

**Situation update on  
Anti-Muslim campaign  
in Burma**

**May, 2015**



# BURMESE MUSLIM ASSOCIATION

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## Introduction

The aim of this report is to track the rapidly growing anti Muslim activities in Burma. Religious based ethno-nationalism, which is a man made mind-set, is threatening Burma's democratic reforms since the authorities are clearly colluding with the extremist religious organisations and ultra nationalist political parties. Minority Muslims have been made a political scapegoat. This religious based ethno-nationalism is, according to our analysis, also the root cause of Rohingya persecution.

This report was prepared based on information received and collected by members of BMA staff, who have been monitoring continuously from the ground. The information is mainly focused on state actors, individual, organisations and political parties that are involved in promoting anti Muslim sentiment in Burma.

## Summary

The marriage law has been amended, reducing the punishment for breach of the law. The Lower House of Parliament has approved religion conversion law. President Thein Sein signed the population cap law, which is, among other things, aiming to pressure on Rohingyas and Muslims in general.

A Union Muslim Nationwide Conference was planned to be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2015. Due to the immense pressure of MaBaTha and other extremist organisations, the authorities declined the application for the permit to organise the conference. However, surprisingly, authorities simultaneously approved the permission to organise an anti Muslim event and rally. Myanmar National Network, an ultra nationalist party sponsored the event. In fact, this matter exposed the unpleasant political atmosphere and the level of anti Muslim religious bigotry in Burma.

The Chairman of Peace and Diversity Party publicly incited violence against Rohingya boat people twice within a month, first on 23<sup>rd</sup> May at an anti Muslim public event and the second time on 27<sup>th</sup> May at an anti Rohingya boat people rally.

MaBaTha has been expanding its network day by day and becoming more effective and efficient. The organisation is now providing media and law training for anti Muslim activists, running Buddhist cultural classes for children, which is teaching anti Muslim sentiments, and publishing three monthly journals. The organisation also sponsored an anti Muslim movie, which has been released recently and available in Burma.

MaBaTha leaders are also speaking and acting against Christians in Burma. It could be also to legitimise their atrocities against Muslims but the threat should not be neglected. In one worrying development, a Christian Cemetery in Chin State has been confiscated to build a hospital.

The National Development Party, a new party that registered recently, has also been engaging in anti Muslim propaganda, using anti Muslim sentiment to influence the party. A brief interpretation of the party manifesto is published in this report.

During the month of May, U Wirathu travelled and gave anti Muslim hate speech at 13 different locations, see *page 23*. He visited Myan Aung Township in Irrawaddy Division on 2<sup>nd</sup> May and a mosque was surrounded by a Buddhist mobs with machetes on 28<sup>th</sup> May, see *Page 21*. He is well received in everywhere in Burma. His popularity reveals the dramatic widespread of religious based ethno-nationalism in Burma.

The Myanmar National Network (MNN) organised events at 6 different locations. At every location anti Muslim pictures were displayed to public, printed on vinyl posters. It is the party that initiated an anti Muslim event on 23<sup>rd</sup> May and organised rallies to protest against boat people on 27<sup>th</sup> May.

## Rohingyas detained in Maungdaw

The authority detained some Rohingya in Kilatan South village, Du Chi Ra Tan village tract, Maungdaw Township, alleged to a murder case.

According to the police investigation, the village officer in charge Sultan was found dead with gunshot on 2<sup>nd</sup> May. Villagers were frightened, neighbouring Rohingya men were run away for fear of arbitrary arrest and left behind their families. Police have arrested seven Rohingya women whose husbands were missing and interrogation also is going on. The authorities also arrested a 33 years old Rohingya man U Laliya on 6<sup>th</sup> may and he has been tortured.

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## Union Muslim Nationwide Conference and anti-Muslim responses

Union Muslim Nationwide Conference was planned to hold in Burma on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2015. The aim of the conference is to find a common ground to counter anti-Muslim sentiment in Burma and to become a productive partner of country's Democratic reforms. The slogan of the conference is "The interest of the Union of Burma is the interest of Union Muslim in Nationwide, and the interest of Union Muslim in Nationwide is the interest of Union of Burma". Union Muslim Nationwide Conference Organising Committee applied permission to hold the conference. However, the Union Muslim Nationwide Conference Organisation Committee has been informing the progression to the authorities since 2014

The news of conference triggered opposition from Buddhist extremist organisations and ultra nationalist political parties. The response of the authorities are also clearly reflected the attitude towards Muslim community.

On 14<sup>th</sup> May 2015, MaBaTha (Head Quarter) sent a letter to the chief minister of Rangoon, requesting to stop Union Muslims Nationwide Conference. *See page 6-7.* This letter proved the relationship between authorities and MaBaTha.

MaBaTha from upper Burma based in Mandalay issued a statement against Union Muslim Nationwide Conference. *See page 8-9.*

MaBaTha Northern Shan State has issued a very harsh statement on Myanmar Muslim Conference. *See page 10-11.*

On 16<sup>th</sup> May 2015, authorities responded to the Union Muslim Nationwide Conference organisation committee to inform that the application for the permit to organise the conference is declined. *See page 12-13.*

Myanmar National Network (MNN), an ultra-nationalist political party initiated a public event on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2015. The aims and objectives of the event were to oppose Union Muslim Nationwide Conference, which was planned to organise at the same date and

at the same location. Surprisingly, authorities approved the application of MNN while declined the application of Union Muslim Nationwide Conference. The reason given for allowing the MNN event was that the event was in the interest of the public, despite it being well known that the event is entirely to promote anti Muslim sentiment *See page 14-15.*

MaBaTha, a Buddhist extremist organisation and ultra-nationalist political parties, Myanmar National Network (MNN) and Peace and Diversity Party (PDP) were coordinated the event. MaBaTha from La Thar Township send a letter to the event that written, "Muslim can vote any party but they must not form any political party and must not demand any rights".

Throughout the event many hardliner speakers gave speech. Secretary of MNN, Naung Taw Lay, introduced his latest anti-Muslim book called "The root cause of Terrorism". The chairman of PDP party, Nay Myo Wai, gave a very dangerous speech during the event and said, "The boat people would demand equal rights as citizens when they live in Burma for longer. This is very scary. Therefore, let me speak out loud and clearly. The authority must shot and kill whenever any illegal immigrant will be sighted. Shoot them whenever these illegal immigrants were sighted within Burma territory. These people would never dare to cross into our territory once they are aware the consequence. If we look after them for even temporary, I wish I had the sight of deity that could foresee without any restriction, I could predict that there are thousands of boats in Bangladesh ready to come to Burma".

Authority has ordered Muslim not to access religious premises and ordered Muslim not open the shops while provided security. During the event, an anti-Muslim movie was distributed to public that MaBaTha has recently produced.

MaBaTha(Head Quarter)'s letter to Chief Minister of Rangoon regarding Union Muslim Nationwide Conference

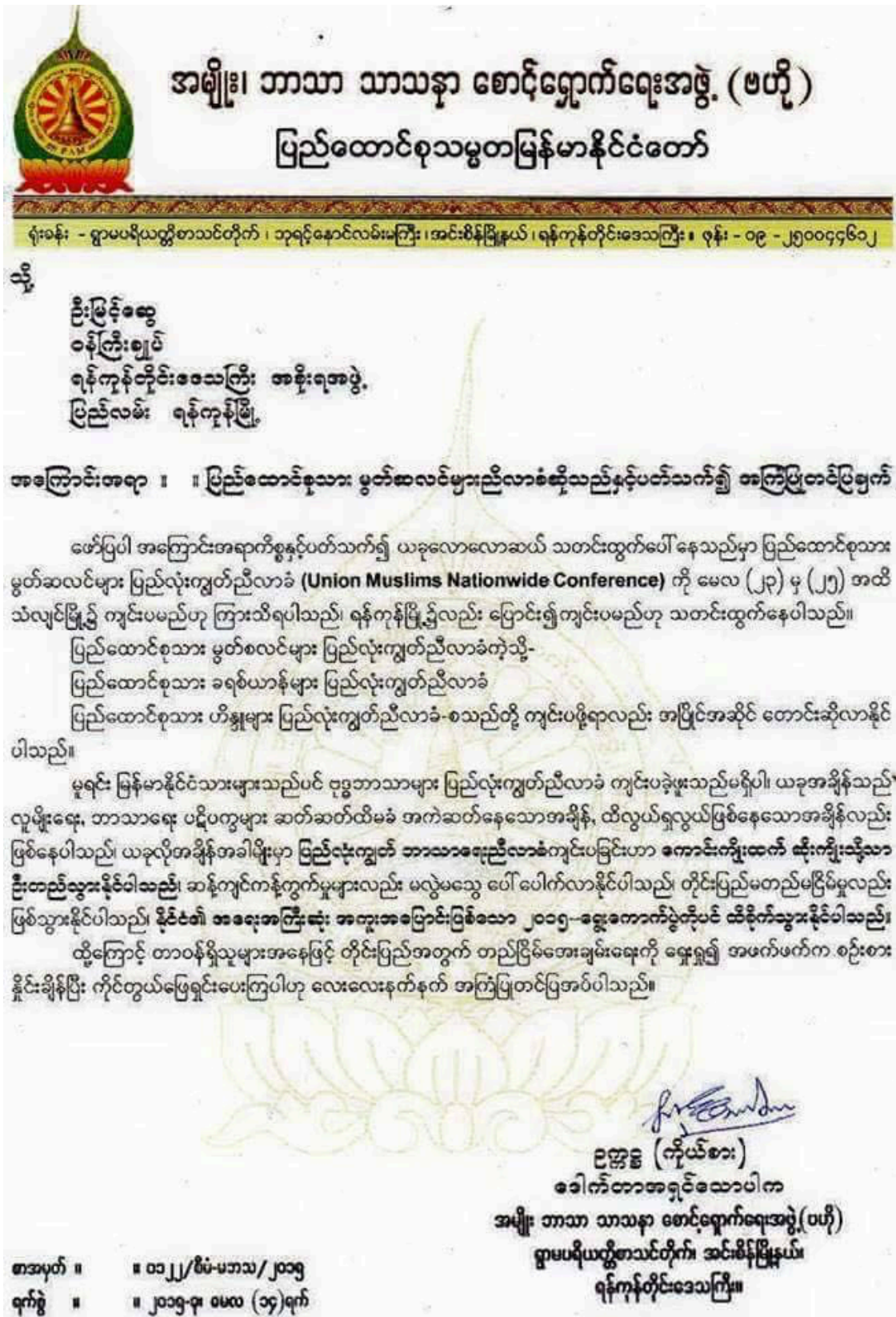


Figure 1: MaBaTha letter to U Myint Swe, Chief Minister of Rangoon



**MaBaTha (Head Quarter)'s letter to Chief Minister of Rangoon regarding Union Muslim Nationwide Conference (*translation*)**

To,

U Myint Swe  
Chief Minister  
Government of Rangoon  
Pyay Road, Rangoon

Re: suggestion in regard to Union Muslims Nationwide Conference

We have learned that Union Muslims Nationwide Conference is going to be held from May 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> in Thanlin. Some news suggest that the conference location is possible changed to Rangoon.

Similar to Union Muslims Nationwide Conference, there could be a Union Christian Nationwide Conference and Union Hindu Nationwide Conference.

The origin and native people of Burma, Burmese Buddhist, never ever organised such nationwide conference before. In fact, this is a very sensitive time that any mistake could trigger violence. The outcome of the conference could have greater negative consequences rather than any benefit. There will certainly be some objections to this conference and possibly threats to the stability of the country. It could also affect 2015 general election.

Therefore, we strongly suggest to the authorities to weigh and measure the pros and cons to prioritise the stability and peace for the country.


Signed by  
Dr Ashin Thaw Par Ka,  
on behalf of President,  
MaBaTha  
Ywarma Pariyatti Monastery, Insein Township  
Rangoon.

Letter Ref: 0122/ Siman-MaBaTha/ 2015


Date: 14<sup>th</sup> May 2015



**MaBaTha (Upper Burma)'s Statement against Union Muslim Nationwide Conference**



**အမျိုး တာသာ သာသနာစောင့်ရှောက်ရေးအဖွဲ့**  
**(အထက်မြန်မာပြည်)**  
**မန္တလေးတိုင်းဒေသကြီး**



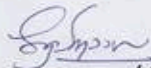
ရက်စွဲ - ကင်းဝန်မင်းကြီးတိုက်၊ အကျော်ကျောင်း၊ မဟာအောင်မြေမြို့နယ်၊ မန္တလေးမြို့ ။ ၀၉-၂၅၉၈၄၆၉၉

စာအမှတ် - ၇/၂၀၁၅ အထက်မြန်မာပြည်  
ရက်စွဲ - ၂၀၁၅-ခုနှစ်၊ မေလ (၁၇)ရက်


**သဘောထားထုတ်ပြန်ကြေညာချက် (၇/၂၀၁၅)**

၂၃.၅.၂၀၁၅ ရက်နေ့မှ ၂၅.၅.၂၀၁၅ ရက်နေ့အထိ သံလျင်မြို့တွင် ကျင်းပပြုလုပ်မည်ဆိုသော “ပြည်ထောင်စုသား မွတ်ဆလင်များပြည်လုံးကျွတ်ညီလာခံ”နှင့် ပတ်သက်၍ အမျိုးတာသာ သာသနာစောင့်ရှောက်ရေးအဖွဲ့ (အထက်မြန်မာပြည်) မန္တလေး၏ သဘောထားကြေညာချက်ကို အောက်ပါအတိုင်း ထုတ်ပြန်ကြေညာလိုက်သည်။

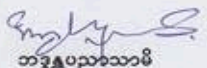
- 1 ဝ။ ပြည်ထောင်စုသမ္မတ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်ကြီးတွင် နေထိုင်ကြသော မွတ်ဆလင်ကလားများသည် အကြောင်းအမျိုးမျိုးဖြင့် တိုင်းတစ်ပါးမှ တရားမဝင် လာရောက်နေထိုင်သူများဖြစ်ခြင်းကြောင့် “ပြည်ထောင်စုသား မွတ်ဆလင်များ”ဟူသော ပြောဆိုသုံးစွဲမှုကိုပင် အမျိုးတာသာ သာသနာစောင့်ရှောက်ရေးအဖွဲ့ (အထက်မြန်မာပြည်)၊ မန္တလေး က လုံးဝ (လုံးဝ) လက်မခံ။
- 2 ၂။ ပြည်ထောင်စုသား မွတ်ဆလင်များ ပြည်လုံးကျွတ်ညီလာခံကို သံလျင်မြို့တွင်သာမက ပြည်ထောင်စုသမ္မတမြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၏ မည်သည့်နေရာတွင်မဆို ကျင်းပခြင်းကို လုံးဝ (လုံးဝ) လက်မခံ။
- 3 ၃။ ပြည်ထောင်စုသမ္မတမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်ကြီးသည် ထေရဝါဒဗုဒ္ဓဘာသာနိုင်ငံဖြစ်သောကြောင့် ပြည်ထောင်စုသား မွတ်ဆလင်များ ပြည်လုံးကျွတ်ညီလာခံကျင်းပခြင်းကို လုံးဝ (လုံးဝ) ခွင့်မပြု။
- 4 ၄။ ပြည်ထောင်စုသား မွတ်ဆလင်များ ပြည်လုံးကျွတ်ညီလာခံကျင်းပမည်ဆိုပါက မလိုလားအပ်သည့် အဓိကရုဏ်းများ ဖြစ်ပွားနိုင်ခြင်း၊ တိုင်းပြည်တည်ငြိမ်အေးချမ်းမှုကို ပျက်ပြားစေနိုင်ခြင်းတို့ကြောင့် အမျိုးတာသာ သာသနာ စောင့်ရှောက်ရေးအဖွဲ့ (အထက်မြန်မာပြည်)မန္တလေး က ညီလာခံ ကျင်းပမည့်ကိစ္စကို ပြင်းပြင်းထန်ထန် ကန့်ကွက်ကြောင်း ပြတ်ပြတ်သားသား ထုတ်ပြန်ကြေညာလိုက်သည်။



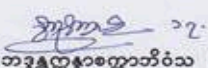
**တန္တကုသလ (ဝါဠိပါရဂူ)**  
အတွင်းရေးမှူးချုပ်ဆရာတော်



**တန္တဝဏ္ဏိတ**  
ပြန်ကြားရေးဌာနမှူး၊ ဆရာတော်



**တန္တပညာသာမိ**  
ဒုတိယအတွင်းရေးမှူးချုပ်ဆရာတော်



၁၇.၅.၂၀၁၅  
**တန္တထွန်းစန္ဒာတိတံသ (မစိုးရိမ်)**  
ဦးဆောင်ဆရာတော်

Figure 2: A statement from MaBaTha against organising Nationwide Myanmar Muslim Conference

## MaBaTha (Upper Burma)'s Statement against Union Muslim Nationwide Conference (*Translation*)

No. 7/2015 Upper Burma  
Date: May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015

### Statement (7/15)

Mandalay based Organization of Race and Religion (MaBaTha) Upper Burma, issue the following in respond to the Union Muslim Nationwide Conference which is tentatively schedule to be held from May 23<sup>rd</sup> to May 25<sup>th</sup>.

1. MaBaTha of Upper Burma **strongly and utterly disagrees** with the term “Muslim of Union of Myanmar” as Muslims Kalar [Niggers] are illegal immigrants from foreign states.
2. Not only do we oppose “Union Muslim Nationwide Conference” in the city of Thanlin, nor do we accept such conference in any part of the county.
3. Union of Myanmar is a Theravada Buddhist nation. Therefore, we cannot allow “Union Muslim Nationwide Conference” to take place.
4. Organising “Union Muslim Nationwide Conference” could trigger riots and violence unnecessarily. Therefore, MaBaTha of Upper Burma strongly opposes conducting the conference.

Signed by four prominent monks from MaBaTha upper Burma

MaBaTha (Northern Shan State)'s statement on Union Muslim Nationwide Conference



**အမျိုးဘာသာသာသနာစောင့်ရှောက်ရေးအဖွဲ့(ပြည်နယ်)  
ပြည်ထောင်စုသမ္မတမြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်**

ရုံးခန်း- စိတ္တသုခကျောင်းလမ်းအတက်၊ မောသီရိကွက်သစ်(၇) လားရှိုးမြို့၊ ရှမ်းပြည်နယ်မြောက်ပိုင်း။ ဖုန်း ၀၈၂-၃၀၈၀၇

စာအမှတ် - ၅/ ရ ဖ် : ဧ ဖြ ၁ က်/ ၂၀၁၅  
ရက်စွဲ - ၂၀၁၅-ခုနှစ်၊ မေလ(၁၅) ရက်

သဘောထားကြေညာချက် (၅/၂၀၁၅)

၂၃-၅-၂၀၁၅နေ့ သန်လျင်မြို့တွင်ကျင်းပြုလုပ်မည်ဆိုသော ပြည်ထောင်စုသားမွတ်ဆလင်များ ညီလာခံနှင့် ပတ်သက်၍ အမျိုး ဘာသာ သာသနာစောင့်ရှောက်ရေးအဖွဲ့ (ပြည်နယ်) ရှမ်း/မြောက်၏ သဘောထားကြေညာချက်ကို အောက်ပါအတိုင်းထုတ်ပြန်ကြေညာလိုက်သည်။

- 1 ခ။ ပြည်ထောင်စုသား မွတ်ဆလင်များညီလာခံကို သန်လျင်မြို့တွင် သာမက ပြည်ထောင်စုသမ္မတ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတော်၏ မည်သည့်နေရာ၌မဆို ကျင်းပခြင်းကို လုံးဝ လုံးဝ လက်မခံ။
- 2 ည။ ပြည်ထောင်စုသား မွတ်ဆလင်များညီလာခံကျင်းပလိုပါက အစ္စလာမ်မစ်နိုင်ငံတွင်သာ ကျင်းပရန် အတိအလင်းတိုက်တွန်းလိုက်သည်။
- 3 ဃ။ မွတ်ဆလင်တိုင်း ဂျီဟတ်ဝါဒီကို စွန့်လွှတ်သောနေ့၊ လည်လုံးသတ်ဖြတ်ခြင်းကို စွန့်လွှတ်သောနေ့၊ မုဒိမ်းကျင့်ခြင်းကို စွန့်လွှတ်သောနေ့၊ တယူသန်တရားသေဝါဒကို စွန့်လွှတ်သောနေ့ (သို့မဟုတ်) ကမ္ဘာပျက်သောနေ့တွင်သာ ကျင်းပသင့်သည်။
- 4 င။ အစ္စလာမ်မစ်ဝါဒသည် ဓာတုလက်နက် အနုမြူလက်နက်များထက် အဆပေါင်း ထောင်သောင်း၊ သိန်းသန်းမက ကြောက်မက်ဖွယ်ကောင်းသောကြောင့် ထိုဝါဒရေးရာကို ဆွေးနွေးကြမည့် ပြည်ထောင် စုသား မွတ်ဆလင်များ ညီလာခံကို အမျိုး ဘာသာ သာသနာစောင့်ရှောက်ရေးအဖွဲ့ (ပြည်နယ်) ရှမ်း/မြောက်က ပြင်းပြင်းထန်ထန်ကန့်ကွက်ကြောင်း အတိအလင်း ပြတ်ပြတ်သားသား ထုတ်ပြန် ကြေညာလိုက်သည်။

အရှင်အင်္ကျီရ  
ဥက္ကဋ္ဌ

အမျိုး ဘာသာသာသနာစောင့်ရှောက်ရေးအဖွဲ့  
(ပြည်နယ်) ရှမ်း/မြောက်၊ လားရှိုး

Figure 3: MaBaTha (Northern Shan State) statement against Myanmar Muslim Conference

**MaBaTha (Northern Shan State)'s statement on Union Muslim Nationwide Conference (Translation)**

No. 5/Shan North/2015  
Date: May 15, 2015

**Statement (5/2015)**

MaBaTha (Northern Shan State) issues the statement of opinion on Union Muslims Nationwide Conference that is to be held on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015.

1. Not only do we oppose "Union Muslim Nationwide Conference" in the city of Thanlin, nor do we accept such conference in any part of the county.
2. If Muslims wish to organize "Union Muslim Nationwide Conference", we encourage them to do so in an Islamic nation.
3. Such conference should only be held at the end of the world or on the day when each and every Muslim abandons Jihadism, throat-slitting, rape, and fundamentalism.
4. The threat of Islam is worse than billions times of any destructive nuclear weapon, we, MaBaTha (Northern Shan State), will not allow any discussion of such religious ideology in the name of conference.

Signed by  
Ashin Inkura,  
President of MaBaTha (Northern Shan State),  
Lashio city.

**Thanlin authorities' respond declining permit to organize Union Muslim Nationwide Conference**

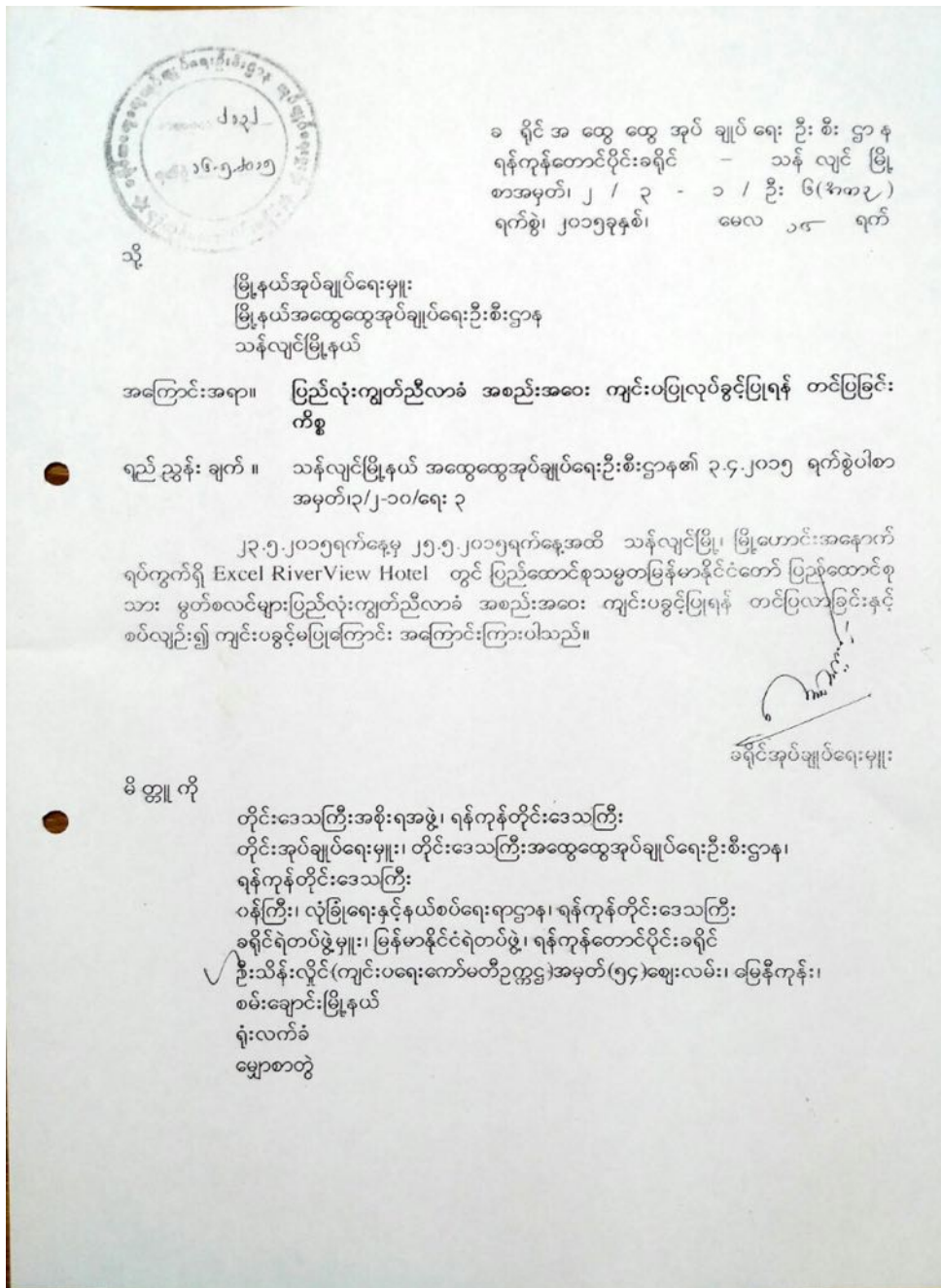


Figure 4: The response from the authorities regarding the application to hold Union Muslim Nationwide Conference in Thanlin Township



**Thanlin authorities' respond declining permit to organize Union Muslim Nationwide Conference (Translation)**

District General Affairs Department  
Southern District Yangon  
Thanlyin Township  
Letter No. 2 /3 – 1/ U 6 (As Ta Hta)  
Date: May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015

To

Township Authority  
Township's Department of General Affairs  
Thanlyin Township

Re: Application to organise nationwide conference

Reference: Letter dated 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2015, received from Thanlyin Township Authorities, letter no. 3/2-10/Yay 3

This is to inform you that the application to organise Union Muslim Nationwide Conference from 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2015 to 25<sup>th</sup> May 2015, at Excel River Hotel, has been considered and the application has been declined.

Signed by the District Authority

Cc:

Rangoon Division Government  
Division Governor  
Rangoon Division  
Minister of Security and Border Control, Rangoon  
District Police Chief  
U Thein Hlaing (conference organizer)  
Office copy

Thanlin police Department's approval letter to organize public event to counter Union Muslim Nationwide Conference

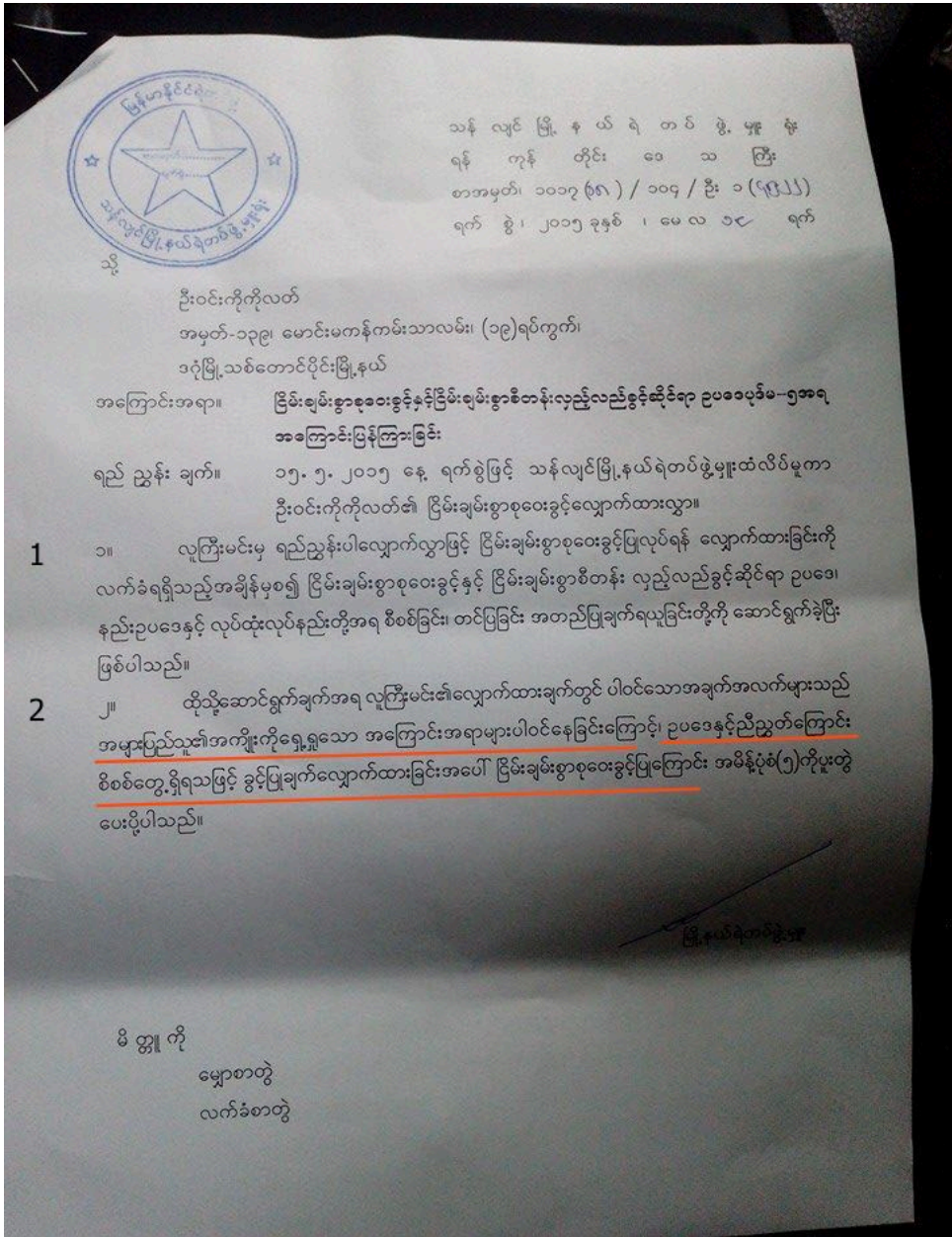


Figure 5: The approval letter for the application to organise public event to counter Union Muslim Nationwide Conference



**Thanlin police Department's approval letter to organize public event to counter Union Muslim Nationwide Conference (Translation)**

Thanlyin Township Police Department, Rangoon  
Letter No. (08)/104/ U 1(4522)  
Date: May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015

To,  
Win Ko Ko Latt,  
No.139, Maung Ma Kan Kann Thar Street, Block No. (19),  
South Dagon Township,

Re: This is the response based on Section (5), related to peaceful gathering and peaceful marching.

Reference: The application of U Win Ko Ko Latt to Thanlyin Police Department for peaceful gathering 15<sup>th</sup> May 2015,

1. We have been considered your application that accordance with current rule of law and procedure that related to peaceful gathering and peaceful marching.
2. Your application includes the interest of the public benefit, which is in line with the current rule of law. Therefore, your application is granted permission.

Cc:  
Office copy

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## U Wirathu met with a hardliner Buddhist monk from Karen State

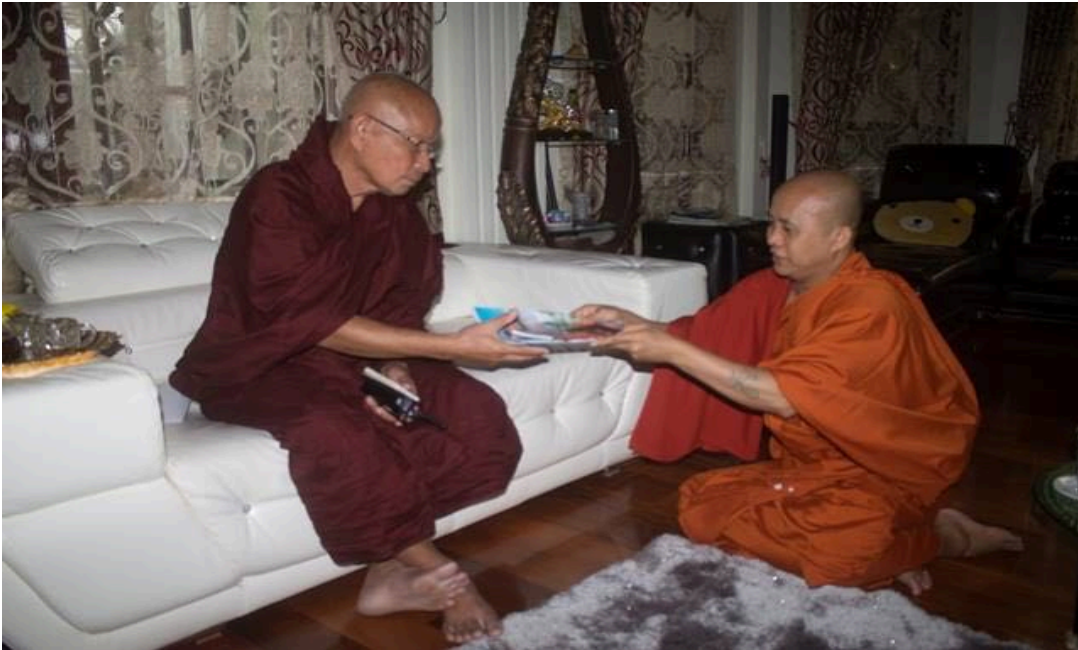
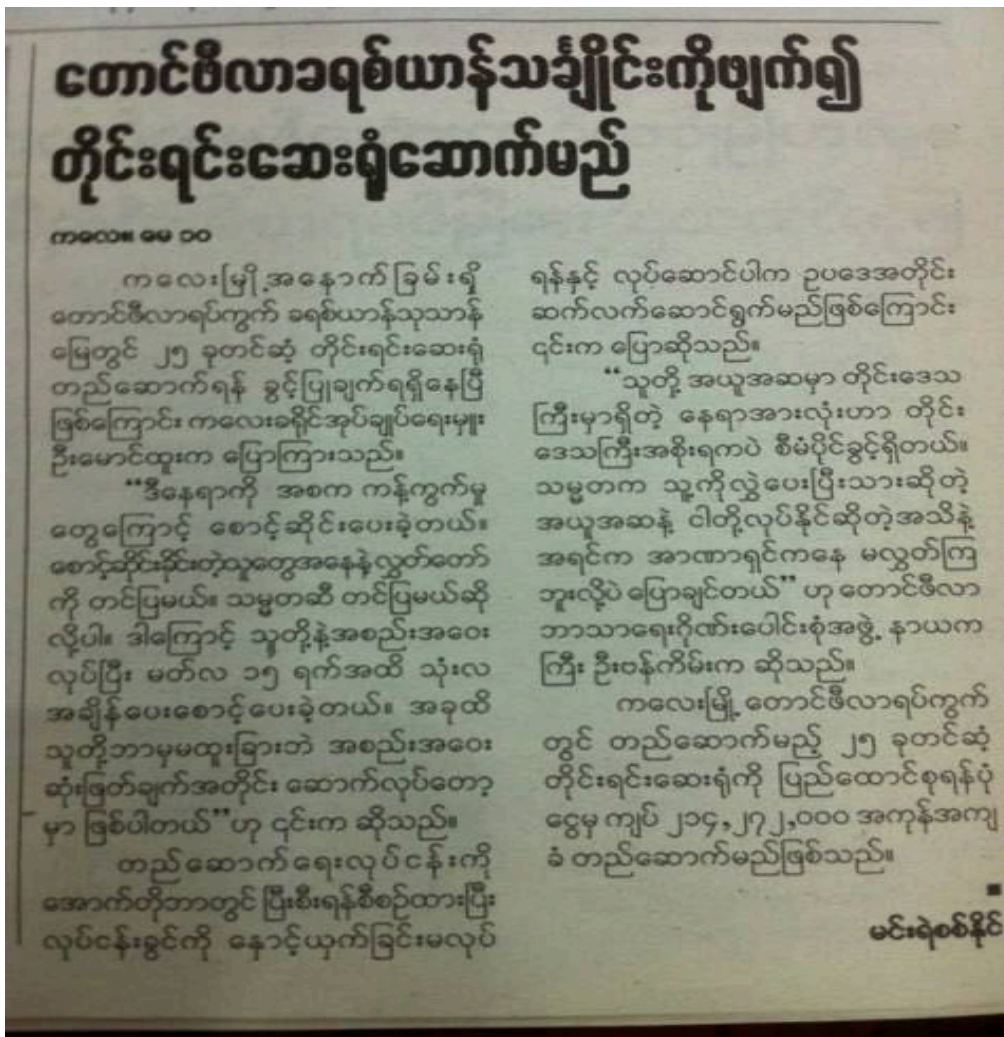


Figure 6: U Wirathu offering gift to Zwe Ka Bin Sayadaw

On 9<sup>th</sup> May 2015, U Wirathu met with a prominent Buddhist monk from Karen State, known as Zwe Kabin Sayadaw, in Mandalay. The Sayadaw is based in Mae Baung Monastery in Pha'an City, Karen State. He is well known in Karen state for anti Muslim activities. He is one of the prominent monks who founded MaBaTha anti Muslim movement in Karen State. His monastery issued the first anti Muslim instruction in October 2012 to boycott Muslim businesses, restricting Buddhist from renting or selling their properties to Muslim and initiated to restrict inter faith marriage. Buddhist monks from his monastery frequently attack Muslims physically.

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## A Christian cemetery confiscated in Chin State



Authorities have confiscated Christian cemetery in Taung Phi Lar Block, Kalay City, Chin State. Authorities are planning to build a hospital on the land. The hospital has 25 beds capacity and the estimated cost will be Kyat 214,272,000. A Christian activist U Van Kain said, “The authorities did not change their attitude from the past and treating as everything belongs to them”.



Media and Law training for grassroots anti-Muslim activist

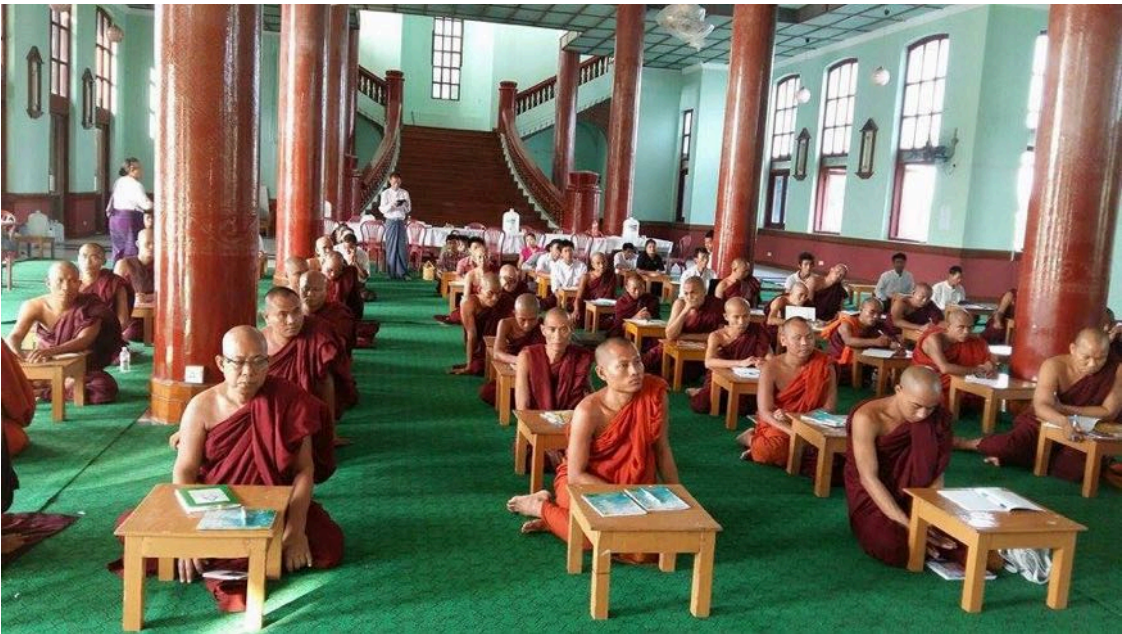


Figure 7: Anti-Muslim activists at media and law training class



Figure 8: Media and Law training, award giving ceremony by MaBaTha leaders including U Wirathu



**Figure 9: U Wirathu rewarding a certificate to an activist monk**

MaBaTha is offering Media and Law training for grassroots anti-Muslim activists.

MaBaTha has been offering media and law training to the anti-Muslim activist in Rangoon from 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> May 2015. Similar training is also offering in Pantanaw Township, Irrawaddy Delta at Mya Taung Monastery from 27<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2015 and Pakhokku Township, Magwe Division at Bawdi Mantine Monastery from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> June 2015. Professional lawyers and IT experts are volunteering to provide the training.

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### **Punishment for breach of marriage law has been amended**

Marriage law is one of the four Race and Religion Protection Laws that prohibit Buddhist woman from converting to other religion and to marry a non-Buddhist man. Breach of the law has a consequence of punishment and amendment has been proposed to reduce the punishment.

On 11<sup>th</sup> May, the amendment was proposed by the national lawmakers committee during the parliament session and aimed to reduce the jail terms from 5 years to 2 years. The amendment aimed to change the punishment for the breach of section 19, subsection (F), (G) and (H). The amendment proposed that the punishment should not be more than 2 years jail including less than 1.5 million Kyat fine.

The section 19, subsection (F) says that the faith of Burmese Buddhist women must not be insulted by any mean verbally, written word or any description or gesture.

The subsection (G) says that the funeral service must be conducted according to the Buddhist culture, when the Burmese Buddhist woman passed away,

The subsection (H) prohibited from insulting the place of worship and sacred items that belongs to Burmese Buddhist woman.

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### **Religious conversion law has been approved**

The conversion law, one of the four Race and Religion Protection laws, has been approved by the lower house of parliament on 14<sup>th</sup> May. The approval neglected the criticism of international community and ethnic minorities. The law has been approved after amending it, which expanded the scrutinizing committee that allow joining the representative from multi-faith and local authorities.

The bill, initiated and supported by religious based ultra nationalist groups, submitted on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2015. The Members of Parliament debated on the bill on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2015. Ultra nationalist activist, human rights activists and multi faith representatives were witnessed at the Parliament on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2015.

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### **President of MaBaTha, and anti-Christian sentiments**

The president of MaBaTha, The Organisation for the Protection of National Race and Religion (OPNERR), Sayyadaw Ashin Tilawka Biwantha said, “Kachin rebels (KIA) who have been fighting with successive government and Karenni rebels (KNPP) are the Christian rebels.” This was written in an article “MaBaTha for the nation”, published on 17<sup>th</sup> May, on Tharkithway Journal, volume 2, Issue number 22 at page 6. In the article he also said, “Currently, the none-Buddhist foreigners are killing native Buddhist and forcing them to flee from their home. These Bengalis are also destroying monasteries, targeting Buddhist monks and layman alike, directly and indirectly torturing and killing. Christian rebels are killing Buddhist monks in the remote area of Burma such as Kachin and Karenni. Ethnic Buddhists have been facing various pressures and some of them were murdered and some of them fleeing from their natives land. Buddhist are peaceful and never target anyone whether in Burma or in anywhere in the world.”

Moreover, the article exaggerated that Burmese Buddhist in major cities such as Rangoon and Mandalay are facing threat and insecurity because of the violence behaviour of none-Buddhist communities. He is carry on saying that Burmese Buddhist in Burma need a legal protection especially Buddhist women. Therefore, MaBaTha submitted Race and Religion Protection Laws and Buddhist in Burma should vote only the person who could protect Race and Religion in the Parliament.

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## **President Thein Sein has signed population cap law.**

The population cap law is an outcome of a systematic persecution on Rohingya population in Burma that become a law on 19<sup>th</sup> May after President Thein Sein has finally signed.

The law will be enforced densely populated area that implemented between each pregnancy must have 36 months gap. In context, the law aimed to tackle down social problems by the consequence of overpopulation that force to migrate, malnutrition and imbalance among population. In fact, this law is aiming to target Rohingya, the most persecuted population on earth. Rohingya population have been living under a severe persecution that restricted movement, required to apply before to marry and Rohingya women are facing severe difficulties during the pregnancy because of inadequate healthcare in Northern Arakan.

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# Manifesto of National Development Party, a new ultra-nationalist party



## အမျိုးသားတိုးတက်ရေးပါတီ

(မူဝါဒ၊ ရပ်တည်ချက် အကျဉ်းချုပ်)

### အခြေခံရပ်တည်ချက်

တိုင်းရင်းသား၊ နိုင်ငံသားအားလုံး၏ အကျိုးစီးပွားအပေါ် အခြေခံသည်။ အကျိုးစီးပွားဟု ဆိုရာတွင် နိုင်ငံရေး၊ ဘာသာရေး၊ စီးပွားရေး၊ ပညာရေး၊ ကျန်းမာရေး၊ လူမှုရေး စသော ကဏ္ဍအားလုံးကို ဆိုလိုသည်။ အင်အားစု အားလုံးကို ကြိုဆိုပြီး ရပ်တည်ချက်၊ မူဝါဒ တူညီသူများနှင့်လက်တွဲ ဆောင်ရွက်ရန် အသင့်ရှိသည်။ ငြိမ်းချမ်းရေး၊ ညီညွတ်ရေး၊ လိုမှုတဆင့် စီးပွားရေး တိုးတက်မှုနှင့် နိုင်ငံရေး ဝန်းကျင်သစ်ကို တည်ဆောက်နိုင်ရေးအတွက် ရည်မှန်းချက်ထား ဆောင်ရွက်မည်။

### မူဝါဒ

တိုင်းရင်းသား၊ နိုင်ငံသားများကြား တန်းတူညီမျှသော အခွင့်အရေး၊ တည်တံ့ခိုင်မြဲသော ပြည်ထောင်စုကြီးကို တည်ဆောက် နိုင်ရေးကို ဦးတည်သည်။

နိုင်ငံရေး၊ စစ်ရေး၊ ပဋိပက္ခများကို ချုပ်ငြိမ်းစေပြီး နားလည်မှုပြည့်ဝသော လူ့အဖွဲ့အစည်း တစ်ရပ် ထူထောင်ရန်၊ လူမှု၊ စီးပွား၊ ပညာ စသော ကဏ္ဍအသီးသီးကို တိုးတက်စေရန် အားလုံးနှင့် လက်တွဲ ဆောင်ရွက်သွားမည်ဖြစ်ပြီး၊ မျိုးဆက်သစ်တို့အတွက် နိုင်ငံရေး ဝန်းကျင်သစ်နှင့် အစဉ်အလာ အမွေကောင်းထားရှိနိုင်ရေးကို ရည်မှန်းချက်အဖြစ် ထားရှိသည်။

### ဘာသာရေး၊ အမျိုးသားရေးကဏ္ဍ

မိမိတို့၏ ဘာသာရေးနှင့် အမျိုးသားရေးကို ရေရှည်ခိုင်မြဲအောင် တည်ဆောက်၍ လွတ်လပ်ရေးကို သို့ ကာကွယ်စောင့်ရှောက် သွားမည်။ 1 ဘာသာ၊ သာသနာပို၍ ပြန့်ပွားခိုင်မာအောင် ဆောင်ရွက်မည်။ အမျိုးသားရေး လက္ခဏာများ ပို၍ ပြန့်ပွား ခိုင်မာအောင် ဆောင်ရွက်မည်။ အမျိုးသားရေး လက္ခဏာများ ပို၍ ထင်ရှားစေမည်။ 2

### တိုင်းရင်းသားကဏ္ဍ

3 လူမျိုးကြီး၊ လူမျိုးစွဲဝါဒ အပေါ် အခြေမခံပါ။ တိုင်းရင်းသားအားလုံး တန်းတူအခွင့်အရေး ရရှိမှုအပေါ် ယုံကြည် လက်ခံထားသည်။ ပြည်ထောင်စုကြီးမှ ခွဲမထွက်ဘဲ ငြိမ်းချမ်းစွာ အတူ - လက်တွဲ ဆောင်ရွက်ပြီး မျှတသော ဖက်ဒရယ်စနစ်ကို လက်ခံထားသည်။

### စီးပွားရေးကဏ္ဍ

အခွင့်ထူးခံမဟုတ်သော မှန်ကန်သည့် ယှဉ်ပြိုင်မှုအပေါ် အခြေခံသည့် ဈေးကွက်စီးပွားရေးကို လက်ခံ ထားပြီး၊ လုပ်ငန်းရှင်များ၊ လူလတ်တန်းစား၊ အခြေခံလူတန်းစားဟူသည့် လူတန်းစား(၃)ရပ်ကို ပိုမိုတိုးတက် စေမည့် စီးပွားရေးစနစ်ကို အခြေခံသည်။ ပြည်တွင်း လုပ်ငန်းရှင်များကို နိုင်ငံတကာ ရင်းနှီးမြုပ်နှံသူ၊ နိုင်ငံတကာဈေးကွက် နှင့် ချိတ်ဆက်ခြင်း၊ လူလတ်တန်းစားထုကို ကြီးမား စေခြင်း၊ အခြေခံ လူတန်းစားတို့၏ ဝင်ငွေကို မြှင့်တင်စေခြင်းကို ရေတို၊ ရေရှည်ဖြင့် လက်တွေ့ကျသော၊ သိသာမြင်သာသော စီမံကိန်းများဖြင့် ဆောင်ရွက်မည်။

Figure 10: Manifesto of NDP

A brief translation of the manifesto

1. The party would do its best to spread the religion and to strengthen the nationalism.
2. The party would promote nationalist symbol.
3. The party would never base on racism.



**Figure 11: Members of NDP at the rally against boat people on 27th May 2015**

National Development Party (NDP) has been registered as a new political party. It is an ultra nationalist party, whose members are mostly professionals in political studies. President Thein Sein's former advisor Dr Nay Zin Latt is the chairman of the party. Member of the party also joined the protest against the boat people on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2015.

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### **Anti-Muslim propaganda on Aung Zayyatu Journal**

Aung Zayyartu Journal, which belongs to MaBaTha has been publishing anti-Muslim incitement regularly. The journal promoting anti-Muslim sentiment more brazenly on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2015, volume 73 and page 4; written by Ashin Kumara (Pantanaw) under political section, "Authorities in Burma should not allow Muslim to build any mosque because each mosque is considered as an enemy base" and he accused, "The flag ISIS using is similar flag that Prophet Muhammad used to invade other nations".

Aung Zayyartu Journal is belongs to MaBaTha that regularly publishing anti-Muslim and anti-Christian articles. Islamic organisations in Burma complained to the authority altogether three times for publishing false information about Islam. Nonetheless, authorities never take any action against anti-Muslim organisations.

The author is a vice secretary in MaBaTha (head quarter) and also President for MaBaTha in Irrawaddy Division. Irrawaddy Division has comprised 26 townships and MaBaTha presence in every township. Irrawaddy is being considered one of the most dangerous locations that anti-Muslim violence could unleash anytime.

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## **Nay Myo Wai's anti Rohingya incitement**

On 27<sup>th</sup> May, during the protest against Rohingya boat people, in Bahan Township, Rangoon, the protesters used the flag that represent Buddhism. Although 2008 Constitution mention at Chapter 8, Section 364, that the political parties must be refrained from using religious symbols. A prominent Buddhist monk and one of the leaders of MaBaTha and the Abbots of Magway Monastery Sayadaw U Pamaukka said, "We shall save a piece of wood that floating on the sea but we must not rescue any Rohingya because they are ungrateful people".

During the protest, the chairman of Peace and Diversity Party, U Nay Myo Wai said, "All the Rohingya boat people must be shot to dead on sight and their boat must be sunk". He used such blatant incitement twice within a month.

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## **Violence against Muslim was narrowly avoided**

On 28<sup>th</sup> May, Buddhist mobs led by member of MaBaTha surrounded a mosque in Myan Aung City. The mobs were carrying Machete and threatened to attack the mosque. There were 73 Muslims from nearby cities staying for a night at the mosque to attend an award-giving event on 29<sup>th</sup> May. The event has been doing annually to reward the students for the academic achievements since 15 years after completing exams. Although the mosque authorities were informed the local authority about the stay and granted the permission but due to the objection of the local Buddhist extremists the guests have to evacuate immediately. Before the mob turned up, a rumour has spread that about 300 Muslim were gathering in the mosque that inflamed the local Buddhist.

A witness said, "The mob turn up with machetes and the crowd become larger. It was about 12:30 am. The authority suggested us to comply with the demand of the mobs, thus we have to cancel the event and asked the Muslim to evacuate immediately from the mosque." According to the witness, a member of USDP party, Wa Gyi, lead the mob including the member of MaBaTha.

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## **Retired Generals and Ooredoo Telecommunication Company**

Four retired Generals, including General Khin Nyunt complained against Ooredoo Telecommunication Company that trying to install the towers.

Digcel Myanmar Tower Company has been installing Ooredoo telecommunication towers within the residential area that belongs to Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation in Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Rangoon. The residence led by retired General Khin Nyunt complained to the authority against Ooredoo to stop the installation of the towers for health reason. There are four houses located in the residence that belongs

to retired Deputy Senior General Maung Aye, retired Deputy General Myo Nyunt, the family of late Deputy General Tin Oo including retired General Khin Nyunt.

Qatar based Ooredoo Telecommunication Company has been facing various obstacles created by MaBaTha, a Buddhist extremist group that promoting anti Muslim sentiment across Burma. The members of MaBaTha have been advocating local residence to oppose the tower installation and threatening the landlord not to allow the towers to install on their land. If the landlord agreed to install the tower are also being forced to cancel the agreement. Many times even the towers were abled to install, the parts of the tower are being stolen by unknown people.

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### **MaBaTha received permission to organise annual conference**

MaBaTha, who created various obstacles and finally lobbied government to stop Union Muslim Nationwide Conference, received permission to organise 2<sup>nd</sup> annual conference in Rangoon. Myanmar Muslim Conference was planned to organise on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2015, but authorities have declined the permission.

During a meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> May, MaBaTha decided to organise a conference from 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> June at Aung San Tat Oo monastery and MCC Hall. The main conference will be at MCC Hall. The event organisers announced in advance that on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> would also include photo exhibition that will show in the pictures that Myanmar Muslim are rapist, murderers and terrorist. U Wirathu has pledged to the member of MaBaTha and Buddhist community to provide pictures of Buddhist murdered and attacked by Myanmar Muslim and requested to send to the email address at [zunshar@gmail.com](mailto:zunshar@gmail.com).

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### **Green Card after White Card for Rohingyas**

On 29<sup>th</sup> May, Immigration Minister U Khin Ye said in a news conference that the authority is offering temporary card (Green Card) for Rohingya those who returned the White Card.

The White Card was issued in 1995 and the expiry date was not printed. On 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015, authority announced to return it within 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> May. According to the immigration department, there are more than 600,000 White Card holders Rakhine state and about 400,000 were returned it. The director of National Identity Card department said, there are 700,000 White Card holders in Burma and 415,000 have already returned it so these people will be given Green Card from 16<sup>th</sup> June.

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### **A typical MaBaTha meeting in Mandalay**

Wirathu attended Saturday weekly MaBaTha meeting and address current issues in Mandalay Division. Sayadaw U Pinnyar Thiri from Mya Thein Tan Monastery in



Pyawbwe Township informed about a building under construction that belongs to a local Muslim. MaBaTha suspect the structure could be used as a mosque in the future. Member of MaBaTha also discussed to organise Memorial Day for Ma Thi Dar Htway, a Rakhine Buddhist woman whose murder case was triggered anti Rohingya pogroms and hundreds of Rohingya were attacked and killed.

## U Wirathu’s activities and travel record for May

U Wirathu travelled 13 places to promote anti Muslim sentiment. He has been travelling tirelessly to create MaBaTha network nationwide and promoting anti Muslim sentiment through hate speech.

On 16<sup>th</sup> May 2015, U Wirathu attended and gave speech at annual conference of National Democratic Force (NDF). Religious based nationalism is becoming a popular trend among political parties to attract the voters.

During the speech U Wirathu quite often display an anti Muslim movie to the public as it help the audience to comprehend the message he wish to convey. The name of the movie is “Sount Lay Myo Nwe”, literally means “Protect the race”.

The following table shows the activities and travel record of U Wirathu in May.

No	Date	Locations	Activities
1	2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2015	Myan Aung Township, Irrawaddy Division	Anti-Muslim hate speech
2	3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2015	Kyan Khin Township, Irrawaddy Division	Anti-Muslim hate speech
3	3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2015	Nga Thine Chaung Township, Irrawaddy Division	Anti-Muslim hate speech
4	3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2015	Lapputta Township, Irrawaddy Division	Anti-Muslim hate speech
5	6 <sup>th</sup> May 2015	Kyaukse Township, Mandalay Division	Anti-Muslim hate speech
6	7 <sup>th</sup> May 2015	Myin Chan Township, Mandalay Division	Anti-Muslim hate speech
7	8 <sup>th</sup> May 2015	Khin Oo and Myo Thit village, Sagain Division	Anti-Muslim hate speech
8	12 <sup>th</sup> May 2015	Rangoon	Attending MaBaTha meeting
9	14 <sup>th</sup> May 2015	Maw Gyun Township, Irrawaddy Division	Anti-Muslim hate speech
10	16 <sup>th</sup> May 2015	Kyone Ma Ngay Township, Irrawaddy Division	Anti-Muslim hate speech
11	22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2015	Pyi Gyi Tagon Township, Mandalay Division	Anti-Muslim hate speech
12	23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2015	Chan Myay Tharsi Township, Mandalay Division.	Anti-Muslim hate speech.
13	24 <sup>th</sup> May 2015	Tat Kone Township, Nay Pyi	Anti-Muslim hate



Figure 12: A large audience in Lapputta Township listening to U Wirathu hate speech



Figure 13: A large audience in Maw Gyun Township listening to U Wirathu hate speech









Figure 16 : U Wirathu was welcomed by local Buddhists in Myin Chan Township



Figure 17: Anxiously awaiting audiences in Myin Chan Township



Figure 18: Listening U Wirathu hate speech in Khin Oo village, Sagain Division



Figure 19: U Wirathu was welcomed in Maw Gyun Township, Irrawaddy Division





Figure 20: U Wirathu giving lecture to the children in Kyone Ma Ngay Township



Figure 21: Local women listening to U Wirathu in Maw Gyun Township



Figure 22: U Wriathu speaking at NDF party annual conference on May 16<sup>th</sup>



Figure 23: MP U Tin Maung attended U Wirathu speech and paying respect





Figure 24: U Wirathu meeting with MP Daw Khin Wine Kyi from NDF party



Figure 25: Local Buddhists listening U Wirathu speech in Chan Mya Tharsi Township, Mandalay on 23rd May

### The activities of Myanmar National Network (MNN) in May

MNN has been organising anti Muslim hate speeches and events across Burma. This party is promoting anti Muslim sentiment and targeting young children to comprehend hatred towards Muslim. At every event promoting anti Muslim sentiment through essay competitions, quiz competitions and displaying anti Muslim promoting picture printed on vinyl posters. The following table shows the detail activities of MNN in May.

No	Date	Locations	Activities
1	2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2015	Twantay Township, Rangoon.	Displayed vinyl posters, anti-Muslim advocacy programs and anti-Muslim essay competition
2	7 <sup>th</sup> May 2015	Shwe Myaung village, Pyay City, Pegu Division	Displayed vinyl posters and 969 anti-Muslim advocacy programs
3	23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2015	Thanlyin Township, Rangoon.	Anti-Muslim public event, displayed vinyl posters
4	24 <sup>th</sup> May 2015	Ma U Bin Township, Irrawaddy Division	Displayed vinyl posters and anti-Muslim advocacy programs
5	27 <sup>th</sup> May 2015	Bahan Township, Rangoon	Protest against Rohingya boat people, Displayed vinyl posters
6	28 <sup>th</sup> May 2015	Shwe Ti Gone Pagoda, Eastern Gate, Rangoon.	Displayed vinyl posters and anti-Muslim hate speech





Figure 26: MNN anti-Muslim advocacy program in Twantay Township, Rangoon.



Figure 27: MNN Chairman Win Ko Ko Latt giving award to the children who score higher marks on anti-Muslim essays competition





Figure 28: Children looking through anti-Muslim vinyl posters in Twantay Township, Rangoon



Figure 29: Anti-Muslim hates speakers in an event in Shwe Myaung village, Pyay City, Pegu Division





Figure 30: Anti-Muslim advocacy event in Ma U Bin Township, Irrawaddy Division.



Figure 31: Memorial for Ma Thi Dar Htwe organised at Shwe Ti Gon Eastern Gate, Rangoon.





Figure 32: MNN chairman Win Ko Ko Latt with black coat leading the protest against boat people on 27th May in Bahan Township, Rangoon.



Figure 33: MaBaTha office opening ceremony in Lashio city





Figure 36: Sayadaw U Saddamma from MaBaTha giving anti-Muslim hate speech, In front of 969 symbol



Figure 37: A prominent monk from MaBaTha, Sayadaw U Saddamma lecturing children



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