



## **Myanmar Military Coup Started Monday, February 1, 2021**

The military coup in Myanmar is now in its fourth year, and its impact on the country and its people is devastating. The junta's relentless use of force includes aerial bombings and the burning of civilian homes/villages; arresting, torturing, and killing peaceful demonstrators; kidnapping youth to serve as porters or human shields in battles; randomly searching homes and businesses without warrants; confiscating property; placing landmines around villages to kill people returning from raids; beheadings, mutilations, massacres; blocking access by humanitarian organizations to displaced people in need of food, medical attention, and other survival supplies; and much more.

### **HUMAN COST:**

- 28,550 citizens (mostly pro-democracy activists) arrested and 21,813 still in prison
- 595 children arrested and in prison, 719 killed in raids
- 5,931 women arrested and in prison with their children in some cases
- 168 death sentences issued to peaceful demonstrators, 59% under age 30
- 31.5 million people now living below international poverty line of \$2.15 per day
- 3.5 million people displaced within the country due to bombing; living in caves, makeshift structures in jungles
- over 100,000 civilian homes and other buildings including churches, hospitals and schools destroyed
- 142,800 fled to neighboring countries, 52,100 to Thailand and now refugees
- 8 million children have lost access to education/schools

### **FINANCIAL COST:**

- Myanmar currency (kyat) has lost 71% of its value since the 2/1/2021 coup
- cost of common diet items increased 41% in 2024
- basic food items, cooking oils, meat and dairy products have increased an average of 130% to record levels; varies widely depending on level of junta activity in the area
- overall inflation rate is 25.4%
- illicit economy has surfaced: highest crime rate among 46 Asian countries and third-highest in the world, now the largest producer of opium in the world, cross-border human trafficking

Primary references: Assistance Association for Political Prisoners, Human Rights Watch, International Rescue Committee, United Nations, World Bank

Contact: Gary Watkins, Co-founder, [n14nine@gmail.com](mailto:n14nine@gmail.com), 512-818-2470. Website: <https://loveformyanmar.org> Address: 305 Ten Oaks Drive, Georgetown, Texas 78633-5610.  
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