

Dear friend

I am writing to thank you for your support of Burma Campaign UK this year and to ask for your help.

This year has seen some signs of hope in Burma. After meeting with the regime, Aung San Suu Kyi said she will stand as a parliamentary candidate in by-elections due next year in Burma. There have been some small reforms by the regime, including small numbers of political prisoners released. The pressure is starting to work.

However, there is still a long way to go and the people of Burma will continue to need our support. Despite some reforms, in the past year human rights abuses have actually increased and the army is able to block any efforts to make the constitution more democratic.

Almost 150,000 ethnic people were forced to flee their homes in the past year because of attacks on their villages, twice as many as in previous years and there has been a big increase in the use of gang rape by the Burmese Army. Out of sight in the jungles attacks continue in Shan, Kachin and Karen states and the army is killing men, women and children.

Please help by donating to Burma Campaign UK here:

<http://www.burmacampaign.org.uk/donate>

Your support has helped force the dictatorship to make some changes but whilst every new dictator in Burma's history has promised reform, none has yet delivered it.

Now is the time when your support is needed more than ever. The sanctions that we have campaigned for all these years are working and they are acting as pressure for reform. There is potential for change, but at the same time human rights abuses are increasing.

Burma Campaign UK has been there for the people of Burma for 20 years but we cannot do it alone. Your help is crucial to help us stop the killing in Eastern Burma and give them a future free from fear.

Please make a donation of £25 or whatever you feel you can help with this Christmas. Your gift to the people of Burma will not be forgotten.

Please help the people of Burma by making a donation this Christmas:

<http://www.burmacampaign.org.uk/donate>

If you have already donated this Christmas, thank you. Please consider forwarding this to your friends. Thank you for your support of Burma Campaign UK. Your support really does make the difference.

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