

HOPE & HELP FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

# SUPPORT DISPLACED CHRISTIANS IN MYANMAR

As armies war and bombs drop, a group of Christian families in Myanmar are in desperate need.

Fighting has been ongoing in Myanmar since 2021. Ethnic armies have been battling government armies, and military aircraft bomb villages and towns regularly. They most often hit civilians. The repeated attacks have forced many to flee their homes. Christians are especially targeted because they differ from the majority religion.

In the summer of 2024, a battle over Myanmar's most important city in the northeast forced thousands from their homes. Most people fled to safer towns to live with relatives or friends, or they hid in the surrounding forests.

Myo Ain is a church leader who runs a children's home for about 100 children. When the fighting in her town began, the grounds of the children's home were hit by rockets. One child was killed and others were seriously injured.

After the attack, Myo Ain sent the children to various churches outside the city while she stayed behind with the oldest children. "We wanted to make sure our houses weren't looted. A few days later, however, a People's Defense Force combat group arrived and took up position next door. We knew then that our entire neighborhood would be attacked by airplanes at any moment, so we left immediately and got to safety. The church, the children's home, other buildings, and everything is now razed."

ICR's partner in the region knows most of the churches in the city. When Christians fled the fighting, they mostly took refuge in other churches. Churches took them in, but several months later, most churches' resources are strained caring for these families. Churches have already been caring for people for three years since the fighting began.

With the constant violence, new families are displaced every day, and there is an ongoing need for food support. However, an ICR partner has identified 160 families who lost everything and need help being reestablished with clothing, basic household goods and food.



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