



# Karen Human Rights Group

Documenting the voices of villagers in rural Burma

## Incident Report

May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025 / KHRG # 25-127-I1

## Dooplaya District Incident Report: SAC shelling killed a villager in Kruh Tuh Township, April 2025.

*This Incident Report describes events occurring in Kruh Tuh Township, Dooplaya District, in April 2025. On April 1<sup>st</sup> 2025, at 5 pm, State Administration Council (SAC) soldiers from Military Operations Command (MOC) #12 Artillery, based in Hlaing Wa camp, near Kaw T'Ree Town (Kaw T'Ree Township), fired five 120 mm mortar rounds into Aa--- village, Myauk Kya Inn village tract, Kruh Tuh Township. A mortar shell landed next to a villager's house and killed the villager on the spot. Her dog was also killed, and the roof of her house was damaged. The victim's family members did not receive humanitarian support from any organisation.<sup>1</sup>*

### Part 1 – Incident Details

<b>Type of Incident</b>	[Shelling.] After the earthquake, SAC [State Administration Council <sup>2</sup> ] soldiers fired mortar shells into a village and killed a woman.
<b>Date of Incident(s)</b>	April 4 <sup>th</sup> 2025
<b>Incident Location (Village, Township and District)</b>	Aa--- village, Myauk Kya Inn village tract <sup>3</sup> , Kruh Tuh Township, Dooplaya District.

Victim Information	
<b>Name</b>	Naw <sup>4</sup> A---
<b>Age</b>	57 years old
<b>Gender</b>	Woman
<b>Ethnicity</b>	Karen

<sup>1</sup> The present document is based on information received in April 2025. It was provided by a community member in Dooplaya 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. The parts in square brackets are explanations added by KHRG. This document combines several received reports with the following KHRG internal log numbers: #25-127-I1 and #25-121-A1-I1.

<sup>2</sup> The State Administration Council (SAC) is the executive governing body created in the aftermath of the February 1st 2021 military coup. It was established by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on February 2nd 2021, and is composed of eight military officers and eight civilians. The chairperson serves as the de facto head of government of Burma/Myanmar and leads the Military Cabinet of Myanmar, the executive branch of the government. Min Aung Hlaing assumed the role of SAC chairperson following the coup.

<sup>3</sup> A village tract is an administrative unit of between five and 20 villages in a local area, often centred on a large village.

<sup>4</sup> 'Naw' is a S'gaw Karen female honorific title used before a person's name.

<b>Marital Status</b>	Married
<b>Occupation</b>	Farmer
<b>Religion</b>	Buddhist
<b>Position</b>	Villager
<b>Village</b>	Aa--- village, Myauk Kya Inn village tract, Kruh Tuh Township, Doooplaya District.

<b>Perpetrator Information (Armed Actors)</b>				
<b>Name(s)</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Base</b>	<b>Commander's Name</b>
Unknown	Unknown	Military Operations Command (MOC) <sup>5</sup> #12 [Artillery]	Hlaing Wa Artillery Unit [army camp, Hlaing Wa area, near Kaw T'Ree Town] in Kaw T'Ree Township.	Unknown.

## **Part 2 - Information Quality**

### **1. Explain in detail how this information was collected.**

[A KHRG researcher] saw the information on [the Karen National Union (KNU)<sup>6</sup>'s] Doooplaya District social media [page] and contacted the [Kruh Tuh] Township's [KNU] Documentation Group<sup>7</sup>. Then, [the KHRG researcher] conducted an interview with a family member of the victim [named Naw B---].

### **2. Explain how the source verified this information.**

Naw B--- provided this information. She is the victim [Naw A---]'s daughter-in-law. She was present at the incident place when the mortar shell landed and killed her mother-in-law.

## **Part 3 – Complete Description of the Incident**

### **Describe the Incident(s) in complete detail.**

On April 1<sup>st</sup> 2025 at 5 pm, after the earthquake [that occurred on March 28<sup>th</sup> 2025], SAC soldiers from MOC #12, based at the Hlaing Wa Artillery Unit [camp], in Kaw T'Ree Township, fired five 120 mm mortar rounds, despite the [fact that] fighting had not happened near the army camp on that day. These five mortar shells landed in Aa--- village [area], Myauk Kya Inn village tract, Kruh Tuh Township, Doooplaya District. The first and second mortar shells landed outside the village. The third mortar shell landed [and exploded] next to the house of a villager named Naw A---, and killed Naw A--- and her dog as well as damaged the roof of the house. The other

<sup>5</sup> Military Operations Command (MOC) is comprised of ten battalions for offensive operations. Most MOCs have three Tactical Operations Commands (TOCs) made up of three battalions each.

<sup>6</sup> The Karen National Union (KNU) is the main Karen political organisation. It was established in 1947 and has been in conflict with the government since 1949. The KNU wields power across large areas of Southeast Myanmar and has been calling for the creation of a democratic federal system since 1976. Although it signed the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) in 2015, following the 2021 coup staged by Burma Army leaders, the KNU officially stated that the NCA has become void.

<sup>7</sup> This documentation team, formed by a group of researchers, is founded by the district Karen National Union (KNU) authorities, and hence they are part of the KNU district staff members. Their role is to collect and document human rights violations on the ground and share them with KNU's Township and District staff, which then will be shared with the general public through the KNU's media pages and website.

two mortar shells landed in another villager's [coconut] plantation and did not cause much damage [only to some coconut trees].

Naw A--- was talking on the phone with her daughter in front of the house. A mortar shell landed next to her and the shrapnel hit her on the nape. She fell to the ground and fainted. Then, her son came to her and tried to wake her up. Naw B--- [the victim's daughter-in-law] explained [to KHRG]: *"Her [Naw A---'s] son kept calling her and she regained consciousness for a short period of time. I asked her son to bring her to the house. She told us that she had been hit on her eardrum. She told her son, 'do not worry for me'. She was able to speak only two words. She said that she had been hit on her eardrum. Actually, she had been hit on her nape. She might have thought that she had been hit on her eardrum."* Naw A--- fainted immediately after she was hit by the shrapnel. She regained conscious shortly before her son [Naw B---'s husband] took her into the house. After she was brought into the house, she lost consciousness again until she died.

On April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2025, the victim's family members, villagers, and religious leaders [from Aa--- village, Myauk Kya Inn village tract] cremated Naw A---'s body. The victim's relatives and villagers provided some money for Naw A---'s funeral ceremony. However, the victim's family members did not receive any [additional] support from any [humanitarian] organisation.

Regarding this incident, Naw B--- stated: *"I want to say [that the SAC should] fire shells at those who attacked them. They [SAC] conducted shelling into a village, but there was no enemy [armed resistance group] living in the village. The shelling landed in the village and injured my mother-in-law."*

Starting since the [2021] military coup, [fighting, shelling, and air strikes] had displaced villagers from Myauk Kya Inn village tract, Kruh Tuh Township, Dooplaya District.<sup>8</sup> However, recently [in March 2025] the villagers returned to their villages because SAC soldiers were no longer based at the bridge located between Taung Kya Inn village tract and Myauk Kya Inn village tract. Despite the earthquake [on March 28<sup>th</sup> 2025], the SAC soldiers conducted shelling. As a result, villagers are facing insecurity in their lives.



The photo on the right was received from a family member of the victim on April 4<sup>th</sup> 2025. It shows Naw A---'s dead body in her house in Aa--- village, Myauk Kya Inn village tract, Kruh Tuh Township, Dooplaya District. On

<sup>8</sup> See also: KHRG, ["Dooplaya District Incident Report: SAC shelling killed a villager in Kruh Tuh Township, October 2024"](#), April 2025

April 1<sup>st</sup> 2025, SAC soldiers from MOC #12, based at the Hlaing Wa Artillery Unit camp in Kaw T'Ree Township, fired five 120 mm mortar rounds into Aa--- village area. A mortar shell landed in front of Naw A---'s house, killing her and damaging the house. The photo on the left was taken by a KHRG researcher in April 2025, in Aa--- village, Myauk Kya Inn village, and shows the roof of Naw A---'s house that was damaged by shrapnel from SAC mortar shelling on April 1<sup>st</sup> 2025. *[Photos: KHRG/local villager]*.

## **Part 4 - Permission for Using the Details**

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

The information, photos and interview can be used [since the victim's family member gave permission to KHRG.]

Further background reading on the situation on Shelling in Dooplaya District in Southeast Burma/Myanmar can be found in the following KHRG reports:

- [“Dooplaya District Incident Report: SAC shelling killed a villager in Kruh Tuh Township, October 2024.”](#), April 2025.
- [“Dooplaya District Situation Update: SAC air strikes and shelling caused death, injury, damage, and displacement in Kaw T'Ree Township \(December 2023 to March 2024\)”](#), March 2025.
- [“Dooplaya District Situation Update: SAC shelling and fighting causing casualties, destruction, and displacement; healthcare and livelihood challenges; land confiscation; and drug issues in Noh T'Kaw and Kruh Tuh Townships \(November 2023 to February 2024\)”](#), February 2025
- [ကဘီယုပဲလ် Aircraft coming! : Impacts of air strikes on local communities and villagers' protection strategies in Southeast Burma since the 2021 coup.](#), November 2024.

### **About KHRG**

Founded in 1992, Karen Human Rights Group is an independent local organisation committed to improving the human rights situation in Southeast Burma. 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](http://www.khrq.org).



