



ADDRESS ON THE 74TH COMMEMORATION OF KACHIN STATE DAY

10 January 2022

Today marks the 74th anniversary of Kachin State Day. In 1947 the liberation of our Kachin brothers and sisters was set in motion, but this liberation was never to come. With the tragic murder of Gen. Aung San, plans for greater autonomy and self-determination for ethnic people, and a federal democracy, were dashed. Successive governments and, ultimately, decades of military dictatorship saw fit to rob the Kachin people of the autonomy and self-determination they were promised, and for which they fought and shed their blood.

The contributions of our Kachin brethren to our nation are beyond question. Through their efforts, sacrifices and passion they have helped us to build a better Myanmar. But at every turn, their efforts for greater autonomy and self-determination have been undermined by a selfish and cruel military who seek only to rule over Myanmar like kings governing slaves.

Let us this year mark the founding of Kachin state with a recognition of our Kachin brothers and sisters. A celebration of their rich culture and heritage. Appreciation for the many contributions and selfless sacrifice to our country and people, and a pledge, to win this fight, to restore democracy, and to honour the agreement made so long ago, to create a truly Federal Democratic Union Myanmar for all the people of Myanmar, with greater autonomy and self-determination for all our ethnic States, including the brave and courageous Kachin.

Dr. Sasa

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