



## **The Karenni Human Rights Group Strongly Condemns the Airstrikes in Mawchi and Calls for Urgent Action and Condemnation by the International Community**

19 August 2025

*For Immediate Release*

The Karenni Human Rights Group (KnHRG) strongly condemns the airstrikes deployed by the military junta on 17 August and 19 August 2025 in Mawchi, Hpasawng Township. The series of aerial attacks is the latest in the regime's relentless terror from the skies as innocent civilians are forced to face overwhelming fear in their final moments.

KnHRG is working to confirm the total number of deceased. At the time of writing, KnHRG has documented that twenty-six lives were lost in the airstrikes on 17 April, with six bodies still missing and unaccounted for. Among those killed are eighteen men and eight women. There were seven injured, including six men and one woman. On the morning of 19 August at 6 AM, Y12 jets fired upon two areas in Mawchi, wounding four men, two of whom are critically injured.

According to the Karenni Interim Executive Council (IEC), this is the 11th airstrike this year in Karenni State. This serious violation of human rights calls for accountability.

The lack of respect for the law or human life is evident in the military's ongoing targeting of local infrastructure and communities. The junta carried out two separate airstrikes, first targeting a hospital. Hours later, the warplanes attacked a crowded neighbourhood, leading to mass deaths and destroyed homes, including a kindergarten. KnHRG confirmed that there was no active fighting when the warplanes were deployed to target civilians, yet the military did not hesitate to drop bombs on an unarmed, innocent community.

The IEC [noted](#) that *"the military has a pattern of labelling areas outside its control as enemy territory. Areas held by resistance forces, like Mawchi, are particularly targeted with little or no regard for civilians."*

Last month, the IEC released information about the war crimes committed by the junta in Karenni State since the beginning of the year. As of 9 July 2025, airstrikes by the junta caused 33 deaths and 94 injuries, including 15 men, nine women, two children, and seven unidentified individuals.

Justice for those who have suffered is long overdue. People in Karenni State are struggling to survive amid the uncertainty and frustration caused by the lack of response and coordination from the international community. With repeated calls for targeted sanctions on aviation fuel and a global arms embargo, KnHRG fears the future will be met with more uncertainty and terror. Airstrikes, in particular, remain a significant source of distress because there is no way to prepare or hide safely. There are also no reliable pathways for accountability in Burma.

Furthermore, the military junta has engaged in human rights violations that harm innocent people for decades. Impunity has continued due to the absence of consequences, as they have consistently avoided punishment. The situation of human rights in Burma must be referred to the International Criminal Court.

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*The Karenni Human Rights Group is a community organization dedicated to reporting on the current situation on the ground in Karenni State and the human rights abuses committed by the junta.*