

ACAT (Harrow group) – prayer case of the month (*February 2022*)

Please pray as you feel led for journalist **Min Nyo** who was arrested on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 and severely beaten by police in Myanmar while he was covering a pro-democracy protest against the military coup in Pyay, Bago Region. Since the coup, the military have committed gross human rights violations and thousands of innocent civilians have been arrested or killed.



On 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021 a military court in Pyay Prison found **Min Nyo** guilty of attempting to “hinder, disturb, damage the motivation, discipline, health and conduct” of soldiers and civil servants and “cause their hatred, disobedience or disloyalty toward the military and the government” (Penal Code, Article 505-a). **Min Nyo** was sentenced to three years in prison and is currently detained at Pyay Prison, where he is at risk of being tortured. He is appealing against the verdict.

**Min Nyo** became the first journalist to be sentenced to prison in Myanmar by a military court under junta rule after the army took control a year ago, on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021 - when Aung San Suu Kyi's elected government was forced out. **Min Nyo** worked for Democratic Voice of Burma (DVB), an online and broadcasting media group that has been banned since 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 by Myanmar's junta.

Nyomee Moe, who is **Min Nyo's** wife, told *Associated Press*. “It is inhumane to be beaten and arrested. He never violated journalistic ethics. That is why I want to say that there is no justice in Myanmar”.

And, according to *Amnesty International*, “The conviction and three-year sentence handed down to **Min Nyo** shows the appalling situation faced by journalists in Myanmar, where they risk life and liberty to shed light on the military’s abuses. The military authorities are ruthless, determined to crush dissent by silencing those who seek to expose their crimes”.