



RECAP



WEEKLY COUP UPDATE BY THE KACHIN ALLIANCE

APRIL 24-30, 2021

In the thirteenth week since the coup, the death toll rose to [759](#). In Kachin State, there was intense daily fighting in Momauk, Putao, Bhamo and Hpakant townships. Even as fighting continued nearby, there were anti-regime protests in Hpakant every day of this week. Between April 24 and April 30, there were 16 armed clashes between the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) and the Burma Army (BA), 13 bomb/mine attacks, 93 instances of artillery shelling, and 51 airstrikes in the Kachin area.¹ In other parts of the country, civilian resistance fighters are fighting back against the brutal security forces. Armed civilians have fought back in Sagaing and Chin State. As clashes between civilian, ethnic armed groups and the Burma army intensified, hundreds of thousands of civilians were internally displaced in the country or forced to flee to neighboring countries. The heavy crackdown of anti-regime protests in Yangon back in late March briefly halted protest; but this week a series of guerilla-style protests appeared in the streets of Yangon.

April 24 - 30

16 armed clashes
between KIA and Burma Army

93 artillery shellings
13 bomb attacks
51 airstrikes
in the Kachin area

February 1 - April 30

[759](#) killed
by Burma security forces

Humanitarian Crisis and Human Rights Violations

- On April 24, it is reported that Pyithutsit led by San Htu and Shwe Thein were [forcibly recruiting Shan youths](#) in Da Law Village causing them to flee their homes.
- On April 24, it is reported that the [security forces sexually assaulted and tortured a female detainee](#), Ma Khin Nyein Thu, at an interrogation center in Yangon. Another detainee who shared a cell with Ma Khin Nyein Thu reported that the security forces sexually assaulted her after learning that her boyfriend is a foreigner. Ma Khin Nyein Thu has been denied proper medical treatment for her injuries.
- On April 25 and April 26, [the security forces arrested two journalists](#), Ma Tu Tu Tha, who is the editor-in-chief of Thanlyin Post and a former employee of The Irrawaddy and Ko Thura Soe, who is a former cameraman of Democratic Voice of Burma (DVB).
- [Security forces continue to loot, raid and destroy villages in Sagaing region](#) causing thousands to flee. On April 24, troops raided Thapyay Aye village in the township, looting money, chickens and pigs as villagers fled. Troops also raided the village's monastery and seized about 15 laptops used for vocational training and destroyed some buildings at the monastery.

¹ A series of clashes in a single day at a location is counted as 1 clash.

- On April 24, in Mandalay members of [security forces dressed in plainclothes shot and killed a 22 year old man](#), Maung Kaung Htet Naing. He was burning tires to distract security forces who were conducting random searches in the area.
- On April 24, in Myo Thit village, Momauk Township, Kachin State, fighting between the BA and KIA destroyed several houses.
- On April 26, it was reported that, [additional 50 internally displaced people arrived at the Kachin Baptist Convention \(KBC\) churches](#) in Momauk as a result of the ongoing fighting between the BA and KIA near Momauk Township, Kachin State.
- On April 27, as clashes between the BA and KIA continued in Momauk township, a local villager reported that the [BA carried out 3 or 4 airstrikes a day](#). As of April 26, more than 5,000 villagers had fled from their homes.
- On April 27, it is reported that the [BA prevented Si Hka villagers in Momauk from fleeing](#) to seek shelter from the fighting. The BA threatened to shoot the villagers if they attempted to flee their village.
- On April 27, [junta forces detained two journalists from the Mandalay-based news agency](#), the Voice of Myanmar. According to a relative, Ko Nay Myo Linn, the editor-in-chief and Ko Shine Aung, a reporter, were detained by security forces.
- It was reported that Myanmar military airstrikes near an internally displaced people's (IDP) camp in Karen State caused [more than 2,000 people to flee to Thailand](#).
- On April 29, in Momauk Township, Kachin State, [Bamar Army fired mortar shells into Lum Nang Village](#), killing a 72 year old villager and seriously injuring a 24 year old villager.
- On April 30, Dr. Min Zaw Aye, the Chief Medical Officer of the Bhamo General Hospital, was found dead in his home. He joined the Civil Disobedience Movement and was charged with article 505 (B) by the coup regime. In the days leading to his death, the security forces reportedly [told him to return to work at gunpoint](#). The [cause of death is not yet known](#).

Other updates:

- Following the coup on February 1, [illegal rare earth mining has surged in northern Kachin State](#) in areas controlled by the BA.
- On April 24, ASEAN leaders along with junta general Min Aung Hlaing met in Jarkarta. A five-point consensus is reached on ending violence, facilitating a constructive dialogue between all parties, a special ASEAN envoy to facilitate the dialogue, acceptance of aid and a visit by an envoy to Myanmar.
- On April 26, [Myanmar's military junta accused the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners \(AAPP\) of inflating the number of those killed by the junta's forces](#) and threatened to take serious actions against them. The numbers compiled by the AAPP are cited by the United Nations, news media, and other international governments. The military run-television and newspapers claim that only 258 people were killed between Feb. 1 and April 15, while the AAPP has confirmed a total of 726 deaths in the same period.
- On April 27, [fighting resumed in Mindat, Chin State](#), between the security forces and the town's civilian defense force after a failed negotiation.
- On April 28, after the Karen National Union (KNU) announced that they had taken over a base belonging to the Myanmar military on the Thai border, hours later [the regime's forces launched airstrikes against Karen villages in the area](#).



Kachin Alliance

1628 16th ST NW, Washington DC 20009
 contact@kachinalliance.org
 (202) 299-9545, www.kachinalliance.org