

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## The Burmese military's fighter jet killed students at Vanha village, Chin State in Burma

Ellicott City, MD ----On October 14, 2025, the Central Council of CDF-Hakha, which is one of the Chin resistance groups in Chin State, Burma, issued a statement condemning the killing of young students in Vanha village by the Burmese military, also known as the Tatmadaw. The Tatmadaw's fighter jet bombed the school at Vanha village around 10am on October 13, Burma Time. Vanha village is only 22 miles from Hakha, which is the capital of Chin State. The airstrikes killed two students (8 yrs. old boy and 12 yrs. old girl) and injured another 21 students. The statement further said that the CDF-Hakha is not based in Vanha village, and therefore, the Tatmadaw's bombing of the village is a deliberate targeting of civilians.

The Tatmadaw has continued the systematic violations of human rights and religious freedom in Burma by killing the civilians and destroying homes and religious sites across the country.

On March 7, 2025, the BRI, Christians and community organizations in the United States sent a letter to Secretary of State Maro Rubio. They urged the Secretary "to determine that the human rights abuses and systematic violations of religious freedom or belief targeting Christians committed by the Burmese military regime, also known as the Tatmadaw, and security forces constitute crimes against humanity and war crimes. Such a determination would be an important step towards accountability for the Tatmadaw, to cease the violence against civilians, and protect ethnic and religious minority groups including Christians". On behalf of Secretary Rubio, we received an encouraging response to our letter from a Senior Bureau Official on March 27, 2025.

The BRI issues the following statement.

- 1. Condemning the Burmese military's airstrikes on the school in Vanha village that killed two students and injured 21 students and similar airstrikes across Burma.
- 2. Calling on the Administration to determine that these continued military atrocities against civilians and targeting religious minorities including Christians in Burma constitute crimes against humanity and war crimes.

Below are photos of the two young students killed by the airstrikes and photos of the destroyed school building in Vanha village. Photos were provided to BRI by a CDF-Hakha supporter.







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The Burma Research Institute (BRI) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Ellicott City, Maryland, United States that conducts research and advocacy. BRI primarily focuses on freedom of religion or belief, human rights, and protection and assistance of refugees and internally displaced people in Burma. Formerly known as the Chin Association of Maryland, BRI also empowers the local Chin community in Maryland and across the United States to successfully integrate into American society. (www.burmari.org). ###