



The Human Rights Foundation of Monland

July 2021 Situation Overview



Monthly Overview of Violations in Target Areas



Overview and Field-Based Insights



Data Visualizations

JULY 2021

1

Local witnesses report the junta's Coastal Regional Command based in Dawei deployed more troops, heavy artillery and ammunition in the area.

15

The junta abducted five civilians in Dawei.

26

Floods begin to affect most of HURFOM's areas including: Kyaikmayaw, Mudon, Kyainnseikyi, Hpa-an, Ye and Dawei.

[more >>](#)

39+

**YOUTH
ARRESTED IN
MON STATE,
KAREN STATEA
AND DAWEI**

40+

**STAFF DISMISSED FROM
THEIR JOBS FOR
ANTI-COUP ACTIVITIES.
THE MAJORITY FROM
THE EDUCATION
SECTOR.**

PROTESTS



Protests are happening daily. Most of those arrested by the junta have been detained for their involvement in demonstrations such as guerilla strikes, biker strikes, night protest, well as white shirt campaigns and red paint campaigns.

26

Dawei, Thayet Chaung, Long Lone, & Yebyu

6

Hpa-an, Kyainn Seikyi, Kawkareik & Three Pagodas Pass

8

Paung, Bee Lin, Kyaik Hto & Mawlamyine

5+

**Activists and protesters
sentenced in July between 2-4
years in prison. Most have been
detained since March and April.**

4+

Cases of Disappearances in July

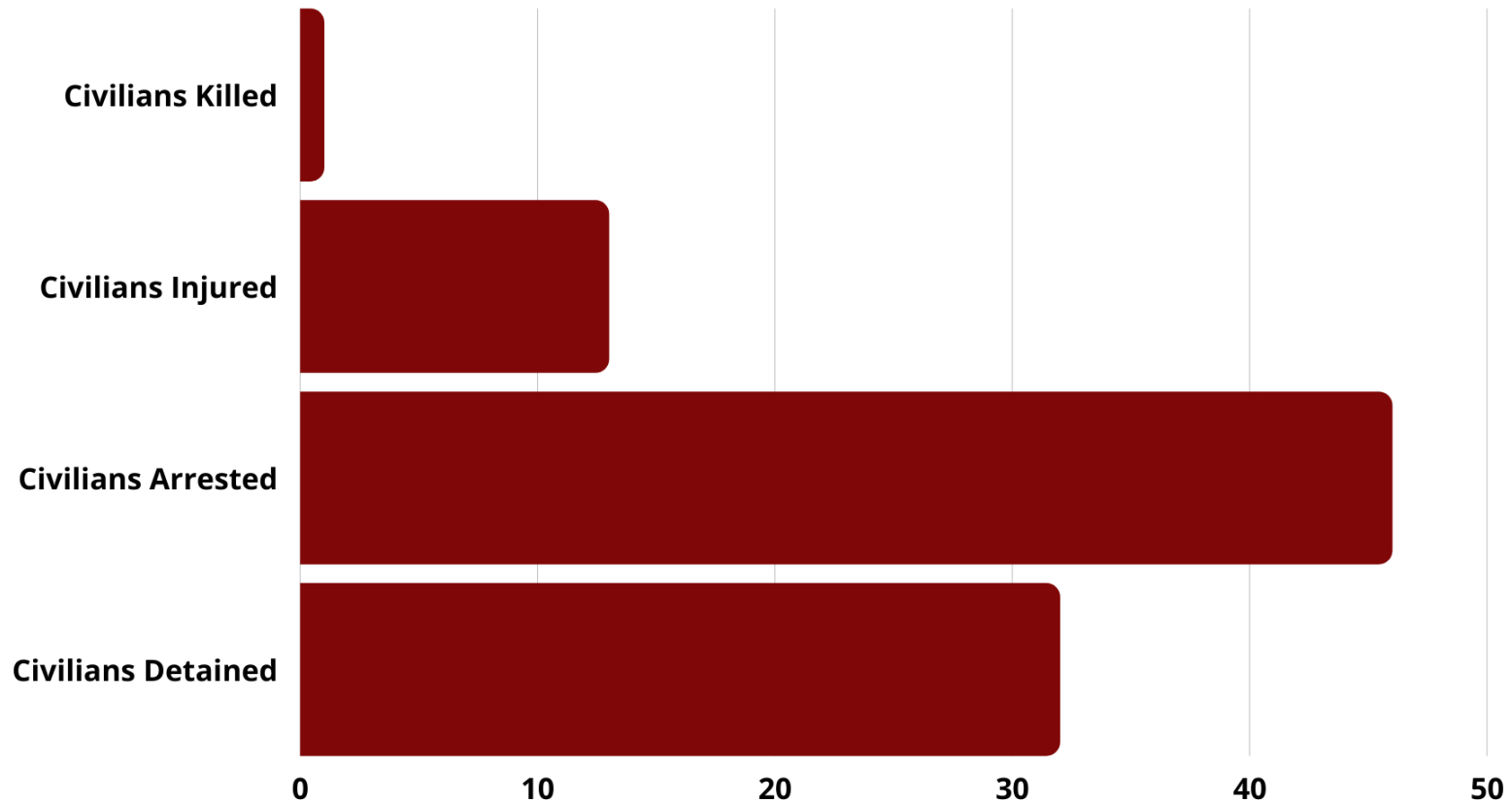
13

INJURED

1

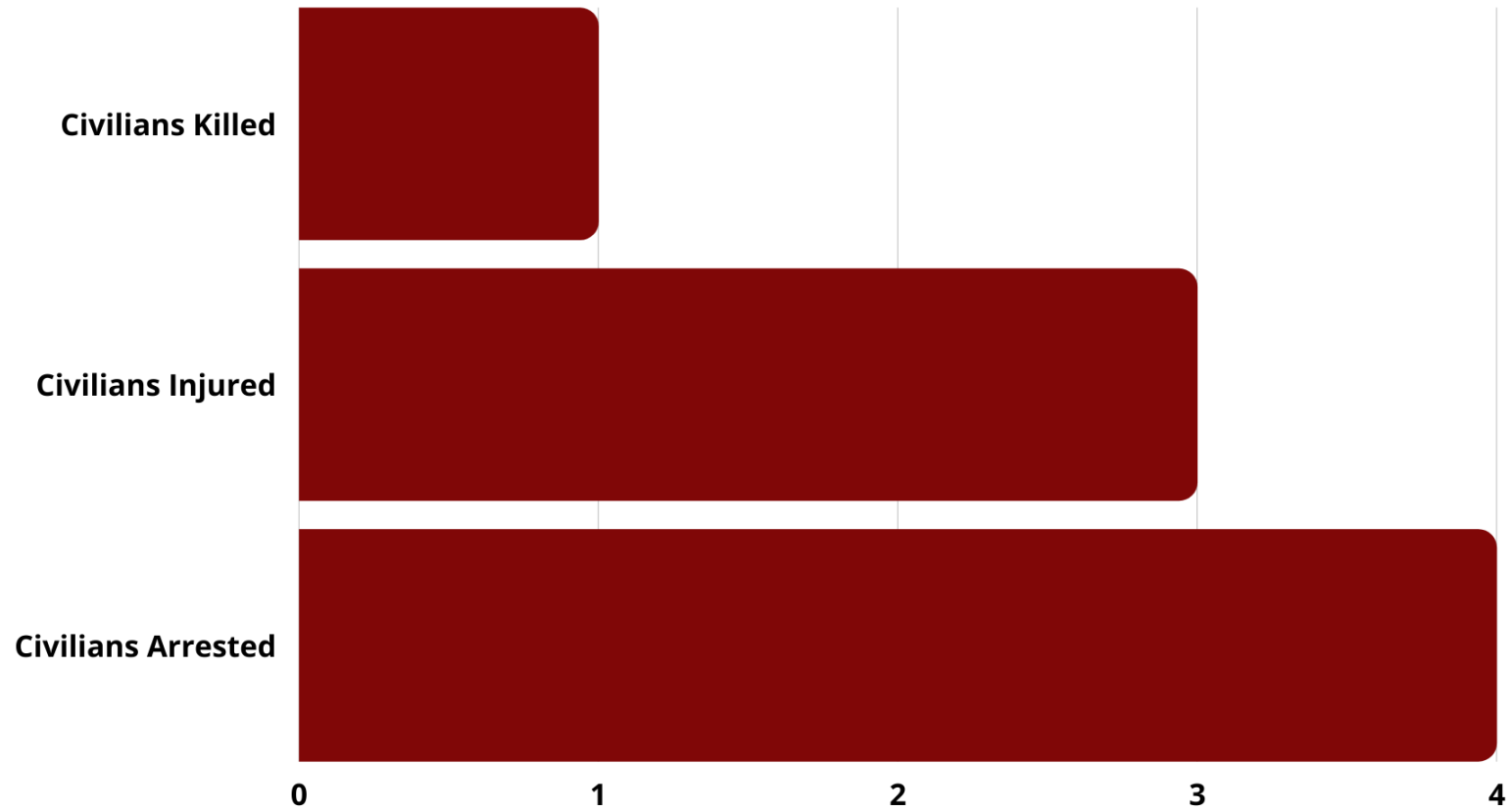
KILLED

July Human Rights Violations Overview

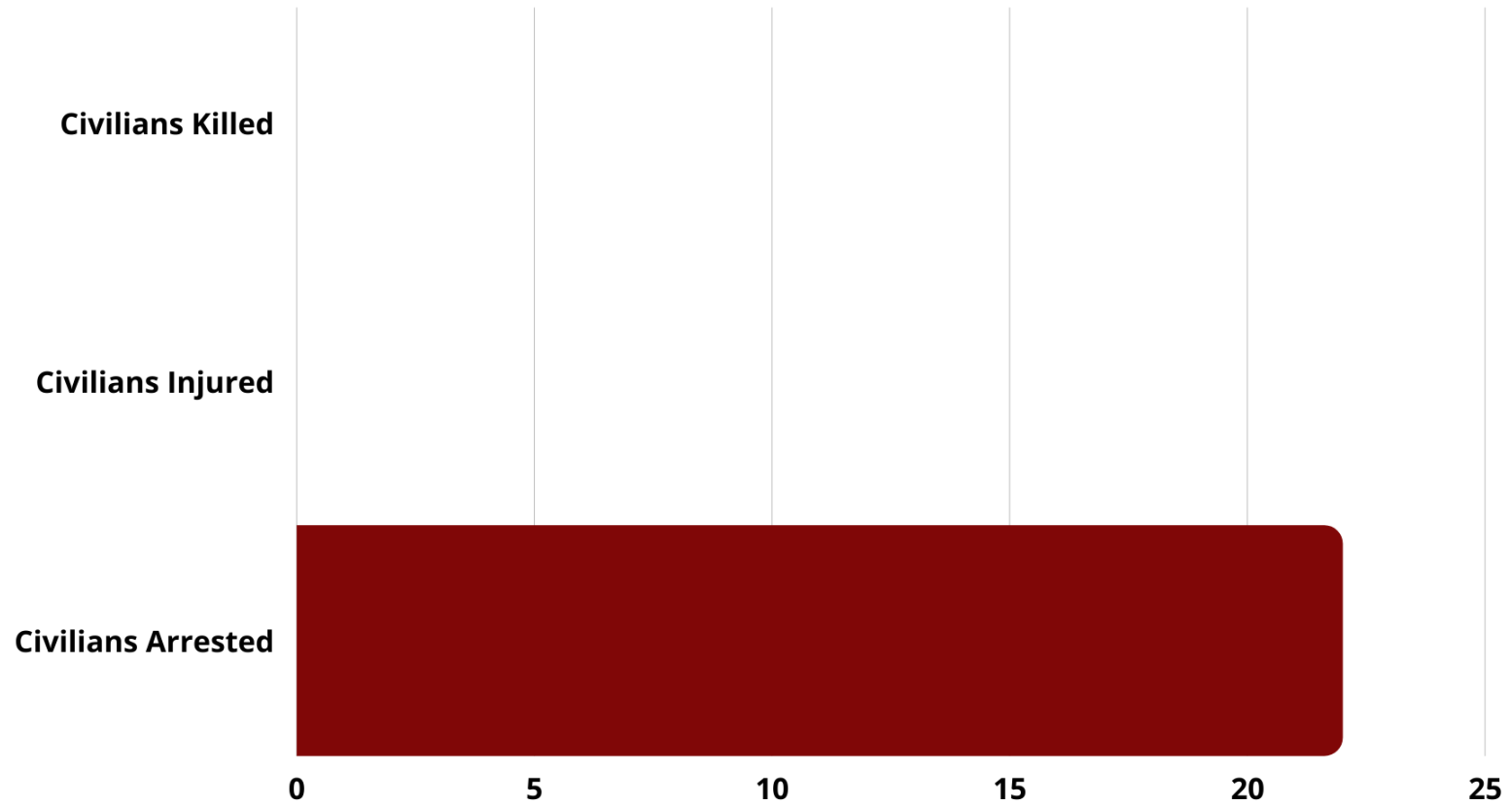


*Civilians arrested include young protestors, civil servants, activists, social workers, and medical doctors.

July Human Rights Violations in Mon State



June Human Rights Violations in Tanintharyi Region



June Human Rights Violations in Karen State

Civilians Killed

Civilians Injured

Civilians Arrested

0

2.5

5

7.5

10



JULY 2021

1

Local witnesses reported that the junta's Coastal Regional Command based in Dawei deployed more troops, heavy artillery and ammunition in the area. A Dawei resident remarked, "all of the ethnic armed organizations in Dawei areas have signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement since the previous government. So, what is this militarization for? Are they going to get rid of the locals who opposed them with these weapons?"

2

The death toll from COVID-19 increased to ten in Mawlamyine Mon State with approximately 450 cases in three isolation wards, according to a volunteer social worker. In Thanbyuzayat, there have been over 220 infections reported since the military coup. "Inadequate testing and treatment capacity, an unprepared health system, abuses by the security troops and lack of income, food shortages will badly our people," a volunteer medical doctor from Thanbyuzayat said.

JULY 2021

2

CONTINUED

The Mawlamyine University Student Union (MUSU) announced that no student leaders, protesters, and activists from Mawlamyine were released by the junta on 30 June and 1 July. “On behalf of our MUSU, we would like to confirm that no one from our student union and activist network has been freed yet. They are still arbitrarily detained in Kyaikmayaw Prison. All 33 individuals who were freed were civilians abducted during the general strikes across Mon State,” a member of MUSU said.

Dawei Junta’s Prison Court sentenced U Aung Minn, a former Public Health Officer from Kanbawk, Yebyu, Dawei to two years imprisonment. He was included in the court decision along with two others charged with 505A of the Penal Code. He has been detained since late May.

JULY 2021

3

Five COVID-19 patients died within an hour at Mawlamyine General Hospital, according to hospital sources. Infections are rising across Mon townships. Doctors and volunteer recuse members appealed to the public to assist infected patients with equipment or funds.

Junta soldiers arrested two University students, Aye Myat Mon and Zin Mar Phyo, in Myeik, Tanintharyi Region. The reason for the arrests was unclear; however, some locals said the two young women attempted to take photos of military troops located near the entrance of Myeik City.

4

State security forces arrested two Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM) activists in Mottama, Paung Township, Mon State at midnight. "They've been involved in this Spring Revolution as CDM activists and fled in April. There's been more than two dozen abductions since the coup from Mottama," said a local resident.

JULY 2021

5

Families reported the disappearances of another two young men, residents of western Long Lone Township. They've been missing since June 27. The mother of one of the young men, Maung Kyaw Lin Ko, said she received a rumor from the neighbor villager that the local infantry battalion (LIB) 401 stopped and arrested her son and his friend, Kyaw Paing Soe near Pauk-Taing Bridge's tollgate on June 27. She tried to approach the LIB 401, the local police station and village administrator. However, no information was provided by those in charge.

Two civilians were seriously wounded by gunshots and were treated in Lamaing Hospital, northern Ye township, Mon State according to locals. "The incident happened at about 10:00 P.M on 5 July on the road connected between Lamine Sub-township and Kaw Dut village. "When we found Mon Ong and Nai Kyaing, they were unconscious," said a source. The perpetrators are unknown; however, the areas are close to the Light Infantry Battalion #106 and are normally dominated by the security troops and plainclothes police since the coup.

”

“Now, we are living in constant fear with no protection, no security, and no rule of law. When will this situation come to an end?” Expressed a Lamine resident.

JULY 2021

6

A 68-year-old woman and her 13-year-old grandson were abducted by the special forces in Pyin Gyi village, Long Lone Township, Dawei. The mother of Zay Myo Sat, a young victim, said her son and son-in-law were kidnapped when junta troops came to arrest her husband. “We confirmed that my son and mother, Daw Saw Kyi, are detained in Maung Ma Kan Police Station,” said the mother of a detainee who appealed for help for their unlawful arrests.

7

Indiscriminate shelling by the joint troops of junta and Border Guard Forces (BGF) continued in Hpa-An resulting in displacement and disrupted livelihoods. “The Light Infantry Battalion #409 and BGF #1014 fired two motor rounds at Nyaung Gone village. Most shells landed on the villager houses, but there were no injuries or deaths.”

JULY 2021

7

CONTINUED

In the evening, military soldiers abducted three villagers from Saw Pyar village, Thayet Chaung, Dawei. “The victims are Ko Min Swe, Ko Thar Nge, and U Sein Ngwe, originally from Saw Pyar village. They have been accused of the killing of a former village administrator. I think they are ordinary villagers and are innocent,” one of the friends of the detainees said. According to a witness, the soldiers entered the village and indiscriminately fired several gunshots in the village and arrested those three villagers.

8



JULY 2021

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The Junta Court in Dawei sentenced an 18-year-old protester, Myat Maung Kyaw, to two years in prison. “Kids that age just too young to be political prisoners. The junta has intentionally targeted young activists, punished them with the heavy sentences to grow fear.”

10

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Junta troops tightened up security and restrictions in response to the guerrilla strikes. The Special forces raided a Civil Disobedience Movement lawyer’s house and a school teacher’s house, but no arrests were reported.

JULY 2021

11

CONTINUED

According to victim families, four civilians were abducted this morning by junta security troops. They were accused of having firearms, in Ye Phyu village tract, Long Lone Township, Dawei. According to the reporter, the detainees are U Phoe Zaw, 40 years, Ko Soe Aung, 30 years U Nyi Nyi Aung, 55 years, and Ko Thar Gyi, 24 yrs. U Phoe Zaw is a well-known social worker in the Ye Phyu village emergency rescue team. “Approximately 45 soldiers have been patrolling my village since last night. They found an air gun from Ko Thar Gyi and arrested all four villagers. This air gun was only for bird hunting, and these villagers are not even associated with the armed group,” a friend of Ko Thar Gyi explained on the arrests.

12

‘We care we share’ activities started today in Hpa-An and cities in Mon State. “We try to offer food and water for the families infected with COVID-19 and who are facing difficulties to go out. We could even help to provide some O2 tents for those most in need” said a volunteer social worker.

JULY 2021

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CONTINUED

A key member of the Youth Affairs Committee (YAC), Ko Myo Min Oo and four of his colleagues were abducted in Thayet Chaung, Dawei:

“All four were detained in the LIB #404. The Township junta came and took Myo Min Oo, Aung Myo Thet, Aye Aye Mon, and Pyay Son Oo to ask questions, but they were not released,” confirmed a YAC member.

Ko Myo Min Oo, one of the four detainees arbitrarily arrested by the Dawei SAC, is also a disability activist. He was leading a Committee of Youth Policy in Tanintharyi Region areas. According to his family, he used to receive many threatening letters from unknown pro-coup groups.



Rule of law is being disregarded by the junta's military forces across HURFOM target areas. Civilians are denied fundamental freedoms, rights & protection.

13

JULY 2021

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Nine COVID-19 patients died in Thaton, Mon State in just one day: “The lack of oxygen and movement restrictions are killing people in our country. Those behind the coup are not managing the crisis well. Politically, the health management is failing.” said a Thaton resident who had a family member infected by COVID-19. “People are dying from a lack of oxygen. Even though we have money, we have to queue to get an O2 tent, a person needs at least 10 Liters of O2. This regime could not manage to distribute the required number of tents per day. The social groups are helping but it is not sufficient. Would you please reach out our voices to WHO? We need immediate action from the world,” said an Emergency Response social worker on the current condition in Mon State.

15

The junta abducted five civilians in Dawei. “Soldiers blocked streets and carried out door to door checks and arrested five people from Myo Thit 4th St and 8th St. There wer no arrest warrants,” said the source. HURFOM is still investigating their names and gender.

JULY 2021

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Network members from Bago shared evidence that the junta soldiers from the Light Infantry Division (LID) 77, based in Bago, confiscated the portable oxygen tanks from the private shops around the city and transferred them to the LID compound.

“It is not possible to go back home or to leave home without the ID card (which we never carried with us before). Even if you can prove you are a resident of Dawei, you still have to pay them to enter your native place. The junta administrators soldiers and police make large incomes every day even though the country’s system has collapsed,” expressed a 55 year old Dawei resident who had to pay 2500 Kyat to go back to his home.

JULY 2021

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22

Security forces abducted two young activists in Dawei and one in Hpa-an and accused them of being associated with the local People's Defence Force. One of the detainees, Ko Chit Naing, is only 20 years old. The junta makes accusations and unlawfully arrests people. My friends are only peaceful demonstrators. Neither are linked with armed groups nor supporting violent activities," according to a friend of a young detainee in Hpa-an.

Parents and friends confirmed that their son and friend, Lwin Moe, 20 years who was abducted after being accused of being involved in a gunfire exchange on July, has 20, disappeared. The arrest of the young villager, Lwin Moe, was linked with the gunshot case...

”

“The junta administrators, soldiers and police make large incomes every day even though the country's system has collapsed.”

JULY 2021

22

CONTINUED

...against a pro-coup and local Militia leader, U Nyan Yee, in Htain Gyi Village, Yebyu Township on July 18: “The gunmen were unknown, and U Nyan Yee was injured on his arm. Afterwards, the police and soldiers came and arrested Lwin Moe, who did nothing wrong.” Currently, he is believed to be detained somewhere in the local battalions; however, we still did not know where he is—and our prayers continue for him not to receive serious torture.

23

Approximately 130 prisoners were released from Mawlamyine, Kyaikmayaw and Thaton Prisons today. However, no political prisoners were freed.



Photo: Ko NH-Yebyu

JULY 2021

24

25

26

Floods are affecting most of HURFOM's areas including: Kyaikmayaw, Mudon, Kyainnseikyi, Hpa-an, Ye and Dawei. Local rescue teams face difficulties btw floods and pandemic relief as COVID19 is on the rise in Mon and Tanintharyi Regions. Yet, the junta is once again slow to respond.

27

Movement restriction against doctors, health workers, and health administrators were ordered by the General Admin Department of SAC operated in Hpa-An and some townships in Mon State. The instruction directed that all ward/village tract levels and township SAC Admins must be recorded by each doctor, health worker or public health admins living under their administration: "No medical doctors were allowed to leave the township with-out the permission of the Township GAD. It means doctors or Medical staff are being kept as prisoners in this town, rather than in prison." expressed a Nurse who didn't want to display her name.

JULY 2021

28

Money is being extorted from civilians under the title of “COVID-19 Going Out Permission Slip” which is ongoing in Mon and Karen State. A resident was fined by the ticket twice, and disagrees with its implementation: “This is an order from the junta to take more money from us. The penalty of 5,000 MMK is too much, especially in these unusual times. They need to consider the plight of civilians. It’s almost the daily wages of ordinary people in my town,” said a 55 year old man from Mon State.

Three villagers were abducted by LIB 406 who accused them of smearing red paint and handprints on the junta Village Administration Office wall and street. According to the reporter the incident happened when 20 soldiers from LIB #406 entered Ye Phyu village and arrested these three villagers, brought them to the village school, and beat them during interrogation. One was only 18 years old.

JULY 2021

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Nine villagers were abducted by the Karen State junta, who accused them of being linked with the Karen National Union trained People's Defence Force (PDF) in Hlaing Bwe, Karen State. The military's Information Department announced that they could arrest the leader of the PDF led by Saw Kyaw Gyi. Among those arrested, two were young women.

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OPEN LETTERS, STATEMENTS, ENDORSEMENTS & REPORTS

7 JULY

HURFOM joins the CSO Working Group on the Myanmar National Human Rights Council (Working Group) which called on the Myanmar National Human Rights Commission (MNHRC) to denounce the military coup and stand with the people of Burma.

<http://ow.ly/DrPs50FIcxv>



22 JULY

Press Release & Briefing Paper: HURFOM Expresses Concern Over Junta's Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic in latest briefing paper, "Running Out of Air." Without an immediate recourse, the situation on the ground is only likely to worsen.

<http://ow.ly/LWsN50FAjX7>



ANALYSIS

In July, civilians in HURFOM target areas were forced to face many more crises unfolding without any type of adequate response from the junta. Human lives are paying the toll for the military's growing negligence. Community-based relief groups in HURFOM areas worked rigorously to ensure the needs of civilians could be met, to the best of their ability.

The COVID-19 pandemic and internal conflict has not stopped the junta from committing grave human rights abuses. The dictators see no problem with using their rule to terrorize the people into submission. HURFOM recorded youth as young as 18 years old being taken into military custody on baseless allegations. Fundamental freedoms are being denied as Burma's prisons become breeding grounds for the COVID-19 virus.

Flooding is yet another challenge in our areas which requires immediate attention. The rising water levels have made it difficult to secure the delivery of aid including water, medicine and food. Human rights defenders, and young people are still being targeted by the illegal regime and families are forced to contend with uncertainty.

While turmoil completely overwhelms Burma's infrastructure, the junta is in denial. State-media is regarding the military as heroes and trying to insist that it is business as usual in the country. In reality, peace is not within reach. However, our people remain committed to the revolution and doing whatever means necessary to ensure the safety and security of those on the ground.

ABOUT HURFOM

HURFOM was founded by exiled pro-democracy students from the 1988 uprisings, recent activists and Mon community leaders and youth. Its primary objective is the restoration of democracy, human rights and genuine peace in Burma. HURFOM is a non-profit organization, and all its members are volunteers with a shared vision for peace in the country.

WEBSITE

<http://rehmonnya.org/>

SOCIALS

[facebook.com/Rehmonnya-Human-Rights-Foundation-of-MonLand](https://www.facebook.com/Rehmonnya-Human-Rights-Foundation-of-MonLand)

<https://twitter.com/HURFOM>