



Incident Report

June 3, 2014 / KHRG #14-22-16

Toungoo Incident Report: Motorbike accident kills villager in Thandaunggyi Township, August 2013

This Incident Report describes a motorbike accident between a Tatmadaw commander and a villager from A--- resulting in the villager's death. Villagers at the scene reported that the commander was intoxicated when he crashed into the villager's motorbike and that he attempted to flee the scene. No action was taken against the commander and the family of the victim reported implicit threats against them should they bring the case to court.

Incident Report | Thandaunggyi Township, Toungoo District (August 2013)

The following Incident Report was written by a community member who has been trained by KHRG to monitor human rights abuses. It is presented below translated exactly as originally written, save for minor edits for clarity and security.¹ This report was received in March 2014 along with other information from Toungoo District, including seven other incident reports, six interviews, 89 photographs and five video clips.²

Part 1 – Incident(s) Detail

Type of Incident	Motorbike accident
Date of Incident(s)	August 15 th 2013
Incident Location (Village, Township and District)	B--- village, Thandaunggyi Township, Toungoo District

Victim Information								
Name	Age	Sex	Nationality	Religion	Family	Occupation	Responsible	Village

¹ KHRG trains community members in eastern Burma to document individual incidents of abuse using a standardised reporting format; conduct interviews with other villagers; and write general updates on the situation in areas with which they are familiar. When writing incident reports, community members are encouraged to document incidents of abuse that they consider to be important, by verifying information from multiple sources, assessing for potential biases and comparing to local trends.

² In order to increase the transparency of KHRG methodology and more directly communicate the experiences and perspectives of villagers in eastern Burma, KHRG aims to make all field information received available on the KHRG website once it has been processed and translated, subject only to security considerations. For additional reports categorized by Type, Issue, Location and Year, please see the Related Readings component following each report on KHRG's Website.

Saw Kweh Si	40	Male	Karen	Christian		Gardening	Villager	A--- village
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Perpetrator Information				
Name	Rank	Unit	Base	Commander
N/A	Commander	Cantonment Area	Ba Yin Naung Camp, Thandaunggyi town	Mya Kyaw

Part 2 - Information Quality

1. Explain the specific manner how you collected this information.

I received this information from a friend of Saw Kweh Si.

2. Explain how the source verified information accuracy.

This is true information because the person who gave me [this] information went to the accident place and helped his friend.

Part 3 – Incident Details

Describe the incident(s) in complete detail. For each incident, be sure to include 1) when the incident happened, 2) where it happened, 3) what happened, 4) how it happened, 5) who was involved, and 6) why it happened. Also describe any villager response(s) to the incident, the aftermath and the current living situation of the victims. Please, use the space prepared below and create attach if needed.

Many [Tatmadaw] commanders from different army bases came to Ba Yin Naung Camp on August 15th 2013 to attend commander training. Some of them hired a car and some of them came with their own motorbike. Saw Kweh Si from A--- village departed from his village to Toungoo city by motorbike on August 15th 2013 at 3:30 pm to buy things that his family needed. A [Tatmadaw] commander who was going to the commander training driving a motorbike at high speed crashed [into] him when he reached a corner at B--- village near A--- village, where he [Saw Kweh Si] died instantly. Some villagers heard about the accident and some people saw it with their [own] eyes. Saw Kweh Si was already dead when the villagers went to him to help. The commander scolded the villagers and tried to run away [from the scene], but the villagers told him that there would be more problems if he ran away. The commander then phoned his superior officer and an officer from the cantonment area came and took him with him and they left Saw Kweh Si [at the scene]. The villagers complained about it to the [local] police but they replied that they have no right to give punishment because this case is affiliated with the Tatmadaw army, and they sent the corpse of Saw Kweh Si to the morgue at Toungoo Hospital. The family went there to take back the corpse, but they had to pay money. The [Tatmadaw] General Mya Kyaw did not even visit the family till the completion of a week [mourning period] and said that the family must not submit the case to the court. They [the Tatmadaw] said they would accuse [threaten]³ the family if they submitted the case to the court. The commander was drunk and crashed [into] the motorbike

³ In this instance, KHRG does not know the exact nature of the accusations the family of the victim would face if they brought the case to court. However, such language by authorities are often implicit threats of intimidation or harassment.

of Saw Kweh Si. No action was taken regarding this accident.

Part 4 - Permission for Using the Details

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

The person who gave us this information does not want us to mention his name.

Further background reading on the situation in Toungoo District can be found in the following KHRG reports:

- “Toungoo Incident Report: Tatmadaw Transport Rations and Ammunition in Thandaunggyi Township, December 2013,” (May 2014)
- “Toungoo Incident Report: Sexual Assault in Thandaunggyi Township, December 2013,” (May 2014)
- “Toungoo Incident Report: Villagers Request Improved Communication Between KNU and Local Community, Htantabin Township, September 2012,” (May 2014)
- *Truce or Transition? Trends in Human Rights Abuse and Local Response in Southeast Myanmar Since the 2012 Ceasefire*, (May 2014)
- “Toungoo Situation Update: Than Daung and Tantabin Townships, February to July 2013,” (January 2014)

