

The Anatomy of Violence and Terrorism in Myanmar

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Republic of the Union of Myanmar**

4 May 2022

1. Violence committed by the so-called NUG and PDF

During the period 1st February 2021 to 31st March 2022, at least 2,541 innocent civilians were killed and 3,660 injured by the terrorist group People's Defense Forces (PDF). The government of Myanmar has proof that the PDF are armed and funded by the so-called National Unity Government (NUG), formed from the ousted National League for Democracy (NLD). The victims are indiscriminately targeted, and include monks, school teachers, health workers, electricity workers, community leaders, young children, old people, wedding groups, or simply civilians just going about their daily lives. The violence continues.

What is the reason for these killings and attacks? The PDF and NUG cannot easily attack the security forces, so they have resorted to terrorizing the general population and trying to sow anarchy — a known strategy of terrorists. The photographs and narratives in this section are only a sample of thousands of such cases. The photographs were taken by local security forces on the crime scene. Video testimony from captured PDF terrorists show that the NUG and NLD parliamentarians supported these acts. The Myanmar Police Force have detailed case records.

Figure 1. Murder of a Township Red Cross official



29th November 2021. Chan Mya Tharzi Township, Mandalay Region. U Win Saing, age 40 years, son of U Thawdar, was shot and killed by two PDF members on the roadside. The PDF then fled. U Thawdar was the local official working for the Township Red Cross. Source: Myanmar Police Force case records.

Figure 2. Murder of an independent journalist



*23rd January 2022. Inma town, The-gon Township, Bago Region. U Than Hlaing (age 45 years) worked as a senior reporter for the journal *Supaung Swan Ar Ahman Tayar*, covering The-gon Township. He was with his wife Daw Kyi Kyi Pyone aka Hninsi (age 53 years) near the Shwekyundaw pagoda in their town, when he was killed by gunfire by two PDF members. Source: Myanmar Police Force case records.*

Figure 3. Murder of a primary school headmistress



11th November 2021. Kyin Kyai village, Thondaung-Aing village tract, Wandwin Township, Mandalay Region. Daw Sein Kyi (age 45 years), the headmistress of Nyaungkaryar Village Primary School was at home with her husband U Zaw Moe aka U Zin (age 45 years) at their home grocery store. Two PDF members came up to the small store and shot the defenseless couple. The headmistress was killed on the spot (left) and her husband was seriously wounded (right). Source: Myanmar Police Force case records.

Figure 4. IED attack on a public highway kills a Buddhist monk



7th February 2022. Myaing Township, Sagaing Region. A car (license number YGN 3J/5274) carrying a monk ran into improvised explosive devices (IEDs) planted by the PDF on the Monywa to Patheingyi highway. The explosion destroyed the car and killed the monk, U Sandimar (age 39 years), of Mingalar Thiri monastery. The driver of the car U Sei Baw (age 37 years) from Kuntaw village sustained injuries. Source: Myanmar Police Force case records.

Figure 5. Murder of four auxiliary firefighters



20th March 2022. Thaton, Mon State. U Tin Than (age 65 years), U Myo Aung (age 73 years), U Hamid Waing aka Zaw Win Tun (age 35 years) and U Nyunt Wai (age 56 years) were four auxiliary firefighters from Thaton Fire Department serving the public in their hometown of Thaton. The PDF came for them with guns, just because of their job. All four were killed. Source: Myanmar Police Force case records.

Figure 6. IED attacks disrupt the COVID-19 vaccination program



2nd February 2022. Sagaing-Monywa highway, Sagaing Region. Two medical services vans were sent from Sagaing to Monywa to pick up COVID-19 vaccines from the hospital in Monywa, so that the population in Sagaing city could be vaccinated against COVID-19. The two vans were driven by U Myo Than Oo and U Arkar Tun, both serving the Auxiliary Fire Department, Sagaing. Both vans were clearly marked as medical services vans carrying COVID-19 vaccines. Loaded up with vaccines, the two vans were returning to Sagaing when IEDs set up by the PDF on the road near Natyaykan Village, Chaungoo Township, disabled the vans. Source: Myanmar Police Force case records.

Figure 7. IED attacks kill two young novice monks ages 10 and 11 years, and wound a third, age 13.



21st April 2022. Theinchaung village, Sagaing—Monywa road, Sagaing Region. Two novice monks Ashin Dhamma Nanda (age 10) and Ashin Thawna Nanda (age 11) were walking in a monks' procession to collect alms—a time-honoured Buddhist tradition that all young boys go through before they become adults. They were killed by IED set up by the PDF. A third novice monk Ashin Pyinnya Nanda (age 13 years) was wounded and videos showed the child crying grievously. None of the young novices had even reached puberty. Imagine the parents' anguish when a traditionally joyous ritual that families are so proud of turns into tragedy. Source: Myanmar Police Force case records.



Figure 8. Cold-blooded murder of a respected female physician.



15th December 2021. Kutkai Township, Shan State. Township physician Dr. Wint Wint Myaing (age 50 years), midwife Daw Zin Aye Lwin and two other women went to Mone-si village in a car driven by U La Nan (the only man in the group). They administered COVID-19 vaccinations in that village. On their way back, they were attacked by a PDF group, simply to terrorize other health staff. Dr. Wint Wint Myaing died of multiple gunshot wounds. Source: Myanmar Police Force case records.

Figure 9. Medical oxygen supplies for COVID-19 emergency use are attacked by PDF



3rd January 2022. Kwinkalay Village, Myawady Township, Kayin State. A twenty-wheeled truck was carrying 20 tons of liquid oxygen supplies to Yangon for emergency COVID-19 use. The truck driver, Zeyar (age 37 years) from Yangon Region, was accompanied by a friend, Aung Gyi. At Kwinkalay Village, a PDF group attacked the two men with guns, leaving them wounded and the truck disabled. The truck had been clearly labelled as carrying COVID-19 medical oxygen, and the PDF deliberately attacked it to disrupt public health services. Source: Myanmar Police Force case records.

Figure 10. Three generations killed by PDF: grandfather, mother, three-year-old boy



19 May 2021, 00:30, Shwe Paukpin Village, Myaung Township, Sagaing Region: A crowd of about 20 masked men threw two IEDs into the house of the elected village administrator U Soe Nyunt, one of which exploded. In the ensuing chaos, the men entered the house and attacked the entire family with sticks, knives and swords, killing village administrator U Soe Nyunt (age 50 years), his daughter Daw Tin Mar Soe (age 30), and her young son Maung Swan Htet Aung (age 3 years). The rest of the family sustained injuries. Source: Myanmar Police Force case records.

Figure 11. Wedding party bombed by PDF



25 May 2021, 12:35–12:55, Thingangyun Township, Yangon Region: A man on a motorcycle delivered a parcel bomb disguised as a wedding gift to an apartment where wedding celebrations were being held. The bomb killed the bride Ma Win Pa Pa (age 25 years), two friends—Ma Chit Hpoo Thei Khine (female, age 23) and Maung Zaw Win Aung (male, age 19)—and injured six others. Source: Myanmar Police Force case records.

Figure 12. The burned remains of a schoolteacher, hospital worker, village clerk, and community leaders killed by PDF



31 May 2021, 18:15, Ye Hla Village turnoff, Gantaw-Kalay road, Magway Region: A car carrying 6 people was stopped by a crowd carrying home-made guns, who shot up the passengers and set the car alight. Five died: (i) driver U Kyaw Myo Naing (male, age 32, village clerk, Myauk Khinyan Village), (ii) U Thar Lu (male, age 63, Hanthawady village administrator), (iii) U Sein Oo (male, age 55, Myauk Khinyan village administrator), (iv) Daw Khin Myo Thet (female, age 43, middle schoolteacher), and (v) Daw Thidar Win (female, age 53, sanitation staff at Myauk Khinyan hospital). The sixth person escaped by pretending to be dead from her gunshot wounds (Ma Thei Mar Htwe). Source: Myanmar Police Force case records.

Figure 13. Young gas station attendant blown up by a PDF motorcyclist



1 June 2021, 12:50, South Haymamarlar Ward gas station, Maha Aungmye Township, Mandalay Region: Two young men, Zaw Myint Myat (age 35 years) and Thet Naing Oo (age 18 years), working as gas station attendants, were blown up while filling up a motorcycle in which an improvised explosive device (IEC) had been planted. The rider had disappeared after dismounting from the motorcycle. Source: Myanmar Police Force case records.

Figure 14. A community leader / elected village administrator killed by the PDF



22 July 2021, 23:30, Thadut Village 7, Myaing Township, Magway Region: Around 30 men entered the house of elected village administrator U San Aung (52 years), and stabbed and hacked him to death. Two sons were injured. They and the remaining family fled into the woods near the village. The tasks of a village administrator include development work for the village, such as road construction, school rehabilitation and welfare activities. Village administrators are elected by the community, one vote per household, and are not civil servants. They receive a nominal sum for operating expenses, such as transportation costs to township level on behalf of the village.

Source: Myanmar Police Force case records.

Figure 15. A young Buddhist monk stabbed to death by the PDF



8 August 2021, Kyauk-hpa village, Mogok Township, Mandalay Region: U Kawthala, a Buddhist monk of age 25 years, was found dead from multiple knife wounds. One of the perpetrators has recently been arrested and is undergoing further investigation. The PDF have killed other monks also, as well as calling for the elimination of some of the most revered Buddhist monks in the land for not taking sides. Source: Myanmar Police Force case records.

Figure 16. An eight-month-old victim of the PDF's indiscriminate shooting



12 August 2021, 07:00, Myingyan town, Mandalay Region: A group of four PDF members on two motorcycles fired a gun at a vendor selling *mohinga* (fish noodle soup), after calling out, “Is there any *mohinga*?” from their motorcycles. The vendor’s infant daughter, Ma Nyein Nyein, eight month old, was hit in the head and died in her father’s arms.

Her father, *mohinga* vendor U Nyein Chan (age 26 years), and the customer Daw Tin Tin (female age 50 years) sustained gunshot injuries. The PDF then fled.

Source: Myanmar Police Force case records.

Figure 17. A 74-year-old retiree beheaded by the PDF



28 August 2021, Ye-Oo Kalay road, Taze Township, Sagaing Division: U Kyaw Nyunt (age 74 years), a retired sergeant from the Tatmadaw, was beheaded by the roadside. At 00:05 while the whole family was asleep in their village of Kyet-Hsoo-Kan, a crowd of 20 men entered the house, tied up the family, and took away U Kyaw Nyunt. After the beheading, they returned at 01:15, ransacked the house, and took away whatever valuables they could find. Source: Myanmar Police Force case records.

Table 1. Deaths caused by violent demonstrators, rioters and PDF/NUG terrorist attacks from 1 February 2021 to 31 March 2022.

No.	Division/ State	Deaths from 1 February 2021 to 31 March 2022								
		Tatmadaw personnel	Police	Civilians						
				Civil Servants		Monks	Children (under 18 years)		Adults (over 18 years)	
				Male	Female		Male	Female	Male	Female
1	Naypyitaw								3	2
2	Kachin		3	1		2	2		53	6
3	Kayah	1	6						7	2
4	Kayin	6	1						26	5
5	Chin	21	15	2	1	1			13	5
6	Sagaing	15	65	26	10	12	20	6	828	175
7	Tanintharyi	5	3	3			1	1	86	17
8	Bago	4	17	4				3	81	15
9	Magway	3	16	11	10	5*	6	1	260	50
10	Mandalay	16	22	7	3	6	1	6	276	42
11	Mon	2	4	1	1	3	1	2	65	5
12	Rakhine	1		1				1	5	2
13	Yangon	17	18	3	2	1	3	2	203	25
14	Shan	12	24	2					59	11
15	Ayeyarwady	1	4	1				1	33	9
Sub-Total		104	198	62	27	30	34	23	1,998	371
Total		2,847 deaths, including 2,545 civilians among whom were 57 children, 29 monks and one nun.								

Note: Includes one Buddhist nun. Source: Ministry of Home Affairs.

Table 2. Injuries caused by violent demonstrators, rioters and PDF/NUG terrorist attacks from 1 February 2021 to 31 March 2022.

No.	Division/ State	Injuries from 1 February 2021 to 31 March 2022								
		Tatmadaw personnel	Police	Civilians						
				Civil Servants		Monks	Children (under 18 years)		Adults (over 18 years)	
				Male	Female		Male	Female	Male	Female
1	Naypyitaw	1	48	1	1		1		9	9
2	Kachin	6	31	7	3		6	4	65	15
3	Kayah		26	4	1				6	1
4	Kayin	10	8	1		1	3	2	34	7
5	Chin	13	25	4				2	18	6
6	Sagaing	43	291	34	8		15	18	420	162
7	Tanintharyi	15	14		1				40	6
8	Bago	7	58	9	4	2	5	3	91	28
9	Magway	3	99	11	5	2	3	6	123	41
10	Mandalay	56	132	21	15	2	25	8	311	109
11	Mon	13	30	6	7	2	2	3	77	37
12	Rakhine		3				2		1	
13	Yangon	43	94	6	12		10	7	280	108
14	Shan	8	15	2	3	1	10	9	101	36
15	Ayeyarwady	5	20	1	1	1			59	17
Sub-Total		223	894	107	61	11	82	62	1635	582
Total		3,657 injuries, including in 2,540 civilians among whom were 144 children and 11 monks.								

Source: Ministry of Home Affairs.

2. Demonization of a sovereign government by western-funded NGOs and media

The true facts on anti-government demonstrations in 2021

Over the period February 2021 to October 2021, western and other media have been consistently quoting high numbers of people “killed by the Myanmar security forces during peaceful demonstrations,” where they alleged that armed security personnel had fired upon unarmed peaceful crowds. The daily death toll was drawn from the website of the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (Burma) (AAPP), a non-governmental organization based in Mae Sot, Thailand, funded by western interests.

The reality is different. The demonstrations, which started peacefully enough in the first two weeks of February, turned violent starting from the third week of February, and escalated into orchestrated riots. *Agents provocateurs* worked behind the scenes to place young people at the front of the crowds and turn the demonstrating crowds into anarchic mobs. The mobs sought direct confrontation with security forces, making armed attacks on police stations and civilians who were not supporters of the ousted National League for Democracy (NLD). They forced the close-down and barricades of public roads, vandalized and destroyed offices. From mid-March, the so-called demonstrations had become armed insurrection, conducting armed attacks on the security forces and arson attacks on factories and industrial buildings. Proof that the NLD hardcore supporters were the main instigators of this armed insurrection is found in the testimonies, captured on video, from those who were arrested.

Throughout this period of violent demonstrations, the security forces (police and Tatmadaw) adhered to international norms for crowd and riot control by exercising utmost restraint and using the least force and the lowest level of response possible in every situation. However, as the violence escalated, there have been unavoidable injuries and losses on both sides.

The Ministry of Home Affairs periodically examines the lists issued by the AAPP and finds the number of deaths to be grossly inflated. For example, an examination of 987 identities issued by AAPP as “deceased” people” as of 31 August 2021 showed that only 408 identities from the AAPP exist. Therefore, AAPP has inflated the number of deaths up to that date by 2.4 times. The AAPP has no proof of its claims and 579 identities or (58.7%) on the AAPP list are unverifiable. The police cannot find records that these identities ever existed.

In contrast to the unverifiable AAPP data, the Myanmar Ministry of Home Affairs has detailed police records on every one of these cases, complete with personal details of the deceased, the cause of death, and death certificate by the Ministry of Health.

Table 3. Ministry of Home Affairs statistics on fatalities during violent demonstrations in 2021

	Region /State	Deaths of demonstrators during anti-government demonstrations	
		Deaths from riot control measures implemented by security forces [1]	Deaths from other causes [2]
1	Nay Pyi Taw	2	2
2	Kachin	8	10
3	Kayah	-	3
4	Kayin	-	-
5	Chin	-	3
6	Sagaing	22	33
7	Taninthayi	11	10
8	Bago	17	20
9	Magway	10	22
10	Mandalay	15	37
11	Mon	1	7
12	Rakhine	-	-
13	Yangon	90	66
14	Shan	10	10
15	Ayeyarwady	6	5
Sub-Total		192	228
Total		420	

Notes: updated to October 2021.

Every one of these cases has police records, complete with personal details, cause of death, and death certificate by the Ministry of Health.

[1] Riot control measures are used when demonstrations turn into violent rioting, with attempts to kill security forces, destroy property, or burn factories. The security personnel killed and injured by demonstrators during this time are included in Tables 1 and 2.

[2] Other causes of the death of demonstrators not directly due to riot control measures implemented by security forces include (a) disease (heart attack, stroke), (b) falls, accidents and injuries in the crowd or in fleeing from security forces, (c) trauma /injury inflicted by unknown persons. The last group includes cases where bodies were dumped in the road or notified to the police.

Table 4. Disinformation by the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (Burma)

AAPP version	What happened: The provable facts
AAPP number 326: Lin Htet, male. Father's name unknown. Date of Incident 25-Mar-21, Deceased Date, 26-Mar-21. Civilian, place of incident Moe Dar Su Bridge, home address: AungTha Pyay Ward, Mohnyin Township, Kachin State. "Shot in the stomach with gunfire, missing dead body"	Lin Htet is 25 years of age, male. Father's name U Aung Win Naing. Ethnicity Bamar, Buddhist. Address: Railways Quarters, Mohnyin town, Kachin State. He works in a motorcycle repair workshop. Lin Htet is charged under penal code 505(a) and is currently in Mohnyin prison under FIR number 83/2021 (Mohnyin Myoma police station) and court registration number 212/2021.
AAPP number 706: Thura Aung, male. Father's name unknown. Date of Incident 22-Apr-21, Deceased Date, 23-Apr-21, Civilian, place of incident Interrogation Center, home address Htee Phyu Ward, Pyay, Bago Region. "He was arrested on April 22 in Pyay and died on April 23 due to serious torture while interrogation."	Thura Aung is 39 years of age, male. Father's name U Thein Aung, Ethnicity Bamar, Buddhist. Address: Ywa Bei Ward, Pyay, Bago Region. He is a metal railing worker. Thura Aung was charged on 7 May 2021 under penal code 505(a) and is currently in Pyay prison under FIR number 103/2021 (Pyay Myoma police station) and court registration number 229/2021.
AAPP number 686: Kyaw Ye Naing, male 25 years. Father's name unknown. Date of incident 14-Apr-21. Deceased Date, 14 April 2021, Civilian, home address Myingyan, Mandalay Region. "While he was driving the motorbike, he was shot and tied up, then dragged alone and tortured to death."	Kyaw Ye Naing a.k.a. Kyaw Gyi is 24 years of age, male. Father's name U Maung Zaw. Address Ward 2, Myingyan Township. He has no fixed employment. He was charged on 27 April 2021 under penal code 505(a) and is currently in Myingyan prison under FIR number 33/2021 (Myingyan police station) and court registration number 153/2021.
AAPP number 272: Tun Aung Kyaw, male. Father's name unknown. Date of incident 19-Mar-21. Deceased date 19-Mar-21. Civilian. Home address: Kalaw (Aungpan) Shan State. "He was killed from gunshot."	Tun Aung Kyaw is 38 years of age, male. Father's name U Khin Maung Myint. Address Sector 4. Nyaung Bin Taung Ward, Aungban, Kalaw Township, Shan State. He was charged on 2 April 2021 under penal code 505(a) and is currently in Nyaungshwe prison under FIR number 26/2021 (Aungban police station) and court registration number 111/2021.
AAPP number 320: Nay Linn Htwe (aka) M Swar Did. Male. 28 years. Father's name unknown. Date of incident 25-Mar-21. Deceased date: 25-Mar-21. Civilian. Home address: Taunggyi (Kanthar), Taunggyi, Shan State. "Shot in the eye and the leg"	Nay Linn Htwe a.k.a. M Swar Did A.k.a. M Swar Dayr is 28 years of age, male. Father's name U Khawlid. Address: Kanthar Ward, Taunggyi, Shan State. He was charged on 26 April 2021 under penal code 505(a)/294/436 and is currently in Nyaungshwe prison under FIR number 101/2021 (Taunggyi Myoma police station) and court registration number 330/2021.
AAPP number 717: San Paw. Male. Father's name unknown. Date of incident 28-Apr-21. Deceased date: 29-Apr-21. Civilian. Home address: in the Ward (Sanpya Village), Sanpya Village, Pyapon Ayeyarwady Region. "After the Ward administration office was set on fire, the terrorist junta opened fire and shot him in the stomach and arm and then arrested him and six other locals. He died while he was receiving medical treatment at Bogalay Hospital."	San Paw a.k.a. Lin Lin is 39 years of age, male. Father's name U Khin Zaw. No fixed employment. Ethnicity Bamar, Buddhist. Address: San Pya Village, Pyapon Township. He was charged on 13 May 2021 under penal code 505(a) and is currently in Pyapon prison under FIR number 129/2021 (Pyapon Myoma police station) and court registration number 274/2021.

Table 5. A case study to show the disinformation in AAPP's claims of deaths: the examination of AAPP's claim of 987 cumulative deaths (up to 31 August 2021) against Ministry of Home Affairs records, backed up by police case details

#	Region/State	Deaths in AAPP list	Ministry of Home Affairs records backed up by police case details					Identities on the AAPP list who are unverifiable in national records or databases
			Deaths of demonstrators due to riot control measures implemented by security personnel ^[1]	Deaths of demonstrators due to other causes ^[2]	People confirmed as alive ^[3]	Persons charged with criminal activities who died while in detention. ^[4]	Total number accounted for by the Ministry from the AAPP list of fatalities	
1	Nay Pyi Taw	5	2	2	-	-	4	1
2	Kachin	23	8	8	1	1	18	5
3	Kayah	24	-	3	-	-	3	21
4	Kayin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	Chin	13	-	2	-	-	2	11
6	Sagaing	220	22	25	-	3	50	170
7	Tanintharyi	38	11	7	-	-	18	20
8	Bago	75	17	16	1	1	35	40
9	Magway	46	10	17	-	3	30	16
10	Mandalay	219	15	30	-	7	52	167
11	Mon	14	1	4	-	1	6	8
12	Rakhine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	Yangon	251	90	67	-	2	159	92
14	Shan	42	10	7	2	1	20	22
15	Ayeyarwady	17	6	5	-	-	11	6
Total		987	192	193	4	19	408	579

Notes:

[1] Riot control measures are used when demonstrations turn into violent riots, with attempts by mobs to kill security forces, destroy property, or burn factories. The security personnel killed by demonstrators and mobs during this time are included in Table 1.

[2] Other causes of the death of demonstrators mean deaths that are not directly due to riot control measures implemented by security forces. These include (a) disease (heart attack, stroke), (b) falls, accidents and injuries in the crowd or in fleeing from security forces, (c) trauma /injury inflicted by unknown persons. The last group includes cases where bodies were dumped in the road or notified to the police.

[3] For examples of people who are recorded as dead by AAPP, but are still alive, see Table 4.

[4] The cause of death of detainees during detention are injuries they sustained before detention (e.g., in riots), or illness and/or pre-existing health conditions.

Source: Ministry of Home Affairs and AAPP.