

# MONTHLY SITUATIONAL BRIEF REPORT

KACHIN HUMAN RIGHTS TEAM

August, 2025

KACHIN STATE

[www.kachinhumanrightsinsight.org](http://www.kachinhumanrightsinsight.org)

### **Forced Labor and Recruitment**

- On August 2nd, after a convoy of nine military council ships arrived in Bhamo town, the military council troops forcibly detained civilians for portering. The civilians who were forcibly detained were made to wear blue shirts and unload goods from the ships, with a heavy security presence provided by a large number of military council troops. This military ship convoy had initially arrived at Shwegu town on July 28th. Due to repeated attacks by a joint force of the KIA and KPDF, three of the ships were reportedly burned and damaged. The convoy was forced to repeatedly retreat towards Shwegu town before finally reaching Bhamo town.
- In the Bilu Town area of Mohnyin Township, Kachin State, the SNA (Shanni National Army), an affiliate of the military council, is reportedly forcibly detaining people for portering and recruiting them as soldiers, including elderly people and farmers, on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. It is known that the military council-affiliated SNA has been forcibly detaining and conscripting young people for a long time. However, due to a large number of young people fleeing their homes, the SNA is now resorting to arresting and conscripting the elderly and farmers instead.
- In Myitkyina, the incidents of unidentified armed groups abducting youths have increased. This is believed to be for the recruitment of new soldiers. On August 18<sup>th</sup>, there were reports of youths being abducted by two cars in the afternoon of August 18th at Sitapru ward. At the same day, a group of people in three cars attempted to detain three women, beating and arresting one of them.

- Bombing (Mind Explosion)

A bomb explosion occurred at the Myitkyina Private High School (All Star) after a group reportedly extorted money from an individual who refused to pay. Similar incidents of bombings at two other private schools were reported in June and April.

### **Indiscriminate Shelling and Casualties in Hpakant**

- August 2nd: The military council troops from the Hpakant Bama Hill base fired heavy artillery into Sharaw hka village, killing one civilian.
- August 3rd: From the same Hpakant Bama Hill base, heavy artillery was fired into San Khwel village, resulting in four civilian injuries.
- August 4th: Heavy artillery fired from the Hpakant Bama Hill base into Nyaung Phyu village resulted in two civilian deaths, including one child, and five injuries. On the same day, heavy artillery was again fired into Sharaw hka village, injuring two civilians.
- August 7th: The military council conducted an airstrike on Seng Tawng village in Hpakant Township, killing one civilian woman and injuring five others.
- August 7th: Another airstrike was conducted, causing further civilian casualties. Between August 3rd and 7th, at least nine civilians were killed due to both airstrikes and heavy artillery shelling.
- August 14th: A car carrying a driver and passengers was hit by a drone bomb at noon, resulting in the driver's immediate death, according to travelers. Military council troops and allied militia prevented passing civilians from assisting the deceased and the injured. Two injured individuals were left behind in Namya village.
- Unspecified Date: After a military council convoy was attacked at the entrance to Nam Ma town in Mohnyin District, a local woman was killed by a stray bullet from the indiscriminate shelling of heavy artillery fired by the Mohnyin 409 Artillery Unit.
- August 22nd: In Mawsi zar village, Hpakant Township, on the main road between Lonkhin and Hpakant, Ko Chit Naing, aged 45, was shot dead near a junction. Another man in his 30s was also shot dead not far from him.
- August 24th: A heavy artillery shell fired from the Northern Military Command (MaPaKha) towards Waingmaw fell and exploded in Rambu Ward, Ward 12, of Myitkyina town, killing one 13-year-old child and injuring two others.

- August 25th: In the Hpakant region where a woman was shot and killed just for looking at an advancing column of military council troops and allied militia who were firing their weapons and entering a village.
- August 25th: The combined column of military council troops and militia advancing from the Yanchet area of Lonkhin village, Hpakant town, Kachin State, fired shots, killing one civilian and injuring three others.
- Unspecified Date: In Shwegu town, Kachin State, three civilians were killed by the military council's indiscriminate heavy artillery shelling on the other side of the river, even though there was no fighting.
- August 27th: Four civilians were seriously injured by heavy artillery shells fired by the military in Hpakant town, Kachin State. heavy artillery was fired from the military's strategic hill base in Hpakant town, with the shells hitting Sut Ein Yan Middle Camp and Mye Zar Mhyaw Taik Camp, injuring four civilians.
- Unspecified Date: Local residents reported that the military council troops raided a birthday party being held at a jade miner's restaurant in Ma Shi Ka Taung ward, Hpakant Township, and arrested at least 10 people.
- August 31st & 29th: In Myitkyina town, Kachin State, two men were reportedly killed within three days. On the morning of August 31st, in Shwe Nyaung Pin ward, locals discovered a man who had died from about 10 stab wounds. The other incident occurred around 2:00 PM on August 29th in Jan Mai Kaung ward, Ward 12, where a man was killed during a fight between two friends.

### **Landmine Incidents**

- August 3rd: In Waingmaw town, Kachin State, a man died after stepping on a landmine, resulting in the amputation of his right leg. The victim, U Law Shine, aged 44, from Ward

### **Indiscriminate Firing and Damages**

- August 14th: The military council dropped a drone bomb on Sharaw hka village in Hpakant Township, severely injuring five civilians. The attack occurred around 1:00

- PM in the area where civilians were gathered in Rawang Kone, Shyaraw Hka village, and was reportedly carried out by the military from the Nyaung Pin Kone village. Those injured were: Than Shan Hkaing (16-year-old high school student) with an injury to the left side of his waist, Ko Win Naing (52) with a leg injury, Ko Ye Naing (56) with injuries all over his body, Ko Htoo Kyaw (57) with an injury to his right leg, and Ko Tin Htut (50) also with injuries.
- August 22nd: In Myitkyina town, Kachin State, a young man suffered severe gunshot wounds to his thigh. In Man Khein ward, a group of people walking along the concrete path was shot at from the bushes, seriously injuring a young man in his early 20s.
- Unspecified Date: In the Hpakant region, ten civilians, including two novice monks, were injured by heavy artillery shelling from the military council troops. The heavy artillery was fired all night from military bases at Hpakant Strategic Hill, Mashi Kathawng Chinese Temple, and Aye Mya Tharyar Ashin Gyi Hill. Shells landed and exploded in Hpakant Myoma Ward, Lonkhin, and Seng Tawng villages. The ten injured included five women (one of whom was a school teacher), two novice monks, and three men.
- August 24th: A heavy artillery landed and exploded on the Kachin Baptist Convention (KBC) church in Mutshet village, near Waingmaw town, Kachin State, causing damage due to the intense fighting between the military council troops and the KIA. The shell that hit the church may have been a heavy artillery round fired from the Infantry Battalion (58) base.

## **Battle News in Kachin State**

Throughout August 2025, fighting in Kachin State intensified across multiple fronts, particularly in Hpakant, Mohnyin, and Waingmaw townships. The Kachin Independence Army (KIA) and allied resistance forces launched several coordinated offensives against the Myanmar Military Council and its affiliated militias, while the Military Council responded with airstrikes, heavy artillery, and renewed ground assaults.

Fighting between the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) and the Myanmar Military Council intensified along the Irrawaddy River, particularly between Shwegu and Bhamo. Renewed clashes erupted when Military Council naval convoys stationed in Shwegu attempted to move upriver toward Bhamo on August 1st, leading to heavy fighting supported by airstrikes. The Military Council conducted at least ten bombing runs using jet fighters and Y12 aircraft while providing additional fire from ships on the river. Continuous engagements resulted in casualties among Military Council troops escorting the convoy.

The convoy, which departed from Mandalay in two groups on July 17th and 22nd, reached Bhamo on August 1st after a 15-day journey with significant air support. Upon arrival, the Military Council offloaded food, ammunition, and supplies while conducting four airstrikes to secure the area. According to KIA sources, the ships also carried more than 200 troops, 90 prisoners from Katha, and various materials including weapons and construction supplies. A 17-year-old girl in Kyun Gyi village, Bhamo, was reportedly killed in an airstrike during these operations.

The KIA launched several ambushes during the convoy's advance, damaging or burning three military ships near Malay and Sinbo village. Once reinforcements arrived in Bhamo, the Military Council began launching combined air and ground offensives, regaining the ability to sustain heavy combat operations.


By mid-August, pro-Military sources claimed the recapture of the MaTa/366 Artillery Base and Bhamo Airport. However, KIA Information Officer Colonel Naw Bu denied a full loss, reporting that both sides remained engaged in heavy fighting at these locations. The KIA continued to resist offensives despite increased aerial bombardments and ground assaults. On

August 23rd, the KIA ambushed a Military Council column advancing from the Armoured Vehicle Battalion (5014) toward LIB (236), reportedly annihilating one of the two columns involved.

In the Hpakant area, clashes escalated from early August as the KIA sought to regain lost positions. On August 4th, KIA forces recaptured the Lagat Kawng (Nyaung Pin Kone) military camp near Sharaw Hka village, which they had previously lost. Beginning on August 10th, approximately 150 troops from the Military Council and the MinzeThant Militia launched a joint offensive toward Namya village, situated between Hpakant and Kamaing. By August 14th, intense clashes continued along the Hpakant–Kamaing road as Military Council columns advanced from Kamaing and Mohnyin through Um Kahtawng and Lagat Kawng toward Nam Yar, resulting in three consecutive days of fighting. By late August, battles had expanded to multiple fronts, including Hmaw Wan Lay, Hmaw Wan Gyi, and Sut Hbum (Rubbish Dump) villages in Hpakant Township, where the Military Council maintained entrenched positions.

In the Mohnyin area, hostilities broke out between the Military Council-aligned Shanni National Army (SNA) and the Hopin People’s Defense Force (KPDF-Hopin) on August 1st in Inngyin Kone village, Pin Hmaw tract. The village remained an SNA stronghold with around 70 stationed troops. By mid-August, the KIA and allied PDF forces shifted momentum in the Indawgyi region. On August 15th and 16th, the joint forces launched an assault on Mine Naung and Ma Mon Kaing villages, successfully capturing military camps held for a month by the Military Council and SNA. Despite persistent airstrikes, the KIA and KPDF maintained control of both camps. However, a 22-year-old civilian security guard was killed by shelling and bombing near A mike Pon and Sut Nan Kawng villages during the same period. On August 18th, the KIA had regained Ma Mon Kaing village, while clashes continued in nearby Mine Naung.

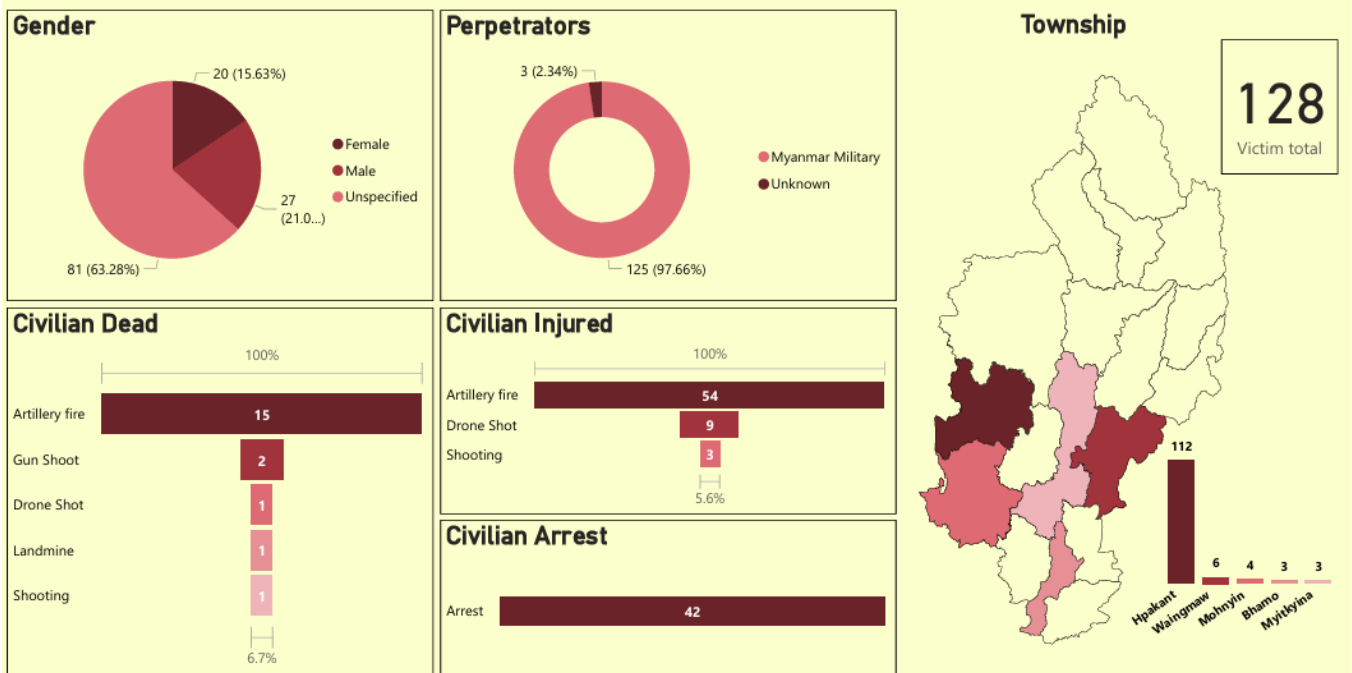
In the Waingmaw area, hostilities flared again in late August, accompanied by heavy air and artillery attacks. On August 26th, intense airstrikes near La Myan village, with jet fighters conducting at least four bombing runs between 7:00 and 1:00. On August 27th, the situation worsened as troops from the Northern Military Command (MaPaKha) in Myitkyina began indiscriminately shelling the Waingmaw area, firing heavy artillery throughout the night. Tanks and armoured vehicles were deployed as the Military Council sought to reclaim positions lost



to KIA offensives. Fighting in Waingmaw and along the eastern riverbank of Myitkyina remains ongoing, marked by persistent bombardments and intensified ground assaults.

By the end of August, the Kachin frontlines in Hpakant, Mohnyin, and Waingmaw remained volatile. The KIA and its allied forces regained several key positions but continued to face heavy airstrikes and artillery fire. The Military Council, bolstered by militia support and reinforcements, maintained aggressive offensives despite sustaining casualties across multiple fronts. The use of airpower and indiscriminate shelling in populated areas has heightened civilian risks, with displacement and casualties increasing across all three regions as of late August 2025.

# Civilian Casualties In Kachin State – August 2025 Snapshot



## Civilian Casualties – Kachin State (August 2025)

In August 2025, Kachin State recorded a total of 128 civilian victims resulting from the ongoing armed conflict between the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) and the Myanmar Military Council. The data indicate a sustained pattern of civilian harm, primarily from artillery bombardments and airstrikes conducted by the Myanmar Military, with the majority of casualties concentrated in Hpakant Township. Arbitrary detention with many reasons remains a persistent issue, with 42 civilians arrested in August, primarily in areas of heightened military presence such as Bhamo and Hpakant. These arrests often coincide with troop movements and counter-insurgency sweeps, suggesting a pattern of preemptive repression targeting suspected sympathizers of resistance groups.

## Geographic Distribution

Hpakant remained the most severely affected area, accounting for 112 out of 128 total victims, or nearly 88% of all reported casualties. Smaller numbers were recorded in Waingmaw (6 victims), Mohnyin (4 victims), Bhamo (3 victims), and Myitkyina (3 victims). This geographic pattern aligns with the locations of intense military operations reported throughout August,

particularly in Hpakant and Waingmaw townships, where both ground offensives and airstrikes were frequent.

### **Perpetrators**

The Myanmar Military was identified as the perpetrator in 97.66% of all incidents, responsible for 125 of the 128 documented cases. Only 3 cases (2.34%) had unidentified perpetrators. This overwhelming attribution reflects the Myanmar Military's continued reliance on heavy weaponry, airpower, and artillery in populated zones, resulting in widespread collateral damage and civilian suffering.

### **Gender Breakdown**

Among the victims, 63.28% were male (81 individuals), 15.63% female (20 individuals), and 21.09% unspecified (27 individuals). The high proportion of male victims may be associated with targeted arrests, proximity to active conflict zones, or suspicion of association with local defense groups.

### **Types of Civilian Harm**

Civilian deaths totaled 20 individuals, with the leading cause being artillery fire (15 deaths), followed by gunfire (2 deaths), drone strikes (1 death), landmines (1 death), and shootings (1 death). Civilian injuries were significantly higher, with 66 injured—54 from artillery fire, 9 from drone attacks, and 3 from small-arms fire. The data underscores the growing lethality of long-range bombardments and aerial strikes in densely populated or semi-urban areas.

The August 2025 snapshot reveals a continuation of the Myanmar Military's high-intensity operations in Kachin State, disproportionately impacting civilians. The predominance of artillery- and airstrike-related casualties demonstrates the ongoing use of indiscriminate tactics, while the geographic concentration in Hpakant suggests that the region remains a primary conflict zone. Civilian arrests further indicate the expansion of military control measures in contested areas. The data collectively highlights the urgent humanitarian implications of escalating warfare in Kachin State, where civilian safety and access to aid remain severely compromised.

30 Aug 2025, Hpakant- Mana Village

1 Civilian Dead and 2 Civilian Injured by Myanmar Military's Artillery fire



4 Aug 2025- Hpakant, Myauk Phyu Village

4 Civilian Dead by Myanmar Military's Artillery fire



14 Aug 2025- Hpakant- Namya Road

1 Civilian Dead,2 Civilian Injured by Myanmar

Military's drone shot.

