

## **Ani-junta Forces Coordination Committee - Mandalay**

## Statement on the Severe Violences against the Female Political Prisoners in Mandalay Central Prison (Oo Bo)

## Announcement No. (1/2023)

- 1. At 03:00 PM of 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023, prison guards at the women's prison unit of Mandalay Central Prison (Obo) engaged in the act of physical assault and rude behavior towards female political prisoners. The prison authorities not only did not address the assault and rude behavior of the prison guards, but they even exercised abuse of power and authority, leading to extreme oppression and tyranny towards the inmates. A group of 150 male prison guards arrived at the scene following the initial incident carrying a range of weapons and shields including slingshots, batons, bamboo-sticks, stun guns and exercised excessive use of those weapons with extreme brutality to disperse the crowd. On the day following the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March 2023, there had been another altercation between the female political prisoners and prison guards on abusive use of assaults the previous day resulting in further prison violence and forceful detaining in women's dormitories.
- 2. Subsequent to these incidents, (100) female political prisoners sustained injuries, with 21 of them suffering from grievous and critical wounds. It was discovered that 6 female political prisoners sustained head injuries, while 3 others were injured by slingshots around their eyes. 2 female political prisoners sustained skin cuts around their ears, and 1 female political prisoner suffered a severe hand fracture. In the aftermath of the incident, approximately 72 female political prisoners were displaced into "Punishment Units" at Oo Bo prison, with some of them being held in solitary confinement. Concerningly, it was discovered that these female political prisoners were denied access to essential medical care for the injuries they sustained and that some were continuingly transported to other prisons without notifying their families.
- 3. It is clearly defined as the severe violations of human rights towards female political prisoners by prison authorities and guards, involving an excessive abuse of power and force to oppress, and a failure to comply with the Prison acts and standard procedures.

- 4. We object to the abuse of power and violence against female political prisoners, carried out by prison officials who are under the influence of the military, and we stand with our imprisoned female comrades.
- 5. We strongly condemn the individuals who have supported and committed these serious violences against female political prisoners at Oo Bo Prison and these prison staffs and guards are condemned as human rights perpetrators as well as international criminals.
- 6. We strongly condemn the junta special prison courts and their adjudication of the judges, attorneys, and judicial staffs, in refusing to take actions on the violations of political prisoner's rights, unlawful actions and violences at Obo Prison as the act of colluding or abetting the crime against humanity.
- 7. In ensuring transitional justice, we pledge to give our best in prosecuting the perpetrators and carrying out justice for the victims through identifying and documenting human rights violations in prisons and in trials.



**Our Revolution Must Prevail!** 

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