



**H.E. Dr. Sasa, Union Minister of the Ministry of International Cooperation
and Spokesperson of the National Unity Government of Myanmar,
former Myanmar Special Envoy to the United Nations
Addressed the Alliance of Asian Americans Baptist Churches, the
caucus of American Baptist Churches - United States of America**

24 June 2021

Dear friends, brothers and sisters, thank you for having me!

On behalf of the people of Myanmar, I want to say a warm thank you for giving me this opportunity to present the plight of the people of Myanmar and appeal for your prayers and support in this darkest hour in the history of Myanmar. The National Unity Government of Myanmar and the brave people of Myanmar greatly appreciate you all for your prayers, your support and for standing with us at this critical moment in our history. This is the most pivotal moment in the history of Myanmar. While the fate and future of Myanmar hangs in the balance, the strong and continued support and prayers from you all are absolutely crucial in stopping this reign of terror. More so than ever, the 54 million courageous citizens of Myanmar need the continued strong friendship, coordinated support and prayer from you all in fulfilling our hopes, aspirations, and dreams. The people of Myanmar have suffered so much for far too long under the hands of the brutal and cruel military generals and their regimes.

I want to take this opportunity to appeal to you all for your prayers, support and action:

According to the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), 1.2 million civilians are currently displaced by the violence caused by the military junta's reign of terror. There is nothing normal about 1.2 million innocent civilians in Myanmar being forced to flee their homes due to this oppressive military junta.

The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) is predicting that over half of the population of Myanmar (approximately 27 million people) will be living in poverty within a year. There is nothing normal about 27 million innocent civilians in Myanmar facing this harsh poverty.

The United Nations World Food Program (WFP) is predicting that more than 6.4 million people in Myanmar are going to face starvation by the end of October of this year. There is nothing normal about 6.4 million innocent civilians dying from starvation and thirst. It will be heart breaking to count the number of deaths caused by not only the deepening crisis of

violence, but also by the tragedy of poverty and hunger that has begun directly as a result of the terroristic actions of this brutal military junta in Myanmar.

We cannot allow the normalization of 1.2 million Myanmar People being violently forced to flee from their homes because of a Military dictator's thirst for power. We cannot allow the normalization of 6.4 million Myanmar people being forced into starvation, nor can we allow the normalization of 27 million people in Myanmar being forced into extreme poverty because of the greed of a few old generals.

Injustice cannot be made into justice. Since the failed coup in Myanmar on the first of February 2021:

There can be no justification whatsoever for the brutal murder of over 915 people, including 72 children, by the military junta forces. We will never allow the normalization of the murder of innocent civilians, and it is a matter of justice and accountability. There is no justification whatsoever for illegally arresting and detaining more than 6,200 innocent Myanmar people without cause, including our elected officials, our State Counsellor, Daw San Suu Kyi, Mr. President U Win Myint and dozens of brave journalists, by the illegal military junta. There is no justification whatsoever for the torture and intimidation by the military junta of innocent civilians and forcing over 2,000 of them to flee from illegal arrest warrants, for the mere 'CRIME' of expressing their fundamental and universal Human Rights.

The illegal military junta committed another crime against Humanity on the 16th of June 2021 by burning down the entire village of Kinma (over 250 homes), in Sagaing Region of Myanmar, and burning elderly people to death who were trapped inside their homes. This is not a first, however, as this military junta is guilty of war crimes, genocide, crimes against Humanity, and ethnic cleansing against the Rohingya people and the people of Karen, Kachin, Shan, Mon, Rakhine, and Chin States, which account for over 40% of the population of Myanmar.

This violence we are seeing instigated by the military junta in Myanmar is both systematic and widespread. The brutal junta forces are attacking Churches, Schools, Villages, Towns and Cities across Myanmar with heavy battlefield weapons. They have occupied Churches, Schools, Community halls and Hospitals nationwide to use as Barracks and Supply Depots. These junta forces are replacing textbooks and pencils with guns and bullets; replacing Bibles and Hymnals with Mortars and bombs; and replacing live-saving Hospital equipment with weapons of destruction and death.

It is not normal that classrooms are being occupied by junta soldiers, and that the school children are being forced to flee for their lives; nor is it normal that places of worship and community centers are being occupied by the junta forces, and that the communities, Pastors, Monks, and leaders are being forced to flee for their lives. It is not normal that our Hospitals, Colleges, Universities, Banks, and Economy is crashing due to this military reign of terror. It is not normal that our Teachers, Tutors, Professors, Doctors, Nurses, Midwives, Engineers, Scholars and Civil Servants are being forced to flee for their lives because of their peaceful movement of CDM which is more powerful than the military junta's acts of terrorism against the people of Myanmar.

To address this great Humanitarian catastrophe, we have been making wholesale efforts and sacrifices to bring relief and aid to the desperate people of Myanmar who have suffered so much, for so long. We know where the aid is needed; we know how to get it there; and we are ready to deliver this aid to the locations where it is so desperately needed. However, we urgently need your help, support, and prayers in the following five projects:

- 1) **FOOD PROJECT**
- 2) **HEALTH PROJECT**
- 3) **SHELTER PROJECT**
- 4) **EDUCATION PROJECT**
- 5) **NO-ONE-LEFT-BEHIND PROJECT**

We have been working around the clock on these five projects in order to secure and provide relief, aid and humanitarian assistance to the Myanmar population who are in the areas of greatest need, and to secure partners for providing continuing humanitarian relief and aid. We have a coordination team ready to deliver this relief and aid to the areas of greatest and most urgent need. Due to safety and security considerations for our team on the ground, I cannot reveal the exact details of our strategy at the current time, however, I assure you that every donation for these projects will go to those areas in greatest need.

Our National Unity Government Myanmar, the legitimate and democratically elected government of Myanmar, is ready, willing, and able to help in all these coordinated efforts. This is the first time in the history of Myanmar that there has been a National Unity Government with the full support of the people. We need the endorsement, recognition, acknowledgement and engagement from the free countries, peoples and leaders of the world who believe in freedom, justice, and democracy. This is the first time in our history that elected members of Parliament, Political Parties, Ethnic Leaders, Ethnic Armed Organizations, and grass roots Civil Society Organizations in Myanmar have come together as one united people to oppose the common enemy - the tyrannical military dictators. This is the greatest opportunity of the century. We must seize upon this window of opportunity and put an end to this darkness, illegitimate regime, and begin afresh with a transparent Federal Democratic Union of Myanmar. This mandate I have from the will of the people is:

Building of a Federal Democratic Union of Myanmar where both Federal States and Federal Union Governments are by the people and for the people, and where the rights of ALL regardless of Race, Gender, Culture, Ethnicity, Background, and Religion are equally respected, protected and promoted. A place where power and resource sharing will be based on the principles of equality and self-determination, and where the three branches of Parliament, Judiciary and Executive will function independently.

Total eradication of military dictatorship and the current genocidal military which has become a cancer to the nation and the people of Myanmar, and to replace it with an ethical and inclusive armed force that belongs to the people of Myanmar and is led by the civilian government which is elected by the people and for the people.

Complete nullification of the 2008 constitution created by the junta and for the junta, and repealing and replacing discriminative laws, such as the 1982 citizenship law, with

new laws and a federal democratic constitution for the people of Myanmar. This will be done in an inclusive manner and only with the consensus of ALL of our people. A constitutional convention and referendum will be held on the permanent draft of the federal democratic constitution which will belong to the people of Myanmar for generations to come.

The only way to peace, prosperity and stability in Myanmar and the region is the eradication of military dictatorships in Myanmar and building of federal democratic Union of Myanmar for ALL the people of Myanmar. I am very proud of the courageous people of Myanmar who are on the front lines of this movement to liberate our nation from a brutal military regime, and for their bravery and their commitment to human rights, a Federal Democracy and Freedom for ALL the people of Myanmar.

Mark my words: we, the opposition to the illegal junta, will win in our struggle to liberate Myanmar from the brutal military junta. At the end of this we will emerge as an inclusive Myanmar that is committed to Democracy, Human Rights, and to being a responsible partner in the Global Community. With the help of God, with the support and prayers from you all, our vision and our dream will become a powerful reality and will bear testimony to the glorious future that awaits us.

The brave people of Myanmar are facing deep darkness, but the light will win. We are facing evil, but good will ultimately prevail. This is a struggle between justice and injustice, but justice will prevail. This is the end-game fight between peace and violence, stability and instability, and in the end, peace, prosperity and stability will prevail. This battle between freedom and tyranny, fairness and unfairness, life and death, federal democracy and military dictatorship, the brutal military junta and the 54 million peaceful people of Myanmar - will end in victory if we never give up and never surrender. We shall prevail! We will obtain light, justice, peace, prosperity, stability, freedom, fairness, and a federal democracy. We, the 54 million people of Myanmar, will prevail. We will win!

Thank you again, and May God richly bless you! May God bless the people and country of Myanmar!

Sincerely,

H.E. Dr. Sasa

Union Minister of the Ministry of International Cooperation

Spokesperson of the National Unity Government

Former Special Envoy of Myanmar to the United Nations