

Highlights & Key Messages

Intensified armed clashes between the military junta and ethnic resistance organizations (EROs) and people's defence forces (PDFs) resulted in an increased number of IDPs. In March and April 2023, a total of 42 casualties and 36 injuries were reported; 31 men and 5 women were injured. All casualties and injuries were the result of armed clashes, bomb blasts or explosions, landmines, and gunshots in Shan State. There were also frequent reports of civilians being targeted by the military junta, including incidents of forced recruitment, arbitrary detention, and indiscriminate attacks.

Northern Shan State

- The military junta and a PDF clashed, resulting in 1 casualty, and more than 3,000 people were displaced in Nawngkhio Township.
- The military junta and a PDF clashed, damaging 20 civilian houses in Nawngkhio Township.
- A landmine injured 2 in Kyaukme Township, and injured 1 in Nawngkhio Township.
- Bomb blasts and explosions resulted in 6 casualties and 15 injuries in Lashio Township.
- The military junta indiscriminately fired gunshots, resulting in 2 injuries in Muse Township.

Southern Shan State

- The RCSS and SSPP clashed and fired gunshots in Laikha Township, and more than 500 people were displaced.
- A landmine injured 3 in Mawkmai Township.
- The military junta burned down 2 civilian houses in Ywangan Township.
- The military junta indiscriminately fired gunshots, resulting in 2 injuries in Moebye Township.
- Bomb blasts and explosions resulted in 3 injuries in Pekhön Township, and 1 casualty and 4 injuries in Moebye Township.



- Armed Clash - RCSS vs SSPP
- Armed Clash - Military Junta vs PDF
- Bomb blasts and explosions
- Landmines

48

Casualties in Shan State between Jan - April 2023.

49

Injuries in Shan State between Jan - April 2023.

31

SGBV and domestic violence cases in Shan State between Jan - April 2023.

44

Victims of Arbitrary detention in Shan State between Jan - April 2023.

Civilians Targeted: Forced Recruitment, Arbitrary Detention, and Indiscriminate Attacks

Kyaukme Township, Kyaukme District

In Hkomone Village, on 27 March, TNLA soldiers entered the village and forcefully recruited 8 boys, stating that they were men, and therefore required to fight.[1] In Manton Village, on 3 April[2], the TNLA announced that each household in the village must provide one recruit. They also stated that if no man in the household was able to fight, then they would recruit women. In one household, an elderly man was recruited, to prevent his young daughter from being forcefully taken.

Yawnghwe/ Nyaungshwe Township, Taunggyi District

In Nampan Village, on 3 April[3], a 26-year-old youth was arbitrarily detained by the military junta. He was accused of association with a local PDF, so the military junta forcefully entered his house and arrested him.

Panlaung/Pinlaung Township, Taunggyi District

In Namneint Village, on 11 March[4], 28 people including 3 monks were killed by the military junta. They had been sheltering in a monastery, and they were forcibly removed, tortured, then shot. The military junta blamed the Karenni People's Defense Force (KPDF) for the attacks, causing tension between some EROs in the area.[5] Local residents and media outlets reported and verified that military junta soldiers were responsible.[6]

In Namneint Village, on 16 March[7], 10 civilians were abducted by the military junta. They were taken during clashes between junta soldiers and a local PDF, then used as human shields by the military junta.

Pekhon Township, Taunggyi District

In Moebye, on 12 March[8], the military junta occupied an IDP camp on the east bank of the river, then burned 3 IDPs alive. Another indiscriminate attack on IDPs occurred near Hsawng Phwe Village on 25 April[9]; the military junta launched an airstrike on Hsawng Phwe Hospital.[10] The hospital is the primary medical facility where IDPs and local residents access healthcare. It is located near the main IDP camp in the area. Three people were injured in the attack, including one nurse.

[1] <https://burmese.shannews.org/archives/33804> [2] <https://burmese.shannews.org/archives/33923>

[3] <https://burmese.shannews.org/archives/33987> [4] <https://burmese.shannews.org/archives/33494>

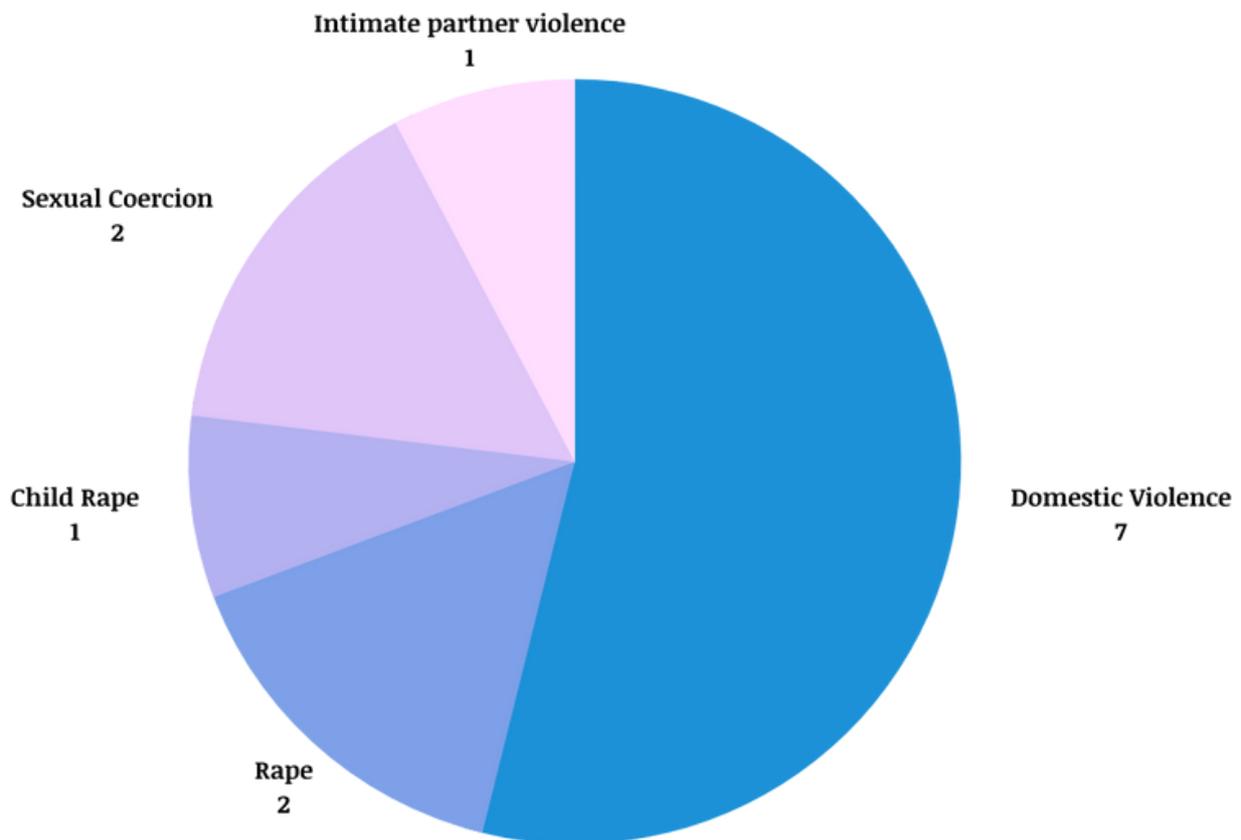
[5] <https://www.usip.org/publications/2023/04/misinformation-hate-speech-and-ethno-religious-tensions-myanmar>. United States Institute of Peace (USIP). 27 April, 2023. [6] <https://shanhumanrights.org/at-least-33-civilians-killed-by-sac-troops-during-military-operations-in-pinlaung-and-pekhn-townships-southern-shan-state/>. Shan Human Rights Foundation (SHRF). 23 March, 2023.

[7] <https://burmese.shannews.org/archives/33595> [8] <https://burmese.shannews.org/archives/33508>

[9] <https://burmese.shannews.org/archives/34339> [10] <https://www.myanmarwitness.org/reports/pekon-hospital-bombing>. Myanmar Witness, 2 May, 2023.

Prevalence of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)

A total of 13 incidents were reported to SWAN, including: 7 incidents of domestic violence, 2 incidents of rape, 1 incident of child rape and murder, 2 incidents of sexual coercion, and 1 incident of intimate partner violence. All incidents of domestic violence included physical assault, and perpetrators in the incidents were primarily the partners and family members of survivors. Survivors acknowledged that it was a common problem in their respective communities, and most cases were solved according to local customary rules and practices.



Prevalence of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)

Location	Type of Violence	Survivor	Perpetrator	Action Taken
Lawksawk Township	Child Rape and Murder	A 16-year-old girl	A 60-year-old man	In the trial process at Taunggyi
Kyaukme Township	Rape	A 35-year-old mentally disabled woman	Unknown	Survivor's family was forced to leave the village, since she was not married when she had children.
Mawkmai Township	Rape	A 40-year-old mentally disabled woman	Unknown	No reporting
Kyaukme Township	Sexual Coercion	A 24-year-old woman	A 25-year-old man/survivor's boyfriend	Perpetrator ran away
Kyaukme Township	Sexual Coercion	A 30-year-old woman	A 50-year-old monk	Reported to the village head, but no action taken, since the perpetrator is a monk and a relative of the SSPP.
Mong Nang Township	Intimate Partner Violence	An 18-year-old woman	A 23-year-old male friend	Punished perpetrator to pay 5 million (5,000,000) MMK to the survivor.
Kyaukme Township	Domestic Violence	A 38-year-old woman	Survivor's younger brother	No reporting
Hsipaw Township	Domestic Violence	A 15-year-old woman	A 20-year-old husband	No reporting
Hsipaw Township	Domestic Violence	A 35-year-old woman	A 40-year-old husband	No reporting
Kyaukme Township	Domestic Violence	A 36-year-old woman	A 42-year-old husband	No reporting
Kyaukme Township	Domestic Violence	A woman	A 52-year-old husband	No reporting
Hsipaw Township	Domestic Violence	A 48-year-old woman	A 50-year-old husband	No reporting
Kyaukme Township	Domestic Violence	A 23-year-old woman	A 28-year-old husband	No reporting

Access to Emergency Support Services for Survivors of SGBV

With regard to emergency support services for survivors of SGBV and domestic violence, access remains limited. This is due to the Burmese military's strategy of restricting and impeding the transport of supplies, targeting health care workers, as well as ongoing armed conflict. SWAN continues to provide emergency services for survivors, including emergency transport to medical facilities, as well as financial and logistic support, and some psycho-social support services. SWAN continues to coordinate with local organizations in the network to best serve survivors and their families when possible.

SWAN's CALLS to ACTION

- We call on all stakeholders, including armed groups, humanitarian organizations, and international organizations, to utilize cross-border networks to provide protection and humanitarian assistance to IDPs and host communities in Shan State.
- We call on humanitarian partners to provide financial support to local women's organizations implementing emergency support programs for survivors of SGBV.
- We call on humanitarian partners and IDP host communities to support youth and their families escaping from forced recruitment by armed groups.
- We call on community leaders and members to stop discrimination against women, especially survivors of domestic violence and SGBV, and to prevent victim-blaming in local communities.
- We call on the international community and INGOs to support local organizations who are providing emergency support services including: case support, support to health service providers, and women's rights defenders.

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