

THE HUMAN RIGHTS FOUNDATION OF MONLAND

OVERVIEW OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN TARGET AREAS | MARCH 2021

VIOLATIONS



CALLS FOR ACTION





Photo: One civilian was shot dead at Kyaik Hto by army soldiers and another two were seriously injured. The body was taken by the Army troops and three were arrested, according to a witness report. Photo KHT. 27 March 2021

CONTENTS

- ABOUT HURFOM
- HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS
- CALLS FOR ACTION

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. For 25 years, as a local ethnic human rights organization, HURFOM has been dedicated to the establishment of a democratic Burma, documenting and monitoring the human rights situation in Mon territory and southern Burma and building the capacity of other community-based organization (CBOs) to document violations of human rights and advocate for justice.

<http://rehmonnya.org/>





An Overview of the Situation in Burma

On 1 February 2021, the Burma Army carried out a well-orchestrated coup to overthrow the democratically elected National League for Democracy (NLD) government. Their actions were done in response to allegations that the November 2020 General Election included numerous cases of fraud. Despite their claims, there has been no evidence of this. The Union Election Commission and the NLD continued with their affairs and on the Eve of the first session of Parliament since the election, the military carried out their coup. They have since seized illegitimate control over the country's affairs. Civilians have responded with nationwide protests that have drawn thousands condemning the actions of the Army. Among a list of demands are calls for the release of those detained, an end to the regime's takeover and a new Constitution in line with democratic norms and principles.

MAIN VIOLATIONS

STATE SPONSORED KILLINGS,
TORTURE, ARBITRARY ARREST,
FORCED DISAPPEARANCE &
PROPERTY CONFISCATION





MARCH

1

A funeral is held for Zin Myo Thu, a civilian who was killed by military police on 28 February during the protests.

At least 6 protesters were arrested by riot police forces in Thanbyuzayat Township, Mon State. Among them, Ko Toe Lwin and Ko Kyaw Thura Han who led the strike were included. Their families have confirmed they still are unable to contact them.

2

At 11:45 AM police threw tear gas at a funeral home where the body of a protester killed by riot police in Dawei was. A 35yr old witness said at least 7 rounds of tear gas was used to break up crowds preparing for the funeral

3

At 2:20 PM local time, junta terrorist forces opened fire on protesters. They used teargas to break up the crowds. Location – Maung Ngan, Kwin Yat quarter, Mawlamyine.

Thousands joined the anti-coup protests today in Kyaik Hto and Bee Lin, the northern cities of Mon State. Anti-coup protests are also continuing in Three Pagodas Pass.

Riot policemen fired several shots inside resident homes in Maung Ngan Ward, Mawlamyine. A 7yr old boy was injured. Two were killed, nine injured in total in Mawlamyine.

MARCH

4

University students gathered and organized peaceful protests again in Mawlamyine.



5

Travel restrictions, searches and confiscations of travelers belongings continued by junta security forces in Bee Lin, Paung and Thanbyuzayat Townships. In Thanbyuzayat, the troops forcibly seized at least 5 mobile phones and money.

Hundreds of local residents from remote villages in northern Kawkaik township, Karen State joined anti-coup protests, calling for the abolition of the 2008 Constitution. Local KNU private soldiers provided security.

6

At least 15 people arrested during the protests by the police on 3 March are detained with several experiencing serious injuries in Kyaikmayaw prison. The Mon State Military Council refused to allow a medical team or families to visit.

At 2:30 PM riot police raided the home of a family providing free food to protesters in Dawei. Two young men were beaten on their heads. Three canisters of teargas exploded to disperse crowds before the police raided the house.

At least 4 demonstrators were arrested after riot police and military soldiers dispersed a strike in Thein Zayat, Kyaik Hto township, Mon. A witness told HURFOM that young protesters and female teachers were hit by rubber bullets. Those arrested were brought to an unknown location.

MARCH

7

Early in the morning, eight police and army vehicles entered Mawlamyine University, and took over the compound as their base.

Thousands organized another peaceful protests in Ye, Mon.

Riot police dispersed crowds with slingshots and beating protesters in Thaton, Mon State

8

More than four thousand people joined protests in Mudon, Mon today. Soldiers from LIB 209 and riot police have attempted to stop the protests and small clashes happened. The strikes still continued.

Protests in Ye, Mon were dispersed violently by riot police and soldiers. A least another 2 protestors were arrested.

9

Reports from Dawei that junta security troops shot indiscriminately into civilian homes and areas. Houses, motos, bikes and properties outside were damaged.

Riot police forces opened fire on protesters on Strand Rd. Ye township, Mon. HURFOM received reports that three Karen were arrested.

Large scale destruction of properties occurred in Kan Bauk, Yebyu, Tenasserim Region.

Local residents from Zayar Myine in Mawlamyine gathered to protest. At 9:50 PM, 6 Army trucks violently dispersed the crowds. Two young men arrested & one injured. By 11:15 PM, police were shooting into homes.



MARCH

10

At 10 AM, 20 riot police raided a tea shop where some protesters were hiding. The junta troops destroyed properties and arrested 3 young men. Their motos were confiscated.

Two young boys were arbitrarily arrested by security forces in Taung Paw Dan Rd, Mawlamyine. It remains unknown where they are detained.

Strike leader, Ko Kyaw Htwe, was arrested in his hiding place by a plain clothes police officer in Dawei. A witness said he did not resist arrest but the police brutally beat him.

Over 50 soldiers raided Thiri Myaing housing in Mawlamyine without warrants. Reports from Thanbyuzayat and Wae Thon Chaung village confirmed 3 were arrested.

11

Forced stops, searches and robberies are taking place in many places in Mawlamyine, Mudon and Thanbyuzayat townships. In the name of security, residents were ordered to open their phones, wallets and motorbikes seats by masked policemen and soldiers.

At least 7 protesters were arrested by military troops and riot policemen in Three Pagodas Border town. Local witnesses reported that several motos and 3 wheels mini trucks were confiscated. All detained protesters and their motorcycles were taken to the Tat Gone military base.

12

A sit-in demonstrator was shot dead by Riot police forces at around 11:30 PM at Kyet Sar Pyin Ward in Dawei. The victim was identified as U Win Naing from Kyet Sar Pyin. He was shot in the abdomen.



MARCH

13

More than 5000 residents in Paung Township, Mon joined the protests. Three protesters from Paung were arrested and are detained in Kyaikmayaw Prison.

Two mechanics from a moto repair shop were arrested at 9:45 AM in Mawlamyine by police. The owner, Ko Pein, had joined protests.

14

Protests started at early dawn in Mawlamyine, Mon. Approximately 700 residents joined the march.

15

Anticoup protests continued in Kan Bauk, Yebyu Township where 300 youth joined the march and demanded the army stop killing people, release the arrested protesters and return their motorcycles which were confiscated by the security forces 3 days ago



MARCH

16



Two key members of the emergency rescue team from Kyaikkhami, Thabyuazayat Township, Mon who were arbitrarily arrested by police are being charged with the Penal code under Article 188. Ko Tayoke and Ko Watote served as volunteer ambulance drivers and were arrested on March 10.

‘Stop & search’ continued on Sittaung bridge, the entry to Mon State by security groups. Interrogations are being used as tactics to confiscate passengers belongings including cell phones.

17

18

It was reported that Maung Tauk Htun, a protestor who was shot by riot policemen in Mawlamyine on February 28 passed away.

Four local residents of Thaton, Mon State were arrested last night after security found a VPN application on their phones

At least ten people were arbitrarily arrested by security forces in Mawlamyine, Mon State.

A group of security forces raided Dawei Su Ward in Mawlamyine, Mon in the evening. Five young men who had joined protests were arrested. In the morning the parents were asked for a ransom for their release by the Military Officers

MARCH

19

An unknown deceased male body was found under a parked truck in Paung Township, Mon. The death did not appear to be accidental because of the many wounds.

Eight volunteer night guards were arrested by police in Mupon ward, Mawlamyine, Mon.

Ma Yadana Yu, a banker involved in protests was arrested. Riot police came her house and arrested her.

A Mon man who was shot by junta forces in front of Myoma Police Station died, the sister of victim confirmed. He is a resident of Kadonsi ward, Paung Tsp.

20

Dawei police issued an arrest warrant for 20 civil servants involved in the Civil Disobedience Movement as well as the press and protest leaders.

Five villagers from southern Ye Township were arrested last night. After their mobile phones were searched, they were freed after paying 300,000 MMK each to the LIB #31 military checkpoints. The troops demanded an additional 500,000 MMK each for their motos.

21

Anti-coup protests continued in Kan Bauk, Yebyu Township where 300 youth joined the march and demanded the army stop killing people, release the arrested protesters and return their motorcycles which were confiscated by the security forces 3 days ago



MARCH

22



23

HURFOM received reports that junta forces broke up mass protests and arrested 17 protesters and one street betel nut seller in Ye, Mon. They were brought to unknown locations. No one has been released yet.

Residents from Mon are beginning their return home after six townships were placed under martial law by the junta.

Another 3 protesters were arrested in Three Pagodas Pass. They were sent directly to Taung Kalay Prison, Hpa-An by LIB #284 Military Trucks

24

DAY

OF

SILENCE

On 24 March, people participated in a Silent Strike intended to pay tribute to those killed by the Burma Army, to rest and recognize the significant momentum after weeks of protesting.

MARCH

25

One civilian was killed and at least 5 others were injured during a morning crackdown against mass protests by junta forces in Karen State.

Police confiscated motos left by protesters after violently dispersing crowds.

Two protesters were injured by live ammunition, 25+ arrested. At least 20 motos were confiscated in Mon.

Junta forces raided strike leader homes, arbitrarily arrested people, looted properties and motos. 17 were arrested in Dawei, and 7 motos confiscated. Fences were set on fire, civilian properties destroyed and they looted shops. A civilian was injured.

26

Stops & frisk' continued on the main streets in Mawlamyine, Mon. Three teenagers were arrested, their motos confiscated. They were released after paying money to the police in the Dai-Won-Kwin junction.

Continuous shots were fired in Kyet-Sar-Pyin, Dawei by junta troops. One civilian was seriously injured and another 2 arrested.

Four protesters were killed in Myeik. There were 16 injured by live bullets shot by the junta troops. Several civilians were also abducted and brought to detention centers.

27

One civilian was shot dead at Kyaik Hto by army soldiers and another two were seriously injured. The body was taken by the Army troops and 3 arrested.

Demonstrators were dispersed by riot police in Mudon, Mon. There were 3 youth injured and 7 arrested.

One youth was shot dead by security troops in Mawlamyine, Mon. Several were injured. At least 4 were arrested in Bee Lin, Mon.

Kyaw Thu Win, one of the strike leaders in Three Pagodas Town was injured by a gunshot wound.

Approximately 20 youth were arrested between 25-26 March. They were charged with sections 505(a) & 505(b) of the Penal Code. Most were detained in Taung Kalay Prison, Hpa An, Karen State.

MARCH

27

CONTINUED

Junta forces attacked KNU's Brigade No.5 by air. Two local ethnic Karen were killed. Dozens more injured as reported from B.5 area.

Two were killed, 10 seriously injured in Mawlamyine, Mon. Junta troops were searching for the protests organizers, many of whom are in hiding. Ten motos and two vans confiscated.

30 civilians were arrested by LIB 586, LIB 282 military troops in Kyauk-ta-lin, Ye, Mon. Some villagers who could afford to pay a ransom of 200,000 MMK were freed. Many were detained and their cellphones seized.

28

Photo Credit:
Thoo Lei News



MARCH

29

SAC Junta security forces raided civilian homes located on Gway-Kone street in Mawlamyine. A witness reported that at least 12 people were arrested in 4 quarters, and their motos and properties were looted.



30

One was shot to dead, and two were injured in Kaw Thaung during protests in the deep south of Tanintharyi Region. A local witness said that armed junta forces opened fire into residential homes.

In total, 3 civilians were shot dead in Kaw Taung, Taninthayi Region. The victims are U Su Kan, Kyaw Thura and an unknown 20 yr old man. Another two were injured due to indiscriminate firings by the junta

31

Parents are launching an appeal to the public to help find their missing children. They believe that Thant Zin, Aung Myo Kyaw and Ko Ko San were arbitrarily arrested on March 25 in Mawlamyine, Mon. They've been unable to reach them since they disappeared.

The following are being declared illegal possessions by the junta:

- 1) Thai Satellite Sim cards
- 2) VPNs or other bypassing apps
- 3) Protesters contact addresses
- 4) Protest photos, video footage and graphic posters

7 youth have were arrested in Yay Kyaw ward, Hpa-An, Karen State.



**HURFOM recognizes
the current situation in
Myanmar and the need
for dignity to be restored
to everyone in the
country.**

*The international community must act in
line with obligations to protect the right to
life and hold perpetrators of human rights
violations accountable.*



HURFOM DATA ON HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS FROM MARCH 2021

Forced to flee: 200+

Killed: 12+

Injured: 147+

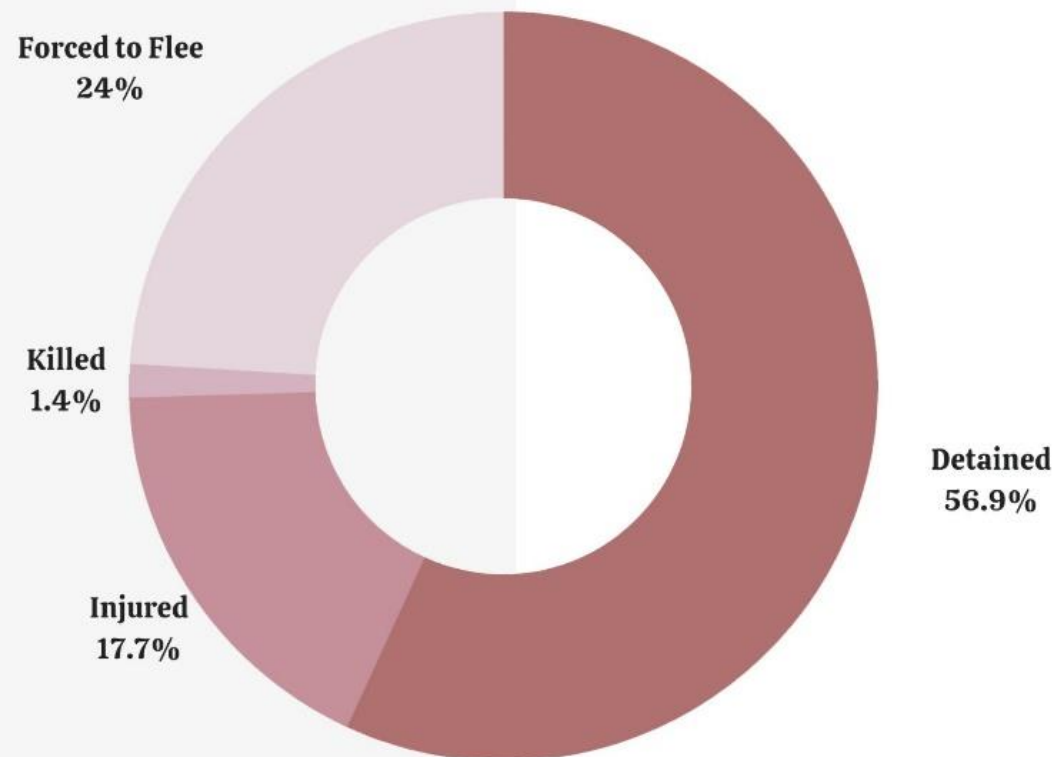
Detained: 473+

TARGET AREAS

MON STATE

KAREN STATE

**TANINTHARYI
REGION**



CALLS

FOR

ACTION

The circumstances throughout Burma are getting worse. The whereabouts, or the conditions, of the over 1,000 people detained are still unknown. HURFOM has also observed a significant increase in the human rights violations committed by the Tatmadaw. We condemn the military's response to peaceful protesters. We are horrified that security forces have been given orders to fire live ammunition into crowds of defenseless protesters.



GLOBAL ARMS EMBARGO

The international community must cut off military access to weapons.



AN ICC REFERRAL

The UN Security Council must respond to the atrocities in Burma through an ICC referral



UN DISPATCHED MONITORING TEAM

UN monitors must be allowed to visit Burma and assess the situation on the ground

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