

# MYANMAR SOLIDARITY ZINE



#WhatsHappening  
InMyanmar





**ASEAN YOUTH FORUM DIGITAL PUBLICATION**  
MYANMAR Solidarity Zine

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The ASEAN Youth Forum (AYF) is a movement that represents and fights for the young people in ASEAN to voice out their concerns and strategies for ways to achieve a better ASEAN. AYF has been a platform of the youth in the ASEAN to raise their voice and claim for their rights for a sustainable, inclusive, people-centered, and youth-driven regional community. The network aims to institutionalize and establish its national chapters to focus the engagement on important and timely local issues affecting the youth, and consolidate policy proposal and agenda to put forward to the relevant ASEAN offices.

# Curatorial

## Siti Hajar

For years, people of Myanmar have struggled to reclaim their rights and freedoms. Day after day, they under pressure and threats. Children, young people, mothers, fathers, and grandparents do not deserve to live such a life.

Seizing the rights and freedoms of the people of Myanmar is unacceptable to anyone, and even those who can feel their struggle will act in solidarity in any form.

We, as young people in Southeast Asia, choose to show solidarity through art. Through this Myanmar Solidarity Zine, we hope to build the spirit of the people of Myanmar and also remind people in the Southeast Asia region to always pay attention and support the struggle of the people of Myanmar.

**THE PEOPLE OF  
MYANMAR MUST BE  
FREE !!!**

## Me Me

We hope that through this curative body of art - filled with empowering expressions of self, heartfelt words of devoted solidarity and urgent, painful cries for justice and change - it will move allies like you to see the importance of continuing to advocate about what is STILL happening in Myanmar right now.

As time passes, the people of Myanmar are still holding out hope and keeping their resilience alive as they endure the worsening conditions of human rights violations.

They need YOU to support them as they continue this fight.

**Please don't forget about  
the people of Myanmar.  
Please continue to include  
them in your activism.**



**PHOTOGRAPHY:**

Md Hossain

Myanmar

**A Rohingya Fisherman Short**

Abdul Karim age 65, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh (originally from Arakan State, Myanmar)  
Occupation: Fisherman

Abdul Karim 65 years old Rohingya fisherman, has spent his entire life by the sea. Originally from Arakan State in Myanmar, Abdul was forced to flee to Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, due to the violence and persecution faced by the Rohingya community. Despite the hardships, he has continued his lifelong trade of fishing, a skill passed down through generations. Abdul not only fishes but also makes his own nets by hand, maintaining a tradition that connects him to his ancestors and his cultural heritage. His resilience and dedication serve as a symbol of hope and perseverance for the Rohingya community.



## Dear Maya

This work, titled "Dear Maya...", is a literary composition that serves as an open letter to the Burmese people who continue to be victims of the human rights and humanitarian issues that have plagued the nation since the February 2021 military coup. The piece began by acknowledging the people's sufferings, validating their vulnerability to the junta's iron grip, and ended with encouragement to not give up hope, reminding them that the world is one in their pursuits for freedom, human rights protection, and empowerment.

Dear Maya...

Cry.

Let all those tears pour out  
of thy bruising eyes.

It may not wash all the agony  
and all the weight  
and all the misery  
away...

right away...

But we see thee.

Wail.

Let all those loud weeping  
echo from thy shattered spirit.

It may not silence all the  
bombs and all the gunshots  
and all the alarms  
today...

right away...

**Lloyd Ericson  
Castro Rodriguez**  
*Phillipines*

But we hear thee.

Grieve.

Let all those haunting torment  
cast out of thine oppressed  
soul. It may not efface all the  
wounds from all the injustice  
and the fallen afternoons  
scarred

all the way...


And we feel thee.

But fight.

Let all those enduring hopes  
be the bullets of thy land.

Unified hearts are thine army  
The world is with thee  
in utmost solidarity praying...  
one day...

Thou shall be free!



# “ASTA SAN'O PA GID?”

It is an Hiligaynon term for 'until when'.

**Therese Avanceña**  
*Phillipines*

# ASTA SAN'O

*pa gid?*

*Therese Marie Avanceña*

ALTHOUGH I WAS JUST ONLY A BYSTANDER,  
CRIES OF ANGUISH IS WHAT SURROUNDS ME,  
HATRED AND SADNESS ARE WHAT I FEEL,  
MUST WE REALLY BE FACING THIS?

CALAMITIES ARE OCCURRING,  
STILL GOVERNMENT HAS NO CARE,  
PEOPLE ARE SUFFERING,  
MUST WE REALLY IGNORE THIS?

HOW SAD IT MUST BE,  
YOUTH FOR OUR FUTURE DIES IN VAIN,  
NO MORE MORROW WILL THEY FACE,  
AS THEY HAVE ALREADY BEEN SLAYED.

MUST WE REALLY IGNORE THIS?  
INNOCENCE BEING KILLED,  
YET, THERE IS STILL NO ACTION,  
MUST WE REALLY BE FACING THIS?

DRIPPING BLOOD IN THEIR HANDS,  
HOW MUCH MORE TO SHED,  
TO STOP THIS EVERYTHING,  
UNTIL NO MORE LIVES LIVE.



**HAN**  
*Malaysia*

**Death of Education.**

During a rally against the military coup back in 2021, the Myanmar ministry of education flag was seen used in that rally. But the flag was falsely reported as the Rohingya people flag due to its similarity.

This artwork represents the military junta who twisted the narrative in attempt to justify the genocide against the rohingyas.

A poem titled "As in Their Words" that was based on the Burmese feeling losing their loved ones during this struggle for democracy.

**F. H. Gabé**

*Indonesia*

## As in Their Words

Words sank into the ocean  
as help wouldn't offer its hands from the nearest shore  
Words maimed their loved ones  
as they knocked on their doors—  
and by night they were all long gone  
Words were yelled in the street  
so one became four as they were begging for more  
But words got shot from the highest rooftops  
then bodies fell down to the floor  
Words got blurred in the highest court  
so we don't know if it's this time for sure—  
that they finally can have some peace  
Some laughter to share or perhaps room for some air  
so mothers wouldn't have to pick some old photographs to stare  
at, wishing for miracles that their daughters would be there,  
sitting with her reminiscing remembering what once was their life  
as they look for any more words  
as we fail to say the words.

**SOLIDARITY WITH ALL  
OPPRESSED PEOPLE.**

**The Unbroken Salute for  
Myanmar Strong**

**NABA**  
*Indonesia*



**TO SOME, VIOLENCE  
IS THE ANSWER.**



Peaceful  
protest



Genocide

**TITLE: MEME AUNG HLAING**

**DES**  
*Malaysia*

## Voices Across Continents:

## Youth's Solidarity Symphony

Across borders, youth's voices chime,  
In solidarity with Myanmar's time.  
Where democracy's flag faces a storm,  
They stand united, hearts warm.  
From distant lands to digital spheres,  
They raise their voices, banish fears.  
In marches bold and online streams,  
They echo dreams, defy extremes.  
For Myanmar's plight, they bear the light,  
A beacon of hope, burning bright.  
In unity, they bridge the miles,  
With courage, empathy, and smiles.  
In the face of oppression's toll,  
They pledge their hearts, their souls.  
Youth from afar, in steadfast stride,  
Stand with Myanmar, side by side

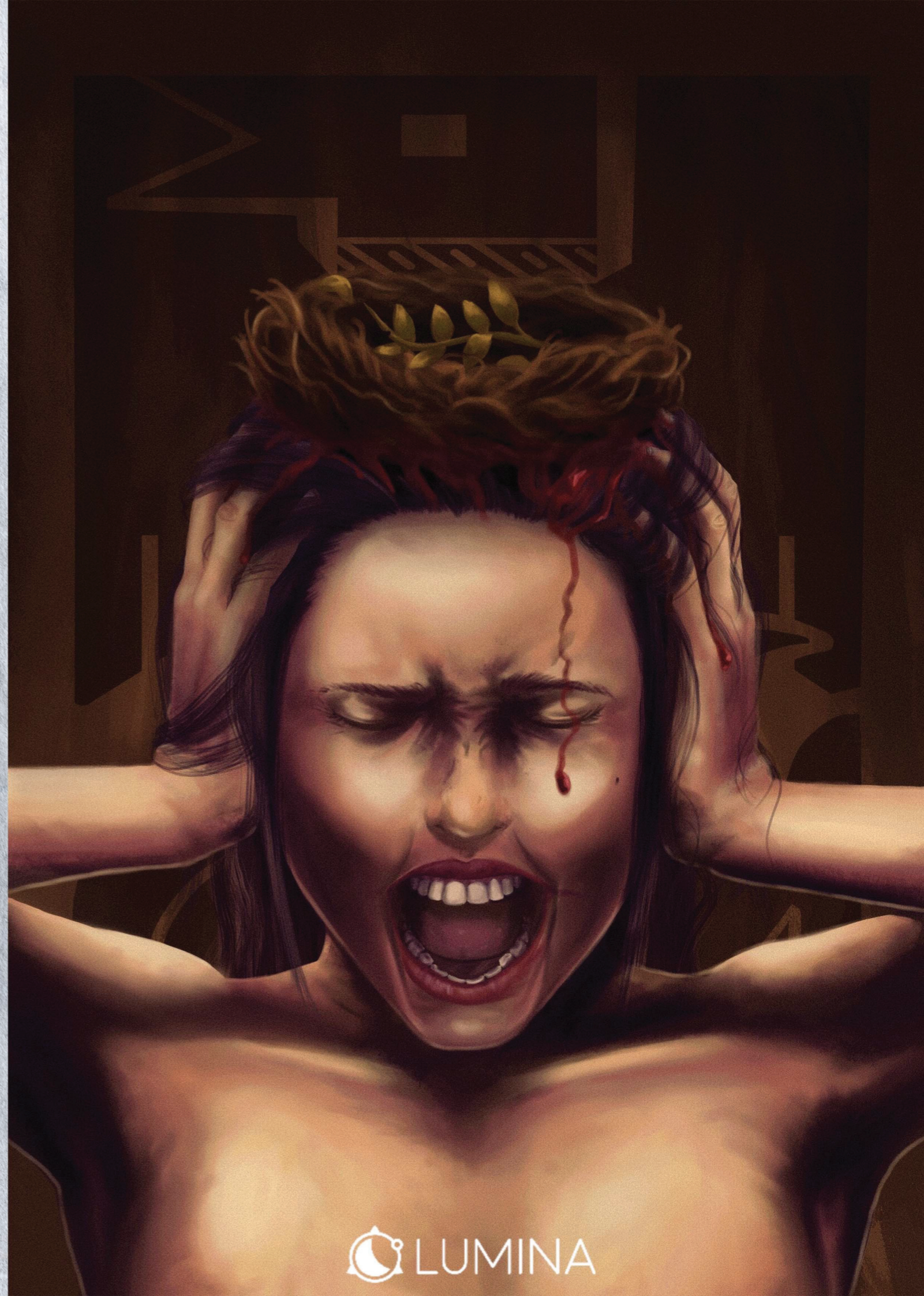
**faatira**

*Indonesia*

**ACROSS OCEANS AND  
BORDERS, YOUTH UNITE WITH  
MYANMAR, A SYMPHONY OF  
HOPE AND RESILIENCE IN THE  
FACE OF ADVERSITY.**



**LUMINA**  
*Myanmar*



 **LUMINA**

## **VOICES OF BURMESE STRENGTH -**

**A tribute to the strength of the Burmese people, this poem illustrates their journey through oppression to empowerment, mirroring the lotus flower's rise from the mud to the light.**

**Georgina Guinevere Anak Leslie**  
*Malaysia*

## **VOICES OF BURMESE STRENGTH**

My Burmese Friend,  
Resilient like a Lotus Bloom,  
They triumphed over oppression's end,  
As the Flower emerged from the lake's shallow gloom.

My Burmese Sister,  
Her hijab a modest cover.  
Her gaze, a silent captor,  
Marks her as a potential martyr.

My Burmese Brother,  
Forced into the military's snare,  
Made to wield weapons as a killer,  
Or else all would vanish into thin air.

My Burmese Peer,  
Rooted firmly, deeply grounded.  
Their prayers they hold dear,  
Drawing strength that keeps them surrounded.

My Burmese Mate,  
Now is the time to advocate.  
Like the Lotus Flower,  
Blooming proudly above the murky state.

**GEORGINA GUINEVERE ANAK LESLIE**

# It is still happening!

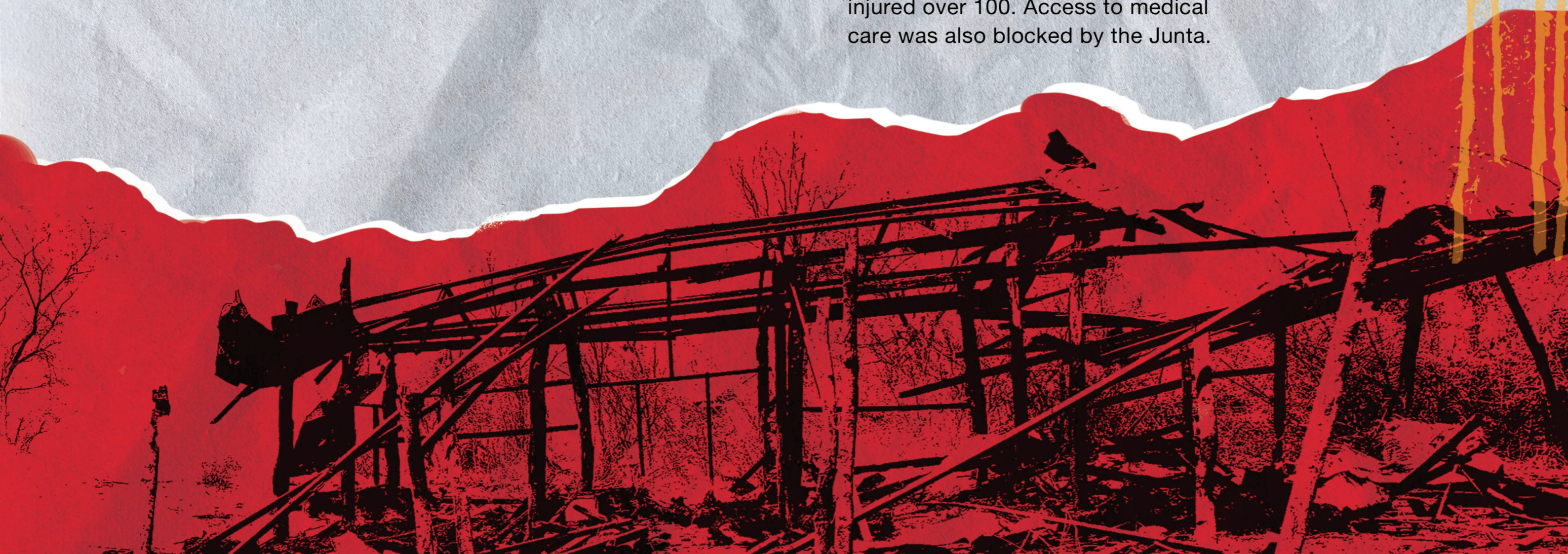
The humanitarian crisis in Myanmar is still happening.

Two years after the coup, the junta escalated terror against Myanmar peoples, including our youth friends.

OHCHR reported that military operations destroyed up to **30,000 civilian** infrastructures, including schools.

At least 382 children have been killed; there were 266 other reported deaths following raids and arrests in villages, and another 111 reported cases where victims were burned alive or after extrajudicial killings, in apparent attempts to destroy evidence of crimes.

The military also massively destroyed houses and villages by an air strike, targeting people and public facilities such as hospitals. They concentrate the airstrike on resistance-held areas, including Rakhine State. On October 23, the military carried out an airstrike on a music concert in Hpakant, Kachin State, organized by the opposition Kachin Independence Organization (KIO) to commemorate the ethnic organization's 62nd anniversary. The attack killed at least 80 people and injured over 100. Access to medical care was also blocked by the Junta.



“

# WE NEED YOU

to include US in your activism.  
Please don't forget about Myanmar.



**FOR MORE WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT AND LEARN ABOUT MYANMAR,  
PLEASE VISIT THESE LINKS**

## **AID**

<https://www.betterburma.org/>

<https://www.mutualaidmyanmar.org/>

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/emergency-relief-for-rohingya>

## **NEWS**

<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/myanmar>

<https://www.irrawaddy.com/>

<https://english.dvb.no/>

## **EDUCATIONAL**

<https://insightmyanmar.org/>

<https://altsean.org/>

<https://peoplesgoal.org/>

<https://www.instagram.com/rohingyawomencollaborative/>

<https://www.instagram.com/end.rohingya.repression/>

<https://www.instagram.com/standnow/>

<https://www.instagram.com/listenupmyanmar/>

<https://www.instagram.com/womenspeacenetwerk/>