



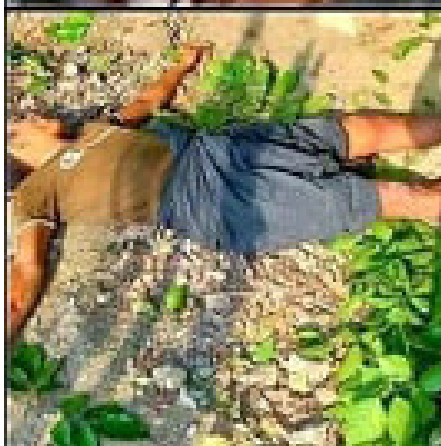
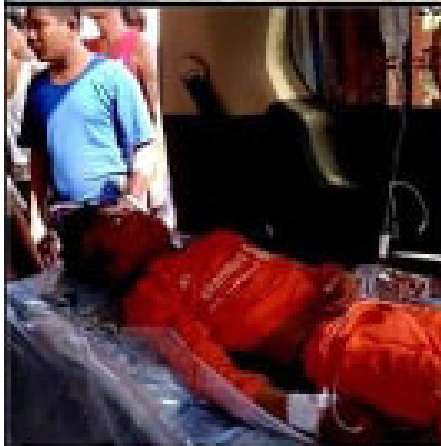
CAUGHT IN THE CROSSFIRE:

Witness and Survivor Accounts of Burma Army
Attacks and Human Rights Violations in Arakan
State

WARNING: This report contains graphic photos



FREE RANGER BURMA
Free the Oppressed



At right: Photos of victims of a Burma Army attack in Arakan State on April 13, 2020. For more information on this particular airstrike, please see the photo on page 9.



About this Report

This report is the result of 178 interviews conducted, recorded, and translated by Arakan members of the Free Burma Rangers (FBR). The Rangers conducted the interviews during 2019 and submitted the translations and corresponding videos and photos in June 2020.

These interviews represent a fraction of the total incidences of Burma Army abuse that is being perpetrated on a grand scale in Arakan State. In March 2020, the Burmese government designated the Arakan Army as a terrorist organization. With this designation, locals fear that the Burmese soldiers will increase the use of torture and detention against civilians in Arakan State with total impunity.

Acknowledgements

FBR would like to acknowledge and thank the Arakan Rangers for their hard work and dedication in collecting these interviews regarding the ongoing conflict in Arakan State. This report would not be possible without their commitment to getting the news out. We are also grateful to the witnesses who shared their stories and without whose courage in coming forward this report would not have been possible.

FBR continues to stand with the Arakan people and others under attack in northern Arakan State as well as Chin State where this particular conflict has spilled into.





“

I came to the IDP camp as refugees because on March 29, 2019, the soldier from LID 55 entered the village shooting indiscriminately and we are afraid to live in the village. How would an IDP camp be better than my home? Even though you don't want to live but you have to live. I want this war to be ended as early as possible.

”

**-U Maung [redacted]
(Excerpt from Landmines
Interview 5, page 117)**

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Important Note

The interviews in the appendix are presented in their translated form, with minor edits for clarity, from Free Burma Ranger teams in Arakan State and have been organized by human rights violations. Some interviews may appear more than once if they fall into multiple categories. The full collection of uncategorized interviews is available in Burmese and English, along with videos and photos, by request through media@freeburmarangers.org.

Recommendations from the Director

"The government paid no compensation for my father's death. Arakanese social organizations and monks have provided financial support to us...

I didn't make complaints. I don't dare to complain. I'm scared. I don't want to ask for help from the government. We would like to ask for help from our Rakhine people to solve our livelihood problems as much as they could."

**-Ma Oo [redacted]
(Death Interview 5,
page 121)**

At left: Victims of the Burma Army attack in Arakan State on April 13, 2020.



**David Eubank
Director**

Over 18 years ago, Burma ratified the 4th Geneva Convention, agreeing to follow the basic principles protecting civilians during times of war. Since that signing, the Burma Army, with the support of the central Burma government, has done the exact opposite. From massacring the Karen in eastern Burma, to launching aerial attacks against civilians in Kachin State, to committing genocide against the Rohingya, it's evident that the Burma Army and Burma government continue to violate international law regarding civilians.

After committing genocide against the Rohingya in 2017, the Burma Army switched its focus to the Arakan (Rakhine) people who, like the Rohingya, live in Arakan (Rakhine) State. Civilians living there, regardless of religion, continue to suffer in the indiscriminate violence of the Burma Army's attempts to defeat the Arakan Army. In recent months, more than 10,000 Chin (who are mostly Christian), Arakan (who are primarily Buddhist), and Khumi (mostly Christian) villagers, have been displaced in Chin State as fighting between the Burma Army and Arakan Army has spilled across the border into Chin State. Additionally, 70,000 mostly Buddhist Arakan villagers have been displaced in the last year and over one million Rohingya villagers (who are primarily Muslim) remain displaced from their homes and living in refugee camps in Bangladesh.

The interviews highlighted in pages 13 to 27 show the Burma Army continues a longstanding practice of using violence against civilians in its efforts to defeat the ethnic armed organizations (EAOs) who are trying to defend their people. While the interviews were conducted in 2019, reports from this year (pages 9 and 27) show that the atrocities recorded by witnesses continue to this day.

We believe the international community should do the following:

- 1) Recognize the ethnic governments and engage with them on the same level as the Burma government. Many EAOs operate as de facto local governments, providing services and administrative governance to conflict-affected communities, giving them more credibility and legitimacy among local communities than the central or State government.
- 2) Provide humanitarian assistance directly to those under attack through ethnic governments and organizations and not through the Burma Army, the Burma government, or companies and organizations with ties to the Burma Army.
- 3) Continue encouraging and holding accountable the Burma central government and military toward genuine democracy, freedom, and human rights.

These are just starting points. Ethnic organizations and governments have the capacity and the proven ability to help their own people. Doing all this at once can save lives and shows the Burma Army that these attacks will not be accepted. We continue to stand with the ethnic people of Burma and pray for lasting peace and freedom throughout the country.

Executive Summary

Members of the Free Burma Ranger's Arakan teams gathered 178 testimonies from villagers in Arakan State where the actions of the Burma Army have driven thousands of civilians to flee. According to FBR teams inside Arakan State, over 160,000 civilians have been displaced due to the conflict.

The Tatmadaw is committing war crimes against ethnic populations in Arakan (Rakhine) State. The conflict in Burma's westernmost state has intensified since January 4, 2019, when soldiers from the Arakan Army, an ethnic armed organization (EAO), launched a coordinated attack on four Burmese police outposts in northern Arakan State. The attack has prompted a severe retaliation order from the Burmese government and armed forces to crush all ethnic forces operating in the state. This order has been disastrous to the local population as, in an attempt to defeat the ethnic resistance, Burmese soldiers target civilians and civilian villages.

The 2015 National Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) was a landmark agreement, aiming to end the then six-decade-long civil war in Burma's ethnic areas, protect civilians, and create a roadmap for peace and political dialogue. However, it was not an inclusive agreement as it left out six EAOs. The Arakan Army was one of the groups left out in 2015 and has continued to be left out of peace talks since then, creating a perfect storm of opportunity for the Burma Army to violate international humanitarian law.

Members of the Free Burma Rangers Arakan team have gathered 178 testimonies from villagers in Arakan State to examine human rights violations committed by the Tatmadaw against civilians in the area, including:

- Indiscriminately firing toward and around civilian villages
- Arbitrarily arresting and torturing civilians
- Destroying and looting property
- Forcibly conscripting porters
- Laying landmines and using ethnic Rakhine people as human minesweepers
- Killing and injuring civilians

The actions of the Burma Army have driven thousands of civilians in Arakan State to flee the conflict. According to FBR teams operating inside Arakan State, there are over 160,000 civilians displaced due to the conflict.

These interviews come at a crucial time. The Burmese government has reinstated an internet blackout for eight townships in Arakan State and southern Chin State that has blocked the dissemination of information and communication intermittently since June 2019. The blackout impedes communication between civilians and humanitarian organizations, not only blocking crucial aid but also allowing the Burma Army to commit war crimes with impunity.

The Tatmadaw must immediately cease any and all counter-insurgency operations that endanger civilians in Arakan State.



On April 13, 2020, the Burma Army fired mortars (like what is pictured above) into Kyauk Se Village, Arakan State, killing eight villagers (seven males, one female) and wounding 11 more. Of those killed, the youngest was 11 years old and the oldest was 25 years old. The youngest wounded villager was three years old while the oldest was 51. At the time of the shelling, there was no active fighting between the Burma Army and EAOs or between EAOs. Locals believe the shelling to be racially based and unprovoked.

Key Terms and Abbreviations

Arakan Liberation Party and the Arakan Liberation Army (ALP/ALA)*: Founded in 1968 and a signatory of the NCA, the ALP/ALA has fought the Burma Army in self-defense through minor skirmishes. It's one of three groups representing Arakan interests. Today, the ALP/ALA has no more than 100 soldiers.

Arakan National Council/Arakan Army (ANC/AA)*: Founded in 2004 to represent Arakan interests. They maintain a small military presence in Karen State, have not engaged the Burma Army, and did not sign the 2015 NCA.

Arakan State: A mountainous state in western Burma that gained international attention when the Burma Army launched a genocide campaign against the Rohingya in 2017. Also known as Rakhine State, fighting here between the Tatmadaw and local armed groups (particularly the Arakan Army) has increased dramatically since January 2019.

Ethnic Armed Organization (EAO): A variety of different armed organizations seeking to represent specific ethno-linguistic communities in Burma. Most have armed and political wings, which often have greater legitimacy among conflict-affected communities than does the central government and its armed forces. Also referred to as Ethnic Armed Group (EAG).

Light Infantry Division (LID): Burma Army operational-level command; one of the largest elements in the Burma Army.

Light Infantry Battalion (LIB): The basic field maneuvering force of the Burma Army which can be assigned to LIDs or regional commands.

National Ceasefire Agreement (NCA): An agreement signed in 2015 by the Burma government and eight EAOs in hopes of ending the decades-long civil war. Two additional EAOs signed the agreement in 2018.

Tatmadaw: The official name of Burma's armed forces including the navy, army, airforce, and military police.

United League of Arakan/Arakan Army (ULA/AA)*: Founded in 2009 in Kachin State, the ULA/AA remained a smaller EAO until the Burma government broke a 17-year-long ceasefire agreement with the Kachin Independence Army (another EAO) in late 2011. The ULA/AA did not sign the 2015 NCA, as it was blocked from doing so by the Burma government. The AA is reported to be around 10,000 strong today. It is the largest of the three EAOs representing the interests of the Arakan people.

***A note about the use of Arakan Army in this report:**

The interviews were conducted by members of the ANC/AA. The references to Arakan Army involvement and activity in Arakan State refer to the ULA/AA.

The Burma Army's Ongoing Human Rights Violations

While Burma's government and military say their ongoing actions in northern Arakan State and parts of Chin State are warranted as they try to eliminate the Arakan Army - which they labeled a terrorist organization on March 23, 2020 - the testimonies in this report make it clear that the actions of the Tatmadaw far exceed the scope of proportionality and military necessity outlined by the Geneva Convention as the Burma Army continue to violate international human rights laws.

The volume of interviews in this report shows the breadth of Burma Army transgressions and that these are not isolated events committed by low-ranking officers. Instead, the attacks identified by these witnesses, along with the identification of the responsible military units, show that the violations are not random but rather systematic, and point to intentionality and responsibility at higher levels of the Tatmadaw.

Witnesses spoke of villagers being forced by Burma Army soldiers to sit, without shirts, in the hot sun

for hours before arresting some villagers (Torture Interviews 4, 5, 6, and 7, pages 83-85). Others report being tortured and told that they would continue to be tortured until they confessed to being involved with the Arakan Army. One man said he was tortured for 10 straight days and ultimately confessed to stop the torture, even though he was not involved with the Arakan Army (Torture Interview 15, page 88). Witnesses also report loss of livestock, gold, silver, property, and access to food and education as a result of Burma Army attacks in their areas.

The current situation in northern Arakan State is reminiscent of ethnic cleansing campaigns, and genocide attempts perpetrated by the Burma Army in other ethnic areas, including the Karen, Shan, and Kachin areas and most recently against the Rohingya. In fact, the instances of torture, death, injury, and property destruction point towards a slow and deliberate ethnic cleansing that demands a response from the international community.

Violations of the 4th Geneva Convention

On Aug. 25, 1992, Burma ratified the 4th Geneva Convention, therefore agreeing to adhere to the principles laid out in the convention, including those listed below that relate to treatment and protection of civilians during war. The interviews in the Appendix show the direct violations of these principles.

Article 3

In the case of armed conflict not of an international character occurring in the territory of one of the High Contracting Parties, each Party to the conflict shall be bound to apply, as a minimum, the following provisions:

1) Persons taking no active part in the hostilities, including members of armed forces who have laid down their arms and those placed hors de combat by sickness, wounds, detention, or any

other cause, shall in all circumstances be treated humanely, without any adverse distinction founded on race, colour, religion or faith, sex, birth or wealth, or any other similar criteria.

To this end, the following acts are and shall remain prohibited at any time and in any place whatsoever with respect to the above-mentioned persons:

a. violence to life and person, in particular murder of all kinds, mutilation, cruel treatment and torture;

b. taking of hostages;
c. outrages upon personal dignity, in particular humiliating and degrading treatment;
d. the passing of sentences and the carrying out of executions without previous judgment pronounced by a regularly constituted court, affording all the judicial guarantees which are recognized as indispensable by civilized peoples.

2) The wounded and sick shall be collected and cared for.



*One of the victims of a
Burma Army attack in
Arakan State on April
13, 2020.*

Caught in the Crossfire: Attacks on Civilians in Arakan State

International humanitarian law prohibits attacks targeting both civilians and civilian structures. Eye-witness accounts from villagers in Arakan State confirm the allegations that the Burma Army is in direct violation of this law.

Indiscriminate and intentional firing is an indisputable military tactic used by the Tatmadaw against civilians in the contested states of Burma. The offensives have not only displaced thousands of villagers but, in many cases, have resulted in injury and even death.

According to the interviews, the divisions and battalions responsible for this violation against international humanitarian law are as follows:

- 22nd LID
- 55th LID
- 377th LIB
- 565th LIB
- 551th LIB
- 13th Police Division

88 villagers reported the firing of small arms and large artillery by the Tatmadaw at and around civilian villages.

Indiscriminate Firing Killing and Injuring Villagers

Intentional or otherwise, the use of small arms and large artillery in and around villages has resulted in the death and injury of civilians in Arakan State.

3 June 2019

Villager Daw [redacted] was cooking at home with her daughter on a quiet Monday morning when the sound of gunshots cracked through the air. After she had fled with her children to a bunker, and then a nearby monastery, artillery began raining down on the civilian village of Sa Bar Hta (Indiscriminate Firing Interview 14, page 36). According to Daw [redacted], most villagers sought refuge in the monastery at the first sounds of fighting as they “thought they would be saved because it’s in God[’s] shadow.” But, unfortunately, a mortar hit “the mango tree close to the monastery and then another mortar landed at the roof of the monastery and hit the people.” The attack killed six people and severely injured several others.

Villager Daw Ma [redacted] was hiding in the monastery with her sister and daughter after hearing explosions in the hills around the village. Her sister and daughter

were killed in the shelling. The name of my daughter is Ma San San Win and was a student of grade 8. She was 14 years old. My sister's name is La Pyat Kray Moon and she was 35 years old... artillery bullets hit my back. I was taken to Sittwe Hospital for three days for treatment...I just want my sister and my daughter back. (Indiscriminate Firing Interview 5, page 32)

Villager Ma Hla Than Wai lost her husband during the attack. According to Ma [redacted],

she and her husband were hiding in a bunker near their home when they heard the first sounds of a clash:

A short time later, my husband told me to get out of from the bunker and go to the monastery. I refused to go to the monastery and he went alone. A moment after, when I heard that my husband had been hit by artillery bullet and I went to see [him] and he [had] died already. (Indiscriminate Firing Interview 8, page 33)

24 August 2019

At 10 a.m. on a quiet Saturday morning, mortars fired from a Burmese military base struck Pan Myung Village. The attack killed at least three children and injured several others. Villagers stated that “the artillery shelling was conducted from the uphill of the Aung Mingalar mountain which is located about 2 miles southwest of the village...We were being hit when artillery was targeted towards the Thabuzza Village” (Indiscriminate Firing Interview 3, page 32).

Villager Daw Aye [redacted] was cooking at home when two artillery shells fired by the Tatmadaw struck her house. The artillery injured Daw Aye [redacted] in the leg and chest and also “hit [her] 10-year-old grandson named Maung Min Htet Kyaw Kyaw [who] died on the spot” (Indiscriminate Firing Interview 3, page 32). Daw Aye [redacted] also witnessed artillery striking another woman,

Daw U Kyaing and her daughter, killing both immediately.

Villager Daw Phru [redacted]'s house was also hit by a mortar, killing two children. Daw Phru [redacted] was severely injured by shrapnel and her “cousin who is studying in Grade 10, and nephew [age 6] both were killed by the shelling” (Indiscriminate Firing Interview 13, page 36).

Unknown Date

At 3 p.m. Burmese soldiers entered into Zeditaung Village. Six hours later soldiers opened fire, shooting both small arms and heavy artillery at the villagers. Villager U Aung [redacted] recounts the horror of that night and the carnage that followed:

At around 9 pm, gunfires started with small and heavy artillery shells. It was a situation where none could help each other. In the morning I heard that all of my sister's family had died in the trenches. When I went to see I found four of my sister's family were killed in the trench, I found my wife was still alive but has no sense. My sister's daughter Hnin Aye Khin 18-year-old girl, who was injured in her stomach, was taken to Buthidaung hospital immediately including my wife... My wife lost one eye and was unable to speak. (Indiscriminate Firing, Interview 81, page 61)

Intimidation, Arrests, Property Destruction and Looting

88 villagers reported the firing of small arms and large artillery into civilian areas. The interviews reveal that the attacks are multifunctional. In addition to inflicting physical harm on and culling local civilian populations, Tatmadaw soldiers will enter into a village while firing their weapons in hopes of intimidating villagers into giving information on active EAOs in the area.

According to the interviews, Burmese soldiers will also fire at and intentionally destroy the homes of villagers, spurring forced migration and the displacement of entire villages.

When the villagers flee at the sounds of an approaching attack, soldiers will enter the village and steal or destroy anything of value. It is a common tactic for the soldiers to set fire to crops and kill and eat domestic animals left behind.



88 villagers reported the firing of small arms and large artillery by the Tatmadaw at and around civilian villages.

Mortars fired by the Burma Army into Kyauk Se Village, Arakan State, on April 13, 2020.

“

My husband's name is Ko Thein Htun Zaw and he is 40 years old. He was killed by Burmese Army after he was being tortured... Before the arrest, the Burmese army separated the villagers based on young, women and elderly people and put all under the sun without any shirts on [their bodies]. They were kept under the sunlight since 11 a.m. in the morning and arrested on 5 p.m. When I heard and went to see those detainees, including my husband, in the Police Station No. 1 in Sittwe I did not see my husband. No one told me about where my husband was killed and whereabouts. It was later we came to know through the internet that he was killed. Now I am with my two children as like half made. My innocent husband was being killed and disappeared.

”

- Daw [redacted]
(Torture Interview 5, page 84)

Arbitrary Arrest and Torture

Eye-witness testimonies confirm the Burma Army's use of torture and arbitrary detention against civilians in Arakan State. Burmese soldiers round up boys and men in villages on suspicion of supporting ethnic armed organizations without evidence. Allegations of torture, starvation, and death are reported in conjunction with the detentions.

Interviews included in this section also illustrate tactics used by the Tatmadaw to force confessions, though often false, concerning an individual's relation to local EAOs. Specific divisions and battalions responsible for many of these human rights violations are:

- 22nd LID
- 55th LID
- 31st LIB
- 376th LIB
- 378th LIB
- 537th LIB
- 540th LIB
- 551th LIB
- 565th LIB
- 13th Police Division

55 villagers reported arbitrary arrests and 23 villagers reported the use of torture by the Burma Army against innocent civilians.

12 March 2019

At 8 p.m. six young men were arrested by LIB 540 and LID 22 while trying to transport a

malaria patient to the Mrauk-U hospital. The villagers were held overnight, and the malaria patient "died at the hands of soldiers... and [the detainees] had been tortured for 40 days in various forms while in custody" (Torture Interview 14, page 88). Daw Hla's [redacted] husband sustained a head injury from the beatings that required eight stitches (Torture Interview 11, page 86).

13 March 2019

Muang [redacted], a survivor of persecution and torture, stated that a captain of the Burma Army told them to "confess that we have connection with ULA/AA otherwise we would be tortured to death. At last, we confessed even though we are not a member of ULA/AA" (Torture Interview 15, page 88).

16 March 2019

300 soldiers entered Sin Oh Village in Mrauk-U Township. As a trademark tactic, the soldiers rounded up the entire village and divided the villagers into groups. The Burma Army then arrested 25 villagers, including the husband of Ma [redacted]. Ma [redacted] stated that "the army took the detainees to Kyauktaw... While at Kyauktaw, they were tortured until they confess having ties with ULA/AA" (Torture Interview 8, page 85). At the time of the interview, the villagers were still being detained.

29 March 2019

At 6 a.m. 200 soldiers from Burma Army's 22nd and 55th LIDs opened fire on the Aut Tha Kan Village in Mrauk U Township. Villagers recounted that the Burma Army continued to fire for four hours before assembling the entire village and searching for individuals with connections to the ULA/AA.

The interrogation resulted in the arrest of five villagers, all of whom were beaten and tortured before the arrests. U Hla [redacted] recounts that soldiers "beat [him] with rifle butts on [his] head...and another man named Win Kyaw Thein was also being beaten on his chest" (Torture Interview 10, page 86). Both sustained severe injuries and were brought to Tein Nyo Clinic for treatment. Ma [redacted] recounts that soldiers "beat [her] husband. My father-in-law, U Ba Tun, a 67 years old man was beaten, and he was taken to the middle of the village by tightened roped of the body" (Torture Interview 17, page 89).

Though innocent, the detainees were forced to confess that they had ties to local insurgent armies under the threat of death as "they would be shot with a gun if they did not do what [the] army told them to do" (Torture Interview 12, page 87).

March 2019 (Specific Date Unknown)

Burma Army soldiers from LIDs 22 and 55 entered a village by "shooting" (Torture Interview 5, page 84).

After searching the village, the soldiers found a list with 27 names written on them. The list, according to multiple villagers, was used to designate patrols of three to four people for the security of the village. The soldiers arrested all the people on that list by taking them "out of the house and bind[ing] [them] with rope" (Torture Interview 7, page 84).

The soldiers also separated all the villagers by age and gender, forcing the community to remain in the sun from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., without shirts.

8 April 2019

Early in the morning, civilians of Zun Khaw Village heard gunfire outside of their village and took shelter in a monastery:

At 10 a.m. the soldiers entered and opened fire into the whole village and took all the villagers in U San Thar Kyaw's compound. The children were forced to take off their shirts and were kept under the sunlight. (Arbitrary Arrests Interview 5, page 65)

According to villager Daw Ma [redacted], soldiers found a list containing five young villagers who signed up to volunteer for tasks around the village. The Burma Army arrested the boys for questioning. The boys were first brought to LIB 540 and then were taken to Sittwe by military helicopter. Daw Ma's [redacted] son was amongst the five arrested and stated that:

when they got into the car the Burmese soldiers started kicking them... My son told me that he was lucky not to die when army kick[ed him] out on the helicopter [while his neck was bound]. My son told me that he was not given food for five days and when he was thirsty Burmese army gave him dirty water and he was forced to drink that. (Arbitrary Arrests Interview 5, page 65)

10 April 2019

The 22nd and 55th LIDs arrested villagers like Khin Maung Soe on "the suspicion of having connection with ULA/AA" (Torture Interview 1, page 82). Villager Daw Aye [redacted] reported that soldiers "entered into the village scolding, using bad words and shooting. Heavy artilleries had been firing from the Min Hla village...[and] we saw military helicopters flying in the sky" (Torture Interview 2, page 82).

According to Daw Aye [redacted], the soldiers separated the villagers by age and gender. The soldiers arrested and beat at least 26 people, taking them first to LIB 378 and then to the Military Special Branch office in Sittwe (Torture Interview 2, page 82).

Three villagers did not survive the interrogation. The remaining survivors were detained for 20 days without any outside contact, and villager Daw Aye [redacted] believes they were not allowed to meet with

the detainees because the injuries had not recovered fully" (Torture Interview 2, page 83). When she was able to see her husband, "he even couldn't speak well. His back, chest and head were [badly]beaten and now he has a problem in breathing. His feature doesn't even look like a human [because he was so] thin."

Other detainees also suffered from internal injuries and respiratory distress as a result of torture. At the time of the interview, all surviving detainees were still imprisoned.

13 June 2019

At 3 p.m. Burmese soldiers entered Kyauksay Village and arrested 24 civilians, including one 13-year-old boy. All 24 civilians were guests in attendance of a celebration following the passing of "a matriculation exam [for school] in Kyauksay Village" (Arbitrary Arrests Interview 25, page 19).

Maung Maung Htay, a 21-year-old, was in the village to enroll his sister in school and was among the 24 arrested under suspicion of having a connection to the ULA/AA. At the time of the interview, civilians were still being detained in Sittwe and the "case was filed by deputy police chief Soe Lwin of Kyauktaw Police station. The case numbers are: (77), (50/A) (50/J) and (52/D)" (Arbitrary Arrests Interview 26, page 72).

Property Destruction and Looting in Arakan State

As recalled by witnesses, the Burma Army is actively looting and destroying civilian property in Arakan State to a degree larger than any attacks by the Arakan Army on Burma Army military positions. These actions directly violate laws governing proportionality in attack which state:

Launching an attack which may be expected to cause incidental loss of civilian life, injury to civilians, damage to civilian objects, or a combination thereof, which would be excessive in relation to the concrete and direct military advantage anticipated, is prohibited.

(Rule 14, Customary International Humanitarian Law Database, International Committee of the Red Cross, 2005)

In nearly every account, Burma Army soldiers fire indiscriminately at a village, forcing the surviving and able-bodied inhabitants to flee. Following the attack, the soldiers will enter the village, burn down homes as well as religious sites, and destroy or steal items, especially food or livestock.

Specific divisions and battalions mentioned in the interviews as responsible for destroying and looting property are:

- 22nd LID
- 55th LID
- 377th LIB
- 380th LIB
- 540th LIB

- 541st LIB
- 552nd LIB

53 villagers reported the destruction and looting of property. Below are only a select few instances of this war crime committed by the Tatmadaw against Arakan villagers.

Destruction and Seizure of Food Supplies and Domestic Animals

Multiple eye-witness accounts confirm allegations of Burmese soldiers intentionally destroying and seizing food supplies, including domestic animals. This action not only perpetuates food insecurity but also catalyzes forced migration.

Burma Army soldiers will intentionally cut down forests and burn rice fields to make an area uninhabitable. For example, villager U Mae [redacted] fled his village following a Burma Army attack. In addition to losing his house, which was set on fire by Burmese soldiers, U Mae [redacted] lost most of his crops. A pear farmer, U Mae [redacted], reported that his crops were destroyed and seized by Tatmadaw soldiers, and there are “currently only a handful of pear trees in the field... There [were] more than 100 plants. Now these plants are also robbed of [their fruit]” (Property Destruction Interview 27, page 104).

Villager U Maung [redacted] reported that Tatmadaw soldiers killed and ate 400-500 domestic animals left by villagers following a

clash “between the ULA/AA and the LIB 379, 541 and 380 under LID 55 of the Burmese Army” (Property Destruction Interview 2, page 92). Now the villagers are dependent on NGOs and local humanitarian organizations for food.

29 March 2019

At 6 a.m. around 100 Tatmadaw soldiers from LID 55 entered into Aut Tha Kan Village. The soldiers fired heavy artillery indiscriminately into the village, damaging buildings and injuring civilians. Villager Ko [redacted] stated that, “an artillery shell landed inside the compound of my house and my left side of the chest was hit and I got injured. The walls and the roof were completely destroyed” (Property Destruction Interview 16, page 101).

According to the villagers, soldiers threatened to shoot and kill the villagers if they did not come out of the houses. The soldiers also “went door-to-door and took money and things of the villagers” (Property Destruction Interview 17, page 102). Villagers were forced to gather in the center of the village. While some soldiers tortured and interrogated villagers, other soldiers went “through all the houses and searched for valuables things and took whatever they found in [them]” (Property Destruction Interview 16, page 101). All surviving persons fled the village after the attack.

13 July 2019

Around 8 a.m. villagers from Narantaung Village “heard three explosions between the village of San Goe Taung and Narantaung Village where a unit of Burma Army soldiers from LID 22 were passing [by]” (Property

Destruction Interview 36, page 107). Two hours later, Burmese soldiers began firing heavy artillery toward the village.

At 10 a.m., “the Burma Army entered the village, destroying houses and taking goods and villager’s belongings. Some villagers lost their jewelry and gold and silver” (Property Destruction Interview 36, page 107). Houses were set ablaze, destroying any property that remained, and domestic animals were shot and killed. Villager U Shwe [redacted] stated, “in my house I had a grocery shop, two motorbikes and the rice which we stored. All were burned and destroyed including three cows” (Property Destruction Interview 42, page 109).

17 October 2019

80 troops from Burma Army’s LID 55 entered Pauktawpyin Village, forcibly taking 10 civilians as porters. Around 6 p.m., fighting escalated between the Burma Army and an unidentified group on a nearby hill. According to U Aung [redacted] the entire village fled to the jungle or nearby villages when fighting broke out. Once the village was empty, troops from LID 55, “searched the shops and took villagers’ belongings. They killed and [ate] the domestic animals of the villagers and paid no compensation” (Property Destruction Interview 10, page 98). The people of Pauktawpyin Village are now struggling and facing food insecurity. Due to the destruction, looting and clashes, “the livelihood of the people is not good because the farmers could not harvest their crops [on] time” (Property Destruction Interview 10, page 98).

Civilians Forced to Porter for Burma Army

The Burmese military is forcibly conscripting civilians as porters in Arakan State. Villagers both confirm and detail the egregious abuses these civilians face.

Portering is one of the most dangerous forms of forced labor. Treated as human pack-mules, the villagers are subject to torture, extrajudicial killings, and inadequate sustenance as they are forced to transport military rations and supplies through conflict areas. These porters are also often used as human shields, sent out in front to trigger landmines and/or draw fire away from the Burma Army soldiers behind them.

According to the interviews, LID 55 and LIB 540 are responsible for this violation of international humanitarian law. Five villagers reported the Tatmadaw's use of forced porters.

March 2019

LIB 540 set up a temporary camp near Ywar Haung Taung Village in March 2018. Villager Daw [redacted] remembered how the battalion would torment the villagers by firing indiscriminately toward the village, taking any property of value, killing domestic animals without compensation, and forcing villagers to porter military supplies in areas of heavy fighting (Forced Portering Interview 4, page 113).

17 October 2019

On October 17, 2019, 80 soldiers from Burma Army's LID 55 entered into U Aung's [redacted] village and forcibly took 10 civilians, "including eight women and two men to the village's eastern cemetery hill at around 5 p.m." (Forced Portering Interview 3, page 113). By 6 p.m., fighting between LID 55 and an unidentified group broke out in the hills surrounding the village putting the porters in the line of fire. Some of the villagers were able to escape to a nearby village during the clash.

23 October 2019

LID 55 fired indiscriminately at Let Khut Village following a bomb blast near Paik Saik Chaung Bridge. Villager Ko Aung [redacted] shared how the Burma Army entered the village, forced the villagers into the middle of the village and then divided them into groups based on age and sex to "document the identity of each and every person. They interrogated a group of men consisting of 10 people separately" (Forced Portering Interview 1, page 112). Villager U Khin [redacted] reported that more than 40 villagers were forced to carry the military's luggage and supplies to the Ra Maung bridge (Forced Portering Interview 2, page 112). The villagers who were forced to porter were brutally beaten and further interrogated by the soldiers.



“

"The incident happened on October 23, 2019: the Burmese Army entered the village with indiscriminate shooting after a bomb blast near the Paik Saik Chaung bridge. All the villagers were told to come out from the house and forced to stay in the middle of the village.

After that, the villagers were forced to carry the military's luggage and supplies to the Ra Maung bridge. More than 40 people were forced to carry military's luggage and also interrogated and beaten.

My livelihood relies on a small cultivation of farmland and cutting wood and bamboo from the jungle. I have three children. They are studying at grade 10, 8 and 7 respectively.

I want the country to be peaceful as early as possible. I want to go back to my village as soon as possible. The villagers are very much scared."

- U Khin [redacted]
(Forced Portering Interview 2, page 112)

”

Landmines Endanger Civilian Life and Limit Movement

Landmines continue to pose a threat to civilian safety in Arakan State. Myanmar's ethnic states have been riddled with landmines since World War II and both the Burma Army and EAOs have used landmines since the beginning of the nation's civil conflict. However, according to a report by the Landmine and Cluster Munition Monitor, "new landmine casualties in areas of conflict between the Tatmadaw and the Arakan Army not previously known to have landmine contamination also indicate new use" (Radio Free Asia, 2019).

The same report "identified Myanmar as the only country in which government security forces deployed mines in 2019." As Arakan State becomes increasingly engulfed in conflict, more civilians are forced to flee their villages, putting them at greater risk of accidentally setting off landmines.

10 villagers reported the use and devastating effects of landmines throughout the interviews.

Human Minesweepers

The Burma Army uses civilians as human minesweepers. The Tatmadaw detains and then forces villagers to walk, single-file, in front of entire battalions to detonate any landmines in their path.

19 March 2019

According to villager Maung [redacted], Burmese soldiers forcibly used "two children from Kyauktaw to remove landmines nearby (their) village" (Landmines Interview 2, page 116). The children detonated a landmine and one was killed instantly. The other was seriously injured.

Landmines Limit Farming Abilities and Increase Food Insecurity for Villagers

The Tatmadaw will plant landmines around villages and along roads to deter the movement of insurgents and supplies in war-torn areas. This, however, is detrimental to civilians in the area. As resources around a village become scarcer, farmers and foragers are required to venture off well-trodden paths and into unknown parts of the jungle to grow and obtain food. Many villagers will accidentally set off landmines while attempting to provide food for their families.

5 March 2019

Around 1 p.m., U Tun Sein Oo along with two others stepped on a landmine while collecting firewood from a hill in close proximity to their village. The three men were taken to a nearby hospital. U Kyaw [redacted], the nephew of U Tun Sein Oo, stated that "one of his [uncle's] legs was cutdown in the spot when



A landmine victim in Arakan State, December 2019.

he stepped on the landmine... Tun Sein Oo [did] not survive and he died in the hospital” (Landmines Interview 7, page 117). The other two men were seriously injured but survived.

5 May 2019

At 10 a.m. villager U Pan [redacted] stepped on a landmine while collecting bamboo in the jungles around Kha Maung Chaung Village. U Pan [redacted] stated that he was, “under treatment in the Sittwe hospital for one month and eight days... [he] lost one foot” (Landmines Interview 8, page 118). At the time of the interview he hadn't recovered and still had to go to the Sittwe hospital for treatment.

December 2019

300 Burma Army soldiers took up a position in Sa Bar Twar Village. According to U Aung [redacted], Burmese soldiers began destroying

properties and killing domestic animals, causing the villagers to flee. At 2 p.m. U Aung [redacted] was chasing and locating his buffalo amongst the commotion when he stepped on a landmine. The blast wounded U Aung [redacted], and he “got injured on [his] left wrist and left knee” (Landmines Interview 10, page 118). He was sent to Sittwe Hospital and hospitalized for one week.

Unknown Date

Villager U Ray [redacted] stepped on a landmine while collecting firewood in the mountains west of Phut Wan Chaung Village. U Ray [redacted] was hospitalized for 11 days. He reported a clash in the mountains between the Burma Army and an EAO three months before the accident, linking the newly set landmine to the recent conflict (Landmines Interview 9, page 118).

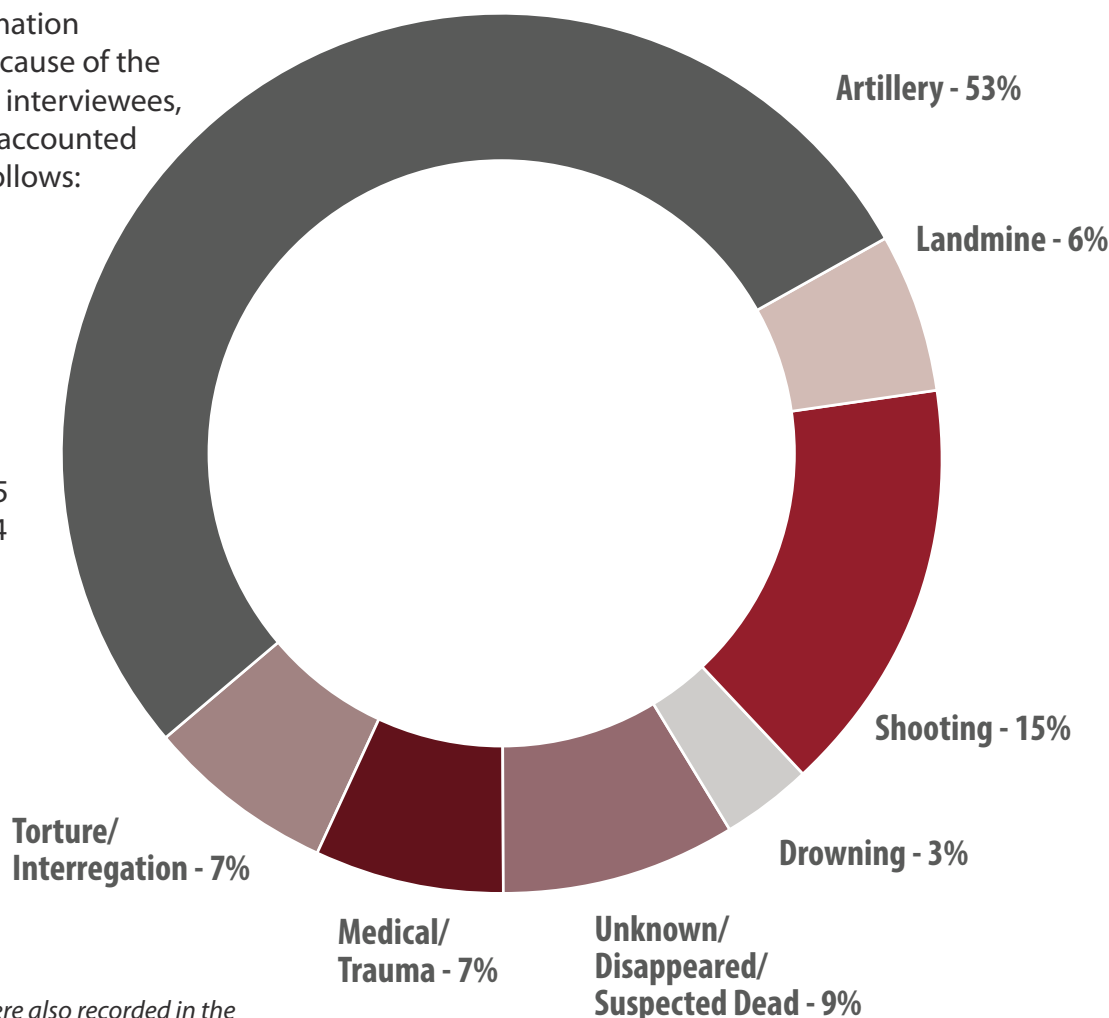
The Human Cost of War: Death and Injury in Arakan State

As the conflict between the Tatmadaw and local armed insurgent groups surge, so too does the number of civilian casualties. Testimonies from villagers in Arakan State unveil the human cost of war. The interviews reveal that villagers are victims of indiscriminate firing and airstrikes. Survivors reported that villagers are killed in their homes, while traveling between villages, during religious services and while attending school. Farmers are frequently the victims of landmine explosions while herding livestock or collecting firewood, and Burmese soldiers will brutally torture and kill innocent civilians for the purposes of revenge, intimidation, and to extract information. The graphs below depict the causes of death inflicted by Burmese forces against civilians in Arakan State. For more on the prevalence of death and injury, please see the interviews starting on pages 119 and 134, respectively.

58 Civilian Deaths*

37 of the interviews conducted provided specific information about civilians killed because of the conflict. Between those interviewees, 58 civilian deaths were accounted for with the causes as follows:

- Artillery - 31
- Landmine - 3
- Shooting - 9
- Drowning - 2
- Unknown/
Disappeared/
Suspected Dead - 5
- Medical/Trauma - 4
- Torture/
Interrogation - 4



* Four Burma Army deaths were also recorded in the interviews but are not included in the civilian death count



No Sign of Stopping

On the morning of Sept. 9, 2020, the Burma Army's 66th Brigade fired six artillery shells that hit Nyaung Kan Village in Myebon Township, Arakan State. Two children and two adults were killed in the attack and at least seven people were injured with some reports saying up to 11 people injured. The attack, along with other attacks from 2020, show that the conflict witnessed in 2019 by the interviewees in this report continues to rage and even spill into Chin State.



A new IDP camp in northern Arakan State, August 2019.



Appendix A

This section contains the interviews categorized by human rights violation types as follows:

- Indiscriminate firing toward and around civilian villages
- Arbitrary arrest
- Torture
- Property destruction
- Forced portering
- Landmines
- Death
- Injury

The interviews are presented in their translated form, with minor edits for clarity, and some interviews may appear twice since an interview may fall into multiple categories. The original, uncategorized interviews in Burmese and English, along with corresponding videos and photos are available by request through: media@freeburmarangers.org.

Interviews Depicting Indiscriminate Firings

Indiscriminate Firing 1

Name: U Hla [redacted] (male)

"The government doesn't provide food for the people in the camps. Civil society organizations such as the Minbya Refugee Assistance Committee; Rakhine Thahaya Association (Yangon) Rakhine Nationalities Social Association (Mandalay) Sittwe Social Organization; the Sittwe Blood Donors Association and other civil society organizations are helping. It is not possible to say that the foods are convenient enough because the IDPs get what the social organization give them unless government-initiated support is being started.

On June 6, 2019, there were two IDP camps in Minbya Township. They are in the Minbya township Dhamma Hall and Theindha Yae Kan Monastery. Later, the clashes broke out near the village of Sar Par Hta, Shwe Tamar Village, Pan Myaung Village and Thar Lu Chaung. The IDP camps are increasing to 11 camps. The 11 IDP camps are: (1) Township Dhamma Hall, (2) The Thomas Monastery, (3) Theinda Taw Yae Kan Monastery, (4) Tha Yaekan IDP camp, (5) Ann Thar Village IDP camp, (6) Pan Myaung Shew Phaungtaw IDP camp, (7) Than Ran Ywa Thit IDP Camp.

Before there were (3) IDP camps in Pan Myaung.

Due to the heavy artillery shelling of the Burmese army, we had to move to Shwe Phwo camp.

Most of the refugees in the Shwepyitha Camp are mountain dwellers and dare not return home.

The war was over and they were afraid to go back to the jungle. There are a total of 142 IDPs. The camps are built with the cost of 11 lakh Kyats donated by the Rakhine Thahaya Association (Yangon).

Other civil society organizations also donated. We Social organization including township administrator and Kyein Oo Yoe Naung Social organization collaboratively donated to Pan Myaung IDP Camp for a month. We provide foods for the people from three IDP camps. Later there's also a support from the ministry of social welfare. But we do not know the exact amount they have donated. Currently we are distributing the relief in two parts: we have to provide foods for both the people of IDP and those who went back to their home.

The donors have donated 4 tractors to the villages of Tharze, Plaetaung, Katpae and Kyay Kyin villages respectively. Because these villages are the

war affected village so that they could plough their farmland as early as possible.

Currently, there are about 2,000 refugees. Before this there were about 6,000 refugees. Some of them also have returned to their home. They went back because in the village, the monks and village chiefs encouraged them to return. If there were no people in the village, the villages would be ruined in the long run. They did not want their village to be burnt down.

The Tatmadaw do not allow us to send rice from the town for those who have returned to their home, particularly the items like noodles which are the long lasting food. We have to request a rice mill nearby to send rice for them and we have to pay for the cost. No matter how the Arakan state government is allowing you to travel we cannot do anything if Tatmadaw doesn't allow us.

In terms of health, the village that has educational background is fine with the help of the monks from their village. There are some villages that can continue to run the education and some villages do not have situation to continue the school. I myself do not know exactly about this

The main need for refugees is rice, oil, salt, potatoes and soy.

The monks from Insein Township, Yangon, are led by Ven. U Sandima in collaboration with Maungdaw Association have donated (30) bags of clothes. Not the new one. In addition the Blood Donor Association from Sittwe has also donated (10) bags of clothes.

We welcome any groups or organization if that organization is coming to help the refugees but only the government approval is important.

We have raised the issue concerning the internet blackout to the concerned authority and Member of parliament from the state parliament. Even though they promised us to solve the problem nothing has been happening practically."

Indiscriminate Firing 2

Name: U Wai [redacted] (male)

"Currently, I live in Pyon Young Village. The clashes were always occurring. For the consequence of the war we are facing the livelihoods and transportation difficulties.

We are not allowed to travel from one village to another, and we are not allowed to buy even a bag of rice from Minbya town. This is our life now. There are some villagers who are relying on the hills for their daily livelihoods. They had to go up to the hills. Upon seeing the going of the people to the forest, the Burmese army shot at them. Now they are afraid to go up to the hills. The Burmese military imposed a travel ban to the villagers and stationed in the hills east and north of the village. It's about a mile far from my village. We have seen clashes occur frequently at the village of Thar Ze and Shwe Thar and Shwe Kyin which is not too far or too close to our villagers. Villagers fled the village during the fighting and returned when the fighting was over. They (Burmese army) seemed to be worried that if we go to buy

[Interview continued on next page]

Indiscriminate Firing 2 (cont.)

Name: U Wai [redacted] (male)

food we will support with the food their enemy. How can we support to others when we are struggling a lot even for our food? Currently the rations were donated by the Minbya Refugees Support Team. Once before, Sittwe Gas Donating Team supported us .

The government of the country has the main responsibility to solve the difficulties citizens are facing. We want to see the current crisis to be solved by the both parties in."

Indiscriminate Firing 3

Name: Daw Aye [redacted] (female)

"On August 24, 2019, Saturday, while I was cooking at my house two artillery bullets fired by the Tatmadaw hit my left thigh and the left breast. The artillery also hit my 10-year-old grandson named Maung Min Htet Kyaw Kyaw and he died at the spot. At first the artillery bullets hit Daw U Kyaing where it had killed Daw U Kyaing and one of her daughters in the spot. The artillery shelling was conducted from the uphill of the Aung Mingalar mountain which is located about 2 miles southwest of the village.

We were being hit when artillery was targeted towards the Thabuzza Village which is located an hour walk and east of Pan Myaung Village

I was first being admitted to the Pan Myaung Clinic and then I crossed the Lay Mro river by motorboat and I was taken to the Mrauk-U district hospital by a car arranged by the Mrauk-U Blood Donors Association.

The ICRC, a parliamentary member from Mrauk-U (a lawyer) and Mrauk-U district office have donated an amount of 500,000, 300,000 and 50,000 kyats respectively.

The Mrauk-U district office donated 300,000 kyats for the Maung Min Thet Kyaw's family.

I don't want to blame anyone regarding with this incident. I would assume that it just happened because of karma or bad luck."

Indiscriminate Firing 4

Name: Ma San [redacted] (female)

"Hearing the sound of fighting outside the village, I ran to the monastery for the shelter and while I was sitting in the monastery the artillery bullets hit my back. I was taken to Sittwe Hospital for three days for treatment. The ICRC supports us 200,000 kyats and social organization in Minbya also supports 200,000 kyats. I didn't even think that I would be alive. I am still fearing."

Indiscriminate Firing 5

Name: Daw Ma [redacted] (female)

"The fighting took place across the hill of Kyauk Gree Taung, Kwat Khet Gyaing Taung, Kra Ann Taung and Nat Twin Taung. The Kwat Khet Gyaing Taung is situated to the east of our village not too far. They took shelter in the monastery as we assumed that the artillery might also land to the village. We heard the explosion sound from the hill. But the artillery shells even hit to the monastery and people got severely injured. People in the monastery. One of my sisters and her daughter were killed in the shelling. The name of the daughter is Ma San San Win and she was a student of grade 8. She was 14 years old. My sister's name is La Pyat Kray Moon and she was 35 years old. I was treated for my wounds for a while and injected

Indiscriminate Firing 5 (cont.)

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

with a bottle of blood. I was sent to the better medical care to Sittwe Hospital for about a month. After I discharged from the Sittwe hospital I had to live in Minbya town and had to take treatment for another three months at Minbya hospital.

There are many social organizations that helped me. I don't remember the organizations' names. I only remember the Ann Thar Gree name. I do not want to demand anything from the government. I just want my sister and her daughter back."

Indiscriminate Firing 6

Name: [redacted]

"At the the beginning when the fighting started we were hiding in the bombardment hole . Later we felt not secure in that hole and moved to monastery and refuge there. Even in the the monastery was not safe. The artillery shell hit me. It hit my left hip. The monks arranged to get me to the hospital. I was being treated for a day at Minbya Hospital and transferred me to the Sittwe Hospital via water. I was treated at the Sittwe hospital for three days and came back to Minbya Dhamma Hall. The injury was not totally recovered so we had to go to the Sittwe hospital again.

Rakhine social organizations helped me as much as they could for medical care. The injury has healed. But it's not as active as it used to be.

I did not make any complaint regarding with my case because there was neither time nor money to make complaint. And I am not aware or have no idea that we have rights to make complaint. Lastly I want to say that I don't want fighting to be going on. I want to live peacefully without war."

Indiscriminate Firing 7

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"My husband died in the artillery shelling. Since we heard the fighting on the other side of Shwe Tama Village, we moved to another place. My husband was left in our village. On June 3, 2019, my husband died on Monday a day after we left the village. He was died after being hit by an artillery bullet while he was lying in the monastery. The deceased body was taken to Minbya Hospital.

CSOs helped us as much as they could. I have no idea now how I would struggle with this remaining five children. Nobody is blameless about this. Child are are still baby now. He does not want to be punished.

I don't want to blame anyone regarding with this incident. I would assume that It's just happened because of karma or bad luck."

Indiscriminate Firing 8

Name: Ma [redacted] (female)

"I sent my two children to Duchaung Village when we heard the sounds of the clashes in the village. The next day the artillery was landed on our village. When the clash was occurring, we were hiding in a bunker. A short time later, my husband told me to get out of from the bunker and go to the monastery. I refused to go to the monastery and he went alone. A moment after, when I heard that my husband had been hit by artillery bullet and I I went to see and he died already. My husband was 52 years old. I didn't even get to see my husband's body properly. I was taken by people from that place because of insecurity. Later on the other side of the river,

[Interview continued on next page]

Indiscriminate Firing 8 (cont.)

Name: Ma [redacted] (female)

a group of aid workers took my husband's body by a car to Minbya town. I didn't even have a chance to see exactly in which part of the body did the artillery hit. But I notice some wounds at the left sides of the chest.

Before my husband died we relied on cutting bamboo and woods from up the hill.

The eldest son was did not completed the grade 10 and the daughter was dropped out of from the grade 9 because of unable to bear the education cost after my husband passed away. My eldest son has been working in Yangon for about two years. The adopted son continues to study. Now my daughter is also went to work in Yangon.

There are donations for my husband's death. I didn't remember the organization names. I didn't know whether "Matala" or something like that.

I did not complain to any authority. I don't want to blame or criticize who made wrong in this incidence. Last but not least, I just want to continue my children's education."

Indiscriminate Firing 9

Name: Ma [redacted] (female)

"In our family there are 8 siblings. 5 males and 3 females. There is one brother who has not yet made monk ordination. He is 10 years old. Now we have neither father nor mother. During father was alive, he worked and cultivated fruit and other crops on a small plot of land borrowed from the other people. It has been a long time since mother passed away. My father died in the village because of heavy artillery fire. The artillery bullet hit the back of the head of my father. Other parts of the body were also being hit. "We heard that the artillery shelling was conducted by the Burmese Army. It is said to have been shelled from the Myaung Bway village. Father's name is U Maung Phru Tun and he was 56 years old. At present I sell things at the market.

The government paid no compensation for my father's death. Arakanese social organizations and monks have provided financial support to us. The supports are received at the Minbya Dhamma hall.

I didn't make complaints. I don't dare to complain. I'm scared. I don't want to ask for help from the government. We would like to ask for help from our Rakhine people to solve our livelihood problems as much as they could."

Indiscriminate Firing 10

Name: Daw [redacted] (female)

"In our family there were (5) siblings. Four men and a woman. I am the third daughter of my family. All are married. While I was in my father's house I worked in the farm. Now I am a general worker. My father was killed due the artillery shelling while he was sitting in the monastery with other people. My father's name is U Maung Aye Nu and he was 77 years old. My father used to live with me before he died.

We did not open any case file or complaint for the death of my father. The social charity organizations made some financial supports to us. I am desperate and speechless for the death of my father and we want to say something to the government but afraid to speak out."

Indiscriminate Firing 11

Name: [redacted]

"I fled the village due to bomb explosion.

On 24th the LID 55 of Burmese army entered into the village by firing. Then the whole villagers were forced to stay in the middle of the village.

I first saw the battalion 380 of Myaung Mya passing through the village.

The Burmese soldiers divided us in four groups such as men, women, elderly people and youth group. Then they document the identity of each and every person. They interrogated a group of men consisting of 10 people separately.

44 villagers were forced to carry their luggage until they reached to the Ra Maung bridge.

11 people were classified as suspected list and kept them separately which is four miles far from the village.

They also interrogated a couple coming with a motorbike and set fire to all the tents on the side of the road. The villagers returned to the village at 5 pm in the evening the Burmese soldiers threat the villagers to set fire to the entire village if any explosion is being heard nearby this area.

If I think of incidence of that day I remember the past Japanese era.

Not all the villagers came out from the village. It is a 30 minutes drive by motorbike from here. It takes 45 minutes if we travel by motorboat. Our family economy is an ordinary small scale fishing job. I didn't think it will be peaceful and safe in the village. I think we will achieve the peace only when Arakan became freedom."

Indiscriminate Firing 12

Name: U [redacted] (male)

"The incident happened on October 23, 2020, the Burmese Army entered into the village with indiscriminate shooting after a bomb blast near the Paik Saik Chaung bridge. All the villagers were told to come out from the house and forced to stay in the middle of the village.

After that, the villagers were forced to carry the military's luggage and supplies to the Ra Maung bridge. More than 40 people were forced to carry military's luggage and also interrogated and beaten.

My livelihood relies on a small cultivation of farmland and cutting wood and bamboo from the jungle. I have three children. They are studying at grade 10, 8 and 7 respectively.

I want the country to be as peaceful as early as possible. I want to go back to my village as soon as possible. The villagers are very much scared."

Indiscriminate Firing 13

Name: Daw Phru [redacted]
(female)

"On August 24, 2019 of the morning, at 10:00 am, my cousin's sister who is studying at grade 10 and my nephew both were killed by shelling.

It was shot from Aung Mingalar hill where the Burmese military base is located. At first the wounded people were being treated at the Pan Myaung clinic then at Mrauk-U hospital and then were transferred to Sittwe general hospita. My mother was took treatment at the Mrauk-U hospital for more than a month.

I was being treated at the Sittwe general hospital for 13 days. My nephew was 6 years old, he died soon after he was brought to the hospital. My nephew's father and mother were working in Thailand.

I and my mother got injured.

After the incident happened the army surrounded our house and took the bodies of the deceased person and injured people.

I don't want to make complaint because it will not be effective and will get no result.

I think it would be like pouring water in the sand.

I wish no one suffers the same fate as like us in future. I would like to request the donor organizations to help the affected people as much as possible. I would also like to see Arakan as a peaceful land without any war."

Indiscriminate Firing 14

Name: Daw [redacted] (female)

"We could hear the sounds of the fighting that were occurring nearby other villages. I told my daughters to cook early. While we were cooking, we heard gunshots and loud noises of artillery shelling. We got out of the house and hid under the bridge. After that we went into the bunker and hid. Due to lack of oxygen and respiratory problems in the bunkers we went to the monastery as we thought we would be saved because it's a god shadow's area. Gunshots and the mortar shelling sounds are rang out in the mountains near the village. As soon as we have finished eating the lunch the artillery was landed at the monastery The first artillery was hit on the mango tree close to the monastery and then another mortar landed at the roof of the monastery and hit the people.

When artillery was hit we couldn't see each other anymore. After a while, we could able to see the environment. 6 people were killed and 7 were injured. One of young novice was also injured. He was taken to the Sittwe hospital for the treatment.

My occupation is now that I plant betel leaf at a small plot of land borrowed from the others. There is a small plot of land given to the widowed community. My livelihoods rely on that land. My daughter's education has to be stopped because of my poverty. I sent my daughter to Yangon to study by entering to a Buddhist nun life . My daughter has already passed the grade 10.

Indiscriminate Firing 14 (cont.)

Name: Daw [redacted] (female)

There was help from different organizations. I don't remember that exactly what are the name of those organizations. My daughter Aye Nandar received more help as she studied as a nun life many monks helped her a lot.

What I want to tell the government is that I want to live peacefully in my village."

Indiscriminate Firing 15

Name: U [redacted] (male)

"As far as I remember about the the shooting took place in Mrauk-U city. The shooting began at 8 pm at the Kyauk Raik Khwa Sone and the Kanbawza Bank which is located near the San Cha Saik Khwa Sone was also being attacked. The shooting in front of the Kanbawza bank was also continuing until the Alayzey bridge of Mrauk-U

After the incident, when we investigated found out that the bullet hit Nawarat hotel, Municipal office. The bullet also hit the nose and belly part of the Sanddhamunic Buddha statue.

The bullet also hit the two other houses in the Alayzey quarter. There have been frequent shootings inside the city of Mrauk-U. The shots are mostly at night and sometimes during the day. There are also shootings in the morning.

In the area of the city, there is no clashes on both sides. The one sided shooting were conducted by the either Light Infantry Division – LID 22 or LID 55.

I would like to explain the situation of foreign tourist arrival in Mrauk-U before the conflict occurred. When three million tourists visit entire Myanmar , there was not even 10000 tourists visiting Mrauk-U.

Mrauk-U is the closest to the Bengali problem and has been described by foreign embassies as a very dangerous place. The foreign embassies in Myanmar had announced that Mrauk-U is a danger zones as the city is closer to the area where the Bengali problem is happening. This is the first reason why foreigners do not want to visit Mrauk-U.

The second reason is that, in the map of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism of Myanmar shows that ethnic areas are in red color. The third reason is that the problem of road infrastructures and high cost.

The Tatmadaw and the government have also reported to the world that there are terrorist groups in Rakhine State. Meaning is that the Arakan Army (ULA/AA) is being propaganded by the Government and Tatmadaw that the organization is a terrorist organization rather than saying a revolutionary organization for ethnic equality.

Especially, the travel agencies in Yangon do not encourage the tourist to visit Rakhine. Now as the fighting is happening it's getting worse. There has been some people visiting Mrauk-U who want to study informally.

[Interview continued on next page]

Indiscriminate Firing 15 (cont.)

Name: U Twan [redacted] (male)

Urban people depend on the rural population for food and vegetables. Because the rural population is higher than the urban population. If we divide the Mrauk-U into different parts, for example East and West parts. In the West part, southwestern part are more navigable, the northern part, the northeast and southeastern part are more fruit and vegetable producing regions.

Especially when the fighting is in the north and northeast of Mrauk-U, it is impossible to get regular food. Even more disappointing is the fact that it is not possible to grow the same crops as in the past. More sadly, people can not plant the crops in right time of the planting season.

Another problem is that internet blackout. There are some business owners who use online payment systems through internet. When government shut the internet those works are not working anymore now. People lost their rights to read the information relating business.

Rakhine are not under a Burmese ethnic group. Arakanese are a people who live on their own background and history.

The religious and archaeological building, National Buildings and the place of the Mrauk-U palace reflects the Arakanese history. The Arakanese have been fighting for national equality since it lost sovereign power. Arakanese people are continuing it's fighting through political party or armed struggle means. It's not a racial conflict. It's struggle for national equality and human right.

It's so shameful that when a nation has to fight for their rights through armed struggle while we living in an era of respecting each other regardless of religious and nations.

For the sake of win-win solution the government and Burmese army and Burmese politicians should discuss peacefully with ethnic nationalities and find solutions.

The clashes are on the rise. The number of displaced people are also increasing. Most commonly, ICRC and WFP providing humanitarian assistances. We have seen that in other countries, international organizations have consistently been helping refugees.

We also want international organizations to provide the humanitarian assistances consistently. What we are seeing now is that the Bengalis are given priority when it comes to the humanitarian assistance and help. Rakhine refugees have been neglected. We want international organizations to help all the people regardless of race, religious background.

There is a refugee assistance committee in Mrauk-U. I also took a secretary's role in that committee. With that assignment, I was involved in a lot of relief work.

Indiscriminate Firing 15 (cont.)

Name: U Twan [redacted] (male)

I quit the committee when government announced that the relief workers require permission from either police or election commission in order to go for any humanitarian assistance trips.

In Burma, the armed conflict between Burmese government and ethnic armed groups has been now more than 70 years. No one has been defeated yet. The war is not happening in Yangon, Naypyitaw and Mandalay. The Burmese government and the Tatmadaw should think that there is something wrong and need to find the solution that why the fighting is not happening in these cities and happening only in ethnic areas."

Indiscriminate Firing 16

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"There are four quarters in Baungdwet village. Among them one is Khami ethnic village. There is a high school and a rural health clinic in the village. In April 2019 (couldn't remember the exact date) at around 10pm, Burma Army's LIB 377 and LIB 378 fired artillery on to the village from the mountain range of eastern side of the village and opened indiscriminate fire after entered to the village. Three people injured, and one died in the spot. The deceased was identified as Maung Kyaw Sein, 58 years old. The firing started at 10pm and it even didn't last til the early morning. The whole villagers fled the village in the early morning. We were not allowed to go on a motorbike, so we had to flee by motorboat. We had to go twice. Before I arrived to the Shite Thaung IDP Camp, stayed an overnight in Chaung Nar village and stayed about 15 days in Tha Min Raik Village. Baungdwet is about 4 miles distance from Mrauk-U. It is south to the Mrauk-U.

On the first day of Myanmar New Year, the whole villagers fled the village. People in our village have been living in ten different IDP camps. Those IDP camp names are Shite Thaung IDP Camp, Thein Taung, Aung Zedi, Koe Newin Aung Zedi, Daingyi Kyaun Thit Old one and some monasteries. Previously there were 14 households from our village and only 7 people remaining in Bindu village and now only one family left, with seven people. It is said that most of the Baungdwet villagers are about 700 people who are sheltering at the Myoma Pariyatti Institution.

The food is often served by the people who are responsible for this camp . I would like to urge the government, Please stop fighting and we want to live in the peaceful country without fighting."

Indiscriminate Firing 17

Name: U Ba [redacted] (male)

"In April, 2019 (couldn't remember the exact date) at 10am, the fighting broke out near the bridge between Let Kar and Bu Rwat Mahnyo village. Most of the shots were directed towards the village, not in the form of fighting between the two sides. There were about 100 Burmese Army forces. A 25-year-old young man named Maung Soe Win, was shot in the waist and immediately sent to Sittwe Hospital.

Refugees fleeing from the village of Bu Rwat Mahnyo village have fled to the Tehin Nyo, Tan Htein Kan, Dalet, Na Kan IDP camps respectively. In this IDP camp we are the only family from the Bu Rwat Mahnyo village.

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Indiscriminate Firing 17 (cont.)

Name: U Ba [redacted] (male)

In the village, there were some family left in the village because they have a lot of works. I think there are probably ten households who remained in the village. We have decided to return to our village only when the country became peace."

Indiscriminate Firing 18

Name: Maung [redacted]

"On March 18, 2019 at about 8pm, Burmese Army's battalion based in Khaung Phru Pyin and LIB 540 fired artillery shell towards our village. They fired the artillery without having any combatant between the two sides. They also fired with small artillery. The shells hit our village and burned down a house, and my wife and I were injured in the hand. It was reported that shots had been fired until the dawn. The village was also surrounded by the Burma Army troops. At About 9 pm, we were taken to Mrauk-U Hospital by the car of the head monk of the Mro Oo Khaung monastery. Both of us were in the hospital for a month. The owner of the house was being set fire is U Hla Shwe Maung. Now is at the Let Kauk Zay IDP camp. The Burmese Army stopped firing for a while and then resumed firing artillery again, in that shells there are also some villagers who got injured.

On March 19, 2019 almost all the villagers fled the village. Only a few elderly people left to guard the village. Currently, the refugees are sheltering at the Let Kauk Zay, Shwe Taung and Aung Zay Di IDP camps. Today also we heard that the Burmese Army forced two children from Kyauktaw to remove the land mines nearby our village, one dead and another seriously injured.

We had to flee the homes twice after we were discharged from the hospital. At first we stayed at the Shwe Taung Temple. We have been here at Shite Thauung IDP camp since June 2019. My last fleeing was because of the clashes had occurred between the two groups.

There are now about 300 refugees from the Ywar Haung Taw village in this camp in which people with above age 70 is 10 people. And the children below the 10 years of age is more than 80 and the number of babies are 57. Pregnant women is 5.

There are about 80 children under the age of ten. There are 57 infants. There are five pregnant mothers.

While we were in the hospital, the ICRC and other community organizations assisted us. Now I have a steel bone in my hand. The doctor recommended me not to move the hand and stay calm for around two years."

Indiscriminate Firing 19

Name: U Aung [redacted] (male)

"On October 17, 2019, the Burma Army LID 55, approximately 80 Burma Army troops, entered into our village and took as porter ten civilians including 8 women and 2 men to the village's eastern cemetery hill at around 5 pm. The fighting began in the hills around 6 pm when the portered women before the going up the hill. Others were escaped and reached to Ouk Pho Kan village. The entire villagers fled following the fighting day. First, they fled to the village of Waitharli. In the village also the villagers had to flee into the jungle. From the jungle we went to our village and through our village. We arrived at the Shite Thauung IDP camp. The

Indiscriminate Firing 19 (cont.)

Name: U Aung [redacted] (male)

refugees also go to other places where they feel comfortable. The people are sheltering in the Wat Hla, Tin Htein Kan, Palate, Pa Zwan Phay, Mrat Tazaung, Phayar Paw, Shwe Htee Suang and Shite Thaung IDP camp. Before taking our belonging from our village, we inquired whether there are Burmese Army still present in the village or not. When they fled, they came on a tricycle. Two days after fleeing the village, they searched the shops and took villagers' belongings. They killed and eat the domestic animals of the villagers and paid no compensation. In the end of the April, 2019 the army had arrested two men who were coming down from the mountain and arrested another man from the village. They are now in Mrauk-U custody.

The village of Pauktaw Pyin is located north of Mrauk-U. Nowadays, the livelihood of the people is not good because the farmers could not harvest their crops in time."

Indiscriminate Firing 20

Name: Daw Kra [redacted]
(female)

"In March 2019 (couldn't remember the exact date) the army surrounded the village and fired targeting at the village. There were no clashes between the two groups. While my son and three of our children were hiding in the house of Ma Oo Mra Than, my daughter Ma Myo Myint Aye (21) was injured in her hand when an artillery shells was landed at the house. The house also caught fire. Some witnesses said the heavy weapons were coming from Khaung Phru Pyin Village. At 10 pm - I took my daughter to Mrauk-U Hospital, at around 10 pm with the aid car from the Mro Oo Khaung monastery. She was hospitalized for nine days. While my daughter was in the hospital, the LID 22 gave 200,000 kyats to us. Other civil society organizations help as much as they could. We left the hospital and stayed about 15 days at the Mrat Tazaung temple and went back to the village. Again in the month of May 2019 the army came and fired on the villages. So we had to run away because we do not dare to stay in the village anymore.

We will return to the village when there will be no Burmese soldiers. Now, we do not dare to go back to the village because Burmese army are there."

Indiscriminate Firing 21

Name: Daw [redacted] (female)

"We are here because of the fighting occurred near our village. The Burmese army setting a temporary camp near our house. We have been here since October 2019. In March, our house was burnt to ash due to artillery fire. At that time, my daughter and I had to go to the Tha Min Raik clinic. The artillery was fired without having any combats between the two sides. Almost all the people left the village except the elderly people. Some were at the Shite Thaung IDP camp. We came up with a tractor from the village. I couldn't bring everything from my house. Half of my properties were taken by Burmese Army. It's worth about 30 to 40 lakh kyats. Burmese army killed goats, chicken, cattles and ate but they did not pay compensation to the villagers.

The LIB 540 also called villagers to force porter to carry the military supplies. My husband was also here when we had came out from the

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Indiscriminate Firing 21 (cont.)

Name: Daw [redacted] (female)

house. Now he left for China to work. Children have stopped going to school because of poverty.

There is no complaint have been made to the relevant government departments for our losses. I don't know how to make complaint, I don't even know that I have right to complaint. I have no mode to make complaint now."

Indiscriminate Firing 22

Name: Daw [redacted] (female)

"The Burmese army set up a temporary base camp in the hilltop of our village. When Burmese army went to buy rations from Panmyaung village from Phayar Ouk on the way there was mine explosion and for that Burmese army indiscriminately started shooting towards our village and adjacent areas. That's why I fled my home in fear. Many have fled with fear to Mratazaung temple and Shite Thaung IDP camp as Burmese Army frequently shooting towards our village. It was my first time fleeing away. When we flee from my house , we were not allowed to travel with any vehicles. We had to walk on foot to get to the Mrauk-U town. No other interruptions are made. It is located just one mile east of Mrauk Oo town.

Two days ago, the army called my husband and another man named Kyaw Win, and made search from one house to another, and took the guest list and took people's properties.

There are more than a hundred houses in the Phayar Ouk village and over 300 people. The main occupation of the residents are farmers and cultivation of crops. At present, there are about 20 IDP from our village. Four women who has small kids.

Currently we all are now unemployed and we have not been able to harvest our farm land. As we could not do our work peacefully and securely we are now facing difficulties in survival. When Burmese soldiers are no longer in the village, when there will be no more fighting, we will go back to our home. At the moment we are afraid to go back to our home."

Indiscriminate Firing 23

Name: Daw Aung [redacted] (female)

"People have fled the village twice because of artillery shelling in the village once in March and another one in May 2019. There were some injuries to villagers too. This is my first time that I leave my village, I arrived yesterday. Only a small number of people remained in the village. It's just an hour walk from Mrauk-U and the Ywar Haung Taw village. It is east of Mrauk-U. The Burmese army numbering around 60 soldiers stayed in the Nga Kyar Taung hill which is east of the village and about a mile far.

They stayed nearly twenty days in those mountain ranges. We heard that, still the Burmese soldiers staying in the east and west sides of the mountain ranges. We also heard that there was a mine explosion at the bridge nearby the village. No one was wounded from my village. There was a report that one man died and another got injured from other village.

I want to live in my own house. If there were no soldiers, we would return. Lastly, I just want to see the peace. This is not a refugee camp at the moment. Therefore, livelihood is difficult here."

Indiscriminate Firing 24

Name: Daw Aye [redacted]
(female)

"On April 10, 2019 around 6 am, a combined forces of LID 55 and LID 22 of Burma Army entered into the village in scolding, using bad words and shooting. Heavy artilleries had been firing from the Min Hla village. At that time all the villagers had gathered at the monastery. Later, soldiers came to the monastery and summoned the villagers and separated young men, elderly men, woman and and child and kept at the Daw Ma Nge house.

We saw military helicopters flying in the sky. They asked the villagers if they had any contact with the ULA/AA. At about three o'clock in the evening, my husband Khin Maung Soe including the village administrator were taken by the Burmese Army along with other 26 people with military vehicle. He was beaten by the Burmese army as soon as he get into the car. It was later learned he was initially taken to the battalion 378 and then was taken to the Military Special Branch (Sa Ra Pha) office in Sittwe. They searched house-to-house and took ventures, jewellery ornaments, money and other properties from some houses. The things which they could able to carry then they carried and the things they they could not carry were destroyed.

Family members of the detainees also appealed to Arakan State Prime Minister U Nyi Pu Captain Kyi Linn to release the detainees. They said they would let go the detainees with family members. There was no contact with the arrested people for more than 20 days, we are just came to know that they were detained in the Police Station No.1 in Sittwe. My assumption is that they did not allow us to meet with the detainees because the injuries had not recovered fully. When I first met my husband, he even couldn't speak well. His back, chest and head were being beaten and now he has a problem in breathing. His feature doesn't even looks like a human with thin body. Now, the family has provided some food, and it is a little bit looks better. As his wounds are in inner part due to tortured by the Burmese army his health condition is not good. Now my husband and other arrestees are in the Sittway prison. The lawuit have been opened by the Tatmataw (Burma Army) as far as I know.

There was no complaints about this. I don't know whom to make complaint and how? There is no one to help us. I am a helpless person now. As my husband is not with me now everything including commodities and livelihoods have been destroyed and wiped out."

Indiscriminate Firing 25

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"Early in the morning, we heard the sound of gunfire from the Zun Khwar village, and we hid in the place where we thought we would be safe. We were hiding in a bunker. After a while, We move to the monastery to hide. At 10am the soldiers entered and opened fire into the whole village and took all the villagers in the U San Thar Kyaw's compound. The children were forced to take off their shirts and were kept under the sunlight. In the village there was a group comprising 5 young people for volunteer. They found the list of youth volunteers and arrested them for questioning. When they get into the car the Burmese soldiers started kicking them. They were taken to the LIB 540 and relaxed for a half hour and from there they were taken to Sittwe by military helicopter. My son told me that he was lucky not to die

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Indiscriminate Firing 25 (cont.)

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

when army kick out on the helicopter with binding in his neck. My son told me that he was not given food for 5 days and when he was thirsty Burmese army gave him dirty water and he was forced to drink that.

More than 20 days after their arrest, they were found at Sittwe (1) police station on 28th April, 2019. I would like to request the government to release all the detainees as soon as possible after interrogating them. "

Indiscriminate Firing 26

Name: Daw Hla [redacted]
(female)

"In July 2019 (couldn't remember the exact date) the whole villagers fled the village. Nothing was brought except a few clothes with us. Before this, there were at least four or five times that we had to run from the village due to the fighting. The people fled to Pe Pin Yan IDP camp, Let Kauk Zey IDP camp and Shite Thaug IDP camp. As the Waitharli village is close to the Asian highway the Burmese troops always walks nearby the village and sometimes they shoot towards the village. They also fire towards the village whenever they have clashes close to our village. As we don't dare to live we fled our homes. We have been living in this camp for about three months. On our way to this camp two children were drowned when we crossed the river from Pe Pin Yan to Plat village. One was studying in grade 9 and another one was 3-year-old baby. Both were the daughters of U Maung Kyan Thein and Daw Khin Myint. Watthali village is north of Mrauk-U, 7 miles distance.

The main occupation of the villagers is farming. When the village was finally empty, the Burmese soldiers slaughter and eat the domestic animals belonging to the villagers. There were about twenty people left in the village. We came to know this information through the people who remained in the village. I want to live in my village peacefully."

Indiscriminate Firing 27

Name: Daw Hla [redacted]
(female)

"My son was arrested. He was arrested from the monastery. The name is U Tun Kyi; he is 33 years old and has 2 children. We heard that the clash broke out nearby the village of Min Hla since 6am. Then the Burmese Army indiscriminately shoot towards our village. At that all the people in the village are already in the monastery. They came to our village at about 11pm and fired shots. By this time, the whole village was at the monastery.

As my son is being detained we have to bear all the cost and struggling now to continue the education of my sons' children. When I first met my son, I was afraid to even look at him as there are a lot of beaten areas. I felt so sad. I am praying that my son release as early as possible."

Indiscriminate Firing 28

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

Burmese Army LID 55 and LID 22 arrested my son Phoe Thar Lu (aka Twan Aung Kyaw) from my village. Burma army entered into the village by firing and arrested villagers who were hiding in the monastery. There were patrol groups in the village comprising 3-4 people in each group. They found a list of 27 people patrolling group in the village and all the people who were on the list were taken out of the house and bound with rope. Before the arrest, men and women of the entire village were forced to gather in the middle of the village. The women were separated and forced to take off

Indiscriminate Firing 28 (cont.)

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

their shirts and to sit under the sun. The villagers were sun dried since 11 am to 5pm in the evening. They are now in the Sittwe Prison. Their court trial has been over 10 times now. In each trial I had to spend 40,000 to 50,000 kyats. Whether you have money or not you have to go. He said that due to the tortured of the Burmese army he suffered chest pain and respiratory problem."

Indiscriminate Firing 29

Name: Ko Win [redacted] (male)

"On March 29, 2019, Burma Army's LID 55 with around 100 soldiers entered into our village and started firing artillery and gunshot. The village was also surrounded by them. An artillery shell landed inside the compound of my house and my left side of the chest was hit and I got injured. The walls and the roof were completely destroyed. All the villagers were forcibly gathered at the administrator's house. Soldiers went back at around 12 pm. There was no reason for the shooting. I was allowed to send to the hospital about half an hour later. I was first taken to Tein Nyo clinic at around 9am. The Tein Nyo clinic did not accept me so I had to go to Mrauk-U Hospital. I arrived at Mrauk-U hospital at 12 pm. I was being treated at Mrauk-U Hospital for one month and three days. The ICRC has provided more than 350,000 kyats and other Rakhine civil society organizations also helped. The elderly monks also came to help.

Villagers were interrogated and tortured, and five were arrested. U Ba Tun, U Maung Phyu Chay, U Hla Thein Maung, U Sein Tun and U Ko Naing were arrested. Now they are in Sittwe prison. Villagers said that soldiers went through all the houses and searched for valuable things and took whatever they found in the house. The whole villagers fled the village on March 29, 2019. The villagers run to nearby village such as Tein Nyo, Wat Hla, Palate, Taung Myint and Tha Pray Kan villages. At end of February, there was a clash occurred on the hill of Nga Pyo Taw which is close to our village to the east. The village is 2 miles far from Mrauk-U town. It is about two miles away.

Everyone wants to live in their own home. We decided to return to our village only when there will be peace. "

Indiscriminate Firing 30

Name: Daw Nu [redacted] (female)

"On March 29, 2019 Burma Army's LID 55 with around 100 soldiers entered into our village and started firing artillery and gunshot. All the villagers were forcibly gathered at the administrator's house. He also sat in the governor's house. The soldiers went through all the houses and searched for valuable things and took whatever they found in the house. We were arrested and beaten because they found a picture of ULA/AA chief. My husband U Sein Tun and four others such as U Ba Tun, U Maung Phyu Chay and U Hla Thein Maung were also arrested. I did not hear where they are but it is reported that on April 4, 2019, that five villagers from Aut Tha Kan village appeared in the court on April 4, 2019. On April 29, 2019, I found my husband to meet. Now we have been 5 times trial a month. At the Sittwe police station no. (1) I had to give 120,000 Kyats for my husband's food per monthly for four months.

If my husband is found no guilty after investigating then release him and also those who are innocent should be released as soon as possible."

Indiscriminate Firing 31

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"On March 29, 2019, the Burma Army LID 55 entered into the village by shooting at 6am and ordered the whole villagers to be gathered at the village administrator U Thein Maung Chay's house. There was more than 200 Burmese soldiers. Then they go up to the houses and searched for gold, silver, and took all those civilian properties. They arrested 6 men including my father U Hla Thein Maung, U Ba Tun, U Maung Ni Chay, U Maung Fru Chay, U Ko Naing and U Sein Tun. They were taken to LIB 540 through Praing Chaung and Oh Htein villages. And from Kyauktaw they were taken Sittwe police station no.(1). They were arrested in the suspicion of having connection with the Arakan Army (ULA/AA). They stayed for six month at the Sittwe police station no (1) custody . Later they were sent to the Sittwe prison. I met my father twice. My mother went to the court in every trial. Dad's health is not good. We had to buy medicine and send to him. It's said that they the case was opened by the 11 men in the Mrauk-U police station. I do not know exactly who they are.

My father works fishing for his livelihood. He is also an ANP party leader in the village and he is 52 years old.

Only around two households remained in the village now. I lost about 4 million kyats (about 40 lakh kyat). In spite of having no money I had to go to the court for my father's trial which made me more difficulties. In October 2019, the Burmese army came to the village once and searched for the belonging of the villagers and took away.

In regards to my father's case , the (ICRC) - The Red Cross has supported us 64,000 kyats for the trial. No other organizations had helped.

I will not return the village as long as there is armed clashes occurring .Of course, I want go back to my home. As my father was being arrested illegally and innocent man. Therefore, I would like to call on the government to release my father as soon as possible. We need a lot of help right now. Therefore, I appeal civil society organizations to help us as much as they could."

Indiscriminate Firing 32

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"On March 29, 2019 at around 6 a.m in the morning, the Burmese army LID (55) with nearly 200 soldiers entered into our village by shooting. They forced all the villagers to gather in the U Thein Maung Chay's house. They arrest 5 men including my husband U Maung Phru Chay. My husband is 50 years old. He was taken by the army via Praing Chay village to Kyauk Taw, from Kyauk Taw to Mrauk-U and From Mrauk-U to Sittway. On 28 April, 2019 I got chance to meet him at the Mrauk-U court. They said that they arrested my husband because they found a health care bag from my husband. A young girl named Pauk Sa, who was a shopkeeper at the Tein Nyo bridge was also shot dead.

There is no opportunity to complain in this running situation. I also don't know how to make a complaint, to which departement. My husband is in poor health. He has high blood pressure. He was not even healthy while at home.

Indiscriminate Firing 32 (cont.)

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

The ICRC once donated 45,000 kyats to me. I have already spent 3,000,000 Kyats for going to the court on trial. As my husband is not with me we do not have any work now.

My husband was arrested without anything wrong. He was innocent. Therefore, I would like to urge the government to release my husband immediately. "

Indiscriminate Firing 33

Name: Daw Tha [redacted]
(female)

On February 28, 2019 a fighting broke out in Padang Mountain. On that day, my son Sein Tha Kyaw (48) year old went with the Ma Oo Hla Sein couple to look at the farm in Ran Chaung village near the mountain. U Hla Sein couples had returned but my son has not returned yet. We don't dare to go out for search of him because of the ongoing fighting. After five days of missing we went out for searching but could not find him. No information is available. I think he was killed by the Burmese Army already. He also had a separate home with his wife and three children. The children are now with me."

Indiscriminate Firing 34

Name: Daw Ye [redacted] (female)

"The whole villagers fled in fear of the fighting occurred nearby the village. Gunshots also hit into village. Some people are also staying in other refugee camps. There are two pregnant women here and 16 children who are below (5) year of age. There are six elderly people who are over 70 year of age.

There are no separate bathrooms and toilets for women here. Government nurses come in once a week and give medicines. Primary students are being taught at the monastery of Aungdat village. The middle and high school students are attending at the Mrauk-U Mrothit school. As long as there is donors the food will be there. Without donors, there would be no food to eat.

The fighting should end and we will return to our own village in peacefully. Who doesn't want to go back to their home?"

Indiscriminate Firing 35

Name: U Hla [redacted] (male)

"On March 29, 2019 at around 6 a.m in the morning, the Burmese army rounded up our village and started shooting for around 4 hours. The army arrested 5 men including my father in allegation of having connection with ULA/AA. Two people including an old man aged more than (70) and a woman was killed in the indiscriminate gunshot by the Burmese army. The army also beat with rifle butts and tortured the villagers before they arrest them.

Those who were arrested were taken to Mrauk-U and then from Mrauk-U to Sittway from Kyauktaw. They are now in Sittway. Lawyers Kyaw Myo Naing and Aung Phay Than from Mrauk-U asked (1,000,000) Kyats for the case.. It's not possible for us to pay such a big amount and we did not let them to handle the case.

Later, U Hla Aung Thein and another female lawyer from Bar Association of Arakan State are helping to handle out the case voluntarily. Lawyers said

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Indiscriminate Firing 35 (cont.) they would try to release them in November 2019. I will believe only then I saw them in the outside.
 Name: U Hla [redacted] (male)

Another thing is that the Tatmataw also took the village administrator to the Praing Chaung village along with the other detainees.

Villagers in Pyi Chaung Village reported that they had been forced to interviewed the Burmese army and forced to make confession that they had to shoot just because of the order from the ULA/AA. The army threats them that they would be shot with a gun if they did not do what army told them to do.

The condition of health is not good as my father is an old man. My father is a little bit deft in normal life. I heard that he be came a complete deft now after Tatmataw's beating and torturing him. Someone gave a pair of earphones but Tatmataw doesn't allow to use earphone. I heard that my father was also beaten and tortured by several ways by the Burmese army . We always have to send medicines. There are more money is spending in the trial session. The situation in the village is not same as before now. Fears of when the Burmese army will come and abduct them are overwhelming.

The teachers were too afraid to come as well. It has been a long time since we hear the school bell."

Indiscriminate Firing 36

Name: Daw Yain [redacted] (female)

"On March 29, 2019 at around 6 a.m in the morning, the Burmese army LID (55) with nearly 100 soldiers entered into our by shooting. The whole villagers were summoned and forced to gather at the administrator U Thein Kyaw Naing's house. The army threat us that If we do not come out from the house, they would shot and kill us .They went door-to-door and took money and things of the villagers belonging. The whole village was interrogated and tortured, and some villagers were taken by the Burmese army. Children are terrified and unsettled .

There were more than 260 houses in the village when we heard that the soldiers were coming then the villagers run from the village to avoid the army . At present also, the doors are closed and people are rarely seen. There is not much work to do now. People are just eaating what they have . In the long run, it will be difficult to survive."

Indiscriminate Firing 37

Name: U Aung [redacted] (male)

"In the month of August 2019, (Between 17-20th) the Burmese army fire shells to the Pan Myaung village and I don't dare to live anymore in the village Since the August, the Burmese army fire shells to the Pan Myaung village and I don't dare to live anymore in the village."

Indiscriminate Firing 38

Name: Daw U [redacted]

"On June 21, 2019, as the artillery shells were being fired from the mountain range of the east of the village I fled the village as I do not dare to live anymore."

Indiscriminate Firing 39

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"In April, 2019 Burmese army opened fire on the village with guns. Burmese army also shoot the people even walking on the streets. The pigs are also shot in front of the owners without any compensation. There is no way to calculate the strength of Burmese army forces. When they came we all went to hid and they are in long line. Now there are hardly any villagers in the village. Now, there's no one in the village I guess."

Indiscriminate Firing 40

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"Burmese army fired heavy artillery from Taungphru hill to the Mrauk-U city and the a young woman named Ma Ma Htay Lay (24) year of age, son of U Maung Nyunt, resident of Kyaungtaung quarter suffered a gunshot wound while at home."

Indiscriminate Firing 41

Name: Ma Kyawt [redacted]
(female)

"On March 29, 2019 at around 6 a.m in the morning, the Burmese army LID (55) entered into our village by shooting via Tein Nyo bridge. Burmese Army opened fire at our village near the Nyo Nyo Bridge. By surrounding the village six soldiers entered into our house and searched the things in the house. At that time, our family was hiding behind the house. Then we got afraid and went out. When they (Burmese army) saw my husband started shooting towards him. They also beat my husband. My father-in-law, U Ba Tun, a (67) years old man was beaten, and he was taken to the middle of the village by tightened roped of the body. They all took the properties belonging to the villagers and tortured the villagers as well. The whole villagers were ordered to sit in the village administrator's house. No one was aware of their return. An old man and a woman were killed in the shooting by the Tatmataw."

Indiscriminate Firing 42

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"I live in a tent under the hill which is close to my village where I grow crops. On May (couldn't remember the exact date) 2019 a unit of Burmese Army more than 40 forces arrived at the Taw Kyaung Monastery on the Taung Phru Taung hill at around 6pm in the evening and went back at around 12pm. The day was the same day with artillery was being shelled to the Kanbawza Bank in Mrauk-U town. When they returned, we found a grenade from the place where they (Burmese Army) stayed. We consulted with the head monk of the monastery regarding the grenade and handed the grenade to the concerned village chief. The head monk (Mro U Kaung Sayadaw) posted the grenade on social media. The army immediately followed the news. They return back to the village and investigated about the grenade and then went back with grievance. As a result, I was afraid to stay at home, so I had to flee. The village head monk also fled here.

I don't dare to return to my own village in a state of uncertainty as to when the war will end. There is no house to stay even if I go back to the village."

Indiscriminate Firing 43

Name: U Aung [redacted] (male)

"In May 2019 (could not remember the exact date), the Burma army opened fire on the village therefore, I don't dare to stay in my village anymore and fled to IDP camp. The distance between Ouk Phoe Kan and Mrauk-U town is 4 miles."

Indiscriminate Firing 44

Name: Daw Pauk [redacted]
(female)

"I have a small shop near the village of Aut Tha Kan at close to the Teinyo bridge. Early in the morning of that day, while I was selling at the shop, the Burma Army soldiers opened fire to us in the spot Ma Sa Pae was killed and I got injured as the bullet hit at my head, leg and right chest. I was sent to Sittwe hospital and had treatment for 7 days there and transferred to Yangon for better treatment and stayed 2 months in Yangon. The Arakanese civil society organizations supported money for my medical expense."

Indiscriminate Firing 45

Name: Daw Tin [redacted] (female)

"On April 13, 2019, at 9pm my father U Maung Kyaw Sein, age 62, was intentionally shot dead by the Burma Army while he was sleeping with a guest in the house. My younger brother, who was in the hospital due to his illness, had also died in the hospital due to trauma. After the death of my father, one of my sisters went to work in Rangoon in search of job, stopping her education. On that day, the villagers fled to the IDP camps. We are in the worse position as our village is situated near the LIB 377 and LIB 378."

Indiscriminate Firing 46

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"About a mile east of our village, there are 377 and 378 Burmese battalions. From the battalion, they fired at our village all night with artillery shells, and my daughter's arm was pierced and shot through. The artillery bullet also hit my nose and face. U Maung Kyaw Sein and U Kyaw Bu were also killed by artillery shells. We had been in hiding with injuries all night and had to go to MraukU hospital in the next day's morning. The girl was not treated at Mrauk-U hospital because Mrauk-U hospital was unable to treat her. She was transferred to Sittwe hospital and from Sittwe hospital she had been sent to Yangon for better treatment. My injury was superficial, and I was treated at Mrauk-U Hospital. As a result of the shooting that day, the villagers fled to the IDP camps. My daughter's name is Ma Htay Htay Aung and she is 13 years old. This year, she is in grade 8 and she had been dropped out from the school. I don't agree and don't satisfy on the current government and the Burma Army."

Indiscriminate Firing 47

Name: U Sein [redacted] (male)

"Our village is between LIB 540 and LIB 31. On March 9, 2019, the fighting broke out. The bullets reach into the village and the soldiers open fire taking cover inside the village. Since then, we have been moving to the Belutaung IDP until August 2019. It's only been a month since I moved to this Mratazung monastery IDP camp. Heard that soldiers in our village beat and questioned the villagers. Domestic animals from some some villagers were being shot and killed by the Burmese soldiers. I want to see the peace in the country."

Indiscriminate Firing 48

Name: Daw Aye [redacted]
(female)

"Clashes broke out nearby our villages. The gunshot bullet also hit our village. When the Burma Army soldiers came to the village, they asked the villagers to do different things by force and interrogated them. Some villagers left the village and took refuge in the IDP camps and some did not leave the village but staying with fear."

Indiscriminate Firing 49

Name: Daw Phru [redacted]
(female)

"The clash between the Arakan Army (ULA/AA) and the Burmese army broke out at 1pm and lasted until 9pm. Heavy artillery were also being shelled around the village and outskirts of the village. As a result, we no longer dare to live in the village and took refuge at the shelter camp at the monastery. There is an urgent need for medical supplies, for food and health. Water is urgently needed."

Indiscriminate Firing 50

Name: Daw Aye [redacted]
(female)

"On April 10, 2019, in the early morning the fighting broke out nearby the village and the villagers were taking shelter at the monastery. At around 11am the Burmese soldier entered the village and arrested my husband Maung Tun Hla from the monastery. My husband was arrested without any charge. So far, he has not been released."

Indiscriminate Firing 51

Name: Ma [redacted] (female)

"On September 18-19, 2019, fighting broke out for two hours between the Burma Army and Arakan Army (ULA/AA) in the village between Let Kar and Pyaingtaung (Mro ethnic). On September 20, 2019, we fled to the Teinnyo IDP camp. When we fled the village I did not able to bring anything only the clothes I wear in my body. Later we went to the village when there were no soldiers and took as many households belongings as we could. When there were no villagers, soldiers came into the village and took everything they found. Pyi Taung Village has 25 houses. Three-quarters of them are farmers, while the rest depend on the forest and rivers. Those who remain in the village are afraid to go anywhere because of fear of the soldiers. As a result, we are struggling to survive."

Indiscriminate Firing 52

Name: U Kyaw [redacted] (male)

"The camp opened on April 7, 2019. It has just started with about 30 dorm rooms. There are currently 768 buildings in this camp. There are over 3,000 people. The ICRC is working with local donors to build this camp. The refugees staying in this IDP camp are from neighboring villages including Aut Thakan, Buywarthmany, Let Kar, Pauktawpyin, Waitharli, Paukpyin Gwan, Phayargyi, Lanmwaytaung, Baungdwet, Khulai, Khapaung, Pyaingtaung and Phayaout villages respectively. Refugees coming from the villages, some are the entire village and half of the population from some villages. The reason for this coming as a refugee camp is the fighting broke out the near their villages and the Burmese soldiers entered the village indiscriminately shooting and interrogated villagers, tortured, force portering and looted the villagers' properties."

Local schools are supported for the education to run a primary school here. We informed the education director and requested that teachers from concerned villages to be sent to this camp. Middle and high school students are required to attend the junior high school in Teinnyo. There are a total of 525 primary school students.

The ICRC supports twice a month for the food. Rice oil, Salt, beans and chilli but not enough. We have to seek the help of local donors. The government has provided 800 bags of rice. Next summer there will be water scarcity. The lake, which is currently in use, is slowly becoming dry."

Indiscriminate Firing 53

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"On March 5, 2019 at about 1 o'clock in the afternoon I and my elder brother and my uncle U Tun Sein Oo stepped on a landmine while returning from the Kyeatinkone hill by collecting firewoods. The uncle died and my brother and I were injured. I was treated for five days at Teinnyo Hospital in Mrauk-U Township. The ministry of relief and social wealfare donated me 50,000 kyats for medical expenses. The Rakhine Alan Takhon group and Munimray Monk Oroganization donated me 50,000 kyats respectively. A group also helped me when I arrived at this Teinnyo IDP camp and I don't remember the organization name anymore. I came to the IDP camp as refugees because on March 29, 2019, the soldiers from LID 55 entered the village, shooting indiscriminately and we afraid to live in the village How would an IDP camp be better than my home? Even though you don't want to live but you have to live. I want to this war to be ended as early as possible."

Indiscriminate Firing 54Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"On March 5, 019, my husband U Tun Sein Oo including his younger brother and another person stepped on a landmines while returning from collecting firewoods from the hill. My husband died at 4 pm while taking treatment in the Teinnyo hospital. The Burma Army soldiers from LID (55) entered our village and started shooting indiscriminately to the village. That's why I fled to the IDP camp. I want to end the war and live in my own home peacefully."

Indiscriminate Firing 55

Name: U Kyaw [redacted] (male)

"On March 3, 2019, at about 1 o'clock in the afternoon, My uncle U Tun Sein Oo, I and another man called Maung Brar stepped on a landmines on their returning to home after collecting firewoods from the Ngarp yawtaung hill. My uncle U Tun Sein Oo was died . We called to the villagers over phone from the incident place and asked the villagers to come and help us. The villagers came took us to the Teinnyo hospital. We were transferred from Teinnyo hospital to Mrauk U hospital. Unfortunately my uncle Tun Sein Oo did not survive and he died in the hospital. One of his legs was cut down in the spot when he stepped on the landmine. For our medical expense the ministry of social welfare and relief, the Rakhine Alan Takhon and Munimray monk association helped us.

On March 29 , 2019, the soldiers from LID 55 entered the village again and started shooting at the village, that's why I fear to live in the village and fled to this IDP Camp."

Indiscriminate Firing 56Name: Daw Hla [redacted]
(female)

"On March 29, 2019, in the early morning, the Burma Army soldiers from LID 55 came into our village shouting and scolding at our village and shooting at the village. Villagers were also forced gathered in a house near the monastery. When my father U Phoe Khaing and I came out from the house and soldiers intentionally and inhumanly shot my father and my father was dead in the spot."

Indiscriminate Firing 57

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"On March 29, 2019 earlier in the morning a unit of Burma Army soldiers from LID 55 entered into our village and fired indiscriminately at the village and shouted like 'We will kill all the Arakanese people.' The soldiers were surrounding outside and inside the village. When the shooting stopped for a while, my wife and I were cooking, and we heard another gunfire as we went out to the front of the house. We were hit by artillery shells. It hit my hips and knees, and it also hit my wife's belly and hands. The soldiers intentionally shot dead an old man named U Po Khaing, 70 years old. Soldiers forcibly gathered all the villagers in a house. When the soldiers returned, the ambulance arrived and I was taken to Mrauk-U Hospital. My wife was sent to Teinnyo hospital. Later I was informed that my children had fled to Nagar village. I have been in Mrauk-U hospital for over a month. After discharging from the hospital, I no longer dare to stay at my village, that's why I came to the Teinnyo IDP camp."

Indiscriminate Firing 58

Name: Daw U [redacted]

"On March 29, 2019, earlier in the morning a unit of Burma Army soldiers from LID 55 entered into our village and fired indiscriminately at the village and shouted like 'We will kill all the Arakanese people' despite there was no fighting between the two sides. The soldiers were surrounding outside and inside the village. The villagers were told to gather at the former administrator's house, U Thein Maung Chay. On our way to his house the soldiers also took us to that house. The soldiers alleged my husband U Ko Naing, 42 years, that his walking style is not normal and they tied my husband hand back in front of the administrator's house. They arrested my husband and we did not have any information where he was being detained. We heard that he was detained in Kyaukaw police station or sometimes at the Mrauk-U police station but was not sure and finally we got information that he was detained in Sittwe police station no. 1. Six months later, I was able to see my husband in Sittwe at no. 1 police station. He is in the prison now. There is no interrogation in the court as there was no prosecutors presence and no trial. We hired a lawyer.

We want the innocent people to be released as soon as possible. The problem here in the IDP camp we are facing is that the inadequate foods and uncomfortable living room as this is not my village's house."

Indiscriminate Firing 59

Name: Maung [redacted]

"The army fired four heavy artilleries weapons into our village and it landed on my house while I was charging my mobile phone and I got injured in my right hand. I was sent to Kyauktaw Hospital and Kyauktaw hospital referred me to Sittwe hospital and I was sent to Sittwe Hospital. The arm's bone was broken and now it has a steel shaft."

Indiscriminate Firing 60

Name: Daw [redacted] (female)

"The whole villagers went on hiding on that day because of Burma Army's artillery shells continously. The gunshots hit the villager house. While I was hiding in my house an artillery bullet hit at my neck and I was sent to Kyauktaw hospital and stayed three days in the hospital."

Indiscriminate Firing 61

Name: U [redacted] (male)

"On August 17, 2019 at around 2pm the three artilleries shelled by Burma Army's artillery battalion LIB 377 was landed at the monastery. A man was injured and the monastery buildings were slightly damaged. 10 minutes before the military shelled the artilleries we were informed that an explosive was exploded in the east of the village. That's why the military shelled the artillery as per I assume. In any case, artillery shelling in the village should not happen."

Indiscriminate Firing 62

Name: U San [redacted] (male)

"On August 14, 2019 at about two o'clock in the middle of the night, heavy artilleres and small arms fired into my village from the bank of the river. The artillery bullets hit my right arm and abdomen. I was treated at Kyauktaw hospital for about a week. The navy is believed to have fired from the river while they are on patrol. 7 heavy artilleries weapons landed and countless small weapons were shelled into the village. The ICRC, Red Cross, subsidized 200,000 Kyats for medical expenses. I don't want war at all. I would like to say that if there is clashes then it should not be in the civilian areas. We are always afraid of the clashes and couldn't do any work now. So I want to be a peaceful country and all the people live in peace."

Indiscriminate Firing 63

Name: Daw Thein [redacted] (female)

"On December 31, 2018 at around 5 am a combined forces of Burma Army and 13 police battalion of Myanmar police force arrested my son Htay Aung while he was sleeping in the suspicion of involvement with the Arakan Army (ULA/AA). When we heard that my son was detained in the police battalion 13, we went to the police station to meet my son but the police did not allow us to meet my son. The night before his arrest, more than 100 soldiers were hiding around the village and patrolling. On January 14, 2019, we got permission to meet my son Htay Aung while he was appearing in the Buthidaung court. On January 13, 2019 at around 8:00 am in the morning, a clash broke out near the Myaing Chaung (Khami) village under the village tract of Thayitpyin. The entire villagers from Thayitpyin village were forcibly called by the Burma Army and told to gather at the village administrator's house and they interrogated the villagers. After the interrogation the village administrator Maung Than Hlaing and another villager were arrested in the name of suspicion having ties with Arakan Army (ULA/AA) for further questioning. Despite that my son Htay Aung was ordered to release on January 14, 2019, he was not released on that day. He was released unconditionally on June 11, 2019. It's been nine months since we have been fleeing here and there after my son Htay Aung had arrested. There were many villagers who fled the village every night because of the military encircling the village.

On November 6, 2019, my house including seven other houses were set fire by the Burma Army. The house was just newly built and cost about 70 lakhs kyats. I lost about 10 million kyat worth of the properties."

Indiscriminate Firing 64

Name: U Ba [redacted] (male)

"I sent my family members to this Monastery's IDP camp because it was unsafe because of heavy artillery fire by the Burma Army. About twenty days after I sent my family to the IDP camp, at midnight, the army opened fire on the village at 3am and due to that the entire villagers fled the village. Two days after arriving here, the army set fire to seven houses in the village, including my house. I don't know how and where to make complaint and

Indiscriminate Firing 64 (cont.) I don't think there will be anything change or good response would come from the government."
Name: U Ba [redacted] (male)

Indiscriminate Firing 65 "The Burma army fired heavy artillery around the village and sometimes inside the village. As a result we did not dare to live in the village and fled the village. The fighting broke out for three days near the Myaing Chaung (Khami) village before we left the village. My house was burnt down by the army. I did not complain to any authority because I don't know how to make a complaint. The other concern is that if Burma army will come up with further problem against us. I want the war to be stopped and go back home as early as possible."
Name: U Kyaw [redacted] (male)

Indiscriminate Firing 66 "After the midnight around 2 am, villagers fled the village due to artillery fire by the Burma Army near the village bridge. My wife couldn't run out of the village because she was a pregnant woman. Ten of the villagers were left in the village including our couple. There were seven women and three men. The army summoned us (the remaining 10 villagers) and interrogated us. It was two nights in the village, and the International Red Cross (ICRC) called us to go into the IDP camp after the two days. My house has been set on fire by the military."
Name: Maung [redacted] (male)

Indiscriminate Firing 67 "Fighting was raging around the village and every night Burma Army fired with heavy artillery shelling; as a result we fled the village. We left the village on September 4, 2019 at 2 pm and arrived at this Monastery IDP camp at 3 pm. It has been three times now that we fled our home. I have been running since March, 2019, till today. At first, we sought refuge in the monastery of Kyar Nyo Pyin village, west of Thayet Pyin village. This is my last fleeing and we heard that the army also set fire to eight houses. The eight families whose houses were burnt down are U Kyaw Hla, Kyaw Min, Hmae Tun Aung, U Ba Than, Daw Ma San Thar , the Nun's house and another unknown house. In this final incident, the Red Cross twice rescued some of the villagers who were trapped in the village to flee. The first batch rescued was 16 people and the second was 11 people. There is no one in the village right now. Some houses were demolished and used as bullets cover by digging wells. On January 13, 2019 at 8:00 am in the morning as the fighting broke out near the Myaing Chaung (Khami) village, all the villagers from the Thayetpyin village were summoned in front of the village administrator U Maung Than Hlaing's house and interrogated. The village administrator U Maung Than Hlaing, Maung Kyaw Win, U Aung Tun Sein, a Khami ethnic from Alechaung village, were arrested with the accusation of having connection with the ULA/AA.

They were detained for five months and are now released.

This place is now a Buddhist monastery, a religious place. I am currently in charge of the Refugee Camp now. This IDP camp began receiving displaced peoples since September 4, 2019. There are currently 236 dormitories. We need about 100 more dormitories. We also need to consider the location of the building for the dormitory. Each house is built at a cost of 120,000 kyats.

[Interview continued on next page]

Indiscriminate Firing 67 (cont.) The fund money is donated by individual donors in Buthidaung town.

Name: U Aung [redacted] (male)

The first children to arrive were allowed to attend school. The later arrival 50 students were not allowed to attend. They are attending at the B.E.H.S No. (1) and (3) of Buthidaung . It's about a 45-minute walk from the monastery.

In regards to the health, the government health workers visit the camp twice a week.

The ministry of relief and social welfare provides 2 cans of rice, 500 Kilogram, for each person. The ICRC-Red Cross also donates household items. There are 18 toilets. Toilets are also needed. Others foods are also required, only the rice is not enough. And water and blankets and clothing are also needed."

Indiscriminate Firing 68

Name: U U [redacted] (male)

"There was an explosion near by the village of Naruntaung under the San Goe Taung village tract on December 8, 2018. Since then Burmese Army's unit often pass by our village. On May 12, 2019 , about 300 Burma army soldiers a unit of LID 22 who were coming after the clashes at Sar Par Htar village entered into our village with indiscriminate shooting and gunshot. A day ago, some villagers were also went on hiding to Zeditaung village. On that day, I and my wife and some other villagers were stuck in the village and couldn't go out from the village. We heard an explosion when Burma army soldiers arrived the village, the army asked us to bring hoe, shovels and knife.

Later, we were force to guide them to the San Goe Taung cemetery. They themselves buried four Tatmadaw soldiers' dead bodies.

On July 12, 2019 the whole villagers fled the village. Now my house has been burnt down by the army and the cattles are also left in the villages. My house is a two-story building, with concrete and wood."

Indiscriminate Firing 69

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"Before we arrived here, we had to go hide when the Burma soldiers came into the village and when they returned and again we came to our village. And again when they came to the village again go for hide. We were in those types of situation.

In the absence of villagers, the army has also set fire to homes. As far as I know the following family houses were burned down such as U Kyaw Win, Tun Aye Thein, U Win Maung, Than Sein, Aung Thein, Dar Soe, U Shwe Thein, Hla Kyawt Oo and Tun Thien.

It is also reported that the houses were demolished and the boards were sold to the Bengalis. In June 2019, the whole villagers fled. Prior to this place, they had lived in Zeditaung and Ywar Mar village. The Naruntaung village is south of Buthidaung and it's twenty miles away. On September 9, 2019 we arrived at the Main Road Monastery IDP camp.

The army was stationed on the hills east side and firing from there. The

Indiscriminate Firing 69 (cont.)

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

heavy artillery weapon's installation is located on the Thonesay Tabone pagoda which also known as San Goe Taung pagoda. It is about a mile from the Naruntaung village. Over there two heavy artillery shells were fired into the village . And then there were also artillery shelling from the division (LID) and (Sa Ka Kha) 15. The artillery also landed inside the village.

There are the LID 22 and LIB 551 stationed near the village of Thonesay Tabone village. When they see someone passing by the village, they shoot at them. I have decided to return home when there will be no Burmese Army nearby my village."

Indiscriminate Firing 70

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"On July 13, 2019, at around 8 am in the morning, we heard three explosions between the village of San Goe Taung and the Naruntaung village where a unit of Burma Army soldiers from LID 22 were passing and thereafter heavy artillery were shelling to our village from that area. The artillery landed on the outskirts of the village. Luckily it did not hit the village. At that time, all the villagers began to flee the village. Soon after the villagers left the village. At around 10am the Burma army entered the village, destroying houses and taking goods and villagers' belongings. Some villagers lost their jewelleries and gold and silver . On that day the Burma Army set fire on the house of U Shwe Thein, U Maung Tun Aung, Aung Thein, Hla Kyawt Oo and Tun Thein respectively. Ten days later, U Win Maung's house was set fire by the Burma Army. And then again a month later U Htun Aye Than and U Kyaw Win's house were set on fire. The army also killed cattle and they ate them. They destroyed my motorbike, generator and the soundbox in my house. In my house I left five cows and one hundred baskets of rice were left (100 basket weighs 20.86 Kg of rice).

We also lived at the Zeditaung village which is located to the south of Naruntaung village.

On October 6, 2019, we arrived at the Main Road Monastery IDP camp in Buthidaung. I want to work and live peacefully in my own village and I want these wars to be stopped as early as possible."

Indiscriminate Firing 71

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"Clashes broke out in the surrounding villages. The mines exploded. In the mountains, the Burmese Army dropped bombs on the hill from the military helicopter. The military also came into the village to interrogate the villagers frequently. Later, the villagers fled because they were worried that they would not get out of the village when the situation got worse. On the day of the evacuation, about 100 Burmese soldiers from the LID 22 came to the village to interrogate the villagers. Kwantaing village is located in the eastern part of Buthidaung town. The LIB 565, the Sa Ka Kha 15 and the LIB 551 are situated very close the village. Currently there are 12 families living in this camp."

Indiscriminate Firing 72

Name: U Hla [redacted] (male)

"On July 9, 2019 At about 3 pm on the day of Dharma we were at the monastery , more than 100 soldiers from LID 22 of the Burma Army entered our village and told all the villagers to gather in the monastery. They surrounded the village and fired shots outside the village. At that time, there were some guests from the village of San Goe Taung. They separated the villagers and the guests. While interrogating the villagers in the monastery, another team of soldiers searched every house in the village.

Again in the next morning, the Burma army conducted another search into all the houses in the village. After the interrogation and search the villagers were asked to return to their homes and left the guests at the monastery. They stayed in the village for three days and had left the village on the fourth day. Upon their leaving the village, they arrested some villagers including me, my sister-in-law, daughter-in-law Ma Putu, a school teacher, Kyau Thu Soe, the village administrator U San Maung, U Tun Hla, Ma Mae Ma, Maung Tun Sein from Thayetpyin village, Maung Phru Daung, Zaw Tun and Maung Than Hlaing from Phon Nyo Leik village. They took us to Laymro camp.

We left the village since 2 pm afternoon and arrived at the Laymro camp at 6 pm in the evening.

After the interrogation at the camp they released me at around 8pm, including U Tun Hla and his wife Mae Ma, my sister-in-law Ma Phru Phru and her five-year-old daughter Ma Mrat Ei Mon (aka Ma Putu), Maung Than Hlaing and Zaw Tun."

Indiscriminate Firing 73

Name: Ko Kyaw [redacted] (male)

"On February 7, 2019 at around 3:00 pm more than 100 Burmese soldiers from LID 22 coming from the Thazintaw village entered the village and gathered the whole village at the monastery. They surrounded the village and fired outside the village. At that time, there were about 50 people who came from San Goe Taung and U Yain Thar villages as refugees at the village. They separated the villagers and the guests. Villagers gathered in the monastery and were interrogated by the soldiers, who entered the village and searched every house. At 7 pm, the villagers were asked to return home and the guests were placed in a monastery. At 9:00 am the next morning, about 10 police forces led by Deputy officer Nyun Linn came to my house and said that they wanted to investigate me and called me to the clerk's house, Maung Than Hlaing's house. The police detained me and interrogated us in the evening including a villager from Phon Nyo Leik village, a villager from Thayetpyin village, a school teacher from Zee Kaing and administrator of my village. After we were detained two nights at the clerk's house, at 9:00am we were taken to the Laymro camp. We were taken to the LIB 551 after being detained for a day at the Laymor camp. We were detained at the LIB 551 for an hour and from then we were taken to the police battalion 13. The police interrogated us one by one by for days and on February 27, 2019 we all were released except the school teacher."

Indiscriminate Firing 74

Name: U Ba [redacted] (male)

"In between late October and early November (couldn't remember the exact date) while we were returning from the Kyar Nyo Pyin village by motorboat from taking relief supplies donated by the Arakan Students' Union, the Burma Army stopped us at around 4 pm near the Thayetpyin village's bridge and took us to the Budhitaung police battalion 13 for interrogation.

The strength of Burmese army were 300 soldiers, a combined force of LIB 551, 565 and LID 22 including about 40 police forces from the police battalion 13. On that day, the total 14 people were arrested. They were 7 villagers from Pyin Chaung village, village administrator from Thayetpyin village and U Kyaw Win, 2 villagers from Kyauktaung village and two construction workers at the Kwun Daing bridge. Among the 14 people , 12 people were released as they found no guilty of them in the next day. However they continued to detained the administrator of Thayetpyin village and U Maung Kyaw Win.

On May 7, 2019, fighting broke out near Zay village monastery and near the Mroma Chaung village . On the day of the fighting, about 4 p.m in the evening, the entire villagers fled to Kyar Nyo Pyin village. About a week before the fighting there were heavy artillery shelling around the Saingdin waterfalls and nearby our village by the military helicopter. When there were no villagers at the village the Burmese soldiers killed domestic animals and used for their foods. They also looted stuffs from homes. In the Kyar Nyo Pyin village, due to the continued artillery shelling by the Burma Army's LID 22, villagers were afraid to live and fled to this monastery IDP camp on July 26, 2019."

Indiscriminate Firing 75

Name: [redacted] (sibling group)

"On July 14, 2019, the fighting took place between Chachar Taung village and Naruntaung village. First I ran to U Yainthar village. From there I fled to Kyaukran village. When we fled, our 90-year-old mother was left alone in the home. When we found her a week later she was dead."

Indiscriminate Firing 76

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"It has been about 20 times since we fled the village due to the artillery shellings and clashes broke out nearby the village. The last escape was on July 12, 2019, and the entire villagers fled the village this time. The villagers fled to the Zeditaung, Kyaukran and U Yain Thar villages respectively. In the final escape an old woman, 90 years old, and two disabled people were left in the village. We were came to know through the disabled people that our house had been burned down by the Burma Army. They said their hands were handcuffed and bound and finally the dumb disabled person was able to escaped from it. The ICRC was able to rescue the mentally disabled person. Later, the youths from Naruntaung Village went to rescue the old lady Daw Aung Phyu and she died as soon as she arrived at the Naruntaung village. It is reported that the army is stationed in the village now. My house was burned down and I lost domestic animals 5 cows and 2 pigs."

Indiscriminate Firing 77

Name: Daw Hla [redacted]
(female)

"The Burmese army encircled the village around 9 pm on March 22, 2019 started a heavy fire on the hill. Since then, there had been heavy shelling into the village and outskirts of the village. When the attack was halted, we fled to the village of Sin Khone Taing, four men with me were left in the village because we were not permitted to flee. Six villagers were killed and more than 40 injured. Among them Daw Aye Nu Phru, aged 83 years, was included, who is my aunt. The MPs from Buthidaung township arrived and the dead bodies were taken to Buthidaung. After the incident, the army stayed in the village for about a week and the villagers returned to the home again after the Burma Army left the village. Twenty days later, the army approached our village again and left the village after short rest. Similarly, when the army arrived to the village again they hide in the jungle in fear of the Burmese army and have been living with fear since then. We had to run once on in April 2019. After another two months, we run again for the third time. The shooting occurred on all three occasions. Several times, we came into the village when there was no clashes. This is the last time that we fled the village on November 12, 2019. We arrived here after staying two days at the Aw Phauk village."

Indiscriminate Firing 78

Name: Daw Moe [redacted]
(female)

"At least one mile east of the village, the Burma Army conducted bombing from jet fighter and shelled artilleries into and nearby the village. At the moment I sometimes go back to see my house and coming back to IDP camp. The day of we fled the village was on Thursday at around 9 am in the late October 2019. There is no room for me yet in this camp but I have already registered here. The camp leaders said after few days I would get the room to live."

Indiscriminate Firing 79

Name: U Win [redacted] (male)

"At about 9:30 pm at night of April, 2019 (exact date is unknown) , a unit of Burma army soldiers coming from the Sin Goe Taung village entered into our village and started indiscriminate shooting in the village. That's why I ran away in fear. At first I run to the Zeditaung village. From Zeditaung village I ran to the Ou Phauk village. And then from Ou Phauk village to Preen Taw village where I stayed for a month. After staying for month in the Preen Taw I went to see my village situation and the soldiers opened fire on the whole village. Since then, I am taking shelter at the Yan Aung Myay Monastery. There were several times that we flee from the village. It's been about ten times. My house was also burned down."

Indiscriminate Firing 80

Name: U Shwe [redacted] (male)

"On July 13, 2019, at 11:00 am on Saturday, the Burma army entered the village by firing small and heavy weapons and we fled the village due to the fear. The houses belonging to U Tun Sein, U Tun Hla Maung, Daw Mra Yain and Maung Hla Win respectively were destroyed due the the landing of artillery weapons in their houses. On that day, at around 4 pm the Burma Army torched my house including Daw Hla Kyawt Oo, Aung Thein, Hla Oo Yain houses. In my house I have a had a grocery shop, two motorbikes and the rice which we stored. All were burned and destroyed including three cows. It cost 200,000 kyats in building my current house and the venerable monk of this monastery donated me 50,000 kyats."

Indiscriminate Firing 81

Name: U Aung [redacted] (male)

"The Burmese army entered our village at about 3 pm. About 7 pm after the soldiers arrived, my wife Tin Aye Thein, 42, was sent to my sister's Daw Than Nyunt's house near the hill. At around 9 pm, gunfires started with small and heavy artillery shells. It was a situation where none could help each other. In the morning I heard that all of my sister's family had died in the trenches. When I went to see I found four of my sister's family were killed in the trench, I found my wife was still alive but has no sense. My sister's daughter Hnin Aye Khin, 18 year old girl, who was injured in her stomach, was taken to Buthidaung hospital immediately including my wife. As the Buthidaung hospital is unable to treat them they were transferred to Sittwe hospital by a speed boat organized by the ICRC in Buthidaung. She spent more than a month in Sittwe Hospital and spent 20 days in Mingan Ward quarter no. 1 in Sittwe for treatment from the outside of the hospital. My wife lost one eye and was unable to speak. My niece stayed for 20 days in the Sittwe hospital and was discharged."

Indiscriminate Firing 82

Name: Daw Aye [redacted]
(female)

"Soldiers arrived at the village about three o'clock in the evening on March 21, 2019 and surrounded the village. A short time later they had gathered in the monastery. At 9 pm, they came into the village and fired artillery shells. At that moment, I came down from the house and tried to hide into the bunker, the military shot down the right arm of mine. We spent the night in the bunker and at 6:00 am, I fled with my sister-in-law to the village of Sun Khon Taing village. I went to the clinic at Zeditaung village for treatment of my wounds from Sun Khon Taing village. I was treated for a month at the Zeditaung clinic. Four times, we had to flee and return. Finally, on October 28, 2019 we fled to the monastery of Yan Aung Myay. 3 out of 4 children are living in Taungup, and the remaining one is lives with me."

Indiscriminate Firing 83

Name: Daw Bar [redacted]
(female)

"Clashes were occurring frequently near the village. When soldiers came to the village, they interrogated the villagers and tortured them if they did not like someone. Later, when we heard Burmese soldiers were coming to the village, then we fled to the Zeditaung village. Later, the Kwantaung villagers set up temporary shelters in the Zeditaung village to stay. When the Burmese soldiers came, we fled to Zeditaung village and when they went back we returned to the village. The last time we fled the village was in the early of November 2019. For the first time when the Burmese soldiers arrived the village it was on March 15, 2019, when we had ceremony of monkhood ordination for my son. On that day, we even couldn't practice our religious ceremony. Some villagers fled. On March 16, 2019, the day of my son's novicehood ordination day the artillery shell fired from the Naruntaung village and it landed near the hill of the monastery to the east of the village. As a result, the whole village fled about at 10 am. Soldiers also entered the village and shot and fired indiscriminately. The soldiers also burnt six houses in the village. The owner of the houses are U Kyaw Nyunt, May Hton, Ma Khin Nyunt (aka) May La Vi, Tun Oo Khine, Tun Oo Khine's daughter and Hla Than Nu's house."

Indiscriminate Firing 84

Name: Daw May [redacted]
(female)

"The government troops came to the village and fired artilleries near the monastery towards the hill and villagers fled on October 4, 2019 because of the fear. Initially, there were 218 IDPs from our village in this monastery.

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Indiscriminate Firing 84 (cont.) IDPs from my village are staying in other different IDP camps as well. They are taking shelter in the different IDP camps including Ywar Kyaung monastery of Myebon, Moe Thee Nettaung, Kyekhaungtaung and Konbaung village."

Name: Daw May [redacted]
(female)

Indiscriminate Firing 85 "On July 5 on Friday, around 160 Burma army soldiers came down from Zeekhaut village, north of Ahmyattaung village, indiscriminately firing heavy artillery and weapons. The villagers were scared and went to the monastery for shelter. While the villagers were hiding in the monastery, Burma Army soldiers burnt down 12 houses in the village including my house, Daw Khin Than Nu, Daw Than Than Nu, Sein Win Phru, Daw Mae Ma, U Maung Lone, Tin Tin, U Win Kyaw, Daw Aye Mra Nu, Daw ma Than Nu and Daw Nyunt Phru. We have arrived here five days before the full moon day of Thidunkyut which is on October 9, 2019."

Name: Khin [redacted]

Indiscriminate Firing 86 "The army set fire my house while I was hiding in the village monastery after the Burma Army soldiers were entering into the village with firing artillery and weapons."

Name: Cho [redacted]

Indiscriminate Firing 87 "On November 21, 2019 at around 4 pm on the evening, the small and massive artillery shells landed inside the village. At that time, my husband asked me to stay at the monastery. He said he would come to the monastery later. He called me before I reach to the monastery and told me I couldn't run out. When I arrived at the monastery, I made phone call to him but he did not pick up my call. When the shooting has stopped, I went to my house to see my husband. When I reached home I saw he was not alive anymore. He was killed. The shooting started again and I had to leave my deceased husband's body and fled to the monastery again. At around 8 pm at night, people went to guard the deceased body. The next day in the early morning at 3:00 am they (Burmese army) started shooting again and the villagers had to leave my deceased husband's body again in the house. In the afternoon at around 1 pm, despite ongoing shooting nearby the village, the villagers took my husband's dead body to the Htee Zway village by a motorboat because it was not possible to buried in the village. We arrived at Rathedaung town from Htee Zway village at around 2 pm. In the next day afternoon at around 1 pm the funeral was held in the Rathedaung town. My uncle U Maung Khin Win, also fled in fear of artillery fire and the bullet hit his left ear. We did not hear anything yet where he is living. The government army is very cruel. They burned down the houses, tortured the villagers, killing the domestic animals, cattles and doing whatever they want to do. My husband's name is Chan Thein Aung, aged 49 years old. His father's name is U Tun Hla."

Name: Daw Hla [redacted]
(female)

Indiscriminate Firing 88 "The main economy of our village is rice cultivation. The paddy field had to be left in unharvested condition. The government army have burned down the homes, firing with large artillery and weapons, killing the cattle and using for their meal. It looks like a country without a ruler. On the full moon day of Tan Saung Moon which is November 11, 2019, they killed my uncle's cow and had with their meal. On the next day they killed my uncle's cow. They also destroyed all the furniture of the house."

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

Interviews Depicting Arbitrary Arrests

Arbitrary Arrests 1

Name: Hla [redacted]

"My name is Hla [redacted] I am a parliamentary member in the state parliament from the constituency no. (1) of Minbya Township.

It has been many months since fighting escalated in Minbya Township. When we visit war-torn areas, we have seen that people are facing civilian displacements and arbitrary arrest of suspicion. In addition, people are worried about that when would someone's turn come and got arrest.

In terms of employment, the people of the state are on the run here and there and are now in the situation of no opportunity to work freely. One fourth of the farmlands remained without cultivated in the Minbya township.

It can be said that the government health workers are not willing to serve in the rural area anymore; it is said that education workers have been left homeless even if they do not want to serve in rural areas.

When we visit refugee camps, children's education is very disappointing. We heard that the children could go and study at the Punnyarama monastery. But it is not an easy thing for the rural children to make movement in the city.

I want the list of the school children to be collected and the teachers who previously have taught in the rural school would teach here by building a temporary school building.

It is almost impossible to provide food assistance in a situation where people are not even allowed to speak to voters in my own constituencies. Even now, the rice donated by the student's union in Pakokku has to be kept in the Dhamma hall, the government doesn't allow us to distribute it.

Both parties should reduce their pride and find the solution through the peaceful dialogue. I would like to appeal to the international community to intervene and help solve the complex issue of Burma."

Arbitrary Arrests 2

Name: Kyaw [redacted]

"On March 14, 2019 I fled my village when clashes escalated between Burmese Army and Arakan Army (ULA/AA) near the village. At first we ran to the Wat Hla village. From Wat Hla village we moved to Pe Pin Yan IDP camp and from their we came to Shite Thaug IDP camp. Many of our

[Interview continued on next page]

Arbitrary Arrests 2 (cont.)

Name: Kyaw [redacted]

villagers are at the Pe Pin Yan IDP camp. There is no one in our village right now. At present, there are 6 people of the 2 families from the Let Kar village at the Shite Thaug IDP camp.

The Burmese military have arrested people from our village. In the village, more than twenty people were arrested after finding a name list of volunteers in order to safeguard against thieves and robbers in the village. I want peace and want the detainees to be released as soon as possible."

Arbitrary Arrests 3Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"On April 10, 2019, Burmese Army's LID 55 and LID 22 arrested my son Khin Maung Soe on the suspicion of having connection with ULA/AA. Before the arrest, he was sheltering at the monastery after hearing the sounds of fighting near the Sittwe-Yangon highway. He was arrested at around 1 pm in the afternoon. Seventy-two people were arrested, including my son, and three were died during the interrogation. My son is now being held in Sittwe Prison. There is no investigation only the appearing in the court and remanded. It has been twelve times that we meet them. Financially, it is impossible to go further.

My son works in the fields. We have been out of the village since last four months. There is no plan to return to the village. Only when the country achieves peace then we will return to the village.

On August 10, 2019, we heard that a house was set on fire by the Burmese army. They also shot a buffalo and ate, which is belong to me. No payment was made for that buffalo. I lost about 4,000,000, kyats. They searched other homes and took everything they found.

I didn't make complaint to any authority because I do not know how to make complaint to which department. Civil society organizations are helping me. I don't know their names exactly.

Since my son is not a member of ULA/AA, I would like to request an immediate release of my son. I would also like to request other civil society organizations to help to release my son."

Arbitrary Arrests 4Name: Daw Aye [redacted]
(female)

"On April 10, 2019 around 6 am, a combined forces of LID 55 and LID 22 of Burma Army entered into the village in scolding, using bad words and shooting. Heavy artilleries had been firing from the Min Hla village. At that time all the villagers had gathered at the monastery. Later, soldiers came to the monastery and summoned the villagers and separated young man, elderly men, woman and and child and kept at the Daw Ma Nge house.

We saw military helicopters flying in the sky. They (the soldiers) asked the villagers if they had any contact with the ULA/AA. At about three o'clock in the evening, my husband Khin Maung Soe including the village administrator were taken by the Burmese Army along with other 26 people with military vehicle. He was beaten by the Burmese army as soon as he got into the car. It was later learned he was initially taken to the battalion 378 and then was taken to the Military Special Branch (Sa Ra Pha) office in Sittwe. They searched house-to-house and took ventures, jewelry

Arbitrary Arrests 4 (cont.)

Name: Daw Aye [redacted]
(female)

ornaments, money and other properties from some houses. The things which they could able to carry then they carried and the things they they could not carried were destroyed.

Family members of the detainees also appealed to Arakan State Prime Minister U Nyi Pu Captain Kyi Linn to release the detainees. They said they would let out the detainees with family members. There was no contact with the arrested people for more than 20 days, we are just came to know that they were detained in the Police Station No.1 in Sittwe. My assumption is that they did not allow us to meet with the detainees because the injuries had not recovered fully. When I first met my husband, he even couldn't speak well. His back, chest and head were being beaten and now he has a problem in breathing. His feature doesn't even look like a human with thin body. Now, the family has provided some food, and he a little bit looks better. As his wounds are in inner part due to tortured by the Burmese army his health condition is not good. Now my husband and other arrestees are in the Sittwe prison. The lawsuit have been opened by the Tatmataw (Burma Army) as far as I know.

There was no complaints about this. I don't know whom to make complaint and how? There is no one to help us. I am a helpless person now. As my husband is not with me now everything including commodities and livelihoods have been destroyed and wiped out."

Arbitrary Arrests 5

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"Early in the morning, we heard the sound of gunfire from the Zun Khwar village, and we hid in the place where we thought we would be safe. We were hiding in a bunker. After a while, we moved to the monastery to hide. At 10 am the soldiers entered and opened fire into the whole village and took all the villagers in the U San Thar Kyaw's compound. The children were forced to take off their shirts were kept under the sun light. In the village there was a group comprising 5 young people for volunteer. They found the list of youth volunteers and arrested them for questioning. When they get into the car the Burmese soldiers started kicking them. They were taken to the LIB 540 and relaxed for a half hour and from there they were taken to Sittway by military helicopter. My son told me that he was lucky not to die when army kick out on the helicopter with binding in his neck. My son told me that he was not given food for 5 days and when he was thirsty Burmese army gave him dirty water and he was forced to drink that.

More than 20 days after their arrest, they were found at Sittwe (1) police station on 28th April, 2019. I would like to request the government to release all the detainees as soon as possible after interrogating them."

Arbitrary Arrests 6

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"While villagers were taking shelter in the monastery because of fighting occurring nearby my neighboring villages were arrested by the Burmese army. In our village, there were volunteer groups in the village. They found a list of people who were listed in that list and arrested 27 people including my husband Ko U Nyunt Maung. We did not hear any information of 27 detainees whereabouts for at least 20 days. In the end we heard that they were detained in the police station no. 1 of Sittway. In the trial, the court

[Interview continued on next page]

Arbitrary Arrests 6 (cont.)

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

doesn't investigate and delaying. I have spent around (3,000,000) kyats since the court trial has been begun. Now, I have no transportation cost for the next trial. I have no job now just staying in the IDP camp.

No financial support from any organization. Currently, I am relying on help of family members from the he village. I would like to urge the government to release immediately after the investigation to the detainee to interrogate those detained and release them."

Arbitrary Arrests 7

Name: Ma [redacted] (female)

"On 26 June, 2019 in the afternoon at around 1 pm the Burmese Army Kyauktaw based LIB (376) arbitrarily arrested my husband Ko Zaw Linn Aung including U Nyunt Chay and U Kyaw San while they are working carpenter job at the Phayar Gree of Wai Thar Li under the suspicion. U Nyunt Chay is from the Bu Rwat Mhanyo village while U Kyaw San is from Maung Hree Pyin village. Burmese soldiers told the U Kyaw San to climb the cemetery hill and he did not come back from the hill and escaped. U Kyaw Hsan went up the hill and escaped without returning. Now my husband is in the Sittwe prison. My husband told me that he was often in the custody. Now is health situation is not good, pain in the chest. He said he couldn't hear properly. In spite of poverty, I had to go to court three times a month in during the trial. The ICRC donated 90,000 kyats for transportation to me. We fled on October 12, 2019.

I have raised the case to the concerned authority but no responses yet. I want urge the government, 'Release my innocent husband as soon as possible."

Arbitrary Arrests 8

Name: Daw Hla [redacted]
(female)

"My son was arrested. He was arrested from the monastery. The name is U Tun Kyi; He is 33 years old and has 2 children. We heard that the clash broke out nearby the village of Min Hla since 6 a.m. Then the Burmese Army indiscriminately shoot towards our village. At that all the people in the village are already in the monastery.

???ame to our village at about 11 pm and fired shots. By this time, the whole village was at the monastery.

As my son is being detained we have to bear all the cost and struggling now to continue the education of my sons' children. When I first met my son, I was afraid to even look at him as there are a lot of beaten areas. I felt so sad. I am praying that my son release as early as possible. "

Arbitrary Arrests 9

Name: Daw Than [redacted]
(female)

"In March, 2019 (couldn't remember the exact date) my husband U Maung Than Nu, 45-year-old, was arrested by the LID 55 and LID 22 of Burmar Army. In the village there are 3-4 people were divided for the grouping to guard the village. They found that name lists of 27 people and arrested the people according to that list. Before the arrest, men and women of the entire village were forced to gather in the middle of the village. The women were separated and forced to take off their shirts and to sit under the sun. The villagers were sun dried since 11 a.m to 5 p.m in the evening. When my family came to see the detainees at the police station no. 1 in Sittwe, they

Arbitrary Arrests 9 (cont.)

Name: Daw Than [redacted]
(female)

did not see my husband anymore. No one can tell where he left off and where he died. Nobody came to talk. I don't know who to tell and where to report or complain of it. As I don't have my own house and land, on the other hand I lost my husband. In this situation I have no idea even how to survive.

Even though I want to go back to my village I do not dare to go now. I want to urge that to make judgment according to the truth and justice regarding with the case of my husband's death."

Arbitrary Arrests 10

Name: Daw Thein [redacted]
(male)

"On April 10, 2019, a combined forces of Burmese Army's LID 55 and LID 22 arrested my younger brother Maung Kyaw Mya 42 years old from the monastery. There were patrol group in the village comprising 3-4 people in each group. They found a list of 27 people patrolling group in the village and all the people who were on the list were taken out of the house and binded with rope. Before the arrest, men and women of the entire village were forced to gather in the middle of the village. The women were separated and forced to take off their shirts and to sit under the sun. The villager were sun dried since 11 a.m to 5 p.m in the evening. He told me that he was physically tortured in many ways. The health situation is very bad often gets sick and fever.

I want my brother to be released as soon as possible. His family also facing difficulties with a small amount of farmland and family's business is not good now."

Arbitrary Arrests 11

Name: Daw [redacted] (female)

"My husband's name is Ko Thein Htun Zaw and he is 40 years old. He was killed by Burmese army after he was being tortured. Burmese soldiers entered into the village by shooting and arrested villagers who were hiding in the monastery. There were patrolling groups with 3-4 people in each group in the village. They found the list of 27 people who were in the patrolling group. The army arrested all the people in the list. Before the arrest, the Burmese army separated the villagers based on young, women and elderly people and put all under the sun without any shirts on body. They were kept under the sunlight since 11 am in the morning and arrested on 5 pm. When I heard and went to see those detainees, including my husband, in the Police station No. 1 in Sittwe and I did not see my husband. No one told me about where my husband was killed and whereabouts. It was later we came to know through the internet that he was killed. Now I am with my two children as like half made. My innocent husband was killed and disappeared."

Arbitrary Arrests 12

Name: Daw U [redacted] (female)

"My son Maung Twan Aye Kyaw, age 25 years old, was one of victims who were arrested by the Burma Army's LID 55 and LID 22. He was not married. There were patrolling groups with 3-4 people in each group in the village. They found the list of 27 people who were in the patrolling group. The army arrested all the people in the list. Before the arrest, the Burmese army separated the villagers based on young, women and elderly people

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Arbitrary Arrests 12 (cont.)

Name: Daw U [redacted] (female)

and put all the under the sun without any shirts in body. They were kept under the sunlight since 11 am in the morning and arrested on 5 pm.

When I went to see my son, I was told by him that he was pain and suffering from various kinds of torture. As a mother, I was very sad and disappointed. Since my son was innocent of any crime, I would like to urge the government to release him as soon as possible."

Arbitrary Arrests 13

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"Burmese Army LID 55 and LID 22 arrested my son Phoe Thar Lu (aka Twan Aung Kyaw) from my village. Burma army entered into the village by firing and arrested villagers who were hiding in the monastery. There were patrol groups in the village comprising 3-4 people in each group. They found a list of 27 people patrolling group in the village and all the people who were on the list were taken out of the house and binded with rope. Before the arrest, men and women of the entire village were forced to gather in the middle of the village . The women were separated and forced to take off their shirts and to sit under the sun . The villager were sun dried since 11 a.m to 5 p.m in the evening . They are now in the Sittww Prison. Their court trial has been over 10 times now. In each trial I had to spend 40,000 to 50,000 kyats. Whether you have money or not you have to go. He said that due to the tortured of the Burmese army he suffers chest pain and respiratory problem."

Arbitrary Arrests 14

Name: Ma Bu [redacted] (female)

"We fled to Zeditaung Ywar Haung village from my village Sin Oh due to armed clashes took east to the village in February 2019. On March 16, 2019 on our return from our betelnut plantation from Sin Oh village, a Burma army military column with around 300 troops interrogated my husband and took to the Kyauksay Pyin village. Upon reaching to Kyauksay Pyin village, the army separated the people in two groups the villagers and guests. In that day the Burmese Army arrested 25 men who are not the Kyauksay Pyin villagers including my husband Ko Maung Thein. After keeping a night in Kyauksay Pyin , the army took the detainees to Kyauktaw. I had to stay four days in the Kyauksay Pyin village. He was sent to Mrauk-U from Kyauktaw after 13 days. While at Kyauktaw, they were tortured until they confessed having ties with ULA/AA. They were detained in Mrauk-U for 3 months. They are now in Sittwe. There has been court trial but no interrogation.

The ICRC has donated 20,000 kyat to meet my husband in the prison. Other organizations are not yet helping. We want to urge the government for a quick inquiry and if it is not proven as guilty then please release as early as possible. I would like to appeal to human rights groups for financial support us."

Arbitrary Arrests 15

Name: Ko Win [redacted] (male)

"On March 29, 2019 – Burma Army's LID 55 with around 100 soldiers entered into our village and started firing artillery and gunshot. The village was also surrounded by them. An artillery shell landed inside the compound of my house and my left side of the chest was hit and I got injured. The walls and the roof were completely destroyed. All the villagers were forcibly gathered at the administrator's house. Soldiers went back

Arbitrary Arrests 15 (cont.)

Name: Ko Win [redacted] (male)

at around 12 pm. There was no reason for the shooting. I was allowed to send to the hospital about half an hour later. I was first taken to Tein Nyo clinic at around 9 am. The Tein Nyo clinic did not accept me so I had to go to Mrauk-U Hospital. I arrived at Mrauk-U hospital at 12 pm. I was being treated at Mrauk-U Hospital for one month and three days. The ICRC has provided more than 350,000 kyats and other Rakhine civil society organizations also helped. The elderly monks also came to help.

Villagers were interrogated and tortured, and five were arrested. U Ba Tun, U Maung Phyu Chay, U Hla Thein Maung, U Sein Tun and U Ko Naing were arrested. Now they are in Sittwe prison. Villagers said that soldiers went through all the houses and searched for valuables things and took whatever they found in the house. The whole villagers fled the village on March 29, 2019. The villagers run to nearby village such as Tein Nyo, Wat Hla, Palate, Taung Myint and Tha Pray Kan villages. At end of February, there was a clash occurred on the hill of Nga Pyo Taw which is close to our village to the east. The village is 2 miles far from Mrauk-U town. It is about two miles away.

Everyone wants to live in their own home. We decided to return to our village only when there will be peace. "

Arbitrary Arrests 16

Name: Daw Nu [redacted] (female)

"On March 29, 2019, Burma Army's LID (55) with around 100 soldiers entered into our village and started firing artillery and gunshot. All the villagers were forcibly gathered at the administrator's house. . He also sat in the governor's house. The soldiers went through all the houses and searched for valuables things and took whatever they found in the house. We were arrested and beaten because they found a picture of ULA/AA chief. My husband U Sein Tun and four others such as U Ba Tun, U Maung Phyu Chay and U Hla Thein Maung were also arrested. I did not hear where they are but it is reported that on April 4, 2019 that five villagers from Aut Tha Kan village appeared in the court on April 4, 2019. On April 29, 2019, I found my husband to meet. Now we have been 5 times trial a month. At the Sittwe police station no. (1) I had to give 120,000 kyats for my husband foods per monthly for four months.

If my husband is found not guilty after investigating then release him and also those who are innocent should be released as soon as possible."

Arbitrary Arrests 17

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"On March 29, 2019 the Burma Army LID 55 entered into the village by shooting at 6 am and ordered the whole villagers to be gathered at the village administrator U Thein Maung Chay's house. There was more than 200 Burmese soldiers. Then they go up to the houses and searched for gold, silver, and took all those civilian properties. They arrested 6 men including my father U Hla Thein Maung, U Ba Tun, U Maung Ni Chay, U Maung Fru Chay, U Ko Naing and U Sein Tun. They were taken to LIB 540 through Praing Chaung and Oh Htein villages. And from Kyauktaw they were taken Sittwe police station no.(1). They were arrested in the suspicion of having connection with the Arakan Army (ULA/AA). They stayed for six months at the Sittwe police station no (1) custody. Later they were sent to the Sittwe prison. I met my father twice. My mother went to

[Interview continued on next page]

Arbitrary Arrests 17 (cont.)

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

the court in every trial. Dad's health is not good. We had to buy medicine and send to him. It's said that the case was opened by the 11 men in the Mrauk-U police station. I do not know exactly who they are.

My father works in the fishing for livelihoods. He is also an ANP party leader in the village and he is 52 years old.

Only around two households remained in the village now. I lost about 4 million kyats (about 40 lakh kyat). In spite of having no money I had to go to the court for my father's trial which made me more difficulties. In October 2019, the Burmese army came to the village once and searched for the belonging of the villagers and took away.

In regards to my father's case, the (ICRC) has supported us 64,000 kyats for the trial. No other organizations had helped.

I will not return the village as long as there is armed clashes occurring. Of course, I want go back to my home. As my father was being arrested illegally and innocent man. Therefore, I would like to call on the government to release my father as soon as possible. We need a lot of help right now. Therefore, I appeal civil society organizations to help us as much as they could."

Arbitrary Arrests 18

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"On March 29, 2019 at around 6 a.m in the morning, the Burmese army LID 55 with nearly 200 soldiers entered into our village by shooting. They forced all the villagers to gather in the U Thein Maung Chay's house. They arrest 5 men including my husband, U Maung Phru Chay. My husband is 50 years old. He was taken by the army via Praing Chay village to Kyauk Taw, from Kyauk Taw to Mrauk-U and from Mrauk-U to Sittwe. On 28 April, 2019 I got chance to meet him at the Mrauk-U court. They said that they arrested my husband because they found a health care bag from my husband. A young girl named Pauk Sa, who was a shopkeeper at the Tein Nyo bridge, was also shot dead.

There is no opportunity to complain in this running situation. I also don't know how to make a complaint to which departement. My husband is in poor health. He has high blood pressure. He was not even healthy while at home.

The ICRC once donated 45,000 kyats to me. I have already spent 3,000,000 kyats for going to the court on trial. As my husband is not with me we do not have any work now.

My husband was arrested without anything wrong. He was innocent. Therefore, I would like to urge the government to release my husband immediately."

Arbitrary Arrests 19

Name: Daw Hla [redacted]
(female)

"On March 12, 2019 at around 8 pm an aid group carrying a patient in an ambulance coming from the Thabuzza village request my husband for help them and my husband also went with them. They were sending the patient to Mrauk-U hospital. The patient's name is Hla Maung Win. There was no

Arbitrary Arrests 19 (cont.)

Name: Daw Hla [redacted]
(female)

fighting in our village at that time. There was no curfew orders. About 10 pm that night, it was reported that he was arrested near the Chaung Thaik village. It was reported that the Burmese army LIB 540 had arrested him after detaining him a night at the Kaung Phru Pyin Police Station. The patient did not even reach to Mrauk-U hospital at that and died on the way at night. Those who were arrested were including my husband Ko Twan Soe Linn, U Oo Maung Tun, Ko Zaw Naing Htay, Ko Soe Soe Naing, Ko Si Thu Aung and Ko Zaw Min Twan. Initially, I did not get any contact with him. Three days after their arrest, it was reported that they were detained in Mrauk-U. We got information that he was sent to Sittwe from Mrauk-U. While he was in the Mrauk-U custody we were not allowed to meet him. We were only allowed to see him in Sittwe. All six arrested are in Sittwe prison. Because of the beating and physically tortured by the Burmese army, eight stitches were made in my husband's head. Si Thu Aung had to go to the hospital three times. The ICRC team has donated 36,000 kyats for a visit to the prison in June. Other community organizations also helped me. I don't even know their exact names. Living without a husband at the moment my family is having a difficult time living as my livelihoods relied on my husband.

As my husband is innocent, I would like to urge the government to release my husband as early as possible."

Arbitrary Arrests 20

Name: U Sein [redacted] (male)

"On March 3, 2019, Mrauk-U Police Station officer arrested me while in the meeting in Mrauk-U town hall. Asked why they were arrested, the police replied that they didn't know. He said he had to arrest because of order from the higher authority. I was released on March 12, 2019 after investigation. Later, a group of friends gathered for party for succeeding the matriculation exam in Kyauk Say village and they were arrested. Two people who were returning from the market from Mrauk-U also arrested.

Now people do not dare to go out for work. As we are relying on the hills and jungle for the livelihoods, we have difficulties in surviving now."

Arbitrary Arrests 21

Name: Ma San [redacted] (male)

"Friends from Kyauk Say Pyin village invited my husband Ko Maung Win Kyaw for dinner as they completed matriculation exam on March 16, and my husband went there. While they were eating, the army arrested them and were sent to Kyauktaw the following day. Since my husband is innocent so I want to ask the government to release him as soon as possible."

Arbitrary Arrests 22

Name: Ma Moe Thidar [redacted]
(female)

"My father was taken by the Burmese Army from Kyauksaypyin village. After detaining for four days at the Kyauksaypyin village he was sent to Sittwe Prison. Now father is in the Sittwe prison. I want my father to be released as soon as possible."

Arbitrary Arrests 23

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"On June 11, 2019, at around 9 am morning, my husband Kyaw Thein Maung, 31-years-old, and U Tun Hla San were arrested by the Burma Army's LID 55 near the village of Ra Pet Chaung. U Tun Hla San and Kyaw Thein Maung were arrested by the military when they were traveling to Kyauktaw by motorbike. On June 12, 2019 they were taken to Kyauktaw and June 18, 2019 were sent to Mrauk Oo. They are now in the Sittwe prison. He was arrested on charges of the terrorism."

Arbitrary Arrests 24

Name: U War [redacted] (male)

"My son, Aung Naing Win, 23 year old, was arrested by the Burmese army when he and his mother relaxing for a while at Kyauksaypyin village after selling the pork from Kyi Ar Pyin village. He was arrested without any valid reason. He was taken to Sittwe via Kyauktaw and Mrauk-U. Now he is currently in the Sittwe prison."

Arbitrary Arrests 25

Name: Daw Than [redacted] (female)

"On June 13, 2019 my husband, Ko U Than, 36 year old, was arrested by Burmese troops from Kyauksay village. He was arrested when he went to join an event after getting an invitation to attend the celebration program of the succeeding of matriculation exam of a relative in Kyauksay Village. Kyauksay Pyin village is located one mile west of Yan Aung Pyin village. He was taken to Sittwe via Kyauktaw and Mrauk-U. Now he is currently in the Sittwe prison."

Arbitrary Arrests 26

Name: U Ba [redacted] (male)

"On June 13, 2019 at around 3 pm in the afternoon, my son Maung Maung Htay, 21-years-old, was arrested by the Burmese Army from Kyauksay Pyin village. After keeping two nights in the Kyauksay Pyin village he was taken to Kyauktaw. Later he was taken to Sittwe via Mrauk-U. He was returning home from Kyauktaw after enrolling at a school to his sister in Kyauktaw. The military arrested all guests in Kyauksay village in connection with the ULA/AA. Twenty-four guests including my son were arrested. Among them eight from Yan Aung Pyin village; six from Zeditaung IDP camp; one from Sa Par Saik Village in Kyauktaw Township; one from Hraukchaung village; five people from Kra Kan village and Kyat San village in Mrauk-U Township; three are from Baukcha Maw Village, Mrauk-U Township. One 13-year old boy was also arrested. He was released to his mother's asylum at the time of the deportation. The other 24 were charged in the case. The case was filed by deputy police chief Soe Lwin of Kyauktaw Police station. The case number are (77), (50/A) (50/J) and (52/D).

No complaint were made to the authority. We have reported the case to U Tun Thar Sein, the representative of Mrauk-U township constituency of state parliament. I have a foreign lawyer to help the case. He also said he would help. ICRC supported once 35,000 kyats travel expenses for a family member. I would like to ask the government for a speedy trial and if convicted then give verdict and if not guilty then release immediately."

Arbitrary Arrests 27

Name: Maung [redacted] (male)

"On June 13, 2019, in the case of mass arrest in Kyauksay Pyin village, a disabled boy was also being arrested despite I requested the army not arrest him. But they took him as well. His name is Maung Khin Win, 23 years of age, son of U Yak Thae Aung."

Arbitrary Arrests 28

Name: U Hla [redacted] (male)

"On March 29, 2019 at around 6 a.m in the morning, the Burmese army rounded up our village and started shooting for around 4 hours. The army arrested 5 men including my father on allegations of having connection with ULA/AA. Two people including an old man aged more than 70 and a woman were killed in the indiscriminate gunshot by the Burmese army. The army also beat with rifle butts and tortured the villagers before they arrested them."

Arbitrary Arrests 28 (cont.)

Name: U Hla [redacted] (male)

Those who were arrested were taken to Mrauk-U and then from Mrauk-U to Sittwe from Kyauktaw. They are now in Sittwe. Lawyers Kyaw Myo Naing and Aung Phay Than from Mrauk-U asked 1,000,000 kyats for the case. It's not possible for us to pay such a big amount and we did not let them to handle the case.

Later, U Hla Aung Thein and another female lawyer from Bar Association of Arakan State are helping to handle out the case in voluntarily. Lawyers said they would try to release them in November 2019. I will believe only when I saw them in the outside.

Another thing is that the Tatmataw also took the village administrator to the Praing Chaung village along with the other detainees.

Villagers in Pyi Chaung Village reported that they had been forced to interviewed the Burmese army and forced to make confession that they had to shoot just because of the order from the ULA/AA. The army threats them that they would be shot with a gun if they did not do what army told them to do.

The condition of health is not good as my father is an old man. My father is a little bit deaf in normal life. I heard that he became a complete deaf now after Tatmadaw's beating and torturing him. Someone gave a pair of earphones but Tatmadaw doesn't allow to use earphone. I heard that my father was also beaten and tortured by several ways by the Burmese army. We always have to send medicines. There are more money is spending in the trial session. The situation in the village is not same as before now. Fears of when the Burmese army will come and abduct them are overwhelming.

The teachers were too afraid to come as well. It has been a long time since we hear the school bell."

Arbitrary Arrests 29

Name: Daw Nyein [redacted] (female)

"On April 10, 2019 as the fighting broke out between the ULA/AA and Burma Army in the early morning on the hill of the west of the village I fled the village. After the fighting has stopped at around noon, the Burmese army entered into the village and opened fire. All the villagers were taken out and the men and women were gathered in the U San Tha Kyaw's house. Homes were also searched throughout the village and Burmese army took the ornaments, jewelries such as gold and other belongings owned by the villagers. A 60-year-old grandmother was horrified and died. 27 men from the village were also arrested for alleged links to the ULA/AA. They have not been released yet."

Arbitrary Arrests 30

Name: U Kyaw [redacted] (male)

"On March 13, Hla Maung Win (aka Nyi Bu Chay) a malaria patient from Thabaukzar Tetzu village, asked for help to bring six young people, including my son Zaw Min Tun, of Kyaungtaung Village to drop him off to the Mrauk-U. The distance between Thabaukzar Tetzu and Kyauktang village is 3 miles. Burmese soldiers from Battalion 540 and LID 22 arrested them at about 8pm on the way to Mrauk-U. At the period of the time they were arrested, there was no fighting was occurred near the mountain.

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Arbitrary Arrests 30 (cont.)

Name: U Kyaw [redacted] (male)

There are no curfew orders. The patient had not reached to hospital either but died at the hands of soldiers. The arrestees were kept at the Kaung Phyu Pyin police battalion and LIB 540 for five days and sent them to the Mrauk-U police station. In the Mrauk-U police station they kept about 20 days and sent to the Sittwe. After two months, we were allowed to meet with my son. Now these young men are being held in Sittwe prison. My son told me that he had been tortured for 40 days in various forms in the custody. The case was opened by the Captain Myo Min Aung from the LIB 377. The witnesses are as far as I know township's administrator of Mrauk-U, U Zaw Paing Tun, station officers from Ponnagyun and Kyauktaw, Main road quarter and Ywar Gyi Mrauk quarter's administrator of Sittwe and the station officer of Sittwe police station. For the travel cost during the court trial, Mratazaung head monk supported 50,000 kyat for each family and ICRC supported 32,000 kyat for each family. I would like to urge the government to release these innocent young boys as early as possible."

Arbitrary Arrests 31

Name: Ma Aye [redacted] (female)

"On March 13, Hla Maung Win (aka Nyi Bu Chay) a malaria patient from Thabaukzar Tetzu village, asked for help to bring six young people, including my younger brother Si Thu Aung, of Kyaungtaung Village, to drop him off to the Mrauk-U. The distance between the Kyaungtaung and Thabaukzar Tetzu village is 3 miles. Soldiers from Battalion 540 and LID 22 arrested them on the Chaung Thit road while on the way to Mrauk-U hospital at around 12 o'clock at night. At the period of the time they were arrested, there was no fighting was occurred near the mountain. There are no curfew orders.

The patient had not reached to hospital either but died at the hands of soldiers. The arrestee were kept at the Kaung Phyu Pyin police battalion and LIB 540 for five days and sent them to the Mrauk-U police station. In the Mrauk-U police station they kept about 20 days and sent to the Sittway. After two months, the detainees were allowed to meet with their families. Now younger brother is being held in Sittway prison. They were arrested on suspicion of being affiliated with the ULA/AA.

For the travel cost during the court trial, Mratazaung head monk supported 50,000 kyat for each family and ICRC supported 32,000 kyat for each family. It's been over ten times since their court trial has been started."

Arbitrary Arrests 32

Name: Ma Than [redacted] (female)

"On March 16, 2019 at around 11:00 am, my husband Ko Tin Tin Maung, 32 year old, was returning after observing from the betlnut plantation in Sin Oh village. He was arrested by the Burmese army and taken to Kyauksay Pyin village. From Kyauksay Pyin village he was taken to Kyauktaw in the next day. From Kyauktaw, he was then sent to Mrauk-U before he was sent to Sittwe."

Arbitrary Arrests 33

Name: Maung [redacted] (male)

"On March 13, 2019, at around 12:00 pm, while I was returning from Sin Oh village by motorboat after collecting firewood I heard the gun shot and I stopped. Burmese army arrested me and took me to Kyauksay Pyin village. Along with me, there were Ko Maung Hla Chay, Ko Maung Hla Win and Ko Tin Tin Maung were arrested. We were kept a night at Kyauksay Pyin village and next day were sent to Kyauktaw. While in Kyauktaw, we were

Arbitrary Arrests 33 (cont.)

Name: Maung [redacted] (male)

tortured on a daily basis for 10 consecutive days. In the end, one of the captains apparently, he told us to confess that we have connection with ULA/AA otherwise we would be tortured to death. At last, we confessed even though we are not a member of ULA/AA. After three months I was being detained in Mrauk-U, I was released on bail. But I still have to appear in the court. I do not want to go to the court anymore. I want urge the government to set me free from this going to court."

Arbitrary Arrests 34

Name: Ma Aye [redacted] (female)

"On March 13, 2019, at around 12:00 pm, my husband Ko Maung Hla Chay, 21 years old, was arrested by the Burmese army while he was taking shelter in the village of Kyauksay Pyin after he heard the gunshots sound neighboring the village. He was returning from the hill by collecting firewoods. He was detained in Kyauktaw for about 20 days before he was transferred to Mrauk-U. While in Kyauktaw, he was forced to say they he had ties with ULA/AA and if he refuse to say that he was beaten and tortured different ways. On July 30, 2019 he was brought to Kyauktaw from Mrauk-U and again he was sent to Sittwe from Kyauktaw on July 31, 2019. There was no inquiry and no hearing except appearing in the court.

I would like to appeal the government for a speedy inquiry and if they found my husband guilty then give verdict or if found no guilty then release him as soon as possible."

Arbitrary Arrests 35

Name: Saw Aye [redacted] (male)

"On March 12, 2019, Hla Maung Win (aka Nyi Bu Chay) from Thabaukzartezu village affected by malaria asked for help from six people of Kyaungtaung village including my son Zaw Hlaing Htay to take him to the Mrauk-U hospital. The distance between Thabaukzartezu and Kyaungtaung village is about (3) miles. Burmese soldiers from LIB 540 and LID 22 arrested my son at Chaungthit street at 12 o'clock at night on their way to Mrauk-U hospital.

My son was unjustly arrested. So I would like to urge the government to release him as soon as possible."

Arbitrary Arrests 36

Name: Daw May [redacted] (male)

"My husband is U Maung Tun, 44-year-old, was arrested by the Burmese army while searching for cattle. My husband is now in the Sittwe prison. The police officer from Mrauk-U police station opened case against my husband."

Arbitrary Arrests 37

Name: Daw Aye [redacted] (female)

"On March 12, 2019, Hla Maung Win (aka Nyi Bu Chay) from Thabaukzartezu village affected by malaria asked for help from six villagers of Kyaungtaung village including my husband Ko Soe Soe Naing, 31 year old, to take him to the Mrauk-U hospital. The distance between Thabaukzartezu and Kyaungtaung village is about 3 miles. Burmese soldiers from LIB 540 and LID 22 arrested my son at Chaungthit street at 12 o'clock at night on their way to Mrauk-U hospital.

Now my husband is detained in the Sittway prison. I heard that the police officer from Mrauk-U police station opened case against my husband."

Arbitrary Arrests 38

Name: Daw Than [redacted]
(female)

"Fighting broke out near the village on March 5, 2019. The Burm Army soldiers also came to the village to arrest and harass the villagers. They often looted the villagers' properties from the village. As a result, the entire villagers fled to the camps. I cannot predict when to return to my home."

Arbitrary Arrests 39

Name: U Aye [redacted] (male)

"Our village is on the east side of Mrauk-U and it is 5 miles far from Mrauk-U. The village's main economy is agriculture, forestry and and gardening. Arriving from Yangon I heard the fighting near the Kothaung stupa, I did not go back to my village, and I did take refuge in this monastery (Mratazaung), and I have not yet returned to the village. I heard that villagers were arrested by the Burma Army in the village and those arrested have not yet been released."

Arbitrary Arrests 40

Name: Ma Oo [redacted] (female)

"On April 10, 2019 in the early morning, sound of gunfire was heard nearby the village. After a while, soldiers came into the village and gathered the villagers who were sheltering in the monastery. There are five small groups were form by the villagers for the safety and welfare of the village. The list of those groups people were found by the Burma Army and arrested 19 local men including my brother Thein Tun Maung, 23 years old, and 8 men from other villages. He was also 23 years old. We begged the Burma army not to arrest my innocent brother without any fault. But they took my brother saying that they would interrogate for a while. The soldiers were from LID 55 and LID 22. When he got to the car, he was beaten and tortured by the Burma Army. My brother recounts that he was taken to an unknown battalion and interrogated him and then he was brought to Sittwe via Burma Army's helicopter. My brother recounts that the violence and torture he experienced he had never ever seen before. If the villagers are properly investigated and questioned and found no guilty then on behalf of the villagers I would like to request the government to release them as early as possible."

Arbitrary Arrests 41

Name: Daw Ma [redacted] (female)

"My son was arrested by the Burma Army on April 10, 2019."

Arbitrary Arrests 42

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"During the time of the incident, I did not know what happened in the village as I was travelling to Mrauk-U town. When I arrived at the village, I came to know that my son Khin Maung Win, 36-year-old, was arrested. When I met him at the court during the trial he told me that he had been tortured violently during the interrogation."

Arbitrary Arrests 43

Name: Daw Aye [redacted]
(female)

"On April 10, 2019, in the early morning the fighting broke out nearby the village and the villagers were taking shelter at the monastery. At around 11 am the Burmese soldier entered the village and arrested my husband Maung Tun Hla from the monastery. My husband was arrested without any charge. So far, he has not been released."

Arbitrary Arrests 44

Name: Daw U [redacted] (female)

"On March 29, 2019 earlier in the morning a unit of Burma Army soldiers from LID 55 entered into our village and fired indiscriminately at the village and shouted like 'We will kill all the Arakanese people,' despite there was no fighting between the two sides."

Arbitrary Arrests 44 (cont.)

Name: Daw U [redacted] (female)

The soldiers were surrounding outside and inside the village.

The villagers were told to gather at the former administrator's house U Thein Maung Chay. On our way to his house the soldiers also took us to that house. The soldiers alleged my husband U Ko Naing, 42-years, that his walking style is not normal and they tied my husband's hands back in front of the administrator's house. They arrested him in my village and we did not have any information where he was being detained. We heard that he was detained in Kyaukaw police station or sometimes at the Mrauk-U police station but was not sure and finally we got information that he was detained in Sittwe police station no. 1. Six months later, I was able to see my husband in Sittwe at no. 1 police station. He is in the prison now. There is no interrogation in the court as there was no prosecutors presence and no trial. We hired a lawyer.

We want the innocent people to be released as soon as possible. The problem problem here in the IDP camp we are facing is that the inadequate foods and uncomfortable living room as this is not my village's house."

Arbitrary Arrests 45

Name: U Ba [redacted] (female)

"I went to see my son Nyi Nyi Soe, 32 years old, with relative and three other monks after hearing that my son was detained by the Burma Army at the Ywamarpyin bridge. The Burma army said they have already sent him to the Kyauktaw police station. But when we made phone call to Kyauktaw police station they replied that they didn't have any detainees on that day in the police station. Till today, we do not know where do the Burma Army detain my son. I have no information on that."

Arbitrary Arrests 46

Name: Daw [redacted] (female)

"My husband Ko U Tun Shwe, 37-year-old, is a driver on Kyauktaw-Sittwe highway. On that day, at 7 a.m my husband left from Kyauktaw to Sittwe with passengers. A police deputy officer also got into his car when his car approached Apaukwa village. The deputy police officer was taken by one of my husband's friends (supposed to be) between the village of Pan Nila and Kran Khun on the way. At 2:00 pm in the afternoon my husband returned back from Sittwe to Kyauktaw with his passenger car. At about 4 pm, on his return to Kyauktaw in front of the LIB 537, he was summoned by LIB 537 inside the base to inspect and interrogate him. The military came to know that the person who took the Police deputy officer was ULA/AA, that's why the military is checking my husband. The army told us to inform Kyauktaw police station. So I went to the Kyauktaw police station with my relatives and informed them. It was around 8 p.m at night and the interrogation lasted until 12 o'clock in the midnight. After the interrogation, we were asked to go back to our home and they detained my husband in the police station. They also seized the car. After detaining five days in the Kyauktaw police station, they sent my husband to Ponnagyun police station. Now he was charged article 50 (a) (b) and 52 (a) of the counter terrorism act. My husband was arrested without guilt and wanted to be released as early as possible."

Arbitrary Arrests 47

Name: Daw Thein [redacted]
(female)

"On December 31, 2018 at around 5 a.m a combined forces of Burma Army and (13) police battalion of Myanmar police force arrested my son Htay Aung while he was sleeping in the suspicion of involvement with the Arakan Army (ULA/AA). When we heard that my son was detained in the police battalion (13) ,we went to the police station to meet my son but the police did not allow us to meet my son. The night before his arrest, more than 100 soldiers were hiding around the village and patrolling. On January 14, 2019, we got permission to meet my son Htay Aung while he was appearing in the Buthidaung court. On January 13, 2019 at around 8:00 am in the morning a clash broke out near the Myaing Chaung (Khami) village under the village tract of Thayitpyin. The entire villagers from Thayitpyin village were forcibly called by the Burma Army and told to gather at the village administrator's house and interrogated the villagers. After the interrogation the village administrator Maung Than Hlaing and another villager were arrested in the name of suspicion of having ties with Arakan Army (ULA/AA) for further questioning. Despite my son Htay Aung was ordered to release on January 14, 2019, he was not released on that day. He was released unconditionally on June 11, 2019. It's been nine months since we have been fleeing here and there after my son Htay Aung had arrested. There were many villagers who fled the village every night because of the military encircling the village.

On November 6, 2019, my house including seven other houses were set fire by the Burma Army . The house was just newly built and cost about 70 lakhs Kyats . I lost about 10 million kyat worth of the properties."

Arbitrary Arrests 48

Name: U Aung [redacted] (male)

"Fighting was raging around the village and every night Burma Army fired with heavy artillery shelling. As a result we fled the village. We left the village on September 4, 2019 at 2 pm and arrived at the this monastery IDP camp at 3 pm. It has been three times now that we fled our home. I have been running since March, 2019 till today. At first, we sought refuge in the monastery of Kyar Nyo Pyin village, west of Thayet Pyin village. This is my last fleeing and we heard that the army also set fire to eight houses. The eight families whose houses were burnt down are U Kyaw Hla, Kyaw Min, Hmae Tun Aung, U Ba Than, Daw Ma San Thar, the Nun's house and another unknown house. In this final incident, the Red Cross twice forced some of the villagers who were trapped in the village to flee. The first batch rescued was 16 people and the second was 11 people. There are no one in the village right now. Some houses were demolished and used as bullets cover by digging wells. On January 13, 2019 at 8:00 am in the morning as the fighting broke out near the Myaing Chaung (Khami) village, all the villagers from the Thayetpyin village were summoned in front of the village administrator U Maung Than Hlaing's house and interrogated the villagers. The village administrator U Maung Than Hlaing, Maung Kyaw Win, U Aung Tun Sein a Khami ethnic from Alechaung village, were arrested in the accusation of having connection with the ULA/AA.

They had been detained for five months and are now released.

This place is now a Buddhist monastery a religious place. I am currently in charge of the Refugee Camp now. This IDP camp began receiving displaced

Arbitrary Arrests 48 (cont.)

Name: U Aung [redacted] (male)

peoples since September 4, 2019. There are currently 236 dormitories. We need about 100 more dormitories. We also need to consider the location of the building for the dormitory. Each house is built at a cost of 120,000 kyats. The fund money is donated by individual donors in Buthidaung town.

The first arrivals children allowed to attend school. The later arrival 50 students were not allowed to attend. They are attending at the B.E.H.S No. (1) and (3) of Buthidaung . It's about a 45-minute walk from the monastery.

In regards to the health, the government health workers visit the camp twice a week.

The ministry of relief and social welfare provides 2 cans of rice (500 kg) for each person. The ICRC also donates household items. There are 18 toilets. Toilets are also needed. Others foods are also required, only the rice is not enough. And water and blankets and clothing are also needed."

Arbitrary Arrests 49

Name: U Hla [redacted] (male)

"On July 9, 2019 At about 3 pm on the day of Dharma we were at the monastery , more than 100 soldiers from LID 22 of the Burma Army entered our village and told all the villagers to gather in the monastery. They surrounded the village and fired shots outside the village. At that time, there were some guests from the village of San Goe Taung. They separated the villagers and the guests. While interrogating the villagers in the monastery another team of soldiers searched every houses in the village.

Again in the next morning, the Burma army conducted another search into all the houses in the village. After the interrogation and search the villagers were asked to return to their homes and left the guests at the monastery. They stayed in the village for three days and had left the village on the fourth day. Upon their leaving the village, they arrested some villagers including me, my sister in law, daughter in law Ma Putu, a school teacher, Kyau Thu Soe, the village administrator U San Maung, U Tun Hla, Ma Mae Ma, Maung Tun Sein from Thayetpyin village, Maung Phru Daung, Zaw Tun and Maung Than Hlaing from Phon Nyo Leik village. They took us to Laymro camp.

We left the village since 2 pm afternoon and arrived at the Laymro camp at 6 pm in the evening.

After the interrogation at the camp they released me at around 8 pm including U Tun Hla and his wife Mae Ma, My sister in law Ma Phru Phru and her five year old daughter Ma Mrat Ei Mon (aka Ma Putu), Maung Than Hlaing and Zaw Tun. "

Arbitrary Arrests 50

Name: Ko [redacted] (male)

"On February 7, 2019 at around 3:00 pm more than 100 Burmese soldiers from LID 22 coming from the Thazintaw village entered the village and gathered the whole village at the monastery. They surrounded the village and fired outside the village. At that time, there were about 50 people who came from San Goe Taung and U Yain Thar villages as refugee at the village. They separated the villagers and the guests. Villagers gathered in the monastery and interrogated the soldiers, who entered the village and searched every house. At 7 pm, the villagers were asked to return home and the guests were placed in a monastery. At 9:00 am the next morning, about 10 police forces led by Deputy officer Nyun Linn came to my house and said that they wanted to investigate me and called me to the clerk's house Maung Than Hlaing's house. The police detained me and interrogated us in the evening including a villager from Phon Nyo Leik village, a villager from Thayetpyin village, a school teacher from Zee Kaing and administrator of my village. After we were detained two nights at the clerk's house at 9:00 am we were taken to the Laymro camp. We were taken to the LIB 551 after being detained for a day at the Laymor camp. We were detained at the LIB 551 for an hour and from then we were taken to the police battalion (13). The police interrogated us one by one by for days and on February 27, 2019 we all were released except the school teacher."

Arbitrary Arrests 51

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"We visited a relative in Kyaukran village in Buthidaung township. We left Thayetpyin village from 11 am and arrived at Kyaukran village at 12 p.m afternoon. At about 3 pm, about 100 Burmese troops from the LID 22 arrived at Kyaukran village and took us to the monastery for interrogation. We were detained for three nights at the monastery and after that we were taken to the Laymro police station including the village administrator, a villager from Phon Nyo Leik village, a school teacher and a villager from Kyaukran village. The next day, we were again being taken to Police battalion (13). After the detaining 19 days we all were released except a school teacher. About two months later, the fighting broke out again near the village and we fled the village due to the fighting."

Arbitrary Arrests 52

Name: U Ba [redacted] (male)

"In between late October and early November (couldn't remember the exact date) while we were returning from the Kyar Nyo Pyin village by motorboat by taking relief supplies donated by the Arakan Students' Union, the Burma Army stopped us at the around 4 pm near the Thayetpyin village's bridge and took us to the Budhitaung police battalion (13) for interrogation.

The strength of Burmese army were 300 soldiers, a combined force of LIB 551, 565 and LID 22 including about 40 police forces from the police battalion (13). On that day, the total 14 people were arrested. They were 7 villagers from Pyin Chaung village, village administrator from Thayetpyin village and U Kyaw Win, 2 villagers from Kyauktaung village and two construction workers at the Kwun Daing bridge. Among the 14 people, 12 people were released as they found no guilty of them in the next day. However they continued to detain the administrator of Thayetpyin village and U Maung Kyaw Win.

Arbitrary Arrests 52 (cont.)

Name: U Ba Sein [redacted] (male)

On May 7, 2019, fighting broke out near Zay village monastery and near the Mroma Chaung village. On the day of the fighting, about 4 p.m in the evening, the entire villagers fled to Kyar Nyo Pyin village. About a week before the fighting there were heavy artillery shelling around the Saingdin waterfalls and nearby our village by the military helicopter. When there were no villagers at the village the Burmese soldiers killed domestic animals and used for their foods. They also looted stuffs from homes. In the Kyar Nyo Pyin village, due to the continued artillery shelling by the Burma Army's LID 22 villagers were afraid to live and fled to this monastery IDP camp on July 26, 2019."

Arbitrary Arrests 53

Name: Tun [redacted]

"When the fighting broke out in the area and the villagers were having a hard time in living, six villagers with me went out to Kyar Nyo Pyin village to receive the relief items which were donated by Arakan Students' Union (Sittwe). The soldiers, who were waiting at the top of the bridge at the Kyar Nyo Pyin village, checked on us and took us to the battalion LIB 551. Even the head monk of the Kyar Nyo Pyin village requested them not to arrest but did not work. After keeping a few moment at the LIB 551 they took us to the police battalion (13) of Buthidaung. We were detained there for one night and interrogated and released in the next day. The village administrator of Thayetpyin, U Maung Than Hlaing, and U Maung Kyaw Win were also detained. They were not released on that day. The relief supplies that were brought in were also drowned."

Arbitrary Arrests 54

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"My son Kyaw Than Maung; the 32-year-old was arrested at the top of the Thayetpyin's village bridge while he was returning from the Zeditaung village after selling bamboo. He was sent to the police battalion (13) of Buthidaung and released in the next day after detaining one night."

Arbitrary Arrests 55

Name: Daw Kra [redacted]
(female)

"On January 13, 2019 , at 8:00 am, fighting broke out at near the Myin Chaung (Khami) village east to Thayetpyin village. During the time of the clash, my husband, my daughter, my mother in law and my sister in law and another worker were working in the farm. When the fighting was over, we asked the people to go back to the village. Later, soldiers came into the village and gathered the whole village in a place. The Burmese army called the the owner of the farm Maung Kyaw Win, and then they took the village administrator and Maung Kyaw Win to the Laymro police station. They faced trial in the Buthidaung custody for five months and released on June 3, 2019. Five days after he released from the detention he suffered a lot of pain as he was tortured in the custody. He had to go to Yangon for the treatment ."

Interviews Depicting Torture

Torture 1

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

On April 10, 2019, Burmese Army's LID 55 and LID 22 arrested my son Khin Maung Soe on the suspicion of having connection with ULA/AA. Before the arrest, he was sheltering at the monastery after hearing the sounds of fighting near the Sittwe-Yangon highway. He was arrested at around 1 pm in the afternoon. Seventy-two people were arrested, including my son, and three were died during the interrogation. My son is now being held in Sittwe Prison. There is no investigation, only the appearing in the court and remanding. It has been twelve times that we meet them. Financially, it is impossible to go further.

My son works in the fields. We have been out of the village since last four months. There is no plan to return to the village. Only when the country achieve peace then will return to the village.

On August 10, 2019, we heard that a house was set on fire by the Burmese army. They also shot a buffalo and ate ,which is belong to me. No payment was made for that buffalo. I lost about 4,000,000, kyats. They searched other homes and took everything they found.

I didn't make complaint to any authority because I do not know how to make complaint to which department. Civil society organizations are helping me. I don't know their names exactly.

Since my son is not a member of ULA/AA, I would like to request an immediate release of my son. I would also like to request other civil society organizations to help to release my son.

Torture 2

Name: Daw Aye [redacted]
(female)

On April 10, 2019 around 6 am, a combined forces of LID 55 and LID 22 of Burma Army entered into the village in scolding, using bad words and shooting. Heavy artilleries had been firing from the Min Hla village. At that time all the villagers had gathered at the monastery. Later, soldiers came to the monastery and summoned the villagers and separated young man, elderly men, woman and and child and kept at the Daw Ma Nge house.

We saw military helicopters flying in the sky. They asked the villagers if they had any contact with the ULA/AA. At about three o'clock in the evening, my husband Khin Maung Soe including the village administrator were taken by the Burmese Army along with other 26 people with military vehicle. He was beaten by the Burmese army as soon as he get into the car. It was later learned he was initially taken to the battalion (378) and then was taken to the Military Special Branch (Sa Ra Pha) office in Sittwe. They searched

Torture 2 (cont.)

Name: Daw Aye [redacted]
(female)

house-to-house and took ventures, jewelry ornaments, money and other properties from some houses. The things which they could able to carry then they carried and the things they they could not carry were destroyed.

Family members of the detainees also appealed to Arakan State Prime Minister U Nyi Pu, and Captain Kyi Linn to release the detainees. They said they would let go the detainees with family members. There was no contact with the arrested people for more than 20 days, we are just came to know that they were detained in the Police Station No.1 in Sittwe. My assumption is that they did not allow us to meet with the detainees because the injuries had not recovered fully. When I first met my husband, he even couldn't speak well. His back, chest and head were being beaten and now he has a problem in breathing. His feature doesn't even looks like a human with thin body. Now, the family has provided some food, and it is a little bit looks better. As his wounds are in inner part due to tortured by the Burmese army his health condition is not good. Now my husaband and other arrestees are in the Sittwe prison. The lawsuit has been opened against the Tatmadaw (Burma Army) as far as I know.

There was no complaints about this. I don't know whom to make complaint and how? There is no one to help us. I am a helpless person now. As my husband is not with me now everything including commodities and livelihoods have been destroyed and wipe out.

Torture 3

Name: Daw Hla [redacted]
(female)

In July, 2019 (couldn't remember the exact date) the whole villagers fled the village. Nothing was brought except a few clothes with us. Before this, there were at least four or five times that we had to run from the village due to the fighting. The people fled to Pe Pin Yan IDP camp, Let Kauk Zey IDP camp and Shite Thaug IDP camp. As the Waitharli village is close to the Asian highway the Burmese troops always walks nearby the village and sometimes they shoot towards the village. They also fire towards the village whenever they have clashes closed to our village. As we don't dare to live we fled our homes. We have been living in this camp for about three months . On our way to this camp two children were drowned when we crossed the river from Pe Pin Yan to Plat village. One was studying in grade 9 and another one was (3) year old baby. Both were the daughters of U Maung Kyan Thein and Daw Khin Myint. Watthali village is north of Mrauk U, 7 miles distance.

The main occupation of the villagers are the farmer. When the village was finally empty, the Burmese soldiers slaughter and eat the domestic animals belonging to the villagers. There were about twenty people left in the village. We came to know this information through the people who remained in the village. I want to live in my village in peace.

Torture 4

Name: Daw Thein [redacted]
(female)

"In March, 2019 (couldn't remember the exact date) my husband U Maung Than Nu, 45-year-old, was arrested by the LID 55 and LID 22 of Burmar Army. In the village there are 3-4 people were divided for the grouping to guard the village. They found that name lists of 27 people and they arrest

[Interview continued on next page]

Torture 4 (cont.)

Name: Daw Thein [redacted]
(female)

the people according to that list. Before the arrest, men and women of the entire village were forced to gather in the middle of the village. The women were separated and forced to take off their shirts and to sit under the sun. The villagers were sun dried since 11 a.m to 5 p.m in the evening. When my family came to see the detainees at the police station no. 1 in Sittwe, they did not see my husband anymore. No one can tell where he left off and where he died. Nobody came to talk. I don't know who to tell and where to report or complaint of it. As I don't have my own house and land, on the other hand I lost my husband. In this situation I have no idea even how to survive.

Even though I want to go back to my village I do not dare to go now. I want to urge that to make judgment according to the truth and justice regarding with the case of my husband's death."

Torture 5

Name: Daw [redacted] (female)

"My husband's name is Ko Thein Htun Zaw and he is 40 years old. He was killed by Burmese army after he was being tortured. Burmese soldiers entered into the village by shooting and arrested villagers who were hiding in the monastery. There were patrolling group with 3-4 people in each group in the village. They found the list of 27 people who were in the patrolling group. The army arrested all the people in the list. Before the arrest, the Burmese army separated the villagers based on young, women and elderly people and put all the under the sun without any shirts in body. They were kept under the sunlight since 11 am in the morning and arrested on 5 pm. When I heard and went to see those detainees including my husband in the Police station no. 1 in Sittwe and I did not see my husband. No one told me about where my husband was killed and whereabouts. It was later we came to know through the internet that he was killed. Now I am with my two children as like half made. My innocent husband was being killed and disappeared ."

Torture 6

Name: Daw U [redacted] (female)

"My son Maung Twan Aye Kyaw, age 25 years old, was one of victims who were arrested by the Burma Army's LID 55 and LID 22. He was not married. There were patrolling group with 3-4 people in each group in the village. They found the list of 27 people who were in the patrolling groups. The army arrested all the people in the list. Before the arrest, the Burmese army separated the villagers based on young, women and elderly people and put all under the sun without any shirts on body. They were kept under the sunlight since 11 am in the morning and arrested on 5 pm. When I went to see my son, I was told by him that he was pain and suffering from various kinds of torture. As a mother, I was very sad and disappointed. Since my son was innocent of any crime, I would like to urge the government to release him as soon as possible."

Torture 7

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"Burmese Army LID 55 and LID 22 arrested my son Phoe Thar Lu (aka Twan Aung Kyaw) from my village. Burma army entered into the village by firing and arrested villagers who were hiding in the monastery. There were patrol group in the village comprising 3-4 people in each group. They found a list of 27 people patrolling group in the village and all the people who were on the list were taken out of the house and binded with rope. Before the arrest, men and women of the entire village were forced to gather in the middle

Torture 7 (cont.)

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

of the village . The women were separated and forced to take off their shirts and to sit under the sun . The villager were sun dried since 11 a.m to 5 p.m in the evening. They are now in the Sittwe Prison. Their court trial has been over 10 times now. In each trial I had to spend 40,000 to 50,000 kyats. Whether you have money or not you have to go. He said that due to the tortured of the Burmese army he suffers chest pain and respiratory problem."

Torture 8

Name: Ma [redacted] (female)

"We fled to Zeditaung Ywar Haung village from my village, Sin Oh, due to armed clashes took place east of the village in February 2019. On March 16, 2019, on our return from our betelnut plantation from Sin Oh village, a Burma army military column with around 300 troops interrogated my husband and took to the Kyauksay Pyin village. Upon reaching to Kyauksay Pyin village, the army separated the people in two groups, the villagers and guests. In that day the Burmese Army arrested 25 men who are not the Kyauksay Pyin villagers including my husband Ko Maung Thein. After keeping a night in Kyauksay Pyin, the army took the detainees to Kyauktaw. I had to stay four days in the Kyauksay Pyin village. He was sent to Mrauk U from Kyauktaw after 13 days. While at Kyauktaw, they were tortured until they confessed having ties with ULA/AA. They were detained in Mrauk-U for 3 months. They are now in Sittwe. There has been court trial but no interrogation.

The ICRC has donated 20,000 kyat to meet my husband in the prison. Other organizations are not yet helping. We want to urge the government for a quick inquiry and if it is not proven as guilty then please release as early as possible. I would like to appeal to human rights groups for financial support us."

Torture 9

Name: Ko Win [redacted] (male)

"On March 29, 2019, Burma Army's LID 55 with around 100 soldiers entered into our village and started firing artillery and gunshot. The village was also surrounded by them. An artillery shell landed inside the compound of my house and my left side of the chest was hit and I got injured. The walls and the roof were completely destroyed. All the villagers were forcibly gathered at the administrator's house. Soldiers went back at around 12 pm. There was no reason for the shooting. I was allowed to send to the hospital about half an hour later. I was first taken to Tein Nyo clinic at around 9 am. The Tein Nyo clinic did not accept me so I had to go to Mrauk-U Hospital. I arrived at Mrauk-U hospital at 12 pm. I was being treated at Mrauk-U Hospital for one month and three days. The ICRC has provided more than 350,000 kyats and other Rakhine civil society organizations also helped. The elderly monks also came to help.

Villagers were interrogated and tortured, and five were arrested. U Ba Tun, U Maung Phyu Chay, U Hla Thein Maung, U Sein Tun and U Ko Naing were arrested. Now they are in Sittwe prison. Villagers said that soldiers went through all the houses and searched for valuables things and took whatever they found in the house. The whole villagers fled the village on March 29, 2019. The villagers run to nearby village such as Tein Nyo, Wat Hla, Palate, Taung Myint and Tha Pray Kan villages. At end of February, there

[Interview continued on next page]

Torture 9 (cont.)

Name: Ko Win [redacted] (male)

was a clash occurred on the hill of Nga Pyo Taw which is close to our village to the east. The village is 2 miles far from Mrauk-U town. It is about two miles away.

Everyone wants to live in their own home. We decided to return to our village only when there will be peace. "

Torture 10

Name: U Hla [redacted] (male)

"On March 29, 2019 at around 6 a.m in the morning, the Burmese army LID 55 and LID 22 with nearly 200 soldiers entered into our village by shooting coming from the Tein Nyo bridge. At that time, as they saw I was sitting they beat me with rifle butts on my head. Then their medic did a surgery on my head wounds and sent to the Tein Nyo clinic. The surgery was four ropes. Another man named Win Kyaw Thein was also being beaten on his chest and got injured and hospitalized to Tein Nyo Clinic together with me. He is about 31 years old. We were forcibly paid 40,000 kyats for the treatment by the Burmese army. I refused to accept the money but they threatened us to beat more if we do not accept the money. I didn't take those money and I gave all to the one who got chest injuries. Another case is that they found the photo of ULA/AA chief, Twan Myat Naing Naing at U U Sein Tun's house and they beat and tortured U U Sein Twan. At present, some are taking refuge in IDP camps. The remaining people stay at home at the day and during the night they stay in other places where they feel comfortable. The people lost their job as they could not work like before .

The ICRC donated me 50,000 kyats. 20,000 kyats were donated by the Tha Ma Rait village. I did not complain to any department as I do not know how to complain or where to make complain. I want to see the situation that where everybody could work peacefully and continue their livelihoods as early as possible."

Torture 11

Name: Daw Hla [redacted] (female)

"On March 12, 2019 at around 8 pm, an aid group carrying a patient in an ambulance coming from the Thabuzza village request my husband for help them and my husband also went with them. They were sending the patient to Mrauk-U hospital. The patient's name is Hla Maung Win. There was no fighting in our village at that time. There was no curfew orders. About 10 pm that night, it was reported that he was arrested near the Chaung Thaik village. It was reported that the Burmese army LIB 540 had arrested him after detaining a night at the Kaung Phru Pyin Police Station. The patient did not even reach to Mrauk-U hospital that night and died on the way. Those who were arrested were including my husband Ko Twan Soe Linn, U Oo Maung Tun, Ko Zaw Naing Htay, Ko Soe Soe Naing, Ko Si Thu Aung and Ko Zaw Min Twan. Initially, I did not get any contact with him. Three days after their arrest, it was reported that they were detained in Mrauk-U. We got information that he was sent to Sittwe from Mrauk-U. While he was in the Mrauk-U custody we were not allowed to meet him. We were only allowed to see him in Sittwe. All six arrested are in Sittwe prison. Because of the beating and physically tortured by the Burmese army, eight stitches were made in my husband's head. Si Thu Aung had to go to the hospital three times. The ICRC team has donated 36,000 kyats for a visit to the prison in June. Other community organizations also helped me. I don't even know their exact names. Living without a husband at the moment, my family is

Torture 11 (cont.)

Name: Daw Hla [redacted] (female)

having a difficult time living as my livelihoods was relied on my husband. As my husband is innocent, I would like to urge the government to release my husband as early as possible."

Torture 12

Name: U Hla [redacted] (male)

"On March 29, 2019 at around 6 a.m in the morning, the Burmese army rounded up our village and started shooting for around 4 hours. The army arrested 5 men including my father in allegation of having connection with ULA/AA. Two people including an old man aged more than 70 and a woman was killed in the indiscriminate gunshot by the Burmese army. The army also beat with rifle butts and tortured the villagers before they arrest them. Those who were arrested were taken to Mrauk-U and then from Mrauk-U to Sittwe from Kyauktaw. They are now in Sittwe. Lawyers Kyaw Myo Naing and Aung Phay Than from Mrauk-U asked 1,000,000 kyats for the case. It's not possible for us to pay such a big amount and we did not let them to handle the case.

Later, U Hla Aung Thein and another female lawyer from Bar Association of Arakan State are helping to handle out the case voluntarily. Lawyers said they would try to release them in November 2019. I will believe only when I saw them in the outside.

Another thing is that the Tatmadaw also took the village administrator to the Praing Chaung village along with the other detainees.

Villagers in Pyi Chaung Village reported that they had been forced to interview the Burmese army and forced to make confession that they had to shoot just because of the order from the ULA/AA. The army threats them that they would be shot with a gun if they did not do what army told them to do.

The condition of health is not good as my father is an old man. My father is a little bit deaf in normal life. I heard that he became a complete deaf now after Tatmadaw's beating and torturing him. Someone gave a pair of earphones but Tatmadaw doesn't allow to use earphone. I heard that my father was also beaten and tortured by several ways by the Burmese army. We always have to send medicines. There are more money is spending in the trial session. The situation in the village is not same as before now. Fears of when the Burmese army will come and abduct them are overwhelming. The teachers were too afraid to come as well. It has been a long time since we hear the school bell."

Torture 13

Name: Daw [redacted] (female)

"On March 29, 2019 at around 6 a.m in the morning, the Burmese army LID 55 with nearly 100 soldiers entered into our village by shooting. The whole villagers were summoned and forced to gather at the administrator U Thein Kyaw Naing's house. The army threat us that If we do not come out from the house, they would shoot and kill us. They went door-to-door and took money and things of the villagers belonging. The whole village was interrogated and tortured, and some villagers were taken by the Burmese army. Children are terrified and unsettled.

[Interview continued on next page]

Torture 13 (cont.)

Name: Daw [redacted] (female)

There were more than 260 houses in the village when we heard that the soldiers were coming then the villagers run from the village to avoid the army . At present also, the doors are closed and people are rarely seen. There is not much work to do now. People are just eating what they have. In the long run, it will be difficult to survive."

Torture 14

Name: U Kyaw [redacted] (male)

"On March 13, Hla Maung Win (aka Nyi Bu Chay) a malaria patient from Thabaukzar Tetzu village, asked for help to bring six young people, including my son Zaw Min Tun, of Kyaungtaung Village to drop him off to the Mrauk-U. The distance between Thabaukzar Tetzu and Kyauktang village is 3 miles. Burmese soldiers from Battalion 540 and LID 22 arrested them at about 8pm on the way to Mrauk-U. At the period of the time they were arrested, there was no fighting was occurred near the mountain. There are no curfew orders. The patient had not reached to hospital either but died at the hands of soldiers. The arrestees were kept at the Kaung Phyu Pyin police battalion and LIB 540 for five days and sent them to the Mrauk-U police station. In the Mrauk-U police station they kept about 20 days and sent to the Sittwe. After two months, we were allowed to meet with my son. Now these young men are being held in Sittwe prison. My son told me that he had been tortured for 40 days in various forms in the custody. The case was opened by the Captain Myo Min Aung from the LIB 377. The witnesses are as far as I know township's administrator of Mrauk-U U Zaw Paing Tun, station officers from Ponnagyun and Kyauktaw, Main road quarter and Ywar Gyi Mrauk quarter's administrator of Sittwe and the station officer of Sittwe police station. For the travel cost during the court trial , Mratazaung headmonk supported 50,000 kyat for each family and ICRC supported 32,000 kyat for each family. I would like to urge the government to release these innocent young boys as early as possible."

Torture 15

Name: Maung [redacted] (male)

"On March 13, 2019 at around 12:00 pm, while I was returning from Sin Oh village by motorboat after collecting firewood, I heard the gunshot and stopped. Burmese army arrested me and took me to Kyauksay Pyin village. Along with me, there were Ko Maung Hla Chay, Ko Maung Hla Win and Ko Tin Tin Maung were arrested. We were kept a night at Kyauksay Pyin village and next day were sent to Kyauktaw. While in Kyauktaw, we were tortured in the daily basis for 10 consecutive days. In the end, one of the captain apparently, he told us to confess that we have connection with ULA/AA otherwise we would be tortured to death. At last, we confessed even though we are not a member of ULA/AA. After three months I was being detained in Mrauk-U, I was released on bail. But I still have to appear in the court. I do not want to go to the court anymore. I want to urge the government to set me free from this going to court."

Torture 16

Name: Ma [redacted] (female)

"On March 13, 2019, at around 12:00 pm, my husband Ko Maung Hla Chay, 21 year old, was arrested by the Burmese army while he was taking shelter in the village of Kyauksay Pyin after he heard the gunshots sound neighboring the village. He was returning from the hill by collecting firewoods. He was detained in Kyauktaw for about 20 days before he was transferred to Mrauk-U. While in Kyauktaw, he was forced to say they he had ties with ULA/AA and if he refuse to say that he was beaten and tortured

Torture 16 (cont.)

Name: Ma [redacted] (female)

different ways. On July 30, 2019 he was brought to Kyauktaw from Mrauk-U and again he was sent to Sittwe from Kyauktaw on July 31, 2019. There was no inquiry and no hearing except appearing in the court.

I would like to appeal the government for a speedy inquiry and if they found my husband guilty then give verdict or if found no guilty then release him as soon as possible."

Torture 17

Name: Ma [redacted] (female)

"On March 29, 2019 at around 6 a.m in the morning, the Burmese army LID 55 entered into our village by shooting via Tein Nyo bridge. Burmese Army opened fire at our village near the Nyo Nyo Bridge. By surrounding the village six soldiers entered into our house and searched the things in the house. At that time, our family was hiding behind the house. Then we got afraid and went out. When they (Burmese army) saw my husband, they started shooting towards him. They also beat my husband. My father-in-law, U Ba Tun, a 67 years old man was beaten, and he was taken to the middle of the village by tightened roped of the body. They all took the properties belonging to the villagers and tortured the villagers as well. The whole villagers were ordered to sit in the village administrator's house. No one was aware of their return. An old man and a woman were killed in the shooting by the Tatmataw."

Torture 18

Name: U Sein [redacted] (male)

"Our village is between LIB (540) and LIB (31). On March 9, 2019 the fighting broke out. The bullets reach into the village and the soldiers open fire taking cover inside the village. Since then, we have been moving to the Belutaung IDP until August, 2019. It's only been a month since I moved to this Mratazung monastery IDP camp. Heard that soldiers in our village beat and questioned the villagers. Domestic animals from some some villagers were being shot and killed by the Burmese soldiers. I want to see the peace in the country."

Torture 19

Name: Ma [redacted] (female)

"On April 10, 2019 in the early morning, sound of gunfire was heard nearby the village. After a while, soldiers came into the village and gathered the villagers who were sheltering in the monastery. There are five small groups were form by the villagers for the safety and welfare of the village. The list of those groups people were found by the Burma Army and arrested 19 local men including my brother Thein Tun Maung 23 year old and 8 men from other villages. He was also 23 years old. We begged the Burma army not to arrest my innocent brother without any fault. But they took my brother saying that they would interrogate for a while. The soldiers were from LID 55 and LID 22. When he got to the car, he was beaten and tortured by the Burma Army. My brother recounts that he was taken to an unknown battalion and interrogated him and then he was brought to Sittwe via Burma Army's helicopter. My brother recounts that the violence and torture he experienced he had never ever seen before. If the villagers are properly investigated and questioned and found no guilty then on behalf of the villagers I would like to request the government to release them as early as possible."

Torture 20

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"During the time of the incident, I did not know what happened in the village as I was travelling to Mrauk-U town. When I arrived at the village, I came to know that my son Khin Maung Win 36-year-old was arrested. When I met him at the court during the trial he told me that he had been tortured violently during the interrogation."

Torture 21

Name: U Kyaw [redacted] (male)

"The camp opened on April 7, 2019. It has just started with about 30 dorm rooms. There are currently 768 buildings in this camp. There are over 3,000 people. The ICRC is working with local donors to build this camp. The refugees staying in this IDP camp are from neighboring villages including Aut Thakan, Buywarthmany, Let Kar, Pauktawpyin, Waitharli, Paukpyin Gwan, Phayargyi, Lanmwaytaung, Baungdwet, Khulai, Khapaung, Pyaingtaung and Phayaout villages respectively. Refugees coming from the villages, some are the entire village and half of the population from some villages. The reason for this coming as a refugee camp is the fighting broke out the near their villages and the Burmese soldiers entered the village in indiscriminate shooting and interrogated villagers, tortured, force portering and looted the villagers properties.

Local schools are supported for the education to run a primary school here. We informed the education director and requested that teachers from concerned villages to be sent to this camp. Middle and high school students are required to attend the junior high school in Teinnyo. There are a total of 525 primary school students.

The ICRC supports twice a month for the food. Rice, oil, salt, beans and chilli but not enough. We have to seek the help of local donors. The government has provided 800 bags of rice. Next summer there will be water scarcity. The lake, which is currently in use, is slowly becoming dry."

Torture 22

Name: Daw Bar [redacted] (female)

"Clashes were occurring frequently near the village. When soldiers came to the village, they interrogated the villagers and tortured them if they did not like someone. Later, when we heard Burmese soldiers were coming to the village, then we fled to the Zeditaung village. Later, the Kwantaung villagers set up temporary shelters in the Zeditaung village to stay. When the Burmese soldiers came, we fled to Zeditaung village and they went back we returned to the village. The last time we fled the village was in early of November 2019. For the first time when the Burmese soldiers arrived the village it was on March 15, 2019 when we had ceremony of monkhood ordination to my son. On that day, we even couldn't practice our religious ceremony. Some villagers fled. On March 16, 2019, the day of my son novicehood ordination day the artillery shells fired from the Naruntaung village and it land near the hill of the monastery to the east of the village. As a result, the whole village fled about at 10 am. Soldiers also entered the village and shot and fired indiscriminately. The soldiers also burnt the six house in the village. The owner of the houses are U Kyaw Nyunt, May Hton, Ma Khin Nyunt (aka) May La Vi, Tun Oo Khine, Tun Oo Khine's daughter and Hla Than Nu's house."

Torture 23

Name: Daw Kra [redacted]
(female)

On January 13, 2019, at 8:00 am, fighting broke out at near the Myin Chaung (Khami) village east to Thayetpyin village. During the time of the clash, my husband, my daughter, my mother in law and my sister in law and another worker were working in the farm. When the fighting was over, we asked the people to go back to the village. Later, soldiers came into the village and gathered the whole village in a place. The Burmese army called the the owner of the farm Maung Kyaw Win, and then they took the village administrator and Maung Kyaw Win to the Laymro police station. They faced on trial in the Buthidaung custody for five months and released on June 3, 2019. Five days after he released from the detention he suffered a lot of pain as he was tortured in the custody. He had to go to Yangon for the treatment."

Torture 24

Name: Daw Hla [redacted]
(female)

"On November 21, 2019 at around 4 pm on the evening, the small and massive artillery shells landed inside the village. At that time, my husband asked me to stay at the monastery. He said he would come to the monastery later. He called me before I reach to the monastery and told me I couldn't run out. When I arrived at the monastery, I made phone call to him but he did not pick up my call. When the shooting has stopped, I went to my house to see my husband. When I reached home I saw he was not alive any more. He was killed. The shooting started again and I had to leave my deceased husband's body and fled to the monastery again. At around 8 pm at night, people went to guard the deceased body. The next day in the early morning at 3:00 am they (Burmese army) started shooting again and the villagers had to leave my deceased husband's body again in the house. In the afternoon at around 1 pm despite ongoing shooting nearby the village the villagers took my husband's dead body to the Htee Zway village by a motorboat because it was not possible to be buried in the village. We arrived at Rathedaung town from Htee Zway village at around 2 pm. In the next day afternoon at around 1 pm the funeral was held in the Rathedaung town. My uncle U Maung Khin Win, also fled in fear of artillery fire and the bullet hit his left ear. We did not hear anything yet where is living. The government army is very cruel . They burned down the houses, tortured the villagers, killing the domestic animals, cattles and doing whatever they want to do.

My husband's name is Chan Thein Aung aged 49 years old. His father's name is U Tun Hla."

Interviews Depicting Destruction of Property

Property Destruction 1

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"We fled because of the fighting in July. The whole village fled. About ten seniors remained in the village. Some people went to the monastery of Oaksudan (Quarter) in Minbya Township. No opportunity to bring anything along with us. While we were living in the village, we lived on fishing and logging. The battle broke out between subordinate battalions of LID 55, which are 379, 541 and 380, and Arakan Army (AA). The army occupied the highest hill. It takes about three hours to reach the mountain top from the bottom. There are about 500 Burmese troops from 3 battalions in total in the area. LID 55 was stationed on the hill and battalion 380 in Thaluchaung village. When I was visiting there by motorbike I was summoned and sun-dried by the army. It takes about an hour by motorbike to reach that village from Minbya. The army slaughtered a pig and chickens I had left. I did not see that in person. It is just my assumption. The villagers have now returned home.

The children are now back to school. The teachers returned by car if the situation gets worse. The government does not take any responsibility. There is no health clinic. We cannot grow the paddy well. We just have to scatter the paddy seeds. Since we have no time to take care of the plantation, the paddies get destroyed. Now, the number of bathrooms for women is not in balance with the population. Right now, we cannot do anything for our living here right.

It would be better if the teachers can come and start teaching the children here. Elsewhere, if we have a ticket issued from the refugee camp, the clinic does not charge any fee. I want to be here too. We want the government to help address health, education and welfare issues.

I am thinking of returning home if there is no disturbance from the army."

Property Destruction 2

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"I left the village because fighting took place near by my village as my village is close to the mountain where the fighting took place. Many artillery and mortar were shelled into the village by the Burmese Army. The Burmese army is stationed in the south east of the village. The fighting escalated between the ULA/AA and the LIB 379, 541 and 380 under LID (55) of the Burmese Army. The villagers fled the village by using both road and river ways. All the belongings things were left in village.

Approximately there were 400-500 cows and buffalo left in the village. As the whole villagers fled the village the army might have already kill those cattles and have eaten those animals. My livelihood is a cultivator, I grow

Property Destruction 2 (cont.) fruits plants in the hill.

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male) The township administrator gave us 40 bags of rice but that rice was not comfortable to eat so, we gave those rice to those who make noodles (Munti) . The ICRC helped a lot. I (the monk) have to manage and solve all the problem. Government nurses visit the camp once a week.

Total number of students are more than 50 Among them 8 junior high school students numbering are continuing their education here. The primary school children are not allowed to go to school as school is far from this IDP camp and they have to cross the road in the town and walk. So we worried any traffic accident may occur to the children. If teachers come to IDP camp and teach the children would be more convenient .

There are currently no jobs. Young people sometimes go to Minbya downtown to work. Not always. I had to take loan 100,000 kyats from the people to make treatment to my mother because of her illness. I requested the hospital that I am an IDP not to charge the fees from me but the hospital didn't consider my request and I had to pay.

I want to live in my native village in peacefully. Who wants to live here but here no choice have to live like this.

There were two pregnant women. One has already give a birth from the IDP camp. The bathing room for the women is not also safe.

As the winter is approaching we need blankets, clothing and foods.

Six days after arriving here, I once went to my village to bring my belonging which I left. The army found us and interrogated us for an hour and released us. They found us when they came down from the mountain. There were about 300 soldiers. The government doesn't recognize this camp as a refugee camp. I want to go back to my home. I want to urge the government to let me return to my home and live peacefully without any interruption."

Property Destruction 3

Name: Daw Sander [redacted] (female)

"On July 27, 2020 the fighting escalated between Burmese Army and ULA/ AA. There are more than 400 military personnel. They entered the village, searched the houses and took gold and silver and other civilian belongings things.

Later, when the absent of the people in the village they killed chicken, pigs and pigs and catles in the village and ate them.

I want to live nowhere except my own home. Now, as I have no choice but have to live in the other homes."

Property Destruction 4

Name: Ko [redacted] (male)

"I fled the village due to bomb explosion.

On 24th the LID 55 of Burmese army entered into the village by firing. Then the whole villagers were forced to stay in the middle of the village.

I first saw the battalion 380 of Myaung Mya passing through the village.

The Burmese soldiers divided us in four groups such as men, women, elderly people and youth group. Then they documented the identity of each and every person. They interrogated a group of men consist of 10 people separately.

44 villagers were forced to carry their luggage until they reached to the Ra Maung bridge.

11 people were classified as suspected list and kept them separately which is four miles far from the village.

They also interrogated a couple coming with a motorbike and set fire to all the tents on the side of the road. The villagers returned to the village at 5 pm in the evening and the Burmese soldiers threatened the villagers to set fire to the entire village if any explosion is being heard nearby this area.

If I think of incidence of that day I remember the past Japanese era.

Not all the villagers came out from the village. It's a 30 minute drive by motorbike from here. It takes 45 minutes if we travel by motorboat. Our family economy is an ordinary small-scale fishing job. I didn't think it will be peaceful and safe in the village. I think we will achieve the peace only when Arakan became freedom."

Property Destruction 5

Name: U Khin [redacted] (male)

"The incident happened on October 23, 2020. The Burmese Army entered into the village with indiscriminate shooting after a bomb blast near the Paik Saik Chaung bridge. All the villagers were told to come out from the house and forced to stay in the middle of the village.

After that, the villagers were forced to carry the military's luggage and supplies to the Ra Maung bridge. More than 40 people were forced to carry military's luggage and also interrogated and beaten.

My livelihood is relies on a small cultivation of farmland and cutting wood and bamboo from the jungle. I have three children. They are studying at grade 10, 8 and 7 respectively.

I want the country to be a peaceful as early as possible. I want to go back to my village as soon as possible. The villagers are very much scared."

Property Destruction 6

Name: Daw Phru [redacted]
(female)

"On August 24, 2019 of the morning, at 10:00 am, my cousin's sister, who is studying at grade 10, and my nephew both were killed by shelling.

It was shot from Aung Mingalar hill where the Burmese military base is located. At first the wounded people were being treated at the Pan Myaung clinic then at Mrauk-U hospital and then were transferred to Sittwe general hospital. My mother was took treatment at the Mrauk-U hospital for more than a month.

I was being treated at the Sittwe general hospital for 13 days. My nephew was 6 years old, he died soon after he was brought to the hospital. My nephew's father and mother were working in Thailand.

I and my mother got injured.

After the incident happened the army surrounded our house and took the bodies of the deceased person and injured people.

I don't want to make complaint because it will not be effective and will get no result.

I think it would be like pouring water in the sand.

I wish no one suffers the same fate as like us in future. I would like to request the donor organizations to help the affected people as much as possible. I would also like to see Arakan as a peaceful land without any war."

Property Destruction 7

Name: U Twan [redacted] (male)

"As far as I remember about the the shooting took place in Mrauk-U city, the shooting begun at 8 pm at the Kyauk Raik Khwa Sone and the Kanbawza Bank which is located near the San Cha Saik Khwa Sone was also being attacked. The shooting in front of the Kanbawza bank was also continuing until the Alayzey bridge of Mrauk-U

After the incident, when we investigated, found out that the bullet hit Nawarat hotel, Municipal office. The bullet also hit the nose and belly part of the Sanddhamunic Buddha statue.

The bullet also hit the two other houses in the Alayzey quarter. There have been frequent shootings inside the city of Mrauk-U. The shots are mostly at night and sometimes during the day. There are also shootings in the morning.

In the area of the city, there is no clashes on both sides. The one sided shooting were conducted by the either Light Infantry Division (LID) 22 or LID 55.

I would like to explain the situation of foreign tourist arrival in Mrauk-U before the conflict occurred. When three million tourists visit entire Myanmar, there was not even a 10000 tourist visiting Mrauk-U.

[Interview continued on next page]

Property Destruction 7 (cont.)

Name: U Twan [redacted] (male)

Mrauk-U is the closest to the Bengali problem and has been described by foreign embassies as a very dangerous place. The foreign embassies in Myanmar had announced that Mrauk-U is a danger zones as the city is closer to the area where the Bengali problem is happening. This is the first reason why foreigners do not want to visit Mrauk-U.

The second reason is that, in the map of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism of Myanmar shows that ethnic areas are in red color. The third reason is that the problem of road infrastructures and high cost.

The Tatmadaw and the government have also reported to the world that there are terrorist groups in Rakhine State. Meaning is that the Arakan Army (ULA/AA) is being propoganded by the Government and Tatmadaw that the organization is a terrorist organization rather than saying a revolutionary organization for ethnic equality.

Especially, the travel agencies in Yangon do not encourage the tourist to visit Rakhine. Now as the fighting is happening it's getting worse. There has been some people visiting Mrauk-U who want to study informally.

Urban people depend on the rural population for food and vegetables. Because the rural population is higher than the urban population. If we divide the Mrauk-U into different parts, for example East and West parts, in the West part, southwestern part are more navigable. The northern part, the northeast and southeastern part are more fruit and vegetable producing regions.

Especially when the fighting is in the north and northeast of Mrauk-U, it is impossible to get regular food. Even more disappointing is the fact that it is not possible to grow the same crops as in the past. More sadly, people can not plant the crops in right time of the planting season.

Another problem is that internet blackout. There are some business owners who use online payment systems through internet. When government shut the internet those works are not working anymore now. People lost their rights to read the information relating to business.

Rakhine are not under a Burmese ethnic group. Arakanese are a people who live on their own background and history.

The religious and archaeological building, National Buildings and the place of the Mrauk-U palace reflects the Arakanese history. The Arakanese have been fighting for national equality since it lost sovereign power. Arakanese people are continuing it's fighting through political party or armed struggle means. It's not a racial conflict. It's struggle for national equality and human right.

It's so shameful that when a nation has to fight for their rights through armed struggle while we living in an era of respecting each other regardless of religious and nations.

Property Destruction 7 (cont.)

Name: U Twan [redacted] (male)

For the sake of win-win solution the government and Burmese army and Burmese politicians should discuss peacefully with ethnic nationalities and find solutions.

The clashes are on the rise. The number of displaced people are also increasing. Most commonly, ICRC and WFP providing humanitarian assistances. We have seen that in other countries, international organizations have consistently been helping refugees.

We also want international organizations to provide the humanitarian assistances consistently. What we are seeing now is that the Bengalis are given priority when it comes to the humanitarian assistance and help Rakhine refugees have been neglected. We want international organizations to help all the people regardless of race, religious background.

There is a refugee assistance committee in Mrauk-U. I also took as a secretary's role in that committee. With that assignment, I was involved in a lot of relief work.

I quite the committee when government announced that the relief workers require permission from either police or election commission in order to go for any humanitarian assistance trips.

In Burma, the armed conflict between Burmese government and ethnic armed groups have been now more than 70 years. No one has been defeated yet. The war is not happening in Yangon, Naypyitaw and Mandalay. The Burmese government and the Tatmadaw should think that there is something wrong and need to find the solution that why the fighting is not happening in these cities and happening only in ethnic areas."

Property Destruction 8

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"There are four quarters in Baungdwet village among them one is Khami ethnic village. There is a high school and a rural health clinic in the village. In April 2019 (couldn't remember the exact date) at around 10 pm, Burma Army's LIB 377 and LIB 378 fired artillery on to the village from the mountain range of eastern side of the village and opened indiscriminate fire after entered to the village. Three people injured, and one died in the spot. The deceased was identified as Maung Kyaw Sein 58 years old. The firing started at 10 pm and it even didn't last until the early morning. The whole villagers fled the village in the early morning. We were not allowed to go on a motorbike, so we had to flee by motor boat. We had to go twice. Before I arrived to the Shite Thaung IDP Camp, stayed an overnight in Chaung Nar village and stayed about 15 days in Tha Min Raik Village. Baungdwet is about 4 miles distance from Mrauk-U. It is south to the Mrauk-U.

On the first day of Myanmar New Year, the whole villagers fled the village. People in our village have been living in ten different IDP camps. Those IDP camp names are Shite Thaung IDP Camp, Thein Taung, Aung Zedi, Koe

[Interview continued on next page]

Property Destruction 8 (cont.)

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

Newin Aung Zedi, Daingyi Kyaun Thit, old one and the some monasteries. Previously there were a 14 households from our village and only 7 people remaining. Bindu village has now only one family left, with seven people. It is said that most of the Baungdwet villagers are about 700 people who are sheltering at the Myoma Pariyatti Institution.

The food is often served by the people who are responsible for this camp . I would like to urge the government, Please stop fighting and we want to live in the peaceful country without fighting."

Property Destruction 9

Name: Maung [redacted]

"On March 18, 2019 at about 8 pm, Burmese Army's battalion based in Khaung Phru Pyin and LIB 540 fired artillery shell towards our village. They fired the artillery without having any combatant between the two sides. They also fired with small artillery. The shells hit our village and burned down a house, and my wife and I were injured in the hand. It was reported that shots had been fired until the dawn. The village was also surrounded by the Burma Army troops. At About 9 pm, we were taken to Mrauk-U Hospital by the car of the head monk of the Mro Oo Khaung monastery. Both of us were in the hospital for a month. The owner of the house was being set fire is U Hla Shwe Maung. Now is at the Let Kauk Zay IDP camp. The Burmese Army stopped firing for a while and then resumed firing artillery again, in that shells there are also some villagers who got injured.

On March 19, 2019 almost all the villagers fled the village. Only a few elderly people left to guard the village. Currently, the refugees are sheltering at the Let Kauk Zay, Shwe Taung and Aung Zay Di IDP camps. Today also we heard that the Burmese Army forced two children from Kyauktaw to remove the land mines nearby our village, one dead and another seriously injured.

We had to flee the homes twice after we were discharged from the hospital. At first we stayed at the Shwe Taung Temple. We have been here at Shite Thaug IDP camp since June 2019. My last fleeing was because of the clashes had occurred between the two groups.

There are now about 300 refugees from the Ywar Haung Taw village in this camp in which people with above age 70 is 10 people. And the children below the 10 years of age is more than 80 and the number of babies are 57. Pregnant women is 5.

There are about 80 children under the age of ten. There are 57 infants. There are five pregnant mothers.

While we were in the hospital, the ICRC and other community organizations assisted us. Now I have a steel bone in my hand. The doctor recommended me not to move the hand and stay calm for around two years."

Property Destruction 10

Name: U Aung [redacted] (male)

"On October 17, 2019 , the Burma Army LID (55) approximately 80 Burma Army troops entered into our village and took as porter ten civilians, including 8 women and 2 men, to the village's eastern cemetery hill at around 5 pm. The fighting began in the hills around 6 pm when the portered women before the going up the hill. Others were escaped and

Property Destruction 10 (cont.)

Name: U Aung [redacted] (male)

reached to Ouk Pho Kan village. The entire villagers fled following the fighting day. First, they fled to the village of Waitharli. In the village also the villagers had to flee into the jungle. From the jungle we went to our village and through our village. We arrived at the Shite Thaung IDP camp. The refugees also go to other places where they feel comfortable. The people are sheltering in the Wat Hla, Tin Htein Kan, Palate, Pa Zwan Phay, Mrat Tazaung, Phayar Paw, Shwe Htee Suang and Shite Thaung IDP camp. Before taking our belonging from our village, we inquired whether there are Burmese Army still presence in the village or not. When they fled, they came on a tricycle. Two days after fleeing the village, they searched the shops and took villagers' belongings. They killed and eat the domestic animals of the villagers and paid no compensation. In the end of the April, 2019 the army had arrested two men who were coming down from the mountain and arrested another man from the village. They are now in Mrauk-U custody.

The village of Pauktaw Pyin is located north of Mrauk-U. Nowadays, the livelihood of the people is not good because the farmers could not harvest their crops in time."

Property Destruction 11

Name: Daw Kra [redacted]
(female)

"In March, 2019 (couldn't remember the exact date) the army surrounded the village and fired targeting at the village, there was no clashes between the two groups. While my son and three of our children were hiding in the house of Ma Oo Mra Than, my daughter Ma Myo Myint Aye 21 was injured in her hand when an artillery shell was landed at the house. The house also caught fire. Some witnesses said the heavy weapons were coming from Khaung Phru Pyin Village. At 10 pm I took my daughter to Mrauk-U Hospital, at around 10 pm with the aid car from the Mro Oo Khaung monastery. She was hospitalized for nine days. While my daughter was in the hospital, the LID 22 gave 200,000 kyats to us. Other civil society organizations help as much as they could. We left the hospital and stayed about 15 days at the Mrat Tazaung temple and went back to the village. Again in the month of May, 2019 the army came and fired on the villages. So we had to run away because we do not dare to stay in the village anymore.

We will return to the village when there will be no Burmese soldiers. Now, we do not dare to go back to the village because Burmese army are there."

Property Destruction 12

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"On April 10, 2019, Burmese Army's LID 55 and LID 22 arrested my son Khin Maung Soe on the suspicion of having connection with ULA/AA. Before the arrest, he was sheltering at the monastery after hearing the sounds of fighting near the Sittwe-Yangon highway. He was arrested at around 1 pm in the afternoon. Seventy-two people were arrested, including my son, and three were died during the interrogation. My son is now being held in Sittwe Prison. There is no investigation, only the appearing in the court and remanding. It has been twelve times that we meet them. Financially, it is impossible to go further.

My son works in the fields. We have been out of the village since last four months. There is no plan to return to the village. Only when the country

[Interview continued on next page]

Property Destruction 12

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

achieves peace then we will return to the village.

On August 10, 2019, we heard that a house was set on fire by the Burmese army. They also shot a buffalo and ate which is belong to me. No payment was made for that buffalo. I lost about 4,000,000 kyats. They searched other homes and took everything they found.

I didn't make complaint to any authority because I do not know how to make complaint to which department. Civil society organizations are helping me. I don't know their names exactly.

Since my son is not a member of ULA/AA, I would like to request an immediate release of my son. I would also like to request other civil society organizations to help to release my son."

Property Destruction 13

Name: Daw U [redacted] (female)

"We are here because of the fighting that occurred near our village. The Burmese army setting a temporary camp near our house. We have been here since October 2019. In March, our house was burnt to ash due to artillery fire. At that time, my daughter and I had to go to the Tha Min Raik clinic. The artillery was fired without having any combats between the two sides. Almost all the people left the village except the elderly people. Some were at the Shite Thaug IDP camp. We came up with a tractor from the village. I couldn't bring everything from my house. Half of my properties were taken by Burmese Army. It's worth about 30 to 40 lakh kyats. Burmese Army killed goats, chicken, cattle and etc. but they did not pay compensation to the villagers.

The LIB 540 also called villagers to force porter to carry the military supplies. My husband was also here when we had came out from the house. Now he left for China to work. Children have stopped going to school because of poverty.

There is no complaint has been made to the relevant government departments for our losses. I don't know how to make complaint, I don't even know that I have right to complaint. I have no mode to make complaint now."

Property Destruction 14

Name: U Ran [redacted] (male)

"We came to this place, because of fearing the fighting on a hilltop, about a mile east of our village. Prior to the fighting, we asked help from the aid groups from Tein Nyo IDP camp to arrange transportation for us but they have not been able to arrange. They told us to come with our own arrangement. There are about 70 houses in the village. Most of the villagers are ethnic Mro people. Rakhine and Chin people are also there. Our livelihoods are cutting firewoods, bamboo, cultivating (farming) in the jungle. There are currently 20 households remaining in the village. The rest of the family are staying here a little bit and some are in the Tein Nyo IDP camp. They return to the village during the monsoon season, where they harvest their crops and move to a suitable place. Those who have more farmlands and cattle do not flee the village. There are now over 20 students here. There is no health care here. Children have the opportunity to attend school. There is a junior high school in my village. There are two female

Property Destruction 14 (cont.)

Name: U Ran [redacted] (male)

teachers. Heard that currently one has returned and only one is left. There is a support for IDP here. During the summer there was lot of support but now only rice is available. Therefore, the government should provide foods, education and accommodation services. We will go back to our home when there will be guarantee of no fighting and war in the country."

Property Destruction 15

Name: Daw Hla [redacted]
(female)

"In July 2019 (couldn't remember the exact date) the whole villagers fled the village. Nothing was brought except a few clothes with us. Before this, there were at least four or five times that we had to run from the village due to the fighting. The people fled to Pe Pin Yan IDP camp, Let Kauk Zey IDP camp and Shite Thaug IDP camp. As the Waitharli village is close to the Asian highway the Burmese troops always walk nearby the village and sometimes they shoot towards the village. They also fire towards the village whenever they have clashes close to our village. As we don't dare to live we fled our homes. We have been living in this camp for about three months. On our way to this camp two children were drowned when we crossed the river from Pe Pin Yan to Plat village. One was studying in grade 9 and another one was 3-year-old baby. Both were the daughters of U Maung Kyan Thein and Daw Khin Myint. Watthali village is north of Mrauk-U, 7 miles distance.

The main occupation of the villagers is farming. When the village was finally empty, the Burmese soldiers slaughter and eat the domestic animals belonging to the villagers. There were about twenty people left in the village. We came to know this information through the people who remained in the village. I want to live in my village peacefully."

Property Destruction 16

Name: Ko [redacted] (male)

"On March 29, 2019, Burma Army's LID 55 with around 100 soldiers entered into our village and started firing artillery and gunshot. The village was also surrounded by them. An artillery shell landed inside the compound of my house and my left side of the chest was hit and I got injured. The walls and the roof were completely destroyed. All the villagers were forcibly gathered at the administrator's house. Soldiers went back at around 12 pm. There was no reason for the shooting. I was allowed to send to the hospital about half an hour later. I was first taken to Tein Nyo clinic at around 9 am. The Tein Nyo clinic did not accept me so I had to go to Mrauk-U Hospital. I arrived at Mrauk-U hospital at 12 pm. I was being treated at Mrauk-U Hospital for one month and three days. The ICRC has provided more than 350,000 kyats and other Rakhine civil society organizations also helped. The elderly monks also came to help.

Villagers were interrogated and tortured, and five were arrested. U Ba Tun, U Maung Phyu Chay, U Hla Thein Maung, U Sein Tun and U Ko Naing were arrested. Now they are in Sittwe prison. Villagers said that soldiers went through all the houses and searched for valuable things and took whatever they found in the house. The whole villagers fled the village on March 29, 2019. The villagers run to nearby village such as Tein Nyo, Wat Hla, Palate, Taung Myint and Tha Pray Kan villages. At end of February, there was a clash occurred on the hill of Nga Pyo Taw which is close to our village to the east. The village is 2 miles far from Mrauk-U town. It is about two miles away.

[Interview continued on next page]

Property Destruction 16 (cont.) Everyone wants to live in their own home. We decided to return to our village only when there will be peace."
Name: Ko [redacted] (male)

Property Destruction 17 "On March 29, 2019 at around 6 a.m in the morning, the Burmese army LID 55 with nearly 100 soldiers entered into our village by shooting. The whole villagers were summoned and forced to gather at the administrator U Thein Kyaw Naing's house. The army threatened us that if we do not come out from the house, they would shoot and kill us. They went door-to-door and took money and things of the villagers' belongings. The whole village was interrogated and tortured, and some villagers were taken by the Burmese army. Children are terrified and unsettled .
Name: Daw Yain [redacted] (female)

There were more than 260 houses in the village. When we heard that the soldiers were coming then the villagers ran from the village to avoid the army. At present also, the doors are closed and people are rarely seen. There is not much work to do now. People are just eating what they have. In the long run, it will be difficult to survive."

Property Destruction 18 "In April 2019, Burmese army opened fire on the village with guns. Burmese army also shoot the people even walking on the streets. The pigs are also shot in front of the owners without any compensation. There is no way to calculate the strength of Burmese army forces. When they came we all went to hide and they are in long line. Now there are hardly any villagers in the village. Now, there's no one in the village, I guess."
Name: Daw Ma [redacted] (female)

Property Destruction 19 "On March 2, 2019, I arrived as a refugee at the IDP camp and on the next day when I visited my house and I saw nothing in my house. The pictures and bullets are in the hand of the Tun Thar Sein, a state parliament lawmaker. If you want them you can go to him and discuss. I'd like to know how it had happened."
Name: Not provided

Property Destruction 20 "On March 29, 2019 at around 6 a.m in the morning, the Burmese army LID 55 entered into our village by shooting via Tein Nyo bridge. The Burmese Army opened fire at our village near the Nyo Nyo Bridge. By surrounding the village six soldiers entered into our house and searched the things in the house. At that time, our family was hiding behind the house. Then we got afraid and went out. When they (Burmese army) saw my husband, they started shooting towards him. They also beat my husband. My father-in-law, U Ba Tun, a 67-year-old man, was beaten, and he was taken to the middle of the village by tightened roped on the body. They took all the properties belonging to the villagers and tortured the villagers as well. The whole villagers were ordered to sit in the village administrator's house. No one was aware of their return. An old man and a woman were killed in the shooting by the Tatmadaw."
Name: Ma [redacted] (female)

Property Destruction 21 "Fighting broke out near the village on March 5, 2019. The Burma Army soldiers also came to the village to arrest and harass the villagers. They often looted the villagers' properties from the village. As a result, the entire villagers fled to the camps. I cannot predict when to return to my home."
Name: Daw Than [redacted] (female)

Property Destruction 22

Name: U Sein [redacted] (male)

"Our village is between LIB 540 and LIB 31. On March 9, 2019, the fighting broke out. The bullets reached into the village and the soldiers opened fire, taking cover inside the village. Since then, we have been moving to the Belutaung IDP campe until August 2019. It's only been a month since I moved to this Mratazung monastery IDP camp. Heard that soldiers in our village beat and questioned the villagers. Domestic animals from some some villagers were being shot and killed by the Burmese soldiers. I want to see the peace in the country."

Property Destruction 23

Name: Ma [redacted] (female)

"On September 18-19, 2019, fighting broke out for two days between the Burma Army and Arakan Army (ULA/AA) in the village between Let Kar and Pyaingtaung (Mro ethnic). On September 20, 2019, we fled to the Tein Nyo IDP camp. When we fled the village I was not able to bring anything only the clothes I wore on my body. Later we went to the village when there were no soldiers and took as many household belongings as we could. When there were no villagers, soldiers came into the village and took everything they found. Pyi Taung Village has 25 houses. Three-quarters of them are farmers, while the rest depend on the forest and rivers. Those who remain in the village are afraid to go anywhere because of fear of the soldiers. As a result, we are struggling to survive."

Property Destruction 24

Name: U Kyaw [redacted] (male)

"The camp opened on April 7, 2019. It just started with about 30 dorm rooms. There are currently 768 buildings in this camp. There are over 3,000 people. The ICRC is working with local donors to build this camp. The refugees staying in this IDP camp are from neighboring villages including Aut Thakan, Buywarthmany, Let Kar, Pauktawpyin, Waitharli, Paukpyin Gwan, Phayargyi, Lanmwaytaung, Baungdwet, Khulai, Khapaung, Pyaingtaung and Phayaout villages respectively. Refugees coming from the villages, some are the entire village and half of the population from some villages. The reason for this coming as a refugee camp is the fighting broke out the near their villages and the Burmese soldiers entered the village with indiscriminate shooting and interrogated villagers, tortured, forced portering and looted the villagers' properties.

Local schools are supported for the education to run a primary school here. We informed the education director and requested that teachers from concerned villages be sent to this camp. Middle and high school students are required to attend the junior high school in Teinnyo. There are a total of 525 primary school students.

The ICRC supports twice a month for the food. Rice, oil, salt, beans and chili but not enough. We have to seek the help of local donors. The government has provided 800 bags of rice. Next summer there will be water scarcity. The lake, which is currently in use, is slowly becoming dry."

Property Destruction 25

Name: Daw Saw [redacted]
(female)

"The whole villagers went into hiding on that day because of Burma Army's artillery shelling continuously. The gunshots hit the villagers' house. While I was hiding in my house an artillery bullet hit at my neck and I was sent to Kyauktaw hospital and stayed three days in the hospital."

Property Destruction 26

Name: U [redacted] (male)

"On August 17, 2019, at around 2 p.m the three artillery shells from Burma Army's artillery battalion LIB 377 landed at the monastery. A man was injured and the monastery buildings were slightly damaged. 10 minutes before the military shelled the artilleries we were informed that an explosive was exploded in the east of the village. That's why the military shelled the artillery as per I assume. In any case, artillery shelling in the village should not happen."

Property Destruction 27

Name: U Mae [redacted] (male)

"About a month after I fled the village, the army set fire to my house. There are many losses. There is also 2 acres of paddy field that has been cultivated since 2004. Currently, only a handful of pear trees are in the field. the price per tree is at least 5 lakh kyats. There are more than 100 plants. Now these plants are also robbed of camels. The forest department is about to run out. There have been cases where the forest was cut down before the villagers fled, and there was no response."

Property Destruction 28

Name: Daw Thein [redacted] (female)

"On December 31, 2018, at around 5 a.m. a combined force of Burma Army and (13) police battalion of Myanmar police force arrested my son Htay Aung while he was sleeping on the suspicion of involvement with the Arakan Army (ULA/AA). When we heard that my son was detained in the police battalion (13), we went to the police station to meet my son but the police did not allow us to meet my son. The night before his arrest, more than 100 soldiers were hiding around the village and patrolling. On January 14, 2019, we got permission to meet my son Htay Aung while he was appearing in the Buthidaung court.

On January 13, 2019 at around 8:00 am in the morning, a clash broke out near the Myaing Chaung (Khami) village under the village tract of Thayitpyin. The entire villagers from Thayitpyin village were forcibly called by the Burma Army and told to gather at the village administrator's house and interrogated the villagers. After the interrogation the village administrator Maung Than Hlaing and another villager were arrested in the name of suspicion of having ties with Arakan Army (ULA/AA) for further questioning. Despite my son Htay Aung was ordered to be released on January 14, 2019, he was not released on that day. He was released unconditionally on June 11, 2019. It's been nine months since we have been fleeing here and there after my son Htay Aung was arrested. There were many villagers who fled the village every night because of the military encircling the village.

On November 6, 2019, my house including seven other houses were set fire by the Burma Army. The house was just newly built and cost about 70 lakhs kyats. I lost about 10 million kyat worth of the properties."

Property Destruction 29

Name: U Ba [redacted] (male)

"I sent my family members to this Monastery's IDP camp because it was unsafe because of heavy artillery fire by the Burma Army. About twenty days after I sent my family to the IDP camp, in a midnight, the army opened fire on the village at 3 a.m and due to that the entire villagers fled the village. Two days after arriving here, the army set fire to seven houses in the village, including my house. I don't know how and where to make complaint and I don't think there will be anything change or good response would come from the government."

Property Destruction 30

Name: U Kyaw [redacted] (male)

"We fled the village because the Burma Army frequently fired mini and heavy artillery shells nearby the village. The house was burned down about 20 days after leaving the village. People said that the house was burned down due to the landing of artillery shells and some reported that the Burma Army themselves set fire to it intentionally. We also stock rice, chilli, and pepper in the house. We lost everything. The loss was worth about 20 million kyats. As we do not know how to make complaint we did not give complaint to any authorities."

Property Destruction 31

Name: U Kyaw [redacted] (male)

"The Burma army fired heavy artillery around the village and sometimes inside the village, as a result we did not dare to live in the village and fled the village. The fighting broke out for three days near the Myaing Chaung (Khami) village before we left the village. My house was burnt down by the army. I did not give complaint to any authority because I don't know how to make a complaint. The other concern is that if Burma army will come up with further problem against us. I want the war to stop and to go back home as early as possible."

Property Destruction 32

Name: Maung [redacted] (male)

"After midnight around 2 am, villagers fled the village due to an artillery fire by the Burma Army near the village bridge. My wife couldn't run out of the village because she was a pregnant woman. Ten of the villagers were left in the village including our couple. There were seven women and three men. The army summoned us (the remaining 10 villagers) and interrogated us. It was two nights in the village, and the International Red Cross (ICRC) called us to go to the IDP camp after the two days. My house has been set on fire by the military."

Property Destruction 33

Name: U Aung [redacted] (male)

"Fighting was raging around the village and every night the Burma Army fired with heavy artillery shelling. As a result we fled the village. We left the village on September 4, 2019, at 2 pm and arrived at this Monastery IDP camp at 3 pm. It has been three times now that we fled our home. I have been running since March 2019, till today. At first, we sought refuge in the monastery of Kyar Nyo Pyin village, west of Thayet Pyin village. This is my last time fleeing and we heard that the army also set fire to eight houses. The eight families whose houses were burnt down are U Kyaw Hla, Kyaw Min, Hmae Tun Aung, U Ba Than, Daw Ma San Thar, the Nun's house and another unknown house. In this final incident, the Red Cross twice helped some of the villagers who were trapped in the village to flee. The first batch rescued was 16 people and the second was 11 people. There is no one in the village right now. Some houses were demolished and used as bullets cover by digging wells. On January 13, 2019, at 8:00 am in the morning as the fighting broke out near the Myaing Chaung (Khami) village, all the villagers from the Thayetpyin village were summoned in front of the village administrator U Maung Than Hlaing's house and the army interrogated the villagers. The village administrator U Maung Than Hlaing, Maung Kyaw Win, and U Aung Tun Sein, a Khami ethnic from Alechaung village, were arrested in the accusation of having connection with the ULA/AA.

They had been detained for five months and are now released.

This place is now a Buddhist monastery, a religious place. I am currently

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Property Destruction 33 (cont.)

Name: U Aung [redacted] (male)

in charge of the Refugee Camp now. This IDP camp began receiving displaced peoples since September 4, 2019. There are currently 236 dormitories. We need about 100 more dormitories. We also need to consider the location of the building for the dormitory. Each house is built at a cost of 120,000 kyats. The fund money is donated by individual donors in Buthidaung town.

The first arrivals of children are allowed to attend school. The later arrivals, 50 students, were not allowed to attend. They are attending at the B.E.H.S No. (1) and (3) of Buthidaung . It's about a 45-minute walk from the monastery.

In regards to the health, the government health workers visit the camp twice a week.

The ministry of relief and social welfare provides 2 can of rice (500 Kilogram) for each person. The ICRC also donates household items. There are 18 toilets. Toilets are also needed. Other foods are also required, the rice only is not enough. And water and blankets and clothing are also needed. "

Property Destruction 34

Name: U U Kyaw [redacted] (male)

"There was an explosion near by the village of Naruntaung under the San Goe Taung village tract on December 8, 2018. Since then Burmese Army units often pass by our village. On May 12, 2019, about 300 Burma Army soldiers, a unit of LID 22 who were coming after the clashes at Sar Par Htar village, entered into our village with indiscriminate shooting and gunshots. A day ago, some villagers also went in hiding to Zeditaung village. On that day, I and my wife and some other villagers were stuck in the village and couldn't go out from the village. We heard an explosion when Burma Army soldiers arrived at the village. The army asked us to bring hoe, shovels and knife.

Later, we were force to guide them to the San Goe Taung cemetery. They themselves buried four Tatmadaw soldiers' dead bodies.

On July 12, 2019, the whole villagers fled the village. Now my house has been burnt down by the army and the cattle are also left in the villages. My house is a two-story building, with concrete and wood."

Property Destruction 35

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"Before we arrived here, we had to go hide when the Burma soldiers came into the village and when they returned and again we came to our village. And again when they came to the village again go hide. We were in those types of situation.

In the absence of villagers, the army has also set fire to homes. As far as I know the following family's houses were burned down, such as U Kyaw Win, Tun Aye Thein, U Win Maung, Than Sein, Aung Thein, Dar Soe, U Shwe Thein, Hla Kyawt Oo and Tun Thien.

It is also reported that the houses were demolished and the boards were sold to the Bengalis. In June 2019, the whole villagers fled. Prior to this place, I lived in Zeditaung and Ywar Mar village. The Naruntaung village is

Property Destruction 35 (cont.)

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

south of Buthidaung and it's twenty miles away. On September 9, 2019, we arrived at the Main Road Monastery IDP camp.

The army was stationed on the hill's east side and firing from there. The heavy artillery weapon's installation is located on the Thonesay Tabone pagoda which also known as San Goe Taung pagoda. It is about a mile from the Naruntaung Village. Over there two heavy artillery shells were fired into the village. And then there were also artillery shelling from the division (LID) and (Sa Ka Kha) 15. The artillery also landed inside the village.

There are the LID 22 and LIB 551 stationed near the village of Thonesay Tabone. When they see someone passing by the village, they shoot at them. I have decided to return home when there will be no Burmese Army nearby my village."

Property Destruction 36

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"On July 13, 2019, at around 8 am in the morning, we heard three explosions between the village of San Goe Taung and the Naruntaung village where a unit of Burma Army soldiers from LID 22 were passing and thereafter heavy artillery were shelling to our village from that area. The artillery landed on the outskirts of the village, luckily it did not hit the village. At that time, all the villagers began to flee the village. Soon after the villagers left the village, at around 10 am, the Burma army entered the village, destroying houses and taking goods and villagers' belongings. Some villagers lost their jewelry and gold and silver. On that day the Burma Army set fire to the houses of U Shwe Thein, U Maung Tun Aung, Aung Thein, Hla Kyawt Oo and Tun Thein respectively. Ten days later, U Win Maung's house was set fire by the Burma Army. And then again, a month later, U Htun Aye Than and U Kyaw Win's house were set on fire. The army also killed cattle and they ate them. They destroyed my motorbike, generator and the Soundbox in my house. In my house I left five cows and one hundred baskets of rice were left (100 baskets weigh 20.86 Kg of rice.

We also lived at the Zeditaung village which is located to the south of Naruntaung village.

On October 6, 2019, we arrived at the Main Road Monastery IDP camp in Buthidaung. I want to work and live peacefully in my own village and I want this war to be stopped as early as possible."

Property Destruction 37

Name: U Ba [redacted] (male)

"In between late October and early November (couldn't remember the exact date) while we were returning from the Kyar Nyo Pyin village by motorboat from taking relief supplies donated by the Arakan Students' Union, the Burma Army stopped us at around 4 pm near the Thayetpyin village's bridge and took us to the Buthidaung police battalion (13) for interrogation.

The strength of Burmese army was 300 soldiers, a combined force of LIB 551, 565 and LID 22, including about 40 police forces from the police battalion (13). On that day, the total of 14 people were arrested. They were 7 villagers from Pyin Chaung village, the village administrator from Thayetpyin village and U Kyaw Win, two villagers from Kyauktaung village

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Property Destruction 37 (cont.) and two construction workers at the Kwun Daing bridge. Among the 14 people, 12 people were released as they found no guilty of them in the next day. However they continued to detain the administrator of Thayetpyin village and U Maung Kyaw Win.

Name: U Ba [redacted] (male)

On May 7, 2019, fighting broke out near Zay village monastery and near the Mroma Chaung village. On the day of the fighting, about 4 pm in the evening, the entire villagers fled to Kyar Nyo Pyin village. About a week before the fighting there were heavy artillery shelling around the Saingdin waterfalls and nearby our village by the military helicopter. When there were no villagers at the village the Burmese soldiers killed domestic animals and used for their food. They also looted stuffs from homes. In the Kyar Nyo Pyin village, due to the continued artillery shelling by the Burma Army's LID 22, the villagers were afraid to live and fled to this monastery IDP camp on July 26, 2019."

Property Destruction 38

Name: U Zaw [redacted] (male)

"On January 2, 2019, the clash broke out at about 1:00 pm on the west side of the village near Tu Chaung. A week after the fighting, we fled to Kyar Nyo Pyin village. We stayed for four months in Kyar Nyo Pyin village and came to this monastery's IDP camp. There was also fighting occurring near the village at the end of April. All the domestic animals including cattle, pigs, and chickens were lost which is about 50 lakhs kyat worth."

Property Destruction 39

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"It has been about 20 times that we fled the village due to the artillery shellings and clashes that broke out nearby the village. The last escape was on July 12, 2019, and the entire villagers fled the village that time. The villagers fled to the Zeditaung, Kyaukran and U Yain Thar villages respectively. In the final escape an old woman, 90 years old, and two disabled people were left in the village. We came to know through the disabled people that our house had been burned down by the Burma Army. They said their hands were handcuffed and binded and finally the dumb disabled person was able to escape from it. ICRC was able to rescue the mentally disabled person. Later, the youths from Naruntaung Village went to rescue the old lady, Daw Aung Phyu, and she died as soon as she arrived at the Naruntaung village. It is reported that the army is stationed in the village now. My house was burned down and I lost domestic animals, 5 cows and 2 pigs."

Property Destruction 40

Name: Daw Than Sein

"We were informed that the Burma army set fire to the village after we had left the village. My house and my mother's house were also burned down. Even though I go back to the village there is no house to live in. In any case, I would like to stay in my own village peacefully."

Property Destruction 41

Name: U Win [redacted] (male)

"At about 9:30 pm at night in April 2019 (exact date is unknown), a unit of Burma army soldiers coming from the Sin Goe Taung village entered into our village and started indiscriminately shooting in the village. That's why I ran away in fear. At first I ran to the Zeditaung village. From Zeditaung village I ran to the Ou Phauk village. And then from Ou Phauk village to Preen Taw village where I stayed for a month. After staying for month in Preen Taw I went to see my village's situation and the soldiers opened fire on the whole village. Since then, I am taking shelter at the Yan Aung Myay Monastery. There were several times that we flee from the village. It's been about ten times. My house was also burned down."

Property Destruction 42

Name: U Shwe [redacted] (male)

"On July 13, 2019, at 11:00 am on Saturday, the Burma army entered the village by firing small and heavy weapons and we fled the village due to the fear. The houses belonging to U Tun Sein, U Tun Hla Maung, Daw Mra Yain and Maung Hla Win respectively were destroyed due to the landing of artillery in their houses. On that day, at around 4 pm, the Burma Army torched my house and those of Daw Hla Kyawt Oo, Aung Thein, Hla Oo Yain. In my house I have had a grocery shop, two motorbikes and the rice which we stored. All were burned and destroyed including three cows. It cost 200,000 kyats in building my current house and the venerable monk of this monastery donated me 50,000 kyats."

Property Destruction 43

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"It has been about 20 times since we fled the village due to the artillery. The army came to the village several times and lived in the monastery for several days. The last time the military destroyed the religious property in the monastery. Villagers also had to flee several times. I stayed in the village and did not run till the last hour. When there were no soldiers present in the village then we took the youths who had fled and told them to look after their cattle. The monastery was built on the hill. The LIB 22 had occupied the monastery as their important base. Sand was also used for the construction of trenches for their protection. The purpose of our new monastery building is now gone. I felt so sad."

Property Destruction 44

Name: Daw Bar [redacted]
(female)

"Clashes were occurring frequently near the village. When soldiers came to the village, they interrogated the villagers and tortured them if they did not like someone. Later, when we heard Burmese soldiers were coming to the village, then we fled to the Zeditaung village. Later, the Kwantaung villagers set up temporary shelters in the Zeditaung village to stay. When the Burmese soldiers came, we fled to Zeditaung village and when they went back we returned to the village. The last time we fled the village was in early November 2019. The first time the Burmese soldiers arrived at the village it was on March 15, 2019, when we had the ceremony of monkhood ordination for my son. On that day, we couldn't practice our religious ceremony. Some villagers fled. On March 16, 2019, the day of my son's novicehood ordination, the artillery shells fired from the Naruntaung village and it land near the hill of the monastery to the east of the village. As a result, the whole village fled about at 10 am. Soldiers also entered the village and shot and fired indiscriminately. The soldiers also burnt six houses in the village. The owners of the houses are U Kyaw Nyunt, May Hton, Ma Khin Nyunt (aka May La Vi), Tun Oo Khine, Tun Oo Khine's daughter and Hla Than Nu's house."

Property Destruction 45

Name: U Aung [redacted] (male)

"Fighting occurred often near the village. There have been several times that we had to flee the village. Later, we set up a temporary house in the village of Zeditaung and sometimes men went to the village to look after the cattle. Mostly we stayed in the Zeditaung village and finally we arrived here in mid-December 2019. About 300 Burmese soldiers took positions in the village and all the villagers fled the village and Burmese soldiers destroyed all the properties and furnitures of the houses. They also killed and ate the cattle left by the villagers. At two o'clock in the afternoon, a buffalo from the hill came to the pasture of the cattle and

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Property Destruction 45 (cont.) exploded. I got wounded when I stepped on a landmine in the afternoon, 2 pm, while I was returning from chasing my buffalo on the hill. I got injured on my left wrist and left knee. The ICRC team sent me to the Sittwe Hospital and I was hospitalized for a week."

Name: U Aung [redacted] (male)

Property Destruction 46 "On July 5 on Friday, around 160 Burma army soldiers came down from Zeekhau village, north of Ahmyattaung village, indiscriminately firing heavy artillery and weapons. The villagers were scared and went to the monastery for shelter. While the villagers were hiding in the monastery, Burma Army soldiers burnt down 12 houses in the village including my house, Daw Khin Than Nu, Daw Than Than Nu, Sein Win Phru, Daw Mae Ma, U Maung Lone, Tin Tin, U Win Kyaw, Daw Aye Mra Nu, Daw Ma Than Nu and Daw Nyunt Phru. We arrived here five days before the full moon day of Thidunkyut, which is on October 9, 2019."

Name: Khin [redacted]

Property Destruction 47 "The army set fire to my house while I was hiding in the village monastery after the Burma Army soldiers entered into the village firing artilleries and weapons."

Name: Cho [redacted]

Property Destruction 48 "On July 5, 2019, the government forces set fire to the house. The house is made of wood. Three hundred baskets of rice, one motorcycle and one sewing machine were set ablaze."

Name: Daw Sein [redacted] (female)

Property Destruction 49 "On July 5, 2019, the government forces set fire to the house. The house is made of bamboo. Fire burned wood piled up by the houses to build new homes. The day the house was burnt down I was at the Kanyaung Taung hill. All the furniture was set ablaze."

Name: Daw Ma [redacted] (female)

Property Destruction 50 "On November 21, 2019, at around 4 pm in the evening, the small and massive artillery shells landed inside the village. At that time, my husband asked me to stay at the monastery. He said he would come to the monastery later. He called me before I reached the monastery and told me I couldn't run out. When I arrived at the monastery, I made phone call to him but he did not pick up my call. When the shooting stopped, I went to my house to see my husband. When I reached home I saw he was not alive anymore. He was killed. The shooting started again and I had to leave my deceased husband's body and flee to the monastery again. At around 8 pm at night, people went to guard the deceased body. The next day in the early morning at 3:00 am they (Burmese army) started shooting again and the villagers had to leave my deceased husband's body again in the house. In the afternoon at around 1 pm despite ongoing shooting nearby the village the villagers took my husband's dead body to Htee Zway village by a motorboat because it was not possible to buried in the village. We arrived at Rathedaung town from Htee Zway village at around 2 pm. In the next day, in the afternoon at around 1 pm, the funeral was held in the Rathedaung town. My uncle, U Maung Khin Win, also fled in fear of artillery fire, and the bullet hit his left ear. We did not hear anything yet where he is living. The government army is very cruel. They burned down the houses, tortured the villagers, killing the domestic animals, cattle and doing whatever they want to do.

My husband's name is Chan Thein Aung, aged 49 years old. His father's name is U Tun Hla."

Property Destruction 51

Name: Daw Than [redacted]
(female)

"On July 5, 2019, the government army forces burned down my house. On the day of the arson, we fled to Nga Zin Bo village. Even before the house was set on fire, due to heavy artillery fired by the Burma Army, we had already fled to Nga Zin Bo village. The next day when we came back to the village and looked at my house, I saw the whole house was burnt to ashes. Everything went into the fire. As we have no place to live we stayed at the monastery. While staying at the monastery, a week later the Burma Army soldiers came to the village and detained the villagers in the monastery for five days without being allowed to leave to anywhere. The army took the village population list and in the next day they went to the Rathedaung town from the village."

Property Destruction 52

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"The main economy of our village is rice cultivation. The paddy field had to be left in unharvested condition. The government army have burned down the homes, firing with large artillery and weapons, killing the cattle and using for their meal. It looks like a country without a ruler. On the full moon day of Tan Saung Moon, which is November 11, 2019, they killed my uncle's cow and had with their meal. On the next day they killed my uncle's cow. They also destroyed all the furniture of the house."

Property Destruction 53

Name: Daw Aye [redacted]
(female)

"On July 5, 2019 on Friday afternoon at 2 pm, a unit of the government army, 160 soldiers, set fire to my house. As soon as I heard the government army is entering the village, I was afraid and fled to the Nga Zin Bo village. I came back to the village the next day and when I arrived to my village my house was no more. All were burned down. There were 11 families whose houses were burned down by the Government army. Then all the families took shelter in the village monastery after becoming homeless. The rest of the villagers had left for the jungle. Once again, the government troops arrived at the monastery and fired heavy artillery from the hills and we had to flee to Nga Zin Bo village again. After staying for a month at Nga Zin Bo village I came to the Rathedaung town."

Interviews Depicting Forced Portering

Forced Portering 1

Name: Ko Aung [redacted] (male)

"I fled the village due to bomb explosion.

On the 24th the LID 55 of Burmese army entered into the village while firing. Then the whole villagers were forced to stay in the middle of the village.

I first saw the battalion 380 of Myaung Mya passing through the village.

The Burmese soldiers divided us in four groups such as men, women, elderly people and youth group. Then they documented the identity of each and every person. They interrogated a group of men consisting of 10 people separately.

44 villagers were forced to carry their luggage until they reached to the Ra Maung bridge.

11 people were classified on the suspected list and they kept them separately four miles far from the village.

They also interrogated a couple coming with a motorbike and set fire to all the tents on the side of the road. The villagers returned to the village at 5 pm in the evening and the Burmese soldiers threatened the villagers to set fire to the entire village if any explosion is heard nearby this area.

If I think of the incidents of that day I remember the past Japanese era.

Not all the villagers came out from the village. It is a 30 minutes drive by motorbike from here. It takes 45 minutes if we travel by motorboat. Our family economy is an ordinary small scale fishing job. I don't think it will be peaceful and safe in the village. I think we will achieve the peace only when Arakan become free."

Forced Portering 2

Name: U Khin [redacted] (male)

"The incident happened on October 23, 2020: the Burmese Army entered into the village with indiscriminate shooting after a bomb blast near the Paik Saik Chaung bridge. All the villagers were told to come out from the house and forced to stay in the middle of the village.

After that, the villagers were forced to carry the military's luggage and supplies to the Ra Maung bridge. More than 40 people were forced to carry the military's luggage and also interrogated and beaten.

Forced Portering 2 (cont.)

Name: U Khin [redacted] (male)

My livelihood relies on a small cultivation of farmland and cutting wood and bamboo from the jungle. I have three children. They are studying at grade 10, 8 and 7 respectively.

I want the country to be peaceful as early as possible. I want to go back to my village as soon as possible. The villagers are very much scared."

Forced Portering 3

Name: U Aung [redacted] (male)

"On October 17, 2019, the Burma Army LID 55, approximately 80 Burma Army troops, entered into our village and took as porters ten civilians, including 8 women and 2 men, to the village's eastern cemetery hill at around 5 pm. The fighting began in the hills around 6 pm before the portered women went up the hill. Others escaped and reached to Ouk Pho Kan village. The entire villagers fled following the fighting day. First, they fled to the village of Waitharli. In the village also the villagers had to flee into the jungle. From the jungle we went to our village and through our village. We arrived at the Shite Thaug IDP camp. The refugees also went to other places where they feel comfortable. The people are sheltering in the Wat Hla, Tin Htein Kan, Palate, Pa Zwan Phay, Mrat Tazaung, Phayar Paw, Shwe Htee Suang and Shite Thaug IDP camp. Before taking our belongings from our village, we inquired whether there are Burmese Army still present in the village or not. When they fled, they came on a tricycle. Two days after fleeing the village, they searched the shops and took villagers' belongings. They killed and ate the domestic animals of the villagers and paid no compensation. In the end of the April 2019, the army had arrested two men who were coming down from the mountain and arrested another man from the village. They are now in Mrauk-U custody.

The village of Pauktaw Pyin is located north of Mrauk-U. Nowadays, the livelihood of the people is not good because the farmers could not harvest their crops in time."

Forced Portering 4

Name: Daw [redacted] (female)

"We are here because of the fighting that occurred near our village. The Burmese army set up a temporary camp near our house. We have been here since October 2019. In March, our house was burnt to ash due to artillery fire. At that time, my daughter and I had to go to the Tha Min Raik clinic. The artillery was fired without having any combat between the two sides. Almost all the people left the village except the elderly people. Some were at the Shite Thaug IDP camp. We camp up with a tractor from the village. I couldn't bring everything from my house. Half of my property was taken by Burmese Army. It is worth about 30 to 40 lakh kyats. The Burmese army killed goats, chicken, cattles and ate them but they did not pay compensation to the villagers.

The LIB 540 also called villagers to force porter to carry the military supplies. My husband was also here when we had came out from the house. Now he left for China to work. Children have stopped going to school because of poverty.

There is no complaint made to the relevant government departments for our losses. I don't know how to make complaint, I don't even know that I have right to complaint. I have no mode to make complaint now."

Forced Portering 5

Name: U Kyaw [redacted] (male)

"The camp opened on April 7, 2019. It started with about 30 dorm rooms. There are currently 768 buildings in this camp. There are over 3,000 people. The ICRC is working with local donors to build this camp. The refugees staying in this IDP camp are from neighboring villages including Aut Thakan, Buywarthmany, Let Kar, Pauktawpyin, Waitharli, Paukpyin Gwan, Phayargyi, Lanmwaytaung, Baungdwet, Khulai, Khapaung, Pyaingtaung and Phayaout villages respectively. Refugees coming from the villages, some are the entire village and some half of the population from some villages. The reason for this coming to a refugee camp is the fighting broke out near their villages and the Burmese soldiers entered the village with indiscriminate shooting and interrogated villagers, tortured, force portering and looted the villagers' property.

Local schools are supported for the education to run a primary school here. We informed the education director and requested that teachers from concerned villages to be sent to this camp. Middle and high school students are required to attend the junior high school in Teinnyo. There are a total of 525 primary school students.

The ICRC supports twice a month for the food. Rice, oil, salt, beans and chilli but not enough. We have to seek the help of local donors. The government has provided 800 bags of rice. Next summer there will be water scarcity. The lake, which is currently in use, is slowly becoming dry."

Interviews Depicting Landmines

Landmines 1

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"There are about 100 houses in our village. All the villagers were fled. We had to leave our village because the Burmese military tortured us. They came into the village with shooting. Then they forced the villagers to get down from the house. They told all the people to gather in the middle of the village and beat the young people. The women from home had to send the foods to the men. Some people were forcibly driven out of the house, and some people were searched in the house and the army seized gold and silver and other property belonging to the civilians. Those soldiers are from the LID 55. I don't even know the leader's name. There is fighting in the village. There was a bomb blast (landmine) to the eastern side of the village. They said they came to the village because their army units were changed. The Burmese army based in the big hill, about 3 hours' boat drive from our village. It is in the eastern side of our village.

My economy is in the fields, fishing in the river, plant banana fruits, beans and legumes.

There is no health clinic in the village. If someone gets ill or something happens we go to Na Ran Village Clinic for treatment. No fees are charged as it is a government clinic.

This is the second time we have been staying at this monastery in Inle village. We came to the shelter two months ago before. At present there are about 60 people staying from our village. Some are also taking refuge in Na Ran village. There are about 50 people staying there. One is a pregnant mother. There are about 7-8 school-going students. It is said that the school will continue.

Our village is east of the Ann Thar village. Both road and water ways are accessible to travel. It takes about 2 hours by motorboat and 1 hour by car.

Some of our villagers have lost gold and silver jewelry. We have raised this issue to the state parliamentarian of Minbya constituency no 1. U Hla Thein Aung. He said they would be returned. But till yet we have not got it back. We got no response from the government as well.

We decided to return only when there would be no fighting in the village. At present, the Burmese army has occupied the top of the hill nearby the village, so we dare not to go back the village."

Landmines 2

Name: Maung [redacted] (male)

"On March 18, 2019, at about 8 pm, Burmese Army's battalion based in Khaung Phru Pyin and LIB 540 fired artillery shells towards our village. They fired the artillery without having any combat between the two sides. They also fired with small artillery. The shells hit our village and burned down a house, and my wife and I were injured in the hand. It was reported that shots had been fired until the dawn. The village was also surrounded by the Burma Army troops. At About 9 pm, we were taken to Mrauk-U Hospital by the car of the head monk of the Mro Oo Khaung monastery. Both of us were in the hospital for a month. The owner of the house that was set on fire is U Hla Shwe Maung. Now he is at the Let Kauk Zay IDP camp. The Burmese Army stopped firing for a while and then resumed firing artillery again, from those shells there are also some villagers who got injured.

On March 19, 2019, almost all the villagers fled the village. Only a few elderly people were left to guard the village. Currently, the refugees are sheltering at the Let Kauk Zay, Shwe Taung and Aung Zay Di IDP camps. Today also we heard that the Burmese Army forced two children from Kyauktaw to remove the land mines nearby our village, one died and another seriously injured.

We had to flee our home twice after we were discharged from the hospital. At first we stayed at the Shwe Taung Temple. We have been here at Shite Thaug IDP camp since June 2019. My last fleeing was because of the clashes had occurred between the two groups.

There are now about 300 refugees from the Ywar Haung Taw village in this camp; people above age 70 is 10 people. And the children below 10 years of age is more than 80 and the number of babies is 57. Pregnant women is 5.

There are about 80 children under the age of ten. There are 57 infants - There are five pregnant mothers.

While we were in the hospital, the ICRC and other community organizations assisted us. Now I have a steel bone in my hand. The doctor recommended me not to move the hand and stay calm for around two years."

Landmines 3Name: Daw Aung [redacted]
(female)

"People have fled the village twice because of artillery shelling in the village, once in March and another one in May 2019. There were some injuries to villagers too. This is my first time that I leave my village; I arrived yesterday. Only a small number of people remained in the village. It's just an hour walk from Mrauk-U and the Ywar Haung Taw village. It is east of Mrauk-U. The Burmese army numbering around 60 soldiers stayed in the Nga Kyar Taung hill which is east of the village and about a mile far.

They stayed nearly twenty days in those mountain ranges. We heard that still the Burmese soldiers were staying in the east and west sides of the mountain ranges. We also heard that there was a mine explosion at the bridge nearby the village. No one was wounded from my village. There was a report that one man died and another got injured from another village.

Landmines 3 (cont.)

Name: Daw Aung [redacted]
(female)

I want to live in my own house. If there were no soldiers, we would return. Lastly, I just want to see the peace. This is not a refugee camp at the moment. Therefore, livelihood is difficult here. "

Landmines 4

Name: Moe [redacted]

"On May 18, 2019, at around 3 p.m. on my returning from a training in Mrauk-U by motorbike, an explosion took place in front of the LIB 377 at Sun Win Taung. I got a little wound on my left chest. I assumed that it was a mine explosion. I did not need to go to hospital. On that day, along with me and my wife, six school teachers were also there. They were not hurt. I have already informed the education department. The Department of Education supported 200,000 kyat to me. I didn't complain to other authority departments."

Landmines 5

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"On March 5, 2019, at about 1 o'clock in the afternoon I and my elder brother and my uncle U Tun Sein Oo stepped on a landmine while returning from the Kyeatinkone hill collecting firewood. My uncle died and my brother and I were injured. I was treated for five days at Teinnyo Hospital in Mrauk-U Township. The ministry of relief and social welfare donated me 50,000 kyats for medical expenses. The Rakhine Alan Takhon group and Munimray Monk Oroganization donated me 50,000 kyats respectively. A group also helped me when I arrived at this Teinnyo IDP camp and I don't remember the organization name anymore. I came to the IDP camp as refugees because on March 29, 2019, the soldier from LID 55 entered the village shooting indiscriminately and we are afraid to live in the village. How would an IDP camp be better than my home? Even though you don't want to live but you have to live. I want this war to be ended as early as possible."

Landmines 6

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"On March 5, 2019, my husband U Tun Sein Oo including his younger brother and another person stepped on a landmines while returning from collecting firewood from the hill. My husband died at 4 pm while taking treatment in the Teinnyo hospital. The Burma Army soldiers from LID 55 entered our village and started shooting indiscriminately to the village. That's why I fled to the IDP camp. I want to end the war and live in my own home peacefully."

Landmines 7

Name: U Kyaw [redacted] (male)

"On March 3, 2019, at about 1 o'clock in the afternoon, My uncle U Tun Sein Oo, I and another man called Maung Brar stepped on a landmine on their return home after collecting firewood from the Ngarpyawtaung hill. My uncle U Tun Sein Oo died. We called to the villagers over phone from the incident place and asked the villagers to come and help us. The villagers came and took us to the Teinnyo hospital. We were transferred from Teinnyo hospital to Mrauk-U hospital. Unfortunately my uncle Tun Sein Oo did not survive and he died in the hospital. One of his legs was cutdown in the spot when he stepped on the landmine. For our medical expense the ministry of social welfare and relief, the Rakhine Alan Takhon and Munimray monk association helped us.

On March 29, 2019, the soldiers from LID 55 entered the village again and started shooting at the village. That's why I fear to live in the village and fled to this IDP camp."

Landmines 8

Name: U Pan [redacted] (male)

"On May 5, 2019, at 10:00 am in the morning, I stepped on a landmine while I was returning from Kha Maung Chaung old village collecting bamboo. I was under treatment in the Sittwe hospital for 1 month and 8 days. The Red Cross donated 500,000 kyats for medical expenses, while the Kyauktaw charity association donated fifty thousand kyats per month and gave me for 5 months. I lost one foot and have not recovered yet. Once a month I have to go to Sittwe hospital for the treatment."

Landmines 9

Name: U Ray [redacted] (male)

"The fighting broke out in the mountains west of the village continuously for about 9 days. I stepped on a landmine after 3 months of the fighting; it occurred while I was collecting logs from the mountain. I was hospitalized for eleven days."

Landmines 10

Name: U Aung [redacted] (male)

"Fighting occurred often near the village. There have been several times that we had to flee the village. Later, we set up a temporary house in the village of Zeditaung. Sometimes men went to the village to look after the cattle. Mostly we stayed in the Zeditaung village and finally we arrived here in mid of December 2019. About 300 Burmese soldiers took positions in the village and all the villagers fled the village and Burmese soldiers destroyed all the properties and furnitures of the houses. They also killed and ate the cattle left by the villagers. At two o'clock in the afternoon, a buffalo from the hill came to the pasture of the cattle and exploded. I got wounded when I stepped on a landmine in the afternoon at 2 pm while I was returning from chasing my buffalo on the hill. I got injured on my left wrist and left knee. The ICRC team sent me to the Sittwe Hospital and I was hospitalized for a week."

Interviews Depicting Death

Death 1

Name: Daw Aye [redacted]
(female)

"On August 24, 2019, Saturday, while I was cooking at my house two artillery bullets fired by the Tatmadaw hit my left thigh and left breast. The artillery also hit my 10-year-old grandson named Maung Min Htet Kyaw and he died at the spot. At first the artillery bullets hit Daw U Kyaing and killed Daw U Kyaing and one of her daughters in the spot. The artillery shelling was conducted from the uphill of the Aung Mingalar mountain which is located about 2 miles southwest of the village.

We were being hit when artillery was targeted towards the Thabuzza Village which is located an hour walk and east of Pan Myaung village.

I was first being admitted to the Pan Myaung Clinic and then I crossed the Lay Mro River by motorboat and I was taken to the Mrauk-U district hospital by a car arranged by the Mrauk-U Blood Donors Association.

The ICRC, a parliamentary member from Mrauk-U (a lawyer), and Mrauk-U district office have donated an amount of 500,000, 300,000 and 50,000 kyats respectively.

The Mrauk-U district office donated 300,000 kyats for the Maung Min Thet Kyaw's family.

I don't want to blame anyone regarding with this incident. I would assume that it just happened because of karma or bad luck."

Death 2

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"The fighting took place across the hill of Kyauk Gree Taung, Kwat Khet Gyaing Taung, Kra Ann Taung and Nat Twin Taung. The Kwat Khet Gyaing Taung is situated to the east of our village not too far. The people took shelter in the monastery as we assumed that the artillery might also land to the village. We heard the explosion sound from the hill. But the artillery shells even hit to the monastery and people got severely injured, people in the monastery. One of my sisters and her daughter were killed in the shelling. The name of the daughter is Ma San San Win and she was a student of grade 8. She was 14 years old. My sister's name is La Pyat KrayMoon and she was 35 years old. I was treated for my wounds for a while and injected with a bottle of blood. I was sent to the better medical care to Sittwe Hospital for about a month. After I discharged from the Sittwe hospital I had to live in Minbya town and had to take treatment for another three months at Minbya hospital.

[Interview continued on next page]

Death 2 (cont.)

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

There are many social organizations that helped me. I don't remember the organizations' name. I only remember the Ann Thar Gree name. I do not want to demand anything from the government. I just want my sister and my daughter back." (Crying)

Death 3

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"My husband died in the artillery shelling. When we heard the fighting on the other side of Shwe Tama village, we moved to another place. My husband was left in our village. On June 3, 2019, on Monday, my husband died a day after we left the village. He died after getting hit by an artillery bullet while he was lying in the monastery. The deceased body was taken to Minbya Hospital.

CSOs helped us as much as they could. I have no idea now how I will struggle with these remaining five children. Nobody is blameless about this. The child is still a baby now. He does not want to be punished.

I don't want to blame anyone regarding this incident. I would assume that it just happened because of karma or bad luck."

Death 4

Name: Ma Hla [redacted]
(female)

"I sent my two children to Duchaung village in the village when we heard the sounds of the clashes. The next day the artillery was landed on our village. When the clash was occurring, we were hiding in a bunker. A short time later, my husband told me to get out of from the bunker and go to the monastery. I refused to go to the monastery and he went alone. A moment after, when I heard that my husband had been hit by artillery bullet and I went to see him and he died already. My husband was 52 years old. I didn't even get to see my husband's body properly. I was taken by people from that place because of insecurity. Later, on the other side of the river, a group of aid workers took my husband's body by a car to Minbya town. I didn't even have a chance to see exactly in which part of the body the artillery hit. But I notice some wounds at the left side of the chest.

Before my husband died we relied on cutting bamboo and woods from up the hill.

Our eldest son did not complete the grade 10 and our daughter was dropped out of from the grade 9 because of unable to bear the education cost after my husband passed away. My eldest son has been working in Yangon for about two years. The adopted son continues to study. Now my daughter also went to work in Yangon.

There are donations for my husband's death. I didn't remember the organization names. I didn't know whether "Matala" or something like that.

I did not complain to any authority. I don't want to blame or criticize who made wrong in this incidence. Last but not least, I just want to continue my children's education. "

Death 5

Name: Ma Oo [redacted]
(female)

"In our family there are 8 siblings, 5 males and 3 females. There is one brother who has not yet made monk ordination. He is 10 years old. Now we have neither father nor mother. While father was alive, he worked and cultivated fruit and other crops on a small plot of land borrowed from the other people. It has been a long time since mother passed away. My father died in the village because of heavy artillery fire. The artillery bullet hit the back of the head of my father. Other parts of the body were also hit. We heard that the artillery shelling was conducted by the Burmese Army. It is said to have been shelled from the Myaung Bway village. Father's name is U Maung Phru Tun and he was 56 years old. At present I sell things at the market.

The government paid no compensation for my father's death. Arakanese social organizations and monks have provided financial support to us. The supports are received at the Minbya Dhamma hall.

I didn't make complaints. I don't dare to complain. I'm scared. I don't want to ask for help from the government. We would like to ask for help from our Rakhine people to solve our livelihood problems as much as they could."

Death 6

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"In our family there were 5 siblings. I am the third daughter of my family. All are married. While I was in my father's house I worked in the farm. Now I am a general worker. My father was killed due the artillery shelling while he was sitting in the monastery with other people. My father's name is U Maung Aye Nu and he was 77 years old. My father used to live with me before he died.

We did not open any case file or complaint for the death of my father. The social charity organizations gave some financial support to us. I am desperate and speechless for the death of my father and we want to say something to the government but afraid to speak out."

Death 7

Name: Daw Phru [redacted]
(female)

"On August 24, 2019, of the morning, at 10:00 am, my cousin's sister, who is studying at grade 10, and my nephew both were killed by shelling.

It was shot from Aung Mingalar hill where the Burmese military base is located. At first the wounded people were being treated at the Pan Myaung clinic then at Mrauk-U hospital and then were transferred to Sittwe general hospital. My mother took treatment at the Mrauk-U hospital for more than a month.

I was being treated at the Sittwe general hospital for 13 days. My nephew was 6 year old, he died soon after he was brought to the hospital. My nephew's father and mother were working in Thailand.

I and my mother got injured.

After the incident happened the army surrounded our house and took the bodies of the deceased person and injured people.

[Interview continued on next page]

Death 7 (cont.)

Name: Daw Phru [redacted]
(female)

I don't want to make complaint because it will not be effective and will get no result.

I think it would be like pouring water in the sand.

I wish no one to suffer the same fate as like us in the future. I would like to request the donor organizations to help the affected people as much as possible. I would also like to see Arakan as a peaceful land without any war."

Death 8

Name: Daw Kyi [redacted]
(female)

"We could hear the sounds of the fighting that was occurring nearby other villages. I told my daughters to cook early. While we were cooking, we heard gunshots and loud noises of artillery shelling. We got out of the house and hid under the bridge. After that we went into the bunker and hid. Due to lack of oxygen and respiratory problems in the bunkers we went to the monastery as we thought we would be saved because it's a god's shadow area. Gunshots and the mortar shelling sounds rang out in the mountains near the village. As soon as we finished eating the lunch the artillery landed at the monastery. The first artillery hit on the mango tree close to the monastery and then another mortar landed at the roof of the monastery and hit the people.

When artillery hit we couldn't see each other anymore. After a while, we could able to see the environment. 6 people were killed and 7 were injured. One of young novices was also injured. He was taken to the Sittwe hospital for the treatment.

My occupation is now that I plant betel leaf at a small plot of land borrowed from the others. There is a small plot of land given to the widowed community. My livelihood relies on that land. My daughter's education has to be stopped because of my poverty. I sent my daughter to Yangon to study by entering to a Buddhist nun life. My daughter has already passed the grade 10.

There was help from different organizations. I don't remember exactly what are the name of those organizations. My daughter Aye Nandar received more help as she studied as a nun; many monks helped her a lot.

What I want to tell the government is that I want to live peacefully in my village."

Death 9

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"There are four quarters in Baungdwet village among them one is a Khami ethnic village. There is a high school and a rural health clinic in the village. In April 2019 (couldn't remember the exact date) at around 10pm, the Burma Army's LIB 377 and LIB 378 fired artillery on to the village from the mountain range at the eastern side of the village and opened indiscriminate fire after entering the village. Three people were injured, and one died in the spot. The deceased was identified as Maung Kyaw Sein, 58 years old. The firing started at 10pm and it even didn't last till the early morning. The whole villagers fled the village in the early morning. We

Death 9 (cont.)

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

were not allowed to go on a motorbike, so we had to flee by motor boat. We had to go twice. Before I arrived to the Shite Thaung IDP Camp, I stayed overnight in Chaung Nar village and stayed about 15 days in Tha Min Raik Village. Baungdwet is about 4 miles distance from Mrauk-U. It is south to Mrauk-U.

On the first day of Myanmar New Year, the whole villagers fled the village. People in our village have been living in ten different IDP camps. Those IDP camp names are Shite Thaung IDP Camp, Thein Taung, Aung Zedi, Koe Newin Aung Zedi, Daingyi Kyaun Thit Old one and the some monasteries. Previously there were a 14 households from our village and only 7 people remaining. Bindu village now only has one family left, with seven people. It is said that most of the Baungdwet villagers are about 700 people who are sheltering at the Myoma Pariyatti Institution.

The food is often served by the people who are responsible for this camp . I would like to urge the government, please stop fighting and we want to live in the peaceful country without fighting."

Death 10

Name: Maung [redacted]
(female)

"On March 18, 2019, at about 8pm, the Burmese Army's battalion based in Khaung Phru Pyin and LIB 540 fired artillery shells towards our village. They fired the artillery without having any combat between the two sides. They also fired with small artillery. The shells hit our village and burned down a house, and my wife and I were injured in the hand. It was reported that shots were fired until the dawn. The village was also surrounded by the Burma Army troops. At About 9pm, we were taken to Mrauk-U Hospital by the car of the head monk of the Mro Oo Khaung monastery. Both of us were in the hospital for a month. The owner of the house that was set fire is U Hla Shwe Maung. Now he is at the Let Kauk Zay IDP camp. The Burmese Army stopped firing for a while and then resumed firing artillery again; from those shells there were also some villagers who got injured.

On March 19, 2019, almost all the villagers fled the village. Only a few elderly people were left to guard the village. Currently, the refugees are sheltering at the Let Kauk Zay, Shwe Taung and Aung Zay Di IDP camps. Today also we heard that the Burmese Army forced two children from Kyauktaw to remove the land mines nearby our village, one died and another was seriously injured.

We had to flee our homes twice after we were discharged from the hospital. At first we stayed at the Shwe Taung Temple. We have been here at Shite Thaung IDP camp since June 2019. My last fleeing was because of the clashes that occurred between the two groups.

There are now about 300 refugees from the Ywar Haung Taw village in this camp in which people above age 70 is 10 people. And the children below 10 years of age is more than 80 and the number of babies are 57. The number of pregnant women is 5.

[Interview continued on next page]

Death 10 (cont.)

Name: Maung [redacted]
(female)

There are about 80 children under the age of ten. There are 57 infants and five pregnant mothers.

While we were in the hospital, the ICRC and other community organizations assisted us. Now I have a steel bone in my hand. The doctor recommended me not to move the hand and stay calm for around two years."

Death 11

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"On April 10, 2019, the Burmese Army's LID 55 and LID 22 arrested my son, Khin Maung Soe, on the suspicion of having connection with ULA/AA. Before the arrest, he was sheltering at the monastery after hearing the sounds of fighting near the Sittwe-Yangon highway. He was arrested at around 1pm in the afternoon. Seventy-two people were arrested, including my son, and three died during the interrogation. My son is now being held in Sittwe Prison. There is no investigation, only appearing in the court and remanding. It has been twelve times that we met them. Financially, it is impossible to go further.

My son works in the fields. We have been out of the village for the last four months. There is no plan to return to the village. Only when the country achieves peace, then we will return to the village.

On August 10, 2019, we heard that a house was set on fire by the Burmese army. They also shot a buffalo and ate it, which is belong to me. No payment was made for that buffalo. I lost about 4,000,000 kyats. They searched other homes and took everything they found.

I didn't make complaint to any authority because I do not know how to make complaint, or to which department. Civil society organizations are helping me. I don't know their names exactly.

Since my son is not a member of ULA/AA, I would like to request an immediate release of my son. I would also like to request other civil society organizations to help to release my son."

Death 12

Name: Daw Hla [redacted]
(female)

"In July 2019 (couldn't remember the exact date) the whole villagers fled the village. Nothing was brought except a few clothes with us. Before this, there were at least four or five times that we had to run from the village due to the fighting. The people fled to Pe Pin Yan IDP camp, Let Kauk Zey IDP camp and Shite Thaug IDP camp. As the Waitharli village is close to the Asian highway the Burmese troops always walk nearby the village and sometimes they shoot towards the village. They also fire towards the village whenever they have clashes close to our village. As we don't dare to live there we fled our homes. We have been living in this camp for about three months. On our way to this camp two children were drowned when we crossed the river from Pe Pin Yan to Plat village. One was studying in grade 9 and another one was 3-year-old baby. Both were the daughters of U Maung Kyan Thein and Daw Khin Myint. Watthali village is north of Mrauk-U, 7 miles distance.

The main occupation of the villagers is the farmer. When the village was finally empty, the Burmese soldiers slaughtered and ate the domestic

Death 12 (cont.)

Name: Daw Hla [redacted]
(female)

animals belonging to the villagers. There were about twenty people left in the village. We came to know this information through the people who remained in the village. I want to live in my village in peacefully."

Death 13

Name: Daw Than [redacted]
(female)

"In March 2019 (couldn't remember the exact date) my husband, U Maung Than Nu, 45years old, was arrested by the LID 55 and LID 22 of Burma Army. In the village there are 3-4 people were divided into groups to guard the village. They found the name list of 27 people and they arrested the people according to that list. Before the arrest, men and women of the entire village were forced to gather in the middle of the village. The women were separated and forced to take off their shirts and to sit under the sun. The villager were sun dried since 11am to 5pm in the evening. When my family came to see the detainees at the police station no. 1 in Sittwe, they did not see my husband anymore. No one can tell where he left off and where he died. Nobody came to talk. I don't know who to tell and where to report or complain of it. As I don't have my own house and land, on the other hand I lost my husband. In this situation I have no idea even how to survive.

Even though I want to go back to my village I do not dare to go now. I want to urge to make judgment according to the truth and justice regarding with the case of my husband's death."

Death 14

Name: Daw [redacted] (female)

"My husband's name is Ko Thein Htun Zaw and he is 40 years old. He was killed by Burmese army after he was being tortured. Burmese soldiers entered into the village by shooting and arrested villagers who were hiding in the monastery. There were patrolling groups with 3-4 people in each group in the village. They (the Burma soldiers) found the list of 27 people who were in the patrolling group. The army arrested all the people in the list. Before the arrest, the Burmese army separated the villagers based on young, women and elderly people and put all under the sun without any shirts on their body. They were kept under the sunlight from 11am in the morning and arrested at 5pm. When I heard and went to see those detainees, including my husband, in the Police station no. 1 in Sittwe and I did not see my husband. No one told me about when my husband was killed and whereabouts. It was later we came to know through the internet that he was killed. Now I am with my two children as like half made. My innocent husband was killed and disappeared."

Death 15

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"On March 29, 2019, at around 6am in the morning, the Burmese army LID 55 with nearly 200 soldiers entered into our village by shooting. They forced all the villagers to gather in the U Thein Maung Chay's house. They arrested 5 men including my husband, U Maung Phru Chay. My husband is 50 years old. He was taken by the army via Praing Chay village to Kyauk Taw, from Kyauk Taw to Mrauk-U and from Mrauk-U to Sittwe. On 28 April, 2019, I got a chance to meet him at the Mrauk-U court. They said that they arrested my husband because they found a health care bag from my husband. A young girl named Pauk Sa, who was a shopkeeper at the Tein Nyo bridge was also shot dead.

There is no opportunity to complain in this running situation. I also don't know how to make a complaint to which department. My husband is

Death 15 (cont.)

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

in poor health. He has high blood pressure. He was not even healthy while at home.

The ICRC once donated 45,000 kyats to me. I have already spent 3,000,000 kyats for going to the court trial. As my husband is not with me we do not have any work now.

My husband was arrested without anything wrong. He is innocent. Therefore, I would like to urge the government to release my husband immediately."

Death 16

Name: Daw Hla [redacted]
(female)

"On March 12, 2019, at around 8pm an aid group carrying a patient in an ambulance coming from the Thabuzza village requested my husband to help them and my husband also went with them. They were sending the patient to Mrauk-U hospital. The patient's name is Hla Maung Win. There was no fighting in our village at that time. There was no curfew order. About 10pm that night, it was reported that he was arrested near the Chaung Thaik village. It was reported that the Burmese army LIB 540 had arrested him after detaining him a night at the Kaung Phru Pyin Police Station. The patient did not even reach to Mrauk-U hospital at that time and died on the way. Those who were arrested were including my husband - Ko Twan Soe Linn- and U Oo Maung Tun, Ko Zaw Naing Htay, Ko Soe Soe Naing, Ko Si Thu Aung and Ko Zaw Min Twan. Initially, I did not get any contact with him. Three days after their arrest, it was reported that they were detained in Mrauk-U. We got information that he was sent to Sittwe from Mrauk-U. While he was in the Mrauk-U custody we were not allowed to meet him. We were only allowed to see him in Sittwe. All six arrested are in Sittwe prison. Because of the beating and physical torture by the Burmese army, eight stitches were done in my husband's head. Si Thu Aung had to go to the hospital three times. The ICRC team has donated 36,000 kyats for a visit to the prison in June. Other community organizations also helped me. I don't even know their exact names. Living without a husband at the moment, my family is having a difficult time living as my livelihood relied on my husband.

As my husband is innocent, I would like to urge the government to release my husband as early as possible."

Death 17

Name: Daw Dar [redacted]
(female)

"On February 29, 2019, my husband, U Hla Tun Chay, 61 years of age, was killed and set fire by the Burmese Army LID 22 at 10am while he was working in the farm. I requested the army to release my husband and they said they would release him and told me to go back. In the next day, when we went to see, we saw a body set on fire. There was also a battle on the hill near the farm that day.

There was no response from the police from the Tein Nyo Police station even though we make complaint."

Death 18

Name: Daw Tha [redacted]
(female)

"On February 28, 2019, a fighting broke out in Padang Mountain. On that day, my son Sein Tha Kyaw (48) year old went with the Ma Oo Hla Sein couple to look at the farm in Ran Chaung village near the mountain. U Hla Sein couples had returned but my son has not returned yet. We don't dare to go out for search of him because of the ongoing fighting. After five days of missing we went out for searching but could not find him. No information is available. I think he was killed by the Burmese Army already. He also had a separate home with his wife and three children. The children are now with me."

Death 19

Name: U Hla [redacted] (male)

"On March 29, 2019 at around 6am in the morning, the Burmese army rounded up our village and started shooting for around 4 hours. The army arrested 5 men, including my father, on allegations of having connections with ULA/AA. Two people including an old man aged more than 70 and a woman, were killed in the indiscriminate gunshot by the Burmese army. The army also beat with rifle butts and tortured the villagers before they arrested them.

Those who were arrested were taken to Mrauk-U and then from Mrauk-U to Sittwe from Kyauktaw. They are now in Sittwe. Lawyers Kyaw Myo Naing and Aung Phay Than from Mrauk-U asked 1,000,000 kyats for the case. It's not possible for us to pay such a big amount and we did not let them handle the case.

Later, U Hla Aung Thein and another female lawyer from the Bar Association of Arakan State are helping to handle the case voluntarily. Lawyers said they would try to release them in November 2019. I will believe only when I see them outside.

Another thing is that the Tatmadaw also took the village administrator to the Praing Chaung village along with the other detainees.

Villagers in Pyi Chaung Village reported that they had been forced to be interviewed by the Burmese army and forced to make confession that they had to shoot just because of the order from the ULA/AA. The army threatens them that they would be shot with a gun if they did not do what the army told them to do.

The condition of health is not good as my father is an old man. My father is a little bit deaf in normal life. I heard that he became a completely deaf now after Tatmadaw's beating and torturing him. Someone gave a pair of earphones but Tatmadaw doesn't allow him to use the earphones. I heard that my father was also beaten and tortured in several ways by the Burmese army. We always have to send medicines. There is more money that must be spent in the trial session. The situation in the village is not the same as before now. Fears of when the Burmese army will come and abduct them are overwhelming.

The teachers were too afraid to come as well. It has been a long time since we heard the school bell."

Death 20

Name: Daw Nyein [redacted]
(female)

"On April 10, 2019 as the fighting broke out between the ULA/AA and Burma Army in the early morning on the hill of the west of the village I fled the village. After the fighting stopped at around noon, the Burmese army entered into the village and opened fire. All the villagers were taken out and the men and women were gathered in the U San Tha Kyaw's house. Homes were also searched throughout the village and Burmese army took the ornaments and jewelries such as gold and other things owned by the villagers. A 60-year-old grandmother was horrified and died. 27 men from the village were also arrested for alleged links to the ULA/AA. They have not been released yet."

Death 21

Name: U Kyaw [redacted] (male)

"On March 13, Hla Maung Win (aka Nyi Bu Chay) a malaria patient from Thabaukzar Tetzu village, asked for help from six young people, including my son Zaw Min Tun, of Kyaungtaung Village to drop him off to the Mrauk-U hospital. The distance between Thabaukzar Tetzu and Kyauktaung village is 3 miles. Burmese soldiers from Battalion 540 and LID 22 arrested them at about 8pm on the way to Mrauk-U. At the period of the time they were arrested, there was no fighting occurring near the mountain. There are no curfew orders. The patient did not reach to the hospital but died at the hands of soldiers. The arrestees were kept at the Kaung Phyu Pyin police battalion and LIB 540 for five days and sent them to the Mrauk-U police station. In the Mrauk-U police station they kept them about 20 days and sent them to Sittwe. After two months, we were allowed to meet with my son. Now these young men are being held in Sittwe prison. My son told me that he had been tortured for 40 days in various forms in custody. The case was opened by the Captain Myo Min Aung from the LIB 377. The witnesses are, as far as I know, township's administrator of Mrauk-U, U Zaw Paing Tun, Station officers from Ponnagyun and Kyauktaw, Main road quarter and Ywar Gyi Mrauk quarter's administrator of Sittwe, and the station officer of Sittwe police station. For the travel cost during the court trial, the Mratazaung head monk supported 50,000 kyat for each family and ICRC supported 32,000 kyat for each family. I would like to urge the government to release these innocent young boys as early as possible."

Death 22

Name: Ma Aye [redacted]
(female)

"On March 13, Hla Maung Win (aka Nyi Bu Chay) a malaria patient from Thabaukzar Tetzu village, asked for help from six young people, including my younger brother Si Thu Aung, of Kyaungtaung Village, to drop him off to the Mrauk-U. The distance between the Kyaungtaung and Thabaukzar Tetzu village is 3 miles. Soldiers from Battalion 540 and LID 22 arrested them on the Chaung Thit road while on the way to Mrauk-U hospital at around 12 o'clock at night. At the period of the time they were arrested, there was no fighting occurring near the mountain. There are no curfew orders.

The patient did not reach to hospital, but died at the hands of soldiers. The arrestees were kept at the Kaung Phyu Pyin police battalion and LIB 540 for five days and sent them to the Mrauk-U police station. In the Mrauk-U police station they kept them about 20 days and sent to Sittwe After two months, the detainees were allowed to meet with their families. Now, my younger brother is being held in Sittwe prison. They were arrested on suspicion of being affiliated with the ULA/AA. For the travel cost during the court trial, the Mratazaung headmonk supported 50,000 kyat for each

Death 22 (cont.)

Name: Ma Aye [redacted]

(female)

family and ICRC supported 32,000 kyat for each family. It's been over ten times since their court trial has been started."

Death 23

Name: Ma Kyawt [redacted]

(female)

"On March 29, 2019, at around 6am in the morning, the Burmese Army LID 55 entered into our village by shooting via Tein Nyo bridge. Burmese Army opened fire at our village near the Nyo Nyo Bridge. By surrounding the village six soldiers entered into our house and searched the things in the house. At that time, our family was hiding behind the house. Then we got afraid and came out. When they (Burmese army) saw my husband, they started shooting towards him. They also beat my husband. My father-in-law, U Ba Tun, a 67-year-old man was beaten, and he was taken to the middle of the village by tightened roped around the body. The soldiers took the properties belonging to the villagers and tortured the villagers as well. The whole villagers were ordered to sit in the village administrator's house. No one was aware of their return. An old man and a woman were killed in the shooting by the Tatmadaw."

Death 24

Name: Daw Pauk [redacted]

(female)

"I have a small shop near the village of Aut Tha Kan, close to the Teinyo bridge. Early in the morning of that day, while I was selling at the shop, the Burma Army soldiers opened fire at us. On the spot Ma Sa Pae was killed and I got injured as the bullet hit at my head, leg and right chest. I was sent to Sittwe hospital and had treatment for 7 days there and transferred to Yangon for better treatment and stayed 2 months in Yangon. The Arakanese civil society organizations supported money for my medical expense."

Death 25

Name: Daw Tin [redacted]

(female)

"On April 13, 2019, at 9pm, my father, U Maung Kyaw Sein, aged 62, was intentionally shot to death by the Burma Army while he was sleeping with a guest in the house. My younger brother, who was in the hospital due to his illness also died in the hospital due to trauma. After the death of my father, one of my sisters went to work in Rangoon in search of job, stopping her education. On that day, the villagers fled to the IDP camps. We are in the worse position as our village is situated near the LIB 377 and LIB 378."

Death 26

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]

(female)

"Our family sells balloons at the event and festivals. When I was returning from selling the balloons from a festival, I was not allowed to go through Burma army's Khonglaung base and I had to stay at the Mratazaung Monastery. Later I returned to my house once the situation became calmed down. On September 11, 2019, my husband, U Hla Tun Maung, went to collect woods and till today has not returned yet. It is believed he was killed. We cannot predict which organization killed my husband. I have two sick parents and two young children. There has been reports that people went to the jungles to collect woods and never return to home. Therefore, there is no space for work and I asked help from the Mratazaung venerable monk for the shelter in this IDP camp and he granted me."

Death 27

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"About a mile east of our village, there are the 377 and 378 Burmese battalions. From the battalion, they fired at our village all night with artillery shells, and my daughter's arm was pierced and shot through. The artillery bullet also hit my nose and face. U Maung Kyaw Sein and U Kyaw Bu were also killed by artillery shells. We had been in hiding with injuries all night and had to go to Mrauk-U hospital in the next day's morning. The girl was not treated at Mrauk-U hospital because Mrauk-U hospital was unable to treat her. She was transferred to Sittwe hospital and from Sittwe hospital she had been sent to Yangon for better treatment. My injury was superficial, and I was treated at Mrauk-U Hospital. As a result of the shooting that day, the villagers fled to the IDP camps. My daughter's name is Ma Htay Htay Aung and she is 13 years old. This year, she is in grade 8 and she has dropped out from the school. I don't agree and not satisfied on the current government and the Burma Army."

Death 28

Name: Daw Ma [redacted] (female)

"On March 5, 2019, my husband U Tun Sein Oo including his younger brother and another person stepped on a landmine while returning from collecting firewoods from the hill. My husband died at 4 pm while taking treatment in the Teinnyo hospital. The Burma Army soldiers from LID 55 entered our village and started shooting indiscriminately to the village. That's why I fled to the IDP camp. I want to end the war and live in my own home peacefully."

Death 29

Name: U Kyaw [redacted] (male)

"On March 3, 2019 at about 1 o'clock in the afternoon, my uncle U Tun Sein Oo, I and another man called Maung Brar stepped on a landmine on their returning to home after collecting firewood from the Ngarpyawtaung hill. My uncle U Tun Sein Oo died. We called to the villagers over phone from the incident place and asked the villagers to come and help us. The villagers came and took us to the Teinnyo hospital. We were transferred from Teinnyo hospital to Mrauk-U hospital. Unfortunately my uncle Tun Sein Oo did not survive and he died in the hospital. One of his legs was cutdown on the spot when he stepped on the landmine. For our medical expense the ministry of social welfare and relief, the Rakhine Alan Takhon and Munimray monk association helped us.

On March 29, 2019, the soldiers from LID 55 entered the village again and started shooting at the village, that's why I fear to live in the village and fled to this IDP camp."

Death 30

Name: Daw Hla [redacted] (female)

"On March 29, 2019 in the early morning, the Burma Army soldiers from LID 55 came into our village shouting and scolding at our village and shooting at the village. Villagers were also forcibly gathered in a house near the monastery. When my father U Phoe Khaing and I came out from the house the soldiers intentionally and inhumanly shot my father and my father was dead in the spot."

Death 31

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"On March 29, 2019 early in the morning a unit of Burma Army soldiers from LID 55 entered into our village and fired indiscriminately at the village and shouted like, "We will kill all the Arakanese people." The soldiers were surrounding outside and inside the village. When the shooting stopped for a while, my wife and I were cooking, and we heard another gunfire as we went out to the front of the house. We were hit by artillery shells. It hit

Death 31 (cont.)

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

my hips and knees, and it also hit my wife's belly and hands. The soldiers intentionally shot dead an old man named U Po Khaing, 70 years old. Soldiers forcibly gathered all the villagers in a house. When the soldiers returned, the ambulance arrived and I was taken to Mrauk-U Hospital. My wife was sent to Teinnyo hospital. Later I was informed that my children had fled to Nagar village. I have been in Mrauk-U hospital for over a month. After discharging from the hospital, I no longer dare to stay at my village that's why I came to the Teinnyo IDP camp."

Death 32

Name: U U [redacted] (male)

"There was an explosion near by the village of Naruntaung under the San Goe Taung village tract on December 8, 2018. Since then Burmese Army units often pass by our village. On May 12, 2019, about 300 Burma Army soldiers, a unit of LID 22 who were coming after the clashes at Sar Par Htar village entered into our village with indiscriminate shooting and gunshots. A day before, some villagers also went in hiding to Zeditaung village. On that day, I and my wife and some other villagers were stuck in the village and couldn't go out from the village. We heard an explosion when Burma army soldiers arrived to the village, the army asked us to bring hoe, shovels and knife.

Later, we were force to guide them to the San Goe Taung cemetery. They themselves buried four Tatmadaw soldiers' dead bodies.

On July 12, 2019, the whole villagers fled the village. Now my house has been burnt down by the army and the cattles are also left in the villages. My house is a two-story building, with concrete and wood."

Death 33

Name: [redacted, three names]

"On July 14, 2019, the fighting took place between Chachar Taung village and Naruntaung village. First I ran to U Yainthar village. From there I fled to Kyaukran village. When we fled, our 90-year-old mother was left alone in the home. When we found her a week later she was dead."

Death 34

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"It has been about 20 times that we fled the village due to the artillery shellings and clashes broke out nearby the village. The last escape was on July 12, 2019 and the entire villagers fled the village this time. The villagers fled to the Zeditaung, Kyaukran and U Yain Thar villages respectively. In the final escape an old woman, 90 years old, and two disabled people were left in the village. We came to know through the disabled people that our house had been burned down by the Burma Army. They said their hands were handcuffed and bound and finally the dumb disabled person was able to escape from it. ICRC was able to rescue the mentally disabled person. Later, the youths from Naruntaung Village went to rescue the old lady, Daw Aung Phyu, and she died as soon as she arrived at the Naruntaung village. It is reported that the army is stationed in the village now. My house was burned down and I lost domestic animals, 5 cows and 2 pigs."

Death 35

Name: Daw Hla [redacted]
(female)

"The Burmese army encircled the village around 9 pm on the March 22, 2019 started a heavy fire on the hill. Since then, there had been heavy shelling into the village and outskirts of the village. When the attack was

[Interview continued on next page]

Death 35

Name: Daw Hla [redacted]
(female)

halted, we fled to the village of Sin Khone Taing village, four men with me were left in the village because we were not permitted to flee. Six villagers were killed and more than 40 injured. Among them Daw Aye Nu Phru, aged 83 years, was included, who is my aunt. The MPs from Buthidaung township arrived and the dead bodies were taken to Buthidaung. After the incident, the army stayed in the village for about a week and the villagers returned to the home again after the Burma Army left the village. Twenty days later, the army approached our village again and left the village after a short rest. Similarly, when the army arrived to the village again the villagers hide in the jungle in fear of the Burmese army and have been living with fear since then. We had to run once in April 2019. After another two months, we ran again for the third time. The shooting occurred on all three occasions. Several times, we came into the village when there were no clashes. This is the last time that we fled the village on November 12, 2019. We arrived here after staying two days at the Aw Phauk village."

Death 36

Name: U Aung [redacted] (male)

"The Burmese army entered our village at about 3pm. About 7pm, after the soldiers arrived, my wife Tin Aye Thein, 42, was sent to my sister, Daw Than Nyunt's, house near the hill. At around 9pm, gunfire started with small and heavy artillery shells. It was a situation where none could help each other. In the morning I heard that all of my sister's family had died in the trenches. When I went to see I found four of my sister's family were killed in the trench, I found my wife was still alive but has no sense. My sister's daughter, Hnin Aye Khin, 18 years old, who was injured in her stomach, was taken to Buthidaung hospital immediately, including my wife. As the Buthidaung hospital is unable to treat them they were transferred to Sittwe hospital by a speed boat organized by the ICRC in Buthidaung. They spent more than a month in Sittwe Hospital and spent 20 days in Mingan Ward quarter no. 1 in Sittwe for treatment from the outside of the hospital. My wife lost one eye and was unable to speak. My niece stayed for 20 days in the Sittwe hospital and was discharged."

Death 37

Name: Daw Hla [redacted]
(female)

"On November 21, 2019, at around 4pm in the evening, the small and massive artillery shells landed inside the village. At that time, my husband asked me to stay at the monastery. He said he would come to the monastery later. He called me before I reach to the monastery and told me I couldn't run out. When I arrived at the monastery, I made phone call to him but he did not pick up my call. When the shooting had stopped, I went to my house to see my husband. When I reached home I saw he was not alive anymore. He was killed. The shooting started again and I had to leave my deceased husband's body and fled to the monastery again. At around 8pm at night, people went to guard the deceased body. The next day in the early morning at 3:00am they (Burmese army) started shooting again and the villagers had to leave my deceased husband's body again in the house. In the afternoon at around 1pm, despite ongoing shooting nearby the village, the villagers took my husband's dead body to the Htee Zway village by a motorboat because it was not possible to buried in the village. We arrived at Rathedaung town from Htee Zway village at around 2pm. In the next day, afternoon, at around 1pm the funeral was held in the Rathedaung town. My uncle, U Maung Khin Win, also fled in fear of artillery fire and

Death 37 (cont.)

Name: Daw Hla [redacted]
(female)

the bullet hit his left ear. We did not hear anything yet where is living. The government army is very cruel. They burned down the houses, tortured the villagers, killing the domestic animals, cattles and doing whatever they want to do.

My husband's name is Chan Thein Aung, aged 49 years old. His father's name is U Tun Hla."

Interviews Depicting Injury

Injury 1

Name: Daw Aye [redacted]
(female)

"On August 24, 2019, Saturday, while I was cooking at my house two artillery bullets fired by the Tatmadaw hit my left thigh and the left breast. The artillery also hit my 10-year-old grandson named Maung Min Htet Kyaw Kyaw and he died at the spot. At first the artillery bullets hit Daw U Kyaing where it had killed Daw U Kyaing and one of her daughters in the spot. The artillery shelling was conducted from the uphill of the Aung Mingalar mountain which is located about 2 miles southwest of the village.

We were being hit when artillery was targeted towards the Thabuzza Village which is located an hour walk and east of Pan Myaung Village

I was first being admitted to the Pan Myaung Clinic and then I crossed the Lay Mro river by motorboat and I was taken to the Mrauk-U district hospital by a car arranged by the Mrauk-U Blood Donors Association.

The ICRC, a parliamentary member from Mrauk-U (a lawyer) and Mrauk-U district office have donated an amount of 500,000, 300,000 and 50,000 kyats respectively.

The Mrauk-U district office donated 300,000 kyats for the Maung Min Thet Kyaw's family.

I don't want to blame anyone regarding with this incident. I would assume that it just happened because of karma or bad luck."

Injury 2

Name: Ma San [redacted]
(female)

"Hearing the sound of fighting outside the village, I ran to the monastery for the shelter and while I was sitting in the monastery the artillery bullets hit my back. I was taken to Sittwe Hospital for three days for treatment. The ICRC supports us 200,000 kyats and a social organization in Minbya also supports us with 200,000 kyats . I didn't even think that I would be alive. I am still fearing."

Injury 3

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"The fighting took place across the hill of Kyauk Gree Taung, Kwat Khet Gyaing Taung, Kra Ann Taung and Nat Twin Taung. The Kwat Khet Gyaing Taung is situated to the east of our village not too far. We took shelter in the monastery as we assumed that the artillery might also land in the village. We heard the explosion sound from the hill. But the artillery shells even hit the monastery and people got severely injured, people in the monastery. One of my sisters and her daughter were killed in the shelling. The name of the daughter is Ma San San Win and she was a student of grade 8. She was 14 years old. My sister's name is La Pyat Kray Moon and

Injury 3

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

she was 35 years old. I was treated for my wounds for a while and injected with a bottle of blood. I was sent to better medical care at Sittwe Hospital for about a month. After I discharged from the Sittwe hospital I had to live in Minbya town and had to take treatment for another three months at Minbya hospital.

There are many social organizations that helped me. I don't remember the organizations' names. I only remember the Ann Thar Gree name.

I do not want to demand anything from the government. I just want my sister and my daughter back." (Crying)

Injury 4

Name: [redacted]

"At the the beginning when the fighting started we were hiding in the bombardment hole. Later we felt not secure in that hole and moved to monastery and refuge there. Even in the the monastery was not safe. The artillery shell hit me. It hit my left hip. The monks arranged to get me to the hospital. I was being treated for a day at Minbya Hospital and transferred me to the Sittwe Hospital via water. I was treated at the Sittwe hospital for three days and came back to Minbya Dhamma Hall. The injury was not totally recovered so we had to go to the Sittwe hospital again.

Rakhine social organizations helped me as much as they could for medical care. The injury has healed. But it's not as active as it used to be.

I did not make any complaint regarding with my case because there was neither time nor money to make complaint. And I am not aware or have no idea that we have rights to make complaint. Lastly I want to say that I don't want fighting to be going on. I want to live peacefully without war."

Injury 5

Name: Daw Phru [redacted]
(female)

"On August 24, 2019, in the morning, at 10:00am, my cousin's sister who is studying at grade 10 and my nephew both were killed by shelling.

It was shot from Aung Mingalar hill where the Burmese military base is located. At first the wounded people were being treated at the Pan Myaung clinic then at Mrauk-U hospital and then were transferred to Sittwe general hospital. My mother was took treatment at the Mrauk-U hospital for more than a month.

I was treated at the Sittwe general hospital for 13 days. My nephew was 6 year old, he died soon after he was brought to the hospital. My nephew's father and mother were working in Thailand.

I and my mother got injured.

After the incident happened the army surrounded our house and took the bodies of the deceased person and injured people.

I don't want to make complaint because it will not be effective and will get no result.

[Interview continued on next page]

Injury 5 (cont.)

Name: Daw Phru [redacted]
(female)

I think it would be like pouring water in the sand.

I wish no one to suffer the same fate as us in future. I would like to request the donor organizations to help the affected people as much as possible. I would also like to see Arakan as a peaceful land without any war."

Injury 6

Name: Daw Kyi [redacted]
(female)

"We could hear the sounds of the fighting that was occurring nearby other villages. I told my daughters to cook early. While we were cooking, we heard gunshots and loud noises of artillery shelling. We got out of the house and hid under the bridge. After that we went into the bunker and hid. Due to lack of oxygen and respiratory problems in the bunkers we went to the monastery as we thought we would be saved because it's a god's shadow area. Gunshots and the mortar shelling sounds rang out in the mountains near the village. As soon as we finished eating the lunch the artillery landed at the monastery. The first artillery hit on the mango tree close to the monastery and then another mortar landed at the roof of the monastery and hit the people.

When artillery hit we couldn't see each other anymore. After a while, we could able to see the environment. 6 people were killed and 7 were injured. One of young novices was also injured. He was taken to the Sittwe hospital for the treatment.

My occupation is now that I plant betel leaf at a small plot of land borrowed from the others. There is a small plot of land given to the widowed community. My livelihood relies on that land. My daughter's education has to be stopped because of my poverty. I sent my daughter to Yangon to study by entering to a Buddhist nun life. My daughter has already passed the grade 10.

There was help from different organizations. I don't remember exactly what are the name of those organizations. My daughter Aye Nandar received more help as she studied as a nun; many monks helped her a lot.

What I want to tell the government is that I want to live peacefully in my village."

Injury 7

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"There are four quarters in Baungdwet village among them one is Khami ethnic village. There is a high school and a rural health clinic in the village. In April 2019 (couldn't remember the exact date) at around 10 pm, Burma Army's LIB 377 and LIB 378 fired artillery on to the village from the mountain range of eastern side of the village and opened indiscriminate fire after entering the village. Three people injured, and one died in the spot. The deceased was identified as Maung Kyaw Sein, 58 years old. The firing started at 10pm and it even didn't last until the early morning. The whole villagers fled the village in the early morning. We were not allowed to go on a motorbike, so we had to flee by motor boat. We had to go twice. Before I arrived to the Shite Thaug IDP Camp, stayed overnight in Chaung Nar village and stayed about 15 days in Tha Min Raik Village. Baungdwet is

Injury 7 (cont.)

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

about 4 miles distance from Mrauk-U. It is south to the Mrauk-U.

On the first day of Myanmar New Year, the whole villagers fled the village. People in our village have been living in ten different IDP camps. Those IDP camp names are Shite Thaug IDP Camp, Thein Taung, Aung Zedi, Koe Newin Aung Zedi, Daingyi Kyaun Thit, old one and some monasteries. Previously there were 14 households from our village and only 7 people remaining. Bindu village has now only one family left, with seven people. It is said that most of the Baungdwet villagers, about 700 people, who are sheltering at the Myoma Pariyatti Institution.

The food is often served by the people who are responsible for this camp. I would like to urge the government, please stop fighting and we want to live in the peaceful country without fighting."

Injury 8

Name: [redacted]

"On March 18, 2019, at about 8pm, the Burmese Army's battalion based in Khaung Phru Pyin and LIB 540 fired artillery shells towards our village. They fired the artillery without having any combat between the two sides. They also fired with small artillery. The shells hit our village and burned down a house, and my wife and I were injured in the hand. It was reported that shots were fired until the dawn. The village was also surrounded by the Burma Army troops. At about 9pm, we were taken to Mrauk-U Hospital by the car of the head monk of the Mro Oo Khaung monastery. Both of us were in the hospital for a month. The owner of the house that was set on fire is U Hla Shwe Maung. Now he is at the Let Kauk Zay IDP camp. The Burmese Army stopped firing for a while and then resumed firing artillery again, in that shelling there were also some villagers who got injured.

On March 19, 2019, almost all the villagers fled the village. Only a few elderly people were left to guard the village. Currently, the refugees are sheltering at the Let Kauk Zay, Shwe Taung and Aung Zay Di IDP camps. Today also we heard that the Burmese Army forced two children from Kyauktaw to remove the landmines nearby our village; one died and another was seriously injured.

We had to flee our homes twice after we were discharged from the hospital. At first we stayed at the Shwe Taung Temple. We have been here at Shite Thaug IDP camp since June 2019. My last time fleeing was because of the clashes had occurred between the two groups.

There are now about 300 refugees from the Ywar Haung Taw village in this camp in which people above age 70 are 10 people. And the children below 10 years of age is more than 80 and the number of babies are 57 and pregnant women is 5.

There are about 80 children under the age of ten. There are 57 infants and there are five pregnant mothers.

While we were in the hospital, the ICRC and other community organizations assisted us. Now I have a steel bone in my hand. The doctor recommended me not to move the hand and stay calm for around two years."

Injury 9

Name: Daw Kra [redacted]
(female)

"In March, 2019 (couldn't remember the exact date) the army surrounded the village and fired, targeting the village. There were no clashes between the two groups. While my son and three of our children were hiding in the house of Ma Oo Mra Than, my daughter Ma Myo Myint Aye (21) was injured in her hand when an artillery shell landed at the house. The house also caught fire. Some witnesses said the heavy weapons were coming from Khaung Phru Pyin Village. At 10pm I took my daughter to Mrauk-U Hospital, at around 10pm with the aid car from the Mro Oo Khaung monastery. She was hospitalized for nine days. While my daughter was in the hospital, the LID 22 gave 200,000 kyats to us. Other civil society organizations helped as much as they could. We left the hospital and stayed about 15 days at the Mrat Tazaung temple and went back to the village. Again in the month of May 2019, the army came and fired on the village. So we had to run away because we did not dare to stay in the village anymore.

We will return to the village when there will be no Burmese soldiers. Now, we do not dare to go back to the village because Burmese army are there."

Injury 10

Name: Daw Ma [redacted]
(female)

"On April 10, 2019, Burmese Army's LID 55 and LID 22 arrested my son, Khin Maung Soe, on the suspicion of having connection with ULA/AA. Before the arrest, he was sheltering at the monastery after hearing the sounds of fighting near the Sittwe-Yangon highway. He was arrested around 1pm in the afternoon. Seventy-two people were arrested, including my son, and three died during the interrogation. My son is now being held in Sittwe Prison. There is no investigation, only the appearing in the court and remanding. It has been twelve times that we meet them. Financially, it is impossible to go further.

My son works in the fields. We have been out of the village for the last four months. There is no plan to return to the village. Only then the country achieve peace then will return to the village.

On August 10, 2019, we heard that a house was set on fire by the Burmese army. They also shot a buffalo and ate which is belong to me. No payment was made for that buffalo. I lost about 4,000,000, kyats. They searched other homes and took everything they found.

I didn't make complaint to any authority because I do not know how to make complaint to which department.. Civil society organizations are helping me. I don't know their names exactly.

Since my son is not a member of ULA/AA, I would like to request an immediate release of my son. I would also like to request other civil society organizations to help to release my son."

Injury 11

Name: Daw Aung [redacted]
(female)

"People have fled the village twice because of artillery shelling in the village, once in March and another one in May, 2019. There were some injuries to villagers too. This is my first time that I leave my village, I arrived (here) yesterday. Only a small number of people remained in the village. It's just an hour walk from Mrauk-U and the Ywar Haung Taw village. It is east of

Injury 11 (cont.)

Name: Daw Aung [redacted]
(female)

Mrauk-U. The Burmese army, numbering around 60 soldiers, stayed in the Nga Kyar Taung hill which is east of the village and about a mile far.

They stayed nearly twenty days in those mountain ranges. We heard that still the Burmese soldiers were staying in the east and west sides of the mountain ranges. We also heard that there was a mine explosion at the bridge nearby the village. No one was wounded from my village. There was a report that one man died and another got injured from another village.

I want to live in my own house. If there were no soldiers, we would return. Lastly, I just want to see peace. This is not a refugee camp at the moment. Therefore, livelihood is difficult here. "

Injury 12

Name: Daw Aye [redacted]
(female)

"On April 10, 2019, around 6am, the combined forces of LID 55 and LID 22 of Burma Army entered into the village, scolding, using bad words and shooting. Heavy artilleries had been firing from Min Hla village. At that time all the villagers had gathered at the monastery. Later, soldiers came to the monastery and summoned the villagers and separated the young men, elderly men, women and children and kept them at the Daw Ma Nge house.

We saw military helicopters flying in the sky. The soldiers asked the villagers if they had any contact with the ULA/AA. At about three o'clock in the evening, my husband, Khin Maung Soe, and including the village administrator were taken by the Burmese Army along with other 26 people with military vehicle. He was beaten by the Burmese army as soon as he got into the car. It was later learned he was initially taken to the battalion 378 and then was taken to the Military Special Branch (Sa Ra Pha) office in Sittwe. They searched house-to-house and took valuables, jewelry, ornaments, money and other properties from some houses. The things which they were able to carry, they carried and the things they could not carry were destroyed.

Family members of the detainees also appealed to Arakan State Prime Minister U Nyi Pu and Captain Kyi Linn to release the detainees. They said they would release the detainees with family members. There was no contact with the arrested people for more than 20 days; we just came to know that they were detained in the Police Station No.1 in Sittwe. My assumption is that they did not allow us to meet with the detainees because the injuries had not recovered fully. When I first met my husband, he even couldn't speak well. His back, chest and head were beaten and now he has a problem breathing. His features don't even look like a human's with a thin body. Now, the family has provided some food, and it looks a little bit better. As his wounds are in his inner parts due to torture by the Burmese army his health condition is not good. Now my husband and other arrestees are in the Sittwe prison. A lawsuit has been opened by the Tatmadaw (Burma Army) as far as I know.

There were no complaints about this. I don't know whom to make complaint to and how? There is no one to help us. I am a helpless person now. As my husband is not with me now everything including commodities and livelihoods have been destroyed and wiped out."

Injury 13

Name: Ma U [redacted]

"On 26 June 2019, in the afternoon at around 1pm, the Burmese Army Kyauktaw-based LIB 376 arbitrarily arrested my husband, Ko Zaw Linn Aung, and including U Nyunt Chay and U Kyaw San, while they were working a carpenter job at the Phayar Gree of Wai Thar Li, under suspicion. U Nyunt Chay is from the Bu Rwat Mhanyo village while U Kyaw San is from Maung Hree Pyin village. Burmese soldiers told U Kyaw San to climb the cemetery hill and he did not come back from the hill and escaped. U Kyaw Hsan went up the hill and escaped without returning. Now my husband is in the Sittwe prison. My husband told me that he was often in custody. Now his health situation is not good, with pain in the chest. He said he couldn't hear properly. In spite of poverty, I had to go to court three times a month during the trial. The ICRC donated 90,000 kyats for transportation to me. We fled on October 12, 2019.

I have raised the case to the concerned authority but no responses yet. I want urge the government, 'Release my innocent husband as soon as possible.'"

Injury 14Name: Daw Hla [redacted]
(female)

"My son was arrested. He was arrested from the monastery. His name is U Tun Kyi, he is 33 years old and has 2 children. We heard that the clash broke out nearby the village of Min Hla since 6 a.m. Then the Burmese Army indiscriminately shot towards our village. At that, all the people in the village are already in the monastery.

As my son is being detained we have to bear all the costs and are struggling now to continue the education of my son's children. When I first met my son, I was afraid to even look at him as there are a lot of beaten areas. I felt so sad. I am praying that my son is released as early as possible."

Injury 15Name: Daw Thein [redacted]
(female)

"On April 10, 2019, a combined force of Burmese Army's LID 55 and LID 22 arrested my younger brother, Maung Kyaw Mya, 42 years old, from the monastery. There were patrol groups in the village comprising 3-4 people in each group. They (the Burma Army) found a list of 27 people patrolling group in the village and all the people who were on the list were taken out of the house and bound with rope. Before the arrest, the men and women of the entire village were forced to gather in the middle of the village. The women were separated and forced to take off their shirts and to sit under the sun. The villagers were sun dried from 11 am to 5 pm in the evening. He told me that he was physically tortured in many ways. The health situation is very bad, he often gets sick and fever.

I want my brother to be released as soon as possible. His family is also facing difficulties with a small amount of farmland and the family's business is not good now."

Injury 16

Name: Daw [redacted] (female)

"My husband's name is Ko Thein Htun Zaw and he is 40 years old. He was killed by Burmese army after he was tortured. Burmese soldiers entered into the village, shooting, and arrested villagers who were hiding in the monastery. There were patrolling groups with 3-4 people in each group in the village. They found the list of 27 people who were in the patrolling groups. The army arrested all the people in the list. Before the arrest, the Burmese army separated the villagers based on young, women and elderly people and put all the under the sun without any shirt on their body. They were kept under the sunlight from 11am in the morning and arrested at 5 pm. When I heard, and went to see those detainees, including my husband, in the Police station no. 1 in Sittwe and I did not see my husband. No one told me about when my husband was killed and whereabouts. It was later we came to know through the internet that he was killed. Now I am with my two children as like half made. My innocent husband was killed and disappeared."

Injury 17

Name: Daw U [redacted]

"My son, Maung Twan Aye Kyaw, aged 25 years old, was one of the victims who were arrested by the Burma Army's LID 55 and LID 22. He was not married. There were patrolling groups with 3-4 people in each group in the village. They found the list of 27 people who were in the patrolling groups. The army arrested all the people on the list. Before the arrest, the Burmese army separated the villagers based on young, women and elderly people and put all the under the sun without any shirts on their body. They were kept under the sunlight from 11am in the morning and arrested at 5 pm.

When I went to see my son, I was told by him that he was in pain and suffering from various kinds of torture. As a mother, I was very sad and disappointed. Since my son was innocent of any crime, I would like to urge the government to release him as soon as possible."

Injury 18

Name: U Maung [redacted]
(male)

"Burmese Army LID 55 and LID 22 arrested my son Phoe Thar Lu (aka Twan Aung Kyaw) from my village. Burma army entered into the village by firing and arrested villagers who were hiding in the monastery. There were patrol groups in the village comprising 3-4 people in each group. They found a list of 27 people patrolling group in the village and all the people who were on the list were taken out of the house and bound with rope. Before the arrest, men and women of the entire village were forced to gather in the middle of the village. The women were separated and forced to take off their shirts and to sit under the sun. The villagers were sun dried since 11 a.m to 5 p.m in the evening. They are now in the Sittwe Prison. Their court trial has been over 10 times now. In each trial I had to spend 40,000 to 50,000 kyats. Whether you have money or not you have to go. He said that due to the torture of the Burmese army he suffers chest pain and respiratory problem."

Injury 19

Name: Ko [redacted] (male)

"On March 29, 2019, Burma Army's LID 55 with around 100 soldiers entered into our village and started firing artillery and gunshots. The village was also surrounded by them. An artillery shell landed inside the compound of my house and the left side of my chest was hit and I got injured. The walls and the roof were completely destroyed. All the villagers

[Interview continued on next page]

Injury 19 (cont.)

Name: Ko [redacted] (male)

were forcibly gathered at the administrator's house. Soldiers went back at around 12 pm. There was no reason for the shooting. I was allowed to go to the hospital about half an hour later. I was first taken to Tein Nyo clinic at around 9 am. The Tein Nyo clinic did not accept me so I had to go to Mrauk-U Hospital. I arrived at Mrauk-U hospital at 12 pm. I was being treated at Mrauk-U Hospital for one month and three days. The ICRC has provided more than 350,000 kyats and other Rakhine civil society organizations also helped. The elderly monks also came to help.

Villagers were interrogated and tortured, and five were arrested. U Ba Tun, U Maung Phyu Chay, U Hla Thein Maung, U Sein Tun and U Ko Naing were arrested. Now they are in Sittwe prison. Villagers said that soldiers went through all the houses and searched for valuable things and took whatever they found in the house. The whole villagers fled the village on March 29, 2019. The villagers ran to nearby villages such as Tein Nyo, Wat Hla, Palate, Taung Myint and Tha Pray Kan villages. At end of February, a clash occurred on the hill of Nga Pyo Taw which is close to our village to the east. The village is 2 miles far from Mrauk-U town. It is about two miles away.

Everyone wants to live in their own home. We decided to return to our village only when there will be peace. "

Injury 20

Name: U Hla [redacted] (male)

"On March 29, 2019, at around 6am in the morning, the Burmese army LID 55 and LID 22, with nearly 200 soldiers, entered into our village with shooting, coming from the Tein Nyo bridge. At that time, as they saw I was sitting they beat me with rifle butts on my head. Then their medic did a surgery on my head wounds and sent me to the Tein Nyo clinic. The surgery was four stitches. Another man named Win Kyaw Thein was also beaten on his chest and got injured and was hospitalized at Tein Nyo Clinic together with me. He is about 31 years old. We were forcibly paid 40,000 kyats for the treatment by the Burmese army. I refused to accept the money but they threatened to beat us more if we did not accept the money. I didn't take their money and I gave all to the one who got chest injuries. Another case is that they found the photo of ULA/AA chief, Twan Myat Naing Naing, at the U U Sein Tun's house and they beat and tortured U U Sein Twan. At present, some are taking refuge in IDP camps. The remaining people stay at home at the day and during the night they stay in other places where they feel comfortable. The people lost their job as they could not work like before.

The ICRC donated me 50,000 kyats. 20,000 kyats were donated by the Tha Ma Rait village. I did not complain to any department as I do not know how to complain or where to make complaint. I want to see the situation where everybody could work peacefully and continue their livelihoods as early as possible."

Injury 21

Name: [redacted]

"On May 18, 2019 at around 3 p.m in on my returning from a training in Mrauk-U by motorbike an explosion took place in front of the LIB (377) at Sun Win Taung. I got a little wound on my left chest. I assumed that it was a mine explosion. I did not need to go to hospital. On that day, along with me and my wife, six school teachers were also there. They were not hurt. I have

Injury 21 (cont.)

Name: [redacted]

already informed the education department. The Department of Education supported 200,000 kyat to me. I didn't complain to other authority departments."

Injury 22

Name: Daw Hla [redacted]
(female)

"On March 12, 2019, at around 8pm an aid group carrying a patient in an ambulance coming from the Thabuzza village requested my husband to help them and my husband also went with them. They were sending the patient to Mrauk-U hospital. The patient's name is Hla Maung Win. There was no fighting in our village at that time. There was no curfew order. About 10pm that night, it was reported that he was arrested near the Chaung Thaik village. It was reported that the Burmese army LIB 540 had arrested him after detaining him a night at the Kaung Phru Pyin Police Station. The patient did not even reach to Mrauk-U hospital at that time and died on the way. Those who were arrested were including my husband - Ko Twan Soe Linn- and U Oo Maung Tun, Ko Zaw Naing Htay, Ko Soe Soe Naing, Ko Si Thu Aung and Ko Zaw Min Twan. Initially, I did not get any contact with him. Three days after their arrest, it was reported that they were detained in Mrauk-U. We got information that he was sent to Sittwe from Mrauk-U. While he was in the Mrauk-U custody we were not allowed to meet him. We were only allowed to see him in Sittwe. All six arrested are in Sittwe prison. Because of the beating and physical torture by the Burmese army, eight stitches were done in my husband's head. Si Thu Aung had to go to the hospital three times. The ICRC team has donated 36,000 kyats for a visit to the prison in June. Other community organizations also helped me. I don't even know their exact names. Living without a husband at the moment, my family is having a difficult time living as my livelihood relied on my husband.

As my husband is innocent, I would like to urge the government to release my husband as early as possible."

Injury 23

Name: U Hla [redacted] (male)

"On March 29, 2019 at around 6am in the morning, the Burmese army rounded up our village and started shooting for around 4 hours. The army arrested 5 men, including my father, on allegations of having connections with ULA/AA. Two people including an old man aged more than 70 and a woman, were killed in the indiscriminate gunshot by the Burmese army. The army also beat with rifle butts and tortured the villagers before they arrested them.

Those who were arrested were taken to Mrauk-U and then from Mrauk-U to Sittwe from Kyauktaw. They are now in Sittwe. Lawyers Kyaw Myo Naing and Aung Phay Than from Mrauk-U asked 1,000,000 kyats for the case. It's not possible for us to pay such a big amount and we did not let them handle the case.

Later, U Hla Aung Thein and another female lawyer from the Bar Association of Arakan State are helping to handle the case voluntarily. Lawyers said they would try to release them in November 2019. I will believe only when I see them outside.

Another thing is that the Tatmadaw also took the village administrator to the Praing Chaung village along with the other detainees.

Injury 23 (cont.)

Name: U Hla [redacted] (male)

Villagers in Pyi Chaung Village reported that they had been forced to be interviewed by the Burmese army and forced to make confession that they had to shoot just because of the order from the ULA/AA. The army threatens them that they would be shot with a gun if they did not do what the army told them to do.

The condition of health is not good as my father is an old man. My father is a little bit deaf in normal life. I heard that he became a completely deaf now after Tatmadaw's beating and torturing him. Someone gave a pair of earphones but Tatmadaw doesn't allow him to use the earphones. I heard that my father was also beaten and tortured in several ways by the Burmese army. We always have to send medicines. There is more money that must be spent in the trial session. The situation in the village is not the same as before now. Fears of when the Burmese army will come and abduct them are overwhelming.

The teachers were too afraid to come as well. It has been a long time since we heard the school bell."

Injury 24

Name: Daw Ma [redacted] (female)

"The Burmese army fired heavy artillery from Taungphru hill to the Mrauk-U city and a young woman named Ma Ma Htay Lay, 24 years of age, daughter of U Maung Nyunt, resident of Kyaungtaung quarter, suffered a gunshot wound while at home."

Injury 25

Name: U Kyaw [redacted] (male)

"On March 13, Hla Maung Win (aka Nyi Bu Chay) a malaria patient from Thabaukzar Tetzu village, asked for help from six young people, including my son Zaw Min Tun, of Kyaungtaung Village to drop him off to the Mrauk-U hospital. The distance between Thabaukzar Tetzu and Kyauktaung village is 3 miles. Burmese soldiers from Battalion 540 and LID 22 arrested them at about 8pm on the way to Mrauk-U. At the period of the time they were arrested, there was no fighting occurring near the mountain. There are no curfew orders. The patient did not reach to the hospital but died at the hands of soldiers. The arrestees were kept at the Kaung Phyu Pyin police battalion and LIB 540 for five days and sent them to the Mrauk-U police station. In the Mrauk-U police station they kept them about 20 days and sent them to Sittwe. After two months, we were allowed to meet with my son. Now these young men are being held in Sittwe prison. My son told me that he had been tortured for 40 days in various forms in custody. The case was opened by the Captain Myo Min Aung from the LIB 377. The witnesses are, as far as I know, township's administrator of Mrauk-U, U Zaw Paing Tun, Station officers from Ponnagyun and Kyauktaw, Main road quarter and Ywar Gyi Mrauk quarter's administrator of Sittwe, and the station officer of Sittwe police station. For the travel cost during the court trial, the Mratazaung head monk supported 50,000 kyat for each family and ICRC supported 32,000 kyat for each family. I would like to urge the government to release these innocent young boys as early as possible."

Injury 26

Name: Ma [redacted] (female)

"On March 13, 2019, at around 12:00 pm, my husband Ko Maung Hla Chay, 21 years old, was arrested by the Burmese army while he was taking shelter in the village of Kyauksay Pyin after he heard the gunshots in the neighboring the village. He was returning from the hill for collecting firewood. He was detained in Kyauktaw for about 20 days before he was transferred to Mrauk-U. While in Kyauktaw, he was forced to say that he had ties with ULA/AA and if he refused to say that he was beaten and tortured different ways. On July 30, 2019, he was brought to Kyauktaw from Mrauk-U and again he was sent to Sittwe from Kyauktaw on July 31, 2019. There was no inquiry and no hearing except appearing in the court.

I would like to appeal to the government for a speedy inquiry and if they find my husband guilty then give verdict or if they find not guilty then release him as soon as possible."

Injury 27

Name: Ma [redacted] (female)

"On March 29, 2019, at around 6am in the morning, the Burmese army LID 55 entered into our village by shooting via Tein Nyo bridge. Burmese Army opened fire at our village near the Nyo Nyo Bridge. By surrounding the village six soldiers entered into our house and searched the things in the house. At that time, our family was hiding behind the house. Then we got afraid and came out. When they (Burmese army) saw my husband they started shooting towards him. They also beat my husband. My father-in-law, U Ba Tun, a 67 year old man, was beaten, and he was taken to the middle of the village by tightened roped on the body. They took all the properties belonging to the villagers and tortured the villagers as well. The whole villagers were ordered to sit in the village administrator's house. No one was aware of their return. An old man and a woman were killed in the shooting by the Tatmadaw."

Injury 28

Name: Daw Pauk [redacted]
(female)

"I have a small shop near the village of Aut Tha Kan at close to the Teinyo bridge. Early in the morning of that day, while I was selling at the shop, the Burma Army soldiers opened fire at us. On the spot Ma Sa Pae was killed and I got injured as the bullet hit my head, leg and right chest. I was sent to Sittwe hospital and had treatment for 7 days there and transferred to Yangon for better treatment and stayed 2 months in Yangon. The Arakanese civil society organizations supported me with money for my medical expense."

Injury 29

Name: U Maung [redacted]
(male)

"About a mile east of our village, there are the 377 and 378 Burmese battalions. From the battalion, they fired at our village all night with artillery shells, and my daughter's arm was pierced and shot through. The artillery bullet also hit my nose and face. U Maung Kyaw Sein and U Kyaw Bu were also killed by artillery shells. We were in hiding with injuries all night and had to go to Mrauk-U hospital in the next day's morning. The girl was not treated at Mrauk-U hospital because Mrauk-U hospital was unable to treat her. She was transferred to Sittwe hospital and from Sittwe hospital she was sent to Yangon for better treatment. My injury was superficial, and I was treated at Mrauk-U Hospital. As a result of the shooting that day, the villagers fled to the IDP camps. My daughter's name is Ma Htay Htay Aung and she is 13 years old. This year, she is in grade 8 and she has dropped out from the school. I don't agree and I'm not satisfied with the current government and the Burma Army."

Injury 30

Name: Ma [redacted] (female)

"On April 10, 2019, in the early morning, the sound of gunfire was heard nearby the village. After a while, soldiers came into the village and gathered the villagers who were sheltering in the monastery. There are five small groups that were formed by the villagers for the safety and welfare of the village. The list of those groups of people was found by the Burma Army and they arrested 19 local men including my brother Thein Tun Maung, 23 year old, and 8 men from other villages. He was also 23 years old. We begged the Burma army not to arrest my innocent brother without any fault. But they took my brother saying that they would interrogate for a while. The soldiers were from LID 55 and LID 22. When he got to the car, he was beaten and tortured by the Burma Army. My brother recounts that he was taken to an unknown battalion and they interrogated him and then he was brought to Sittwe via the Burma Army's helicopter. My brother recounts that the violence and torture he experienced he had never ever seen before. If the villagers are properly investigated and questioned and found not guilty then on behalf of the villagers I would like to request the government to release them as early as possible."

Injury 31

Name: U Maung [redacted] (male)

"On March 5, 2019, at about 1 o'clock in the afternoon I and my elder brother and my uncle U Tun Sein Oo stepped a landmine while returning from the Kyeatinkone hill for collecting firewood. My uncle died and my brother and I were injured. I was treated for five days at Teinnyo Hospital in Mrauk-U Township. The ministry of relief and social welfare donated to me 50,000 kyats for medical expenses. The Rakhine Alan Takhon group and Munimray Monk Organization donated to me 50,000 kyats respectively. A group also helped me when I arrived at this Teinnyo IDP camp and I don't remember the organization name anymore. I came to the IDP camp as a refugee because on March 29, 2019, the soldiers from LID 55 entered the village, shooting indiscriminately, and we are afraid to live in the village. How would an IDP camp be better than my home? Even though you don't want to live but you have to live. I want to this war to be ended as early as possible."

Injury 32

Name: Daw Ma [redacted] (female)

"On March 5, 2019, my husband U Tun Sein Oo, and including his younger brother and another person, stepped on a landmines while returning from collecting firewood from the hill. My husband died at 4 pm while taking treatment in the Teinnyo hospital. The Burma Army soldiers from LID 55 entered our village and started shooting indiscriminately at the village. That's why I fled to the IDP camp. I want to end the war and live in my own home peacefully."

Injury 33

Name: U Kyaw [redacted] (male)

"On March 3, 2019, at about 1 o'clock in the afternoon, my uncle U Tun Sein Oo, I and another man called Maung Brar stepped on a landmine on their returning home after collecting firewood from the Ngarpyawtaung hill. My uncle U Tun Sein Oo died. We called the villagers by phone from the incident place and asked the villagers to come and help us. The villagers came and took us to the Teinnyo hospital. We were transferred from Teinnyo hospital to Mrauk-U hospital. Unfortunately, my uncle Tun Sein Oo, did not survive and he died in the hospital. One of his legs was cutdown on the spot when he stepped on the landmine. For our medical expense the

Injury 33 (cont.)

Name: U Kyaw [redacted]
(male)

ministry of social welfare and relief, the Rakhine Alan Takhon and Munimray monk association helped us.

On March 29, 2019, the soldiers from LID 55 entered the village again and started shooting at the village. That's why I fear to live in the village and fled to this IDP Camp."

Injury 34

Name: U Maung [redacted]
(male)

"On March 29, 2019 earlier in the morning a unit of Burma Army soldiers from LID 55 entered into our village and fired indiscriminately at the village and shouted like, 'We will kill all the Arakanese people.' The soldiers were surrounding outside and inside the village. When the shooting stopped for a while, my wife and I were cooking, and we heard another gunfire as we went out to the front of the house. We were hit by artillery shells. It hit my hips and knees, and it also hit my wife's belly and hands. The soldiers intentionally shot dead an old man named U Po Khaing, 70 years old. Soldiers forcibly gathered all the villagers in a house. When the soldiers returned, the ambulance arrived and I was taken to Mrauk-U Hospital. My wife was sent to Teinnyo hospital. Later I was informed that my children had fled to Nagar village. I have been in Mrauk-U hospital for over a month. After discharging from the hospital, I no longer dare to stay at my village. That's why I came to the Teinnyo IDP camp."

Injury 35

Name: U Pan [redacted] (male)

"On May 5, 2019, at 10:00am in the morning, I stepped on a landmine while I was returning from Kha Maung Chaung old village for collecting bamboo. I was under treatment in the Sittwe hospital for 1 month and 8 days. The Red Cross donated 500,000 kyats for medical expenses, while the Kyauktaw charity association donated fifty thousand kyats per month and gave me for 5 months. I lost one foot and have not recovered yet. Once a month I have to go to Sittwe hospital for treatment."

Injury 36

Name: [redacted]

"The army fired four heavy artillery weapons into our village and one landed on my house while I was charging my mobile phone and I got injured in my right hand. I was sent to Kyauktaw Hospital and Kyauktaw hospital referred me to Sittwe hospital and I was sent to Sittwe Hospital. The arm's bone was broken and now it has a steel shaft."

Injury 37

Name: U Ray [redacted] (male)

"The fighting broke out in the mountains west of the village continuously about 9 days. I stepped on a landmine ... while I was collecting logs from the mountain. I was hospitalized for eleven days."

Injury 38

Name: Daw Saw [redacted]

"The whole villagers went in hiding on that day because the Burma Army artillery shelled continuously. The gunshots hit the villager's house. While I was hiding in my house an artillery bullet hit my neck and I was sent to Kyauktaw hospital and stayed three days in the hospital."

Injury 39

Name: U [redacted] (male)

"On August 17, 2019, at around 2pm, three artilleries fired by Burma Army's artillery battalion LIB 377 landed at the monastery. A man was injured and the monastery buildings were slightly damaged. 10 minutes before the military shelled the artilleries we were informed that

[Interview continued on next page]

Injury 39 (cont.)

Name: U [redacted] (male)

an explosive exploded in the east of the village. That's why the military shelled the artillery as per I assume. In any case, artillery shelling in the village should not happen."

Injury 40

Name: U San [redacted] (male)

"On August 14, 2019, at about two o'clock in the middle of the night, heavy artillery and small arms fired into my village from the bank of the river. The artillery bullets hit my right arm and abdomen. I was treated at Kyauktaw hospital for about a week. The navy is believed to have fired from the river while they were on patrol. 7 heavy artillery munitions landed and countless small weapons were fired into the village. The ICRC subsidized 200,000 kyats for medical expenses. I don't want war at all. I would like to say that if there are clashes then they should not be in the civilian areas. We are always afraid of the clache and couldn't do any work now. So I want this to be a peaceful country and all the people live in peace."

Injury 42

Name: U Aung [redacted] (male)

"The Burmese army entered our village at about 3pm. About 7pm, after the soldiers arrived, my wife, Tin Aye Thein, 42, was sent to my sister's, Daw Than Nyunt, house, near the hill. At around 9pm, gunfire started with small and heavy artillery shells. It was a situation where none could help each other. In the morning I heard that all of my sister's family had died in the trenches. When I went to see I found four of my sister's family were killed in the trench, I found my wife was still alive but had no sense. My sister's daughter, Hnin Aye Khin, an 18 year old girl who was injured in her stomach, was taken to Buthidaung hospital immediately, and including my wife. As the Buthidaung hospital was unable to treat them they were transferred to Sittwe hospital by a speed boat organized by the ICRC in Buthidaung. She spent more than a month in Sittwe Hospital and spent 20 days in Mingan Ward quarter no. 1 in Sittwe for treatment from the outside of the hospital. My wife lost one eye and was unable to speak. My niece stayed for 20 days in the Sittwe hospital and was discharged."

Injury 43

Name: Daw Aye [redacted] (female)

"Soldiers arrived at the village about three o'clock in the evening on March 21, 2019, and surrounded the village. A short time later they had gathered in the monastery. At 9pm, they came into the village and fired artillery shells. At that moment, I came down from the house and tried to hide in the bunker. The military shot down the right arm of mine. We spent the night in the bunker and at 6:00am, I fled with my sister-in-law to the village of Sun Khon Taing. I went to the clinic at Zeditaung village for treatment of my wounds from Sun Khon Taing village. I was treated for a month at the Zeditaung clinic. Four times, we had to flee and return. Finally, on October 28, 2019, we fled to the monastery of Yan Aung Myay. 3 out of 4 children are living in Taungup, and the remaining one lives with me."

Injury 44

Name: U Aung [redacted] (male)

"Fighting occurred often near the village. There have been several times that we had to flee the village. Later, we set up a temporary house in the village of Zeditaung. Sometimes men went to the village to look after the cattle. Mostly we stayed in the Zeditaung village and finally we arrived here in mid of December 2019. About 300 Burmese soldiers took positions and all the villagers fled the village and Burmese soldiers destroyed all the property and furniture of the house. They also killed and ate the cattle left

Injury 44 (cont.)

Name: U Aung [redacted] (male)

by the villagers. At two o'clock in the afternoon, a buffalo from the hill came to the pasture of the cattle and exploded. I got wounded when I stepped on a landmine in the afternoon at 2 pm while I was returning from chasing my buffalo on the hill. I got injured on my left wrist and left knee. The ICRC team sent me to the Sittwe Hospital and I was hospitalized for a week."

Injury 45

Name: Daw Hla [redacted]
(female)

"On November 21, 2019, at around 4pm on the evening, the small and massive artillery shells landed inside the village. At that time, my husband asked me to stay at the monastery. He said he would come to the monastery later. He called me before I reached the monastery and told me I couldn't run out. When I arrived at the monastery, I made phone calls to him but he did not pick up my call. When the shooting stopped, I went to my house to see my husband. When I reached home I saw he was not alive anymore. He was killed. The shooting started again and I had to leave my deceased husband's body and flee to the monastery again. At around 8pm at night, people went to guard the deceased body. The next day in the early morning at 3:00am they (Burmese army) started shooting again and the villagers had to leave my deceased husband's body again in the house. In the afternoon at around 1pm despite ongoing shooting nearby the village, the villagers took my husband's dead body to the Htee Zway village by a motorboat because it was not possible to be buried in the village. We arrived at Rathedaung town from Htee Zway village at around 2pm. In the next day, afternoon, at around 1 pm the funeral was held in the Rathedaung town. My uncle, U Maung Khin Win, also fled in fear of artillery fire and the bullet hit his left ear. We did not hear anything yet where he is living. The government army is very cruel. They burned down the houses, tortured the villagers, killing the domestic animals, cattle and doing whatever they want to do.

My husband's name is Chan Thein Aung, aged 49 years old. His father's name is U Tun Hla."



On August 24, 2019, of the morning, at 10:00 am, my cousin's sister, who is studying at grade 10, and my nephew both were killed by shelling...

I was being treated at the Sittwe general hospital for 13 days. My nephew was 6 year old, he died soon after he was brought to the hospital. My nephew's father and mother were working in Thailand.

I and my mother got injured.

After the incident happened the army surrounded our house and took the bodies of the deceased person and injured people.

I don't want to make complaint because it will not be effective and will get no result.

I think it would be like pouring water in the sand.

I wish no one to suffer the same fate as like us in the future. I would like to request the donor organizations to help the affected people as much as possible. I would also like to see Arakan as a peaceful land without any war.



**- Daw Phru [redacted]
(Appendix A, Death Interview 7)**

Villagers carry their dead following the Burma Army airstrike on Nyaung Kan Village in Myebon Township, Arakan State on Sept. 9, 2020.



A PUBLICATION OF THE FREE BURMA RANGERS (FBR)

FBR is a multi-ethnic humanitarian service movement working to bring help, hope and love to people in the conflict areas of Burma, Iraq, Sudan, and Syria. Working alongside indigenous pro-democracy groups, FBR trains, supplies and coordinates Ranger teams to help provide emergency medical care, shelter, food, clothing and human rights documentation. In addition to relief and reporting, other results of the teams' actions are the development of leadership capacity, civil society and the strengthening of inter-ethnic unity. Men and women of many ethnic groups and religions are part of FBR.

For more information visit www.freeburmarangers.org or send an email to media@freeburmarangers.org.