



## Incident Report

April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 / KHRG # 23-59-I1

## Kler Lwee Htoo District Incident Report: A child was killed by SAC shelling in Moo Township, December 2022

*This Incident Report describes events that occurred in Moo (Mone) Township, Kler Lwee Htoo (Nyaunglebin) District in December 2022. On December 26<sup>th</sup> 2022, at about 8:00 pm, State Administration Council (SAC) soldiers indiscriminately shelled mortars at H--- village, Paw Pee Der village tract, Moo Township, Kler Lwee Htoo District, killing a 7-year-old girl on the spot when one of the mortar shells landed on her grandfather's house. Following the incident, some of the villagers fled to their fields, huts, or to other towns, as they feared further incidents.<sup>1</sup>*

### Part 1 – Incident Details

<b>Type of Incident</b>	A girl was killed by State Administration Council (SAC) <sup>2</sup> shelling
<b>Date of Incident(s)</b>	December 26 <sup>th</sup> 2022
<b>Incident Location (Village, Township and District)</b>	H---village, Paw Pee Der village tract <sup>3</sup> , Moo (Mone) Township, Kler Lwee Htoo (Nyaunglebin) District

Victim Information	
<b>Name</b>	Ma <sup>4</sup> T---
<b>Age</b>	7 years old
<b>Sex</b>	Female
<b>Ethnicity</b>	Burmese

<sup>1</sup> The present document is based on information received in February 2023. It was provided by a community member in Kler Lwee Htoo 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.

<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> Ma is a Burmese female honorific title used before a person's name.

<b>Family</b>	Single
<b>Occupation</b>	Villager
<b>Religion</b>	Buddhist
<b>Position</b>	Villager
<b>Village</b>	H--- village, Paw Pee Der village tract, Moo Township, Kler Lwee Htoo 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	Light Infantry Battalion (LIB) <sup>5</sup> #590	Yin Aoh Sin army camp, Paw Pee Der village tract, Moo Township	Unknown

## **Part 2 - Information Quality**

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

On January 9<sup>th</sup> 2023, a villager who witnessed this incident provided the information to a KHRG researcher.

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

A KHRG researcher received this information from a villager who witnessed the incident.

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

**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 an attachment if needed.**

On December 26<sup>th</sup> 2022, three Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA)<sup>6</sup> soldiers [from Kler Lwee Htoo District, Battalion #8] attacked SAC soldiers based in H--- village, Paw Pee Der village tract, Moo Township, Kler Lwee Htoo District. [Later the same day,] at about 8:00 pm,

<sup>5</sup> A Light Infantry Battalion (LIB) comprises 500 soldiers. Most Light Infantry Battalions in the Tatmadaw are under-strength with less than 200 soldiers, yet up-to-date information regarding the size of battalions is hard to come by, particularly following the signing of the NCA. LIBs are primarily used for offensive operations, but they are sometimes used for garrison duties.

<sup>6</sup> The Karen National Liberation Army is the armed wing of the Karen National Union.

SAC soldiers of LIB #590 based in Yin Aoh Sin camp, as well as SAC soldiers located in H--- village, indiscriminately shelled [several] mortar shells at H--- village, damaging a kindergarten. Some of the shelling also landed close to Saw<sup>7</sup> M---'s [a villager] house and the river bank. Another mortar shell landed on U<sup>8</sup> A---'s [another villager] house and killed his granddaughter, Ma T---, a 7-year-old child. She passed away on the spot at the time of the incident [after sustaining an injury to her neck by the shrapnel]. Ma T--- stayed with her grandfather because her parents went out for work.



These two pictures were sent by a local leader from H---village, Paw Pee Der village tract, Moo Township, Kler Lwee Htoo District on December 26<sup>th</sup> 2022. The picture on the left shows the victim's corpse. The picture on the right shows the victim before the incident. [Photos: villager]

[Due to the armed clashes and the indiscriminate shelling incident mentioned above,] the villagers were afraid and stayed inside their homes. After the incident, villagers were afraid, so some fled to town, while others fled to their fields, huts, and to the nearby jungle. Some villagers dug bunkers under their homes for their safety.

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

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

The villager who provided this information and the victim's family gave KHRG permission to use it.

<sup>7</sup> Saw is a S'gaw Karen male honorific title used before a person's name.

<sup>8</sup> U is a Burmese title used for elder men, used before their name.

Further background reading on the security and human rights situation in Kler Lwee Htoo District in Southeast Burma can be found in the following KHRG reports:

- [“Kler Lwee Htoo District Situation Update: Displacement, food insecurity, and health care challenges, June to July 2022”](#), March 2023.
- [“Kler Lwee Htoo District Short Update: Fighting, indiscriminate shelling, displacement, air strikes, and limited access to education, August to September 2022”](#), March 2023.
- [“Kler Lwee Htoo District Incident Report: SAC arbitrarily killing of a villager near his farm hut, Moo Township, September 2022”](#), February 2023.
- [“Kler Lwee Htoo District Incident Report: SAC soldiers shot dead a female villager in Moo Township, November 2022”](#), February 2023.

### About KHRG

Founded in 1992, the 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.khr.org](http://www.khr.org).

# Kler Lwee Htoo (Nyaunglebin) District

