

# United League of Arakan



## Violence Against Civilians by Islamist Armed Groups in Northern Arakan: An In-Depth Analysis

November 2023 to January 2026



March 04, 2026

## Table of Contents

Part-I-Introduction .....	1
A. Background Information .....	1
Part-II- Crimes Committed by Islamist Terrorists Groups .....	3
A. A Summary of Civilian Atrocities and Forced Disappearances in Northern Arakan .....	3
A.1 Demographic Profile of Victims.....	4
B. Understanding the Hidden Meaning Behind the Atrocities .....	5
B.1 What Happened in July of 2024?.....	7
Part-III-Details About the Mass Killing Incidents.....	12
Part-III-Conclusion .....	27
A. Key Findings.....	27

### Cover Photo:

Four Khami civilians abducted by the ARSA terrorist group on **March 29, 2025**, were found dead with gunshot wounds near **Badaga Crossroad in the Mayu Mountain area** on **March 30, 2025**.  
(Photo source: Arakan Princess Media)

A Google Map of Northern Arakan, where civilians are targeted by Islamist militant groups



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## Part-I-Introduction

### A. Background Information

The Arakan region (Rakhine State) has long suffered from demographic changes, colonial legacies, and violence fueled by extremist ideologies and armed conflicts.

Historically, northern Arakan was predominantly inhabited by indigenous communities, the Arakanese (Rakhine), as well as minority groups such as the Mro, Thet, Khumei, and Daingnet. A Muslim presence existed in the pre-colonial period, though on a relatively smaller scale. During British colonial rule (1824–1948), large-scale labor migration from the Chittagong region of British India was facilitated to support agricultural expansion. This colonial-era migration significantly altered the demographic, religious, and socioeconomic composition of northern Arakan, contributing over time to intercommunal tensions between established indigenous communities and newly settled populations.

During World War II in 1942, the collapse of British control sparked communal violence. Credible sources [claim that](#) extremist elements among Chittagonian immigrants carried out ethnic cleansing, eradicating Rakhine presence from at least 195 villages. In the post-independence period, the Mujahid rebellion (1940s–1960s) generated prolonged guerrilla warfare, creating widespread insecurity and endangering indigenous populations.

From the 1990s onward, transnational Islamist extremist networks and diaspora linkages influenced the reemergence of several Rohingya armed groups. These included the Rohingya Solidarity Organization (RSO), and later the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) (emerging in 2014), the Arakan Rohingya Army (ARA), and Rohingya Islami Mahaz (RIM). Operating primarily along the Bangladesh–Rakhine border and within Bangladesh’s refugee camp environments, these groups have drawn recruits from camps in Bangladesh and cross-border networks. Although their levels of organization and cohesion have varied over time, they have retained the capacity to conduct armed attacks and engage in criminal activities harming border communities of different religious and ethnic backgrounds.

Following the 2021 military coup in Myanmar, which escalated into nationwide armed conflict, security dynamics in northern Rakhine shifted significantly. Islamic armed militant factions that had previously positioned themselves in opposition to the Myanmar military junta have engaged in tactical coordination or parallel operations in areas contested with the Arakan Army (AA). These activities have included localized cooperation with junta forces, forced recruitment, harassment of women at checkpoints, attacks on civilian infrastructure, and the provision of logistical or tactical support in northern townships such as Buthidaung and Maungdaw. These developments have contributed to renewed instability, displacement, destruction of property, and serious human rights concerns affecting indigenous communities in northern Rakhine, with abuses attributed to both Myanmar military forces and Islamic terrorists armed groups.

## B. Conflict Background in Northern Arakan

Although international discourse, including within United Nations mechanisms, has predominantly centered on the suffering of the Muslim population, the vulnerabilities of indigenous non-Muslim communities have remained comparatively underrepresented. The Arakanese (Rakhine), Mro, Thet, Khumei, Daingnet, Hindu, and Maramagyi have also endured conflict-related displacement, threat, insecurity, and economic disruption, yet their suffering has attracted more limited global attention.

In the northern Arakan townships of Maungdaw and Buthidaung, the Myanmar military junta and its forces remain the primary perpetrators of war crimes and widespread abuses against civilians. Between November 2023 and September 2025 (a 23-month period), junta forces killed 195 civilians and injured 287 others. At the same time, Islamist terrorist groups—primarily ARSA—constitute the second major source of threat to civilian security in the area. Between November 2023 and January 2026, these groups were responsible for killing 162 civilians, injuring 22, and forcibly disappearing 30 individuals. Only 15 people survived after being directly targeted. This underreported dimension of violence requires urgent attention from the international community.

Though some portray these Islamic terrorist groups as defensive responses to protect Muslim community interests, evidence indicates their actions are mainly driven by hatred, religious extremism, and aims to drive out non-Muslim populations from the region. Former ARSA leader Ata Ullah (also known as Ataulah Abu Ammar Jununi), arrested by Bangladeshi authorities in March 2025 near Dhaka on charges related to terrorism and militant activities, [openly incited](#) followers in past speeches to wipe out the Rakhine people from Arakan, reflecting a genocidal rhetoric that belies claims of mere self-defense.

Other groups, including the RSO (often based in Bangladesh's Bandarban district near the border), ARA, and RIM (active along the Naf River), operate as criminal networks. They routinely engage in [robbery](#), [extortion](#), [harassment](#), and violence against local indigenous peoples, cross-border travelers, traders, and fishermen—disrupting livelihoods and instilling fear in border communities.

This report is structured in four main parts:

- Part-I: Background information and purpose of the report.
- Part-II: Summary of civilian atrocities and forced disappearances.
- Part-III: Detailed accounts of mass killing incidents.
- Part-IV: Conclusions.

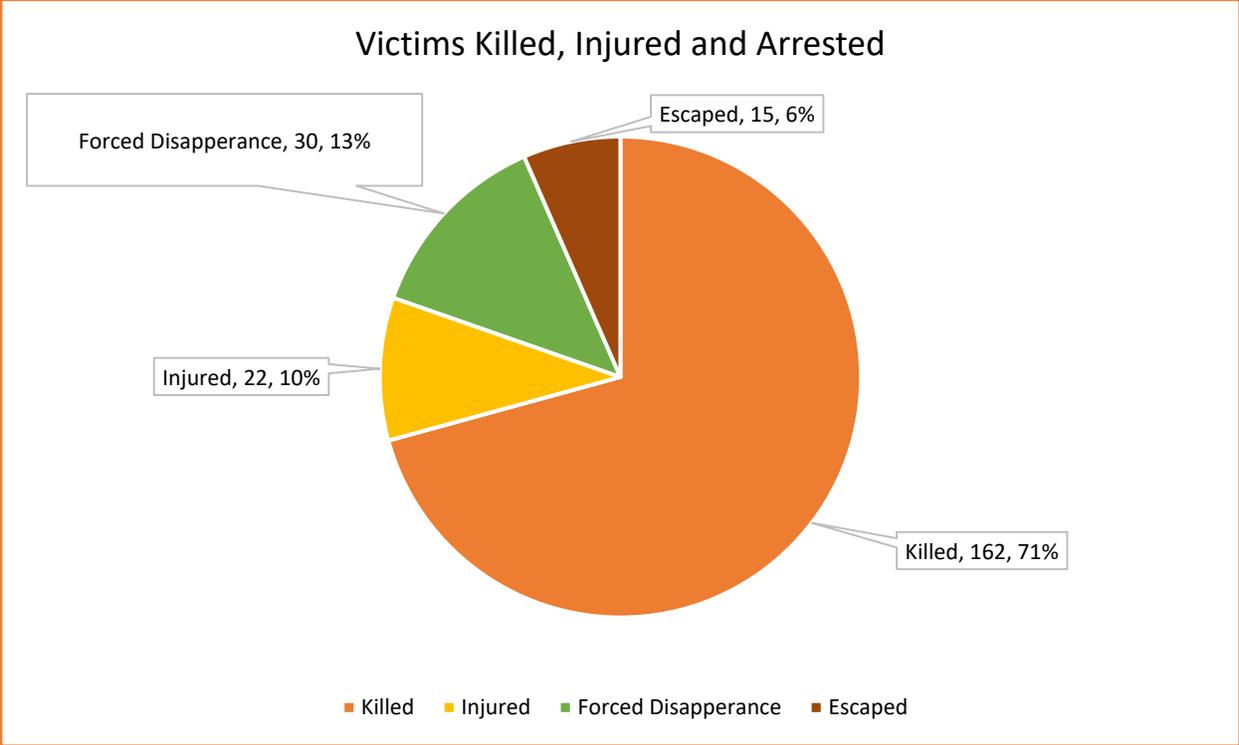
The data presented in this report are drawn primarily from primary sources, including documented evidence, ground-level reporting, and verified local documentation (such as HDCO records). These sources have been carefully reviewed to provide a balanced and comprehensive perspective on the complex patterns of violence affecting the diverse communities of northern Arakan. Increased international attention and scrutiny of the terrorists actions of these Islamist groups are essential to promote accountability and ensure protection for all affected populations.

## Part-II- Crimes Committed by Islamist Terrorists Groups

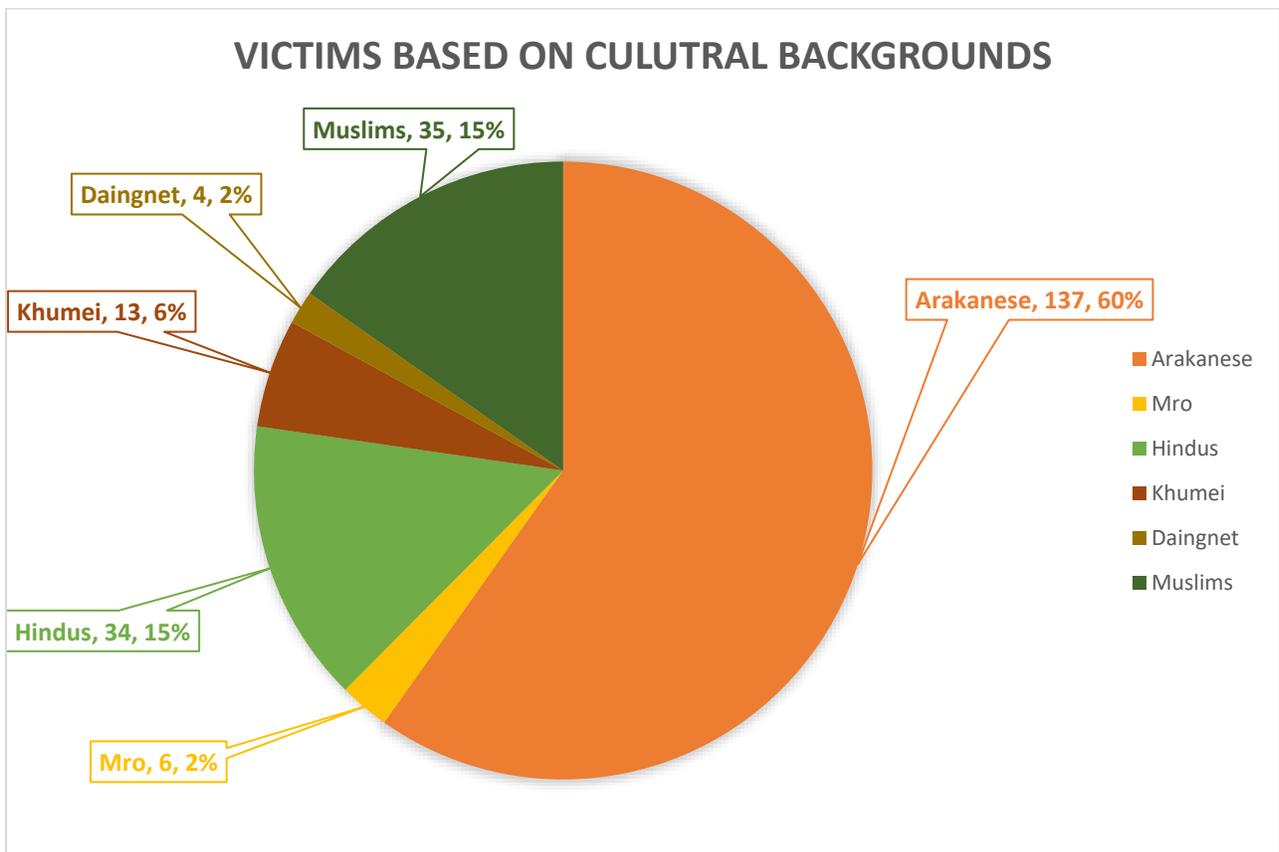
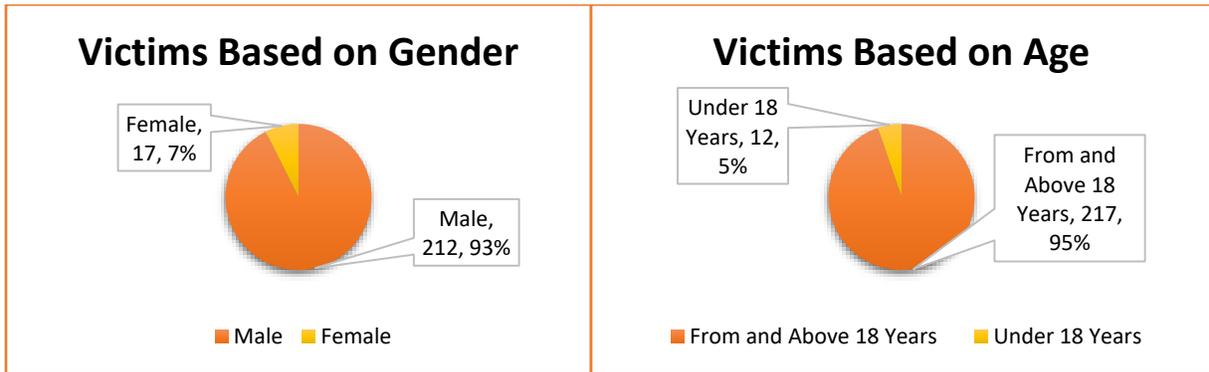
### A. A Summary of Civilian Atrocities and Forced Disappearances in Northern Arakan

Within a 27-month period from November 2023 to January 2026, Islamist militant groups—primarily ARSA—were responsible for the killing of 162 civilians, injuring 22, and the enforced disappearance of 30 individuals. Only 15 individuals survived after being targeted. These figures demonstrate a clear pattern of deliberate attacks against civilians, indicating that those targeted face a high risk of death. Victims were reportedly subjected to violent and inhumane methods, with attacks driven by political and religious motivations. Individuals subjected to enforced disappearance have not returned, and there are grave concerns that many may have been killed in remote or forested areas.

The gender and age distribution shows that adult men are the primary victims of attacks by these terrorists armed groups. Men account for 212 cases (93%), while individuals aged 18 and above constitute 217 victims (95%). However, women (17 victims, 7%) and children (12 victims, 5%) have also been affected, underscoring that the violence extends beyond adult males and continues to harm vulnerable civilian groups.



### A.1 Demographic Profile of Victims



Victim data by cultural background show that Arakanese (Rakhine) Buddhists constitute the largest share of fatalities, accounting for 137 deaths (about 60–61%). Muslims (35 victims, 15%) and Hindus (34 victims, 15%) represent the next largest groups affected. Smaller minority communities, including Khumei (13 victims, 6%), Mro (6 victims, 2%), and Daingnet (4 victims, 2%) account for comparatively smaller proportions. This distribution indicates that while

Arakanese Buddhists are the primary victims, the violence has affected multiple ethnic and religious communities across northern Arakan.

The targeting of Arakanese (Rakhine) Buddhist communities appears to be driven by both religious and political motivations. Militant groups reportedly view these communities as aligned with or supportive of the Arakan Army (AA), and therefore as obstacles to their religious domination in northern Rakhine. In this context, attacks on civilians appear intended not only to punish perceived support bases of the AA but also to intimidate local populations and alter the religious and social landscape of the area.

However, the motivations for targeting Muslim and Hindu civilians appear to differ. Reports indicate that religiously moderate Muslims have been targeted and killed on accusations of collaborating with the ULA/AA, being perceived as traitors, blockers of terrorist Islamist goals, or due to conflicting intragroup interests within their community.

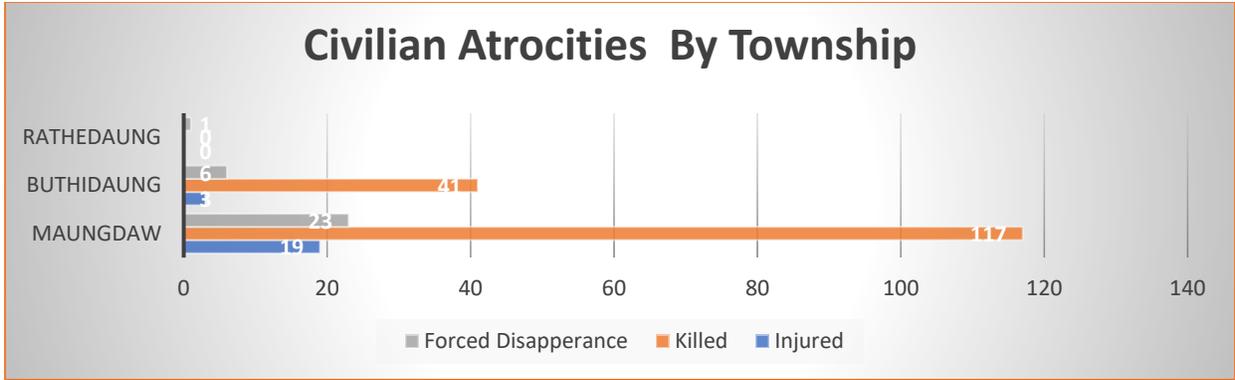
Meanwhile, Hindus are primarily targeted because of their religious identity, as part of efforts by Islamist terrorist groups to create an “exclusive Muslim zone” or caliphate in northern Arakan. For example, Amnesty International documented that ARSA fighters massacred Hindu villagers in the Kha Maung Seik area of Maungdaw Township on 25 August 2017, killing dozens of civilians and burying many in mass graves. Survivors also [reported](#) that some Hindu women and girls were abducted, taken to Bangladesh, and forced to convert to Islam and marry Islamist militants.

The targeting of other minority communities—including the Khumei (predominantly Christian), Mro, and Daingnet (predominantly Buddhist)—appears to stem from a combination of religious differences and perceived vulnerability. Unlike the Arakanese population, these groups are not viewed as posing a significant political or military challenge to militant actors, making them comparatively easier targets for intimidation and violence.

Reports further indicate that non-Muslim minority communities in contested areas were often regarded with suspicion, while their limited capacity to mobilize defensive or political responses increased their exposure to abuse. In such contexts, attacks against smaller minority groups carry relatively lower immediate risks for perpetrators, contributing to their continued vulnerability.

## B. Understanding the Hidden Meaning Behind the Atrocities

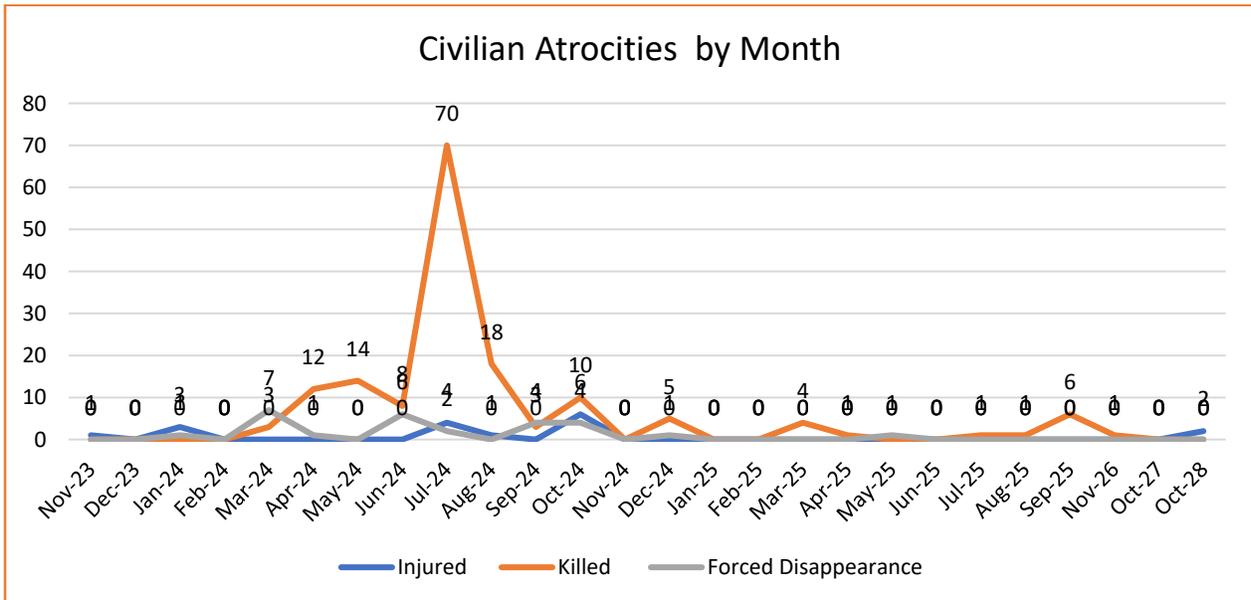
The following graph illustrates that a higher number of civilian casualties—both killed and injured—were recorded in Maungdaw Township compared to Buthidaung and Rathedaung. These incidents were attributed primarily to terrorist groups, particularly ARSA. The disparity appears to be linked to the group’s greater operational presence in the area, the higher intensity of conflict, and Maungdaw’s proximity to the Bangladesh border.



As illustrated on the map, Maungdaw Township shares both mountainous terrain and riverine borders with Bangladesh. This geographic configuration has historically facilitated cross-border movement. Militant groups, reportedly operating from refugee camp areas across the border, were therefore able to access and operate more easily—particularly in the northern parts of Maungdaw.

In addition, compared with Buthidaung Township, Maungdaw experienced a longer duration and greater intensity of armed conflict. As a result, Arakanese civilians—especially those confined within urban areas—were disproportionately exposed to violence attributed to terrorist groups. This pattern becomes more evident when examining casualty figures over time.

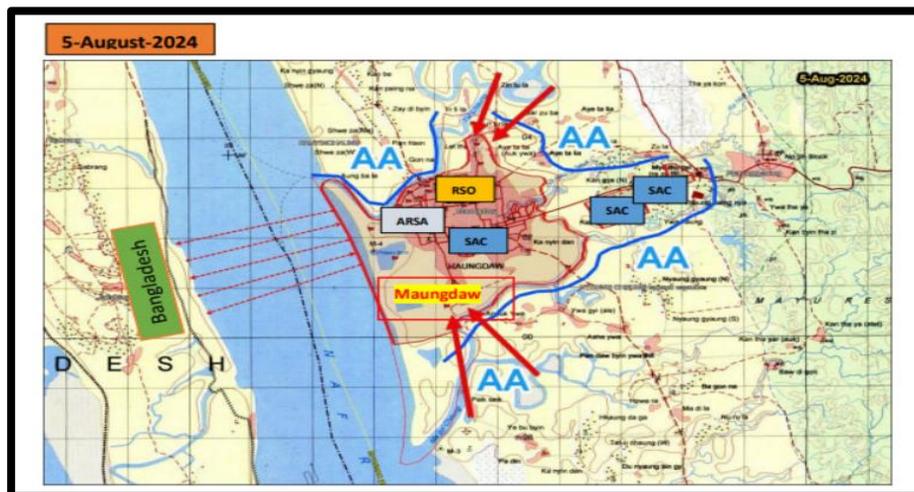
The graph below presents the number of civilians killed, injured, or forcibly disappeared between November 2023 and January 2026. It illustrates a clear trend in which civilian casualties increased as armed conflict intensified across the affected townships. Notably, the number of civilians killed or forcibly disappeared began to rise from February 2024, reaching a peak in July of that year.



## B.1 What Happened in July of 2024?

To properly understand this trend, it is essential to consider the broader context of the armed conflict in the region. When the Arakan Army (AA) gained control over Rathedaung in [mid-March 2024](#), Buthidaung became the next focal point of military operations. Since then, the Myanmar junta [accelerated its collaboration and support](#) to these Islamist militant groups, allowing them to commit crimes and atrocities with no control—especially against Arakanese civilians in Buthidaung and Maungdaw.

Then, in [mid-May 2024](#), the AA captured Buthidaung town, and Maungdaw became the only town left in northern Arakan under junta control. Following these developments, several thousand Islamist militants regrouped in Maungdaw with increasing anti-Arakanese hatred. On another front, the junta and its allied Islamists also [blocked civilians from escaping the town](#), trapping several hundred Arakanese civilians remained trapped, including men who stayed behind to protect their homes from looting and destruction.



This map was released by the ULA Research Team on [August 17, 2024](#), explaining the military situation in Maungdaw as of August 5

However, many of the men who remained in the town became primary targets and were killed in their homes by Islamist terrorist groups. Besides, on July 19, seven Khumei IDPs were also [arrested and killed](#) by ARSA terrorists while they were engaged in livelihood activities to collect bamboo shoots. As a result, July marked a particularly devastating period for civilians who had remained in the town to safeguard their homes and property. Civilian casualties reached their highest levels during this time.

Following the Arakan Army's (AA) capture of the town at the end of August 2024, reported incidents of civilian targeting declined significantly.

A more detailed breakdown of the patterns of civilian atrocities attributed to terrorist groups—particularly ARSA—is presented in the following graph. It is important to note that the period between November 2023 and January 2026 can be divided into two distinct phases of conflict intensity: a “more active” phase (November 2023 to December 2024, totaling 14 months) and a “less active” phase (January 2025 to January 2026, totaling 13 months).

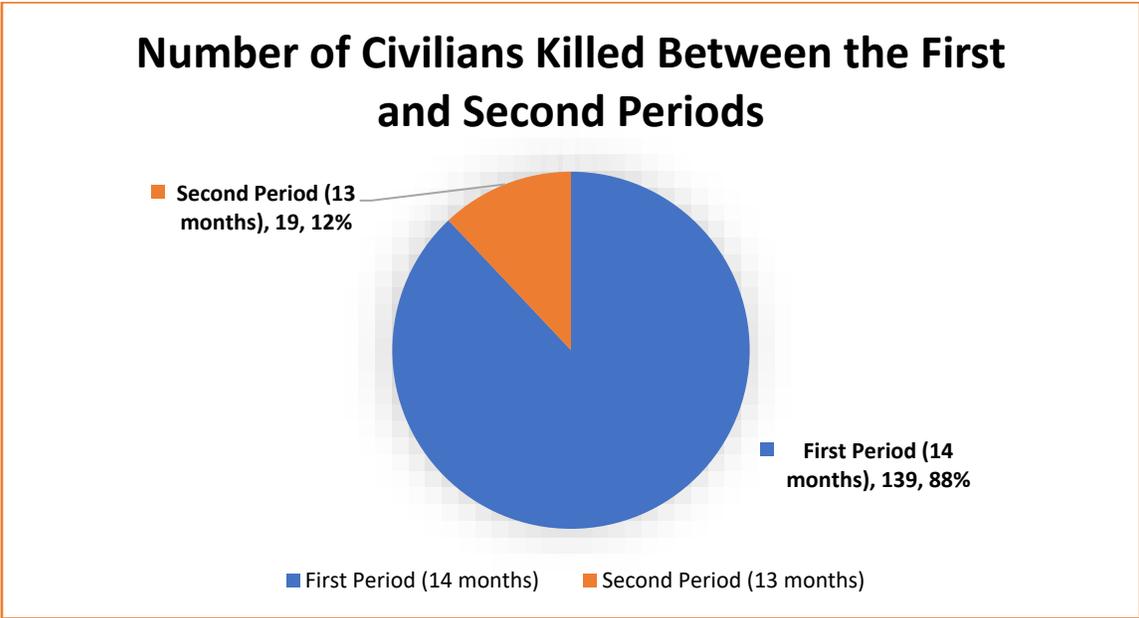
During the first phase, “more active phase”, armed clashes intensified significantly, and coordination between the military junta and Islamist militant groups expanded progressively. Recruitment efforts by these militant groups—both from refugee camps across the border and within northern Arakan—also increased, alongside escalating communal tensions. These developments culminated in the occupation of Buthidaung in mid-May 2024 and Maungdaw in August 2024.

This trajectory began to shift only after the Arakan Army (AA) captured the No. (5) Border Guard Police Force in late December 2025, which marked a turning point in the conflict dynamics.

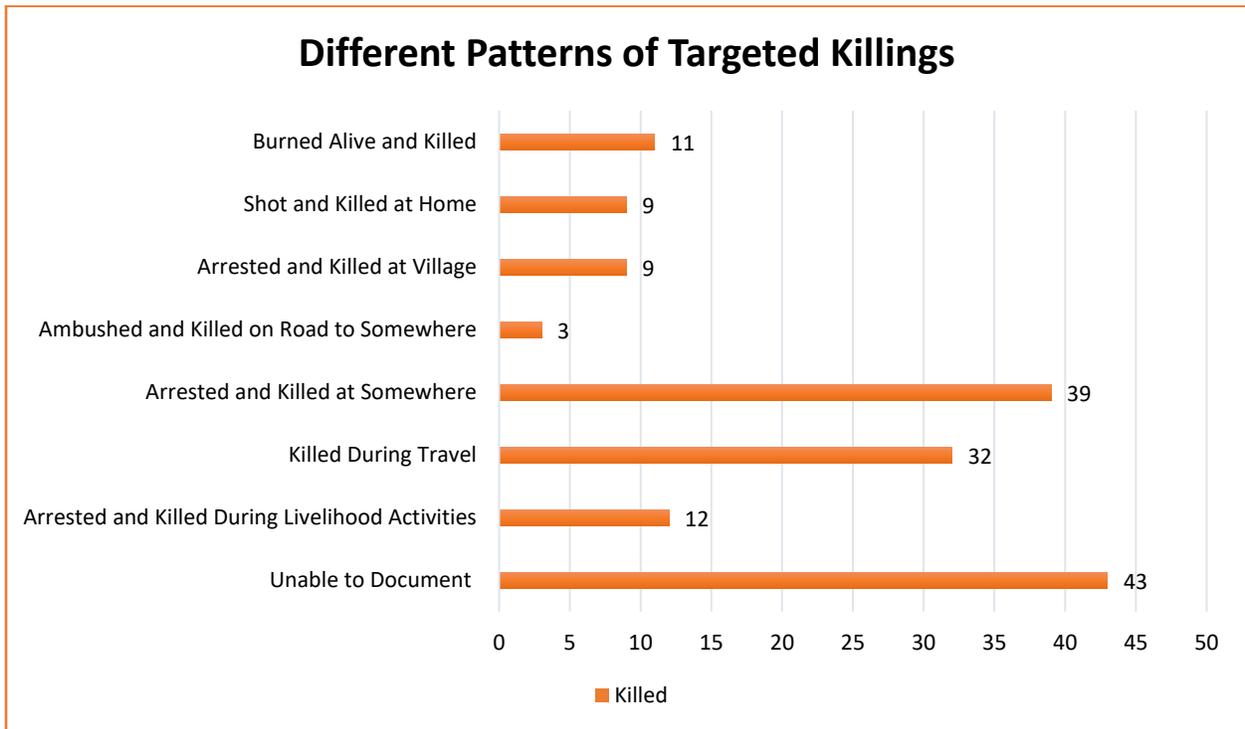
During the second phase (“less active phase”), Islamist militant groups—particularly ARSA—regrouped and rearmed, maintaining continued access to weapons and ammunition from junta sources. Observers also documented ongoing movements of junta naval vessels along the Naf River, with weapons transfers occurring through river routes.

These terrorist groups subsequently resumed targeted attacks against civilians, employing violence and intimidation as instruments to advance their extremist objectives.

The following table describes the number of civilians killed between the two periods.



The study identified seven distinct patterns used by Islamist militant groups in the killing of civilians. These patterns are summarized in the following graph.



No	Types of Civilian Killings	Definition / Key Victims & Description
1	Burned Alive and Killed	Hindu and Arakanese Buddhist civilians were among the primary victims of this pattern of violence. In July 2024, Islamist militants entered Aung Bala (Shwe Zar) village and killed 11 civilians, burning them alive in an attack widely understood to have been motivated by religious hatred.
2	Shot and Killed at Home	Muslim civilians were among the primary victims of this pattern of violence. During these incidents, Islamist terrorists entered victims' homes—either during the day or at night while they were asleep—and shot them inside their residences.
3	Arrested and Killed at Village	Hindu and Arakanese Buddhist civilians were among the primary victims of this pattern of violence. During these incidents, Islamist militants entered Hindu and Arakanese villages, detained individuals, and killed them within the village—at times in the presence of their family members.
4	Ambushed and Killed on Road to Somewhere	Muslim civilians were also among the primary victims of this pattern of violence. In these incidents, Islamist terrorists monitored and targeted individuals while they were outside their homes, such as when visiting tea shops or purchasing daily necessities.
5	Arrested and Killed at Somewhere	Hindu, Arakanese, and Khumei civilians were among the primary victims of this pattern of violence. During the blockade of Maungdaw town, remaining civilians were subjected to such abuses. Individuals were taken from their homes and reportedly transferred to the No. (5) Border Guard Police Force (BGPF) compound in Myo Thu Gyi, where many were subsequently killed.
6	Killed During Travel	Arakanese, Mro, and Khumei civilians were among the primary victims of this pattern of violence. During these incidents, more active elements of ARSA and RIM reportedly ambushed, arrested, and killed civilian travelers en route to markets or neighboring villages.
7	Arrested and Killed During Livelihood Activities	Arakanese, Mro, and Khumei civilians were among the primary victims of this pattern of violence. During these incidents, more active ARSA militants reportedly detained civilians engaged in livelihood activities, such as collecting bamboo shoots, fishing, or herding cattle.

Among the seven patterns of killing identified above, it is important to note that Patterns 1 through 5 occurred primarily during the first phase, “more active” of the conflict, whereas the final two patterns were observed during the second, “less active” phase.

No	IN	Date	Location	Killed	Summary of the Incident
1	IN-1	14-Apr-24	In front of Alodawpyae Monastery, Buthidaung	3	The victims were killed by Islamist terrorists on their way back to their homes. They are from No (5) Ward, Buthidaung.
2	IN-2	29-May-24	No (5) Border Guard Police Force, Maungdaw	5	The victims were arrested from their homes, brought to No (5) Border Guard Police Force, and later killed. They are from Aung Myay Bow Hti Village of Ka Nyin Tan Ward, Maungdaw.
3	IN-3	19-Jul-24	Near Let Pan Shay (aka Maung Ni Ko Village), Buthidaung	7	The victims went out to collect bamboo shoots on July 18 from Gandamar IDP camp and were arrested and killed by ARSA terrorists. They are from Phyin Hla Village, Buthidaung.
4	IN-4	20-Jul-24	Ka Nyin Tan Ward, Maungdaw	6	The victims were instantly killed when they were found in Ka Nyin Tan for livelihood activities. They are from Bo Hmu Village in Maungdaw.
5	IN-5	20-Jul-24	Taung Pyo Road, Maungdaw	3	The victims were killed by ARSA terrorists on their way back from Taung Pyo market. They are cattle traders from Min Gyi Village, Maungdaw.
6	IN-6	22-Jul-24	Ka Nyin Tan Ward, Maungdaw	3	The victims were killed by Islamist terrorists on their way back to their homes. They are from San Pya Ward, Maungdaw.
7	IN-7	31-Jul-24	Between Shwe Taung and Kye Kan Pyin	5	The victims were killed by ARSA terrorists on their way to Kyein Chaung village to buy commodities in northern Maungdaw. They are from No (4) Ward, Buthidaung.
8	IN-8	25-Aug-24	No (5) Border Guard Police Force, Maungdaw	4	The victims were arrested from their homes and taken to No (5) Border Guard Police Force. Later, they were killed. They are from No (4) Ward, Kay Say Yel, Maungdaw.
9	IN-9	27-Aug-24 (estimate)	Aung Ba La (Shwe Zar) Ward, Maungdaw	4	The victims were killed by burning alive by Islamist terrorists. They are from Aung Ba La (Shwe Zar) Ward, Maungdaw.
10	IN-10	8-Oct-24	Tat Min Chaung Village, Buthidaung	3	Five ARSA terrorists entered the village and shot and killed the victims. They are from Tat Min Chaung Village, Buthidaung.
11	IN-11	4-Dec-24	Sin Swei Ya Village, Buthidaung	4	ARSA terrorists entered the village and immediately killed one female. Then, another three men were arrested and killed later. They are from Sin Swei Ya Village, Buthidaung.
12	IN-12	29-Mar-25	On Road of Badaga Mountain Pass, Buthidaung	4	The victims were abducted by ARSA terrorists on March 29, 2025, and found dead with gunshot wounds along Badaga crossroad in Mayu Mountain on March 30.
13	IN-13	15-Sep-25	Southeast Mountain Range of Border Post-55 in northern Maungdaw	6	The victims were arrested and killed by ARSA terrorists on their trips to buy commodities from Bangladesh. They are from Ta Man Thar Village.

## Part-III-Details About the Mass Killing Incidents

According to the data collected, 13 incidents of mass killings by Islamist militant groups—particularly ARSA and RIM—against civilians were documented in northern Arakan between November 2023 and January 2026. These incidents resulted in a total of 48 deaths, accounting for approximately 30% of the overall 162 recorded fatalities. In terms of conflict periods, the first (“more active”) phase accounted for 10 incidents, while the second (“less active”) phase recorded only 3 incidents. This pattern suggests that mass killings constituted a significant share of the total atrocities, although the number of incidents declined following the restoration of relative peace and security in northern Arakan.

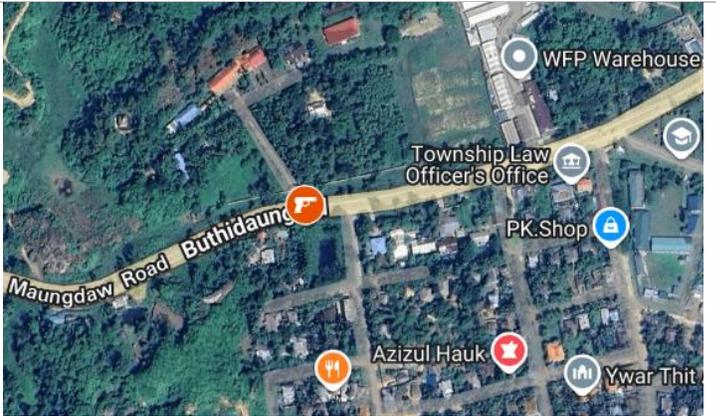
**The following detailed information on these 13 incidents further illustrates this pattern.**



**ARSA Militants Featured in a Staged Propaganda Video Released on April 4, 2025**

*(source@arsasocialmediaaccounts)*

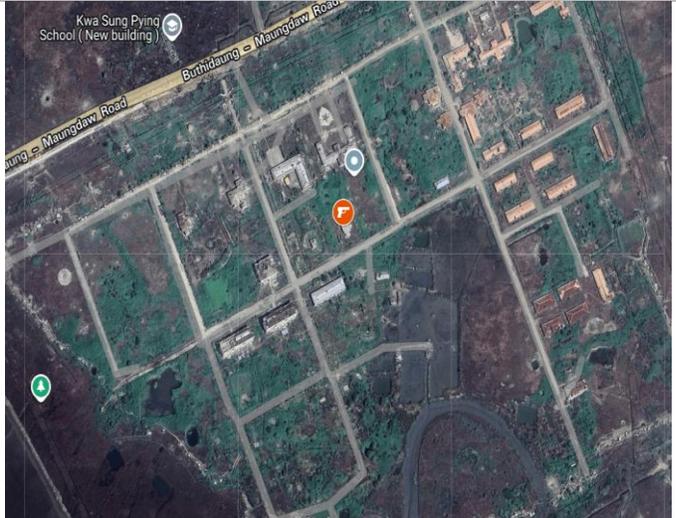
<b>Incident Number 1</b>	
Date of the Incident	April 14, 2024
Location of the Incident	In front of Alodawpyi Monastery, Buthidaung
Number of Civilian Killed	3
<b>Summary of the Incident</b>	
The victims, residents of Ward No. (5) in Buthidaung, were killed by Islamist terrorists while returning to their homes.	



**Photographic Evidence**



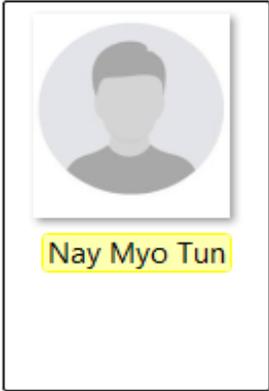
<b>Incident Number- 2</b>	
Date of the Incident	May 29, 2024
Location of the Incident	No (5), Border Guard Police Force, Maungdaw
Number of Civilian Killed	5



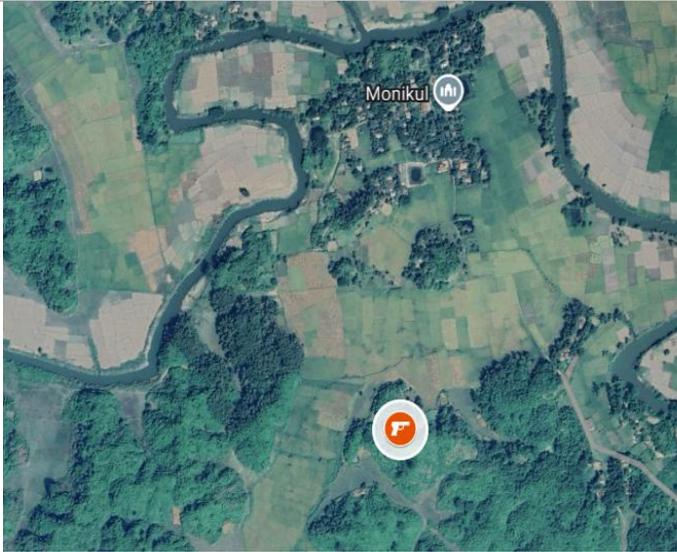
**Summary of the Incident**

The victims were taken from their homes, brought to the No. (5) Border Guard Police Force compound, and later killed by the terrorists. They were residents of Aung Myay Bow Hti Village in Ka Nyin Tan Ward, Maungdaw.

**Photographic Evidence**



<b>Incident Number- 3</b>	
Date of the Incident	July 19, 2024
Location of the Incident	Near Let Pan Shay (aka) Maung Ni Ko Village, Buthidaung
Number of Civilian Killed	7



**Summary of the Incident**

The victims left Gandamar IDP camp on 18 July to collect bamboo shoots and were later arrested and killed by ARSA terrorists. They were residents of Phyin Hla Village in Buthidaung.

**Photographic Evidence**



Aung Gye



Oo Hla Tun



Maung Tun



Kyaw Hla



Kyar Tun Oo



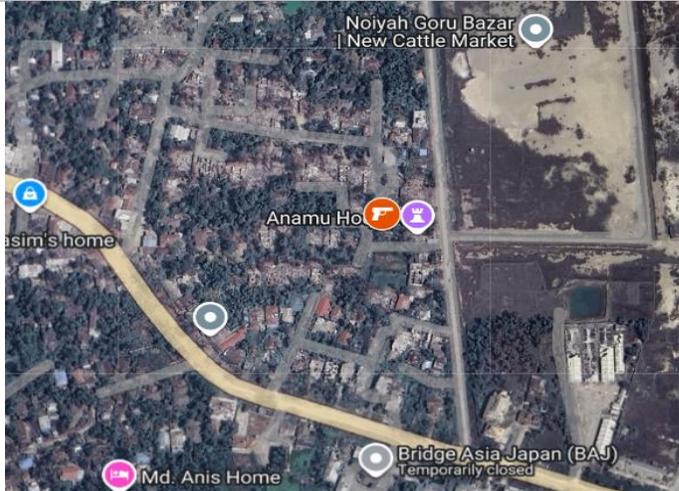
Maung Maung



Tun Naing Oo

**Incident Number- 4**

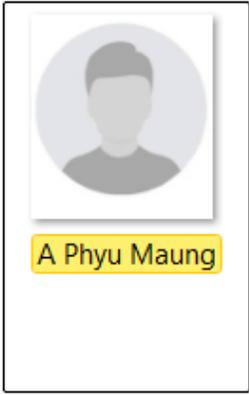
Date of the Incident	July 20, 2024
Location of the Incident	Ka Nyin Tan Ward, Maungdaw
Number of Civilian Killed	6



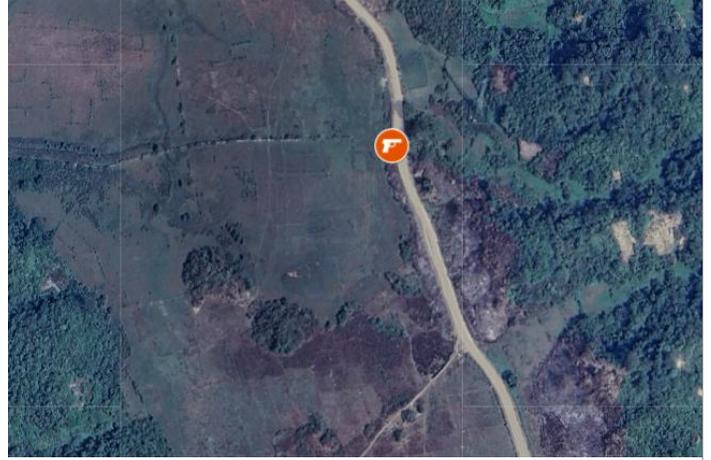
**Summary of the Incident**

The victims were killed by Islamist terrorists after being found in Ka Nyin Tan while engaged in livelihood activities. They were residents of Bo Hmu Village, Maungdaw.

**Photographic Evidence**



<b>Incident Number- 5</b>	
Date of the Incident	July 20, 2024
Location of the Incident	Taung Pyo Road, Maungdaw
Number of Civilian Killed	3
<b>Summary of the Incident</b>	
The victims were killed by ARSA while returning from Taung Pyo market. They were cattle traders from Min Gyi Village, Maungdaw.	



### Photographic Evidence



Kyan Thein Aung



Naing Soe Win



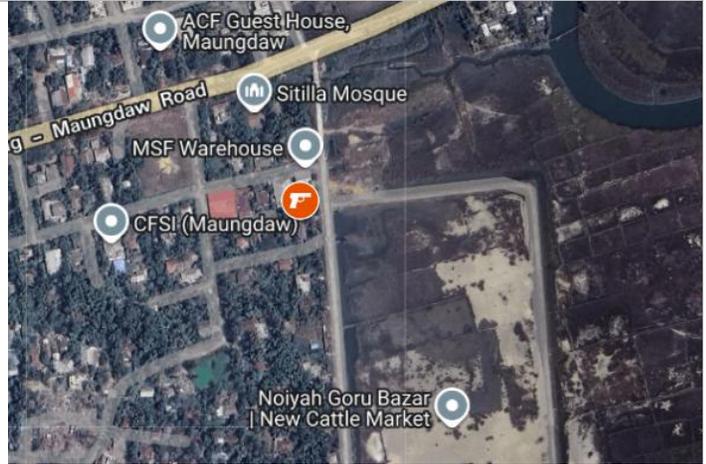
Maung San Thar

**Incident Number- 6**

Date of the Incident	July 22, 2024
Location of the Incident	Ka Nyin Tan Ward, Maungdaw
Number of Civilian Killed	3

**Summary of the Incident**

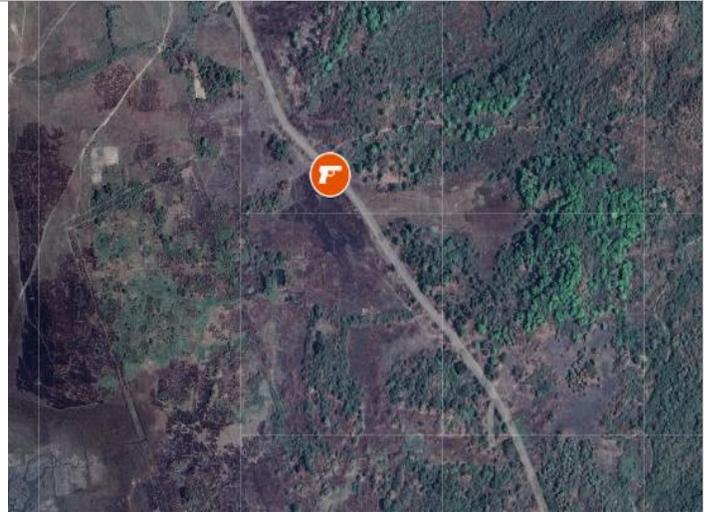
The victims, residents of San Pya Ward in Maungdaw, were killed by Islamist terrorists while on their way back to their homes.



**Photographic Evidence**



<b>Incident Number- 7</b>	
Date of the Incident	July 31, 2024
Location of the Incident	Between Shwe Taung and Kyee Kan Pyin Villages, Maungdaw
Number of Civilian Killed	5



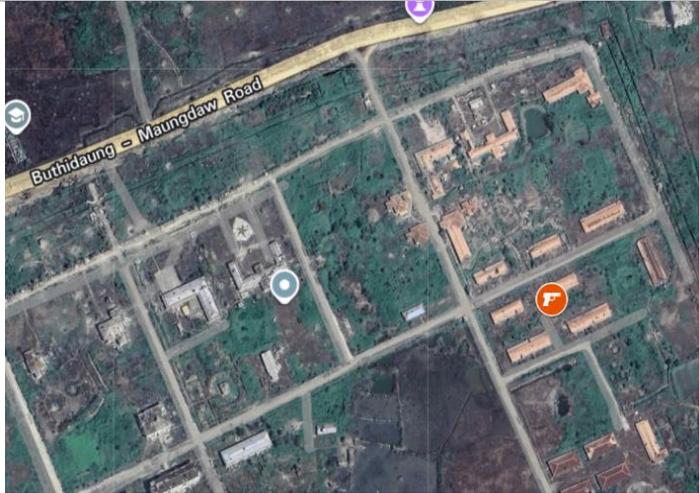
**Summary of the Incident**

The victims were killed by ARSA while on their way to Kyein Chaung Village in northern Maungdaw to purchase commodities. They were residents of Ward No. (4), Buthidaung.

**Photographic Evidence**



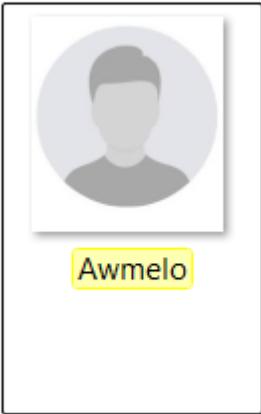
<b>Incident Number- 8</b>	
Date of the Incident	August 25, 2024
Location of the Incident	No (5), Border Guard Police Force, Maungdaw
Number of Civilian Killed	4



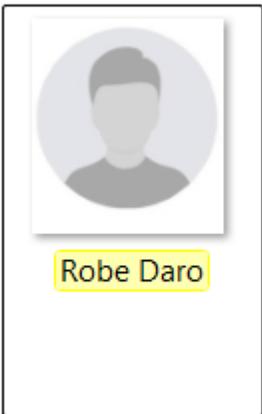
**Summary of the Incident**

The victims, residents of Ward No. (4) in Kay Say Yel, Maungdaw, were taken from their homes and brought to the No. (5) Border Guard Police Force compound, where they were later killed.

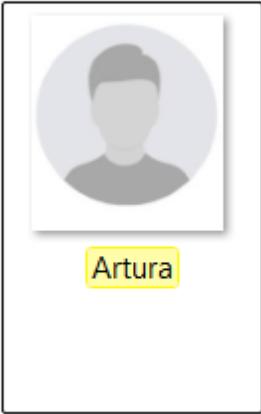
**Photographic Evidence**



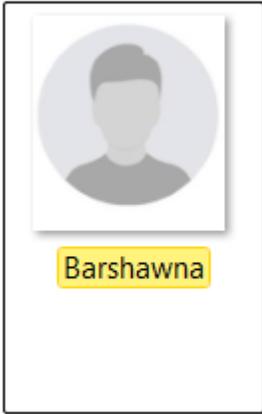
Awmelo



Robe Daro



Artura



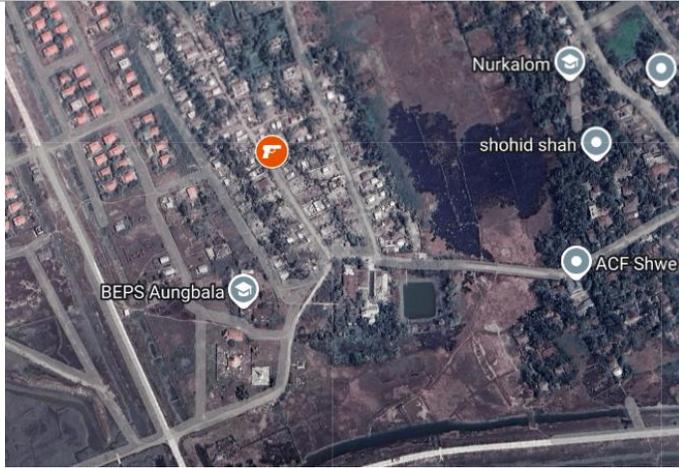
Barshawna

**Incident Number- 9**

Date of the Incident	August 27 (estimate), 2024
Location of the Incident	Aung Ba La (Shwe Zar) ward, Maungdaw
Number of Civilian Killed	4

**Summary of the Incident**

The victims were burned alive and killed by Islamist militants. They were residents of Aung Ba La (Shwe Zar) Ward, Maungdaw.



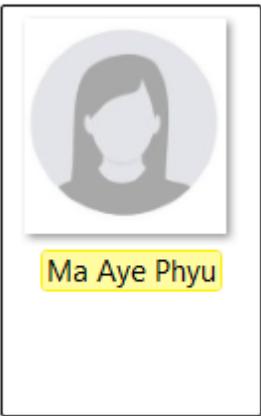
**Photographic Evidence**



Kyaw Sein



Mee Daun

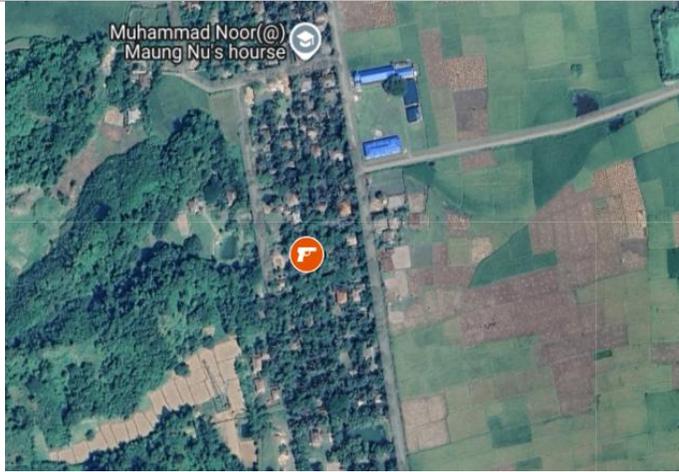


Ma Aye Phyu



San Hla Thein

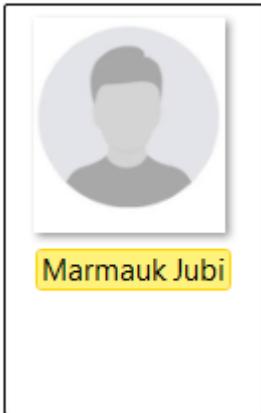
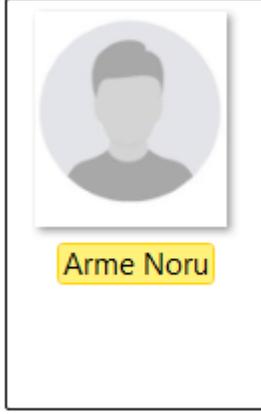
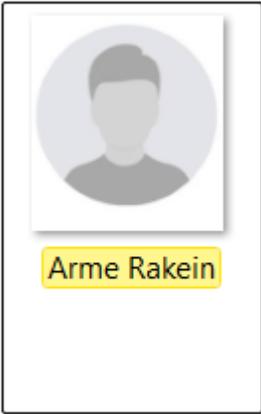
<b>Incident Number- 10</b>	
Date of the Incident	October 8, 2024
Location of the Incident	Tat Min Chaung Village, Buthidaung
Number of Civilian Killed	3



**Summary of the Incident**

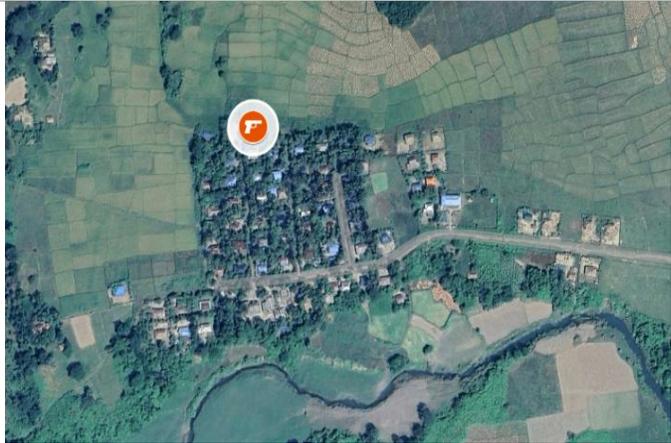
Five ARSA terrorists entered the village and shot the victims dead. They were residents of Tat Min Chaung Village, Buthidaung.

**Photographic Evidence**



**Incident Number- 11**

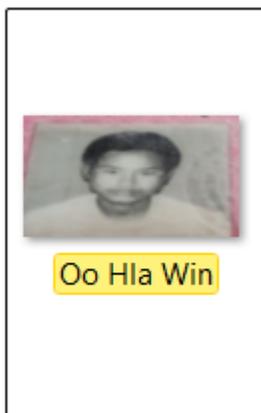
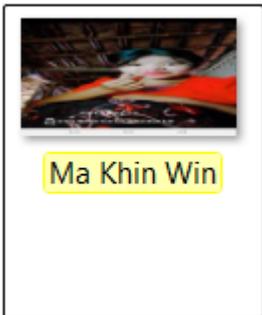
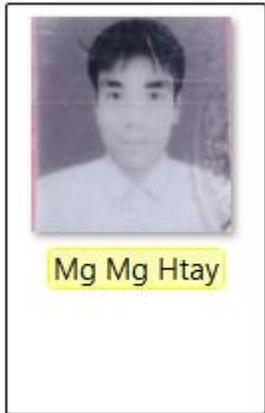
Date of the Incident	December 4, 2024
Location of the Incident	Sin Swei Ya Village, Buthidaung
Number of Civilian Killed	4



**Summary of the Incident**

ARSA terrorists entered Sin Swei Ya Village, Buthidaung, where they immediately killed one woman. Three men were later arrested and subsequently killed.

**Photographic Evidence**



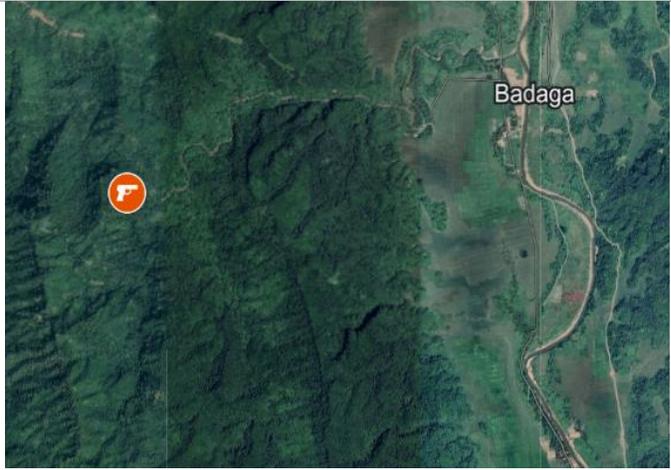
Mg Mg Htay, Ye Ko Ko, and Oo Hla Win have been forcibly disappeared, and no information about their whereabouts has been available since. This photo was the last known evidence of them after it was posted online by those who arrested them.



<b>Incident Number- 12</b>	
Date of the Incident	March 29, 2025
Location of the Incident	On the Road of the Badaga MountainPass, Buthidaung
Number of Civilian Killed	4

**Summary of the Incident**

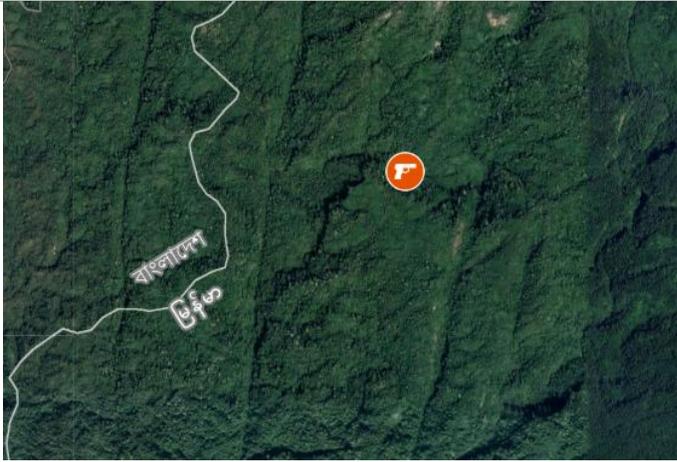
The victims were abducted by ARSA on March 29, 2025, and were found dead with gunshot wounds along the Badaga crossroads in the Mayu Mountains on March 30.



**Photographic Evidence**



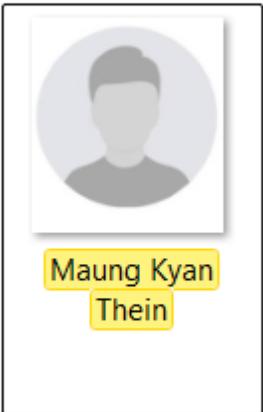
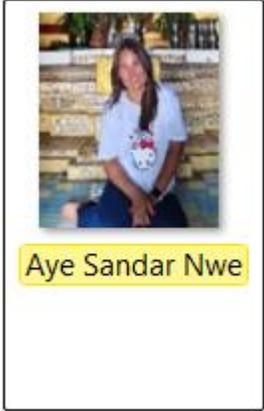
<b>Incident Number- 13</b>	
Date of the Incident	September 15, 2025
Location of the Incident	Southeastern Mountain Range near Border Post No. 55, Maungdaw North
Number of Civilian Killed	6

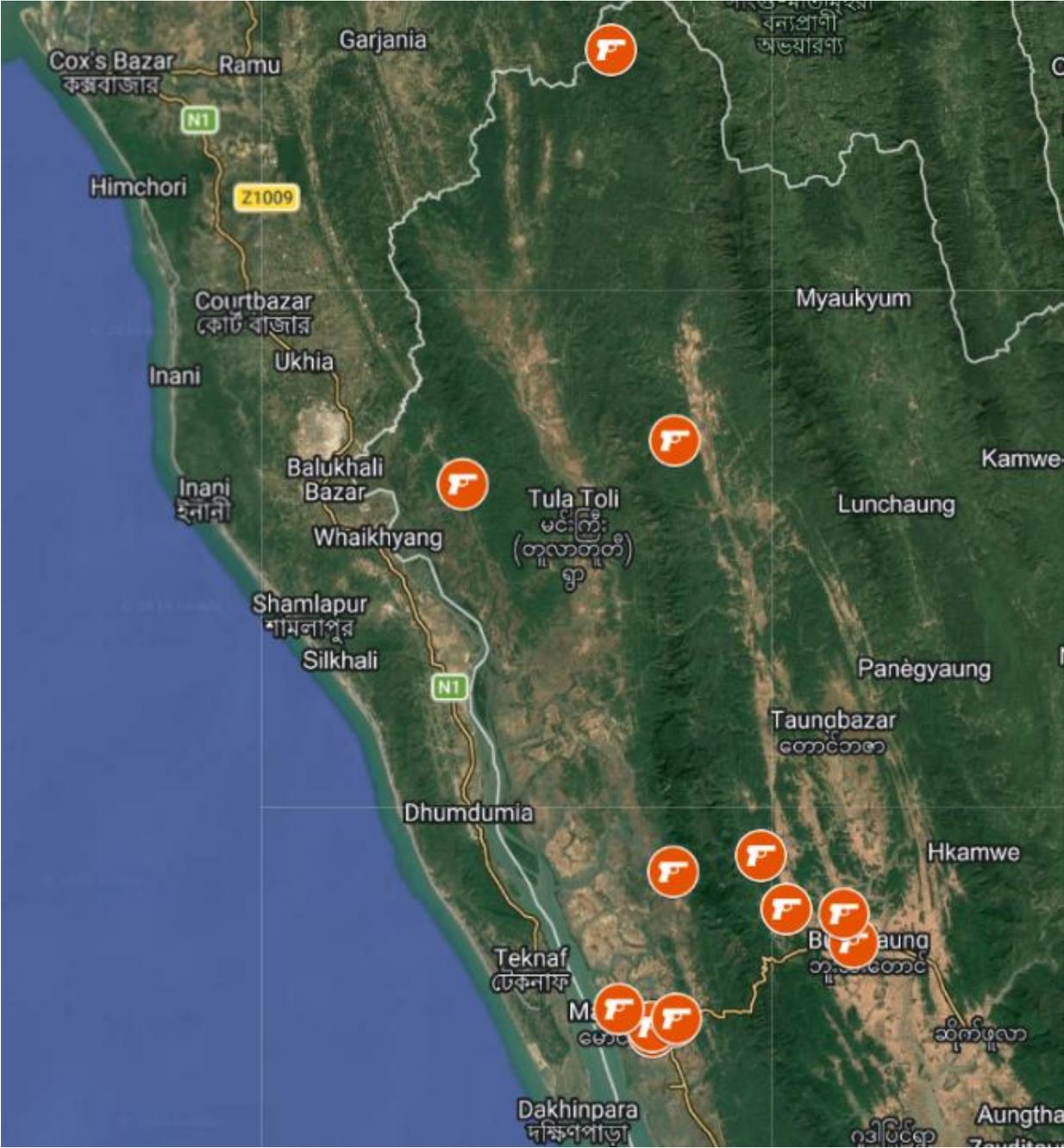


**Summary of the Incident**

The victims, residents of Ta Man Thar Village, were abducted and killed by ARSA terrorists while traveling to Bangladesh to buy commodities.

**Photographic Evidence**





Map of 13 Locations of Mass Killings by ARSA and Other terrorist Groups (November 2023– January 2026)

## Part-III-Conclusion

### A. Key Findings

- During the 27-month period, Islamist terrorists groups — primarily ARSA, with involvement from RSO, ARA, RIM, and other groups — killed 162 civilians, injured 22, and forcibly disappeared 30 individuals. Only 15 civilians managed to escape after being targeted, indicating a very high lethality rate once civilians are abducted or attacked.
- Primary victims by ethnicity and religion: Arakanese (Rakhine) Buddhists were the most affected group, accounting for 61% (137 victims) of the total civilian deaths. Other victims included Muslims (15%), Hindus (15%), Khumi/Khumei (6%), Mro (2%), and Daingnet (2%).
- The majority of atrocities occurred in Maungdaw Township — significantly more than in Buthidaung and with only a few cases reported in Rathedaung. This pattern can be attributed to several factors: (a) Maungdaw’s proximity to the Bangladesh border and refugee camps, which serve as main operating bases; (b) the longer duration and higher intensity of conflict in Maungdaw; and (c) easier access for militant groups.
- Killings and enforced disappearances rose sharply in parallel with the escalation of armed conflict, peaking in July 2024 with more than 70 victims recorded in a single month. The number of reported atrocities declined significantly following the AA’s capture of Maungdaw town in late August 2024 and additional border posts in late 2025.
- A total of 13 mass killing incidents were documented (with an average of four victims per incident), resulting in 48 deaths — accounting for approximately 30% of the total recorded killings.
- Motivations behind the killings appear to be diverse and vary across targeted communities:
  - Arakanese (Rakhine) Buddhists are often targeted as perceived religious rivals and as core supporters of the ULA/AA.
  - Moderate Muslims are frequently viewed as collaborators with the ULA/AA, as traitors, or as obstacles to the establishment of Islamist terrorist control.
  - Hindus are targeted primarily because of their religious identity, as part of a broader objective by terrorist groups to create an exclusively Muslim zone or caliphate.
  - Smaller non-Muslim minorities, including Khumi/Khumei Christians, Mro, and Daingnet Buddhists, are often targeted due to religious differences and their limited capacity to defend themselves against perpetrators.

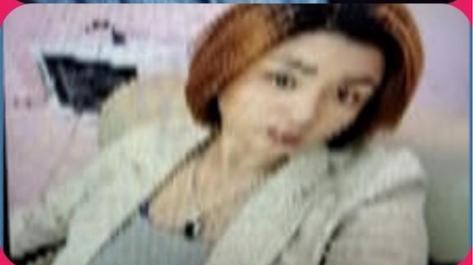
# Photographic Evidence of Civilian Deaths Resulting from Attacks by ARSA and Other Islamist Terrorist Groups



မောင်တောမြို့နယ်တွင် ငါးရှာသွားသည့် ဒေသခံအမျိုးသားတစ်ဦးကို



၂၀၂၅ ခုနှစ်၊ အောက်တိုဘာလ (၂၂) ရက်နေ့တွင် ရသေ့တောင်မြို့နယ်၊ ဓေတီပြင်ရွာမှ ရောင်းယံ၍



Arakan Bay News



Photographic Evidence of Civilian Deaths Resulting from Attacks by ARSA and Other Islamist Terrorist Groups



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Photographic Evidence of Civilian Deaths Resulting from Attacks by ARSA and Other Islamist Terrorist Groups



**Photographic Evidence of Civilian Injuries Resulting from Attacks by ARSA and Other Islamist Terrorist Groups**



Photographic Evidence of Enforced Disappearances of Civilians by ARSA and Other Islamist Terrorist Groups



This photo shows two Arakanese men, **Nyo Thar Sein (56)** and **Hla Yaing Maung (60)**, who were forcibly abducted and killed. The image is taken from a video recording in which they were forced to make confessions after being captured by members of the ARSA terrorist group.

### Summary of the Incident

On October 13, 2024, at around 10:30 AM, five individuals set out to retrieve four cows that had been left in Kumari Kari village (a Muslim village) in Buthidaung Township due to incomplete documentation during a cattle purchase.

The five individuals were:

- Nyo Thar Sein (56) – from Kun Tam village, Rathedaung Township
- Hla Yaing Maung (60) – from Kun Tam village, Rathedaung Township
- Fay Tin (also known as Mohamed Ali) (50) – from Arkar Taung village (Muslim), Rathedaung Township
- Annar Ullah (40) – from Sin Oee Pyin village (Muslim), Buthidaung Township
- Kama Hu Sone (30) – from Sin Oee Pyin village (Muslim), Buthidaung Township

While traveling, at approximately 12:00 PM, the group was abducted near Aung Lan Pyin village (a Muslim village) in Buthidaung Township by three armed members of the ARSA terrorist group.

Later that evening, at around 8:30 PM, Annar Ullah managed to escape and return home safely. However, the remaining four civilians have not returned and remain missing to this day.



Photographic Evidence of Civilians Who Survived Attacks by ARSA and Other Islamist Terrorist Groups

