



## MYNAMAR-MILITARY POWER- VIOLENCE

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**KEYWORDS :**

The old Burma is named as Myanmar and the capital city is Rangoon now replaced by the name Yagoon. Mynamar is peopled predominantly by Mongoloid groups composed of at least three major ethnic strains. These are : (1) the Tibeto-Burman people, Burmans, Kachins, Chins and sub-groups who speak the same basic language with variation and who form the great majority of the total population; (2) the Shan-Tai peoples, Shans, Karens, and their sub-groups who speak related languages and dialects—these two strains represent about eight percent each of the population, or sixteen who speak a as single group; (3) The Mons and sub-groups above men-common language with variations. The sub-groups above mentioned represent triable and other groupings who have acquired names as a result of tribal distinctions, dialect variations, and identification in terms of hill or plains location. (Helen G Trager)

The present paper is based on secondary data . the paper focus its attention on Violence against women, Children, Rohingyas and the power of military in Myanmar. United states and some states at global level rising their hands for upliment Burma peace and security.

**Women and Gender Issues**

There is no discrimination against the girl-child in Myanmar. The Myanmar National committee for Women's Affairs ( MNCWA ) held the First and Second National Women's Conference, in November, 1988 and June 2001 respectively. At the First Conference, the National plan of Action for Advancement of Women was discussed and adopted. At he second conference, the works implemented by the state/ Division Working Committees for Women's Affairs, at the grass-roots levels were reviewed, the constrains encountered were discussed and the future Plan of Actions recommended. In Myanmar 50.3% of the total population are women. Thus the women outnumber the men. The status of Myanmar women has always been high since the days of the Myanmar Kings. They enjoy equal rights as men. The legal system of Myanmar provides equal rights to women and men in the area of business and commerce. With regard to women in the profession, women outnumber men in the field of education and nursing, while 50% of women are doctors. There is a Myanmar saying: When a daughter is born parents usally say, "Assurance of an additional dish on the dining table". In Myanmar family, the husband and wife share equal household responsibilities. (Dr. M. Padmaja)

When the United Nations began its annual campaign to end violence against women 30 years ago, no one had Myanmar on their radar. But in recent years, Myanmar's military has escalated its use of sexual and gender-based violence to terrorize women and girls — most infamously against ethnic minorities, notably the Rohingya. Confronted by these atrocities, the international community has issued widespread demands for accountability and justice that have yet to come to fruition.

With reports of sexual and gender-based violence again piling up in the wake of last February's military coup, this year's Global 16 Days Campaign against gender-based

violence should pay particular attention to Myanmar — and the United States is in the perfect position to lead the way.

Since Myanmar's military seized control in a coup last February, women have emerged as symbols of defiance and as key leaders of resistance efforts. Generation Z women in particular have assumed prominent roles on the front lines of the civil disobedience movement. However, this has also put them at great risk. Since the coup, the junta has arrested more than a thousand women, many of whom have been held in interrogation camps in unknown locations and subjected to severe abuse.

Within months of the coup, evidence of this abuse began to pour in, as more and more women reported experiences of sexual assault at the hands of the military. Khin Lay, director of the Triangle Women Organization in Myanmar, says that women are most vulnerable when held alone during interrogation, enabling the police and military to act without witnesses. (Kathleen kuehnast Ph.D: Gabriela sagun)

**Violence against Children**

Myanmar's military, known as the Tatmadaw, remains locked in an armed struggle with its own people, but the crisis barely reached the surface at last week's United Nations General Assembly meetings in New York. Officials from the United States and Malaysia met on the sidelines with representatives from Myanmar's National Unity Government, a cabinet formed by elected lawmakers ousted when the military seized power in February 2021. The United Nations has delayed responding to the junta's request for a seat; Myanmar's current representative at the United Nations, Kyaw Moe Tun, remains loyal to the overthrown government.

As diplomacy sputters, violence in Myanmar is spiraling. At least 11 children were killed on Sept. 16 when military helicopters fired on a school in Sagaing region, a resistance stronghold. The killing of students was shocking, but extreme violence has come to characterize the junta. The military allegedly rampaged through a village in Kachin State, burning down homes and killing civilians. These attacks followed a trend: The monitoring group Data for Myanmar said the military has torched more than 28,000 civilian homes since the coup, and August was the worst month on record.

Junta leader Min Aung Hlaing has had ample opportunity to make minor concessions to the international community, such as allowing a meeting with detained civilian leader Aung San Suu Kyi, that would have allowed him to reenter the fold without fundamentally threatening the military's power. At every turn, the regime has instead chosen the path least conducive to compromise. The July executions took place against a backdrop of global outcry, including from authoritarian Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen, who currently chaired the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. But like most of the junta's decisions since the coup, the killings were intended for a domestic audience, not a global one. (Andrew Nachemson)

**Rohingyas**

Myanmar's military is still capable of significantly worse violence, as the experience of the persecuted Rohingya minority shows. Although the regime has killed more than 2,300 civilians since the coup, this toll pales in comparison to the horrors of the 2017 Rohingya crisis, when the military slaughtered between an estimated 10,000 and 25,000 civilians in a matter of weeks in just the northern part of Rakhine state. The military's dehumanization of the Rohingya is unique, but the junta leadership would not hesitate to use similar tactics against the civilian population if it felt that it truly risked being overthrown. For its part, every atrocity Myanmar's military commits proves that the regime has no intention of making even basic concessions to the international community. It is an irrational organization that only knows how to solve its problems through violence, which has only incentivized revolutionaries to approach the ongoing crisis as an existential conflict. As the violence spirals without an off-ramp in sight, countries sympathetic to Myanmar's plight have an obligation to take more creative action to assist the people of Myanmar in liberating themselves from potentially decades of oppression. (Ben Dunant)

### Myanmar's military women rapes

Sexual and gender-based violence has a long and brutal history in Myanmar, dating back to the British colonial occupation. Over a hundred years later, this violence has festered into an institutional practice for Myanmar's military, which has committed widespread and systematic abuses against women for decades. In an analysis of hundreds of sexual and gender-based violence cases from 1998 to 2015, 85 percent of victims identified the perpetrator as someone in uniform. As one soldier put it while threatening a victim in 2012: "We have the authority to rape women."

This pervasive, institutional violence garnered international attention in 2017, when the military used widespread and systemic sexual violence in the service of ethnic cleansing against the Rohingya in Rakhine State. Despite extensive documentation, widespread outcry among the international community and an on-going case at the International Court of Justice, the military has yet to face any consequence. Rather, it continues to employ sexual violence with impunity.

Gender and sexual minorities face additional insecurities underlined by their historical marginalization. The "Darkness Law," another colonial legacy, allows the police to detain anyone viewed as suspicious. Functionally, it is a legal mechanism that facilitates police brutality against transgender women. Prior to the coup, police routinely arrested transgender women, who reported pervasive physical and sexually assault while in custody. Transwomen reported that "If people complain to the police when they do these things to us, they do nothing... The police think transgender and gay people are useless; that it's better if they are dead."

The military has also recently suffered some of its heaviest losses to date, with over 1,300 soldiers killed in October alone. Anecdotal accounts suggest that the military is now recruiting child soldiers, a sign that indicates an increased likelihood of sexual violence.

### Women peace and security

On November 25, the 30th anniversary of the Global 16 Days Campaign against gender-based violence began. In recognition of this momentous work, the United Nations calls for global actions to eliminate violence against women. Similarly, more than two decades ago, the Women, Peace and Security Agenda, a long-term global action, was set formally in motion with the adoption of UNSCR 1325, acknowledging the specific gendered experiences of women in conflict.

In this respect, the United States has a unique capacity to

respond to the sexual and gender-based violence in Myanmar. The United States is the only nation to legally codify the Women, Peace and Security Agenda into law with the 2017 Women, Peace and Security Act. (Kathleen kuehnast Ph.D: Gabriela sagun)

National strategie on Gender equity and equality and women peace and security agenda :

1. The first immediate action for policy maker is to recognize that sexual and gender-based violence in Myanmar is an early warning and should be systematically documented as more violence is likely to continue.
2. The second immediate action for policy maker is to develop a comprehensive U.S. government response to the crisis in Myanmar that specifically addresses prolific sexual and gender-based violence.
3. The third immediate action for policy maker is to Leverage existing resources, such as USAID's commitment to creating rapid funding mechanisms to address barriers.
4. The fourth immediate action for policy maker is to participate women in peace building as discribed in the most congressional report on the topic.
5. The fifth immediate action for policy maker is to apply the administration's National Strategy on Gender Equity and Equality to enhance accountability efforts for perpetrators of gender-based violence. (Kathleen kuehnast Ph.D: Gabriela sagun)

### Myanmar's Criminal Zones: A Growing Threat to Global Security

International media and law enforcement are waking up to a new post-COVID trend in transnational crime: the proliferation of criminally run zones in Myanmar and across Southeast Asia, and an explosion of human trafficking for labor in these ungoverned enclaves. (Priscilla A. Clapp; Jason Tower)

When the People's Defense Forces (PDFs) first coalesced in Myanmar in 2021, many viewed them as hastily organized groups of young vigilantes who would be quickly overrun by the junta's military force, known as the Sit-Tat. (Ye Myo Hein)

"The civil-military relations in Myanmar [have] irretrievably broken down," this is the statement given by Ye Myo Hein a researcher on civil-military relations and a fellow at the Wilson Center, Washington-based think tank.

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