



Incident Report

September 30th, 2019 / KHRG Log # 19-58-11

Hpapun Incident Report: Physical abuse against a child and confiscation of property by a BGF Corporal in Dwe Lo Township, May 2019

On May 7th 2019, a 16-year-old novice monk sustained head injuries after he was hit by a Border Guard Force (BGF)¹ Corporal near O--- village, Dwe Lo Township, Hpapun District. The victim was admitted to the Ka Ma Maung public hospital, where he received treatment for three days. The BGF Corporal also confiscated the car in which the victim was travelling. The victim received no compensation, and the local population is too afraid to report the incident.²

Part 1 – Incident Details

Type of Incident	Physical abuse and confiscation of property
Date of Incident(s)	May 7 th 2019
Incident Location (Village, Township and District)	O--- village, Lay Poh Htah village tract, Dwe Lo Township, Mutraw District [Hpapun District]

Victim Information	
Name	[Unknown]
Age	16
Sex	Male
Ethnicity	Karen
Family	Single
Religion	Buddhist
Organisation	S--- monastery

¹ Border Guard Force (BGF) battalions of the Tamadaw were established in 2010, and they are composed mostly of soldiers from former non-state armed groups, such as older constellations of the DKBA, which have formalised ceasefire agreements with the Burma/Myanmar government and agreed to transform into battalions within the Tamadaw.

² The present document is based on information received in July 2019. It was provided by a community member in Hpapun District who has been trained by KHRG to monitor human rights conditions on the ground. The names of the victims, their photos and the exact locations are censored for security reasons.

Position	Shin Thar Ma Nay (novice monk)
Village	C--- village

Perpetrator Information				
Name(s)	Rank	Unit	Base	Commander's Name
Saw Moe Hein	Corporal	BGF Battalion #1014	Ta Dar Oo village, Lay Poe Hta village tract, Dwe Lo Township	BGF Battalion Commander [Bo] ³ Saw Maung Chit

Part 2 - Information Quality

1. Explain in detail how you collected this information.

This information was given by a civilian from Ka Ma Maung Town.

2. Explain how the source verified this information.

The source got this information from a relative who witnessed the incident.

Part 3 – Complete Description of the Incident

Describe the Incident(s) in complete detail.

This human rights violation happened on May 7th 2019 near O--- village, Lay Po Htah village tract, Dwe Lo Township, Mutraw District [Hpapun District]. A 16-year-old novice monk was travelling to Ka Ma Maung Town by car with two other novices, a monastery administrator and a monastery driver. At 3:00 PM, they were stopped by BGF #1014 Corporal Saw Moe Hein at a BGF checkpoint along one of the motorways connecting O--- village and C--- village.

Corporal Saw Moe Hein then hit the 16-year-old novice in the head with the butt of his revolver, causing him an open wound. He alleged that he hit the novice because he grabbed his gun. Saw Moe Hein also confiscated the car, which is now being used by the BGF.

With the help of local villagers, the injured novice monk was taken to the Ka Ma Muang public hospital, where he received treatment for three days. The treatment was not supported by the BGF or any other organisation. Villagers living around the hospital provided food to the victim while he was receiving treatment. The local population is too afraid to talk about or report this incident because it involved a BGF Corporal.

³ *Bo* is a Burmese title meaning ‘officer.’

Part 4 - Permission for Using the Details

Did the victim(s) provide permission to use this information? Explain how that permission was provided.

KHRG was unable to approach the victim due to security concerns. The name, age, gender and place of residence of the source were censored for security reasons.

Further background reading on human rights abuses committed by BGF soldiers in Southeast Myanmar can be found in the following KHRG reports:

- ["Hpa-an Incident Report: A BGF Commander punched a village head in Nabu Township, June 2019"](#), (August 2019)
- ["Hpapun Incident Report: Physical abuse by a BGF soldier in Bu Tho Township, April 2019"](#), (August 2019)
- ["Hpapun Incident Report: A village head sustained serious injuries after being tortured by BGF #1014 in Bu Tho Township, November 2018"](#), (December 2018)
- ["Hpapun Incident Report: Violent threats and physical abuse by BGF #1013 soldier in Dwe Lo Township, March 2017"](#), (March 2018)

About KHRG

Founded in 1992, the Karen Human Rights Group is an independent local organisation committed to improving the human rights situation in Southeast Myanmar. KHRG trains local people to document and gather evidence of human rights abuses, and publishes this information to project the voices, experiences and perspectives of local communities. More examples of our work can be seen online at www.khrq.org.

Mutraw (Hpapun) District

