



Millions of Refugees are fleeing Myanmar as a result of the Military coup that took place on February 1st, 2021.

More than 30,000 refugees are currently living in Mizoram without the basic necessities.

With your help , we can provide them food, shelter, and send their children to school.

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# Mission Foundation Movement

Mission Foundation Movement (MFM) was established in 2004 as a Non-Profit Organization registered under Firms and Societies Act, 1860 (Extension to Mizoram Act No.3 of 1977) on 22th December, 2004 dedicated to accelerating Skill Development of Youths, Community Health, Para-medical institutions, and Community Development irrespective of tribe, caste, creed, ethnicity, or religion.

Our vision is to empower youth with prerequisite skills and knowledge creating better job opportunities for themselves and the community, improving women and child health, promote public health and revamping Entrepreneurship in Mizoram.

Mission Foundation Movement envisions to reach out and expand to implement community health programs to increase quality healthcare & accessibility, improvement in child & maternity health, expansion of skill development training among youth for income generation programme and instil Entrepreneurship spirit among the younger generation.

Mission Foundation Movement targeted to impact the lives of unemployed youths, non/neo literates, women and children, socially and economically backward class, start-up entrepreneurs, and at large rural community and urban poor.



## Relief and Development projects under MFM:

The organisation works in various Relief programme like Mautam tam (Bamboo Famine) which happen after every 50 years in Mizoram. We have taken an active part in Relief and Development projects across Mizoram. During the 2006 'Mautam' (Bamboo famine), many farming communities were hard struck and were unable to harvest their crops. To help these communities, we distributed food grains and other amenities to 60 villages covering around a 1000 families in Lunglei District.

When the Covid Pandemic hits Mizoram we sent our Relief & Development team to 20 villages, covering more than 700 families in Aizawl, Lunglei, Kolasib and Mamit District for distributing food stuff to people who are in need. Several of our trainees also volunteered as Covid Frontline Warriors at various locations around Aizawl city.

*Distribution of foodgrains at backward villages in Assam*



*Free Clinics are carried out annually by our medical staffs*



*Covid vaccination drive in partnership with USAAID*



## Short summary of Myanmar coup

On the morning of Feb 1st 2021, a military coup began in Myanmar where the democratically elected National League of Democracy (NLD) were deposed by the Myanmar military Regime. A state of emergency was immediately proclaimed and power was transferred to Commander-in Chief of Defense Service Min Aung Hlaing. The coup took place just before the new Parliament members were sworn in and top NLD party leaders were detained. As of June, 2022, it has been reported that more than 1000 civilians have lost their lives, including women and children and many more arrested. This has resulted in thousands of refugees fleeing Myanmar to various parts of the world.

## Refugees in Mizoram:

Mizoram, a small state of India shares a 510 km long border with Myanmar and thousands of refugees have crossed over to several parts of the state. “The Mizoram government has initiated the process of issuing identity cards to nearly 30,000-odd Myanmarse refugees”, “These are temporary identity cards that include their name, age, place of origin and their current residence for the safety of the refugees as well as easier identification,” - The Indian Express (12th June, 2022), the actual number of refugees in Mizoram is believed to be over 50,000 as of May 2022.

Non Governmental Organization (NGO)s, Church Based Organizations (CBOs) and the general public have been donating cash and food grains ever since the first refugees began to arrive. District Level Refugee Committee have been established at all eleven (11) districts of Mizoram to better organise the relief programmes.

The Mizo people have historical and close cultural ties with the people of Myanmar, especially those in the Chin State who have also been the forefront of armed resistance of the military Junta. Mizo historians have traced a large part of Mizo origin and history to this part of Myanmar and most of them belong to the various sub tribes of Mizo/Zo. Hence, even with the Indian Government’s Non-Intervention Policy towards them, NGOs and many Organizations in Mizoram have been providing them shelter, food, clothes and education for children.



## Reports on Myanmar Refugees in Mizoram

An estimated 2800 families live in various refugee camps and 4800 families live with their relatives in Mizoram with many more arriving monthly.

On 6th June 2022, Mission Foundation Movement sent a survey team to the refugee camp at Nghalchawm Village near Aizawl (Mamit District) to inspect the living conditions of the refugees. An encampment was established at a reserved area near Nghalchawm village. The following is a brief report from the survey:

- 1) The refugees here began to arrive around October, 2021 mainly from Ki Hlueng village in Chin District, Myanmar. Most of them belong to Matu tribe.
- 2) There are currently 13 families living at the camp site and about 5 families living with their relatives in Nghalchawm village. In total, 91 refugees lives in the area, 16 of them being children. The oldest is 90 years old and the youngest is one year old.
- 3) The encampment is a makeshift bamboo hut with tarpaulin roofs. The rainy season in Mizoram is usually from the month of April – October with heavy rainfall expected shortly. Better housing materials and tin roofing is urgently needed.
- 5) Food grain is the most urgent need. Rice is their primary food and supply is often scarce and they depend heavily on donations from Non Governmental Organizations and the general public. The refugees also grow their own vegetables at the camp site (rice, pumkin, beans, tomatoes, etc).
- 6) Water supply is another major problem, currently, a 500 litre water tank is shared by 13 families which is grossly insufficient. Their main source of water supply comes from donations from nearby villages which can be inconsistent. Currently they get by with the rain water they harvested using

*As of March 2022, it is estimated that 30,443 refugees from Myanmar are currently living in Mizoram and many more who are still undocumented.*

District	Refugee Camps	Living with Relatives
Aizawl	950	750
Lunglei	772	1356
Siaha	2,591	6,800
Champhai	28,10	3115
Kolasib	0	535
Serchhip	0	486
Lawngtlai	2373	3366
Siaha	1050	719
Saitual	0	662
Khawzawl	0	479
Hnahthial	641	988
Total	11187	19,256
Gran total	30443	

small water buckets. Consistent and heavy rainfall is expected from June-July and better and bigger water storage units are very much needed.

- 7) Medical aid and health care facilities are another urgent requirements especially for the old aged and children. Currently there is one TB patient who lives in an isolated hut and two mentally challenged individuals.



- 8) The women living here expressed their needs for sanitary pads and better bathroom and toilets facilities with more privacy.
- 9) Electricity is very much needed as there is no formal power supply. This created problems especially for children who needs to study at night.
- 10) The smaller children goes to nearby schools while the bigger kids goes to school in Aizawl. School uniforms, school bags, Books, pencils and pens are also needed as they are paying it for themselves.
- 11) The refugees here also need proper Covid Test as many of them have not had proper testing and vaccination yet.
- 12) Other immediate necessary items includes: Beds, blankets, mosquito nets, water buckets & mugs, clothes, gas cylinders and stove, etc.

Mission Foundation Movement is planning to conduct more surveys at other Refugee camps in the near future. Plans are ongoing to organize free clinics at various camps sites located in Aizawl, Mamit, Lunglei and Kolasib Districts respectively.



*A 500 litre capacity water tank is shared by 13 families. There is no formal water supply and they depend on donations from nearby villages.*



Mrs. Meizi, 30 years old, had just started a family with her husband and two children, 3 and 1 years old. The family owned a small paddy field at Ki Hlu-eng, a small village in Chin District, Myanmar. It seemed the whole world was in front of her and her young family. But on the night of 23rd September, her husband never came home. He was a suspected member of the Chin National Defense Force, a rebel group that operates in their area. It was soon learnt that he was murdered at the hands of the Military Junta along with many others in their village. She is now a single mother of two living in a refugee camp. She does not speak the local language and struggle to provide for her two young children.



Mr. Alea (26), a TB patient in isolation



*The refugees grow vegetables in a small plot of land surrounding their camp. However, they depend heavily on donation for foodgrains and other food items.*



*Innocent children are often the most vulnerable. They need proper nutrition, education and a safe environment.*







*The oldest couple in Nghal-chawm camp; Mr Heia 90 and his wife MRs Zil Bawli, 85. Both are in poor health condition needing medical aid.*

Mr. Heia and his wife Mrs. Zil Bawii used to be farmers in their younger days, knowing nothing but hard labor from dawn till dusk. This elderly couple was forcefully displaced during the Myanmar Military Coup in 2021. At their age, they deserve a retirement home where they can play with their grandchildren and a peaceful environment where they can spend the rest of their lives. They need constant medical care and a proper home. They live in a small bamboo hut without water and power supply, not knowing where their next meal will come from. Surely, no grandparent deserves to spend their remaining days in this way.



*Mentally challenged refugees also need special care*

