



**KAREN REFUGEE COMMITTEE**

**NEWSLETTER**

**&**

**MONTHLY REPORT**

**JANUARY, 2009**

**Karen Refugee Committee**  
**Newsletter & Monthly Report**  
**January, 2009**

We have gone Through January the first month of the year 2009, peacefully. Burma gained its independent under the British rule in 4<sup>th</sup> January, 1948. The time over sixty years have passed but the peoples are still looking forward to genuine peace and freedom as they have been living and suffering various hardship under the rule of military Dictatorship for along time.

Notably, we the Karen one of an ethnic nationality in Burma, for escaping under the rule and oppression of military Regime, had fled their home land, seeking temporary shelter and become stateless people in Thailand since 20 years ago. When there is no hope of repatriation, resettlement seems would be best alternative have come into existence.

During this month, numbers of changing and incidents such as wars, killing and natural disaster are taken place. The out break of Israel and Palestine war in Gaza strip wich resulted in great damages and cost thousand of lives, finally reached cease fire agreement.

The conflict between Russia and Georgian was settled. It is applauded by all civilian from both countries.

Wild fire engulfed many hectors of forest area in Australia and over one hundred people were died.

Famine occurring in different parts of the world together with flood and droughty. In Zimbabwe five to seven millions people will in need of food for the year 2009.

The whole world keep watching on Iran because the Government of Iran announced that they successfully launch a satellite into the orbit.

Great political changes happened in USA. On 20<sup>th</sup> Jan 2009, Grand inauguration was celebrated and OBAMA oath as the 44<sup>th</sup> president of the United state of America. He is the first non-white colour President. This incident is a significant changing in the history of the United State of America.

Now New arrival continuously increasing in seven camps which under the supervision of KRC, along Thai-Burma Border. The new arrival are not only the Karen but also other ethnic nationality. Burmese, Kachin, Mon, Shan, Rahkhin, Chin, Karenni, Thai, Burma-Chinese and others are among the new arrival. Since 2006 the new arrival increases to over 48,000 up to

now. In the past 98% of Karen ethnicity are resided in camps. The religious practice in camp are Buddhist, Christian, Islam and others.

Naturally, there'll be more complication misunderstanding, different thought, attitude when various back ground of people are living together in the limited location. It is not easy task to manage in such circumstances.

We need close cooperation with Authority of the host country, INGOs, NGOs and CBOs to keep proper management of the camp, But we have no authority to regulate any law which would be applicable in the camp. We do not exactly know the main reason why the new arrival still coming? Obviously, we can say that the ruling system, military dictatorship adopted is very hashed for their own people.

We hope, the new arrivals will be happy as Thai Government has begun prescreening process, but we do not know whether will they pass or not!

## **K.R.C – Camps – Activities – Report. January– 2009**

- 6/1/09 – KRC and TBBC hold a meeting at TBBC's office, discussed on R/B distribution for 13,000 photos documented new Arrivals.
  - 7/1/09 – KRC Joint Secretary together with security incharge, LAC and Camp Committee held a meeting at LAC's office in Mae la camp.
    - In the meeting, Rules and Law which would be applicable, and action taking of misconduct and crime were discussed.
- Resolution**
- (1) KRC will take initiative, organize and develop Rules and Regulation (Law) for the camp Residents.
  - (2) It will develop through cooperation with LAC and representative of camp committee.
  - (3) A camp Sub committee will be formed for participation in the developing process in Mae La camp, and members include.
    - (1) KRC
    - (2) LAC
    - (3) Camp Judiciary
    - (4) KWO
    - (5) KYO
    - (6) Camps Security
    - (7) Rep. of Camp Committee.
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- 7/1/09 – KRC members attended Rule and Regulation reform workshop organized by LAC at Mae La Camp.
  - 8/1/09 – TBBC and KRC organized a meeting with Mae La Camp Committee Representatives and discussed on organizing the process of Ration Book distribution. (It was agreed that new staff need to be increased and CMSP will responsible in supporting of the new staff.)
  - 14-15/1/09 – Representations of KRC and CMSP Team attended 'The TOT' workshop in Mae Hongson.
  - 21/1/09 – KRC committee and CMSP Team review the 2009 Budget proposal of CMSP project.
  - 16/1/09 – KRC , TBBC and Mae La Camp Committee hold a meeting on -
    - (1) Checking on registered Population, Ration Book distribution, Checking on food distribution and participant involves in the checking process and,

- (2) New arrival registration which includes Taking photos, reassure photo of New arrival in section, house by house and distribution of Ration Book for N/A in March, were discussed.
- 27-2/1/09 – KRC member and CMP, staff from both Mae Sot and Mae Sariang office Join a conflict Analysis workshop organized by TBBC in Mae La Mat luang Camp..
  - 30/1/09 – KRC organized meeting with KED (Karen Education Department) regarding 2010 education policy and implementation..

## **Resettled Myanmar Refugees by Locations (Year 2006)**

Locations	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Tham Hin	-	27	21	9		12	23	270	813	202	518	199	2094
Ban Don Yang	1	11	25	27	36	60	59	52	86	16	24	3	400
Nupo	5	39	40	11	11	14	62	25	26	76	63	28	400
Mae La	13	23	12	24	56	67	17	34	17	51	35	52	401
Umpium	4	17	9	14	17	1	63	7	10	47	13	6	208
Mae La Oo (HGN)		15		7	4	-		24	100	125	458	22	755
Mae Rama Luang (HGN)			9		120	53	14	20	29	5	9	2	261
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>1081</b>	<b>522</b>	<b>1120</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>4519</b>

## **Resettled Myanmar Refugees by Locations (as of 31 Dec 2007)**

Locations	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Tham Hin	128	162	215	90	303	337	139	80	401	33	161	54	2103
Ban Don Yang	15	10	45	8			12	5	93	54	48	69	359
Nupo	26	6	32	16	91	28	33	21	22	19	55	24	373
Mae La	41	35	85	205	214	794	1905	2026	3360	193	181	122	9161
Umpium	26	12	54	51	109	68	16	7	22	45	29	43	482
Mae La Oo (HGN)	3				47	178	266	23	170	35	88	24	834
Mae Rama Luang (HGN)				1	2		201	52	183	56	233	10	738
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<b>Total</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>766</b>	<b>1405</b>	<b>2572</b>	<b>2214</b>	<b>4251</b>	<b>435</b>	<b>795</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>14050</b>

## **Resettled Myanmar Refugees by Locations (Year 2008)**

Locations	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Tham Hin	53	71	195	183	115	76	47	114	171	7	45		1077
Ban Don Yang	12	7	11	15	4	16	33	21	25	-	7		151
Nupo	33	58	31	24	16	473	853	508	415	262	93		2766
Mae La	560	763	1363	310	545	554	617	903	586	56	151		6408
Umpium	46	30	164	1083	1401	1344	548	389	327	158	326		5816
Mae La Oo (HGN)	12	6	44	21	12		39	8	132	-	-		274
Mae Rama Luang (HGN)	7	4	11	16	25	144	51	13	103	-	7		381
<b>Total</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>939</b>	<b>1819</b>	<b>1652</b>	<b>2118</b>	<b>2607</b>	<b>2188</b>	<b>1956</b>	<b>1759</b>	<b>483</b>	<b>629</b>		<b>16873</b>

## NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN THE CAMPS January, 2009.

MAE SOT AREA	CAMP	No. of Families	Over – 12 Yrs		6 – 12 Yrs		Under 5 Yrs		Total
			M	F	M	F	M	F	
	Mae La	7,339	12,905	12,086	5,002	4,557	2,540	2,466	39,556
	Um Phiem Mai	4,375	6,253	6,087	1,563	1,429	1,682	1,555	18,569
		<b>11,714</b>	<b>19,158</b>	<b>18,173</b>	<b>6,565</b>	<b>5,986</b>	<b>4,222</b>	<b>4,021</b>	<b>58,125</b>
NORTH	Mae Ra Moe	2,899	5,761	5,612	1,820	1,639	1,185	1,235	17,252
	Mae La Oo	2,837	5,810	5,427	1,818	1,705	1,044	983	16,787
	<b>Total</b>	<b>5,736</b>	<b>11,571</b>	<b>11,039</b>	<b>3,638</b>	<b>3,344</b>	<b>2,229</b>	<b>2,218</b>	<b>34,039</b>
SOUTH	Noh Poe	4,787	6,725	6,021	1,494	1,573	1,208	1,162	18,183
	Ban Dong Yang	880	1,467	1,530	402	382	365	328	4,474
	Htam Him	1,110	1,634	1,854	530	482	361	395	5,256
	<b>Total</b>	<b>6,777</b>	<b>9,826</b>	<b>9,405</b>	<b>2,426</b>	<b>2,437</b>	<b>1,934</b>	<b>1,885</b>	<b>27,913</b>
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>24,227</b>	<b>40,555</b>	<b>38,617</b>	<b>12,629</b>	<b>11,767</b>	<b>8,385</b>	<b>8,124</b>	<b>120,077</b>

We shall always be grateful to the Thai people and Government for their sympathy and understanding in allowing us safe refuge. We are also indebted to the NGOs for their Supports and Services.

**TBBC** – Support in Food and Shelter Material. TBBC is also supporting with warm clothing for all the camps. TBBC is Supporting with Camps Management program to help with Administration, Management Stability improvements in all (7) Camps.

**TBBC** - Has been providing **KRC** with administrative & organizational Support. It has also supported with remuneration for **KRC** members and workers.

**MSF** – Support in Medical and Health facilities.

**AMI** – Support in Medical and Health facilities.

**ARC** – Support in Medical and Health facilities.

**M.I (Malteser International) formerly MHD** – Support in Medical and Health facilities.

**ZOA (ABW aid)** – Support in Educational facilities Teachers' Training.

**World Education / Consortium** – Support in Educational facilities, Teachers' Training and Education for Deaf / Mute / Blinds.

**TOPS** – Support in Educational facilities Nurseries.

**ICS – Asia** – Support in Educational facilities, Teaching, Learning Aid.

**COERR** – Rice and Educational support. **EVI** – To be involved with Extremely Vulnerable people, care and support.

**H.I** – Support for Refugee Handicaps with Prosthesis and rehabilitation and also year – end sporting events for Handicaps.

**UNHCR** – For Registration Process Protection and Ultimate Safe Repatriation. Now helping with Resettlement.

**SMRU** – Support with Malaria Control, Prevention and Treatment.

**SVA** – To support with Libraries in the camps.

**PPAT** – Parenthood Planning Association Thailand – Supporting with Family Planning and Preventive/ Education in Refugee Camps.

**SOLIDARITES** – Support the Burmese refugees in the camp addressing sanitation issues.

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