

An Urgent Appeal of Freedom and Democracy for People of Myanmar

004/2021
April 10, 2021

The Myanmar military has been ingrained with the doctrine of “if the army shoots, it has no tradition of shooting into the air; it shoots to hit” ever since General Ne Win’s coup on March 2, 1962. This military ‘coup culture’ embedded in their mindsets has given them the absolute power to enforce the ruthless tyranny of suppressing all dissent and set a long record of gross human rights violations. The recent coup of General Min Aung Hlaing on February 1, 2021 exercised that power¹.

Min Aung Hlaing declared on military controlled TV “protestors risked being shot in the head or back”. Blindly following his command, the police and armed forces relentlessly and brutally cracked down hundreds of thousands peaceful protesters on the streets in many cities across Myanmar. The streets have been turned into a war zone as snipers hunted down and killed protesters using live ammunitions during daytime. Frequent night-time raids stormed into houses to arrest and shoot the residents, as plain-clothed thugs looted and burned down the properties. At least 45 hospitals were seized by military denying treatment for the wounded while at least 20 doctors and 30 nurses who defy the order were shot to death. Since the coup, more than 700 men, women, young students including children and infants have been killed, and thousands arrested and been tortured.

It has become increasingly clear, that even if the junta manage to suppress the civil disobedience movement (CDM) with brutal force, they will be facing a different generation much more defiant from the coups staged in the past. **Myanmar is now in a State of Terror.**

The United Nation Security Council seriously condemned the violence against peaceful protesters. The United States, United Kingdom, Canada and European Union members and their allies also condemned the coup, have issued warnings against use of disproportionate force against demonstrators, and have imposed sanctions on the junta. Nonetheless, the junta has so far ignored all condemnations and is still committing the atrocities and human rights violations with escalating casualties. Therefore, people of Myanmar need urgent help from the world for their safety, freedom and democratic rights. We call upon all citizens of the democratic world to:

1. Condemn all the fatal shootings and excessive use of force on the peaceful protesters and innocent people;
2. Urge your heads of states, governments, members of House and Senate, local and municipal governments to have unified voice to stand with the people of Myanmar in fight for their freedom and democratic rights from oppression;
3. Stop recognizing military junta and restrain doing business with regime;
4. Urge governments of all nations to push for effective targeted sanctions including assets freezes against most profitable sectors of military controlled conglomerates to immediately

¹Details of Coup history in Burma and loss of lives please refer to statement 003/2021



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stop the military financial lifelines;

5. Urge for a global arms embargo;
6. Help and support in establishing a safe environment for the people of Myanmar;
7. Provide immediate healthcare for hundreds of wounded; and
8. Provide humanitarian aids to Civil Disobedience Movement.

Free Myanmar strongly believe that it is crucial to effectively cut off the source of revenue flowing into the hands of the military and its subsidiary and affiliated criminal enterprises by comprehensively imposing targeted sanctions. Fight for Freedom and Democracy for people of Myanmar against stratocracy, we cannot do it alone. We need a coordinated global response for intervention. **Please help us now!**