

## **Victims of violent crackdowns**

(What Matters No. 7)

Since after the February 1, 2021 coup d'état, mass protests against the military takeover of power have erupted across Myanmar. As of March 11, there have been at least 72 deaths because of the Coup Council's violent crackdowns on the protestors or the injuries inflicted during custody at the detention centers or shooting by the security forces during the night self-patrolling of the civilians for the community security. At the same time, many people were injured. There have also been widespread human rights and dignity violations. As of March 11, the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP) had recorded the death toll of 69 people. There may be many who are not yet on this list.

The death toll has risen by more than 20 in just one week, compared to the figures described in What Matters No. 2 (published on March 5, 2021, on the ISP-Myanmar Facebook page) of last week. Adolescents between the ages of 14 and 20 are still among the highest deaths while that of the age group of 31-40 years old followed the second-highest death tolls. The number of headshot victims increased by more than 50 percent from the previous week (What Matters No.2, data as of March 4, 2021), increased from more than 10 to 22 this week, which has accounted for 30 percent of the total deaths to date. Yangon and Mandalay topped the death list, and the death toll in Magway Division has risen to eight in a week.

### **I Why does it matter?**

By looking at the death tolls, the targeted victims who were shot, and the body parts that were shot using lethal forces during the violent crackdowns, it can be assessed whether the security forces were in compliance with the internationally agreed rules and regulations in dealing with protestors. These are important data that can be explored from a human rights approach and a transitional justice perspective.

### **I Further readings**

The Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP) has recorded detailed data about the anti-coup protestors, the number and cause of death, how the security personnel has dealt with

mass protests, and the reports on violations of human rights and dignity. Daily logs are also available on the AAPP website and Facebook pages. Information can also be sent to AAPP for those who are not yet on the list.

◉ What Matters

ISP-Myanmar covers a section entitled "What Matters" that could benefit the current anti-coup mass movements through a series of research work. This section aims to introduce issues and data that should be addressed in a short, easy-to-read manner and accessible to everyone based on research findings. The introduced facts, cases, and data are intended to be a thought-provoking stimulus, but not as a definite view. The purpose is to make the data presented more accurate and complete.

In this series, ISP would try to answer three questions in general:

- 1) what is the issue of concern?;
- 2) why does it matter?
- 3) is it relevant for Myanmar?

Addressing these questions does not involve an exhaustive examination but covers the relevant elements and claims. Thus, each issue of "What Matters" provides a list of suggested readings and references for further study.

In the current situation, this section will focus on research findings related to three research topics. These are:

- 1) research findings related to coup d'état
- 2) research findings on mass movements
- 3) research findings on how the international community (especially powerful foreign countries that can provide significant support ) intervened in military coups and the authoritarian states.

The research will be based on comparative studies. Research data collected by local partner organizations will also be requested and respectfully presented in various forms from time to time.

WHAT MATTERS (7)  
**Victims of violent crackdowns**  
From February 1 to March 11, 2021

■ **Death Toll**

**72+**

During the mass protests between February 1 to March 11, 2021, there had been at least 72 deaths, as of March 11, caused by the Coup Council's violent crackdowns on the protestors or the injuries sustained during the detention or the shootings to the civilian night patrols for the community. As of March 11, the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP) reports 69 deaths. However, many more deaths and injuries could remain unrecorded.

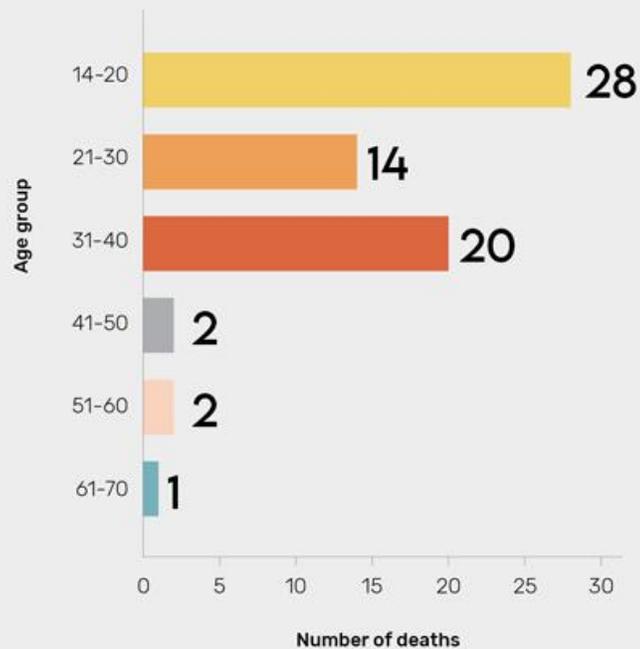
Within a week, the total death toll increased by 20 from over 50 to more than 70 from March 5 to 11, 2021.

WHAT MATTERS (7)  
Victims of violent crackdowns  
From February 1 to March 11, 2021

■ Death Toll by Age Group

From February 1 to March 11, 2021 over 70 deaths of civilians were caused by the Coup Council's violent crackdowns on the protestors or the injuries sustained during the detention or the shootings to the civilian night patrols for the community. However, the age analysis only included 67 people whose personal data were available. The analysis indicates that the adolescents' group between the ages of 14 to 20 has the highest number of deaths among the other age groups. It is followed by the age group of 31-40 years with 20 deaths.

Among the deaths recorded between February 1 to March 4, 2021, there were 20 deaths of the age group 14-20 years; 10 deaths of the age group 21-30 years, and seven deaths of the age group 31-40 years, two deaths of the age group 41-50 years and one death of the age group 51-60 years (Refer to What Matters - 2). From March 5 to March 11, the weekly death toll has kept rising with eight more deaths of the age group 14-20 years, and the death toll of the age group 31-40 years went up more than double compared to that of the last week.



Source: The confirmed data from the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP) are used for this graph and analysis.

WHAT MATTERS (7)  
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■ **Victims of headshots**

**22+**

From February 1 to March 11, 2021 there had been over 70 deaths of civilians caused by the Coup Council's violent crackdowns on the protestors or the injuries sustained during the detention or the shootings to the civilian night patrols for the community, among them at least 22 victims were due to the deliberate headshots.

Among the 50 deaths recorded from February 1 to March 4, 2021, more than ten victims were due to headshots (Refer to What Matters - 2). By March 11, the number of casualties due to the headshots went up to more than 22. Thus, it can conclude that 30 percent of the total casualties were due to deliberate headshots.

Source: The confirmed data from the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP) are used for this graph and analysis.

WHAT MATTERS (7)  
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■ Deaths by Gender



66+

From February 1 to March 11, over 70 people casualties were caused by the Coup Council's violent crackdowns on the protestors or the injuries sustained during the detention or the shootings to the civilian night patrols for the community, 66 were male, and six were female.

Among the 50 deaths recorded from February 1 to March 4, 2021, 42 were male. Within one week, the number of male casualties increased by 24.



6+

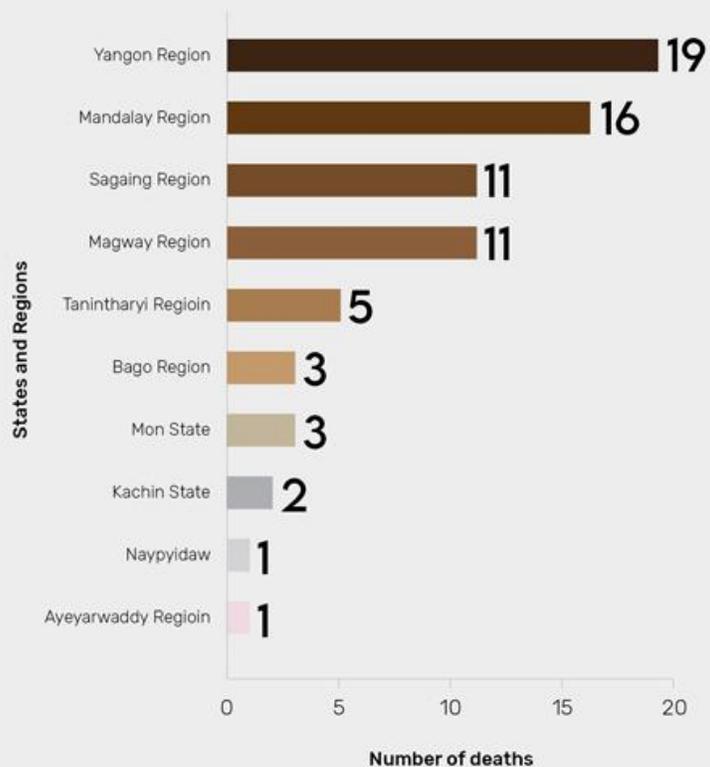
Source: The confirmed data from the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP) are used for this graph and analysis.

WHAT MATTERS (7)  
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From February 1 to March 11, 2021

■ Deaths by Region

From February 1 to March 11, there had been 72 people casualties caused by the Coup Council's violent crackdowns on the protestors or the injuries sustained during the detention or the shootings to the civilian night patrols for the community. The chart shows the death tolls by region. The list may not be exhaustive. According to the confirmed records as of March 11, Yangon and Mandalay regions topped the death list, and they are followed by Sagaing and Magwe regions.

Most deaths during February 1 - March 4, 2021, took place in Yangon and Mandalay (see What Matters - 2). From March 5 to 11, the death toll in Yangon, Mandalay, and Sagaing sharply increased, and the number of casualties in the Magway region soared by 8.



Source: The confirmed data from the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners (AAPP) are used for this graph and analysis.