

**Flygtningenævnets baggrundsmateriale**

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Document #2114580

## RFA – Radio Free Asia (Author)

### Fighting near northern Myanmar town leaves 7 dead, including 3 children

**Updated July 3, 2024, 3:21 p.m. ET**

Shelling during a clash in northern Myanmar killed seven civilians on Wednesday, including three children, residents told Radio Free Asia, as fighting between junta troops and ethnic minority insurgents escalated following the breakdown of a ceasefire.

Forces allied with the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army, or MNDAA, began an offensive in Lashio township on Wednesday morning, residents told RFA.

Lashio is an administrative center and the home of the military junta's [Northeastern Military Command's headquarters](#). It also sits at the junction of a highway that connects mainland Myanmar with the Chinese border.

Both sides fired heavy weapons into the township, and shells hit homes in one neighborhood.

One shell killed a family of six in their house, said a resident, who declined to be identified in fear of reprisals.

"It happened while they were eating in the kitchen. The dead bodies have been sent to the morgue," he said. "We've heard the sound of heavy guns firing all morning but I'm not sure if the junta army or the revolutionary group was responsible."

Those killed were Zel Zaung, 14, Dwel Aung and Zel Nwel, both 15, Sai Khon and May Yi, both 30, and Mar Gyi, 70.

A shell hit another Lashio house early in the day, killing a woman and

wounding two men, residents said. RFA could not confirm their identities.

Residents added that flights have been suspended indefinitely, and all roads have been blocked.

Insurgent fighters and their junta army rivals blamed each other for the civilian deaths.

Fighting between Lashio-based junta soldiers and the autonomy-seeking rebels [resumed](#) on June 25 after the collapse of a ceasefire brokered by Chinese officials in a series of meetings that began in January.

The Ta'ang National Liberation Army, an ally of the MNDAA, announced the [capture](#) of 26 junta camps in the days following the end of the ceasefire

RFA attempted to contact MNDAA spokesperson Li Kyarwen and called Shan state's junta spokesperson Khun Thein Maung for more information on the attacks but calls went unanswered.

*Translated by RFA Burmese. Edited by Kiana Duncan, Mike Firn and Matt Reed.*

*This story has been updated to correct that MNDAA fighters were involved in the clashes.*

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#### ecoi.net description:

Shan state, Lashio township: Shelling between ethnic rebel groups affiliated with the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA) and junta troops leaves 7 civilians dead

Country:  
Myanmar

Source:  
[RFA – Radio Free Asia](#) (Author)

Published:  
3 July 2024

Original link (no longer valid):

<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/myanmar/shan-state-tnl-junta-clash-07032024054945.html>

Document type:

Media Report

Language:

English

Available on ecoi.net since:

3 September 2024

Document ID:

2114580

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Document #2114581

## RFA – Radio Free Asia (Author)

### Four Myanmar villagers found dead after raid by junta forces

Villagers in southern Myanmar recovered the bodies of four civilians, days after junta soldiers arrested them in a raid, an anti-military group told Radio Free Asia on Friday.

Residents said troops took eight people into custody after storming Khaung Pyan village in the southernmost Tanintharyi region on Monday, but only the bodies of four men had been found.

Three women and a man were still missing, according to the Democracy Movement Strike Committee Dawei District, a group opposed to the junta that seized power in a 2021 coup.

The four bodies were found beside a nearby creek, with their hands tied behind their backs and “many stab wounds,” an official from the group said.

“Villagers were arrested when a junta column raided Khaung Pyan. They were arrested on July 1 and villagers found four dead bodies on July 3 and 4,” he said, declining to be identified for fear of reprisals.

Residents identified the four dead men as Kyaw Sein, Aung Zaw Win, Thar Thar and Naing Naing, who were aged between 40 and 60 and all from Khaung Pyan village in Yebyu Township.

Tanintharyi region’s junta spokesperson, Thet Naing, did not respond to a request from RFA for comment on the deaths.

Junta troops have occupied Dawei Special Economic Zone in Tanintharyi’s capital since Monday, causing residents in neighboring Yebyu township to flee.

Fighting in Tanintharyi increased when the Karen National Liberation Army, an ethnic minority insurgent group battling for self-determination [captured several junta bases](#) in the region in April.

In the more than three years since the coup, more than 5,300 civilians have been killed by the junta, according to the [Assistance Association for Political Prisoners](#).

***Translated by RFA Burmese. Edited by Kiana Duncan and Mike Firn.***

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**ecoi.net description:**

Tanintharyi region, Yebyu township: 4 villagers found dead after being arrested by junta soldiers in a raid; 4 other arrested individuals are still missing

**Country:**

Myanmar

**Source:**

[RFA – Radio Free Asia](#) (Author)

**Published:**

5 July 2024

**Original link (no longer valid):**

<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/myanmar/tanintharyi-junta-killings-07052024055253.html>

**Document type:**

Media Report

**Language:**

English

**Available on ecoi.net since:**

3 September 2024

**Document ID:**

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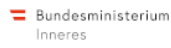
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Document #2114583

## RFA – Radio Free Asia (Author)

### Renewed fighting drives 50,000 people from homes in northern Myanmar

Some 50,000 people have fled their homes over the last five days amid renewed fighting around Lashio, the capital of northern Shan state, residents and relief workers told Radio Free Asia.

At least 15 civilians have been killed since July 3, when forces allied with the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army, or MNDA, [began an offensive](#) in the township around Lashio, which is home to the military junta's Northeastern Military Command's headquarters.

Battles have since taken place in Nam Tong, Man Hawng, Nam Ma Baw Da and Nawng Mun villages.

Most of the deaths happened in one area of Lashio township that was struck by artillery fire during the first day of fighting, an aid worker who wished to remain anonymous for security reasons told Radio Free Asia. Several other residential areas have since been hit by artillery attacks.

"The artillery fire occurs frequently until now," the aid worker said. "The residents have fled their homes in these areas."

A heavy artillery shell that was dropped on another neighborhood on Sunday injured three Buddhist novices and two civilians, he said.

Residents of Lashio township have been heading south toward the city of Taunggyi, the capital of Shan state that is about 340 km (210 miles) away, one resident told RFA. Others aimed to look for shelter in the Mandalay region or in the commercial capital of Yangon, he said.

Lashio sits at the junction of a highway that connects mainland Myanmar to the Chinese border to the north.

Fighting between Lashio-based junta soldiers and insurgents [resumed](#) on June 25 after the collapse of a ceasefire brokered by Chinese officials in a series of meetings that began in January.

The Ta'ang National Liberation Army, an ally of the MNDAA, announced the [capture](#) of 26 junta camps in the days following the end of the ceasefire.

The TNLA and other resistance forces in Mandalay have been attacking junta outposts in four townships in northern Shan state and Mandalay region.

RFA tried to contact MNDAA spokesperson Li Kya Win and the junta's spokesperson for Shan state, Khun Thein Maung, for more details on the fighting, but neither of them answered the phone.

***Translated by Aung Naing. Edited by Matt Reed and Malcolm Foster.***

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**ecoi.net description:**

Shan state: At least 15 civilians killed and some 50,000 people forced to flee their homes due to renewed fighting around Lashio town

**Country:**

Myanmar

**Source:**

[RFA – Radio Free Asia](#) (Author)

**Published:**

8 July 2024

**Original link (no longer valid):**

<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/myanmar/lashio-residents-flee-07082024180121.html>

**Document type:**

Media Report

**Language:**

English

Available on ecoi.net since:  
3 September 2024

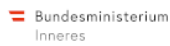
Document ID:  
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Document #2114582

## RFA – Radio Free Asia (Author)

### Some 13,700 schools in Myanmar are closed due to civil war

More than a quarter – or about 13,700 – of Myanmar’s 48,753 public schools have been closed due to the country’s civil war, the military junta’s Ministry of Education said.

In western Chin state, which has seen fierce fighting since the 2021 military coup d’etat, only 38 schools out of some 1,500 are still open, according to figures released by the ministry.

In neighboring Sagaing region, where the coup triggered an insurgency by members of the majority Burman community in Myanmar’s heartland, more than 4,200 schools have been closed.

Junta troops often target civilian homes and other buildings – including schools – during or after ground battles with insurgents.

“Children have suffered a lot in education,” said U Htay, a resident of Ma Taw village in Sagaing’s Mingin township. “They have lost their dream. We see that their potential to become outstanding citizens is being destroyed.”

Most schools remain open in the commercial capital of Yangon and nearby Ayeyarwady region, the ministry said.

The shadow National Unity Government, or NUG, has opened more than 4,300 schools nationwide in areas controlled by insurgent forces. NUG was formed by pro-democracy politicians and allies following the coup.

But even those schools have been targeted by the junta’s indiscriminate airstrikes, the NUG’s deputy minister for education, Sai Khine Myo Tun, told Radio Free Asia.

Intense fighting in eastern Kayah state has also put students at risk. But the Karenni state Interim Executive Council has still opened more than 400 schools there since 2021, the council said.

***Translated by Aung Naing. Edited by Matt Reed and Malcolm Foster.***

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**ecoi.net description:**

More than a quarter of the country's public schools have been closed due to the ongoing civil war, the military junta's Ministry of Education says; junta troops often attack civilian buildings, including schools

**Country:**

Myanmar

**Source:**

[RFA – Radio Free Asia](#) (Author)

**Published:**

8 July 2024

**Original link (no longer valid):**

<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/myanmar/schools-closed-airstrikes-07082024171114.html>

**Document type:**

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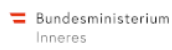
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Document #2114586

## RFA – Radio Free Asia (Author)

### Myanmar junta steps up security in Mandalay as fighting spreads across region

Junta forces have tightened security in Myanmar's second-biggest city, Mandalay, while shelling civilians elsewhere in the region, after coming under renewed attack from an alliance of insurgent forces battling to end military rule.

A shell killed a seven-year-old boy and a woman in her 30s after it exploded in a residential area of Mandalay region's Mogoke town on Monday evening, residents told Radio Free Asia Tuesday.

Another four-year-old girl and a 60-year-old woman, as well as a woman and man both in their 30s, are in critical condition, said one Mogoke resident, asking to remain anonymous for security reasons.

"A child and a grandmother were seriously injured by shrapnel that hit them in the neck," he said. "It was not easy to send them to the hospital, so they were treated at home by people who have some medical knowledge."

The shells were fired from a junta camp on Strategic Hill in eastern Mogoke, a ruby-mining town about 200 km (120 miles) north of Mandalay city.

Over half the town's population has fled after fighting intensified between junta troops and the Ta'ang National Liberation Army, or TNLA, which has taken control of western Mogoke, residents said.

The TNLA is part of an alliance of three ethnic minority insurgent forces known as the Three Brotherhood Alliance. The alliance launched an offensive last October, codenamed Operation 1027 for the date it began, and pushed back junta forces in several regions.

After a five-month ceasefire ended on June 25, the TNLA, and allied forces attacked junta camps in Madaya, Singu and Mogoke townships in Mandalay region, and Hsipaw, Kyaukme, Nawngkhio and Lashio towns in Shan state to the east.

### **Stepping up Security**

The TNLA and its allies have also turned their attention to junta bases near Mandalay region's capital, causing the military to step up security in Mandalay city, residents said.

One city resident, who wished to remain anonymous for fear of reprisals, told RFA that after Operation 1027 resumed in late June, the junta had increased the number of outposts around Mandalay and its historic palace.

"We're getting a sense that the areas around the palace are more secure. They also installed heavy weapons on top of Mandalay Hill and also on Yankin Hill," he said. "Security has been increased a lot. If there was a place with four or five soldiers before, there are about 10 soldiers now."

Troops are also stationed on top of high-rise buildings in the city's Chanmyathazi township, one resident said, also asking for anonymity to protect his identity.

"The junta troops are stationed on the top floors of Ma Ma-29 and No. 49 buildings," he said, adding that soldiers also occupied buildings in the Myayenanda, and Aungpinlel neighborhoods, as well as Mandalay's industrial zone. "The troops asked residents to leave in order for soldiers to be stationed there."

Army personnel are also stationed in Inwa (Inn Wa) town, 32 km (20 miles) south of Mandalay city, which is close to a junta air force base, he added.

On Monday, the junta closed the Mandalay-Madaya Road after fighting with allied rebel forces near Madaya township's Kyauk Ta Dar village, which is just 27 km (17 miles) away from Mandalay city.

According to the Mandalay People's Defense Force, the group had captured 25 junta camps in Madaya township and 11 in Singu township as of July 7.

RFA called Mandalay region's junta spokesperson Thein Htay for more information on increased security and the attack on Mogoke, but he did not answer phone calls.

*Translated by RFA Burmese. Edited by Kiana Duncan and Mike Firn.*

**ecoi.net description:**

Mandalay region: Junta forces tighten security in Mandalay city; shelling by junta troops leaves 2 civilians in Mogoke town dead and 4 others severely injured

**Country:**

Myanmar

**Source:**

[RFA – Radio Free Asia](#) (Author)

**Published:**

16 July 2024

**Original link (no longer valid):**

<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/myanmar/mandalay-tnla-junta-fighting-07162024064339.html>

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Media Report

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English

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