

Ministry of Women Youths and Children Affairs (MOWYCA)

# NEWSLETTER

## The current crisis in Myanmar



Eleven months ago on **February 1st 2021** an unlawful coup d'état was launched by the Myanmar military. Since that day the nation's people have been living through a nightmare in which violence, chaos, displacement, malnutrition, disease and death have become the norm.

The opportunity to live in a safe and secure nation is no longer a reality for women and children in Myanmar.

The military daily tortures, abuses and murders civilians, regularly raiding and bombing villages, cutting off vital medical, food and water supplies to those who need it. Since **February 2021** at least **250,000** people have fled their homes and relocated to IDP (Internally Displaced People) camps along the country's borders and to areas controlled by ethnic armed forces. Since the coup over **1000** innocent lives have been lost at the hands of the military, including **60 children**. This number grows daily.

On Christmas Eve, the military perpetrated a merciless killing of innocent civilians in Kayah State. A convoy of **7 vehicles** carrying **35 civilians** was stopped by government soldiers and executed on the spot. The group of men, women, children and two humanitarian aid workers from Save the Children, were on their way to a nearby IDP camp. Following the massacre the vehicles were torched in order to destroy the evidence of this unspeakable crime. Several of the charred remains of the women and children found had their arms tied behind their backs.

At the UN daily press briefing **21 December 2021**, the Deputy Spokesperson for the Secretary-General Farhan Haq stated that the United Nations country team in Myanmar remains deeply concerned over the increasing internal displacement and more people need humanitarian assistance as a result of ongoing crisis in the country.



There is particular concern over the lack of access to Mindat township in north-eastern Myanmar, where there has been heavy fighting and displacement in recent months.

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Number of Children killed or murdered since Feb 1 2021 coup until Jan 7th 2022, due to Military Junta's arbitrary arrest, torture and raging wars on civilian population.

Total - 92  
Female - 11  
Male - 81

## Demographic breakdown of children killed by the Myanmar military since February 1st 2021

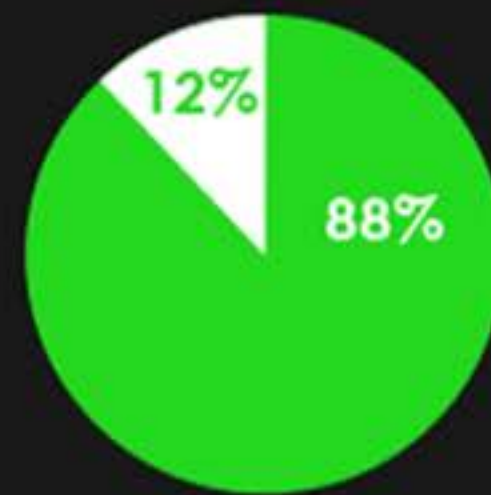
Number of children killed

# 92

Children account for

# 6.7%

Children account for of all fatalities



81 Boys  
11 Girls

### Monthly death toll

February	2
March	45
April	2
May	3
June	2
July	4
August	4
September	6
October	3
November	6
December	11
January (2022)	4

### Fatality rates by region

Sagaing	24
Mandalay	22
Yangon	14
Tanintharyi	9
Magway	7
Irrawaddy	4
Chin	4
Shan	3
Kayah	3
Mon	1
Bago	1

Number of Youth killed or murdered since Feb 1 2021 coup until Jan 7th 2022, due to Military Junta's arbitrary arrest, torture and raging wars on civilian population.

Total - 657  
Female - 37  
Male - 620

## Demographic breakdown of young people killed by the Myanmar military since February 1st 2021

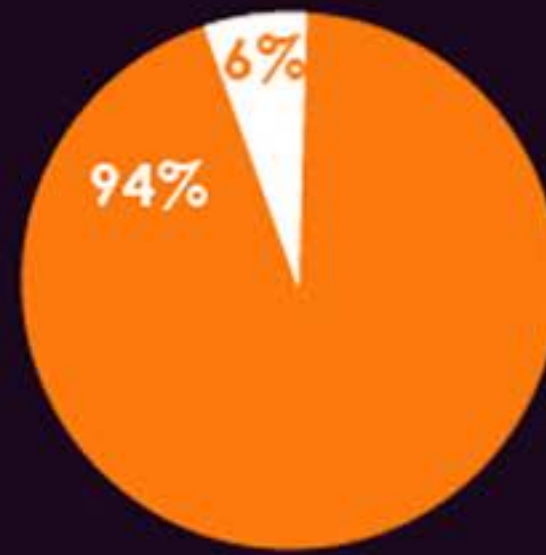
Number of young people killed

# 657

Young people account for

# 48.1%

of all fatalities



620

Young Men

37

Young Women

### Monthly death toll

February	17
March	312
April	57
May	32
June	21
July	45
August	25
September	33
October	31
November	36
December	37
January (2022)	4

### Fatality rates by region

Sagaing	185
Yangon	151
Mandalay	144
Bago	35
Magway	34
Tanintharyi	31
Shan	22
Irrawaddy	12
Kayah	12
Mon	11
Kachin	10
Chin	10

Number of Women killed or murdered since Feb 1 2021 coup until Jan 7th 2022, due to Military Junta's arbitrary arrest, torture and raging wars on civilian population.

Total - 103

### Demographic breakdown of women killed by the Myanmar military since February 1st 2021



Number of women killed

# 103

Women account for

# 7.5%

of all fatalities

### Monthly death toll

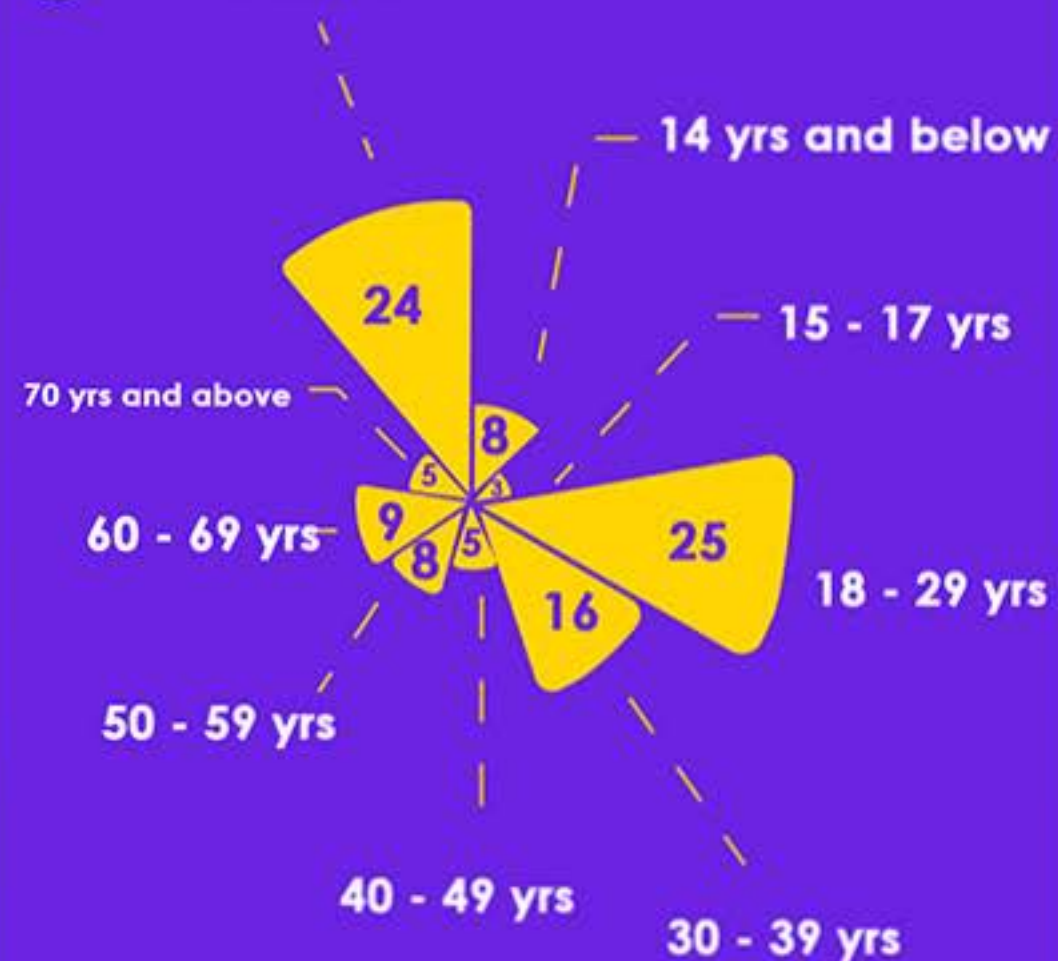
February	3
March	33
April	10
May	7
June	4
July	8
August	8
September	7
October	6
November	6
December	10

### Fatality rates by region

Sagaing	27
Mandalay	22
Yangon	15
Kayah	7
Bago	5
Magway	5
Tanintharyi	5
Kachin	4
Mon	4
Chin	3
Irrawaddy	2

### Age

Age unidentified



## The situation for women and children across Myanmar



In circumstances of such dire suffering, thousands of pregnant women are forced to give birth on the run, in the jungle or in deserted villages and with little or no assistance.

Myanmar's healthcare system collapsed as a result of the coup. Hospitals and clinics have closed, access to medicine has dried up and 80% of doctors and nurses in the country have left their posts to join the Civil Disobedience movement. With minimal access to obstetric care, the number of women and children dying in childbirth and from preventable disease has increased exponentially.

Immunisations for children have virtually ceased. This will result in thousands of children at risk of death. Lack of access to adequate food and clean water for mothers and children is leading to ailments, disease and death from malnutrition and consumption of dirty water.

As part of their scorched earth policy, the military are hunting down all those whom they judge to be their enemies. Women and children face arbitrary arrest and abuse. Children and their families are suffering from trauma and depression in record numbers due to sustained exposure to this relentless violence.

These women and their children are in desperate need of our help in the form of clean water, food, shelter and psychological support.

# Why our work is important

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**Mission** - The mission of the Ministry of Women Youths and Children Affairs (MOWYCA) is to protect and fulfil the rights of women, young people and children in Myanmar. In doing so, we shall set specific policies and work together with relevant organizations, networks, and individuals to address their current problems and meet their needs.

**Vision** - A people-led, holistically developed Federal Union of Myanmar in which all women, youths and children can expect to enjoy equality of opportunity and a prosperous, secure life.

## Values

Respect for the Rights of Women, Youths and Children

Humanitarian Principles

Application of Federal Democratic Standards

## Objectives

To protect women, young people and children from human rights violations and to ensure their full enjoyment of human rights throughout this period of transition.

To support the safety and survival of women, youths and children.

To support women, young people and children systematically contribute to the development of the nation, including in the health, social and economic sectors.

# Women and children helped by MOWYCA



In the last eleven months the MOWYCA has worked tirelessly to provide support to women, children and young people across the country whose lives are at increased risk from violence, disease, abuse, neglect, displacement, malnutrition and death, as a result of the military coup launched on February 1st 2021.

MOWYCA's essential humanitarian work has so far supported:

**1,205 women** pregnant and nursing mothers and their children with cash transfers of around USD25 to cover essential provisions such as food, clean water, medicine and vital supplies including maternal care kits, nappies, sanitary towels and baby formula.

**295 women** arbitrarily arrested and subjected to violence by the military. Support has come in the form of basic provisions, advocacy, support for their families, collection of witness statements, parental guidance training videos to support mental health for children and families suffering from trauma and depression.

**500 women** and their families with emergency shelter/resettlement. Funds have covered transport, provisions, basic shelter.

**5,000 women** have received maternal health kits. These contain sterile equipment used for medical emergencies and child birth.

**2,500 young people** engaged in youth capacity build campaigns led by MOWYCA

**2,000 people** engaged with End Sexual Violence in conflict webinar campaign and training online

**100 children** Protection for detained minors injured during protests

## **Learning Programs**

In January 2022, the second cohort of “Academic Workshop Programme” which is a part of the Ministry’s “Capacity Building Programme” has launched. This time, it offers five subjects including Academic English Class, Adobe Tools, Civic Education, Digital Literacy and Korean Language. Attendees are the CDM staffs from various Ministries of National Unity Government.

The kindergarten classes under “The Continuous Learning Programme” which was delivered to the children of Ministry’s CDMers has reached its fourth month. During four months’ time, there were 28 children who completed the kindergarten class.

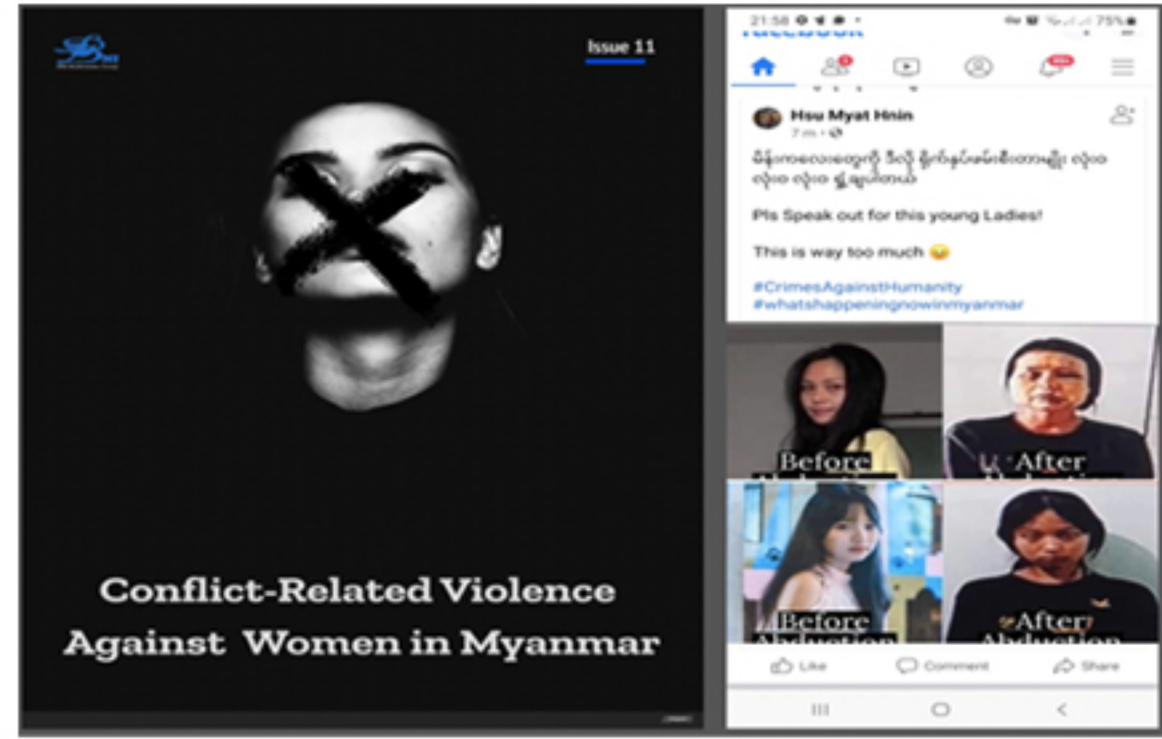
## **Mental health & counselling service**

The psychological counselling service, “Tine Pin Phaw” initiated by the Ministry is continuously operating its services regularly except Thursday of a week. As of 15th January 2022, 21 people have received psychological counselling from it.

Concurrently, the Ministry of Women, Youth and Children led Psychosocial First Aid trainings which are provided to CDM focals of various Ministries in order to support the mental well-being of CDM staffs. A total of 40 CDM focal from 15 different Ministries were already supported through this program.



Minister Naw Susanna Hla Hla Soe and her team distributing donations to women in IDP camps & make-shift shelters



End Sexual Violence in conflict webinar campaign and online training



End Sexual Violence Campaign contd.



Campaign to support Political Prisoners and underage children

## How you can help

Donate to MOWYCA

Pass this Newsletter on to friends, family, colleagues and share what you've learnt about the situation in Myanmar and the vital work that

MOWYCA is doing to support women and children

Fundraise – kick start your own fundraising campaign to help MOWYCA

Follow our work @ <https://mowyca.nugmyanmar.org>

Email @ [mowyca@nugmyanmar.org](mailto:mowyca@nugmyanmar.org)

# THANK YOU