



Documentation Report on Human Rights Violations Committed by the Military and its Affiliated Forces from February 1st to March 14

The New Myanmar Foundation started the implementation of the Human Rights Program in February 2023. "Department of Human Rights Documentation" was successfully established with online data collectors, field data collectors, and data editors. New Myanmar Foundation's Human Rights Documentation team presented three documentation reports on the human rights violations committed by the military and its affiliated forces from February 1st to March 14, 2023.

The human rights violations committed by the military and its affiliated forces in this report were collected and documented via the online news media and the information sent from the field data collectors of five partner organizations under the Human Rights Program of the New Myanmar Foundation.

In this documentation report, the human rights violations committed by the military forces were presented in the following sections:

Section One: Significant Events from the Documentation

Section Two: Summary of Findings from February 1st to March 14th, 2023.

- 1) The Most Prevalent Types of Human Rights Violations
- 2) States/ Regions with the Highest Number of Human Rights Violations
- 3) Emerging Patterns of Human Rights Violations

Section Three: Number of victims and extent of the property and financial losses caused by the military's violations of human rights, and

Section Four: Impact of the Human Rights Documentation Project.

There would be some requirements in the documentation of the military's human rights violations due to various difficult situations including the limitations on communication and



security of the field data collectors in gathering information and some weaknesses in the flow of information from online news media for some Regions and States. To resolve these difficulties, the New Myanmar Foundation was trying to build a strong network with partner organizations.

Section One: Significant Events from the Documentation

Based on the factual data collected from February 1st to March 14, 2023, the most serious and obvious human rights violations committed by the military and its affiliated forces were presented as follows.

1) Massacre

Since the coup, the military forces have been committing enormous human rights violations all over the country, Myanmar, and the New Myanmar Foundation's Human Rights Documentation Department recorded a remarkable event that was proof of the military forces have been committing more serious violations over time. Some military forces raided a monastery in Nam Nein village, Pinlong Township, Shan State on March 12, 2023, and they massacred thirty-three unarmed people including three monks and 30 innocent civilians in the precinct of that monastery. It could be documented that they delivered a propaganda message that these dead civilians were terrorists via the Telegram channels of people who supported the regime.

2) Immolation

Among the human rights violations committed by the military forces from February 1st to March 14, 2023, it had been found five cases of immolation in the Sagaing Region, Bago Region, and Shan State. They were as follows:

- Immolation of a female civilian whose age was unknown from Okpho Township, Sagaing Region on February 16,



- Immolation of a 70-year-old female civilian from Wetlet Township, Sagaing Region on March 1,
- Immolation of two civilians from Yinmarbin Township, Sagaing Region including a 25-year-old female and a male civilian whose age was unknown on March 3,
- Immolation of four civilians including two males and two females (their ages were unknown) from Shwebo Township, Sagaing on March 12,
- Immolation of a 78-year-old female civilian from Moby Township, Shan State on March 12.

The involvement of 70 and over 70-year-old aged civilians as the victims of the above immolations made the aggressive acts of the military forces obvious.

3) Sexual Violence

According to the documentation data, the military forces have been perpetrating more and more sexual violence against civilians, especially women.

- One of the most serious human rights violations that the military forces engaged in was an event in which some soldiers, police officers, and a Pyu Saw Htee member forcibly raped and killed a CDM nurse from Okpho Township, Bago Region on February 16.
- Moreover, there was another serious violation in which the military forces violently raped and killed three female civilians who were 40, 42, and 44 years old from Sagaing Township, Sagaing Region.
- A twenty-five years old female civilian from Yinmarbin Township, Sagaing Region was raped and killed by a group of military forces on March 3.
- A twenty-six years old female civilian from Taze Township, Sagaing Region was raped by the military forces on March 11 and they killed shooting her head.

According to these documented data, five out of six female victims of these sexual violations were from Sagaing Region.



4) Prison Violence

It has been found that the interrogation officers and some prison authorities have been perpetrating violations against the prisoners. At 9:30 AM on February 4, 2023, over 100 female political prisoners were brutally beaten and tortured by some prison guards in Obo prison, Aungmyaythazan Township, Mandalay Region. Among these prisoners, twenty-one prisoners were seriously wounded. Three of them suffered serious injuries including eye injuries due to hitting with slingshots, ear bruises, and severe injuries on their head. It had been documented that the prison authorities committed other psychological violations against these prisoners including sentencing these beaten female prisoners to solitary confinement, and limiting receiving food, and prison visits of their family members.

5) Human Shield/ Hostage

Arresting innocent civilians from the villages where they raided to make human shields and taking them as hostages were the most frequent violations committed by the military forces. According to recorded data, the military forces committed thirteen times of arresting civilians to make human shields or hostages from the beginning of February to the second week of March 2023.

It has occurred the military forces perpetrated six times arresting civilians to make human shields or hostages only in the Sagaing Region during this documentation period.

- On February 20, 2022, the military forces raided some villages in Mingin Township, Sagaing Region arrested fifty-three civilians including a 4-year-old child and some aged people as hostages.
- Another incident was arresting 17 civilians from Sagaing Township, Sagaing Region including fourteen males and three females by the military forces to use them as human shields on the morning of March 2. Later on the evening of that day, they were killed.



- Three days later, on March 6, fifty civilians from Khin-U Township, Sagaing Region were forcibly taken as hostages by the military.
- On March 7, the military forces also forcibly took seven male civilians to use them as human shields.

The military forces also committed the same violations against the civilians in Magway Region.

- The military forces arriving in Ywa Ma (North) village, Seikphyu Township, Magway Region forced each person from a household to attend the military' mobilizing event at 7 AM on February 23. They took a male civilian as a guide when they left the village.
- On March 6, three male civilians (including a 60-year-old man) from Pyin Lae village, Saw Township, and a male civilian from Kyan Taw village were taken as hostages by the military forces.
- The military forces raided some villages in Pauk Township in columns, and they took four civilians from Lelbeit and In Pin villages to use them as human shields on March 10, 2023.
- That column left from In Pin village also raided the village, Sanhpe in Pauk Township, and arrested more than fifty local people on March 12th. They took eight male civilians as hostages when they left on March 14.
- On February 9th in Chin State, the military forces raided seven villages in Matupi Township including Tingsi, Thawang, Siangnyo, Lungtung, Sawtui, Ramting, and Langpi, and took ten civilians to use them as human shields and two of them were under-aged.
- In the attack on Zayityoekone and Pintthilar villages in Yedashe Township, Bago Region on February 17, the military forces tied up three men from Doetan village and raided the villages by using these men as human shields at the front of their column.

According to this data, the regime has been committing more violations such as arresting civilians as hostages or taking them as human shields over time.



Section Two: Summary of Findings from February 1st to March 14th, 2023.

As we compile human rights violations that have taken place from February 1st to March 14th, the total amounted to (694) cases documented nationwide. Sagaing has the highest number of cases, with an estimated total of (273) reports of human rights violations. Magway has the second-highest frequency of violations, with 86 reported during our documentation period. We also recorded (51) cases in Bago and (49) in Tanintharyi. Our team extensively documented human rights violations by the military in all states and regions, systematically categorizing them according to geographical areas and types of human rights violations.

(1) The Most Prevalent Types of Human Rights Violations

Among the various ways used by the military to affront the human dignity of Myanmar people, the most prevalent technique is by attacking civilian residences with artilleries- robbing the people of their rights to safety. During the (6) weeks of documentation, we recorded (106) cases of artillery attacks on civilian neighborhoods. Such offenses have been reported in all (10) states/ regions except Yangon, Mandalay, Naypyidaw, and Ayeyarwaddy. Areas with the highest frequency of cases are Magway (with 22 reports) and Sagaing (with 21 reports). During our documentation period, other common types of violations are:

- Burning and destroying civilian property – 78 cases
- Arresting civilians – 76 cases
- Looting and destroying civilian objects – 74 cases
- Killing civilians – 73 cases.

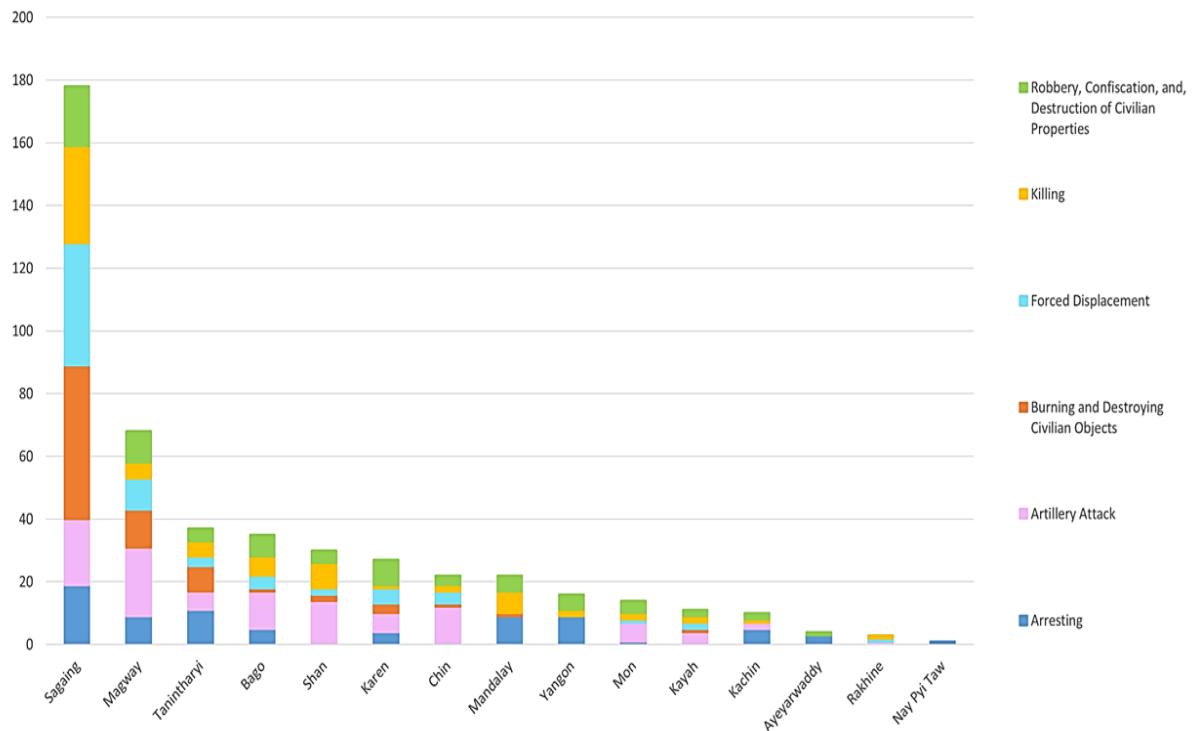


Figure (1) – The Most Prevalent Types of Human Rights Violations Committed by the Military (by States and Regions)

(2) States/ Regions with the Highest Number of Human Rights Violations

As we constantly monitor and report human rights violations every two weeks, we observed that the human rights situations of some regions continue to deteriorate significantly.

- For Sagaing, (45) cases of human rights violations have been documented in our first report (February 1st – 14th), the frequency increased more than twofold up to (110) cases in the second report (February 15th- 28th) and then to (118) cases in the most recent report (March 1st – 14th).
- For Tanintharyi, our first report documented (10) cases, but it rose to (26) cases in the first half of March.



- Similarly, Shan has a notable increase in human rights violations which climbed from (13) cases in the first report to (22) cases in the most recent report in March.
- Moreover, Mandalay had only (10) cases throughout February, but in March, even the first two weeks have already seen (18) cases.
- While Kachin and Ayeyarwaddy had a comparatively small number of violations, we have found a worsening pattern in human rights violations as Kachin had an increase from (1) case reported initially to (9) cases within the first half of March, and Ayeyarwaddy had an increase from (2) cases to (4).

(3) Emerging Patterns of Human Rights Violations

During the first two weeks of our project in February, we have only documented one case of civilians being abducted as “human shields” by the military during armed conflict. However, the frequency has steadily climbed to (9) reports within the first two weeks of March alone. The number of civilians killed by the military is also increasing, resulting in (33) cases even in the first half of March alone. According to our analysis, these two types of violations are the most documented in Sagaing. Another prominent finding is that sexual violence cases are becoming more prevalent in March compared to our initial weeks of documentation and that all (3) cases reported in March occurred in Sagaing.

Based on all the above findings, Sagaing is conclusively the region most devastated by human rights violations by the military. We have highlighted alarming patterns of human rights violations that are insidiously rising across the country and those that ought to be carefully monitored: such as the increase in sexual violence, using civilians as “human shields” or hostages, and indiscriminate artillery attacks on civilian settlements. Simultaneously, we were able to record the constantly increasing cases of arbitrary arrests and destruction of civilian property.

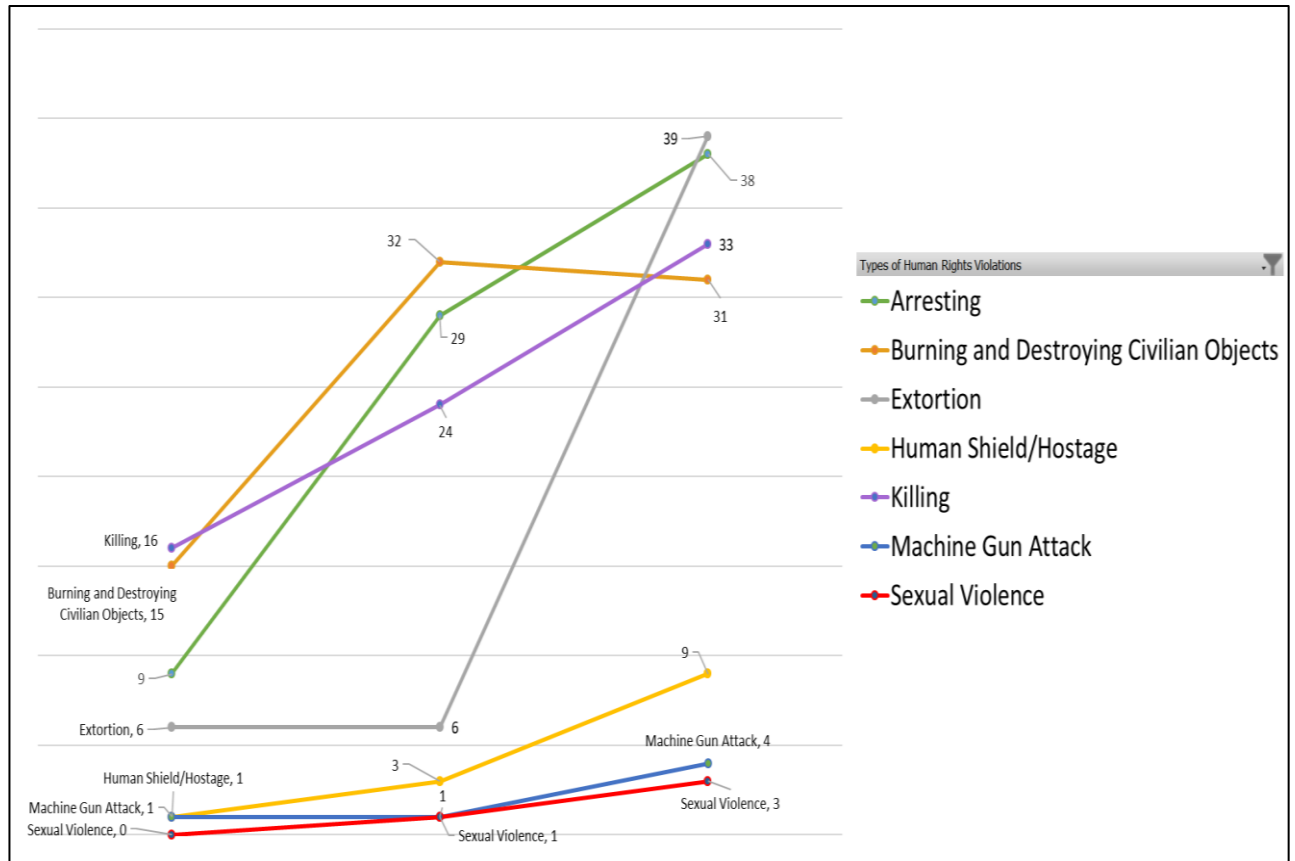


Figure (2) – Alarming Patterns in Human Rights Violations: Types of Violations Increasing during the Documenting Period

Section Three: Number of victims and extent of the property and financial losses caused by the military’s violations of human rights.

(1) Number of people injured and/or killed by the military.

Reports of civilians injured and killed are increasing daily due to the different types of violence by the military. From February 1st to March 14th, 2023, our team documented 291 cases of civilians killed and injured nationwide by the military’s artillery and small arms attacks and immolations.

- In Sagaing, about 122 people have been injured and/or killed by the military’s violations, making it the area with the highest number of victims.



- The second highest number of victims is from Shan, which has about (47) people reported to be injured and/or killed by the military.
- About (24) people from Bago, the third most affected area, have been injured and/or killed during our reporting period.
- Tanintharyi has the fourth-highest number of victims, with a total of (22) people.
- Mandalay has (19) victims reported, ranking fifth among the areas with the highest concentration of victims.
- Our records showed that, except Ayeyarwaddy and Naypyidaw, all other (8) states and regions have reported casualties due to the military's assaults.

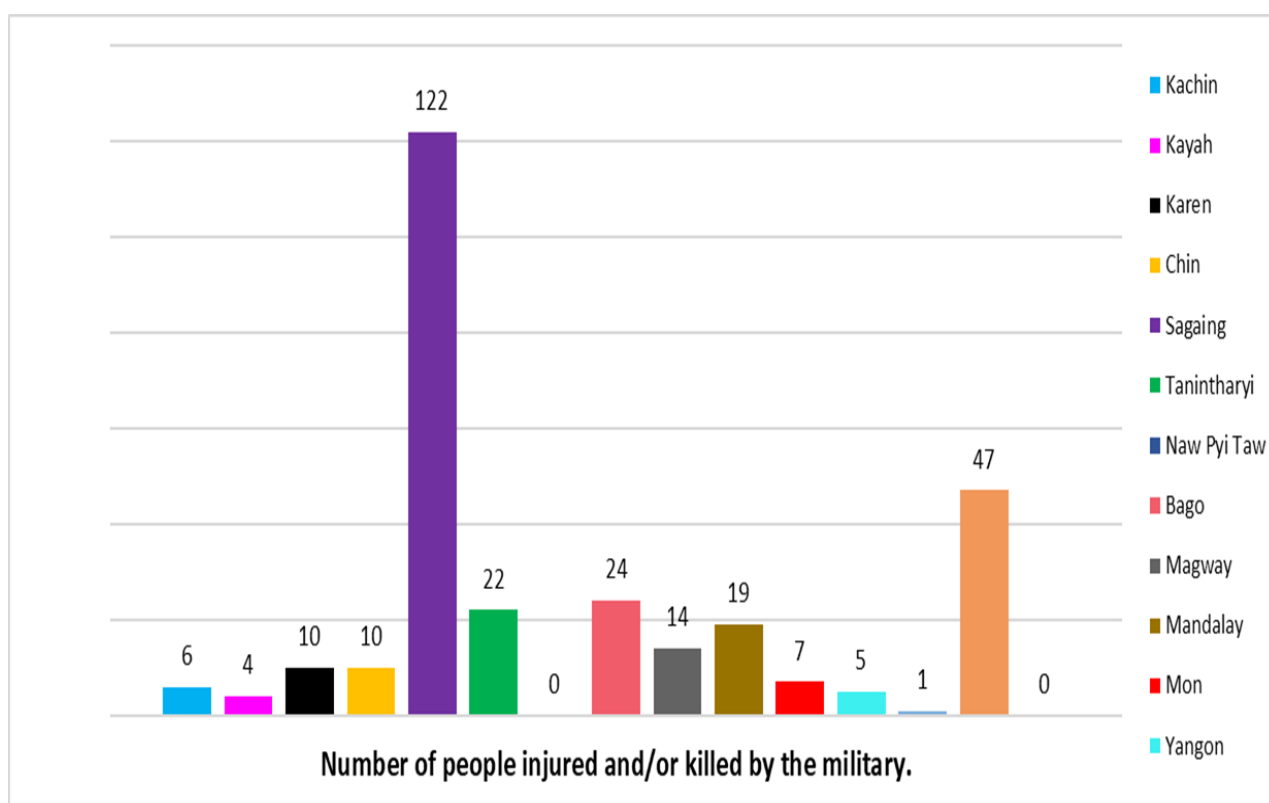


Figure (3). The number of people injured and/or killed by the military

(2) Number of people physically abused and detained by the military.

Since the military coup on February 1st, 2021, the military has committed physical abuses and arbitrary arrests against innocent civilians. According to our documentation, from February 1st to March 14th, 2023, an estimated total of 1,590 people have been beaten and/or arrested by the military.

- The highest number of victims is from Sagaing, with approximately 684 people arrested and beaten by the military.
- About 252 people from Kachin have suffered the same type of violence at the hands of the military as the state becomes the second most severely affected area.
- The third and fourth most affected states are Tanintharyi (147 victims) and Magway (137 victims).
- Mandalay has the fifth-highest number of victims, with an estimated total of 125 people.
- With the exceptions of Kayah and Shan, we documented the reported numbers of victims from all other (8) regions and states.

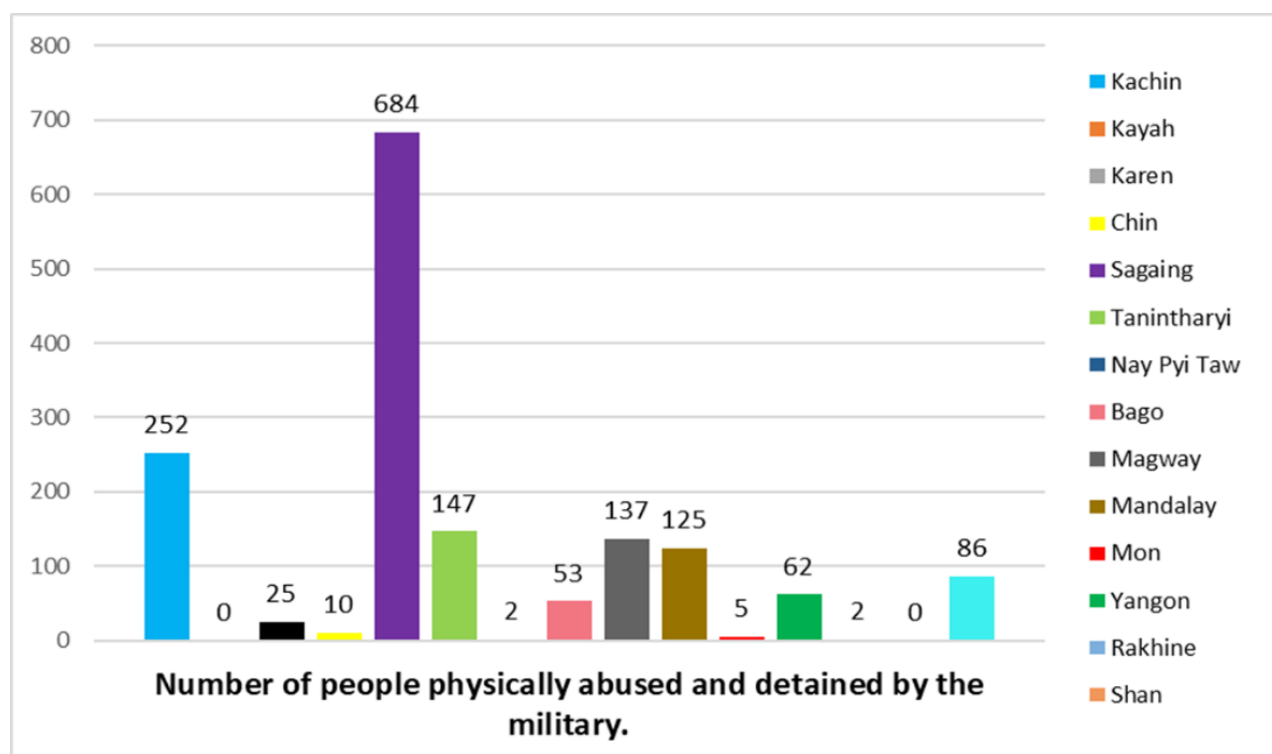


Figure (4) Number of people physically abused and detained by the military.



(3) Number of People Affected by Forced Displacements

Every day, people across the country are forced to flee their homes as the military assaults villages and even settlements of internally displaced populations (IDPs), using artilleries, small arms, and intentional torching. Our records indicate that over 335,251 people have been subjected to forced displacements nationwide during our reporting period. About two-thirds of this population is from Sagaing Region.

- During our reporting period from February 1st to March 14th, 2023, because of the military's assaults, approximately 241,700 people have been displaced from their homes in Sagaing, making it the most severely affected area.
- Magway region has the second highest number of displaced people, with an estimated total of over 40,500 people.
- Kayah, the third most affected area, has about 35,000 displaced people.
- The fourth most affected area is Bago, with approximately 12,000 people displaced from their homes.
- Karen and Chin have about 2,500 and 2,311 displaced people respectively.

Kachin, Naypyidaw, Mandalay, and Ayeyawaddy did not show any documented number of newly displaced populations, whereas all other states and regions reported forced displacements. Due to several circumstances, the number of people forcibly displaced in Shan could not be documented.

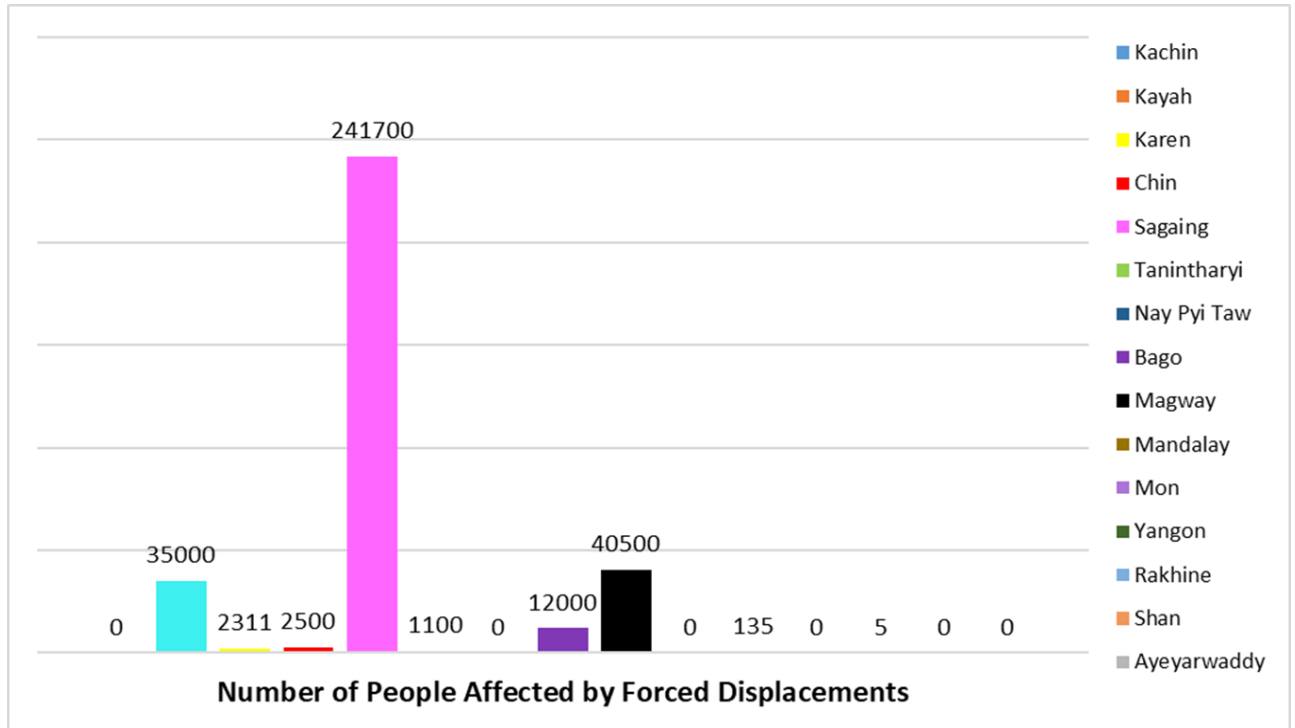


Figure (5). Number of People Affected by Forced Displacement

(4) The extent of housing and property losses due to destruction and confiscation by the military

People have suffered extensive losses to their homes, schools, hospitals, religious facilities, and other buildings because of the military's indiscriminate artillery attacks and deliberate fires while they raid villages. In addition, on several occasions, the military confiscates jewelry from shops, valuable assets from homes, foodstuffs, and even domestic animals.

According to our records, civilian properties looted or destroyed by the military's terroristic attacks with artilleries and small arms, torching, and vandalism include:

- Homes
- Religious facilities (such as monasteries, and churches)
- Schools and libraries
- Shelters of internally displaced people



- Clinics and hospitals including medical supplies,
- Looming houses (including those using traditional hand-loomed and mechanized looming)
- Jewelry stores and jewelry including gold, silver, and earrings.
- Shops
- Rafts of small-scale gold miners
- Generators, motor pumps, refrigerators
- Vehicles such as cars, motorcycles, trailers, bicycles
- Tractors
- Computers, phones, power banks
- Banking cards
- Rubber farms
- Foodstuffs such as meat (over 100 viss/ over 163 kilograms), alcohol, and varieties of paddy, rice, legumes, and vegetables.
- Domestic animals such as horses, poultry, pigs, and cows.

From February 1st to March 14th, 2023, an estimated total of 7,145 units of civilian properties has been lost.

- Among all states/ regions, Sagaing has suffered the most severe extent of losses, with a total of 5376 units.
- The second most affected state is Shan, with a total loss of 659 units.
- Tanintharyi is the third most affected region, with a total loss of 306 units.
- Magway is the fourth most affected region, with a total loss of 296 units.

- Yangon and Mandalay have over 200 units and 193 units of properties lost, and all other states and regions except Naypyidaw and Rakhine have varying degrees of documented losses.

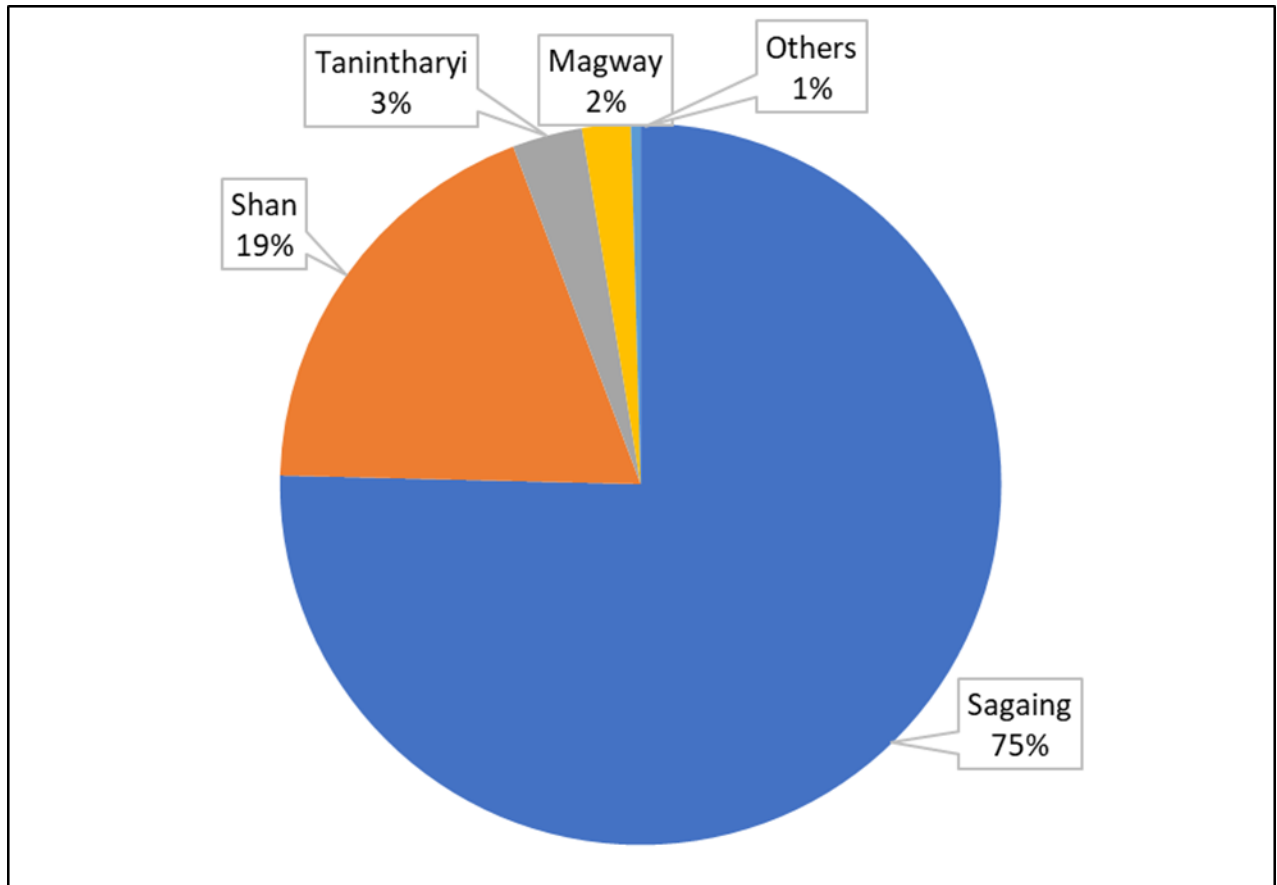


Figure (6): States and Regions with the Most Losses in Civilian Property due to Attacks by the Military using Heavy Weapons and Small Arms

(5) The extent of financial losses due to extortion by the military

Among various types of human rights violations by the military, extortion remains one of the prevalent methods. Our records found different ways of extortion, such as forcing villagers to enlist one person per household to serve as security guards and fining them a specified amount if they fail to do so; imposing monthly taxes on businesses, and threatening

to shut them down if they cannot pay the amount; demanding tolls from travelers and truck-drivers at checkpoints between towns or regions.

From February 1st to March 14th, 2023, the total amount of money extorted from civilians by the military sums up to 20.593 million MMK (20,593,000 MMK). Some incidences of extortion have been excluded because the exact amount of money could not be determined. There were also some cases where only the amount per individual has been included because the number of victims could not be identified. Therefore, the actual amount extorted could exceed the reported amount.

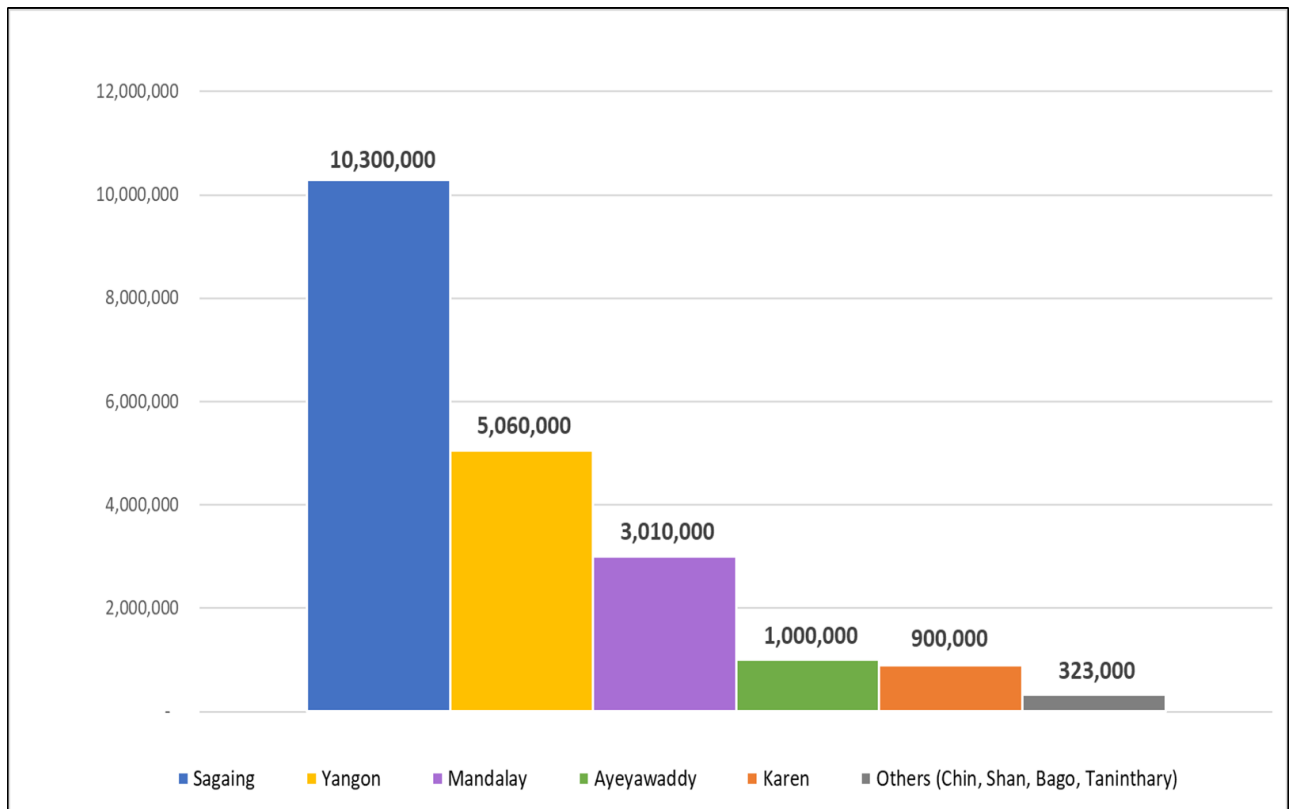


Figure (7) - States and Regions with the Highest Amount of Financial Losses due to Human Rights Violations by the Military (Unit: Myanmar Kyats-MMK)



Section Four: Impact of the Human Rights Documentation Project

As a part of the Human Rights Defense Program of the New Myanmar Foundation, our “Human Rights Documentation Project”, within the first two months after commencement, was able to produce a comprehensive record of human rights violations committed nationwide by the military. The records include detailed events, perpetrators, and the extent of losses, categorized according to region and types of violations. Therefore, these records will serve as an integral body of evidence for delivering transitional justice.

Prior to the transitional period, the findings of our program are regularly published every two weeks via Facebook. Our comprehensive reports enable the public to learn about the widespread atrocities of the military, and at the same time, to improve their own understanding of human rights violations which may exist in various forms.

As our documentation project monitors and sheds light on the changes in human rights situations of different regions with time, it also promotes our understanding of the needs of affected populations which may vary based on the changing patterns of human rights violations. In this way, our detail-oriented documentation approach catalyzes the functions of the New Myanmar Foundation and those of local and international organizations working for advocacy and humanitarian assistance.

Moreover, our project involves online data collectors as well as on-ground data collectors from our local partner organizations based in (4) different regions. Therefore, in the long run, our project is helping to strengthen the human rights documentation practices of local civil societies.

Department of Human Rights Documentation
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Table (1) – Human Rights Violations Committed by the Military in each State and Region (from February 1st- March 14th, 2023)

Types of Human Rights Violations	Kachin	Kayah	Karen	Chin	Sagaing	Tanintharyi	Nay Pyi Taw	Bago	Magway	Mandalay	Mon	Yangon	Rakhine	Shan	Ayeyarwaddy	Total per category
Killing	1	2	1	2	31	5	0	6	5	7	2	2	1	8	0	73
Immolation	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	5
Death Penalty	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Injured Civilians	2	2	5	2	17	3	0	6	3	0	4	0	0	0	0	44
Arresting	5	0	4	0	19	11	1	5	9	9	1	9	0	0	3	76
Detaining, Beating and Torturing	0	0	0	0	4	2	0	0	2	1	1	4	0	0	2	16
Sexual Violence	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Robbery, Confiscation and Destruction of Civilian Properties	2	2	8	3	19	4	0	7	10	5	4	5	0	4	1	74
Burning and Destroying Civilian Objects	0	1	3	1	49	8	0	1	12	1	0	0	0	2	0	78
Forced Displacement	0	2	5	4	39	3	0	4	10	0	1	0	1	2	0	71
Air Strike	0	1	2	16	4	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	28
Bombing	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	8
Naval Attack	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Artillery Attack	2	4	6	12	21	6	0	12	22	0	6	0	1	14	0	106
Machine Gun Attack	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Small Arms Fire or Threatening	0	0	1	1	19	3	0	2	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	31
Human Shield/Hostage	1	0	0	1	6	0	0	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
Forced Labor	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	8
Extortion	0	0	1	1	32	2	1	3	0	4	0	4	0	1	2	51
Cutting off Communication	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Total (per state)	13	15	38	44	273	49	2	51	86	28	19	26	4	38	8	694



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Table (2). Different Situations of Burmese Civilians Suffered from the Human Rights Violations by the Military

Sr. No	The number of victims and extent of the property and financial losses caused by the military's violations of human rights.	Kachin	Kayah	Karen	Chin	Sagaing	Tanintharyi	Nay Pyi Taw	Bago	Magway	Mandalay	Mon	Yangon	Rakhine	Shan	Ayeyar-waddy	Total Number of Death/Casualties/Damages Losses
1	Number of people injured and/or killed by the military.	6	4	10	10	122	22	0	24	14	19	7	5	1	47	0	291
2	Number of People Affected by Forced Displacements	0	35,000	2,311	2,500	241,700	1,100	0	12,000	40,500	0	135	0	5	-	0	335,251
3	A number of people physically abused and detained by the military.	252	0	25	10	684	147	2	53	137	125	5	62	2	0	86	1,590
4	The extent of housing and property losses due to destruction and confiscation by the military	6	6	51	7	5,376	306	0	20	296	193	17	200	0	659	8	7,145
5	The extent of financial losses due to extortion by the military (MMK)	0	0	900,000	200,000	10,300,000	20,000	-	3,000	0	3,010,000	0	5,060,000	0	100,000	1,000,000	20,593,000 MMK



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Table (3)- Total Number of Death, Casualties, Damages, and Amount of Financial Losses in terms of Regions and States

Sr. No	Damages, Casualties, Death, and Loss Due to Human Rights Violations Committed by the Military	Total Number of Death/ Injuries/ Damages/ Losses
1	A number of people injured and/or killed by the military	291
2	A number of people physically abused and detained by the military	1,590
3	Number of People Affected by Forced Displacements	335,251
4	The extent of housing and property losses due to destruction and confiscation by the military	7,145
5	The extent of financial losses due to extortion by the military	20,593,000 MMK