

The Human Rights Foundation of Monland Releases Voice Up Volume 2, Issue 2 April - June 2025

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For Immediate Release

As part of the *Voice Up* series, the Human Rights Foundation of Monland (HURFOM) has released its second report in the quarterly series, addressing the gendered gaps and impacts of the attempted coup on women and young girls in Southeastern Burma. Between April and June 2025, in targeted areas of HURFOM, including Mon State, Karen State, and the Tanintharyi region, HURFOM reported that 22 women were killed, 80 were injured, and 42 were arrested and detained by the military. There were also 23 children killed and 32 wounded.

The majority of the attacks documented during the reporting period occurred despite the absence of clashes in the area at the time and during a ceasefire period, once again highlighting the junta's ongoing pattern of indiscriminate firing at civilian populations. The use of artillery, deployment of airstrikes, mortar shelling and other human rights violations is part of a troubling trend, as HURFOM has documented a significant increase in targeted violence across Mon and Karen States and the Tanintharyi Region.

While the resilience of women and children is consistently tested amid the adversity they face, the international community has significantly failed in its neglect of the worsening crisis in Burma and its debilitating gendered impacts. Women have not lost their agency nor their courage in providing eyewitness accounts and testimonies about the realities they face, yet they continue to face considerable obstacles. International stakeholders must recognize and listen to the struggles of their lived experiences and respond to them with the same urgency expressed in their appeals.

The realities for people in Burma are that the human rights and humanitarian situation are worsening. Decades of authoritarian rule in the country have established it as one that struggles to escape the bounds of military control and oppression. The Burmese Generals

have skewed elections and acted in direct violation of international norms and principles to forcibly secure their unearned positions. When challenged by the general public and democratic opposition forces, the results have been deadly.

The *Voice Up* series by HURFOM aims to raise awareness of the plight of women since the failed coup, while also acknowledging and recognizing their struggle and highlighting critical gaps in protection and domestic accountability systems that have proven to be unreliable. Further, HURFOM calls on the international community to increase funding for women-led initiatives and to support their continuous demands for holding the military junta accountable, thereby ending impunity and establishing pathways for substantial justice.

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HURFOM was founded by exiled pro-democracy students from the 1988 uprisings, recent activists, Mon community leaders, and youth. Its primary objective is to restore 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.