

Kachin Independence Organization

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Armed wing: Kachin Independence Army

Government name: Kachin State Special Region-2



SUMMARY

Founded: 5 February 1961
Headquarters: Laiza, Kachin state
Operational Area: 8 brigades across Kachin State and Northern Shan state
Estimated strength: 10,000 to 12,000

(excluding the KIO's MHH and MKM civilian militia forces)

The KIO's armed wing the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) is the second largest ethnic armed group in

Leadership:

Chairman of KIO and President of Kachin Independence

Council : Lanyaw Zawng Hra

Vice-President 1: General N'Ban La

Vice- President 2 (KIC): Major Gen Gunmaw

General Secretary: U La Nan

Joint Gen Secretary: Col Waw Hkyung Sin Wa

Commander in Chief: Lt Gen. Gun Htang Gam Shawng

Deputy C-in-C 1: Brig Gen. Yuk Hkayawng Hkawng Lum

Deputy C-in-C 2: Brig Gen. Awng Seng La

KIA's 8 brigades:

- Brigade 1 (Putao area)
- Brigade 2 (Tanine area)
- Brigade 3 (Bhamo area)
- Brigade 4 (northern Shan state - Kutkai)
- Brigade 5 (Sadon area)
- Brigade 6 (northern Shan state - Mongkoe)
- Brigade 7 (Pangwa area)
- Brigade 8 (Indawgyi area)

Peace Process

Ceasefire & Peace Process:

Preliminary Peace Talks and combatant

Previous ceasefire: 24 Feb. 1994

Official delegation team: Rotational

Conflict Resolution Team – CRT

1. Brig. Gen Zau Tawng(leader)
2. Lt. Col. Naw Li
3. Maj. Taint Boam
4. U Dau Hka
5. U La Yeik
6. Minzai Hkawng Lum

Liaison offices: Technical Advisory

Team office in Myitkyina.

Alliances: FPNCC, Northern Alliance - Burma

Contact:

Website: <http://kachinnet.net/>

Email: kachinnet.net@outlook.com

Wechat ID: gamung2016

Official delegation team

Rotational

Liaison offices

Previously: 22 liaison offices in Kachin and Shan states under the 1994: Myitkyina and Bhamo

All Liaison offices were ordered to close in November 2010

KIO's technical advisory team office is also running as a liaison office.

KIO Justice and Negotiation center

Located: Prang Ngawn village, Loijay Township, Kachin State, Myanmar

KIO's Technical Advisory Team

Located: No. NR/114, Shatapru ward, Myitkyina Township, Kachin State on July 2013

KIO member:

1. Gawlu La Awng (deputy director of foreign Relations department)
2. Col. Phongan KhunNawng
3. Col. Sin Wah
4. Sara Dau Hka

Civilian:

1. Saranum Lu Nan
 2. Sara Brang Mai
 3. Min Zai Dau Lum
 4. Sara La Yeik
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Peace Creation Group

Website: <http://peace-talkcreationgroup.com/>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PeaceTalkCreation-Group>
Email: welcometopcg@gmail.com

The Peace-talk Creation Group is made up of Kachin businessmen. They have been instrumental in assisting peace talks between the KIO and government by mediating between the two sides and provide financial assistance for meetings.

Membership includes:

Yup ZawHkaung of Jade land company Lamai Gum Ja Hkupra KhunAwng Nshan San Awng. The group

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Meetings

#	Date	Location	KIO Rep
1	17/06/11	Laiza, Kachin	KIO Central Committee
2	30/06/11	Laja Yang Village, Kachin State	Maj. Gen. Gun Maw + (4)
3	01-02/08/11	Laja Yang village, Kachin State	Maj. Gen. Gun Maw + (4)
4	19/11/11	Mae Sai, Thailand	Lt. Gen. N'Ban La
5	29/11/11	Ruili, China	Lanyaw Zawng Hra
6	18-19/01/12	Ruili, China	Sumlut Gam + (11)
7	8,9,10/03/12	Ruili, China	Sumlut Gam + (7)
8	21/05/12	Chiang Rai, Thailand	Maj. Gen. Gun Maw, Brig
9	1/06/12	Maija Yang	Sumlut Gam +(4)

No agreement was reached. KIO complained that the Myanmar military was attacking their frontline positions.

10	20/06/12	Maija Yang	Sumlut Gam +(4)
Agreed to aim toward more meaningful talks in the next round, including the presence of army C-in-C S			
11	30/10/12	Ruili, China	Sumlut Gam
12	4/02/13	Ruili, China	Sumlut Gam, Maj. Gen. C
13	11-12/03/13	Ruili, China	Sumlut Gam, Maj. Gen. C
14	28-30/05/13	Myitkyina, Kachin State	Sumlut Gam, Maj. Gen. C
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Government of Myanmar and the KIO agree to hold political dialogue. 2. The Parties agree to undertake efforts to achieve de-escalation and cessation of hostilities. 3. The Parties agree in principle to establish joint Monitoring Committees. 4. The Parties agree to continue to undertake relief, rehabilitation, and resettlement of the internally displaced persons. 5. The Parties agree to continue discussions on military issues related to repositioning of troops. 6. The Parties agree to the establishment of a Myitkyina-based KIO representative and technical team. 7. The Parties agreed to continue to allow the participation of representatives of all observer groups. 			
15	08-10/10/13	Myitkyina	Sumlut Gam, Maj.Gen. G
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. preparing for political dialogue 2. cooperate to de-escalate the clashes 3. two technical teams working together to implement pilot projects for resettlement of IDPs 4. to establish a joint monitoring committee 5. to re-open major roads 6. KIO can make public consultations 7. two technical teams will cooperate and discuss for coming peace talks 			
16	16/09/13	Myitkyina	KIO Advisory technical te
17	02/10/13	Myitkyina	KIO Advisory technical te

discuss over 5 issues,

1. both side firing situation
2. IDPs
3. Military code of conduct(joint monitoring committee)
4. political talks
5. Others etc...

18	13/05/14	Myitkyina, Kachin state	KIO
19	28/05/14	Myitkyina, Kachin state	KIO advisory technical te
20	05/07/14	Myitkyina, Kachin state	KIO technical team
21	12/08/2014	Myitkyina	KIO/A led by Col. Zau Ta
22	05/09/2014	Myitkyina	KIO
23	10/09/2014	Bangkok	Col. James Lwan Daung

Rejected meeting invitations:

01/06/2011 KIO's demand for political dialogue and withdrawal of the army from locations close to the areas under control of the KIA as a precondition to further talks were turned down by the government delegation.

09/07/2012 KIA refused to attend scheduled meeting in Bhamo because of an army offensive launched during the weekend near Laiza. The Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Army, Gen. Soe Win was also scheduled to attend the talks.

25/08/2012 KIO rejected an invitation from the government to hold peace talks in Naypyidaw saying it would be "impossible" to meet in the country's capital while its own headquarters remains under siege.

15/04/2012 Rejection of 4th meeting in Myitkyina. Spokesman La Nan said the KIO could not

meet in Myitkyina at this time because the government has escalated its military activities in the area, reinforced troops near KIO headquarters in Laiza, and appeared to be preparing for an assault on KIO outposts.

Developments

The KIO agreed to continue talks with the government through the UNFC at a venue outside of government controlled areas of Myanmar (Jan.22, 2013).

They want a formal “political dialogue” but will not take part in ‘ceasefire talks”. They are advocating for a pushing for an all-inclusive ethnic conference similar that follows the 1947 Panglong agreement. A wide range of ethnic issues and political problems could be discussed with the government, including the release of prisoners on both sides and the rebuilding of villages affected by the long-running war among ethnic groups.

It was reported in June, 2012 that the government decided to drop Article 17/1 outlawing the KIO. However both the army and police officials continue to arrest people under 17/1 and those already charged were never released.

The KIO and Kachin peace brokers close to the Myanmar government opened a “justice and negotiation center” in Prang Ngawn, a village in Loijay Township. The center is supposed to be used for future negotiations and will store all records about the peace talks. It will also be place where “anyone can come and give advice” about the peace process (18/09/2012). The center has not yet been be used for peace talks.

[Joint Committee for Dispute resolving formed in KIA office in Myintkyinar \(May 28\)](#)

[KIO and Government peace team formed a joint conflict-solving coordinating team \(May 28\)](#)

Clashes

2012: 2,400 clashes (according to KIO) 1095 clashes (according to government)

- At least 700 KIA soldiers are reported to have died since October, 2012 (anonymous source close to govt) It is believed that many died after the government launched a large scale offensive on KIO positions near Laiza in December 2012. Unofficial KIO estimates of the government death toll ranges from 5,000 -10,000 (anonymous source close to KIO)

- 35 govt soldiers killed, 190 injured (according to govt figures)
 - Over 100,000 IDPs from Kachin and northern Shan states (various public sources)
 - 56 attacks on railroad tracks from Mandalay to Myitkyina, 15 attacks on Myitkyina-Sumprabum road, 42 times attacks on Myitkyina-Bhamo road (govt source)
 - attacks on infrastructures such as communication towers, 1 electric power grid, 1 power plant (govt source)
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Partnerships

The 88 Generation Students Group leaders held a meeting with a high-ranking officials from the KIO/KIA in Laiza, Kachin state. (06/01/2013)

International observers:

HarnYawnghwe of the Euro Burma office and representatives of the Switzerland-based Center for Humanitarian Dialogue have attended some of the talks as observers.

Statements

- demanded that the agreement be signed in the presence of an international organization; called on Japan to act as an international mediator in peace talks with the government (27/04/12)
- the government and ethnic Kachin rebels are blaming each other for fighting in northern Myanmar, the government is denying it carried out air attacks on rebel-held territory
- the Myanmar public has a right to know how many soldiers have been killed during the Kachin conflict, the war is taking up large amounts of the national budget, it could be spent on far better things like healthcare and education (24/09/2012)
- the KIO urged U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to intervene in the Kachin conflict and do more to provide humanitarian aid to an estimated 75,000 internally displaced persons (26/09/2011, 01/05/2012, 15/05/2012), they also called on all stakeholders and the international community to help find a solution
- called to stop offensives (16/09/2012, 28/02/2012)
- claims that the government's peace process is just a show for the government as they continue to reinforce troops (03/11/2011)
- a KIO official said that the failure of talks was because Myanmar government ministers did not accept that fighting between the two sides is a political issue. (06/12/2011, 19/04/2012)

Mar 11, 2015 - [KIO released a statement on students protest in Letpadan](#)

Feb 12, 2015 - [KIO released a statement on Union Day](#)

Nov 20, 2014 - [KIO released a statement on Myanmar army attacked on KIA military academy](#)

May 13, 2014 - [KIO and UPWC joint statement of the Myitkyinar talk to form the conflict mediation team](#)

Mar 28, 2014 - [An interview with KIO Spoke Person in Irrawaddy News](#)

Oct 10, 2013 - [KIO and Govt 7 points agreement](#)

Jan 20, 2013 - [KIO's statement on armed conflicts in Kachin state](#)

Jan 19, 2013 - [KIO reply to the President's office statement saying Burmese stop the conflict in Kachin state](#)

Dec 24, 2012 - [KIO object Myanmar Northern military command commander Brig. GenTun Tung Naing's warning letter](#)