

NEWSLETTER

31 August 2023

Karen Education and Culture Department

KEY MESSAGE FROM DEPARTMENT HEAD

BY: P'DOH SAW LAW EH MOO

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen. Thank you very much for attending and tuning in to our first 100 day KNU in New Era press conference.

My name is Saw Law Eh Moo and currently serving as the Head of the Karen Education and Culture Department under the flagship of the Karen National Union. Our Department is responsible for the administration and the delivery of education services in 7 Karen Nation Union administrated districts and at the same time to maintain and promote the Karen culture and traditions.



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Our Vision

A peaceful, pluralistic and just society founded on an educational climate that provides equal access to appropriate and quality educational services and experience for individuals and their communities to realize their full potentials, and experience and maintain their cultures.



We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Naw Hay Thi Dew for receiving the 2022 Padoh Mahn Sha Young Leader Award. Her achievement is truly well-deserved. Naw Hay Thi Dew serves as the headteacher of Hto Lwe Wah High School and Junior College in Taw Oo District .

Under her dynamic leadership, the school expanded into a junior college in 2018. Since then, the institution has grown from 82 students and 10 teachers to an impressive 700 students and 30 teachers. We, KECD, take immense pride in her accomplishments. Naw Hay Thi Dew stands as an exceptional example and role model, particularly for young women. Her commitment to community engagement and her dedication to assuming leadership roles inspire us all.

We believe her journey will encourage more young people to actively participate in community endeavors and embrace leadership responsibilities.

Issued By:

Communications and Advocacy Unit

Karen Education and Culture Department

Key message from department head

Speaking about education, the principles of inclusion, equality, peace and democracy are at the cornerstones of the education system that we are delivering. As many of you may be aware, the Karen National Union have officially announced the values and principles of federal democracy the Karen National Union are abiding to, we have aligned our system designing and program implementation accordingly.

In federal, having education system in the language that student speaks, in other words mother tongue, is one of the most fundamental underlining elements of a system. The unique aspect of Karen education system is that we have our own curriculum, which is a mother tongue based-multilingual education system approach. This approach is at the heart of our Karen education system, and we are continuously striving to improve and strengthen the integrity of the quality of the service. In addition, as main contributor to the development of our nation, the education department is mandated to establish Karen National College to prepare and equip students with relevant competencies required in this 21st Century setting.

Education and schooling in our community have been disrupted even prior to the military coup during COVID-19 pandemic time Burmese Government issued strict directives in preventing schooling and education to take place. These challenges and disruptions have been doubled since the Burma army staged the military coup and military retaliation to the opposition with indiscriminate airstrikes and mortar shelling. To date, more than 18 schools had been destroyed in these shelling and attacks. No matter how hard the military regime is trying to suppress us, we have survived these difficulties with the support and collaboration of local community. According to the statistics from 2022 - 2023 academic year, there are more than 110,000 students have enrolled in our basic education program, which is Grade 1 to 12 and more than 2000 students have enrolled in our higher education program, the Junior Colleges administered by the Department.

One of the main objectives of our revolution is to bring any forms of doctorship and chauvinism to an end and to build a peaceful, just and pluralistic society. The military regime have always targeted education in making education inaccessible so that they can freely manipulate the country especially youth, allowing, gambling, criminal activities and drugs to be wide spreading in the community to keep young people away from politics and involved in the fight for social justice. However, in resisting all these provocations, under the leadership of the Karen National Union a new generation leadership program have been educated, trained and equipped the Karen youth with relevant skills set to serve and lead their respective community and organization as they are the most invaluable resources and assets of our nation. The spirit need to be carried on and kept alive.

Karen State is home not only to the Karen but also home to Mon, Pa'O, Burmese, Dawei, Muslim, Hindu and other ethnic nationalities. Karen State itself is already a mini federal within Burma. Therefore, we are in the process of developing an education system that is reflective of this nature based on federal democracy within the principles of the right to self determination.

In conclusion, the Karen Education and Culture Department as the education wing of a revolutionary government who are providing service delivery, public administration, political initiative and civilian protection, there are many needs to be addressed but we vow to continue provide public services with given available resources at hand.



FIRST 100 DAYS: KNU IN NEW ERA

AUGUST 10, 2023



zoom

The Karen Wrist-Tying Ceremony is an esteemed annual event that takes place in the month of August. During this occasion, the Karen people gracefully entwine threads around their wrists, symbolizing protection against illnesses and the preservation of their rich cultural heritage. The festivities are further adorned with a sumptuous feast and captivating traditional dances, making it a truly memorable and cherished event.

We, at KECD, extend our warm greetings to the Karen community, wishing for their continued good health and the safeguarding of their cultural heritage in the years to come.

Illustration by MTB-MLE team.



တိမေလကပါတီဘို့ခို့ဒီဘုံပါစဲလဲဖိမ့်နှင့်



Interview with District Education Officer of Taw Oo District



ကိုရွှေ့ပျော်ယ်ကည်ကူးသဲ့လေဝကျိုးစို့ တီခို့ရို့မဲ့ဝဲ့ဒဲ့တဲ့ဝက္းကို အတော်သူ့ထို့ရဲ (၃၁.၇.၂၀၂၃)နဲ့ ကိုရွှေ့ကူးသဲ့လေဝ ကျို့ခို့ဒဲ့ကိုကမဲ့တဲ့၊ ကိုဖို့ပို့ပို့တနဲ့ဟော်ပို့ရယောက်းဝဲ့ဒဲ့အတော်သူ့ထို့အေးတယ်ပြု့ကိုကရာ်ပူ့နဲ့နို့တကိုကိုဆုံးနှုံးလို့၊ ကိုအတော်သူ့ထို့အော်တော်ဆို့ထွဲမေစားအော်DKCDGနှုံးလို့၊

By: Saw Shair Paung Kyi

Edit: Saw Way Can

Issued By: Communications and Advocacy Unit (KECD)



Training for subject trainers

Within the Training Unit of KECD, a training session was held for subject trainers focusing in Science, Social Studies, and Geography. The training took place at the KECD headquarters from July 24th to August 4th. A total of 55 subject trainers, including both central and district trainers from all 7 districts, participated in the training program.



Issued By: Communications and Advocacy Unit (KECD)

#karen #education #Higher_Education #KECD #KGED #Peace





The Karen Education and Culture Department's Bureau of Special Project is pleased to announce the organization of two significant events on August 31, 2023: the Closing Ceremony for TVET Short Course Batch 2/2023 and the Opening Ceremony for TVET Short Course Batch 3/2023. These events are integral to our vocational training program hosted at the K'Paw Htaw Technical and Vocational Education and Training Center.

Under the auspices of the Bureau of Special Project, we offer a range of valuable services, including:

1. Vocational Training Program
2. Non-Formal Education (NFE)
3. Library Program
4. Education in Emergency (EiE) Program
5. Boarding House Program

At the Karen Education and Culture Department, we collaborate closely with local communities, community leaders, local authorities, as well as regional and international organizations to ensure that educational policies and practices foster inclusion, equality, peace, and democracy within our region and beyond.



Deadly Incident Unfolds in KECD Schools: Innocent Lives Lost

August 20th – A tragic incident unfolded within the Kawthoolei administrative area, specifically in Pae Thaung village, Ler Doh Township, Kler Lwee Htoo District . On the evening of August 13th, the State Administration Council (SAC) unleashed a series of heavy weapon firings upon the village, culminating in a devastating explosion that rocked Pae Thaung village.

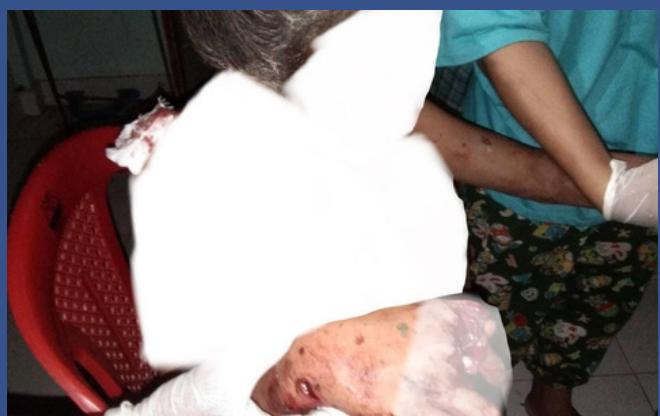
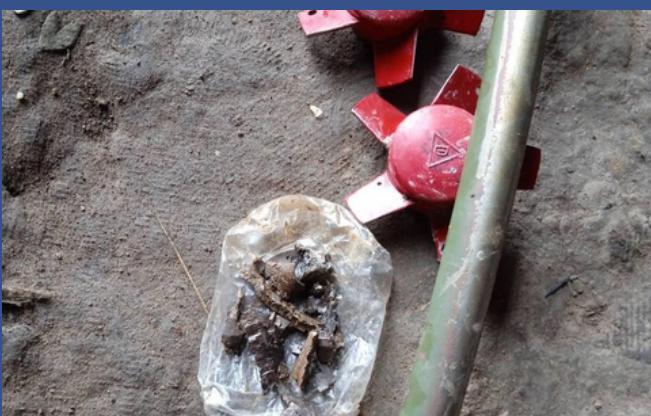
The aftermath of this heavy weapon assault has left the community submerged in grief and anguish. Among the casualties, four innocent students bore the brunt. Tragically, the lives of Saw Eh Kalu (13 years old) and Saw Bo Lo Thee (16 years old) were abruptly cut short due to the unrelenting violence. Additionally, two other young lives, Saw Khwar Si (11 years old) and Naw Byae Byae (15 years old), hang in the balance as they currently battle critical injuries in the throes of an emergency situation.

On August 14th at 1:00 PM, the SAC once again deployed their heavy weaponry, this time targeting the village of Inn Kat Palate. The heavy weapon fire resulted in harrowing consequences, as three bullets erupted in violent explosions within the vicinity.

Alarmingly, one of these explosive projectiles found its catastrophic mark within the school area of the village. Among the wounded were a teacher and two students, who now grapple with pain and trauma as they battle their injuries.

These incidents have ignited outrage and condemnation from both local and international communities, shedding light on the ongoing strife and suffering endured by the people of Kawthoolei.

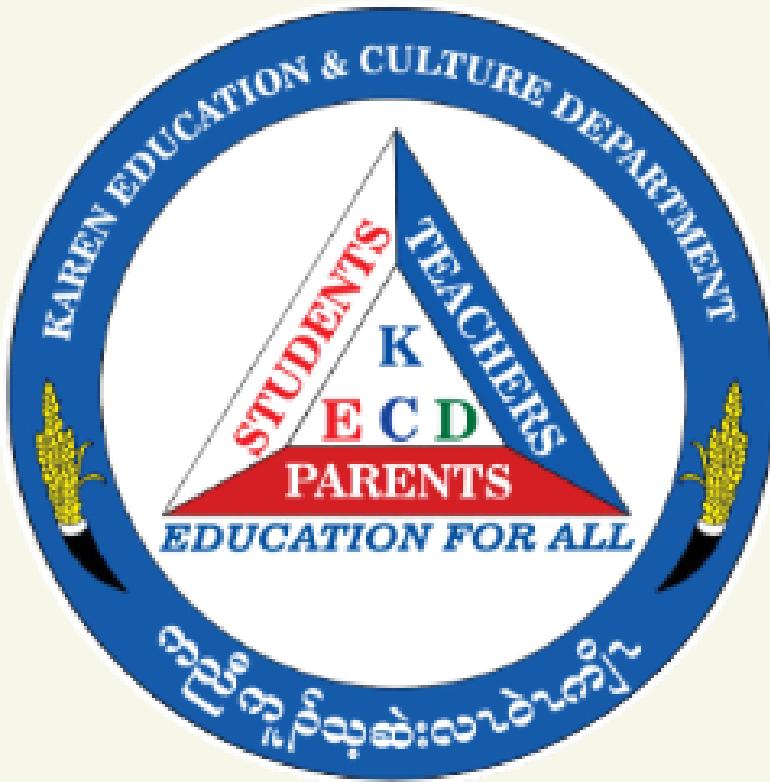
Photo credit- KNU page



တိမ်မေလာကပိုကည်းမေတူရမှုနှင့်







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ကရင်ပညာရေးနှင့်ယဉ်ကျေးမှုဌာန (KECD) သည် ကရင်အမျိုးသားအစည်းအရုံး (KNU)လက်အောက်ရှိ ဌာန ၁၂ ခုအတွင်းမှ ပညာရေး ဝန်ဆောင်မှု နှင့် ယဉ်ကျေးမှုဆိုင်ရာ ကိစ္စရပ်များအတွက် ပြည်သူလူထုအား ဝန်ဆောင်မှုပေးရန် ဖွဲ့စည်းထားသည့် ဌာနတာ့ဖြစ်သည်။ KECD သည်ကရင်အမျိုးသားအစည်းအရုံး KNU အုပ်ချုပ်နယ်မြေ ခရိုင် ၇ ခုတွင် အခြေခံပညာ ကျောင်း (၁၄၉၅) ကျောင်း အဆင့်မြင့် ပညာရေး ဂျိနိယာကောလိပ် (၁၁) ကျောင်းနှင့် ပုဂ္ဂလိက အဆင့်မြင့်ပညာရေးဝန်ဆောင်မှု (၁၁) ကျောင်း တိုကို စီမံပွိုင့်လှစ်ထားသည်။ ဆရာအတက်သင်ကောလိပ် (၂၂) ကျောင်းနှင့် သက်မွေးပညာသင်တန်းကျောင်း (၁၁) ကျောင်း တို့လည်း ဖွင့်လှစ်စီမံလျက်ရှိသည်။ (၂၀၂၁-၂၀၂၂) ပညာသင်နှစ်တွင် အခြေခံပညာ ကျောင်းများ၏ ကျောင်းသား ကျောင်းသူ (၁၀၉၃၂၃၃) ဦး ပညာသင်ကြားခဲ့ ပြီး အဆင့်မြင့်ပညာ ကျောင်းများတွင် ကျောင်းသား ကျောင်းသူ (၂၃၀၈၈) ဦး ပညာသင်ကြားခဲ့ကြသည်။