degrading language against women.

2017

- In August 2017, a deadly, coordinated crackdown by the Myanmar junta sent hundreds of thousands of Rohingya people fleeing for their lives to neighboring Bangladesh. The attacks were indigent of the junta's long standing impunity. The horrors perpetrated later led to a case at the international Court of Justice concerning "The Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide," from the Gambia.

2018

- The Lahu Democratic Union, and the New Mon State Party added their names to the list of signatories to the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement in what many considered a victory for the National League for Democracy's peace plans.

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2019

- At least a dozen formal and informal peace negotiations are held, but there are few achievements as ongoing military tensions on the ground undermine progress. Formal talks are temporarily stopped, but not all-together halted.
- In Shan, Rakhine, Mon and Kachin States, over 200,000 civilians are internally displaced due to conflict between ethnic armed organizations and the Myanmar military.

2022

- Terrorist in Chief, Min Aung Hlaing, proposes a peace deal with ethnic armed organizations in exchange for the right to join the military border guard forces. Ethnic armed organizations who joined the meeting and heard the proposal were disappointed by the offer and did not show signs of agreement.

2020

- The fourth Union Panglong Conference is held in Nay Pyi Taw from August 19th to 21st in a much smaller showing than in previous years.
- The peace process in Myanmar was deemed 'at a crossroads' by organizations including the Asia Foundation who stated: "*The Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) represents the most ambitious attempt to date to reach a comprehensive peace agreement, yet, since its signing in 2015, levels of violence in some communities have been higher than ever before, and formal peace negotiations have excluded key actors in Myanmar's ongoing conflicts in the northeast and west.*"

2021

- State Counselor, Aung San Suu Kyi, announced plans for a 'New Peace Architecture' and which sought to be more inclusive of civil society organizations, political groups and the general public
- On 1 February 2021, the Myanmar junta carries out a coup effectively ending all prospects for peace in the country following a nationwide set of crackdowns that remain ongoing.