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Karen Human Rights Group

Documenting the voices of villagers in rural Burma

Incident Report

January 22nd, 2026 / KHRG # 25-88-I1

Mergui-Tavoy District Incident Report: SAC air strikes injured two children in Ler K'Saw Township (March 2025)

This Incident Report describes events occurring in Ler K'Saw Township, Mergui-Tavoy District, in March 2025. On March 10th 2025, a State Administration Council (SAC) aircraft conducted an air strike on Ma Nol Rol area, Ler K'Saw Township. Two bombs were dropped during the air strike: one bomb landed in the vicinity of Ks--- village and the other landed in Tr--- village. As villagers were fleeing, machine guns were also fired from the aircraft into Tr--- village. The gunfire from the air strike caused injuries to two sisters, a 17-year-old girl and a 5-year-old girl. After the injury, they were taken to a hospital located on a mountain nearby, run by the Karen Department of Health and Welfare (KDHW). As a result of the air strike, villagers' betel nut plantations were also damaged, and villagers were afraid and no longer dared to stay in their village. Therefore, they fled to plantations located far from the village. Villagers were not expecting the air strike because soldiers do not operate in the village, nor was fighting happening there at the time of the attack. Air strikes had never happened in Tr--- village, only in Pl--- village, Htee Wah area, T'Naw Th'Ree (Tanintharyi) Township, Mergui-Tavoy District, a frontline area.¹

Part 1 – Incident Details

Type of Incident	[Air strike.] A State Administration Council (SAC) ² air strike injured two villagers.
Date of Incident(s)	March 10 th 2025.
Incident Location (Village, Township and District)	Tr--- village, Ma Nol Rol area, Ler K'Saw Township, Mergui-Tavoy District.

Victim(s) Information		
Name	Ma ³ K---	Ma C---

¹ The present document is based on information received in March, 2025. It was provided by a community member in Mergui-Tavoy District who has been trained by KHRG to monitor human rights conditions on the ground. The names of the victims, their photos and the exact locations are censored for security reasons. The parts in square brackets are explanations added by KHRG.

² The State Administration Council (SAC) is the executive governing body created in the aftermath of the February 1st 2021 military coup. It was established by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on February 2nd 2021, and is composed of eight military officers and eight civilians. The chairperson serves as the de facto head of government of Burma (Myanmar) and leads the Military Cabinet of Burma, the executive branch of the government. Min Aung Hlaing assumed the role of SAC chairperson following the coup. The military junta changed its name on July 31st 2025 to State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC).

³ 'Ma' is a Burmese female honorific title used before a person's name.

Age	17 years old	5 years old
Gender	Girl	Girl
Ethnicity	Bamar ⁴	Bamar
Marital Status	-	-
Occupation	-	-
Religion	Buddhist	Buddhist
Position	[Villager]	[Villager]
Village	Tr--- village, Ma Nol Rol area, Ler K'Saw Township, Mergui-Tavoy District.	Tr--- village, Ma Nol Rol area, Ler K'Saw Township, Mergui-Tavoy District.

Perpetrator Information (Armed Actors)			
Type of Aircraft	Unit	Base	Commander's Name
Y-12	Burma [SAC] Air Force ⁵	Myeik Town, Htee Moh Pyah area, Ler Muh Lah Township, Mergui-Tavoy District.	[General Tun Aung serves as the Commander-in-Chief of the Burma (SAC) Air Force]

Part 2 - Information Quality

1. Explain in detail how this information was collected.

A KHRG researcher went to the incident place to do the documentation. Then, he met with a [Karen National Union (KNU)⁶] local authority named Saw⁷ J---, from Jz--- village, Ma Nol Rol area, Ler K'Saw Township, and asked about the incident that had happened in the area. [The KHRG researcher also discussed the events informally with a soldier from an armed resistance group who confirmed the type of aircraft.]

2. Explain how the source verified this information.

This information is authentic since the local leader who provided the information witnessed the incident. [Saw J---, the local authority, was in Tr--- village when the incident occurred.]

Part 3 – Complete Description of the Incident

Describe the Incident(s) in complete detail.

⁴ The majority ethnic group in Myanmar, also known as ethnic Burmese or Burman.

⁵ The terms Burma military regime, Burma Army, junta, and SAC are used interchangeably throughout this report to describe Burma's armed forces. Villagers themselves commonly use Burma Army, Burmese soldiers, or alternatively the name adopted by the Burma military regime at the time –from the 2021 coup to July 2025, the State Administration Council (SAC). On July 31st 2025, the military junta changed its name to State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC).

⁶ The Karen National Union (KNU) is the main Karen political organisation. It was established in 1947 and has been in conflict with the government since 1949. The KNU wields power across large areas of Southeast Myanmar and has been calling for the creation of a democratic federal system since 1976. Although it signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) in 2015, following the 2021 coup staged by Burma Army leaders, the KNU officially stated that the NCA has become void.

⁷ 'Saw' is a S'gaw Karen male honorific title used before a person's name.

On March 10th 2025, at 3:47 pm, an aircraft of the State Administration Council [SAC] conducted an air strike in Tr--- village, Ma Nol Rol area, Ler K'Saw Township, Mergui-Tavoy District, without any fighting happening in the village. Two bombs were dropped, and they [the SAC] also fired machine guns from the aircraft after dropping the bombs. The first bomb landed in the vicinity of [nearby] Ks--- village, without causing casualties or property destruction, while the second bomb landed in Tr--- village.

The first bomb that was dropped by the [SAC] aircraft landed in the vicinity of Ks--- village, located between Tr--- and Sn--- villages, in Ma Nol Rol area. Ks--- village is a place where the KNLA [Karen National Liberation Army⁸] has ambushed SAC soldiers whenever they [SAC soldiers] patrolled or conducted military offensive operations through the village. Ks--- village is located 10 minutes by foot from Tr--- village. Also, they [the SAC] dropped another [the second] bomb behind [the former] Tr--- clinic, located in Tr--- village, which was administered by the SAC. Now, there is no healthcare worker, and the clinic was closed after the coup in 2021, because the SAC-assigned healthcare worker did not dare to stay in the village due to their security concerns.

When villagers heard the sound of the bombs landing [in the vicinity of Ks--- village], they were shocked and afraid, so they ran [fled]. Shortly after the villagers from Ks--- village, Sn--- village, and Tr--- village began to run [flee], [the SAC] also fired machine guns from the aircraft towards Tr--- village [seemingly targeting fleeing villagers in both the village and its surroundings]. Then two sisters named Ma K--- (17 years old) and Ma C--- (5 years old) were hit [grazed] by [bullets from] the machine gunfire. Ma K--- was injured on her buttocks and Ma C--- was injured on her legs. The two injured villagers were going out to buy a meal for their dinner when the air strike was conducted.

After the air strike, the two injured villagers were taken to Bc--- hospital to receive treatment [because there is no longer a clinic in the village]. A monk transported them to the hospital by car. Their parents also accompanied them to the hospital. Bc--- hospital is located on a mountain in Khel Chaung area, Ler K'Saw Township, Mergui-Tavoy District, which is located about 30 minutes from Tr--- village by motorbike and is administered by the KDHW [Karen Department of Health and Welfare⁹]. The hospital did not charge them medical or treatment fees. [Their injuries were not severe and required treatment but not hospitalisation. They have recovered.]

In addition, betel nut plantations owned by villagers were also damaged by the air strikes. Presently [as of March 2025], villagers dare not stay in their village [due to their fear of further air strikes]. So, they packed their things and went [fled] to their plantations.

Villagers did not take any special [safety] precautions on the day that the air strike happened in the village. A local KNU leader [specific position censored for security], named Saw J---, stated: *"We didn't think things would happen like this [that an air strike would occur]. We heard the sound of an aircraft when it came. But aircraft pass through our village every day to conduct air strikes in a place where fighting happens, at Pl--- village [in Htee Wah area, T'Naw Th'Ree Township], and it [aircraft] has never conducted an air strike in our village. Fighting happens every day in Pl--- village [but never in Tr--- village]. So, we didn't think that an air strike would happen in our village. Moreover, the aircraft [which conducted an air strike] is white, so we thought it was a passenger aircraft."* [A soldier of an armed resistance group informed the KHRG researcher that the aircraft was a Y-12. He was in Tr--- village buying food at the time of

⁸ The Karen National Liberation Army is the armed wing of the Karen National Union.

⁹ The Karen Department of Health and Welfare (KDHW) is the health department of the Karen National Union. It was established in 1956 to address the lack of public healthcare resources in rural Southeast Myanmar. It currently operates a network of community-based clinics in the region, but its capabilities remain limited due to funding constraints.

the attack, without wearing a uniform.]

The local leader, Saw J---, informed the KHRG field researcher that there is no armed group [operating] in the village. That is why the villagers there [were able to] do their jobs peacefully. [The day of the air strike,] villagers went to their work as [it was a] regular day. Local armed groups [sometimes] travel to Tr--- village to buy food [there]. In addition, they [the KNLA] [regularly] advance through the village to go to the frontline at Pl--- village, Htee Wah area, T’Naw Th’Ree (Tanintharyi) Township, Mergui-Tavoy District. It takes one hour by motorbike from Tr--- village to Pl--- village.



These three photos were taken by a KHRG researcher in March 2025, in Tr--- village, Ma Nol Rol area, Ler K’Saw Township, Mergui-Tavoy District. The two photos from the top row show betelnut plantations of villagers damaged by the State Administration Council (SAC)’s air strike, which was conducted on March 10th 2025, on Tr--- village, and the surrounding area. The photo below shows shrapnel from one of the two bombs dropped, which landed and exploded behind the clinic building of Tr--- village. The SAC also strafed Tr--- village with machine guns from the plane, injuring two children. [Photos: KHRG]

Part 4 - Permission for Using the Details

Did the victim(s) provide permission to use this information? Explain how that permission was provided.

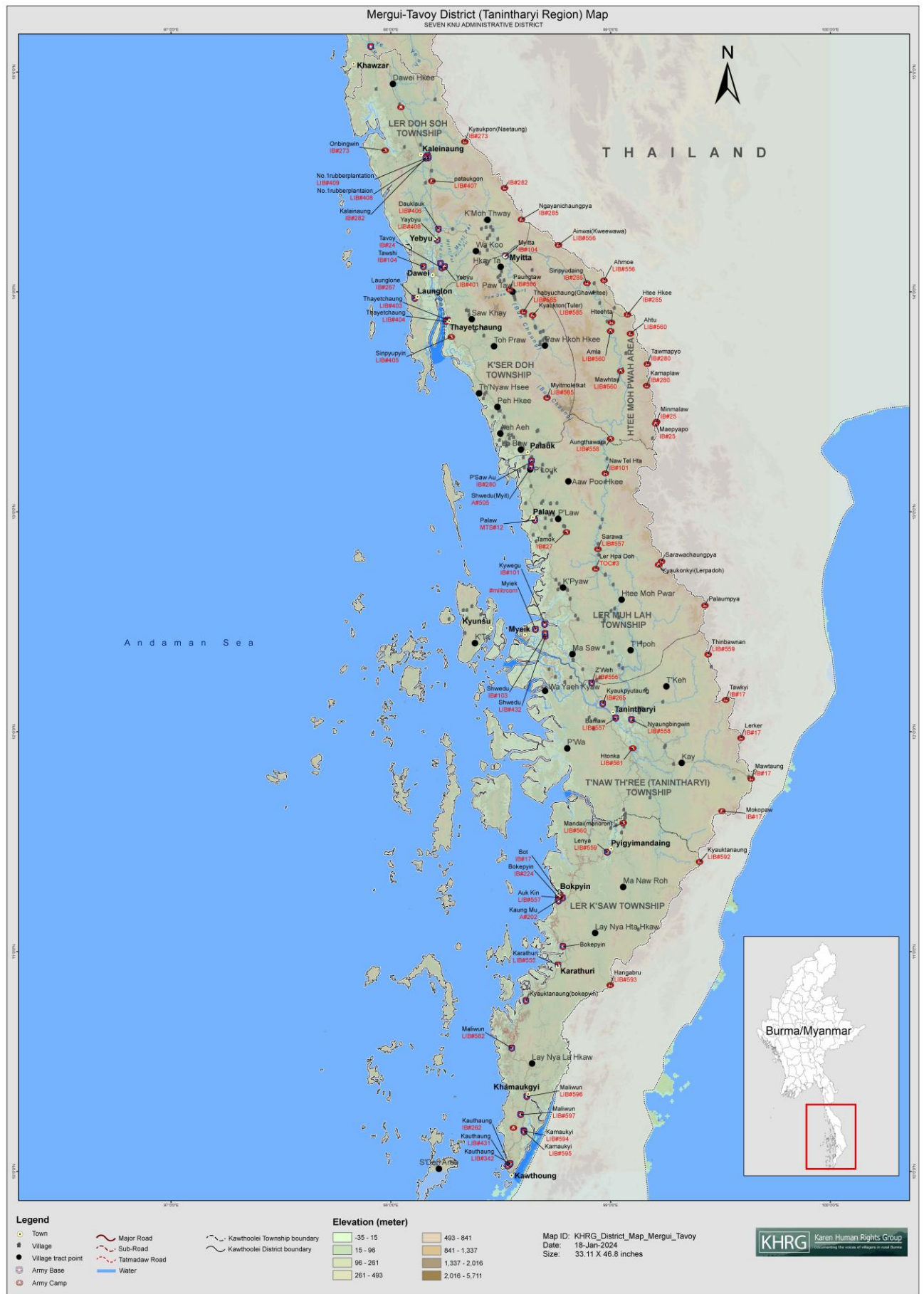
A local KNU leader allowed us [KHRG] to use this information for publication. [He further clarified that the parents of the victims had provided the KNU with consent to release this information to other organisations for documentation and publication purposes, as the parents of the victims want the international community to know the harm that the Burma military regime is causing to local villagers.]

Further background reading on the situation of air strikes in Southeast Burma/Myanmar can be found in the following KHRG reports:

- [ကဘီယုဟဲလံ Aircraft coming! : Impacts of air strikes on local communities and villagers' protection strategies in Southeast Burma since the 2021 coup](#), November 2024.
- ["Kler Lwee Htoo District Incident Report: SAC air strike caused casualties, including a child, and destruction in Moo Township \(April 2025\)"](#), December 2025.
- ["Doo Tha Htoo District Incident Report: The Burma Army air strikes killed five children and injured nine villagers in Bilin Township \(October 2025\)"](#), December 2025

About KHRG

Founded in 1992, Karen Human Rights Group is an independent local organisation committed to improving the human rights situation in Southeast Burma. KHRG trains local people to document and gather evidence of human rights abuses, and publishes this information to project the voices, experiences and perspectives of local communities. More examples of our work can be seen online at www.khrq.org.





Karen Human Rights Group

Documenting the voices of villagers in rural Burma

Incident Report

January 23rd 2026 / KHRG #25-286-I1

Doo Tha Htoo District Incident Report: A DKBA tripwire mine explosion injured two villagers in Hpa-an Township (June 2025)

This Incident Report describes an event occurring in Hpa-an Township, Doo Tha Htoo (Thaton) District, in June 2025. On June 8th 2025, a villager (from Ab--- village, Be--- village tract, Hpa-an Township) went to fish at Ac--- village, Be--- village tract, where he met with another villager and decided to drive together to Bb--- village, Bb--- village tract, Hpa-an Township. On their way, when they arrived at Bc--- place, in Bb--- village tract, a tripwire mine, which was planted by the Democratic Karen Buddhist Army (DKBA), exploded, injuring the two villagers. After the explosion, DKBA armed forces sent the injured villagers to Ae--- hospital (in Ch--- village tract), but did not provide money to the villagers to cover costs. After the incident, one of the villagers cannot walk normally as he did in the past. The recovery of the other villager is unknown.¹

Part 1 – Incident Details

Type of Incident	[Landmine.] Tripwire mine incident.
Date of Incident(s)	June 8 th 2025
Incident Location (Village, Township and District)	Bc--- (also known as Bh---) place, Bb--- village tract ² , Hpa-an Township, Doo Tha Htoo District.

Victim(s) Information		
Name	Saw ³ A---	Saw B---
Age	40 years old	37 years old
Gender	Man	Man
Ethnicity	Karen	Karen
Marital Status	Married	Divorced

¹ The present document is based on information received in July 2025. It was provided by a community member in Doo Tha Htoo who has been trained by KHRG to monitor human rights conditions on the ground. The names of the victims, their photos and the exact locations are censored for security reasons. The parts in square brackets are explanations added by KHRG. This document combines several received reports with the following KHRG internal log numbers: #25-286-I1 and #25-286-A1-I1.

² A village tract is an administrative unit of between five and 20 villages in a local area, often centred on a large village.

³ ‘Saw’ is a S’gaw Karen male honorific title used before a person’s name.

Occupation	Farmer	Plantation worker
Religion	Buddhist	Buddhist
Position	[Villager.]	[Villager.]
Village	Ab--- village, Be--- (also known as Cb---) village tract, Hpa-an Township, Doo Tha Htoo District.	Ad--- village, Be--- (also known as Cb---) village tract, Hpa-an Township, Doo Tha Htoo District.

Perpetrator Information (Armed Actors)				
Name(s)	Rank	Unit	Base	Commander's Name
[Unknown]	[Unknown]	DKBA [Democratic Karen Buddhist Army] ⁴ armed forces [unknown unit]	Kya Ain Paw Taw Mu monastery, Kya Gu place, Meh Ka Raw village tract, Hpa-an Township, Doo Tha Htoo District.	Saw Bo Bee

Part 2 - Information Quality

1. Explain in detail how this information was collected.

A local leader from Be--- village tract [specific position censored for security], named Saw K---, heard the sound of the explosion. Then, he investigated that [the explosion], and learned that villagers were injured by a tripwire mine. On June 9th 2025, after learning the information, he [Saw K---] informed me [a KHRG researcher], so I [a KHRG researcher] went to Ac--- village to interview one of the victims, Saw A---, and documented the incident.

2. Explain how the source verified this information.

We can confirm this incident is true because I [a KHRG researcher] conducted an interview with one of the victims [Saw A---], and there is also photographic evidence. [The researcher also talked to Naw⁵ G---, the wife of Saw A---].

Part 3 – Complete Description of the Incident

Describe the Incident(s) in complete detail.

On June 8th 2025, two villagers from Be--- (also known as Cb---) village tract were injured by a tripwire mine at Bc--- (also known as Bh---) place, in Bb--- village tract, Hpa-an Township, Doo Tha Htoo District.

On that day, a villager named Saw A--- (also known as Saw D---), who lives in Ab--- village, Be--- village tract, went to trap fish by fishing net at Ac--- village, Be--- village tract. After trapping fish, he [Saw A---] met with his friend Saw B---, who is a resident of Ac--- village [but who is originally from Ad--- village, Be--- village tract]. Then, they decided to go to Bb--- village [Bb---

⁴ In 1994, the Democratic Karen Buddhist Army (DKBA) split from the KNLA over religious considerations. In 2010, the majority of DKBA troops transformed into BGFs, but one faction refused and changed its name to Democratic Karen Benevolent Army in 2012. In 2015, the DKBA splinter group split from this faction and reclaimed their original name, Democratic Karen Buddhist Army. It is active in Hpa-an Township, Doo Tha Htoo District. The DKBA now cooperate with the Burma military regime and are in conflict with the KNLA troops in the area.

⁵ 'Naw' is a S'gaw Karen female honorific title used before a person's name.

village tract]. It was almost dusk when they departed. Saw A--- drove the motorbike while Saw B--- rode on the back. They had drunk alcohol before they went to Bb--- village.

When they arrived at Bc--- place [on the way to Bb--- village], they dodged a stone in the centre of the road. The back wheel of the motorbike hit the wire of a tripwire mine, which exploded. It [the tripwire mine] was planted at the left side of [the road, based on] their direction. So, the shrapnel hit the left side of their body. [In this area, the DKBA is the only active armed group, and DKBA soldiers responded to the incident, leading the victims and the local villagers to believe that this tripwire mine was planted by the DKBA.]

Saw A---, who drove the motorbike, was slightly hit by the shrapnel on the nape of his neck. Also, two of the shrapnel [pieces] hit his [Saw A---'s] left thigh, and one of the shrapnel [pieces] hit his left lower knee [shin]'s bone and tendon. The whole left leg and back of Saw B--- was hit by the shrapnel. After the incident, they were transported to Ae--- hospital by DKBA soldiers, but they [the victims] did not receive any support for the treatment [or as compensation] from the DKBA. The Ae--- hospital is administered by the SAC [State Administration Council⁶], and it is located in Ch--- village tract, Hpa-an Township, Doo Tha Htoo District.

Saw A---, one of the villagers who was hit by the DKBA's tripwire mine, explained to KHRG: *"After the explosion, they [DKBA soldiers] came to us and when they were about to hit us with weapons [guns], we said to them that we are nothing [not related to any armed group] and we folded our hands and apologised to them. Then they interrogated us. After that, one of their leaders phoned them [the DKBA soldiers who found the villagers]. After they had a conversation on the phone, they forced us to get in a black car; the car was a Vigo or something [unspecified; pickup truck]. So, we had to ride in the back of the pickup truck. And then, they sent us to Ae--- hospital to get medical treatment."* He continued: *"After that, the doctor provided surgery to take out the shrapnel in our bodies. Afterwards, I saw the doctors took out the tiny shrapnel from the back of Saw B---. Later, the cousin of Saw B---, who lives in Bm--- village [Ch--- village tract, Hpa-an Township], came to pick us up, so we slept in his house for one night. The next morning, his cousin sent us back to our houses by a three-wheeled motorbike."*

Saw A--- already [returned to his village and] recovered from the injuries which were on the nape of his neck and thigh. [He did not have to pay anything for the treatment cost because the health workers in that hospital knew him and sympathised with him]. However, Saw A--- cannot work properly as before [he was injured] because he was also injured on his lower knee [shin] [from which he has not fully recovered]. He said that sometimes he has to hang his leg [tie it up] by rope to elevate it [to remove pressure] because it [his shin] is numb and aches. [The inability to work as before has impacted his family's livelihood.] Saw A--- is married and has two sons.

On the contrary, Saw B--- is divorced and has one daughter. His wife got remarried. After [receiving initial treatment], Saw B--- went back to Ad--- village, where his mother lives, for further treatment, so his current situation is unknown [to KHRG].

⁶ The State Administration Council (SAC) is the executive governing body created in the aftermath of the February 1st 2021 military coup. It was established by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on February 2nd 2021, and is composed of eight military officers and eight civilians. The chairperson serves as the de facto head of government of Burma (Myanmar) and leads the Military Cabinet of Burma, the executive branch of the government. Min Aung Hlaing assumed the role of SAC chairperson following the coup. The military junta changed its name on July 31st 2025 to State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC).



These three photos were taken by a KHRG researcher in July 2025 in Ac--- village, Be--- (also known as Cb--) village tract, Hpa-an Township, Doo Tha Htoo District. These photos show the shrapnel injuries of Saw A--- on his left shin, thigh, and the nape of his neck after he was hit by a suspected DKBA tripwire mine at Bc--- place, Bb--- village tract, Hpa-an Township, on June 8th 2025. He was travelling by motorbike with another villager, who was also injured by the explosion. [Photos: KHRG]

Regarding the two innocent villagers who were hit by the tripwire mine that [locals believe] DKBA armed forces planted, they [the DKBA] did not respond and did not provide anything for the cost of the medical treatment. The wife of Saw A---, named Naw G---, explained: *“Until the next morning, after they were hit by the tripwire mine, the motorbike was still left at the incident place. The model of the motorbike is WAVE Fi. The whole motorbike smells of gunpowder. The motorcycle can be driven; it did not break. However, the cover of the motorcycle was hit by a few of the shrapnel [pieces].”*

The DKBA armed forces, which are led by Saw Bo Bee, are supported by a monk of Kya Ain Paw Taw Mu [monastery] named U⁷ Nanda Tha Ra, and they get paid and serve under the armed forces of Min Aung Hlaing⁸, who was the leader of the [2021] coup [and the Burma military regime⁹]. So, they [the DKBA] do everything the SAC commands them, to prevent the KNU [Karen National Union¹⁰] administration and its [the Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA)¹¹’s] military operations, which are increasing.

⁷ ‘U’ is a Burmese title used for elder men, used before their name.

⁸ A Senior General in the Burma Army who has served as Chairman of the State Administration Council, the executive body governing Burma/Myanmar since February 2021. He has also served as the Commander-in-Chief of Myanmar’s Armed Forces since March 2011. Min Aung Hlaing seized power after overthrowing the civilian government led by Aung San Suu Kyi on February 1st 2021, ending a nearly ten-year period of civilian rule. He has appointed himself as Prime Minister of Myanmar on August 1st 2021, and became Acting President of Myanmar on July 22nd 2024.

⁹ The terms Burma military regime, Burma Army, junta, and SAC are used interchangeably throughout this report to describe Burma’s armed forces. Villagers themselves commonly use Burma Army, Burmese soldiers, or alternatively the name adopted by the Burma military regime at the time –from the 2021 coup to July 2025, the State Administration Council (SAC). On July 31st 2025, the military junta changed its name to State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC).

¹⁰ The Karen National Union (KNU) is the main Karen political organisation. It was established in 1947 and has been in conflict with the government since 1949. The KNU wields power across large areas of Southeast Myanmar and has been calling for the creation of a democratic federal system since 1976. Although it signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) in 2015, following the 2021 coup staged by Burma Army leaders, the KNU officially stated that the NCA has become void.

¹¹ The Karen National Liberation Army is the armed wing of the Karen National Union.

Part 4 - Permission for Using the Details

Did the victim(s) provide permission to use this information? Explain how that permission was provided.

This information is allowed for use by one of the victims, Saw A---, and his wife, Naw G---, so that the international [community] will know about the increasing human rights violations conducted by the SAC (and the allied forces under their control).

Further background reading on the situation of landmines in Southeast Burma/Myanmar can be found in the following KHRG reports:

- [ကဘီယုဟဲလံ Aircraft coming! : Impacts of air strikes on local communities and villagers' protection strategies in Southeast Burma since the 2021 coup](#), November 2024.
- ["Kler Lwee Htoo District Incident Report: Landmine explosion severely injured a teenager in Moo Township \(January 2025\)"](#), December 2025.
- ["Doooplaya District Short Update: A landmine explosion killed a 60-year-old woman in Noh T'Kaw Township \(July 2025\)"](#), December 2025.

About KHRG

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Karen Human Rights Group

Documenting the voices of villagers in rural Burma

Short Update

January 28th 2026 / KHRG #25-280-D1

Dooplaya District Short Update: SAC shelling and displacement challenges in Kruh Tuh Township (July 2025)

This Short Update describes events that occurred in Kruh Tuh Township, Dooplaya District, in July 2025. On July 9th 2025, the State Administration Council (SAC) Light Infantry Battalion (LIB) #545, based in Kruh Tuh Town, conducted shelling into Ab--- village, in Tha Lwen Taw village tract, causing fear and minor property damage. Moments after the explosion, local villagers found a 55-year-old woman dead, believed to have died due to the shell blast wave, as she suffered from high blood pressure. Since April 2025, fighting often occurred along the Asian Highway in Kruh Tuh Township, forcing many villagers to flee their homes. Some displaced villagers, including elderly people, are seeking refuge in Aa--- area of Ab--- village, where they are in need of food and medical support.¹

SAC shelling into Tha Lwen Taw village tract:

Since April 2025, fighting between the State Administration Council [SAC]² and armed resistance groups occurred almost daily along the Asian Highway³ road [between Kruh Tuh Town and Kaw T'Ree Town] in Kruh Tuh Township, Dooplaya District. The SAC Light Infantry Battalion [LIB]⁴ #545, based in Kruh Tuh Town, conducted shellings once or twice per week, regardless of whether fighting took place.⁵

¹ The present document is based on information received in July 2025. It was provided by a community member in Dooplaya District who has been trained by KHRG to monitor human rights conditions on the ground. The names of the victims, their photos and the exact locations are censored for security reasons. The parts in square brackets are explanations added by KHRG. This document combines several received reports with the following KHRG internal log numbers: #25-280-II and #25-280-A1-II.

² The State Administration Council (SAC) is the executive governing body created in the aftermath of the February 1st 2021 military coup. It was established by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on February 2nd 2021, and is composed of eight military officers and eight civilians. The chairperson serves as the de facto head of government of Burma (Myanmar) and leads the Military Cabinet of Burma, the executive branch of the government. Min Aung Hlaing assumed the role of SAC chairperson following the coup. The military junta changed its name on July 31st 2025 to State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC).

³ The Asian Highway Network is a United Nations Economic and Social Council for Asia and the Pacific-supported project that aims to link 32 countries in Asia across 141,000 kilometres of roadway. In Burma/Myanmar the project has involved land confiscation and forced labour. For more information about the Asian Highway Network, see: KHRG, "Beautiful Words, Ugly Actions: The Asian Highway in Karen State, Burma", August 2016; KHRG, "The Asia Highway: Planned Eindu to Kawkareik Town road construction threatens villagers' livelihoods," March 2015.

⁴ A Light Infantry Battalion (LIB) comprises 500 soldiers. Most Light Infantry Battalions in the Tatmadaw are under-strength with less than 200 soldiers, yet up-to-date information regarding the size of battalions is hard to come by, particularly following the signing of the NCA. LIBs are primarily used for offensive operations, but they are sometimes used for garrison duties.

⁵ See, for instance: KHRG, "[Dooplaya District Situation Update: SAC shelling and air strikes caused casualties, displacement, and health and education challenges in Kruh Tuh Township \(April 2025\)](#)", November 2025.

On July 9th 2025, at around 9 pm, villagers heard the sounds of the SAC firing multiple mortar shells. One 120 mm mortar shell landed in Aa--- area of Ab--- village, Tha Lwen Taw village tract⁶, Kruh Tuh Township, Dooplaya District. Shrapnel from the explosion struck and slightly damaged the fence surrounding the monastery in the village.

After the incident, an ailing woman, Ma⁷ A--- (55 years old) was found dead in her bed, bleeding from her eyes, ears, and nose. After the incident, Ma A---'s youngest daughter and granddaughter went to find the village head of Ab--- village, named Saw⁸ B---, that night, and informed him about the incident. Saw B--- explained to KHRG: *"After she [Ma A---] returned from the monastery, she ate Mama [instant] noodles. Her daughter and granddaughter were using the phone. As for her, she wanted to sleep, so then she went to sleep. A few moments later, the shelling happened. Then, her daughter called to her: 'Mo Mo [mother], the shelling happened', but she could not wake her mother. Her mother [s body] was already cold."*

A local leader [Kruh Tuh Township documentation officer⁹] [who saw the body and also documented the incident] told the village head that he believed that the shelling explosion killed the ailing woman while she was sleeping. [Ma A---'s suffered from high blood pressure.] The blast [wave] [might have] caused her heart to stop beating, and she suffered bleeding from her eyes, ears, and nose. The village head [Saw B---] believed that Ma A--- was killed by her illness [high blood pressure]. However, based on the circumstances of Ma A---'s death [including the physical indicators that the body showed when found], the Kruh Tuh Township documentation officer believes that this was a casualty resulting from the SAC shelling.



KHRG received this photo from an officer of KNU's Kruh Tuh Township documentation group on July 14th 2025. On July 9th 2025, at 9 pm, the State Administration Council (SAC) Light Infantry Battalion (LIB) #545, based in Kruh Tuh Town, fired one 120 mm shell into Ab--- village, Tha Lwen Taw village tract, Kruh Tuh Township, Dooplaya District, which landed in Aa--- area of the village and exploded loudly. The photo shows the body of Ma A---, an ailing woman who was found dead after the explosion, believed to have been killed as a result of the blast wave from the SAC shelling explosion. [Photo: Township authority]

⁶ A village tract is an administrative unit of between five and 20 villages in a local area, often centred on a large village.

⁷ 'Ma' is a Burmese female honorific title used before a person's name.

⁸ 'Saw' is a S'gaw Karen male honorific title used before a person's name.

⁹ These documentation teams, formed by groups of researchers, are founded by the Karen National Union (KNU) in the districts, and hence they are part of the KNU district staff members. Their role is to collect and document human rights violations on the ground and share them with KNU's Township and District staff, which then will be shared with the general public through the KNU's media pages and website.

In the past, shellings had never landed in Aa--- area of Ab--- village. This was the first time that a shelling landed [there]. The shelling landed in Aa--- area, but [villagers reported that] the sound was very loud [and was heard everywhere in Ab--- village].

Displacement challenges in Ab--- village:

Due to the [ongoing] fighting [along the Asian Highway road in Kruh Tuh], some villagers from Ac--- village and Ad--- village, Yay Pu Gyi village tract, Kruh Tuh Township, and Ae--- village, Kaw Wa Leh village tract, Kruh Tuh Township, fled to Aa--- area of Ab--- village.

Among the displaced are ailing elderly people and children, who urgently need food and medical supplies [as of July 2025]. They have been displaced since April 2025 after fighting broke out near their villages. Some villagers from Aa--- area (in Ab--- village) had also fled from their homes; therefore, the abandoned houses were opened to host displaced villagers from Ad---, Ae---, and Ac--- villages. However, it is difficult for the displaced people to find jobs, as employment opportunities are not available in the area.

Further background reading on the situation of shelling in Southeast Burma/Myanmar can be found in the following KHRG reports:

- [*Stolen Childhoods: Violations of children's rights, urgent needs, and local agency in rural Southeast Burma during the conflict*](#), October 2025.
- [*"Doooplaya District Incident Report: SAC shelling injured four children in Kruh Tuh Township \(July 2025\)"*](#), December 2025.
- [*"Doooplaya District Situation Update: SAC shelling and air strikes caused casualties, displacement, and health and education challenges in Kruh Tuh Township \(April 2025\)"*](#), November 2025

About KHRG

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Karen Human Rights Group

Documenting the voices of villagers in rural Burma

Short Update

February 27th 2026 / KHRG #26-55-D1

Mergui-Tavoy District Short Update: Burma Army air strike killed a two-year-old girl and injured nine people, including a two-year-old girl, in Ler Doh Soe Township (January 2026)

This Short Update describes events occurring in Ler Doh Soe Township, Mergui-Tavoy District. On January 10th 2026, between 1 and 2 pm, a fighter jet of the Burma Army conducted an air strike, dropping two bombs, and fired bullets from an Oerlikon on Aa--- village, K'Maw Thway village tract, killing a two-year-old girl and injuring nine villagers, including seven women, a man, and a two-year-old girl. In addition, the air strike damaged a clinic, villagers' plantation fields, and buildings located in a KNU office compound. The injured villagers received treatment from Karen Department of Health Welfare (KDHW) health care workers at the office compound. Following the air strike, villagers fled from Aa--- village.¹

Air strike in Ler Doh Soe Township:

On January 10th 2026, in the afternoon between 1 and 2 pm, an SAC [Burma Army²] aircraft from Bleik (Myeik) Town, Ler Muh Lah Township, Mergui-Tavoy District, conducted an air strike on Aa--- (also known as Ab---) village, K'Maw Thway village tract³, Ler Doh Soe Township, Mergui-Tavoy District. The aircraft came from the eastern side [of Aa--- village], then conducted an air strike and flew away to the western side [of the village]. The colour of the aircraft, a fighter jet, was sky-blue. The aircraft dropped two 250-pound bombs and fired [bullets] from an Oerlikon [mounted cannon from an aircraft] [at the same time.]

The bombs landed inside the compound of a Karen National Union (KNU)⁴'s township office in Aa--- village. [Villagers who were waiting for their personal legal cases to proceed were staying

¹ The present document is based on information received in [February 2026]. It was provided by a community member in [Mergui-Tavoy District] who has been trained by KHRG to monitor human rights conditions on the ground. The names of the victims, their photos and the exact locations are censored for security reasons. The parts in square brackets are explanations added by KHRG. This document combines several received reports with the following KHRG internal log numbers: #26-55-D1; #25-55-M1, and #25-55-P1.

² The terms Burma military, Burma Army, SAC, Tatmadaw, and junta are used interchangeably throughout this report to describe the Burma military regime's armed forces. Villagers themselves commonly use Burma Army, Burmese soldiers, or alternatively the name adopted by the Burma military regime at the time —from the 2021 coup to July 2025, the State Administration Council (SAC). On July 31st 2025, the military junta changed its name to the State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC).

³ A village tract is an administrative unit of between five and 20 villages in a local area, often centred on a large village.

⁴ The Karen National Union (KNU) is the main Karen political organisation. It was established in 1947 and has been in conflict with the government since 1949. The KNU wields power across large areas of Southeast Myanmar and has been calling for the creation of a democratic federal system since 1976. Although it signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) in 2015, following the 2021 coup staged by Burma Army leaders, the KNU officially stated that the NCA has become void.

in the KNU office compound]. The two bombs landed only four to five arm spans [7 to 9 metres] away from each other. The air strike killed a girl and injured [nine others:] seven women, a man, and a girl.

The name of the girl who was killed was Naw⁵ A---. She sustained an injury to her right shoulder and then died, inside [a house in] the KNU office compound. She was two years old. [The distance between the explosion location and the building, in the compound, was three arm spans (5 metres) away. Naw A--- and her mother were being supported by the Karen Women's Organisation (KWO)⁶ to process a legal case at the KNU office. Specific details about the legal case have been censored for the villagers' security.]

The name of the other girl, who sustained an injury to her temple, is Ma⁷ B---. She was also in the KNU township office compound at the time of the incident. She is also two years old. She is the daughter of a KWO member from Ler Doh Soe Township.



KHRG received these photos in January 2026 from a villager in Aa--- village, K'Maw Thway village tract, Ler Doh Soe Township, Mergui-Tavoy District. On January 10th 2026, between 1 and 2 pm, an aircraft of the Burma Army dropped two 250-pound bombs into Aa--- village, causing one death, injury to nine villagers, and property damage. The photo at the top is an image of the injuries sustained by two-year-old Ma B--- due to the air strike. The photo at the bottom shows the body of Naw A---, who was injured on her right shoulder and died due to the air strike. *[Photos: Local villager]*

The other seven women and the man who sustained injuries were civil servants under the SAC [Burma Army] military regime. They participated in the 2025 [junta's] election⁸ [during phase 1, on 28th December 2025] at Ab--- Town, Ler Doh Soe Township. They supported the election [unspecified actions], and soldiers from Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA)⁹ Battalion #10 arrested them. [They were detained in small houses at the KNU township office compound and could not leave the village from the end of December 2025 until January 2026.]

⁵ 'Naw' is a S'gaw Karen female honorific title used before a person's name.

⁶ The Karen Women's Organisation (KWO) is a Karen community-based organisation formed in 1949 to support women in its operational areas across locally-defined Karen State and in refugee camps along the Thai-Burma border. KWO works to empower women, fights against all forms of oppression of women and children, and provides support for communities in their operational areas. The organisation promotes women's leadership, gender sensitivity, and runs health and education programs.

⁷ 'Ma' is a Burmese female honorific title used before a person's name.

⁸ The non-democratic elections held by the Burma military regime in 2025-2026 have been largely condemned by various international stakeholders, including ASEAN and high-ranking UN officials, as not legitimate. The junta's election was split into three phases, making polling stations subsequently available in different regions: phase 1 took place on December 28th 2025; phase 2 took place on January 11th 2026; and phase 3 took place on January 25th 2026. The military junta backs the Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP), which serves as their political proxy. The junta was formerly self-designated as the State Administrative Council (SAC), after the February 1st 2021 military coup headed by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, which deposed the democratically elected government led by the National League for Democracy (NLD), following Burma's 2020 general elections.

⁹ The Karen National Liberation Army is the armed wing of the Karen National Union.

So, when the air strike happened, [one of the bombs landed only four to five arm spans (7 to 9 metres) away from the buildings,] they were all injured. They received treatment [from Karen Department of Health Welfare (KDHW)¹⁰ healthcare workers] and a [local KNU township authority] leader released them, because no one felt [the village was] safe as a result of the air strike.

The [eight civil servants detained] who sustained injuries are listed below:

- Ma¹¹C--- (37 years old),
- Ma D--- (50 years old),
- Ma E--- (39 years old),
- Ma F--- (52 years old),
- Ma G--- (45 years old),
- Ma H--- (27 years old),
- Ma I--- (46 years old), and
- Ko¹² J--- (33 years old).

[Further specific details of the injuries of the victims are unknown to the KHRG researcher.]

Due to the air strike, a clinic administered by the KDHW [in Aa--- village], and villagers' plantation fields were [also] damaged. Similarly, following the air strike incident, fear grew [among villagers], thus students and teachers fled to a safer place to continue their studies. In some other villages, students were rushed to do their exams earlier than the school's initial plan. Some villagers were too afraid to live in the [Aa---] village; thus, they moved to their other plantation fields, which are located further away from the village.



¹⁰ The Karen Department of Health and Welfare (KDHW) is the health department of the Karen National Union. It was established in 1956 to address the lack of public healthcare resources in rural Southeast Myanmar. It currently operates a network of community-based clinics in the region, but its capabilities remain limited due to funding constraints.

¹¹ 'Ma' is a Burmese female honorific title used before a person's name.

¹² Ko is a Burmese title meaning older brother. It can be used for relatives as well as non-relatives.



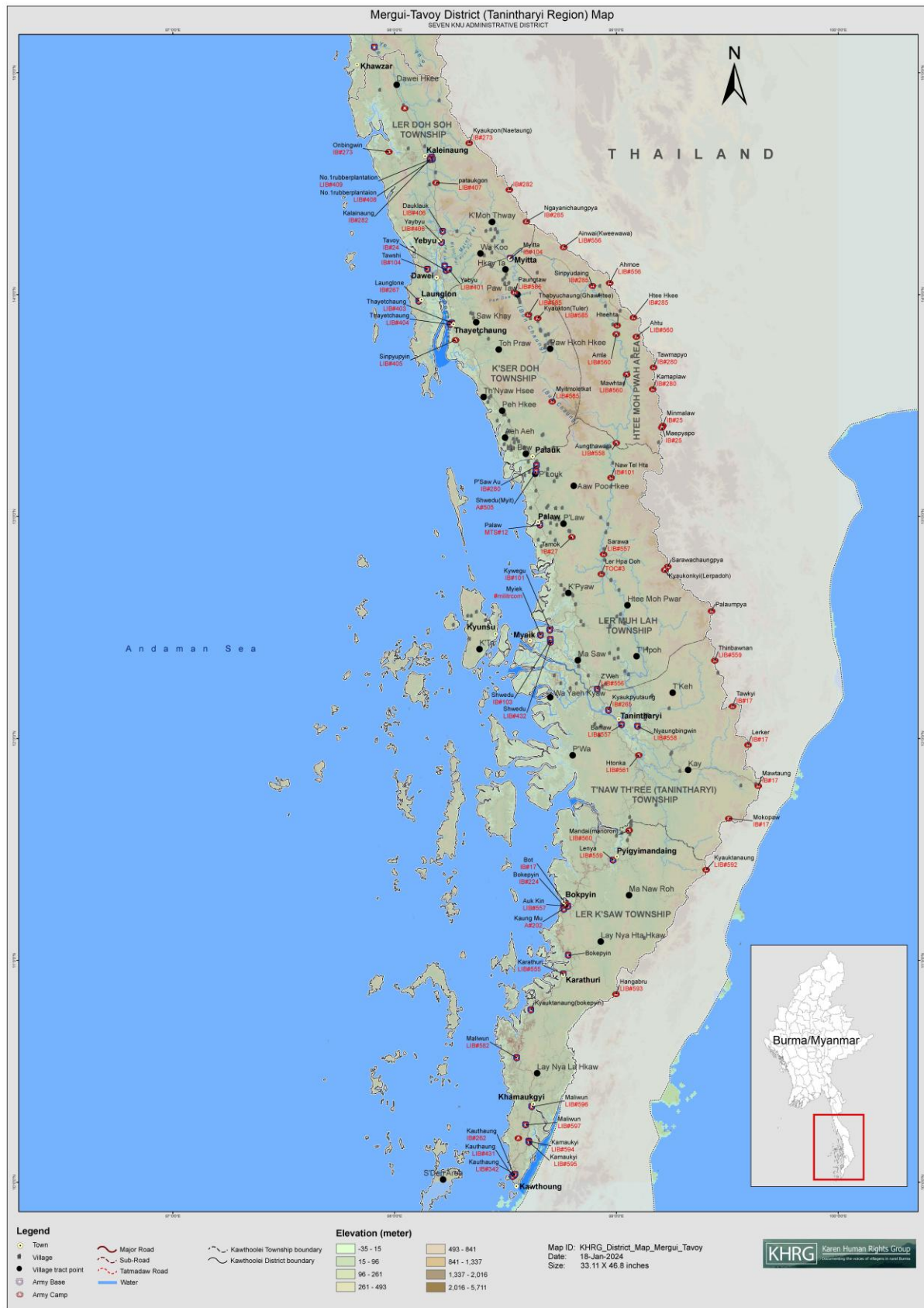
These four photos were taken by a KHRG researcher in January 2026 at Aa--- village, K'Maw Thway village tract, Ler Doh Soe Township, Mergui-Tavoy District. On January 10th 2026, between 1 to 2 pm, a Burma Army aircraft dropped two 250-pound bombs onto Aa--- village, damaging a clinic, villagers' plantation fields, and buildings of a KNU township office compound. A two-year-old girl was killed, and nine other people (including another child) were injured. The photo on the top left shows that glass windows of the clinic in Aa--- village shattered into pieces. The photo on the top right illustrates damaged plantations. The photos on the bottom right and left show buildings of a KNU township office compound that were hit by the air strike. [Photos: KHRG]

Further background reading on the situation on air strikes in Southeast Burma/Myanmar can be found in the following KHRG reports:

- ကဘီယုဟဲလံ Aircraft coming! : Impacts of air strikes on local communities and villagers' protection strategies in Southeast Burma since the 2021 coup, November 2024.
- "Mergui-Tavoy District Incident Report: SAC air strikes injured two children in Ler K'Saw Township (March 2025)", January 2026.
- "Kler Lwee Htoo District Incident Report: SAC air strike caused casualties, including a child, and destruction in Moo Township (April 2025)", December 2025.

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Karen Human Rights Group

Documenting the voices of villagers in rural Burma

Short Update

February 27th 2026 / KHRG #26-45-D1

Doooplaya District Short Update: The Burma Army fatally shot a villager in Noh T’Kaw Township (January 2026)

This Short Update describes events occurring in Noh T’Kaw (Kyainseikgyi) Township, Doooplaya District, in January 2026. On January 20th 2026, at around 7 pm, Burma Army soldiers from Infantry Battalion (IB) #284 shot and killed a woman while she was extracting rubber latex in a rubber plantation near Aa--- village, T’Hka Kloh village tract. She was hit on her left temple and died on the spot. The victim’s family did not receive any compensation from the Burma Army. After the incident, the Burma Army imposed a curfew in the village prohibiting travel after 7 pm. As a result of this incident, villagers became afraid to extract rubber latex and faced serious livelihood challenges. Some villagers also fled the village. The army camp of the Burma Army’s IB #284 is located in nearby Seik Gyi Town. These soldiers had been conducting frequent military operations in the area since the 2021 coup, including indiscriminate shelling into nearby villages, firing machine guns, and imposing travel restrictions on villagers.¹

Burma Army military activities in Seik Gyi Town and nearby areas

After the military coup in 2021, the Burma Army² frequently conducted shelling, and some shells landed near villages close to Seik Gyi Town, Noh T’Kaw Township, Doooplaya District. The Burma Army carried out shelling whenever they were attacked by the KNLA [Karen National Liberation Army]³ with drones. Sometimes, they [the Burma Army] also shelled indiscriminately, even when no attacks or fighting were taking place.

Seik Gyi Town and nearby villages are [mostly] under the control of the Burma Army. [The Burma Army’s] Infantry Battalion (IB)⁴ #284 is stationed near Seik Gyi Town. After the military coup in 2021, soldiers from IB #284 have regularly patrolled the area surrounding their army camp to maintain security. During night patrols, the Burma Army has often fired machine guns,

¹ The present document is based on information received in January 2026. It was provided by a community member in Doooplaya District who has been trained by KHRG to monitor human rights conditions on the ground. The names of the victims, their photos and the exact locations are censored for security reasons. The parts in square brackets are explanations added by KHRG. This document combines several received reports with the following KHRG internal log numbers: #26-45-I1, #26-45-A1-I1, and #26-45-A2-I1.

² The terms Burma military regime, Burma Army, junta, and SAC are used interchangeably throughout this report to describe Burma’s armed forces. Villagers themselves commonly use Burma Army, Burmese soldiers, or alternatively the name adopted by the Burma military regime at the time –from the 2021 coup to July 2025, the State Administration Council (SAC). On July 31st 2025, the military junta changed its name to State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC).

³ The Karen National Liberation Army is the armed wing of the Karen National Union.

⁴ An Infantry Battalion (IB) comprises 500 soldiers. However, most Infantry Battalions in the Tatmadaw are under-strength with less than 200 soldiers. Yet up to date information regarding the size of battalions is hard to come by, particularly following the signing of the NCA. They are primarily used for garrison duty but are sometimes used in offensive operations.

usually between three and ten times. As the Burma Army planned to hold an election⁵ in January 2026, militarisation increased in areas under its control.

[Since the 2021 coup,] the Burma Army [also] restricted villagers' access to Seik Gyi Town. They opened the gate [entrance checkpoint] at 6 am and closed it after 6 pm. In cases of medical emergencies, villagers were required to inform the Burma Army. Villagers were allowed to enter the town only after receiving approval from the Burma Army. The Burma Army provided the village head with a phone number for villagers to contact in case of [medical] emergencies. Due to these restrictions, some villagers faced challenges in accessing the hospital for treatment in Seik Gyi Town.

The Burma Army's Infantry Battalion (IB) #284 army camp is [also] near Aa--- village, T'Hka Kloh village tract⁶, Noh T'Kaw Township.

January 20th 2026: Burma Army soldiers killed a villager in T'Hka Kloh village tract

On January 20th 2026, Ma⁷ A--- and her husband [from Aa--- village] went to their rubber plantation to extract rubber latex. At around 7 pm, soldiers from the Burma Army's IB #284 shot at them multiple times, killing Ma A--- (41 years old) on the spot. She was struck on her left temple and died immediately under the rubber trees. After the incident, her husband carried her back to the village.

A village security guard, named U⁸ B---, from Aa--- village, believed that Burma Army soldiers deliberately shot at Ma A---. He believed that Burma Army soldiers might have gone to a hut located near the incident site and shot the woman, because when he observed the incident place, the place where Burma Army soldiers stayed [during the incident], and the incident place are very close. U B--- expressed to KHRG: *"They [Burma Army soldiers] should not shoot if they are not sure of their target. If necessary, they [Burma Army] should fire warning shots into the air. In this incident, the shooting was intentional."* He added: *"Villagers rely on daily work to support their livelihoods, but following this incident, many are afraid to extract rubber latex. This fear creates serious livelihood challenges. If such shootings continue, villagers will remain afraid to work. The Burma Army must provide compensation to the victim's family."*

Previously, there was no curfew in Aa--- village. After the incident, the Burma Army imposed a curfew requiring villagers to travel only before 7 pm. Some villagers were frightened and fled the village after the incident.

⁵ The non-democratic elections held by the Burma military regime in 2025-2026 have been largely condemned by various international stakeholders, including ASEAN and high-ranking UN officials, as not legitimate. The junta's election was split into three phases, making polling stations subsequently available in different regions: phase 1 took place on December 28th 2025; phase 2 took place on January 11th 2026; and phase 3 took place on January 25th 2026. The military junta backs the Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP), which serves as their political proxy. The junta was formerly self-designated as the State Administrative Council (SAC), after the February 1st 2021 military coup headed by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, which deposed the democratically elected government led by the National League for Democracy (NLD), following Burma's 2020 general elections.

⁶ A village tract is an administrative unit of between five and 20 villages in a local area, often centred on a large village.

⁷ 'Ma' is a Burmese female honorific title used before a person's name.

⁸ 'U' is a Burmese title used for elder men, used before their name.



KHRG received these two photos from a local leader from Aa--- village, T'Hka Kloh village tract, Noh T'Kaw Township, Dooplaya District, on January 23rd 2026. On January 20th 2026, Burma Army Infantry Battalion (IB) #284 soldiers shot at a villager named Ma A---, while she was extracting latex at her rubber plantation, and killed her on the spot. The photo on the left shows Ma A---'s body in her house before the funeral. The photo on the right shows the place where she was fatally shot. *[Photos: local leader]*

Further background reading on the situation of killings in Southeast Burma/Myanmar can be found in the following KHRG reports:

- [“Dooplaya District Short Update: SAC shelling and displacement challenges in Kruh Tuh Township \(July 2025\)”](#), January 2026.
- [“Taw Oo District Incident Report: SAC shelling killed a four-year-old boy and injured two villagers, including a six-year-old girl, in Daw Hpah Hkoh Township \(June 2025\)”](#), January 2026.
- [“Kler Lwee Htoo District Incident Report: SAC air strike caused casualties, including a child, and destruction in Moo Township \(April 2025\)”](#), December 2025.

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Karen Human Rights Group

Documenting the voices of villagers in rural Burma

Incident Report

March 18th 2026 / KHRG #25-445-I1

Doplaya District Incident Report: Burma Army shelling injured a villager in Noh T’Kaw Township (December 2025)

This Incident Report describes events occurring in Noh T’Kaw (Kyainseikgyi) Township, Doplaya District, in December 2025. On December 5th 2025, at around 7 pm, the Burma Army continuously fired 81 mm and 60 mm shells into a village in T’Hka Kloh (Kya Hka Chaung) village tract. As a result of the shelling, one villager was injured. In addition, several rubber trees were damaged by shrapnel from the explosion. As the victim was a daily labourer, he faced financial difficulties in seeking treatment at the hospital in Kyainseikgyi Town. The Burma Army frequently conducted shelling in the area, causing villagers to fear travelling. Furthermore, the prohibition on nighttime travel imposed by the Burma Army created significant challenges for patients in critical condition and pregnant women who needed to access medical treatment in Kyainseikgyi Town.¹

Part 1 – Incident Details

Type of Incident	[Shelling.] Burma Army ² shelling injured a villager.
Date of Incident(s)	December 5 th 2025
Incident Location (Village, Township and District)	Aa--- village, T’Hka Kloh village tract ³ , Noh T’Kaw Township, Doplaya District.

Victim Information	
Name	Maung ⁴ A---
Age	45 years old

¹ The present document is based on information received in December 2025. It was provided by a community member in Doplaya District who has been trained by KHRG to monitor human rights conditions on the ground. The names of the victims, their photos and the exact locations are censored for security reasons. The parts in square brackets are explanations added by KHRG. This document combines several received reports with the following KHRG internal log numbers: #25-445-I1 and #25-445-A1-I1.

² The terms Burma military, Burma Army, SAC, Tatmadaw, and junta are used interchangeably throughout this report to describe the Burma military regime’s armed forces. Villagers themselves commonly use Burma Army, Burmese soldiers, or alternatively the name adopted by the Burma military regime at the time —from the 2021 coup to July 2025, the State Administration Council (SAC). On July 31st 2025, the military junta changed its name to the State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC).

³ A village tract is an administrative unit of between five and 20 villages in a local area, often centred on a large village.

⁴ ‘Maung’ is a Burmese male honorific title used before a person’s name.

Gender	Man
Ethnicity	Bamar ⁵
Marital Status	Married
Occupation	Plantation worker
Religion	Christian
Position	Villager
Village	Aa--- village, T'Hka Kloh village tract, Noh T'Kaw Township, Dooplaya District.

Perpetrator Information (Armed Actors)				
Name(s)	Rank	Unit	Base	Commander's Name
Unknown	Unknown	Infantry Battalion (IB) ⁶ #283	Located between Tho Taing (Ther Ter) village and Shwe Done village [both in Noh T'Kaw village tract, Noh T'Kaw Township, Dooplaya District].	Unknown

Part 2 - Information Quality

1. Explain in detail how you collected this information.

I [KHRG researcher], who filled this information in myself, hid in a bunker [in Aa--- village] for safety during the shelling. The place where I was staying was only about 300 feet (91 meters) away from the location where the man was injured. [The researcher also conducted an interview with the victim's wife, who was present during the incident.]

2. Explain how the source verified this information.

I [researcher] took pictures of the victim's injury and interviewed his wife, so this information is true. [The researcher was also at the incident place when the shelling occurred.]

Part 3 – Complete Description of the Incident

Describe the Incident(s) in complete detail.

Kyainseikgyi Town [locally known as Seik Gyi Town, located in Noh T'Kaw Township, Dooplaya District] is under the control of the Burma Army. There are three IBs, IB #283, IB #284, IB #32,

⁵ The majority ethnic group in Myanmar, also known as ethnic Burmese or Burman.

⁶ An Infantry Battalion (IB) comprises 500 soldiers. However, most Infantry Battalions in the Tatmadaw are under-strength with less than 200 soldiers. Yet up to date information regarding the size of battalions is hard to come by, particularly following the signing of the NCA. They are primarily used for garrison duty but are sometimes used in offensive operations.

and a Hilltop Operation Base located near the town. [These army camps have frequently carried out shelling and drone strikes in nearby areas.⁷]

On December 5th 2025, at around 12 pm, the combined forces of [the People's Defence Force (PDF)⁸ and] the Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA)⁹ attacked these Burma Army bases using drones. In response, the Burma Army indiscriminately fired 81 mm mortar shells at areas beside the main road in Aa--- village, T'Hka Kloh village tract, Noh T'Kaw Township, Dooplaya District. That day at noon, three shells landed near Aa--- village but did not damage any of the villagers' houses.

Later that same day, at around 7 pm, the State Administration Council (SAC)¹⁰ fired 81 mm and 60 mm mortar shells continuously into Aa--- village. Two mortar shells landed in a rubber plantation next to a villager's hut [near] Aa--- village. The explosions injured a villager named Maung A--- (45 years old) and damaged some rubber trees. It appeared that two mortars were fired simultaneously, as the second shell exploded approximately four seconds after the first. Before the shelling, the man had been watching a video with his family in the hut. When the first shell exploded, his wife and children ran into the bunker beneath the hut. As Maung A--- prioritised his wife and children's safety and ensured they reached shelter first, the second shell landed [when he was still in the hut] and he was struck in the abdomen by shrapnel. Although injured, he did not dare to go to the clinic immediately, so he covered his injury with mud. After that, his wife applied monosodium glutamate (MSG) to the wound and, after some time, the bleeding stopped.

Ma¹¹ B--- [the victim's wife] explained to KHRG: *"After the first shell landed, I ran into the bunker with my children. The explosion initially deafened me, and I could not hear anything for a while. Two shells landed in the garden, while the others fell farther away. Their father [Maung A---] was injured in the abdomen, and his wound was bleeding a lot. Because of his abdominal injury, we may need to take him to the hospital in Kyainseikgyi Town for a medical checkup. At the moment, we have no money and will need to speak with our boss [employer] regarding financial support before going to the hospital. I do not wish for this kind of incident to happen again. We are deeply worried for our children."*

Maung A--- has four children. His family is originally from the Ayeyarwady Region. They moved to Aa--- village in 2014 and work on the rubber plantation as daily labourers.

The SAC often conduct shelling, so villagers are afraid to travel. At night, villagers are prohibited [by the Burma Army] from travelling whether the Burma Army carries out active shelling or not. This restriction causes problems for pregnant women and patients with critical medical conditions [to access health care in Kyainseikgyi Town].

⁷ Unpublished report from Dooplaya District, received in January 2026 (#26-25-D1).

⁸ The People's Defence Force (PDF) is an armed resistance established independently as local civilian militias operating across the country. Following the February 1st 2021 military coup and the ongoing brutal violence enacted by the junta, the majority of these groups began working with the National Unity Government (NUG), a body claiming to be the legitimate government of Burma/Myanmar, which then formalized the PDF on May 5th 2021 as a precursor to a federal army.

⁹ The Karen National Liberation Army is the armed wing of the Karen National Union.

¹⁰ The State Administration Council (SAC) is the executive governing body created in the aftermath of the February 1st 2021 military coup. It was established by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on February 2nd 2021, and is composed of eight military officers and eight civilians. The chairperson serves as the de facto head of government of Burma/Myanmar and leads the Military Cabinet of Myanmar, the executive branch of the government. Min Aung Hlaing assumed the role of SAC chairperson following the coup. The military junta changed its name on July 31st 2025 to State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC). It is also referred to as the Burma military regime.

¹¹ 'Ma' is a Burmese female honorific title used before a person's name.



These photos were taken in December 2025, in Aa--- village, T'Hka Kloh village tract, Noh T'Kaw Township, Dooplaya District. On December 5th 2025, at around 7 pm, Burma Army IB #283 fired 81 mm mortar shells into a rubber plantation. The explosion injured Maung A--- in the abdomen. The shells also damaged several rubber trees. The photo on the left shows one of the rubber trees damaged by shrapnel, while the photo on the right shows Maung A---'s wound. Due to financial difficulties, he cannot afford to seek treatment at the hospital. [Photos: KHRG]

Part 4 - Permission for Using the Details

Did the victim(s) provide permission to use this information? Explain how that permission was provided.

The information can be used. [The victim and the victim's wife gave KHRG permission to use the information.]

Further background reading on the situation of shelling in Southeast Burma/Myanmar can be found in the following KHRG reports:

- *Stolen Childhoods: Violations of children's rights, urgent needs, and local agency in rural Southeast Burma during the conflict, October 2025.*
- "Dooplaya District Short Update: SAC shelling and displacement challenges in Kruh Tuh Township (July 2025)", January 2026.
- "Taw Oo District Incident Report: SAC shelling killed a four-year-old boy and injured two villagers, including a six-year-old girl, in Daw Hpah Hkoh Township (June 2025)", January 2026.

About KHRG

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Karen Human Rights Group

Documenting the voices of villagers in rural Burma

Incident Report

March 25th 2026 / KHRG #26-52-I3

Mu Traw District Incident Report: Burma Army air strike and mortar shelling killed a villager, forcing other villagers to flee in Dwe Lo Township (October 2025)

This Incident Report describes events occurring in Dwe Lo Township, Mu Traw (Hpapun) District in October 2025. On October 10th 2025, Burma Army soldiers from Light infantry Battalion (LIB) #407 and LIB #408 under the control of Military Operations Command (MOC) #8, based in K'Ter Tee army camp, fired two mortar shells into Aa--- village, K'Ter Tee village tract. Before the mortar shelling, the Burma Army also conducted an air strike by dropping two 500 pound bombs into the village. The bombs landed on a farm near the edge of the village and caused no casualties and destruction; only the farm where it landed was damaged. The other bomb landed near a house of a villager and remained unexploded. The first mortar shell landed on a farm at the edge of the village with no casualties reported, but the shrapnel of the explosion scattered in the surrounding area and it minorly damaged the house of Naw B--- and Saw A---. The second mortar shell landed and exploded near their house. Saw A--- was hit by shrapnel on his back, head, and his right temple. The force of the shrapnel forced his intestines out and he was killed instantly. His wife is now widowed with three young children and his grandmother, so she is struggling with the family's livelihood since Saw A--- was the only breadwinner of the family when he was alive. Also, their children and his grandmother are not in good health. After the incidents, villagers were afraid and dared not stay in the village. So, they fled to a cave in a forest. The villagers faced challenges with their livelihood and need staple foods to survive. They stayed in the cave alertly and cautiously, and they went out to work on their plantations to secure their livelihood when the sound of mortar shells reduced to a minimum or stopped entirely.¹

Part 1 – Incident Details

Type of Incident	[Indiscriminate firing of mortars / small arms and air strike] [The Burma Army ²] fired mortar shells, killing one villager.
Date of Incident(s)	October 10th 2025
Incident Location	Aa--- village, K'Ter Tee village tract ³ , Dwe Lo Township, Mu Traw

¹ The present document is based on information received in December 2025 and February 2026. It was provided by a community member in Mu Traw District who has been trained by KHRG as a researcher to monitor human rights conditions on the ground. The names of the victims, their photos and the exact locations are censored for security reasons. The parts in square brackets are explanations added by KHRG. This document combines several received reports with the following KHRG internal log number: #25-458-A2-I1; #25-368-P1; #26-52-S1.

² The terms Burma military, Burma Army, SAC, Tatmadaw, and junta are used interchangeably throughout this report to describe the Burma military regime's armed forces. Villagers themselves commonly use Burma Army, Burmese soldiers, or alternatively the name adopted by the Burma military regime at the time—from the 2021 coup to July 2025, the State Administration Council (SAC). On July 31st 2025, the military junta changed its name to the State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC).

(Village, Township and District)	District.
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Victim Information	
Name	Saw ⁴ A---
Age	31 years old
Gender	Man
Ethnicity	Karen
Marital Status	Married
Occupation	Farmer
Religion	Buddhist
Position	[Villager]
Village	Aa--- village, K'Ter Tee village tract, Dwe Lo Township, Mu Traw District.

Perpetrator Information (Armed Actors)				
Name(s)	Rank	Unit	Base	Commander's Name
Unknown	Unknown	[Burma Army] MOC [Military Operations Command] ⁵ #8, LIB [Light Infantry Battalion] ⁶ #407 and LIB #408	K'Ter Tee army camp, K'Ter Tee village tract, Dwe Lo Township, Mu Traw District	Unknown

Part 2 - Information Quality

1. Explain in detail how this information was collected.

A KHRG researcher was in the area when the incident happened. On October 9th 2025, at 8:22 pm, the researcher heard a sound of a fighter jet flying overhead and dropping bombs onto Aa-- village [K'Ter Tee village tract, Dwe Lo Township, Mu Traw District]. Then, at 8:24 pm and 8:26 pm, [the KHRG researcher heard] the Burma Army⁷ [Light infantry Battalion] (LIB) #407

³ A village tract is an administrative unit of between five and 20 villages in a local area, often centred on a large village.

⁴ Saw is a S'gaw Karen male honorific title used before a person's name.

⁵ Military Operations Command (MOC) is comprised of ten battalions for offensive operations. Most MOCs have three Tactical Operations Commands (TOCs) made up of three battalions each.

⁶ A Light Infantry Battalion (LIB) comprises 500 soldiers. Most Light Infantry Battalions in the Tatmadaw are under-strength with less than 200 soldiers, yet up-to-date information regarding the size of battalions is hard to come by, particularly following the signing of the NCA. LIBs are primarily used for offensive operations, but they are sometimes used for garrison duties.

⁷ The terms Burma military, Burma Army, SAC, Tatmadaw, and junta are used interchangeably throughout this report to describe the Burma military regime's armed forces. Villagers themselves commonly use Burma Army, Burmese soldiers, or alternatively the name adopted by the Burma military regime at the time—from the 2021 coup to July 2025, the State Administration Council (SAC). On July 31st 2025, the military junta changed its name to the State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC).

and LIB #408 under the control of Military Operations Command (MOC) #8 fired mortar shells from K'Ter Tee army camp. At that time, the KHRG researcher [was not asleep] yet so he looked at the clock as soon as he heard the sound.

2. Explain how the source verified this information.

The next morning [October 10th 2025], the K'Ter Tee village tract head informed Saw E--- of the situation. Then, Saw E--- informed the KHRG researcher that the air strike was conducted into Aa--- village the night before. There had been raining and thundering while the incident happened [so villagers did not recognise the sound of mortar shelling and air strike].

Part 3 – Complete Description of the Incident

Describe the Incident(s) in complete detail.

On October 9th 2025, at around 8:22 pm, a fighter jet [of the Burma Army] dropped two 500 pounds bombs [near] Aa--- village, K'Ter Tee village tract, Dwe Lo Township, Mu Traw District. One of the bombs landed and exploded on a farm close to the village, while another bomb landed close to a house of a villager and remained unexploded. So, the air strike did not cause any casualties to villagers and their domestic animals. It only damaged the farmland where it landed and exploded. As it was raining and thundering that night, villagers could not recognise the sound of the aircraft engine when it came.



These photos were taken by a KHRG researcher in October 2025 on a farm beside Aa--- village, K'Ter Tee village tract, Dwe Lo Township, Mu Traw District. The photos show a crater of the first 500 pounds bombs dropped by a Burma Army fighter jet on October 9th 2025, at 8:22 pm. One of the bombs landed and exploded in a farm located beside Aa--- village. Some rice paddies in the field were destroyed by the explosion. Also, the shrapnel from the explosion scattered in the surrounding area and damaged some roofs of villagers' houses. [Photos: KHRG]

During the air strike, 31-year-old Naw⁸ B---, her 31-year-old husband named Saw A---, the grandmother of her husband, and their [three] children were in the house and sleeping. They did not hear or recognise the sound of the aircraft engine when it came due to the rain and thunder. Yet Naw B--- heard the sound of bombs [when they] landed and exploded, but she thought it was the sound of thunder, so she did not wake her family up. After the air strike, an older sister of Naw B--- [who lives in a house nearby] named Naw O--- came to her [Naw B---'s] house and woke them up. The sister [Naw O---] informed the family that aircraft came and conducted air strikes. She [Naw O---] asked the family to come down from the house to go into their makeshift bunker at her [Naw B---'s] house. They, including the grandmother, carried their

⁸ 'Naw' is a S'gaw Karen female honorific title used before a person's name.

children and went down from the house to the ground.

While they were on the ground beneath their house, at 8:24 pm, a mortar shell was fired by the Burma Army combined forces of LIB #407 and LIB #408 under the control of MOC #8, based in K'Ter Tee army camp. The mortar shell passed the village and landed on a farm at the edge of the village behind the house of Naw B---. It caused no casualties or destruction. Yet, it damaged the farm [field] where it landed. As a result, the shrapnel of the mortar shell scattered in the surrounding area and a piece of the shrapnel hit the house of Naw B--- and Saw A---. Naw B--- said she [warned] her husband that the mortar shell landed very close to them.

In a short time, at 8:26 pm, another mortar shell was fired [by the Burma Army]. Naw B--- could hear the sound of the [second] mortar shell when it came out from the mortar cannon. She then informed her husband that another mortar shell was fired and asked her family to go into the makeshift bunker at their house. They then went into the makeshift bunker, but the husband was still outside with his oldest daughter. Before going into the bunker, Saw A--- put his daughter on the upper floor and tightened his longyi. Then the [second] mortar shell landed and exploded near his house while he was tightening his longyi. He was then hit by the shrapnel from the explosion on his back, head, and right temple. The force caused his intestines to spill out of his abdomen. He fell on the ground immediately after [he was] hit by the shrapnel, but his family in the bunker thought he lay down on the ground to avoid the shrapnel. They [the family] also dared not turn on their torchlight, so they did not see that he was hit by the shrapnel since it was nighttime. When the shelling had stopped for a while, the older sister of Naw B--- [Naw O---] said to him [Saw A---] that he could get up since the sounds of mortar shells had stopped for a while already. They heard no reply from him, so Naw O--- turned on her torchlight, [and] they saw blood flowing into the bunker. They guessed it was the blood of Saw A--- from being hit by the shrapnel. The shrapnel of the mortar shell also hit two cows owned by another villager.





These photos were taken by a KHRG researcher in October 2025, in Aa--- village, K'Ter Tee village tract, Dwe Lo Township, Mu Traw District. The photos show an incident of mortar shelling, which was conducted by the Burma Army combined forces of Light Infantry Battalion (LIB) #407 and LIB #408 under the control of Military Operations Command (MOC) #8 based in K'Ter Tee army camp on October 9th 2025. The left photo above shows the corpse of Saw A---, who was killed by the shrapnel of the second mortar shell, which landed in front of his house. The right photo above shows the house of Naw B--- and Saw A---, and the crater of the second mortar shell, which landed on the front side of the house. The photo below shows the crater of the first mortar shell, which landed in the field of a villager, located behind Naw B---'s house. [Photos: KHRG]

Naw B--- stated: *"Then I asked my sister, 'What do we do? What should we do?' Subsequently, my older sister [Naw O---] ran out from the bunker, seeking help. At that time, my oldest daughter was on the higher floor [outside the bunker]. When she saw her dad was bleeding and his intestines had spilled out, she cried in anguish. She [the daughter] said she no longer dared to stay there [at her house] so she ran randomly, then across her dad's back [the corpse] and followed her aunt. My sister went to a house near mine and informed the house owner Naw C---'s dad [Saw Z---]: 'Saw A--- was hit by the shrapnel of the explosion' She asked Saw Z--- to come to us and stay with us, but he refused, and none of his family members came to us. It might be because the mortar shelling just happened, so they were afraid mortar shells would be fired again. So, my sister left her niece there with the house owners and went into the village to seek help."*

Their house is located at the [eastern] edge of the village and a bit far from the community. She continued: *"I stayed in the bunker with his [her husband's] grandma and my second daughter and youngest son. We could not come out because the corpse of my husband was right at the entrance of the bunker and his blood [was] flowing a lot. I screamed in fear, but no one came to us for help. I then said, 'Where did my sister [Naw O---] go?' I did not know that my sister tried to reach out to someone in the village."*

Meanwhile, Naw B--- saw a young man from a distance named Saw D--- come, and she screamed for help. Saw D--- came to them and asked what happened to the family. Naw B--- informed him that her husband was hit by the shrapnel and requested the young man carry her husband away from the entrance of the bunker and put him [the husband] on the bunker cover. Saw D--- carried the corpse and placed [the body] as he was requested. After that, he [Saw D---] left to take care of his mom. Naw B--- stated: *"I remained behind [with my children and the grandmother], and I thought any of [the people from] the house near mine would come to us, but they did not come. I screamed a lot. Also, I spoke through tears. [...] Even though my older sister [Naw O---] was seeking [help from] people in the village, she found no one, because all the other villagers had fled already. Then she [Naw O---] passed the information to my older brothers and my brother-in-law [Naw O---'s husband]. Then they came to me. [...] When they arrived here, I asked them to carry my husband to the platform which was built under my house. They struggled a lot carrying my husband because my husband was big and tall as well. After they carried my husband to the platform, they screamed for help to Saw Z--- and asked him to help them carry my husband in my house. But he [Saw Z---] did not come. So, my brothers struggled and tried to carry my husband. They could only carry my husband to the platform that we built under our house."*

After the brothers carried their brother-in-law to the platform, the brother named Saw J--- stayed

with his sister, while Saw K--- went out to seek other villagers. Then villagers came one by one and held a vigil throughout the night with Naw B---. [The next day], on October 10th 2025, in the morning, they held a funeral service and buried him [Saw A---]. Naw B--- received some donations from [other] villagers for her husband's funeral. Some villagers provided her 5,000 kyats (2.38 USD⁹), some provided 10,000 kyats (4.76 USD), and other villagers provided a bowl of rice. She could not remember how much she received in total. The victim's family did not receive any support from local authorities or organisations. Naw B--- now lives as a widow with her three children and the grandmother.

Naw B--- also said: *"I am currently in a difficult moment since I have lost my husband. We [the remaining family members] face challenges with our livelihood, especially food rations. We do not have sufficient food for our daily bread. I will be happy if someone could support us. [...] We do not have any breadwinner left since my husband was the only one. The other thing is that sending our children to school is also an expense. A teacher asked me [for the] school [enrolment] fee. I could not afford it, so I asked her to wait for me until I have money. The teacher understands my situation. I need staple foods for my family and school fees for my children. So, I have many preoccupying things on my mind. I need to think of a job to secure my family's livelihood. In my heart, I have many feelings that I cannot even say out loud. After I lost my husband, I always feel something in my heart. I frequently think of my life and cry whenever my mind went to him. It is quite hard for us to survive."*

Naw B--- also expressed her experiences that she faces several types of difficulties. She owed debt to someone after she lost her husband, because she had no money for a funeral service for her husband [the money she received from other villagers' willingness was not enough to cover the cost]. So, she borrowed money from other villagers. She said that since she borrowed the money, she is responsible to pay it back. But she cannot do anything to pay the money back since her children are little and she is not confident enough to leave her children behind during this conflict situation. On the other hand, she has to take care of the grandmother since she [the grandmother] is very old and not in a good health. Her children are also not in good health. So, she only works when she gets a moment to work. She borrows some food [snacks] from a shop [and] then sells it. After she sells it [the snacks], she pays the shopkeeper back. The snacks she borrows from the shop are not that much, so she does not make much profit. She can only receive small amounts of money, so her family needs staple food such as rice, cooking oil, and salts.

Regarding the incident, villagers from Aa--- village believed that as the only remaining Burma Army camp [in Dwe Lo Township, K'Ter Tee army camp has been intentionally targeting the villages, because they [the Burma Army] have been indiscriminately firing mortar shells into each village in K'Ter Tee village tract since the 2021 coup¹⁰. [Villagers believe this because] whether there were [Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA)¹¹] soldiers in the villages or not, [or whether] fighting was happening in the village or nearby villages or not, they [the Burma Army] fired mortar shells into the villages whenever they wanted.

After the incidents [the air strike and shelling on October 9th 2025], villagers fled and stayed in a

⁹ All conversion estimates for the kyat in this report are based on the 23 March 2026 official market rate of 1 USD = 2,100 MMK, <https://wise.com/gb/currency-converter/usd-to-mmk-rate>

¹⁰ On February 1st 2021, the Burma Army deposed the democratically elected government led by the National League for Democracy (NLD). The military proclaimed a year-long state of emergency and transferred power to Min Aung Hlaing, the Commander-in-Chief of Myanmar's Armed Forces. Based on unproven fraud allegations, the Tatmadaw invalidated the landslide victory of the NLD in the November 2020 General Election and stated it would hold new elections at the end of the state of emergency. The coup d'état occurred the day before the Parliament of Myanmar was due to swear in the members elected during the 2020 election. Elected President Win Myint and State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi were detained, along with ministers, their deputies and members of Parliament.

¹¹ The Karen National Liberation Army is the armed wing of the Karen National Union.

cave [including Naw B--- and her family]. Then, when they heard fewer sounds of mortar shells, they went out and worked on their farms and plantations. But when they heard more sounds of mortar shells, they felt afraid and stayed alert in the cave [instead of going out to work]. They experienced a lot of coughing and sneezing from living in the cave. No medical care was available for them. Naw B--- also said: *“Village administrators do not organise anything for us. We fled and we just survive our live like this. So, if we receive any support, we will be happy. [...] We do not get to live our lives peacefully here. We struggle a lot. I need to be thoughtful for my family’s livelihood since I have children to feed. I want peace and I would like to live in my own house.”*

Part 4 - Permission for Using the Details

Did the victim(s) provide permission to use this information? Explain how that permission was provided.

The wife of the victim, named Naw B---, allowed us [KHRG] to use this information accordingly to our needs [after the researcher explained how the information will be used].

Further background reading on the situation on indiscriminate firing of mortars / small arms in Southeast Burma/Myanmar can be found in the following KHRG reports:

- [Striking Fear: Impacts of State Administration Council \(SAC\) shelling on villagers’ lives in Southeast Burma \(January to October 2023\)](#), December 2023
- [“Photo Set: Shelling of villages in Southeast Burma by the Burma Army, the BGF, and other affiliated armed groups, and its impacts \(January to November 2025\)”](#), December 2025
- [“Doooplaya District Short Update: SAC shelling and displacement challenges in Kruh Tuh Township \(July 2025\)”](#), January 2026

About KHRG

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Karen Human Rights Group

Documenting the voices of villagers in rural Burma

Incident Report

March 27th 2026 / KHRG #26-56-I1

Kler Lwee Htoo District Incident Report: Burma Army air strike killed one villager, injured two villagers, and damaged villagers' houses and a monastery in Moo Township (January 2026)

This Incident Report describes events occurring in Moo special area, Moo (Mone) Township, Kler Lwee Htoo (Nyaunglebin) District, in January 2026. On January 24th 2026, at 11:15 am, a Burma Army fighter jet dropped four bombs onto Aa--- village, Mya P'Go village tract. As a result, one villager was killed, and two villagers, including a woman and an elderly man, were injured while they were staying in their houses. Furthermore, three villagers' houses and a monastery were damaged. After the incident, some of the villagers fled to safer places. The villagers who did not flee continue to live in fear and must remain alert constantly, with many choosing to sleep in makeshift bunkers.¹

Part 1 – Incident Details

Type of Incident	Air strike. [Burma Army ² air strike killed one villager, injured two villagers, and damaged three villagers' houses and a monastery.]
Date of Incident(s)	January 24 th 2026
Incident Location (Village, Township and District)	Aa--- village, Mya P'Go village tract ³ , Moo special area, Moo Township, Kler Lwee Htoo District.

Victim(s) Information			
Name	U ⁴ A---	U B---	Ma ⁵ C---

¹ The present document is based on information received in February 2026. It was provided by a community member in Kler Lwee Htoo District who has been trained by KHRG to monitor human rights conditions on the ground. The names of the victims, their photos and the exact locations are censored for security reasons. The parts in square brackets are explanations added by KHRG. This document combines several received reports with the following KHRG internal log numbers: #26-56-I1, #26-56-A1-I1, and #26-56-M1.

² The terms Burma military, Burma Army, SAC, Tatmadaw, and junta are used interchangeably throughout this report to describe the Burma military regime's armed forces. Villagers themselves commonly use Burma Army, Burmese soldiers, or alternatively the name adopted by the Burma military regime at the time —from the 2021 coup to July 2025, the State Administration Council (SAC). On July 31st 2025, the military junta changed its name to the State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC).

³ A village tract is an administrative unit of between five and 20 villages in a local area, often centred on a large village.

⁴ 'U' is a Burmese title used for elder men, used before their name.

⁵ 'Ma' is a Burmese female honorific title used before a person's name.

Age	75 years old	55 years old	27 years old
Gender	Man	Man	Woman
Ethnicity	[Bamar ⁶]	[Bamar]	[Bamar]
Marital Status	[Married]	Unknown	Unknown
Occupation	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Religion	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Position	Undertaker	Unknown	Unknown
Village	Aa--- village, Mya P'Go village tract, Moo special area, Moo Township, Kler Lwee Htoo District.	Aa--- village, Mya P'Go village tract, Moo special area, Moo Township, Kler Lwee Htoo District.	Aa--- village, Mya P'Go village tract, Moo special area, Moo Township, Kler Lwee Htoo District.

Perpetrator Information (Armed Actors)			
Type of Aircraft	Unit	Base	Commander's Name
Fighter jet	Burma military regime Air Force	Unknown	Min Aung Hlaing ⁷ [General Htun Aung serves as the Commander-in-Chief of the Burma Army Air Force]

Part 2 - Information Quality

1. Explain in detail how this information was collected.

Regarding this incident, I [a KHRG researcher] contacted an Aa--- villager, Ko⁸ I---, and he told me about the incident. I [a KHRG researcher] went to Aa--- village and conducted an interview with a victim's family member, Ma T---. I [a KHRG researcher] also took the incident photos.

2. Explain how the source verified this information.

The people who provided the information to me are KNU [Karen National Union]⁹ local authorities in that area, and some [of the villagers who provided information] are the victims who witnessed the incident that had happened.

⁶ The majority ethnic group in Myanmar, also known as ethnic Burmese or Burman.

⁷ A Senior General in the Burma Army who has served as the chairman of the executive body governing Burma/Myanmar since February 2021, first called the State Administration Council and later renamed as the State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC) in July 2025. He has also served as the Commander-in-Chief of Burma's Armed Forces since March 2011. Min Aung Hlaing seized power after overthrowing the civilian government led by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on February 1st 2021, ending a nearly ten-year period of civilian rule. He appointed himself as Prime Minister of Burma on August 1st 2021, and became Acting President of Burma on July 22nd 2024.

⁸ The Karen National Union (KNU) is the main Karen political organisation. It was established in 1947 and has been in conflict with the government since 1949. The KNU wields power across large areas of Southeast Myanmar and has been calling for the creation of a democratic federal system since 1976. Although it signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) in 2015, following the 2021 coup staged by Burma Army leaders, the KNU officially stated that the NCA has become void.

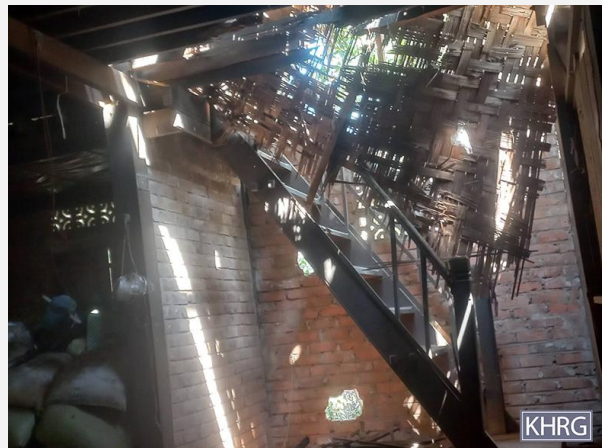
⁹ The Karen National Union (KNU) is the main Karen political organisation. It was established in 1947 and has been in conflict with the government since 1949. The KNU wields power across large areas of Southeast Myanmar and has been calling for the creation of a democratic federal system since 1976. Although it signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) in 2015, following the 2021 coup staged by Burma Army leaders, the KNU officially stated that the NCA has become void.

Part 3 – Complete Description of the Incident

Describe the Incident(s) in complete detail.

On January 24th 2026, at 11:15 am, a Burma military regime fighter jet dropped four bombs on Aa--- village, Mya P'Go village tract, Moo special area, Moo Township, Kler Lwee Htoo District. All of the bombs landed and exploded in the village. Due to the air strike, U B--- was hit by shrapnel while he was staying in his house; U A--- was hit by shrapnel while he was sitting with his family under his house; and Ma C--- was hit by shrapnel while she was staying in her house. Furthermore, three villagers' houses and a monastery in the village were damaged. There were casualties and damages in the village because the villagers had not known the fighter jet would come and conduct an air strike [no fighting was occurring in the village at the time of the incident]¹⁰.

The villager who was killed by the air strike was 55-year-old U B---, and the villagers who were injured by the air strike were 75-year-old U A--- and 27-year-old Ma C---. U B--- was hit by the shrapnel and sustained severe injury on his back. U A--- was injured on his right arm and Ma C--- sustained minor injury on her right cheek. Furthermore, the iron sheet roofs and the walls of U B---'s house, Daw¹¹ O---'s house, and U A---'s house were damaged, and the monastery wall was also minorly damaged.



¹⁰ Some villagers express human rights violations or abuses that they have suffered as part of their fate or luck, or express that they should have taken more precautions, rather than directly attributing the abuse or impact to the Burma military regime or other powerful actors who commit these violations. KHRG has not modified the researcher's words to preserve the local voice, while as an organisation also emphasising the overall pattern and source of indiscriminate human rights violations in Southeast Burma.

¹¹ 'Daw' is a Burmese female honorific title used before a person's name.



On January 24th 2026, the Burma Army carried out an air strike on Aa--- village, Mya P'Go village tract, Moo special area, Moo Township, Kler Lwee Htoo District. Due to the air strike, one villager was killed and two villagers were injured. Additionally, three villagers' houses and the village monastery were damaged. The four photos above were taken by a KHRG researcher in February 2026. The photo on the bottom right shows U A---'s injury to his right arm after getting discharged from the clinic. The photo on the top left is Daw O---'s house, the top right is U B---'s house, and the bottom left is U A---'s house. These three photos show the damages caused to the villagers' houses as a result of the Burma Army's air strike. [Photos: KHRG]

After the air strike, the villagers transported U A--- and U B--- to Ab--- clinic, located in Ab--- village, Kyaung Pya village tract, Moo special area, by car to access treatment. The clinic is run by the KDHW [Karen Department of Health and Welfare]¹². Regarding Ma C---, she received treatment from another villager in the village because she just sustained minor injuries. U B--- died after he was transported to the clinic, the same afternoon of the air strike. After four days, on January 28th, U A--- recovered and was discharged from the clinic. U A--- did not have to pay for the treatment. After the incident, all the villagers were afraid the aircraft would return and conduct an air strike again, so some of the villagers fled to their workplaces [plantations and farms], and some fled to the nearby Ba--- and Bb--- villages. Regarding the villagers who did not flee, they have to live in fear and some of them sleep in makeshift bunkers at night.

U A---'s daughter, Ma T---, explained: *"I heard the children shout: 'Aircraft is coming', and before I was able to enter into the makeshift bunker, the bombs already landed. After the bomb explosion, we were afraid and ran. Then, our aunty called us and told us that our father [U A---] was hit, and she let us take the children and flee to the back part [of the house], so we fled to the back part. I do not know why they [the Burma Army] came and conducted an air strike. [...] After the air strike, we have had to stay alert for the sound of an aircraft and the sound of shelling. If we hear the sound, we get into bunkers. We have to stay like that. Because the aircraft came and conducted that air strike, I feel unsafe and I feel so scared that I cannot eat. I sleep in a makeshift bunker at another villager's house. They let me sleep in the house, but I dare not to sleep [in the house], so I sleep in the makeshift bunker."*

Because the Burma military regime conducts shelling, drone strikes, and air strikes like this, most of the civilians in Moo special area have to flee; face shelter difficulties, food shortages, and illnesses; and always have to live with fear and anxiety.

¹² The Karen Department of Health and Welfare (KDHW) is the health department of the Karen National Union. It was established in 1956 to address the lack of public healthcare resources in rural Southeast Myanmar. It currently operates a network of community-based clinics in the region, but its capabilities remain limited due to funding constraints.

Part 4 - Permission for Using the Details

Did the victim(s) provide permission to use this information? Explain how that permission was provided.

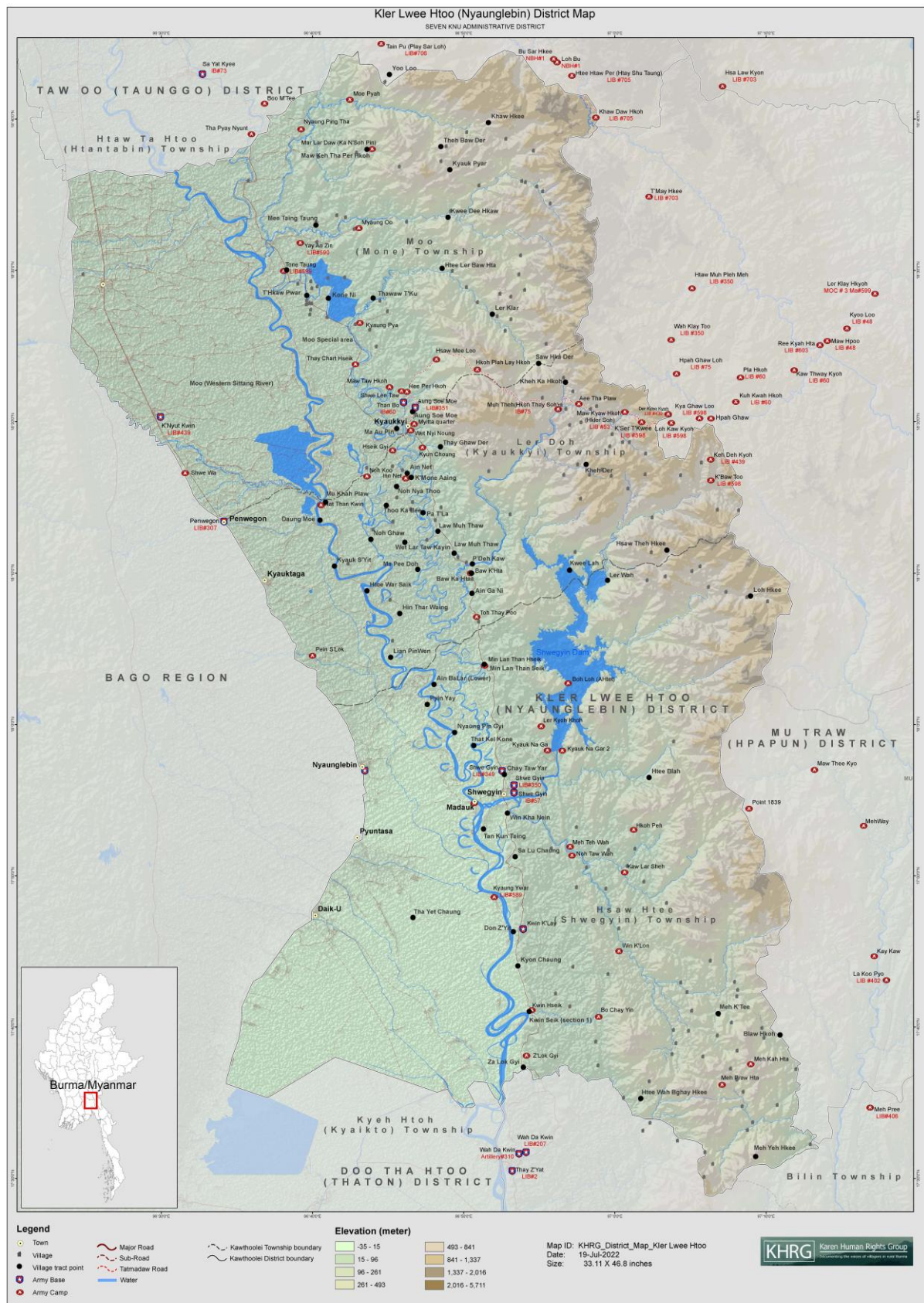
Ma T---, who provided us with the information, and the other two victims' family members, gave full permission to us [KHRG] to use this information.

Further background reading on the situation on air strikes in Southeast Burma/Myanmar can be found in the following KHRG reports:

- ကဘီယုဟဲလံ Aircraft coming! : Impacts of air strikes on local communities and villagers' protection strategies in Southeast Burma since the 2021 coup, November 2024.
- "Photo Set: Burma Army air strikes on local communities, resulting in casualties, destruction, and displacement (January to December 2025)", March 2026.
- "Dooplaya District Incident Report: Burma Army drone strike injured two villagers in Noh T'Kaw Township (January 2026)", March 2026.

About KHRG

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Karen Human Rights Group

Documenting the voices of villagers in rural Burma

Incident Report

April 6th 2026 / KHRG # 26-16-I1

Kler Lwee Htoo District Incident Report: Burma Army shelling injured a villager in Moo Township (December 2025)

This Incident Report describes an event which occurred in Moo (Mone) Township, Kler Lwee Htoo (Nyaunglebin) District. On December 28th 2025, the Burma Army shelled Aa--- village, Moo special area, injuring a villager named Maung A--- on his thigh while he was working in his plantation field. He was sent to Ab--- clinic for treatment. His family's financial difficulties have increased after he sustained injury. Following the shelling incident, villagers have developed a fear of living in the village; thus, some villagers have lived outside of the village, while some have dug bunkers to continue living in the village.¹

Part 1 – Incident Details

Type of Incident	Shelling and injury.
Date of Incident(s)	December 28 th 2025
Incident Location (Village, Township and District)	Aa--- village, Moo special area, Moo Township, Kler Lwee Htoo District.

Victim Information	
Name	Maung ² A---
Age	38 years old
Gender	Man
Ethnicity	Bamar ³
Marital Status	Married
Occupation	Farmer
Religion	Buddhist
Position	Villager

¹ The present document is based on information received in January 2026. It was provided by a community member in Kler Lwee Htoo District who has been trained by KHRG as a researcher to monitor human rights conditions on the ground. The names of the victims, their photos and the exact locations are censored for security reasons. The parts in square brackets are explanations added by KHRG. This document combines several received reports with the following KHRG internal log numbers: #26-16-I1; and #26-16-A1-I1.

² 'Maung' is a Burmese male honorific title used before a person's name.

³ The majority ethnic group in Myanmar, also known as ethnic Burmese or Burman.

Village	Aa--- village, Moo special area, Moo Township, Kler Lwee Htoo District.
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Perpetrator Information (Armed Actors)				
Name(s)	Rank	Unit	Base	Commander's Name
Unknown	Unknown	[Burma Army ⁴ unit.] Unknown	Nan Thar Kwin [village tract ⁵ , Moo Township, Kler Lwee Htoo District]	Min Aung Hlaing ⁶

Part 2 - Information Quality

1. Explain in detail how this information was collected.

The KHRG researcher saw this information on Moo Township news [social media page on Facebook] and contacted the local authority [the village head assistant]. The researcher received insightful information from the village head assistant and later, visited the incident location to do documentation [including an interview with the victim].

2. Explain how the source verified this information.

The researcher interviewed the victim, Maung A---, and talked to the local authorities and other villagers who witnessed the incident.

Part 3 – Complete Description of the Incident

Describe the Incident(s) in complete detail.

On December 28th 2025, the Burma [Army], based in Nan Thar Kwin village tract, Moo Township, Kler Lwee Htoo District, fired two shells. The two shells landed and exploded in a plantation field, located near Aa--- village, Moo special area, Moo Township, owned by Maung A---. [No fighting was occurring the area at the time of the shelling.]

When the shelling happened, Maung A--- was [on his way to] water his plants in his plantation field. As he turned on the water generator [to pump water for his plants], the shells landed near him, and he sustained injury on his left thigh. He felt an extreme pain and could not walk by himself [so he stayed still on the spot]. [Maung A---'s plantation was also damaged by the

⁴ The terms Burma military, Burma Army, SAC, Tatmadaw, and junta are used interchangeably throughout this report to describe the Burma military regime's armed forces. Villagers themselves commonly use Burma Army, Burmese soldiers, or alternatively the name adopted by the Burma military regime at the time—from the 2021 coup to July 2025, the State Administration Council (SAC). On July 31st 2025, the military junta changed its name to the State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC).

⁵ A village tract is an administrative unit of between five and 20 villages in a local area, often centred on a large village.

⁶ A Senior General in the Burma Army who has served as the chairman of the executive body governing Burma/Myanmar since February 2021, first called the State Administration Council and later renamed as the State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC) in July 2025. He has also served as the Commander-in-Chief of Burma's Armed Forces since March 2011. Min Aung Hlaing seized power after overthrowing the civilian government led by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi on February 1st 2021, ending a nearly ten-year period of civilian rule. He appointed himself as Prime Minister of Burma on August 1st 2021, and became Acting President of Burma on July 22nd 2024

shelling.] He expressed in an interview: *“When I got injured, I could not stand or walk by myself. I felt inconsolable feelings. I have never wanted to participate in the revolution, so I’ve been working on my plantation field, in my village. Then, this thing [the shelling] happened to me. [I wondered:] did I carry the unavoidable fate to encounter this shelling or was it just bad luck⁷?”*

About 15 to 20 minutes after the shelling, the neighbours of Maung A--- found him [lying on the ground]. The neighbours saw that he sustained an injury, so he was sent to a doctor, a member of the CDM [Civil Disobedient Movement]⁸, [who lives] in Aa--- village. He was later referred to a clinic administered by the Karen Department of Health and Welfare (KDHW)⁹ in Ab--- village, Kyaw Pya village tract, Moo Township, for further treatment. [It is unknown to KHRG how much he paid for his treatment, but KDHW clinics are usually fee-free.]

Later, he shared his worries in the interview: *“I have three children. Two children are in grade four and one is in kindergarten. My wife is also pregnant. I had aimed to provide daily food for my family despite the difficulties [before he sustained the injury]. There are many things that do not go well [after he sustained injury]. So, I’ve been feeling sad. When I got hit, I wondered how I could support my family now. I’ve felt inconsolable feelings.”* He continued: *“We are farmers. To have food daily, we have to work daily. We hunt frogs and fish for our daily food. This is the situation of our livelihoods. So, when the shelling happened, we had to flee, but we did not have money to flee. We could not even afford for our daily food. We have stayed in the village [because there is no other way to survive]. If I must die, so be it. We have stayed in the village because we have livelihood difficulties [don’t have enough money to flee]. We have been living in fear.”*



On December 28th 2025, the Burma Army, based in Nan Thar Kwin village tract, Moo Township, Kler Lwee Htoo District, fired two shells, and the shells landed and exploded in a plantation field, located near Aa--- village, Moo special area, Moo Township, owned by a local villager named Maung A---. The shelling injured Maung A---’s left leg. The photo shows a hole in the plantation field where one of the shells landed. [Photo: KHRG]

⁷ Some villagers express human rights violations or abuses that they have suffered as part of their fate or luck rather than directly blaming the Burma military regime or other powerful actors who commit these violations. KHRG includes this quote to accurately document the villager’s voice while as an organisation also emphasising the overall pattern and source of indiscriminate human rights violations in Southeast Burma.

⁸ On February 2nd 2021, healthcare workers at state-run hospitals and medical facilities across Myanmar spearheaded what is being referred to as a Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM) consisting of labour strikes in protest against the February 1st 2021 military coup. The movement quickly spread to include civil servants from all sectors of the government who are walking off their jobs as a way of non-recognition and non-participation in the military regime. Because of the popularity of the movement, and its seminal role in wider protests across the country, some people have begun using it as a catch-all phrase to include other protest forms like boycotts and pot-banging.

⁹ The Karen Department of Health and Welfare (KDHW) is the health department of the Karen National Union. It was established in 1956 to address the lack of public healthcare resources in rural Southeast Myanmar. It currently operates a network of community-based clinics in the region, but its capabilities remain limited due to funding constraints.

The villagers do not know why the Burma Army conducted shelling into the village. However, some villagers believe that the Burma Army fired mortar shells [into the village indiscriminately] because they wanted to target the villagers as their enemy [they believe the Burma Army chose to treat villagers as combatants]. Thus, the villagers from the village have felt greater fear [of staying in the village] following the shelling, [and some villagers have displaced themselves outside of the village]. Since the shelling, the villagers have also stayed alert while traveling and working [in the plantation fields] to support their livelihoods. The shelling incident has built anxiety for the villagers [to live in the village] and has caused [safety and livelihood] challenges for the villagers.

As a result of the shelling incident, villagers have dug enough bunkers for all families [who stay in the village]. Maung A--- shared: *"We were scared that the shelling would happen again. We have not been able to sleep properly while feeling unsafe [from the shelling]. We, as a whole family, have slept in bunkers."*

Part 4 - Permission for Using the Details

Did the victim(s) provide permission to use this information? Explain how that permission was provided.

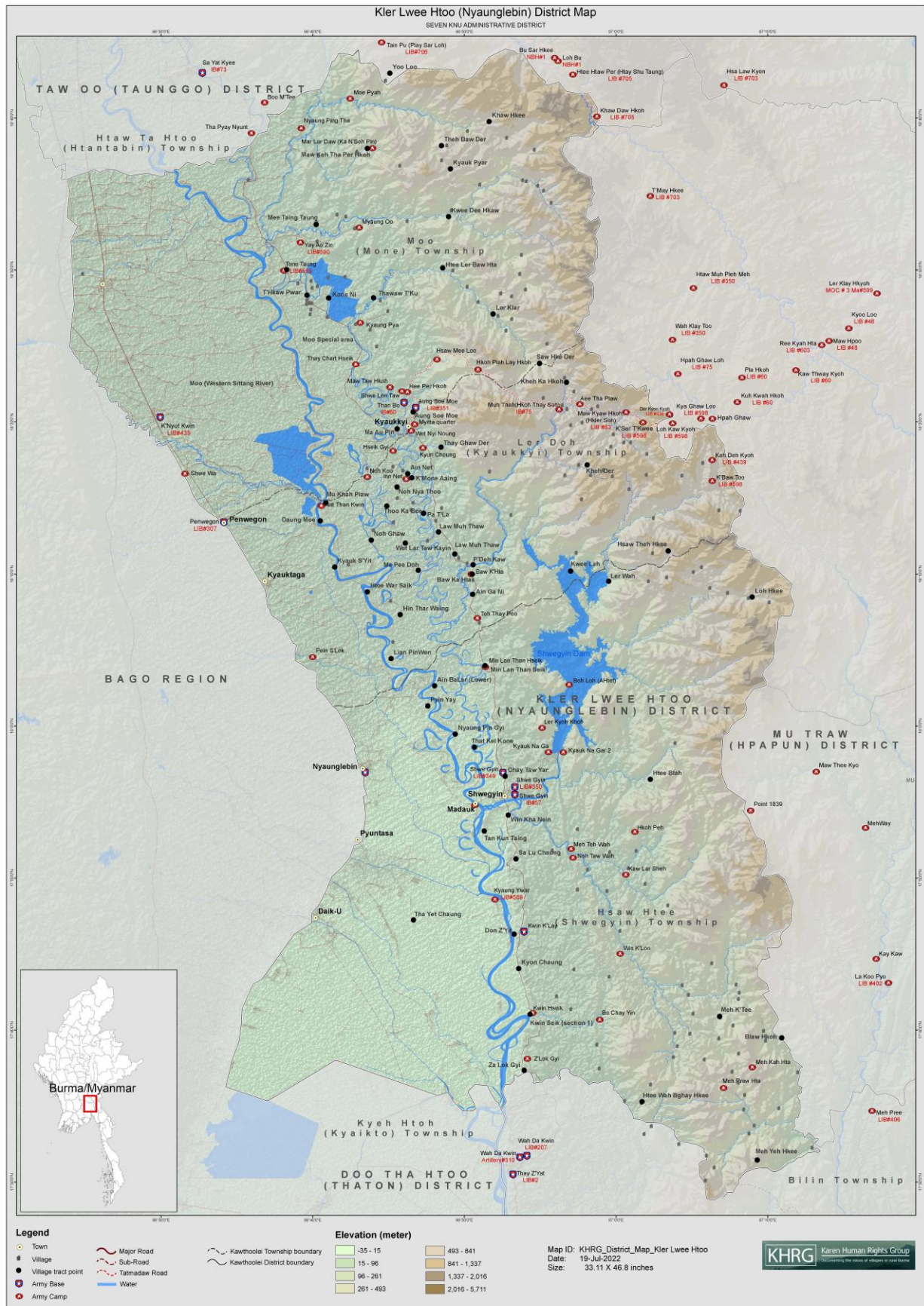
The victim, Maung A---, allowed [KHRG] to use this information as needed.

Further background reading on the situation of shelling in Kler Lwee Htoo District can be found in the following KHRG reports:

- [*Stolen Childhoods: Violations of children's rights, urgent needs, and local agency in rural Southeast Burma during the conflict*](#), October 2025.
- [*"Kler Lwee Htoo District Incident Report: SAC conducted mortar shelling that injured six villagers, including an 8-year-old child \(March 2025\)"*](#), September 2025.
- [*"Photo Set: Shelling of villages in Southeast Burma by the Burma Army, the BGF, and other affiliated armed groups, and its impacts \(January to November 2025\)"*](#), December 2025.

About KHRG

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Situation Update

April 8th 2026 / KHRG # 26-9+13-S1

Hpa-an District Situation Update: Displacement, gambling, checkpoints, the election, education, and rising commodity prices in Luh Pleh and Ta Kreh townships (October 2025 to January 2026).

This Situation Update describes events occurring in Luh Pleh (Hlaingbwe) and Ta Kreh (Paingkyon) townships, Hpa-an District, from October 2025 to January 2026, covering issues related to displacement, gambling, checkpoints, the election, education, and rising commodity prices. From October to December 2025, approximately 5,300 displaced villagers from T'Nay Hsah (Nabu) Township fled to Ta Kreh Township due to fighting and the deployment of the Burma Army, also known as the State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC) in the area. As a result of the large number of displaced people, they faced challenges related to livelihoods, healthcare, and access to drinking water. From October to December 2025, gambling and entertainment events were widespread in Ta Kreh Township, leading to conflicts and arguments among villagers. In 2025, numerous checkpoints run by KNU/KNLA-Peace Council (KNU/KNLA-PC) and Border Guard Forces (BGF) collected fees along the main road in Ta Kreh Township, causing an increase in the price of commodities. Schools administered by the Burma military regime continued as usual in this township. However, Karen Education and Culture Department (KECD) schools opened depending on the situation, due to concerns about air strikes. In Luh Pleh Township, the Burma Army deployed additional troops in December 2025 in view of the junta's election. In January 2026, the Burma Army further deployed troops to both Luh Pleh and Ta Kreh townships. In response, Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) soldiers also increased their presence in the areas. As both the Burma Army and the KNLA reinforced their troops, local villagers became increasingly worried that fighting could break out. As a result, some villagers fled to Doo Tha Htoo (Thaton) District, while others fled across the Thai–Burma border. Some displaced villagers were forced by the Burma Army to return to their villages to vote. Many villagers participated in the election out of fear, while some villagers fled to safer locations in order to avoid participating.¹

Increasing number of displaced people in Ta Kreh (Paingkyon) Township (October–November 2025)

In October 2025, fighting broke out between the State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC)² and Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA)³ soldiers in T'Nay Hsah (Nabu) Township, Hpa-an

¹ The present document is based on information received in January 2026. It was provided by a community member in Hpa-an District who has been trained by KHRG to monitor human rights conditions on the ground. The names of the victims, their photos and the exact locations are censored for security reasons. The parts in square brackets are explanations added by KHRG. This document combines several received reports with the following KHRG internal log numbers: #26-9-S1 and #26-13-D1.

² The State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC) is the new name of the executive governing body created in the aftermath of the February 1st 2021 military coup. Formerly called the State Administration Council (SAC), it was renamed by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on July 31st 2025. The chairperson serves as the de facto head of government of Burma/Myanmar and leads the Military Cabinet of Myanmar, the executive branch of the

District. The villagers from around ten villages, including Aa--- village, Myat Pa Taing village tract⁴; Ab--- village, Htee Hpoh Kyaw village tract; Ac--- village, Ag--- village, and Ad--- village, Noh Kay village tract, all in T'Nay Hsah Township, fled to Ta Kreh Township, Hpa'an District, as the Burma Army deployed more troops in the area.

In November 2025, approximately 1,400 households and 5,300 displaced people sought shelter in the village tracts in Ta Kreh Township. The Committee for Internally Displaced Karen People (CIDKP), the UN World Food Programme (WFP), and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) provided some support and food for the displaced people. However, due to the large number of displaced people, they [displaced villagers] faced challenges related to livelihoods, healthcare, and access to drinking water. During displacement, conflicts occasionally arose between the displaced people and local villagers, and sometimes even among the displaced villagers themselves. Improper waste disposal also remained a persistent issue in the displacement site.



These photos were taken in December 2025, in Ae--- village, P'Ta village tract, Ta Kreh Township, Hpa-an District. These photos show the Committee for Internally Displaced Karen People (CIDKP) providing water containers and tarpaulins to villagers who were displaced in Ae--- village. [Photos: KHRG]

Increased gambling issues in Ta Kreh Township (October 2025)

From the first week of October 2025 [and continuing throughout the reporting period of this Situation Update], entertainment events such as Our Day celebrations⁵, DJ shows, and

government. Min Aung Hlaing assumed the role of SAC chairperson following the coup and remains the head of the SSPC. The name State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC) is used interchangeably with military junta, Burma military regime, Burma Army, and SAC throughout this report to describe Burma's armed forces.

³ The Karen National Liberation Army is the armed wing of the Karen National Union.

⁴ A village tract is an administrative unit of between five and 20 villages in a local area, often centred on a large village.

⁵ 'Ar Wer Day' also known as 'Our Day' is a term co-opted by DKBA, BGF and KNU/KNLA-PC and used to describe special days that they organise. Our Day events typically involve celebrations to mark a special occasion such as the building of a new pagoda or monastery or to honour these armed groups. Activities can include *zat pwe*, a Burmese traditional dance-drama, as well as singing, dancing, and magic. Sometimes Often, people also engage in illicit activities such as gambling and drug use during Our Day. The Our Day is primarily celebrated by armed groups to serve as a main fundraising activity for them.

gambling took place routinely in Yay Pu Gyi village tract, Htee Hpoh Kay village tract, K'Kyo (Ka So) village tract, Paw village tract, and Kyeik Paw village tract, all in Ta Kreh Township. The contractors were backed [allowed to operate] by the Border Guard Forces (BGF)⁶ and KNU/KNLA-Peace Council (KNU/KNLA-PC)⁷.

There were multiple contractors [to organise the events], which led to competition among them. They moved from one village tract to another to organise entertainment events. They focused only on their own business and held ceremonies [and events] continuously. As a consequence, conflicts arose among the young people who attended the events. Sometimes, disputes also occurred among the soldiers themselves. The game players argued with the owner of the Anglo-dice (အန်ဂလီ), and the Fish game [two common gambling games in Burma].



These photos were taken in December 2025, in Af--- village, Htee Hpoh Tray village tract, Ta Kreh Township, Hpa-an District. These photos show the stage that was set up for traditional entertainment performances during the Our Day events that were held in Af--- village. [Photos: KHRG].

According to a villager from Ah--- village, Htee Hpoh Tray village tract, the villagers could not sleep well due to the loudspeakers. Although the villagers felt uncomfortable, they did not dare to speak up because the contractors were backed by the BGF and KNU/KNLA-PC.

Increasing checkpoints and extortion (November 2025)

In November 2025, the KNU/KNLA-PC reinstated old checkpoints and established additional new ones along the main road from Ta Kreh Township to T'Nay Hsah Township. There was one

⁶ Border Guard Force (BGF) battalions of the Tatmadaw were established in 2010, and they are composed mostly of soldiers from former non-state armed groups, such as older constellations of the Democratic Karen Buddhist Army (DKBA), which have formalised ceasefire agreements with the Burma/Myanmar government and agreed to transform into battalions within the Tatmadaw. Some of the BGF battalions transformed into the Karen National Army (KNA) in January 2026.

⁷ The KNU/KNLA-PC is an armed group based in the Htoh Kaw Koh village tract area, Hpa-an District. It split from the Karen National Union (KNU) and signed a ceasefire agreement with the Myanmar government in 2007, but refused to transform into a Border Guard Force (BGF) in 2010. It signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement in October 2015 (and are still part of it after the 2021 coup). They currently operate in Hpa-an and Dooplaya districts.

KNU/KNLA-PC checkpoint in Ai--- village, Taung Soe village tract, and another checkpoint in Af--- village, Htee Hpoh Tray village tract. There was also one KNLA Battalion #19 checkpoint on the main road, near Aj--- village, Noh Hkwee village tract. Moreover, there were three BGF checkpoints and one KNU/KNLA-PC checkpoint that had existed previously and continued to collect fees [from villagers] along the main road.

Due to the numerous checkpoints collecting fees [extorting villagers] along the main road, commodity prices increased. From October to December 2025, the price of one gallon (3.79 litres) of gasoline rose to 22,000 kyats (10.48 USD⁸). However, by the end of the year, the price had decreased to 18,000 kyats (8.57 USD) per gallon, making it slightly easier for villagers to travel.

Education challenges in schools (October to December 2025)

From October to December 2025, schools administered by the SSPC [Burma military regime] operated as usual in Ta Kreh Township. However, due to security concerns about air strikes, KECD [Karen Education and Culture Department]⁹ schools opened only when conditions were deemed safe.

In November 2025, each KECD teacher received an annual support [from the KECD] of 7,500 THB (232.16 USD¹⁰). Members of the KECD school committees have been trying to provide as much support as possible. Some teachers who are from another village tract faced difficulties with living expenses. According to one teacher from Ah--- village, the [annual stipend] was not enough to cover the motorcycle transportation cost for commuting from home to school for the entire year.

There are concerns about future challenges for children's education. A local villager from Ak--- village, Pee T'Hka village tract, reported that some teachers planned to stop teaching and go to Thailand to find work. Therefore, both material provision and capacity building are needed for the teachers.

First and second phases of the Burma military regime elections

The SSPC [Burma military regime] planned to hold three phases of its election.¹¹ In the first phase [first polling stations set on December 28th 2025], the Burma military regime did not hold the election in Ta Kreh Township [it took place in other areas instead]. Although the Burma

⁸ All conversion estimates for the kyat in this report are based on the 18 March 2026 mid-market exchange rate of \$1 USD = 2,100 MMK, <https://wise.com/gb/currency-converter/usd-to-mmk-rate>

⁹ The Karen National Union's Education and Culture Department is the education department of the Karen National Union. Its main goals are to provide mother tongue education services to rural Karen populations in Southeast Burma, as well as to preserve the Karen language, culture, and history. Despite being an important education provider in the region, it is not officially recognised by the Burma government.

¹⁰ All conversion estimates for Thai Baht in this report are based on the 18 March 2026 mid-market exchange rate of \$1 USD = 32.30 THB, <https://wise.com/gb/currency-converter/usd-to-thb-rate>

¹¹ The non-democratic elections held by the Burma military regime in 2025-2026 have been largely condemned by various international stakeholders, including ASEAN and high-ranking UN officials, as not legitimate. The junta's election was split into three phases, making polling stations subsequently available in different regions: phase 1 took place on December 28th 2025; phase 2 took place on January 11th 2026; and phase 3 took place on January 25th 2026. The military junta backs the Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP), a party which is known for its close ties with the military and from which most officials are former military personnel. The junta was formerly self-designated as the State Administrative Council (SAC), after the February 1st 2021 military coup headed by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, which deposed the democratically elected government led by the National League for Democracy (NLD), following Burma's 2020 general elections.

military regime did not hold the election in Ta Kreh Township during the first phase, on December 26th 2025, they deployed more troops to Lu Pleh (Hlaingbwe) Town in Lu Pleh Township, near Ta Kreh Township, for the election.

After the first phase of the election [December 28th 2025], the BGF announced its transformation into the Karen National Army (KNA)¹² on January 1st 2026. The KNA also increased its operations [militarisation] in Ta Kreh Township as well as in the area of T'Nay Hsah Township. At the same time, more SSPC troops entered Ta Kreh Township, particularly in K'Kyo village tract. The KNLA also reinforced its troops within its controlled areas [Pee T'Hka village tract and Ta Kreh village tract, Ta Kreh Township].

As a result [fearing that fighting would break out], villagers from K'Kyo village tract have been fleeing their villages to different locations. Some fled to [different areas in neighbouring] Doo Tha Htoo District, while others fled to the Thai–Burma border, including Mae La refugee camp.

Displaced villagers from K'Kyo village tract have not been able to return to their villages yet due to ongoing SSPC operations near their villages [as of January 21st 2026]. At the same time, the KNLA has also established military positions in the area to defend its territory and to prevent further SSPC intrusion. If SSPC troops continue to intrude further into the area, fighting could break out between the two sides.

Although no fighting has occurred so far, tensions between the SSPC and resistance groups remain high. As the SSPC continues to deploy additional troops for the election, local villagers are closely monitoring the situation and hoping that conditions will improve after the third phase of the election.

- **Second phase of the election in Luh Pleh and Ta Kreh townships (January 11th 2026)**

On January 3rd 2026, more than 100 SSPC soldiers from Lu Pleh Township were deployed to K'Kyo village tract in Ta Kreh Township. The KNU [Karen National Union]¹³ leaders were aware in advance that the election would take place and did not trust the presence of SSPC soldiers. Therefore, in order to protect civilians and territory, KNLA soldiers were also deployed in these areas. SSPC troops were stationed in Paingkyon Town and at Ta Paung Bridge, located between Htee Loh (Hti Lon) and Ta Kreh townships. According to local villagers, SSPC soldiers were expected to withdraw [from the area] one or two days after the election [held on January 11th]. [A villager who was displaced in Ae--- village, P'Ta village tract, Ta Kreh Township, explained to KHRG that] fighting could have occurred if SSPC troops failed to withdraw from the designated areas within a limited time after the election.

The electricity supply was cut off [by the Burma Army] from noon on January 6th 2026 until the morning of January 7th 2026. On the night of January 6th, SSPC soldiers arrived at the Ta Kreh

¹² Karen National Army (KNA) was established in January 2026, and it is composed mostly of battalions which split from the Border Guard Force (BGF) battalions that serve under the Burma Army. It is active in Mu Traw and Hpa-an districts. The majority of the BGF battalions in two out of four Cantonment Areas, Cantonment Area #2 and Cantonment Area #3, transformed into KNA. However, two battalions under Cantonment Area #3, BGF's Battalion #1013 and #1014, remain under BGF control. They are active in Mu Traw District and remain in ongoing conflict with Brigade #5's KNU/KNLA.

¹³ The Karen National Union (KNU) is the main Karen political organisation. It was established in 1947 and has been in conflict with the government since 1949. The KNU wields power across large areas of Southeast Myanmar and has been calling for the creation of a democratic federal system since 1976. Although it signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) in 2015, following the 2021 coup staged by Burma Army leaders, the KNU officially stated that the NCA has become void.

Township office [Burma military regime office]. As a result, local villagers were afraid to go outside, and “Our Day” events and drama entertainment events were closed.

On January 11th 2026, the Burma military regime conducted a second phase of the sham election in village tracts under KNU administration in Lu Pleh and Ta Kreh townships, Hpa-an District. The Burma military regime primarily used schools and monasteries as polling stations. In Ta Kreh Township, they used the monasteries in K’Kyo village, K’Kyo village tract; T’Kreh village, T’Kreh village tract; and Taung Soe village, Taung Soe village tract, as polling stations. They also used schools in Moe Naing village, Moe Naing village tract; Yay Pu Gyi village, Yay Pu Gyi village tract; Htee Hpoh Tray village, Htee Hpoh Tray village tract; and P’Ta village, P’Ta village tract; as polling stations. In total, there were around seven polling stations in Ta Kreh Township during the second phase of the election.

The [junta’s] election was organised by [the Burma military regime’s] election officials together with Burma government teachers [administered by the military regime since the 2021 coup]. The KNA, which split from the BGF, was deployed for the election. Before the election, the Ta Kreh Township General Administrator [under the administration of the Burma military regime] held five meetings with village tract administrators. In addition, SSPC troops ranging from 20, 30, 50, to up to 100 soldiers were stationed in villages along the route from Lu Pleh Township to Ta Kreh Township. In total, more than 500 soldiers were deployed in the area. Due to the increased military presence, local villagers were forced to flee to safer places because they feared that fighting would occur.

The election could not be conducted in Pee T’Hka village tract, Naw Hkwee village tract, and Paw village tract, Ta Kreh Township [because the KNU controlled the area]. The civilians [there] were not interested in the election. However, according to local villagers, many people [from Taung Soe village tract, Ta Kreh Township, which is a mixed-control area] voted because they were afraid of SSPC and KNA soldiers. Some displaced villagers from Ae--- village also stated that, whether they voted or not, the party supported by the SSPC would win the election and that nothing would change as a result.

An [Burma military regime] authority in Kaw T’Ree Town [Kaw T’Ree Township, Dooplaya District] contacted villagers who displaced in Al--- village, Taung Soe village tract; Am--- village, P’Ta village tract; An--- village, Yay Pu Gyi village tract; and Ah--- village, Htee Hpoh Tray village tract, all in Ta Kreh Township, Hpa-an District, to return to cast their votes in Kaw T’Ree Town. The SSPC organised a car for displaced villagers to return to cast their votes. Some displaced people temporarily returned to their villages to cast their votes.

In November 2025, displaced people from Ah--- village, An--- village, and Am--- village, received 60,000 kyats (28.57 USD) per person, and household registration documents were collected [by the Burma military regime]. Some people reported hearing that financial assistance and food support would be cut off if they did not vote, which pressured them to participate in the election.

During the election, people were not allowed to document the process or bring mobile phones or bags. Most villagers from Ah--- village, An--- village, and Am--- village participated in the vote because they were afraid. Some villagers chose not to vote and fled to other locations to ensure their security.



This photo was taken in December 2025, in the area near Ta Kreh Town, Ta Kreh Township, Hpa-an District. This photo shows a signpost campaign of three parties beside a vehicle road: Karen National Democratic Party (KNDP), Plone-Sgaw Democratic Party (PSDP), and Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP). [Photo: KHRG]

Further background reading on the situation in Hpa'an District in Southeast Burma/Myanmar can be found in the following KHRG reports:

- [Stolen Childhoods: Violations of children's rights, urgent needs, and local agency in rural Southeast Burma during the conflict](#), October 2025.
- ["Photo Set: Shelling of villages in Southeast Burma by the Burma Army, the BGF, and other affiliated armed groups, and its impacts \(January to November 2025\)"](#), March 2026.
- ["Hpa-an District Incident Report: a Burma Army drone strike injured two teachers and one child, and damaged a school building in Ta Kreh Township \(September 2025\)"](#), November 2025.

About KHRG

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Karen Human Rights Group

Documenting the voices of villagers in rural Burma

Short Update

April 9th 2026 / KHRG # 26-14+58-D1

Taw Oo District Short Update: Burma Army shelling killed one villager, injured a pregnant woman, and caused damage in Daw Hpah Hkoh Township (December 2025 and February 2026)

This Short Update describes events occurring in Daw Hpah Hkoh (Thandaungyi) Township, Taw Oo (Toungoo) District, in December 2025 and February 2026. On December 27th 2025, the Burma Army cut off phone signal from Day Loh Mu Nu Lar Hta village tract and set up a checkpoint on a road within the same village tract. Later that night, they fired two shells into Aa--- place, Thandaungyi Section 1, Day Loh Mu Nu Lar Hta village tract. One of the shells injured a pregnant woman and also hit her house walls. Villagers believed that the shells were fired from the Karen New Year Hill in Thandaungyi Town. On December 28th 2025, Burma Army soldiers fired shells into Ab--- village, Day Loh Mu Nu Lar Hta village tract, after the Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) combined with People's Defence Force (PDF) attacked them with six rockets. On February 3rd 2026, the Kan Ni Revolution Army, a local group of the People's Defence Force (PDF), operating under the KNLA Battalion #5 from Brigade #2, received information that the Burma Army planned to carry food rations to their military camp with the cars of local villagers. Subsequently, they checked villagers' cars on a road in Ac--- village, P'Shaw Loh village tract. On the same day at 10:30 am, two mortar shells landed and exploded inside Ac--- village. One of the shells killed a 38-year-old woman and hit her house walls and her toilet walls. Villagers believe that the shells were from Infantry Battalion (IB) #26, based near Ae--- village, P'Shaw Loh village tract. On the same night, the Burma Army soldiers intruded into Ae--- village, causing fear among villagers and making them afraid to remain in the village.¹

On December 27th 2025, in the morning, the State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC)² cut off phone signal from [parts of] Daw Hpah Hkoh (Thandaungyi) Township, Taw Oo (Toungoo) District [including Day Loh Mu Nu Lar Hta village tract³]. At 3 pm, the SSPC set up security checkpoints on roads in Day Loh Mu Nu Lar Hta village tract, Daw Hpah Hkoh Township and

¹ The present document is based on information received in January and February/2026. It was provided by a community member in Taw Oo District who has been trained by KHRG to monitor human rights conditions on the ground. The names of the victims, their photos and the exact locations are censored for security reasons. The parts in square brackets are explanations added by KHRG. This document combines several received reports with the following KHRG internal log numbers: #26-14-D1; and #26-58-D1.

² The State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC) is the new name of the executive governing body created in the aftermath of the February 1st 2021 military coup. Formerly called the State Administration Council (SAC), it was renamed by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on July 31st 2025. The chairperson serves as the de facto head of government of Burma/Myanmar and leads the Military Cabinet of Myanmar, the executive branch of the government. Min Aung Hlaing assumed the role of SAC chairperson following the coup and remains the head of the SSPC. The name State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC) is used interchangeably with military junta and Burma military regime.

³ A village tract is an administrative unit of between five and 20 villages in a local area, often centred on a large village.

checked travellers. Later, between 8:06 pm and 8:11 pm, [the KHRG researcher heard] two explosion sounds [from shells landing]. Additionally, [the researcher] heard many gunfire sounds, similar to fighting happening.

[Villagers believed that] the shell type was 79 [M-79], and they were fired by the SSPC soldiers, who were securing [increasing militarisation at roads near] the Karen New Year Hill [a geographical feature within], Thandaungyi Town, Daw Hpah Hkoh Township. [Light Infantry Battalion (LIB)⁴ #98 is based near the Karen New Year Hill.] One of the shells landed near the house of a villager named Naw A---, who was pregnant and had three children, [located in] Aa--- place, Thandaungyi Section 1, Day Loh Mu Nu Lar Hta village tract. When the shell landed near her house, the shrapnel hit her neck and her house walls. She bled, so villagers and local leaders sent her to Af--- hospital [administered by the Burma military regime] to receive treatment. [It is unknown to KHRG how much the treatment cost, but hospitals run by the Burma military regime usually charge treatment fees.] The injury on her neck was not severe. While she was receiving treatment, she delivered her fourth baby in the hospital. [The other shell landed outside of the village and did not injure anyone.]

On December 28th 2025, at 11:30 am, KNLA [Karen National Liberation Army]⁵ [soldiers] combined with PDF [People's Defence Force]⁶ [soldiers] under the command of [the KNLA in] Brigade #2 [Taw Oo District], attacked the Thandaungyi Bayin Naung army camp of the SSPC, Thandaungyi Town, with six 107 mm rockets. All the rockets landed inside the SSPC army camp area. The SSPC responded to the attack by conducting shelling, and the shells landed outside of Ab--- village, Day Loh Mu Nuh Lar Hta village tract. No villager sustained injuries or was killed.

On February 3rd 2026, in the morning [before 10 am], the Kan Ni Revolution Army [a local group of the PDF], operating under the KNLA Battalion #5 from Brigade #2, was near a phone signal pole, located close to a road of Ac--- village, P'Shaw Loh village tract, Daw Hpah Hkoh Township. A villager from Ac--- village told [the KHRG researcher that] the Kan Ni Revolution Army [a local PDF group] checked [cars on the road] because the KNLA soldiers had heard that the SSPC would carry their food rations to their army camp with villagers' cars. [However,] there was no fighting. The Burma Army⁷ soldiers sheltered inside a school in Ad--- village, [P'Shaw Loh village tract].

At 10:30 am, two 60 mm shells landed and exploded inside Ac--- village. [The villagers believed that] the shells were fired from IB [Infantry Battalion]⁸ #26 [leader's name unknown] which is

⁴ A Light Infantry Battalion (LIB) comprises 500 soldiers. Most Light Infantry Battalions in the Tatmadaw are under-strength with less than 200 soldiers, yet up-to-date information regarding the size of battalions is hard to come by, particularly following the signing of the NCA. LIBs are primarily used for offensive operations, but they are sometimes used for garrison duties.

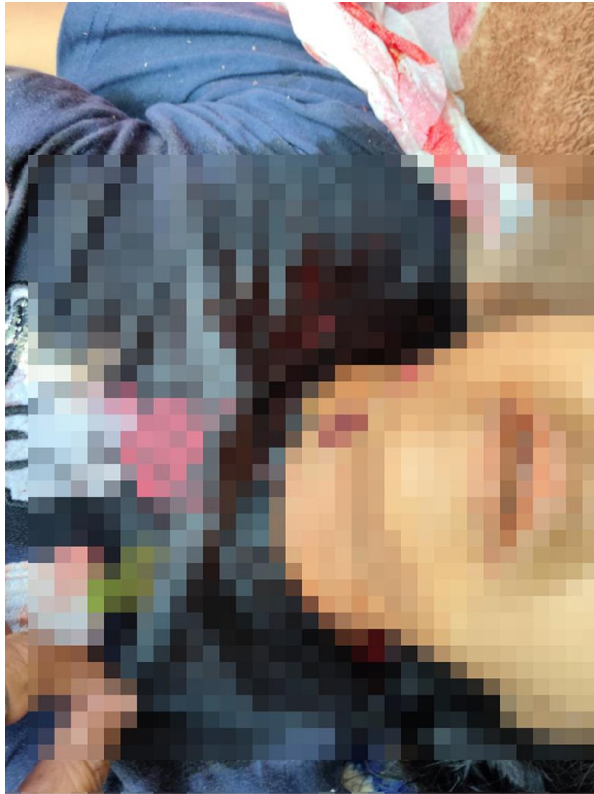
⁵ The Karen National Liberation Army is the armed wing of the Karen National Union.

⁶ The People's Defence Force (PDF) is an armed resistance established independently as local civilian militias operating across the country. Following the February 1st 2021 military coup and the ongoing brutal violence enacted by the junta, the majority of these groups began working with the National Unity Government (NUG), a body claiming to be the legitimate government of Burma/Myanmar, which then formalized the PDF on May 5th 2021 as a precursor to a federal army.

⁷ The terms Burma military, Burma Army, SAC, Tatmadaw, and junta are used interchangeably throughout this report to describe the Burma military regime's armed forces. Villagers themselves commonly use Burma Army, Burmese soldiers, or alternatively the name adopted by the Burma military regime at the time—from the 2021 coup to July 2025, the State Administration Council (SAC). On July 31st 2025, the military junta changed its name to the State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC).

⁸ An Infantry Battalion (IB) comprises 500 soldiers. However, most Infantry Battalions in the Tatmadaw are under-strength with less than 200 soldiers. Yet up to date information regarding the size of battalions is hard to come by, particularly following the signing of the NCA. They are primarily used for garrison duty but are sometimes used in offensive operations.

based near Ae--- village, P'Shaw Loh village tract. The two shells exploded near a house of a villager named Naw B--- (38 years old), located in Ac--- village. When the shelling happened, Naw B--- [was trying to] run into a bunker. While she was running toward the bunker, the shrapnel hit her throat. A few minutes later, she died on the spot. Naw B---, a Karen Christian, is survived by her husband and their three children. The shells also hit her house walls and her toilet walls.



On February 3rd 2026, at around 10 am, two 60 mm shells believed to be fired by the Burma Army landed and exploded inside Ac--- village, P'Shaw Loh village tract, Daw Hpah Hkoh Township, Taw Oo District. The photo on the left shows a villager named Naw B---, 38 years old, who was hit by shrapnel from one of the shells on her throat and died on the spot. The photo on the right shows Naw B---'s toilet walls, which were also hit by one of the shells. Villagers believe that the shells were fired from Ae--- village, P'Shaw Loh village tract. [Photos: Local villager]

On that night, 200 Burma Army soldiers [battalion unknown] intruded into Ae--- village. [Thus, following the incident,] villagers were afraid [to live in the village] because the Burma Army had conducted shelling.

Further background reading on the situation of shelling in Southeast Burma/Myanmar can be found in the following KHRG reports:

- ["Why would they target us?": Exploring patterns of the Burma Army's retaliatory abuses against villagers across Southeast Burma](#), June 2023.
- ["Taw Oo District Situation Update: Burma Army indiscriminate shelling and burning, casualties, displacement, challenges in education and healthcare, and natural disasters in Daw Hpah Hkoh Township \(June to August 2025\)"](#), February 2026.

- ["Dooplaya District Short Update: SAC shelling and displacement challenges in Kruh Tuh Township \(July 2025\)", January 2026.](#)
- ["Dooplaya District Incident Report: Burma Army shelling injured a villager in Noh T'Kaw Township \(December 2025\)", January 2026.](#)

About KHRG

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Karen Human Rights Group

Documenting the voices of villagers in rural Burma

Short Update

April 29th 2026 / KHRG # 26-100-D1

Taw Oo District Short Update: Burma Army drone strike injured two villagers in Htaw Ta Htoo Township (March 2026)

This Short Update describes an event occurring in Htaw Ta Htoo (Htantabin) Township, Taw Oo (Toungoo) District. On March 15th 2026, a Burma Army drone dropped three bombs in Aa--- village, Zayat Gyi Taung Chan village tract, injuring two villagers, U A--- (65 years old) and U B---. U A--- sustained severe injuries to his abdomen and right shoulder blade. He was first sent to a Burma military regime-administered hospital, which did not have sufficient equipment or medicines, and he later received treatment at Ac--- hospital, administered by the Karen Department of Health and Welfare (KDHW), in Ad-- village, Peh Htee village tract. U B---'s injuries were minor and did not require treatment at a clinic.¹

On Sunday March 15th 2026, at 1 pm, the SAC [State Administration Council², also known as Burma Army³] conducted a drone strike on a tollgate run by the KNU [Karen National Union]⁴, in Aa--- village, Zayat Gyi Taung Chan village tract⁵, Htaw Ta Htoo (Htantabin) Township, Taw Oo (Toungoo) District, injuring two villagers, U⁶ A---, 65 years old, and U B---. [At the time of the incident, no fighting was occurring in the area.]

¹ The present document is based on information received in March 2026. It was provided by a community member in Taw Oo District who have been trained by KHRG to monitor human rights conditions on the ground. The names of the victims, their photos and the exact locations are censored for security reasons. The parts in square brackets are explanations added by KHRG. This document combines several received reports with the following KHRG internal log numbers: #26-100-D1; #26-100-A1-I1; #26-100-P1; and #26-100-M1.

² The State Administration Council (SAC) was the name of the executive governing body of the Burma military regime created in the aftermath of the February 1st 2021 military coup. It was established by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on February 2nd 2021, and was composed of eight military officers and eight civilians. The chairperson serves as the de facto head of government of Burma/Myanmar and leads the Military Cabinet of Myanmar, the executive branch of the government. Min Aung Hlaing assumed the role of SAC chairperson following the coup. The military junta changed its name on July 31st 2025 from SAC to State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC), with Min Aung Hlaing retaining his position as chairperson.

³ The terms Burma military, Burma Army, SAC, Tatmadaw, and junta are used interchangeably throughout this report to describe the Burma military regime's armed forces. Villagers themselves commonly use Burma Army, Burmese soldiers, or alternatively the name adopted by the Burma military regime at the time—from the 2021 coup to July 2025, the State Administration Council (SAC). On July 31st 2025, the military junta changed its name to the State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC).

⁴ The Karen National Union (KNU) is the main Karen political organisation. It was established in 1947 and has been in conflict with the government since 1949. The KNU wields power across large areas of Southeast Myanmar and has been calling for the creation of a democratic federal system since 1976. Although it signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) in 2015, following the 2021 coup staged by Burma Army leaders, the KNU officially stated that the NCA has become void.

⁵ A village tract is an administrative unit of between five and 20 villages in a local area, often centred on a large village.

⁶ 'U' is a Burmese title used for elder men, used before their name.

U A--- and his colleague U B--- were sitting on the right side of the tollgate and watching the news, while another colleague, U C---, was sitting on the left side of the gate. Near the gate, sandbags and pebble bags were stacked up to cover the gate. At 1 pm, a drone from an SAC army camp came and dropped three bombs. The first bomb landed on the sand- and pebble bags. Then, the shrapnel hit and injured U A--- and U B---. U A--- sustained severe injuries to his abdomen and right shoulder blade, while U B--- sustained a minor injury, a scratch on his arm. Motorbikes that were parked near the gates were also hit and damaged by the shrapnel. [The other two bombs landed outside the village and did not injure anyone.]

U A--- was sent to Ab--- hospital, run by the Burma military regime, in Zayat Gyi Taung Chan village tract, with one of the local villagers' motorbikes. However, the hospital did not have enough equipment and medication to treat U A---'s injuries. Therefore, the local village leaders discussed and decided to send him to Ac--- hospital, run by the KDHW [Karen Department of Health and Welfare]⁷, which is located in Ad--- village, Peh Htee village tract, Htaw Ta Htoo Township. On the way to the hospital, they changed cars three times because there were SAC checkpoints. The first car was a KNU local leader's car and it dropped U A--- off before reaching the SAC checkpoint. Then, they passed the checkpoint with a local villager's car. That villagers' car then also drove to a halfway destination. For the last part, the villager was transported to the hospital with a hospital leader's car. When arriving at Ac--- hospital, he had X-rays taken, which showed that he did not sustain any internal injuries. However, after the incident, U A--- was unable to sleep properly, day and night [as a result of both trauma and pain], according to his wife.



On March 15th 2026, the Burma Army dropped three bombs from a drone and one of the bombs landed and exploded at a tollgate administered by the Karen National Union (KNU), in Aa--- village, Zayat Gyi Taung Chan village tract, Htaw Ta Htoo (Htantabin) Township, Taw Oo (Toungoo) District. Shrapnel from the explosion severely injured U A---, 65 years old. His colleague, U B---, sustained minor injuries. The photo on the left shows U A--- receiving treatment, and the photo on the right shows the injuries to his shoulder and abdomen. U A--- received treatment at a Karen Department of Health and Welfare (KDHW) hospital in Ad--- village, Peh Htee village tract, Htaw Ta Htoo Township. [Photos: KHRG]

U A---, who lives in Aa--- village, has four children. Three of his children are married and only his youngest son is single. His youngest son works in Thailand; thus, he and his wife live alone together at home. Due to high prices and livelihood difficulties, U A--- works as a toll collector at

⁷ The Karen Department of Health and Welfare (KDHW) is the health department of the Karen National Union. It was established in 1956 to address the lack of public healthcare resources in rural Southeast Myanmar. It currently operates a network of community-based clinics in the region, but its capabilities remain limited due to funding constraints.

a tollgate run by the KNU, located in Aa--- village. The job pays 15,000 kyat (7.14 USD)⁸ per day and it helps alleviate his livelihood difficulties. He has been working at the same gate for over nine months. [While U A--- was able to recover in the hospital and return home, his current livelihood situation is unknown to KHRG.]

Further background reading on the situation on air strikes in Southeast Burma/Myanmar can be found in the following KHRG reports:

- [ကဘီယုဟဲလ် Aircraft coming! : Impacts of air strikes on local communities and villagers' protection strategies in Southeast Burma since the 2021 coup, November 2024.](#)
- ["Kler Lwee Htoo District Incident Report: Burma Army air strike killed one villager, injured two villagers, and damaged villagers' houses and a monastery in Moo Township \(January 2026\)", March 2026.](#)
- ["Mu Traw District Incident Report: Burma Army air strike and mortar shelling killed a villager, forcing other villagers to flee in Dwe Lo Township \(October 2025\)", March 2026.](#)

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⁸ All conversion estimates for Kyat are based on the official market rate as of April 27th 2026 at 1 USD = 2,100 MMK, conversion rate available at <https://wise.com/gb/currency-converter/mmk-to-usd-rate>





Karen Human Rights Group

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Short Update

May 6th 2026 / KHRG # 25-420+447-D1

Hpa-an District Short Update: Burma Army air strikes and shelling caused damage and displacement in T'Nay Hsah Township (September to December 2025)

This Short Update describes events occurring in T'Nay Hsah (Nabu) Township, Hpa-an District, from September to December 2025. In September 2025, many villagers from Kaw T'Ree Township, Dooplaya District, fled to T'Nay Hsah Township, Hpa-an District, due to shelling by the Burma Army. On September 10th 2025, the Burma Army dropped a bomb on a local villager's farm in Htee Wah Blaw village tract, causing damage to the plantation field. On November 1st 2025, the Burma Army conducted air strikes on Aa--- village, Htee Hpoh Kyaw village tract, burning four shops and damaging a monastery building, as well as the entrance of a school. On November 13th 2025, the Burma Army carried out an air strike on Ab--- village, Noh Kay village tract, damaging a villager's house and several rubber plantation trees. That afternoon, the Burma Army conducted another air strike on Ac--- village, Noh Kay village tract, destroying a monastery and damaging five nearby monastery buildings. On December 7th 2025, the Burma Army fired an 81 mm shell into Ad--- village, Htee Wah Blaw village tract, damaging two houses and three motorcycles owned by villagers. As a result of the air strikes and shelling, two village schools were closed, and villagers were forced to flee from their homes.¹

Widespread displacement from Dooplaya District

On September 2nd 2025, at 6 am, the Burma Army² conducted shelling onto Bx--- village and Ag--- village, Noh Hpoh village tract³, Kaw T'Ree Township, Dooplaya District. As a result, many villagers from Ag--- village fled to Htee Wah Blaw village tract, and many other villages in T'Nay Hsah (Nabu) Township, Hpa-an District. Some villagers were able to bring one sack of rice (50 kg) with them, but some villagers were unable to carry anything. More than 300 households fled to T'Nay Hsah Township. [Due to attacks by Burma Army soldiers], in September 2025, some villagers from Ad--- village and Ah--- village, Htee Wah Blaw village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, also fled to another village. Displaced villagers mostly fled to four village tracts in T'Nay Hsah Township:

¹ The present document is based on information received in September and December 2025. It was provided by a community member in Hpa-an District who has been trained by KHRG to monitor human rights conditions on the ground. The names of the victims, their photos and the exact locations are censored for security reasons. The parts in square brackets are explanations added by KHRG. This document combines several received reports with the following KHRG internal log numbers: # 25-322-D1, # 25-330-M1, # 25-420-D1, # 25-421-D1, and # 25-447-D1.

² The terms Burma military, Burma Army, SAC, Tatmadaw, and junta are used interchangeably throughout this report to describe the Burma military regime's armed forces. Villagers themselves commonly use Burma Army, Burmese soldiers, or alternatively the name adopted by the Burma military regime at the time—from the 2021 coup to July 2025, the State Administration Council (SAC). On July 31st 2025, the military junta changed its name to the State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC).

³ A village tract is an administrative unit of between five and 20 villages in a local area, often centred on a large village.

- Htee Hsah Ra village tract received 189 households, including 357 women and 296 men;
- Ker Ghaw village tract received 121 households, including 376 women and 192 men;
- Shaw Hkoh village tract:
 - Ai--- village received 6 households, including 14 women and 8 men;
 - Aj--- village received 7 households;
- Htee Wah Blaw village tract:
 - Ak--- village received 20 households;
 - Al--- village received 208 households.

The displacement numbers were provided by village heads and were not fixed, as more displaced villagers arrived each day, while some, out of fear, moved again to other villages. Recently [as of the reporting date], some students from Ag--- village, Ad--- village, and Ah--- village went to study in Am--- village, at a former Burma military regime school. The school offers classes up to Grade 9 and has approximately 160 students. Teachers from three villages came together to teach the students.



These photos were taken in September 2025 in Ai--- village, Htee Wah Blaw village tract, T'Nay Hsah (Nabu) Township, Hpa-an District. On September 2nd 2025, at 6 am, the Burma Army conducted shelling into Bx--- village and Ag--- village, Kaw T'Ree Township, Dooplaya District. As a result, many villagers from Ag--- village fled to Htee Wah Blaw village tract and many other villages in T'Nay Hsah Township. The two photos at the top show the displaced villagers making baskets to store water. The two photos at the bottom show the living conditions of some of the displaced people. [Photos: KHRG]

Burma Army air strikes caused damage

On September 10th 2025, at around 1 am, the Burma Army conducted an air strike into Htee Wah Blaw village tract, and the bomb landed on the farm of Saw⁴ Z---, damaging his paddy plantation. Saw Z---'s farm is not big, and he planted two baskets of paddy seedlings on his farm this year [2025]. Saw Z--- said that the bomb landed in the place where the paddy plants grow well and damaged them. He felt very sad about it.



KHRG received these photos from a villager on September 20th 2025. On September 10th 2025, at around 1 am, a Burma Army aircraft dropped a bomb onto the farm of Saw Z--- in Htee Wah Blaw village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Hpa-an District, and damaged his paddy plantation. These two photos show the place where the bomb landed. *[Photos: Local villager]*

On November 1st 2025, at 1 pm, a Burma Army Y-12 aircraft conducted air strikes in Aa--- village, Htee Hpoh Kyaw village tract, T'Nay Hsah Township, Hpa-an District. [No fighting was occurring in the village at the time.] The aircraft conducted two strikes. In total, eight bombs were dropped. As a result, four shops located beside the road were burned. Moreover, a monastery building and the entrance of a school were also damaged by the explosion. After the air strikes, some villagers fled from the village.

⁴ 'Saw' is a S'gaw Karen male honorific title used before a person's name.



KHRG received these photos from a villager in Ae--- village, Htoh Kaw Kone village tract, T’Nay Hsah Township, Hpa-an District, on November 19th 2025. On November 1st 2025, a Burma Army Y-12 aircraft conducted air strikes in Aa--- village, Htee Hpoh Kyaw village tract, T’Nay Hsah Township. Due to the air strikes, four shops located beside the road were burned. The shrapnel from the explosion damaged the fence of a monastery and the entrance of a school. The photo on the left shows damage to the entrance of the school as a result of the explosion. The photo on the right shows damage to the fence of the monastery as a result of the explosion. *[Photos: Villager]*

On November 13th 2025, the Burma Army conducted an air strike in Noh Kay village tract, T’Nay Hsah Township, Hpa-an District. At 11:54 am, a Burma Army aircraft dropped the first ordnance in the area near the Ab--- T’La Kuh [animism] monastery, located beside the river and close to Dtee⁵ A---’s rubber plantation near Ab--- village, Noh Kay village tract. The shrapnel from the explosion damaged the rubber trees of Dtee A---. Some shrapnel spread through the monastery compound, but there were no casualties. The second ordnance landed in Ab--- village, damaging the house of Saw B---. The ordnance first struck a coconut tree and exploded. Shrapnel from the explosion damaged the house of Saw B--- and eight other nearby houses. There was a primary school in Ab--- village, offering classes up to Grade 4, but it had recently been closed [since November 1st 2025 due to a previous air strike]. According to the daughter of Saw B---, they [Saw B---’s family] did not stay in their house during the air strikes. They had already fled to Af--- village, Htoh Kaw Kone village tract, T’Nay Hsah Township, on November 1st 2025, after a Burma Army Y-12 aircraft dropped two ordnances in Noh Kay village tract.

⁵ ‘Pa Dtee’ or ‘Dtee’ is a familiar term of respect in S’gaw Karen attributed to an older man that translates to “uncle,” but it does not necessarily signify any actual familial relationship.



This photo was taken in November 2025, in Ab--- village, Noh Kay village tract, T’Nay Hsah Township, Hpa-an District. On November 13th 2025, the Burma Army conducted an air strike in Ab--- village, damaging the house of Saw B---. This photo shows the air strike damage to the house of Saw B---. *[Photo: KHRG]*

On the same day, November 13th 2025, at noon, a [Burma Army] fighter jet dropped three ordnances into Ac--- village, Noh Kay village tract. The aircraft ordnances landed in the monastery compound in Ac--- village, destroying the monastery [building] and damaging five nearby monastery buildings. Due to the air strike, families with small children and elderly people fled to another village in a different village tract. Only young men and young women remained in the villages within the Noh Kay village tract, living in fear. The school in the village was also closed [as of the reporting date].



KHRG received this photo from a villager from Ac--- village, Noh Kay village tract, T’Nay Hsah Township, Hpa-an District, on November 19th 2025. On November 13th 2025, a Burma Army fighter jet conducted an air strike in Ac--- village, destroying one monastery building and damaging five nearby monastery buildings. This photo shows the monastery that was destroyed by the Burma Army air strike. *[Photo: Villager]*

Burma Army shelling damaged villagers’ houses and properties

On December 7th 2025, at 9 am, the Burma Army soldiers based at Thay Khah Law Taw hilltop operation base fired one 81 mm mortar shell, which landed in Ad--- village, Htee Wah Blaw village tract, T’Nay Hsah Township. The mortar shell landed in front of the house of Naw⁶ C---. Shrapnel from the explosion damaged the metal roof and ceiling joist of Naw C---’s house, the roof of Naw D---’s house, and the wheels of three motorcycles. According to Naw D---, they [Naw C--- and Naw D---] stayed under the house with ten people during the incident, and by blessing no one was injured from the shrapnel. Before the Burma Army conducted the shelling, the village tract secretary [from Ad--- village] saw a drone and warned the villagers to stay on alert. After that, Naw C--- and her two children moved to another place, and the shell landed in

⁶ ‘Naw’ is a S’gaw Karen female honorific title used before a person’s name.

front of her house. If their [Naw C--- and Naw D---’s] families had not managed to move in time, they would have been injured. The villagers in Ad--- village were afraid and had to stay alert. On the day of the incident, the villagers were celebrating Christmas and holding a worship service, but they had to flee before the service ended. After the incident, some children and elderly people who were unable to walk [quickly] fled to another place.



These photos were taken in December 2025, in Ad--- village, Htee Wah Blaw village tract, T’Nay Hsah Township, Hpa-an District. On December 7th 2025, Burma Army soldiers, based at Thay Khah Law Taw hilltop operation base, fired one 81 mm shell, which landed in Ad--- village. These two photos show the roof of Naw C---’s house, which was damaged by the shrapnel from the explosion. [Photos: KHRG]

Further background reading on the situation of air strikes in Southeast Burma/Myanmar can be found in the following KHRG reports:

- [ကဘီယုယဲလံ Aircraft coming! : Impacts of air strikes on local communities and villagers’ protection strategies in Southeast Burma since the 2021 coup](#), November 2024.
- [“Kler Lwee Htoo District Incident Report: Burma Army air strike killed one villager, injured two villagers, and damaged villagers’ houses and a monastery in Moo Township \(January 2026\)”](#), March 2026.
- [“Mu Traw District Incident Report: Burma Army air strike and mortar shelling killed a villager, forcing other villagers to flee in Dwe Lo Township \(October 2025\)”](#), March 2026.
- [“Photo Set: Burma Army air strikes on local communities, resulting in casualties, destruction, and displacement \(January to December 2025\)”](#), March 2026.

About KHRG

Founded in 1992, Karen Human Rights Group is an independent local organisation committed to improving the human rights situation in Southeast Burma. KHRG trains local people to document and gather evidence of human rights abuses, and publishes this information to project the voices, experiences and perspectives of local communities. More examples of our work can be seen online at www.khrq.org.





Karen Human Rights Group

Documenting the voices of villagers in rural Burma

Short Update

21 May 2026 / KHRG # 26-25+44-D1

Doooplaya District Short Update: Burma Army shelling, fighting, and villagers' protest against the Burma military regime's election in Noh T'Kaw Township (December 2025 to January 2026)

This Short Update describes events occurring in Noh T'Kaw (Kyainseikgyi) Township, Doooplaya District, in December 2025 to January 2026. On 10 December 2025, Democratic Karen Benevolent Army (DKBA) soldiers forced a villager named A--- from Aa--- village, Da Li village tract, to transport rations and Burma Army soldiers to the Da Li Bridge, Da Li village tract. While he was transporting the Burma Army soldiers, the combined forces of the Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) and People's Defence Force (PDF) attacked them, and the truck was burned and destroyed. After his truck was burned, A--- faced livelihood difficulties because he relied on the truck to support his family as a driver. On 6 January 2026, Burma Army Infantry Battalion (IB) #32 fired 81 mm and 120 mm mortar shells into the villages in Noh T'Kaw village tract. One of the mortar shells landed in Ab--- village and damaged a villager's house and plantation. On 9 January 2026, around 600 villagers from Noh T'Kaw and Noh Taw Plah village tracts protested against the Burma military regime's election.¹

DKBA forced villagers to transport soldiers and goods

After the military coup in February 2021², the KNLA [Karen National Liberation Army]³ and the PDF [People's Defence Force]⁴ destroyed Da Li's bridge that was located in between Kyainseikgyi Town [also known locally as Seik Gyi Town], Noh T'Kaw (Kyainseikgyi) Township,

¹ The present document is based on information received in January 2026. It was provided by a community member in Doooplaya District who has been trained by KHRG as a researcher to monitor human rights conditions on the ground. The names of the victims, their photos and the exact locations are censored for security reasons. The parts in square brackets are explanations added by KHRG. This document combines several received reports with the following KHRG internal log numbers: #26-25-D1, #26-25-D2, #26-25-A1 to A3, #26-44-D1 and #26-44-A1-I1.

² On 1 February 2021, the Myanmar military deposed the democratically elected government led by the National League for Democracy (NLD). The military proclaimed a year-long state of emergency and transferred power to Min Aung Hlaing, the Commander-in-Chief of Myanmar's Armed Forces. Based on unproven fraud allegations, the Tatmadaw invalidated the landslide victory of the NLD in the November 2020 General Election and stated it would hold new elections at the end of the state of emergency. The coup d'état occurred the day before the Parliament of Myanmar was due to swear in the members elected during the 2020 election. Elected President Win Myint and State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi were detained, along with ministers, their deputies and members of Parliament.

³ The Karen National Liberation Army is the armed wing of the Karen National Union.

⁴ The People's Defence Force (PDF) is an armed resistance established independently as local civilian militias operating across the country. Following the 1 February 2021 military coup and the ongoing brutal violence enacted by the junta, the majority of these groups began working with the National Unity Government (NUG), a body claiming to be the legitimate government of Burma/Myanmar, which then formalized the PDF on 5 May 2021 as a precursor to a federal army.

Doooplaya District, and Ac--- village, [no village tract⁵], Kruh Tuh Township, Doooplaya District, to cut off the [transportation] connection between Burma Army⁶ soldiers. Therefore, Burma Army soldiers could no longer use this bridge for travel. This bridge was very important for Burma Army soldiers who live in Chaung N'Hkwar army camp to connect with soldiers who live in Kyainseikgyi Town army camp. As the Burma military regime planned to hold an election⁷ in December 2025, they tried in many ways to regain control of the bridge [so that they could repair and use it]. In December 2025, the Burma Army worked with Democratic Karen Benevolent Army (DKBA)⁸ Lieutenant Naik Klat, and deployed more troops, so they regained control of the Da Li Bridge and the road from Kyainseikgyi Town.

On 10 December 2025, at around 8 am, DKBA soldiers under the control of Lieutenant Naik Klat forced a villager named A---, from Aa--- village, Da Li village tract, Noh T'Kaw Township, to transport rations for Burma Army soldiers from Ac--- village to Da Li Bridge [with his personal vehicle]. [Details censored for security.] The DKBA forced A--- to transport the rations two times. The first time [previously, on an unknown date], A--- had to transport around 100 sacks of rice (50 kg each). A--- was worried that the DKBA soldiers would force him to transport rations again, so he hid his truck. However, the DKBA soldiers forced him to transport the rations again [on 10 December]. A--- stated: *"The second time, they were also DKBA soldiers who asked [forced] me to go. I told them I was afraid to go. They said nothing would happen, and [they] would take the responsibility. I told them: 'You can take my truck, but I am not going to follow you.' Yet, a DKBA soldier said: 'No, I will not take it [the truck]. You have to drive by yourself. I don't know how to drive.'"*

A--- drove DKBA soldiers to Ac--- village. When he arrived at the village, he was forced to transport around 30 Burma Army soldiers instead of rations. On 10 December 2025, at around 10 am, the KNLA, combined with PDF soldiers, attacked them with gun fire and a previously-planted tripwire mine [that the KNLA/PDF could trigger to detonate] on their way to Da Li Bridge. Due to the attack, his truck was burned, and some of the Burma Army soldiers were killed and injured. A--- added: *"At first, I heard a sound like 'Oooo.' I heard the sound of gun firing one to two rounds. When I turned around, I saw that the truck was on fire. I planned to jump out of the*

⁵ A village tract is an administrative unit of between five and 20 villages in a local area, often centred on a large village.

⁶ The terms Burma military, Burma Army, SAC, Tatmadaw, and junta are used interchangeably throughout this report to describe the Burma military regime's armed forces. Villagers themselves commonly use Burma Army, Burmese soldiers, or alternatively the name adopted by the Burma military regime at the time—from the 2021 coup to July 2025, the State Administration Council (SAC). On 31 July 2025, the military junta changed its name to the State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC).

⁷ The non-democratic elections held by the Burma military regime in 2025-2026 have been largely condemned by various international stakeholders, including ASEAN and high-ranking UN officials, as not legitimate. The junta's election was split into three phases, making polling stations subsequently available in different regions: phase 1 took place on 28 December 2025; phase 2 took place on 11 January 2026; and phase 3 took place on 25 January 2026. The military junta backs the Union Solidarity and Development Party (USDP), a party which is known for its close ties with the military and from which most officials are former military personnel. The junta was formerly self-designated as the State Administrative Council (SAC), after the 1 February 2021 military coup headed by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, which deposed the democratically elected government led by the National League for Democracy (NLD), following Burma's 2020 general elections. Following the election, Min Aung Hlaing was named president of Myanmar/the Burma military regime on 3 April 2026.

⁸ The Democratic Karen Benevolent Army (DKBA Benevolent) was formed in 2010 as a breakaway group following the transformation of the majority of the original Democratic Karen Buddhist Army (1994 – 2010) into Border Guard Forces (BGF). This group was originally called the Democratic Karen Buddhist Army, until it changed its name to the Democratic Karen Benevolent Army in April 2012, in order to reflect its secularity. This DKBA (Benevolent) (2010 – present) should not be confused with either the original DKBA (Buddhist) (1994-2010) which was transformed into the BGF in 2010, or with the DKBA (Buddhist) (2016 – present) which was formed in 2016 as a splinter group of the DKBA (Benevolent). Importantly, the DKBA (Benevolent) has signed both the preliminary and nationwide ceasefire agreements with the Burma/Myanmar government, whereas the DKBA (Buddhist) has not signed either agreement.

truck, but a DKBA soldier ordered me to keep driving. I jumped out of the truck when we reached Da Li Bridge, after about one minute of driving. The truck then caught fire completely and exploded.” [A--- was not injured by the incident.]

A--- purchased his truck for 80,000,000 kyats (approximately 38,100 USD⁹) and relied on it to support his family. As he was a driver, after his truck was burned and destroyed, he faced difficulties in continuing his livelihood activities to support his family. A--- went to see Lieutenant Naik Klat, but he did not meet with him. A--- met with one of the DKBA soldiers, and the soldier told him that the case regarding the truck burning had already been reported to the leaders. However, as of January 2026, A--- had not received any response from the DKBA soldiers.

Burma Army shelling caused damage to a house and a plantation

On 6 January 2026, the KNLA combined forces [with the PDF], attacked the [Burma Army] Infantry Battalion (IB)¹⁰ #32 located in the Burma Army control area in Noh T’Kaw Township. At around 11 am, the Burma Army soldiers indiscriminately fired 81 mm and 120 mm mortar shells into the villages near their area. The mortar shells landed in Ab--- village and Ad--- village, Noh T’Kaw village tract, Noh T’Kaw Township. These two villages are located close to each other under the Karen National Union (KNU)¹¹ administration. One of the mortar shells landed behind the house of Naw¹² B--- (38 years old) in Ab--- village, damaging the roof of the house and several coconut trees and betel nut trees.

Naw B---, from Ab--- village, explained to KHRG: *“The first shell landed next to my house, and the shrapnel spread [but did not damage the house]. The second shell landed in my house compound. I was cutting dried fish when the first shell landed. At first, my mother stayed in the house. However, she said the shell landed very close, so she went down from the house and stayed under the house. I thought that the shell would not come again, so I went to the kitchen to fry the fish. Then, I heard the sound of another shell being fired. I was not sure where that shell would land, so I planned to go down from the house. Before I arrived at the door of the house, the shell landed. I felt like I was deaf. I told my mother that I was deaf. I thought that I would have been injured by the shrapnel if I had not gone down from the house.”* [Naw B--- did not need to seek medical treatment following the incident.]

⁹ All conversion estimates for the kyat in this report are based on the 4 March 2026 official market rate of 2,100 MMK to 1 USD, <https://wise.com/gb/currency-converter/usd-to-mmk-rate>.

¹⁰ An Infantry Battalion (IB) comprises 500 soldiers. However, most Infantry Battalions in the Tatmadaw are under-strength with less than 200 soldiers. Yet up to date information regarding the size of battalions is hard to come by, particularly following the signing of the NCA. They are primarily used for garrison duty but are sometimes used in offensive operations.

¹¹ The Karen National Union (KNU) is the main Karen political organisation. It was established in 1947 and has been in conflict with the government since 1949. The KNU wields power across large areas of Southeast Myanmar and has been calling for the creation of a democratic federal system since 1976. Although it signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) in 2015, following the 2021 coup staged by Burma Army leaders, the KNU officially stated that the NCA has become void.

¹² ‘Naw’ is a S’gaw Karen female honorific title used before a person’s name.



These two photos were taken in January 2026, in Ab--- village, Noh T’Kaw village tract, Noh T’Kaw (Kyainseikgyi) Township, Dooplaya District. On 6 January 2026, Burma Army Infantry Battalion (IB) #32 fired 81 mm and 120 mm mortar shells into the villages in Noh T’Kaw village tract. One of the mortar shells landed in Ab--- village and damaged the house and plantation of a villager named Naw B---. The photo on the left shows the roof of her house, damaged by the shrapnel. The photo on the right shows her coconut tree and betelnut tree, also damaged by the shrapnel. *[Photos: KHRG]*

Villagers protested against the junta's election

On 9 January 2026, at 9 am, villagers and young people from all four townships in [Dooplaya] District held protests in several places. In Noh T’Kaw (Kyainseikgyi) Township, the villagers held a protest in four different places [in Noh Taw Plah village tract, Noh T’Kaw village tract, Wah Ma village tract, and Lay Wah Ploe village tract] against the election [second phase and third phase] that the SAC [State Administration Council¹³, now referred to as Burma military regime] would hold in January 2026 [on the 11th and 25th]. Therefore, at 9 am, a total of around 600 people from two village tracts, Noh T’Kaw and Noh Taw Plah village tracts, held a protest on the road along the Ae--- village. During the protest, they [the villagers] had mentioned six calls [against the election]. They are:

1. We do not need a government that tortures and kills civilians;
2. We do not want the sham election held by the military regime;
3. We do not want military regimes and ethnocentrism;
4. It is our right to build multiracial unity;
5. It is our right to build a Kawthoolei¹⁴ government; and
6. Do not give votes to the war dog’s [military regime’s] exit [strategy, to be perceived as legitimate instead of a dictatorship] of 2026 and protest against it.

They protested for one hour and were calling for these issues.

¹³ The State Administration Council (SAC) was the name of the executive governing body of the Burma military regime created in the aftermath of the 1 February 2021 military coup. It was established by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on 2 February 2021 and was composed of eight military officers and eight civilians. The chairperson serves as the de facto head of government of Burma/Myanmar and leads the Military Cabinet of Myanmar, the executive branch of the government. Min Aung Hlaing assumed the role of SAC chairperson following the coup. The military junta changed its name on 31 July 2025 from SAC to State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC), with Min Aung Hlaing retaining his position as chairperson.

¹⁴ The term Kaw Thoo Lei refers to Karen State as demarcated by the Karen National Union (KNU), but the exact meaning and etymology is disputed; see: Jonathan Falla. *True Love and Bartholomew: Rebels on the Burmese Border*, Cambridge University Press: 1991.



These two photos were taken on January 2026, in Ae--- village, Noh Taw Plah village tract, Noh T’Kaw Township, Dooplaya District. On 9 January 2026, around 600 villagers from Noh T’Kaw and Noh Taw Plah village tracts protested against the Burma military regime’s sham election. [Photos: KHRG]

According to a local [KNU] leader named Saw¹⁵ C---, the Burma Army planned to hold the third phase of the election in Noh T’Kaw Township on 25 January 2026. There were six polling stations in [Kyainseikgyi] town, and three polling stations in the villages outside the town, in Noh T’Kaw Township. The polling stations were located in Ther Ter village and Kya Inn village, Noh T’Kaw village tract, and May K’Lah Kone village, Kyaw Kay Hkoh village tract. Saw C--- also stated that it was not only the Karen people but also the Bamar people who rejected this sham election. The villagers eagerly participated in the protest. A village secretary named Saw D--- from Af--- village, Meh Pra village tract, Noh T’Kaw Township, who participated in the protest stated: “No one forced us to join the protest. We joined the protest because we did not accept it [the sham election].”

Further background reading on the situation in Dooplaya District in Southeast Burma/Myanmar can be found in the following KHRG reports:

- [Stolen Childhoods: Violations of children’s rights, urgent needs, and local agency in rural Southeast Burma during the conflict](#), October 2025.
- [Community spaces under fire : Attacks and destruction of community buildings and cultural events in Southeast Burma by the State Administration Council \(SAC\) \(January - June 2025\)](#), August 2025.
- [“Dooplaya District Incident Report: Burma Army shelling injured a villager in Noh T’Kaw Township \(December 2025\)”](#), March 2026.

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¹⁵ ‘Saw’ is a S’gaw Karen male honorific title used before a person’s name.





Karen Human Rights Group

Documenting the voices of villagers in rural Burma

Short Update

27 May 2026 / KHRG # 26-21+126-D1

Taw Oo District Short Update: Burma Army air strikes injured a 16-year-old girl and damaged six houses in Daw Hpah Hkoh Township (February to March 2026)

This Short Update describes events occurring in Daw Hpah Hkoh (Thandaungyi) Township, Taw Oo (Toungoo) District. On 13 February 2026, the Burma Army dropped two bombs from a drone into Ab--- village, Way Htoo village tract, damaging six villagers' houses. Then, on 28 March 2026, the Burma Army dropped two bombs from a fighter jet into Ad--- village, Way Htoo village tract, injuring a 16-year-old girl. The girl was sent to Af--- clinic in Way Htoo village tract, believed to be administered by the Karen Department of Health and Welfare (KDHW), where she received treatment for her injury.¹

On 13 February 2026, at 2 pm, a drone of the SAC [State Administration Council,² also known as the Burma Army³] dropped two bombs into Aa--- (also known as Ab---) village, Way Htoo village tract,⁴ Daw Hpah Hkoh (Thandaungyi) Township, Taw Oo (Toungoo) District. [At the time of the incident, no fighting was occurring in the village.] The first bomb landed outside of the village [and caused no injuries or damage]. The second bomb landed and exploded in the upper part of the village, damaging six villagers' houses.

Following the first bomb's explosion, villagers displaced to a riverbank located near the village. So, when the second bomb landed in the upper part of the village, villagers witnessed lots of smoke coming out of that area [the upper part of the village]. After the second bomb exploded,

¹ The present document is based on information received in February and April 2026. It was provided by a community member in Taw Oo District who has been trained by KHRG as a researcher to monitor human rights conditions on the ground. The names of the victims, their photos and the exact locations are censored for security reasons. The parts in square brackets are explanations added by KHRG. This document combines several received reports with the following KHRG internal log numbers: #26-21-D1; #26-21-A1-I1; #26-21-P1; #26-126-D1; #26-126-A1-I1; and #26-126-P1.

² The State Administration Council (SAC) was the name of the executive governing body of the Burma military regime created in the aftermath of the 1 February 2021 military coup. It was established by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on 2 February 2021 and was composed of eight military officers and eight civilians. The chairperson serves as the de facto head of government of Burma/Myanmar and leads the Military Cabinet of Myanmar, the executive branch of the government. Min Aung Hlaing assumed the role of SAC chairperson following the coup. The military junta changed its name on 31 July 2025 from SAC to State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC), with Min Aung Hlaing retaining his position as chairperson.

³ The terms Burma military, Burma Army, SAC, Tatmadaw, and junta are used interchangeably throughout this report to describe the Burma military regime's armed forces. Villagers themselves commonly use Burma Army, Burmese soldiers, or alternatively the name adopted by the Burma military regime at the time—from the 2021 coup to July 2025, the State Administration Council (SAC). On 31 July 2025, the military junta changed its name to the State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC).

⁴ A village tract is an administrative unit of between five and 20 villages in a local area, often centred on a large village.

villagers returned to the village and checked what had been damaged. Villagers found out that an elderly villager named Daw⁵ A---, 91 years old, did not manage to flee in time, as she was old and could not run. She was hiding under a house. The second bomb had landed and exploded [on a citrus tree] near where she was hiding. [She did not sustain any injuries.] Villagers offered comforting words to her.

The second drone strike [bomb] landed and exploded on a citrus tree. The shrapnel also hit other plantations and six villagers' houses. Mostly, roofs of villagers' houses were hit and damaged. The owners of the six houses are: Saw⁶ B--- (62 years old), U⁷ C--- (53 years old), Saw D--- (41 years old), U E--- (58 years old), U F--- (51 years old), and G--- (49 years old).



On 13 February 2026, the Burma Army dropped two bombs into Aa--- (also known as Ab---) village, Way Htoo village tract, Daw Hpah Hkoh (Thandaungyi) Township, Taw Oo (Toungoo) District. One of the bombs exploded and damaged six houses and plantations of villagers. The photo on the left shows one of the house roofs, which has holes from the shrapnel. The photo on the right shows a tree that was hit by shrapnel. [Photos: KHRG]

When asked, a former village tract administrator named Saw H--- said that he believes that the drone strike was conducted by the Aung Chan Tar army camp, which is based in Yay Thar Pyu place (in Way Htoo village tract). He continued and provided the information that on 13 February 2026, a graduation ceremony of the People's Defence Force (PDF)⁸ was held at a place 1.5 miles (2.4 km) away from the village. Thus, he hypothesised that the drone strike was targeted

⁵ 'Daw' is a Burmese female honorific title used before a person's name.

⁶ 'Saw' is a S'gaw Karen male honorific title used before a person's name.

⁷ 'U' is a Burmese title used for elder men, used before their name.

⁸ The People's Defence Force (PDF) is an armed resistance established independently as local civilian militias operating across the country. Following the 1 February 2021 military coup and the ongoing brutal violence enacted by the junta, the majority of these groups began working with the National Unity Government (NUG), a body claiming to be the legitimate government of Burma/Myanmar, which then formalized the PDF on 5 May 2021 as a precursor to a federal army.

at the PDF's graduation ceremony [and not at the village]; however, it [the drone] mistook the village with the PDF's graduation place.

On 28 March 2026, at around 12:30 pm, a fighter jet of the SAC dropped two 250-pound bombs into Ad--- (also known as Ae---) village, Way Htoo village tract, injuring a villager [child]. The incident happened when Ma⁹ I---, 16 years old, was foraging for vegetables, ferns and amaranth green leaves [a type of spinach], and catching fish in a stream [near a church compound]. Two 250-pound bombs dropped from a fighter jet of the SAC and landed behind a Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) church's compound, at Ad--- village. The first bomb landed on the ground [and remained unexploded; KHRG does not know what happened to the unexploded bomb]. The second bomb landed and exploded on a tree, scattering the shrapnel around the area, and Ma I--- sustained an injury to the left shoulder blade, as she was foraging for leaves and fish. PDF [soldiers] carried the injured Ma I--- on a motorbike and sent her to Af--- clinic, Way Htoo village tract, where she received treatment, as a nurse applied medicine on her wound. In an interview, she expressed that she believes that the clinic was administered by the KDHW [Karen Department of Health and Welfare]¹⁰. She did not have to pay for the treatment; however, she offered a voluntary contribution as suggested.



This photo was received in April 2026. On 28 March 2026, at 12:30 pm, the Burma Army dropped two bombs from a fighter jet into Ad--- (also known as Ae---) village, Way Htoo village tract, Daw Hpah Hkoh Township, Taw Oo District. Both bombs landed inside a Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) church's compound. The photo shows the injury sustained by Ma I---, 16 years old, from shrapnel of the second bomb. KHRG is allowed to use this photo. *[Photo: Local villager]*

⁹ 'Ma' is a Burmese female honorific title used before a person's name.

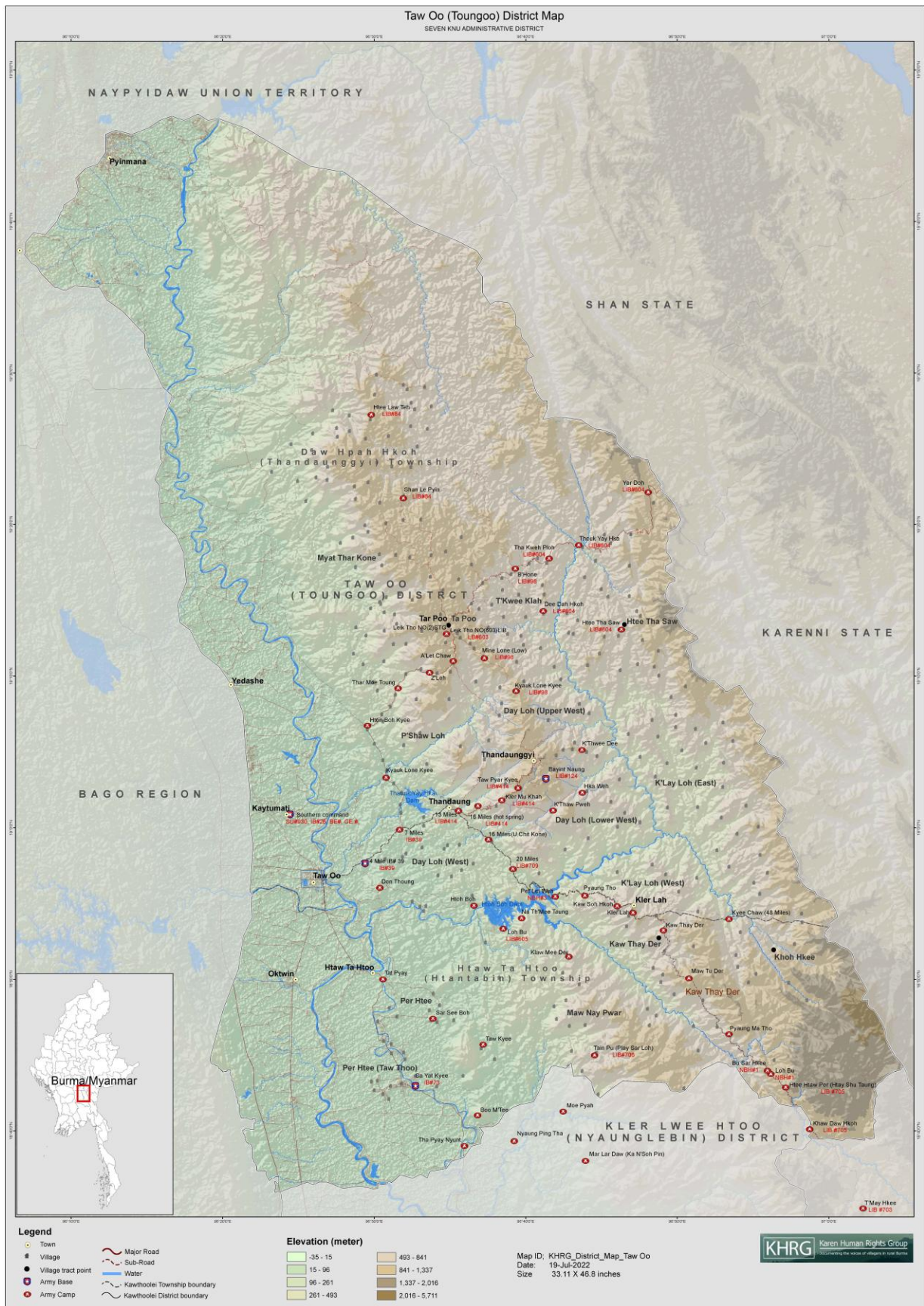
¹⁰ The Karen Department of Health and Welfare (KDHW) is the health department of the Karen National Union. It was established in 1956 to address the lack of public healthcare resources in rural Southeast Myanmar. It currently operates a network of community-based clinics in the region, but its capabilities remain limited due to funding constraints.

Further background reading about air strikes in Southeast Burma/Myanmar can be found in the following KHRG reports:

- [ကဘီယုဟဲလ် Aircraft coming! : Impacts of air strikes on local communities and villagers' protection strategies in Southeast Burma since the 2021 coup](#), November 2024.
- ["Taw Oo District Short Update: Burma Army drone strike injured two villagers in Htaw Ta Htoo Township \(March 2026\)"](#), April 2026.
- ["Photo Set: Burma Army air strikes on local communities, resulting in casualties, destruction, and displacement \(January to December 2025\)"](#), March 2026.

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Karen Human Rights Group

Documenting the voices of villagers in rural Burma

Short Update

1 June 2026 / KHRG # 26-102-D1

Taw Oo District Short Update: Burma Army shelling and air strike injured two children, damaged villagers' houses, and caused displacement in Htaw Ta Htoo Township (July 2025)

This Short Update describes events occurring in Htaw Ta Htoo (Htantabin) Township, Taw Oo (Toungoo) District. On 21 July 2025, the Burma Army fired shells into Aa--- village, Zayat Gyi Taung Chan village tract, injuring a 14-year-old girl and a 7-year-old girl. Additionally, houses of villagers were damaged. Following the shelling, villagers displaced themselves from the village. Later that morning, after villagers displaced, an aircraft of the Burma Army conducted an air strike into the village. The air strike did not injure anyone but damaged three villagers' houses. The same day, more shells were fired by the Burma Army and damaged another villager's house.¹

On 21 July 2025, at around 8 am, three shells [fired by the Burma Army² Infantry Battalion (IB)³ #73] landed inside Aa--- village, Zayat Gyi Taung Chan village tract⁴, Htaw Ta Htoo (Htantabin) Township, Taw Oo (Toungoo) District. Two shells landed inside Daw⁵ A---'s house compound. The first shell landed behind the house, and the second shell landed behind the house in the pond, outside of the compound. However, the second shell remained unexploded. The third shell landed and exploded in front of the house's stoop, which was made out of brick.

When the first shell exploded, the shrapnel injured the two daughters of Ma⁶ B---, who were in their house, which is located right next to their grandmother, Daw A---'s, house. One of the daughters, Ma C---, 14 years old, sustained injuries to her left fingers and right arm. The other

¹ The present document is based on information received in March 2026. It was provided by a community member in Taw Oo District who has been trained by KHRG as a researcher to monitor human rights conditions on the ground. The names of the victims, their photos and the exact locations are censored for security reasons. The parts in square brackets are explanations added by KHRG. This document combines several received reports with the following KHRG internal log numbers: #26-102-D1 and #26-102-A1-I1

² The terms Burma military, Burma Army, SAC, Tatmadaw, and junta are used interchangeably throughout this report to describe the Burma military regime's armed forces. Villagers themselves commonly use Burma Army, Burmese soldiers, or alternatively the name adopted by the Burma military regime at the time—from the 2021 coup to July 2025, the State Administration Council (SAC). On 31 July 2025, the military junta changed its name to the State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC).

³ An Infantry Battalion (IB) comprises 500 soldiers. However, most Infantry Battalions in the Tatmadaw are under-strength with less than 200 soldiers. Yet up to date information regarding the size of battalions is hard to come by, particularly following the signing of the NCA. They are primarily used for garrison duty but are sometimes used in offensive operations.

⁴ A village tract is an administrative unit of between five and 20 villages in a local area, often centred on a large village.

⁵ 'Daw' is a Burmese female honorific title used before a person's name.

⁶ 'Ma' is a Burmese female honorific title used before a person's name.

daughter, Ma D---, 7 years old, sustained a minor scratch on her forehead. As the shrapnel hit their house, it was completely destroyed. The house that they lost would cost 5,000,000 kyats (2,380.95 USD⁷) to rebuild.

Before the second and third shells were fired, the two injured children and everyone in the area displaced themselves. Thus, no other villagers sustained injuries. PDF [People's Defence Force]⁸ healthcare workers transported Ma C--- to Ab---Hospital, in Toungoo Town, administered by the Burma military regime, to receive treatment. There, she got a steel implant in her fingers and got stitches. However, her fingers do not function the same as before. While there were no transportation difficulties as it was arranged by PDF healthcare workers, her treatment cost 2,000,000 kyats (952.38 USD). Ma D---'s minor injury was treated at home.

The family did not receive any support from anyone [and the family had to pay the full cost of the treatment]. Thus, the family suffered from the extreme financial difficulties. The family's livelihood is rooted in subsistence living, relying only on daily earning to survive. They do not have any savings.



The photos were taken in March 2026, in Aa--- village, Zayat Gyi Taung Chan village tract, Htaw Ta Htoo (Htantabin) Township, Taw Oo (Toungoo) District. On 21 July 2025, Burma Army Infantry Battalion (IB) #73 shelled Aa--- village, injuring Ma C---, 14 years old, and Ma D---, 7 years old. The photo on the left displays Ma C---'s scar on her right upper arm and the photo on the right displays the scars on her left-hand fingers. [Photos: KHRG]

On the same day, an aircraft (fighter jet) conducted an air strike between 10 am and 11 am. No villagers were injured because villagers had displaced following the [shelling] incident. However, the houses of two villagers, Ko⁹ E--- and Ko F---, were completely destroyed. In addition, the house of U¹⁰ G---, a village tract administrator, was damaged.

⁷ All conversion estimates for the kyat in this report are based on the 18 March 2026 mid-market exchange rate of \$1 USD = 2,100 MMK, <https://wise.com/gb/currency-converter/usd-to-mmk-rate>

⁸ The People's Defence Force (PDF) is an armed resistance established independently as local civilian militias operating across the country. Following the 1 February 2021 military coup and the ongoing brutal violence enacted by the junta, the majority of these groups began working with the National Unity Government (NUG), a body claiming to be the legitimate government of Burma/Myanmar, which then formalized the PDF on 5 May 2021 as a precursor to a federal army.

⁹ 'Ko' is a Burmese title meaning older brother. It can be used for relatives as well as non-relatives.

¹⁰ 'U' is a Burmese title used for elder men, used before their name.

Later, more shells were fired, according to villagers. One of the shells landed and exploded behind the house of U H---, 40 years old, near the kitchen. The family members had fled, thus no one sustained injuries.

Villagers reported that the shells were fired by SAC [State Administration Council]¹¹ Infantry Battalion (IB) #73. There was no fighting, yet shells targeted Aa--- village. At least eight shells were fired, and one air strike was conducted. It is unknown how many shells were fired in total. According to the village head, U I---, eight houses were damaged.

Further background reading on the situation of shelling in Southeast Burma/Myanmar can be found in the following KHRG reports:

- [*Stolen Childhoods: Violations of children's rights, urgent needs, and local agency in rural Southeast Burma during the conflict*, October 2025.](#)
- [*"Hpa-An District Short Update: Burma Army air strikes and shelling caused damages and displacement in T'Nay Hsah Township \(September to December 2025\)"*, May 2026.](#)
- [*"Taw Oo District Short Update: Burma Army shelling killed one villager, injured a pregnant woman, and caused damage in Daw Hpah Hkoh Township \(December 2025 and February 2026\)"*, April 2026.](#)

About KHRG

Founded in 1992, Karen Human Rights Group is an independent local organisation committed to improving the human rights situation in Southeast Burma. KHRG trains local people to document and gather evidence of human rights abuses, and publishes this information to project the voices, experiences and perspectives of local communities. More examples of our work can be seen online at www.khrq.org.

¹¹ The State Administration Council (SAC) was the name of the executive governing body of the Burma military regime created in the aftermath of the 1 February 2021 military coup. It was established by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on 2 February 2021 and was composed of eight military officers and eight civilians. The chairperson serves as the de facto head of government of Burma/Myanmar and leads the Military Cabinet of Myanmar, the executive branch of the government. Min Aung Hlaing assumed the role of SAC chairperson following the coup. The military junta changed its name on 31 July 2025 from SAC to State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC), with Min Aung Hlaing retaining his position as chairperson.





Karen Human Rights Group

Documenting the voices of villagers in rural Burma

Incident Report

2 June 2026 / KHRG # 26-118-I1

Doplaya District Incident Report: Burma Army shelling injured a villager, destroyed a house, and damaged others in Kruh Tuh Township (March 2026)

This incident report describes events occurring in Kruh Tuh (Kyonedoe) Township, Doplaya District, in March 2026. On 29 March 2026, the Burma Army fired two 120 mm mortar shells into Aa--- village in Th'Lweh Htaung village tract, injuring a villager, destroying his house, and damaging three other houses. After this incident, the villagers panicked and feared for their safety. Some villagers did not dare to sleep in their homes and instead slept temporarily at the monastery in the village at night.¹

Part 1 – Incident Details

Type of Incident	[Shelling.] SAC [State Administration Council ² , also known as the Burma Army ³] shelling, injuring a villager, destroying a house, and damaging others.
Date of Incident(s)	29 March 2026
Incident Location (Village, Township and District)	Aa--- village, Th'Lweh Htaung village tract, ⁴ Kruh Tuh Township, Doplaya District.

¹ The present document is based on information received in April 2026. It was provided by a community member in Doplaya District who has been trained by KHRG to monitor human rights conditions on the ground. The names of the victims, their photos and the exact locations are censored for security reasons. The parts in square brackets are explanations added by KHRG. This document combines several received reports with the following KHRG internal log numbers: #26-118-I1, #26-118-A1-I1, and #26-118-A2-I1.

² The State Administration Council (SAC) was the name of the executive governing body of the Burma military regime created in the aftermath of the 1 February 2021 military coup. It was established by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on 2 February 2021 and was composed of eight military officers and eight civilians. The chairperson serves as the de facto head of government of Burma/Myanmar and leads the Military Cabinet of Myanmar, the executive branch of the government. Min Aung Hlaing assumed the role of SAC chairperson following the coup. The military junta changed its name on 31 July 2025 from SAC to State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC), with Min Aung Hlaing retaining his position as chairperson.

³ The terms Burma military, Burma Army, SAC, Tatmadaw, and junta are used interchangeably throughout this report to describe the Burma military regime's armed forces. Villagers themselves commonly use Burma Army, Burmese soldiers, or alternatively the name adopted by the Burma military regime at the time —from the 2021 coup to July 2025, the State Administration Council (SAC). On 31 July 2025, the military junta changed its name to the State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC).

⁴ A village tract is an administrative unit of between five and 20 villages in a local area, often centred on a large village.

Victim Information	
Name	Saw ⁵ A---
Age	19 years old
Gender	Man
Ethnicity	Karen
Marital Status	Single
Occupation	Farmer
Religion	Buddhist
Position	Villager
Village	Aa--- village, Th'Lweh Htaw village tract, Kruh Tuh Township, Dooplaya District

Perpetrator Information (Armed Actors)				
Name(s)	Rank	Unit	Base	Commander's Name
Unknown	Unknown	[Burma Army] LIB [Light Infantry Battalion] ⁶ #230	Hlaing Wa army camp [near Kaw T'Ree Town, Dooplaya District]	Unknown

Part 2 - Information Quality

1. Explain in detail how you collected this information.

I [a KHRG researcher] know of this issue from talking about the Burma Army's shelling with an administrative staff member of the Karen Department of Health and Welfare (KDHW)⁷ from Kruh Tuh Township. [The researcher went to the incident site, conducted interviews with the victim and the victim's grandfather, and took photos of the injury.]

2. Explain how the source verified this information.

[The researcher] conducted interviews with the victim, Saw A---, and his grandfather.

⁵ Saw is a S'gaw Karen male honorific title used before a person's name.

⁶ A Light Infantry Battalion (LIB) comprises 500 soldiers. Most Light Infantry Battalions in the Tatmadaw are under-strength with less than 200 soldiers, yet up-to-date information regarding the size of battalions is hard to come by, particularly following the signing of the NCA. LIBs are primarily used for offensive operations, but they are sometimes used for garrison duties.

⁷ The Karen Department of Health and Welfare (KDHW) is the health department of the Karen National Union. It was established in 1956 to address the lack of public healthcare resources in rural Southeast Myanmar. It currently operates a network of community-based clinics in the region, but its capabilities remain limited due to funding constraints.

Part 3 – Complete Description of the Incident

Describe the Incident(s) in complete detail.

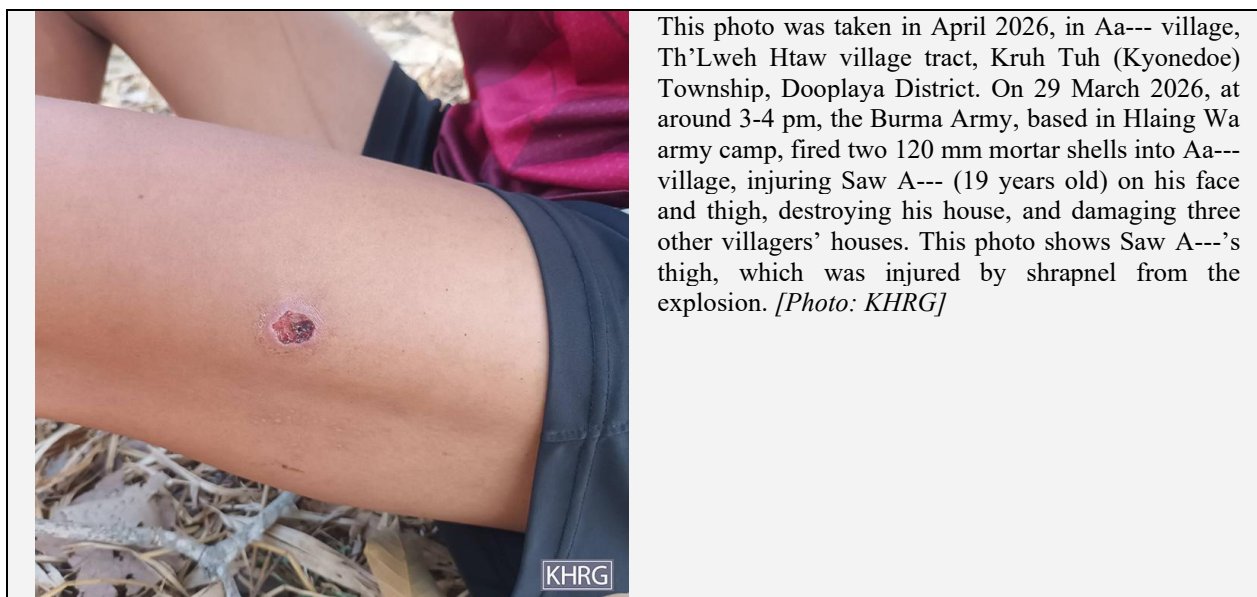
Aa--- village, Th'Lweh Htaw village tract, Kruh Tuh (Kyonedoe) Township, Doolaya District is under KNU [Karen National Union]⁸ control. The SAC [State Administration Council] had not been able to control this area from the [2021] coup⁹ until 2026. Even though the SAC soldiers could not reach this area, the soldiers from Light Infantry Battalion (LIB) #230 fired 120 mm mortar shells into the village [often]. On 29 March 2026, at around 3-4 pm, the SAC fired two 120 mm mortar shells into Aa--- village, injuring a villager named Saw A--- (19 years old), destroying his house, and burning all of the clothes and kitchen materials inside the house. As his house was on fire, the neighbour tried to help by pouring water on the house to extinguish the fire. As the shelling landed very close to Saw A---, he could not hear [well] for three days. During the shelling, there were no armed groups present in the village, and no fighting occurred in the area. After he was injured, township health workers [from the Karen Department of Health and Welfare (KDHW)] transported him to Ab--- clinic, Wa Ka village tract, Kruh Tuh Township. [Ab--- clinic is administered by the KDHW and Saw A--- did not need to pay any treatment fees.]

Saw A--- [later] explained to KHRG that he and his father were building their new house [during the incident]. They were working on the rooftop of the house when the first shell landed in the middle of the village and damaged a house [of another villager]. When Saw A--- and his father heard the sound of the shelling, they came down from the rooftop and ran back to their old house. When they were on their way and about to reach their old house, another shell landed only ten yards away from them. The shrapnel from the explosion injured Saw A---'s face and thigh, [caused his old house to catch on fire which] destroyed his house, and also damaged his grandmother's house and his uncle's house.

As Saw A---'s house was burned, he and his family had to stay at his grandmother's house temporarily. After this incident, the villagers became afraid and fled to the monastery in the village, where they slept at night.

⁸ The Karen National Union (KNU) is the main Karen political organisation. It was established in 1947 and has been in conflict with the government since 1949. The KNU wields power across large areas of Southeast Myanmar and has been calling for the creation of a democratic federal system since 1976. Although it signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) in 2015, following the 2021 coup staged by Burma Army leaders, the KNU officially stated that the NCA has become void.

⁹ On 1 February 2021, the Myanmar military deposed the democratically elected government led by the National League for Democracy (NLD). The military proclaimed a year-long state of emergency and transferred power to Min Aung Hlaing, the Commander-in-Chief of Myanmar's Armed Forces. Based on unproven fraud allegations, the Tatmadaw invalidated the landslide victory of the NLD in the November 2020 General Election and stated it would hold new elections at the end of the state of emergency. The coup d'état occurred the day before the Parliament of Myanmar was due to swear in the members elected during the 2020 election. Elected President Win Myint and State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi were detained, along with ministers, their deputies and members of Parliament.



Part 4 - Permission for Using the Details

Did the victim(s) provide permission to use this information? Explain how that permission was provided.

The information can be used. International stakeholders should advocate to the SAC to stop shelling villages. [The victim and his grandfather permitted KHRG to use the information.]

Further background reading on shelling in Dooplaya District can be found in the following KHRG reports:

- [Stolen Childhoods: Violations of children's rights, urgent needs, and local agency in rural Southeast Burma during the conflict](#), October 2025.
- ["Dooplaya District Short Update: Burma Army shelling, fighting, and villagers' protest against the Burma military regime's election in Noh T'Kaw Township \(December 2025 to January 2026\)"](#), May 2026.
- ["Dooplaya District Incident Report: Burma Army shelling injured a villager in Noh T'Kaw Township \(December 2025\)"](#), March 2026.
- ["Photo Set: Shelling of villages in Southeast Burma by the Burma Army, the BGF, and other affiliated armed groups, and its impacts \(January to November 2025\)"](#), December 2025.

About KHRG

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Karen Human Rights Group

Documenting the voices of villagers in rural Burma

Situation Update

3 June 2026 / KHRG #25-176-S1

Kler Lwee Htoo District Situation Update: Burma Army attacks caused death, injuries, property damage, displacement, and challenges to villagers' daily routine in Moo Township (February to May 2025)

This Situation Update describes events occurring in Moo (Mone) Township, Kler Lwee Htoo (Nyaunglibin) District, during the period between February and May 2025. On 18 February 2025, Burma Army Infantry Battalion (IB) #73 from Zayatgyi Town fired two howitzer shells into KI--- village, Nyaung Pin Tha village tract. The resulting explosions injured two villagers, including a woman on her legs and neck and her 12-year-old son on his left thumb, in addition to damaging two houses. On 3 March 2025 and 3 April 2025, Burma Army Light Infantry Battalion (LIB) #351, based in Ler Doh army camp, fired 120 mm shells into Haw Hkoh Ghaw village tract. Shrapnel from the mortar shells injured a young woman on her legs and forehead and damaged villagers' property, including the houses of two villagers. Additionally, on 14 April 2025, Burma Army IB #5, based in Nyaung Pi Tha army camp, fired two 120 mm mortar shells into Yt--- village, Pin Za Lot village tract, Moo special area, injuring two villagers and damaging two houses, due to the shrapnel from the explosion. On 28 April 2025, a Burma Army fighter jet carried out an air strike on Za--- village, Kanyin Tan village tract, Moo special area, killing three villagers, injuring a 20-month-old child, and damaging four houses. On 5 May 2025, Burma Army LIB #439 fired a mortar shell into Yz--- village, Pa Ya La Ha village tract, Moo special area, injuring one villager when the shrapnel struck her neck. Consequently, due to the shelling and air strikes conducted by the Burma Army, some villagers needed to displace, and it caused disturbance to the villagers in from Moo Township. During the reporting period, Burma Army travel restrictions worsened villagers' travel challenges and livelihood situations; attacks by the Burma Army impacted children's education; and villagers faced challenges accessing needed healthcare services.¹

Burma Army shelling caused casualties, destruction, and displacement

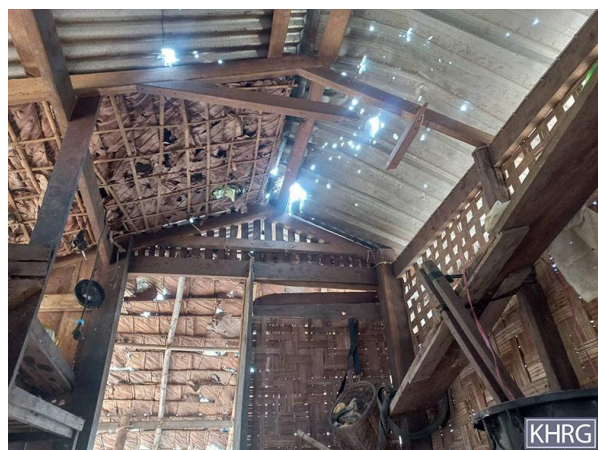
After the SAC [State Administration Council², now referred to as the Burma Army³] seized power [in the 2021 coup], they conducted activities such as firing mortar shells into villages in Moo

¹ The present document is based on information received in February, March, April, and May 2025. It was provided by a community member in Kler Lwee Htoo District who has been trained by KHRG as a researcher to monitor human rights conditions on the ground. The names of the victims, their photos and the exact locations are censored for security reasons. The parts in square brackets are explanations added by KHRG. This document combines several received reports with the following KHRG internal log numbers: #25-75-D1; #25-82-D1; #25-122-D1; #25-136-D1; #25-184-D1; #25-198-D1; and #25-176-S1.

² The State Administration Council (SAC) was the name of the executive governing body of the Burma military regime created in the aftermath of the 1 February 2021 military coup. It was established by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on 2 February 2021 and was composed of eight military officers and eight civilians. The chairperson serves as the de facto head of government of Burma/Myanmar and leads the Military Cabinet of Myanmar, the executive branch of the government. Min Aung Hlaing assumed the role of SAC chairperson following the coup.

(Mone) Township, Kler Lwee Htoo (Nyaunglibin) District, so the villagers had to face difficulties such as displacement, injuries, and destruction. On 18 February 2025, at 8:15 pm, the SAC IB [Infantry Battalion]⁴ #73, based in Zayatgyi Town army camp [located in Moo Township], indiscriminately fired two howitzer shells into Kl--- village, Nyaung Pin Tha village tract⁵, Moo Township, and the first howitzer shell landed on the garden of Maung⁶ J---, so his house and belongings were damaged. However, he was not injured.

Simultaneously, they [the Burma Army] fired another [second] howitzer shell. The howitzer shell landed and exploded underneath the house of U⁷ D---. A 40-year-old named Daw⁸ R---, who is the wife of U D---, was injured on both her legs and her neck. Also, their son, Maung B--- (12 years old) was hit on his left thumb and lost it. Due to the injuries, they were immediately sent to Rk--- clinic, located in Rk--- village, Moo special area, Moo Township, administered by the CDM [Civil Disobedience Movement]⁹. They provided free treatment to the injured villagers. Afterward, due to the severity of Daw R---'s leg injuries, she was transferred to Taw Oo public hospital, located in Taw Oo Town and administered by the SAC. [It is unknown how much Daw R--- had to pay for the treatments.] His [U D---'s] house was also damaged, and his belongings such as a motorcycle, television, and other properties were damaged by the explosion, including kitchen supplies.



The military junta changed its name on 31 July 2025 from SAC to State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC), with Min Aung Hlaing retaining his position as chairperson.

³ The terms Burma military, Burma Army, SAC, Tatmadaw, and junta are used interchangeably throughout this report to describe the Burma military regime's armed forces. Villagers themselves commonly use Burma Army, Burmese soldiers, or alternatively the name adopted by the Burma military regime at the time—from the 2021 coup to July 2025, the State Administration Council (SAC). On 31 July 2025, the military junta changed its name to the State Security and Peace Commission (SSPC).

⁴ An Infantry Battalion (IB) comprises 500 soldiers. However, most Infantry Battalions in the Tatmadaw are under-strength with less than 200 soldiers. Yet up to date information regarding the size of battalions is hard to come by, particularly following the signing of the NCA. They are primarily used for garrison duty but are sometimes used in offensive operations.

⁵ A village tract is an administrative unit of between five and 20 villages in a local area, often centred on a large village.

⁶ 'Maung' is a Burmese male honorific title used before a person's name.

⁷ 'U' is a Burmese title used for elder men, used before their name.

⁸ 'Daw' is a Burmese female honorific title used before a person's name.

⁹ On 2 February 2021, healthcare workers at state-run hospitals and medical facilities across Myanmar spearheaded what is being referred to as a Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM) consisting of labour strikes in protest against the 1 February 2021 military coup. The movement quickly spread to include civil servants from all sectors of the government who are walking off their jobs as a way of non-recognition and non-participation in the military regime. Because of the popularity of the movement, and its seminal role in wider protests across the country, some people have begun using it as a catch-all phrase to include other protest forms like boycotts and pot-banging.



These photos were taken in February 2025, in K1--- village, Nyaung Pin Tha village tract, Moo (Mone) Township, Kler Lwee Htoo (Nyaunglibin) District. On 18 February 2025, at 8:15 pm, Burma Army Infantry Battalion (IB) #73, based in Zayatgyi Town army camp, indiscriminately fired two howitzer shells into K1--- village. The photos above show the house of Maung J---, which was damaged by the first shell. The photo below shows the motorbike of U D---, which was destroyed by the second howitzer shell. [Photos: KHRG]

On 3 March 2025, at 8:35 pm, SAC soldiers from LIB [Light Infantry Battalion]¹⁰ #351, based in Ler Doh [army camp], fired two 120 mm mortar shells into Tk--- village, Haw Hkoh Ghaw village tract, Moo Township. The mortar shells landed on the garden of Saw¹¹ K--- and hit the belongings of Saw K---, such as petrol (diesel) and engine fuel (diesels); 20 big tins of fuel, which were burnt; some rice sacks, which were damaged; his diesel engine; a dynamo [an electric engine part]; the warehouse's wall and roof, which were hit; a motorcycle, which was burnt; and his tractor, which was damaged as well.



¹⁰ A Light Infantry Battalion (LIB) comprises 500 soldiers. Most Light Infantry Battalions in the Tatmadaw are under-strength with less than 200 soldiers, yet up-to-date information regarding the size of battalions is hard to come by, particularly following the signing of the NCA. LIBs are primarily used for offensive operations, but they are sometimes used for garrison duties.

¹¹ 'Saw' is a S'gaw Karen male honorific title used before a person's name.



These photos were taken in March 2025, in Tk--- village, Hawh Hkoh Ghaw village tract, Moo Township, Kler Lwee Htoo District. On 3 March 2025, at 8:35 pm, Burma Army Light Infantry Battalion (LIB) #351, based in Ler Doh army camp, fired two 120 mm mortar shells into Tk--- village, and the mortar shells landed in the garden of a Tk--- villager named Saw K---. The four photos above show the tractor and the motorbike of Saw K---, which were damaged by the shelling. The next two photos show containers of diesel and rice sacks, which were also damaged by the shrapnel of the explosion. The photos in the last row show the tails and shrapnel of the mortar shells that landed and exploded in Saw K---'s garden. *[Photos: KHRG]*

On 3 April 2025, SAC soldiers from LIB #351, based in Ler Doh army camp, indiscriminately fired two 120 mm mortar shells into Tk--- village, causing destruction. Because the SAC soldiers deliberately targeted the village [a belief held by villagers due to the fact that armed resistance groups occasionally pass through the village] and fired a mortar into the village, the mortar shell landed and exploded on the house of a villager from Tk--- village named Naw¹² M---. None of

¹² 'Naw' is a S'gaw Karen female honorific title used before a person's name.

the house owners were at home during the attack, so there were no casualties. Only the house and the roof of the house sustained significant damage.

However, the shrapnel from the explosion of the mortar shell scattered throughout the surrounding area and struck the house of another villager, named Saw T---. His 23-year-old daughter, Naw L---, was injured on her left leg and forehead. Because of the severity of her [Naw L---'s] leg injury caused by the shrapnel, local medics provided initial treatment and later referred her to TI--- hospital [administered by the Karen Department of Health and Welfare (KDHW)¹³ located in TI--- village, P'Nah Wah Plaw village tract, Moo Township] for further treatment. They [villagers] do not need to pay treatment fees [at TI--- hospital]. His [Saw T---'s] house was also damaged.



These photos were taken in April 2025, in TI--- hospital, located in TI--- village, P'Nah Wah Plaw village tract, Moo Township, Kler Lwee Htoo District. On 3 April 2025, Burma Army Light Infantry Battalion (LIB) #351, based in Ler Doh army camp, indiscriminately fired two mortar shells into Tk--- village, Hawh Hkoh Ghaw village tract, Moo Township. One of the mortar shells landed and exploded on the house of Naw M---, a villager from Tk--- village, and her house roof was destroyed by the explosion. The shrapnel of the explosion also hit the house of Saw T--- and injured his 23-year-old daughter, named Naw L---, on her forehead and left leg. The left photo shows Naw L--- receiving emergency treatment in TI--- hospital and the right photo shows the roof of Saw T---'s house, which was destroyed by the mortar. [Photos: KHRG]

On 14 April 2025, at around 1 pm, SAC soldiers from IB #5, based in Nyaung Pin Tha village tract, indiscriminately fired two 120 mm mortar shells into Yt--- village, Pin Za Lot village tract, Moo special area. One of the mortar shells landed on a road in the village, [causing] no casualties. The remaining mortar shell landed close to the houses of Maung A--- and Ko¹⁴ Z---,

¹³ The Karen Department of Health and Welfare (KDHW) is the health department of the Karen National Union. It was established in 1956 to address the lack of public healthcare resources in rural Southeast Myanmar. It currently operates a network of community-based clinics in the region, but its capabilities remain limited due to funding constraints.

¹⁴ 'Ko' is a Burmese male honorific title used before a person's name.

so their houses were damaged, and it also injured two villagers from Yt--- village. A 57-year-old named U Y--- was injured on his right armpit, and a 30-year-old named Maung I--- was injured on his back. Their injuries were not severe, so they received treatment from the local people responsible for healthcare [health workers] assigned by the KDHW. Villagers believe that when the SAC heard the information [received air reconnaissance] that villagers from Yt--- village set up a stage to celebrate the water festival, they [the Burma Army] acted arbitrarily and oppressively towards the villagers by conducting mortar shelling. Because the SAC conducted mortar shelling into the [Yt---] village, the villagers no longer dared to celebrate the water festival; furthermore, they moved to nearby villages to escape from the SAC oppression.

On 5 May 2025, at 8 am, soldiers from SAC Light Infantry Battalion (LIB) #439 conducted indiscriminate shelling of mortars into Yz--- village, Pa Ya La Ha village tract, Moo special area. The mortars landed beside Ma N---'s house (a Yz--- villager) and the mortar shrapnel injured Ma N---'s neck. Because the mortar shrapnel remained in her bone, she was transported to a community clinic administered by the KDHW. The health workers from the community clinic could not remove the shrapnel, so she was transported to Zk---'s hospital (general hospital) for further treatment. But doctors from the Zk--- hospital did not have enough medical equipment to remove the shrapnel, so they said that they would transport her to a hospital in Yangon city. The injured person's family was not confident enough [did not feel safe] to send her to Yangon hospital [due to their security concerns about travelling to Yangon], so they came back and transported her to a hospital in the KNU [Karen National Union]¹⁵ area. A villager from Yz--- village named U Q--- said: *"Before the SAC's soldiers conducted mortar shelling, the PDF [People's Defence Force]¹⁶'s soldiers came into the village. Because they [the SAC] heard about that, they conducted mortar shelling into the village. But the mortars landed far away from [where] the PDF soldiers had sheltered; it landed into their place [Ma N--- house]. But the SAC's soldiers do not only conduct mortar shelling when they hear their enemies live in the village; they always conduct indiscriminate shelling into the village."*

Burma Army air strike caused death, damage, and displacement

On 28 April 2025, at around 10:15 am, an SAC fighter jet conducted an air strike into Za--- village, Kanyin Tan village tract, Moo special area. The air strike killed three villagers from Za--- village named Ma¹⁷ O--- (44 years old), who was decapitated; U S--- (40 years old), who was hit on his bladder; and Ma V--- (50 years old), who was hit on her belly. They all died on the spot. Ma O--- was cleaning her house, U S--- was using his phone on his hammock under his stilted house, and Ma V--- was reading Tripitaka [a book of Buddhist scriptures] while the air strike was conducted.¹⁸

The shrapnel from the explosion also injured Ma W--- (a female child), who is 1 year and 8 months old. The shrapnel hit her face below her eye, and she was transported to an SAC-run hospital in Zk--- Town. Due to the severity of her injury, she was then transferred to a hospital in

¹⁵ The Karen National Union (KNU) is the main Karen political organisation. It was established in 1947 and has been in conflict with the government since 1949. The KNU wields power across large areas of Southeast Myanmar and has been calling for the creation of a democratic federal system since 1976. Although it signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) in 2015, following the 2021 coup staged by Burma Army leaders, the KNU officially stated that the NCA has become void.

¹⁶ The People's Defence Force (PDF) is an armed resistance established independently as local civilian militias operating across the country. Following the February 1st 2021 military coup and the ongoing brutal violence enacted by the junta, the majority of these groups began working with the National Unity Government (NUG), a body claiming to be the legitimate government of Burma/Myanmar, which then formalized the PDF on 5 May 2021 as a precursor to a federal army.

¹⁷ 'Ma' is a Burmese female honorific title used before a person's name.

¹⁸ KHRG, "[Kler Lwee Htoo District Incident Report: SAC air strike caused casualties, including a child, and destruction in Moo Township \(April 2025\)](#)", December 2025.

Taw Oo Town, Taw Oo District, run by the SAC; then, finally, she was transferred once more to a hospital in Yangon [city]. Her family paid for her transportation and treatment themselves. They did not receive any support from any organisations or individuals. Both transportation and treatment cost 370,000 kyats (176.19 USD¹⁹) in total.

Due to the air strike, houses of villagers from Za--- village, owned by U C---, U G---, Ko H---, and Ma E---, were damaged.

The villagers have no idea why the SAC conducted an air strike into the village. The villagers had to suffer injury and death because the fighter jet conducted the air strike unexpectedly, and air strikes were not conducted in the village before. Also, on the date the air strike was conducted, there was no fighting happening in the village, although fighting was happening to the south of the village, one hour away by motorbike. The father of the victim named Ma O---, who is named U X---, stated: *"In the past, aircraft used to come like this. But it was only striking in fighting areas. So, we were careless.²⁰ We thought the aircraft went there because fighting had occurred. Then, at around 10:15 am, an aircraft conducted an air strike onto the village. On that day, my daughter [Ma O---] told me that she would go back to her house and do cleaning. [...] She then was hit on her head, and her head was decapitated by the shrapnel."*

After the incident, when the villagers heard the sound of aircraft, they were scared because they worried the aircraft would conduct an air strike again. They also hid in their makeshift bunker to avoid the danger of the aircraft. Some of the villagers fled to other villages, and some fled to Pyu Town just to avoid the potential harm of the air strikes.

Burma Army attacks caused displacement

The villagers in Moo Township faced displacement due to the SAC army conducting mortar shelling and air strikes into villages, as well as SAC soldiers sheltering in the villages. So, they [villagers] were no longer able to live in the villages. Therefore, they had to move to the villages that were far from [the area where] these types of SAC violations [happened]. Some villagers fled to their plantations and some fled to a forest. Because they did not have the chance to live in their villages and they had to displace, the consequences were [that they had] insufficient foods and they did not always have work; because they had to work for daily wages, it created difficulty for their livelihoods. Also, there were difficulties [in finding] places to live, and they had to live like that [in forests or on plantations, without adequate shelter, food, or work].

Conflict between armed groups and flooding caused travel restrictions for local villagers

When civilians travelled, they always had to be alert due to the fighting in some areas in Moo Township. Some of the villagers are shopkeepers, and they faced difficulties travelling into towns to buy things and coming back to sell in the villages, as the distances are far to travel. In addition, the SAC army stayed [set up checkpoints] on the road, conducted interrogations, and demanded [money], and [as a result] the price of commodities increased. In the rainy season, it was very difficult to travel and do business, because the roads were not good; there was mud in

¹⁹ All conversion estimates for the kyat in this report are based on the 4 March 2026 official market rate of 2,100 kyats to 1 USD, <https://wise.com/gb/currency-converter/usd-to-mmk-rate>.

²⁰ Some villagers express human rights violations or abuses that they have suffered as part of their fate or luck, or express that they should have taken more precautions, rather than directly attributing the abuse or impact to the Burma military regime or other powerful actors who commit these violations. KHRG has not modified the villager's words to preserve the local voice, while as an organisation also emphasising the overall pattern and source of indiscriminate human rights violations in Southeast Burma.

the fields and flooding; and in the places that there were no boats and bridges, it was difficult to cross rivers.

Education challenges due to Burma Army attacks

Regarding education in Moo Township, the challenges started after the SAC seized power [in the 2021 coup]. Before the 2025 academic year, schools in Moo Township were administered by the SAC. But in this year [2025], they [the SAC] were no longer able to control the area, because the KNU controlled the area, so the schools were administered by the KECD [Karen Education and Cultural Department]²¹. Some schools are primary and some are middle schools. Only a few schools are high schools.

In the beginning of 2025, the villagers planned to send their children to school, but they were not confident enough for this, because they had security concerns due to the SAC seizing power. They [the SAC] conducted offensive military operations, such as firing mortar shells, carrying out drone strikes, and conducting air strikes. So, villagers lacked security.

Healthcare

Regarding healthcare in Moo Township area, it has difficulties and weaknesses; for example, if severe and serious injuries occur [to the villagers], there are insufficient medicines and not enough doctors. Furthermore, if related-blood diseases [hematologic diseases] occur, they have to face [the challenge that] there are no [available] medicines for it. About pregnant women giving birth, if they cannot give birth easily and need surgery to give birth, they have to go to a hospital in town to receive surgical treatment. For some of the villagers, if they suffer from an internal disease and need to find out about the disease [receive a diagnosis], there are no x-ray and ultrasound machines. So, they have to get it at the hospital from towns such as Pyu hospital [located in Pyu Town, Kler Lwee Htoo District] and Taw Oo hospital [located in Taw Oo Town, Taw Oo District]. Regarding patients, if they have to go to a hospital in town, the difficulties that they have to face are the far distance, difficulty to travel, and car rental fees.

Conclusion

These are the authentic incidents which happened in the area [Moo Township] that I [the researcher] documented in this report. As the information shows above, after the SAC seized power [in the February 2021 coup], the villagers have faced various difficulties. Due to the ongoing fighting, travel has become difficult; shelling resulted in casualties, destructions, and displacement; and there were disruptions to education and healthcare. Because of the brutality of the conflict, villagers have adopted different strategies to protect their [own] lives. However, some villagers have faced violations unexpectedly, and as a result, they have been unable to avoid such violations [employ agency strategies]. These challenges persist because there is still no peace in the country. Despite this, villagers continue to hope for a better life and lasting peace in the country.

²¹ The Karen National Union's Education and Culture Department is the education department of the Karen National Union. Its main goals are to provide mother tongue education services to rural Karen populations in Southeast Burma, as well as to preserve the Karen language, culture, and history. Despite being an important education provider in the region, it is not officially recognised by the Burma government.

Further background reading on the situation of human rights abuses in Kler Lwee Htoo District can be found in the following KHRG reports:

- [*Stolen Childhoods: Violations of children's rights, urgent needs, and local agency in rural Southeast Burma during the conflict*](#), October 2025.
- ["Kler Lwee Htoo District Incident Report: Burma Army shelling injured a villager in Moo Township \(December 2025\)"](#), April 2026.
- ["Photo Set: Shelling of villages in Southeast Burma by the Burma Army, the BGF, and other affiliated armed groups, and its impacts \(January to November 2025\)"](#), December 2025.

About KHRG

Founded in 1992, Karen Human Rights Group is an independent local organisation committed to improving the human rights situation in Southeast Burma. KHRG trains local people to document and gather evidence of human rights abuses, and publishes this information to project the voices, experiences and perspectives of local communities. More examples of our work can be seen online at www.khr.org.

