

Clashes between Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA) and Myanmar Tatmadaw (MT) Troops from June 1 to 28, 2017 and Human Rights Violations in Ta'ang Region

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Battles Continue between TNLA and MT in KutKai Township

June 1, 2017

A battle took place from 0715 to 1200 hours, between troops of the TNLA Bn-447 and MT LIB-11 under the command of MT Div-33, at a place between KaungNane and KaungKham villages.

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Battles Continue to Take Place between TNLA and MT Troops

June 2, 2017

Today, from 0500 to 0600 hours, a head-on battle took place near MoneHuan village of KutKai Township, Bde-5 Area, Ta'ang Region, between troops of TNLA Bn-818 and MT Div-55.

The battle took place, because the MT troops came to launch offensive. On June 1 also, a battle took place in that area at a place between KaungNain and KaungKham villages.

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Battle between Troops of TNLA and MT

June 6, 2017

Today, from 1200 to 1250 hours, a head-on battle took place between troops of TNLA Bn-876 and MT IB-77 under the command of Div-88, at a place between PanWa and MineTap villages of ManTong Township, Bde-1 Area, Ta'ang Region.

The battle happened as the MT troops with a strength of over 100 came, in an offensive action, into the jungle area where the TNLA troops operate.

More fierce battles are likely to take place in the Ta'ang Region, as the MT brought in more troops as reinforcement on June 4 into NamtKham, MuSe and KutKai Townships, in 100 trucks, in an act of military offensive.

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Battles Continue between TNLA and MT Troops and Some Villagers' Houses Damaged by MT Troops Heavy Weapon Fire

June 8, 2017

Today, from 1030 to 1100 hours, a head-on battle took place between troops of TNLA and MT Divs-88/33, at a place between KaungKay and ManLong villages of NamtKham Township, Bde-1 Area, Ta'ang Region.

During the battle, as the MT troops fired heavy weapons from SaKanThit military camp in NamtKham Town towards places in the environ of the battle area, shells landed around the school and in the kitchens of MaWaung villagers Ta Aik La and Ya Aik Tun, damaging some roofing iron sheets.

After the battle, the MT Divs-33/88 troops arrived at NamtHsaRee village, rounded up all the male villagers, took them to the village tavern shed and detained them there. It is still not known if the villagers were beaten up.

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Battle between TNLA Troops and MT Combined Force at Upper Place of PanLom Village of KutKai Township

June 10, 2017

A head-on battle took place, from 0105 to 0135 hours, between troops of Bn-818 under the command of TNLA Bde-5 and the combined force of MT Div-66 and Div-11, at the upper place in the jungle fringes of PanLom village of MoneHuan Village Tract, TaMoeNyh Sub-township, KutKai Township, MuSe District. News in detail will be given later.

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Battle between Combined Force of MT (Divs 88 & 33) and TNLA Troops

June 11, 2017

A head-on battle took place from 0300 to 0400 hours between the TNLA Bn-571 and the combined force of MT Divs. (88 and 33), at the upper place of ManSap village of NamtKham Township, Bde-1 Area, Ta'ang Region.

In the battle, there was no casualty on the TNLA side. There was casualty on the MT side, but details are still not known.

It is learnt that due to the firing of heavy weapon (81 mm mortar) by the MT troops, the entrance gateway of ManSap village monastery was damaged.

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Recurred Battle between TNLA and RCSS

June 17, 2017

Today, from 1150 to 1215 hours, a head-on battle took place between the TNLA Bn-189 troops and the RCSS troops, near PanSan village of NamTu Township, Bde-4 Area, Ta'ang Region.

Battle recurred, because the RCSS troops intruded into the Ta'ang Region and conducted offensive actions against the TNLA.

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Two Battles Today between TNLA and MT Troops

June 20, 2017

It was learnt that battles occurred twice between the TNLA and MT troops in Bde-1 Area and Bde-2 Area, KutKai Township, Ta'ang Region.

Head-on battles took place respectively, from 1115 to 1200 hours, between TNLA Bn-112 and MT Div-88 troops, at a place between ZonNaw and NgartNgar villages of KutKai Township, Bde-1 Area, and from 1330 to 1440 hours between TNLA Bn-335 and MT Div-99 troops near NarKait and LwehTaung villages of KutKai Township, Bde-5 Area.

Head-on battles recurred as the MT troops have stepped up offensive activities within these days, in the operational areas of the TNLA.

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Battles Occurred Twice between TNLA and MT Troops

June 23, 2017

It was learnt that today June 23, battles took place twice between the TNLA and MT troops, in NamtSan Township, Bde-4 Area, Ta'ang Region.

At 0950 hours, a head-on battle started between TNLA Bn-919 and MT troops at a place between ManLan and LonTauk villages in NamtSan Township, and at 1230 hours another head-on battle took place between TNLA Bn-919 troops and a combined force of IB (501/503), at a place between ManLan and PanTaung villages of NamtSan Township.

It is learnt that the battles could become more vicious as the MT had sent in reinforcement from ManSan village side to the battle area and launching offensive towards the operational areas of the TNLA.

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MT Troops Burnt Down TNLA's Women's Capacity Building and Basic Health Training School

June 23, 2017

Today at 0950 hours, the MT military column burnt down, in TNLA Bde-2 Area, the TNLA's Women's Capacity Building and Basic Health Training School.

At the Training School, the TNLA has trained women in Ta'ang Region for the use of computer, Ta'ang literature study, basic human rights and healthcare. Currently, over 100 Ta'ang women graduates of the School are providing healthcare to people in various places of the Ta'ang Region.

In the rainy season when travel was difficult, the weather was bad and while the training was suspended temporarily and preparations were being made for the coming training, the MT troops came and destroyed the facility by burning it down.

In these days, as the MT troops has been launching fierce military offensives against the TNLA and thrashing up the jungle in their search-and-destroy operations, the teachers, trainers and security personnel had been moved to a safe area and, as a result there was no casualty.

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Two Battles between TNLA and MT and Heavy Weapons Fired Toward Ta’ang Villages

June 24, 2017

Two battles took place respectively between troops of TNLA Bn-919, under the command of TNLA Bde-4, and the combined force of MT battalions 501/503, under the command of Military Operation Command-1 (MOC-1), from 0930 to 1000 hours and at 1100 hours, at a place between PanTaung and ManLan villages of NamtSan Township, Bde-4 Area, Ta’ang Region.

During the battle, the MT troops fired heavy weapons from ManLweh KaBaAye PaYaGyi at places around the battle field, over 10 heavy weapon rounds at the rate of one per minute and more than 3 rounds landed in ManLan and PanTaung villages.

As the heavy weapon rounds landed frequently, the local village people had to flee to safe areas, in evasion.

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Two Battles between TNLA and MT

June 25, 2017

Today two battles took place respectively from 0500 to 0620 hours, between Bn-335, under the command of TNLA Bde-5, and MT IB-567 troops, at a place between PanKu and ManKaing villages and, from 0800 to 0825 hours between TNLA Bn-818 and MT troops, at a place between NaungLoott and NaungKhaing villages. The MT military columns were shooting and attacking from LinTauk towards ManLan village.

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Battle between TNLA and MT Continues

June26, 2017

A battle took place at 0855 hours between TNLA Bn-987 and MT IB-502 troops at a place between LanLweh and LwehPan villages.

The battle took place these days as the MT troops have been launching offensives, with massive force in the Ta’ang Region, and there is the possibility that clashes could become more fierce.

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Recurred Battle between TNLA and RCSS

June 26, 2016

Today from 1200 to 1220 hours, a battle took place between TNLA Bn-593 and RCSS/SSA-South troops, at a place between ManPane and NamtLin villages of NamTu Township, Bde-4 Area.

The battle that started yesterday, at 1330 hours near MyoThit village was still raging at 0230 hours today, and the situation was tense, at the time of writing this report.

The battle took place these days as the MT troops has been launching offensives, with massive force in the Ta’ang Region, and there is the possibility that clashes could become fiercer.

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Two Battles between TNLA and MT Today

June27, 2017

Two battles took place respectively from 1090 to 1130 hours between troops of TNLA Bn-919 and MT Bn-501/503 under the command of MOC-1, at the crossroads of NamtLin and LonTauk villages of NamtSan Township, Bde-4 Area, Ta’ang Region, and at 1050 hours between troops of TNLA Bn-683 and MT Div-88 troops, at ManSan and NgorcKe villages of MineWee Sub-township, NamtKham Township, Bde-3 Area. There was no casualty on the TNLA side. There were many casualties on the MT side, but details are still not known.

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Human Rights Violations in Ta’ang Region and Losses Suffered by Namkham and Mansap Villages due to MT Attacks

On July 11, 2017, the heavy weapons fire by MT Divs. 88 and 33 intentionally into ManSap village damaged religious structures of the village monastery and villagers’ houses.

Damages in Detail

1. The village monastery’s pillar, roofing iron sheets and entryway were damaged.
2. As a heavy weapon shell landed on the house of Ward-5 resident of ManSap village, U Naing Kweh (AKA) Tar Naing Thaug, roofing iron sheets, house walls and household items worth over 150 million Kyat, were destroyed.
3. The MT troops broke into the house-shop of Yama Naing Poo house and took away all the items in the shop.
4. The house of Yayi Hmway was broken into and household items worth 23,000 Kyat and cash were taken away.

5. The house of Ta Nyi Oo was broken into and items in the shop and cash of 54,800 Kyat were taken away.
6. Items in the house of Yamar Yaychun worth precisely 30,000 Kyat were taken away.

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MT Troops Shot Dead LwehPyat Villager

June 25, 2017

Six villagers of LwehPyat village, NamtTway Village Tract of NamtSan Township, with their motorcycles, were seized to serve as porters by MT Bns. 504 and 506, and on the way, when a head-on battle took place with the TNLA troops, 5 of the 6 villagers managed to run away, but when Mai Aik Than, son of U Aik Han and Daw Aye Mat Tu, tried to run away, the MT Bns. 504 and 506 troops shot him to death.

During the battles, the MT troops tend to arrest and torture the local civilians, force them to serve as porters and shot them to death.

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In KutKai, MT Troops Fired Heavy Weapons on Civilians Killing 2 and Wounding One

June 26, 2017

On June 26, 2017, at about 1245 hours, the MT troops of IB-45 at KutKai-based Operational Command, Ta'ang Region, intentionally fired heavy weapons on civilians, even when there was no battle in progress, hitting houses and killing 2 and wounding one villager.

The heavy weapons fired by the MT troops hit the house of Ta Aik Deht of PaneHweh village, KutKai, wounding both the husband and wife – Ta Aik Deht and Ya Aye Arm. While the husband was killed on the spot, the severely wounded wife, taken to the hospital, succumbed to her injury in the early evening. The remaining Ta Aik Sarm, aged 53, was wounded in the head while he was at the chairman's house, when the house was hit by a heavy weapon shell, is under medical treatment.

The KutKai-based MT troops have been intentionally firing heavy weapons at villages for several times and as NantPetKa-based IB-123 troops on June 24, fired heavy weapons at villages in the vicinity of NantPetKa, the villagers are in fear and alarm.

Personal History of the Dead and Wounded

1. Dead

Name: Ta Aik Det, aged 44 years;

Parents: Ta Aik Yi – Daw Aye Aweh;

Address: PaneHeh Village, PhatYai Village Tract, KutKai Township;

Date & Time Killed: June 26, 2017, 1245 hours.

2. Dead

Name: Ya Aye Arm, aged 41 years;

Parents: Ta Aik Yi – Ya E;

Address: PaneHweh village, PhatYai Village Tract, KutKai Township;

Date & Time of Last Hour: June 26, 2017, 1245 hours;

Place: Hospital.

3. Wounded

Name: Ta Aik Sarm;

Age: 53 years;

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MT Troops Shot and Killed 3, Made 8 to Wear TNLA Uniforms and Detained

June 27, 2017

Starting from June 21, the MT troops seized ManLan village of NamtSan Township, arrested and detained the villagers and after questioning and torturing them, shot dead 3 villagers and buried their bodies near NamtLin village.

Then, in the morning time, 8 civilian villagers were unlawfully arrested and made to wear the TNLA uniforms, which had been brought in advance, made to admit, under threat, that they were the TNLA members, taken to military camp in NamtSan and were detained and tortured.

After arriving at ManLan village, as the MT troops wrecked the villagers’ possessions, homes and motorcycles, and as the villagers themselves were unlawfully arrested, tortured, beaten and killed, the villagers no longer dared to live in their native village and so they started to flee to NamtSan and LaSho towns for refuge and hiding.

Abbreviations: TNLA = Ta’ang National Liberation Army; MT = Myanmar/Bamar Tatmadaw (Myanmar/Bamar Armed Forces); Bn. = Battalion; IB = Infantry Battalion; Div. = Division (A military unit of 4 brigades, or 10 battalions.)

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