

PRAYERS FOR MYANMAR

Shared by Australian Burmese, Karen
and Kachin Baptist leaders (April 2021)



**BAPTIST
WORLD AID
AUSTRALIA**
Be love. End poverty.

(Burma, today known as Myanmar, is a country situated in South East Asia, bordering Thailand, Laos, China, India and Bangladesh with a population of 55 million)

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Background

The recent coup d'état on 1 February 2021 was triggered by a landslide victory of National League for Democracy in the November 2020 general election. The public responded through peaceful demonstrations which students and government workers led as a Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM). Sadly, the demonstrations were met with a brutal armed response and many young people were killed.

The escalation of military offenses in the major cities continues, according to civilians. Many are saying that, 'we are IDP [Internally Displaced People] in our own cities'. The night census and curfew is in place and CDM participants cannot sleep in their own homes for fear of arrest. Some leaders, students and government workers have fled to the border areas for safety, but the border areas are already a vulnerable place and resources are scarce. From early March 2021 the military began its aerial and ground offences in ethnic areas which saw more civilians displaced and some attempt to cross the Thai Burma border.

Christians make up 6.5 per cent of the population (3 million people), with churches serving those living in poverty and providing a place of refuge for those in need. Doing this alone poses a danger for Christians, as they expose themselves to persecution and imprisonment. Despite the atrocities, oppression and series of events that have occurred in Myanmar, God is at work in his people, sustaining his church and the Gospel, and calling on Christians everywhere to pray.

Please pray:

- For violence to end in Myanmar immediately, the government regime to find a common humanity and for the light of the Gospel to reach their hearts. (2 **Timothy 2:1-4**)
- For these vulnerable IDP's so that the Lord will strengthen their faith and for his protection and provision. (**Luke 6:20-21**)
- For protection of the younger generations, the student leaders especially for the believers to be guided by the Lord. (1 **Corinthians 10:13**)
- For those who are imprisoned unjustly
- For innocent children, vulnerable people, and families who have fled from their homes due to the Myanmar military attacks
- For the international community to respond with justice, wisdom and practical care for those in Myanmar
- For the neighbouring countries to show mercy (**Micah 6:8**)
- For the Lord to sustain the spiritual and physical needs of Christian believers who continue to do God's work throughout the region there. (**Philippians 4:19**)
- For God's presence to be evident throughout Myanmar and his name to be glorified.