



The Human Rights Foundation of Monland Releases Voice Up Issue 1 January - March 2026

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For Immediate Release

As part of the Voice Up series, the Human Rights Foundation of Monland (HURFOM) has published its first issue in this year's quarterly series, focusing on the gendered gaps and impacts of the attempted coup on women and young girls in Southeastern Burma. Between January and March 2026, HURFOM documented that in targeted areas, including Mon State, Karen State, and the Tanintharyi region, at least 22 women were killed, 40 were injured, and 19 were arbitrarily arrested. Additionally, 12 children were killed, and 20 were wounded. Since the coup, HURFOM has recorded a total of 277 women killed and 630 wounded, as well as 103 children killed and 207 injured across all documentation areas.

The findings from the first quarter of the year are evidence of further struggles being experienced by women and girls throughout Burma. Nationwide, the crisis is having consequential impacts on those who are suffering the most. The gendered impacts of Burma's worsening conflict must not go overlooked, and yet there are repeated crimes being committed with no accountability for the perpetrators. Impunity has existed in the country for decades. Since the coup, the lack of adherence and a further disregard of the rule of law have allowed systematic attacks against women and girls to continue without consequences.

Currently, the absence of effective accountability mechanisms under military rule has caused widespread impunity for violence and discrimination. Survivors seek justice. There needs to be more stakeholder discussions to strengthen reporting mechanisms that enable victims to hold perpetrators accountable. Improved coordination is also essential to ensure that abusers are not in the same environment as survivors.

Meanwhile, the humanitarian crisis is deepening rapidly. By later this year, approximately 12 million people are projected to face acute hunger, and more than 400,000 children and

mothers are already suffering from malnutrition. Across the country, the junta's violence has spread to nearly two-thirds of Burma. More than 3.7 million people are internally displaced, and around 16 million people – nearly one in three – now require humanitarian assistance. But these are not just numbers. They represent families who have lost their homes, their livelihoods, and their sense of safety.

The *Voice Up* series by HURFOM seeks to highlight the difficulties women face after the failed coup. It recognizes their ongoing struggles and highlights significant shortcomings in fragile protection and accountability systems. Furthermore, HURFOM calls on the international community to increase funding for women-led projects and to support efforts to hold the military junta accountable, aiming to end impunity and establish effective paths to justice.

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HURFOM was founded by exiled pro-democracy students from the 1988 uprisings, recent activists, Mon community leaders, and youth. Its primary objective is to restore democracy, human rights, and genuine peace in Burma. HURFOM is a non-profit organization, and all its members are volunteers with a shared vision for peace in the country.