

REVOLT and RESIST



About This Comic Book

Asia Justice and Rights (AJAR) stands today in solidarity with the voiceless, with the unseen, with the survivor women. At this time of political upheaval, we have witnessed the unbreakable spirit of survivors, their strength a testament to the human will to endure. We also see survivors and communities gather together, offering support, safe refuge, their hands reaching out to heal and empower.

This comics are the reminder to us to demand an end to impunity, to stand with survivors in their quest for justice and healing.

These comics are not merely stories; they are testaments to the unwavering spirit of women who refuse to be silenced. AJAR is honored to stand beside these women, to amplify their voices, to fight alongside them for justice and a future woven with threads of dignity and respect.

This Comic Book is produced by 'Asia Justice and Rights' in collaboration with 'Sister2Sister'

This project is co-led by:
Zar Ti, Breanna, Alarie

For more information, please visit our website:
<https://asia-ajar.org> and <https://justiceresources-mm.com>

Asia Justice and Rights (AJAR)

Asia Justice and Rights (AJAR) is a regional non-governmental organization (NGO) dedicated to enhancing accountability and promoting human rights across the Asia-Pacific region. AJAR focuses on addressing issues like impunity and corruption, believing that sustained peace and democracy require confronting past violations. The organization is focused on equipping local and national actors with the essential skills and resources for the long-term commitment to reinforcing accountability. Asia Justice and Rights produce publications drawing on years of experience working on conflict and peace-building. Alongside its partners, AJAR have worked to document human rights violations, worked with transitional justice organizations and victims/survivors in order to know how to deal with the challenges

Sisters2Sisters

Sisters2Sisters is a women-led group that works to raise awareness about the use of excessive force and violence against women in Myanmar. Sisters2Sisters works to support survivors in telling their own stories, build solidarity between Myanmar communities and advocate for a more inclusive future in Myanmar.



Zar Ti

Project Co-Lead

Zar Ti is the lead program officer of Asia Justice and Rights (AJAR), working with women-led organizations, women survivors, and supporting for survivors' well-being, psycho-social aid, and managing survivor exchange programs, and implementing advocacy in politically volatile environments.



Alarie

Project Co-Lead

As a Program Officer in the Transitional Justice program at AJAR, Alarie works with like-minded organizations to deepen the understanding of transitional justice tools and cultivate public awareness, aiming to promote accountability and reform. She was a government officer who actively participated in the Civil Disobedience Movement since the 2021 coup.



Breanna

Project Co-Lead

Breanna is a freelance writer and social entrepreneur. She is based in Thailand and spends most of her time collaborating with Myanmar women and artists to fundraise and generate income support for conflict-affected communities.



Wathan Moe

Researcher/ Writer

Moe is a mental health practitioner and a freelance researcher. Her passion lies in mental health. Aside from that, she has interests in empowering women, the environment, climate change, social justice, and activism. She has been supporting the revolution in any way that suits her skills and capacity.



BB

Illustrator

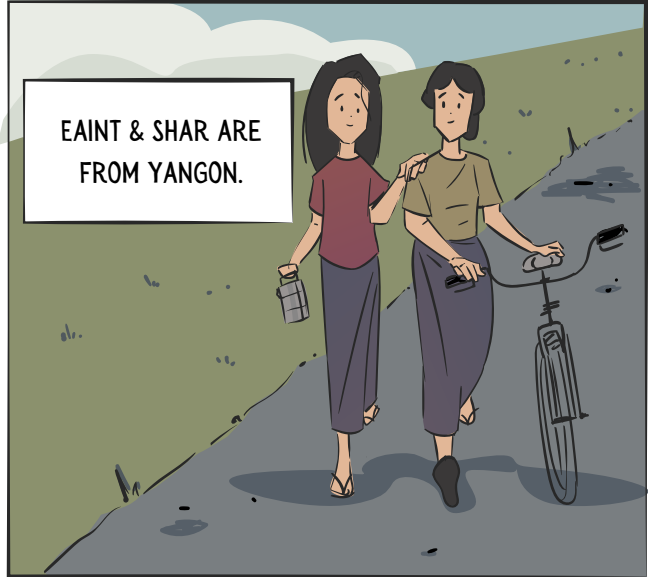
BB is an illustrator actively contributing to the creation of this comic book.

[MYANMAR]

THEY CAME FROM HER VILLAGE TO
YANGON IN SEARCH OF WORK.



EINT & SHAR ARE
FROM YANGON.



THE THREE OF THEM
WORKED TOGETHER AT THE
SAME GARMENT FACTORY IN
YANGON, MYANMAR.



ONE DAY AT THE FACTORY,
MA EAIN FAINED WHILE WORKING.



SHE WAS SENT TO A NEARBY CLINIC
FOR TREATMENT.

"HEY MA SHAR!

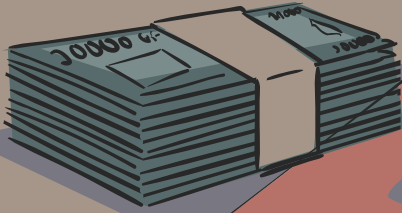
I HAVEN'T SEEN MA EAIN'T AT THE FACTORY
LATELY. DO YOU KNOW WHERE SHE IS?"



"DIDN'T YOU HEAR? SHE PASSED
OUT WHILE WORKING, ALL
BECAUSE THE FACTORY
SUPERVISOR GOT HER
PREGNANT."



"HE SLIPPED HER 5 LAKHS (\$150) TO GET RID OF THE BABY AND MADE HER RETURN HOME TO HER VILLAGE.

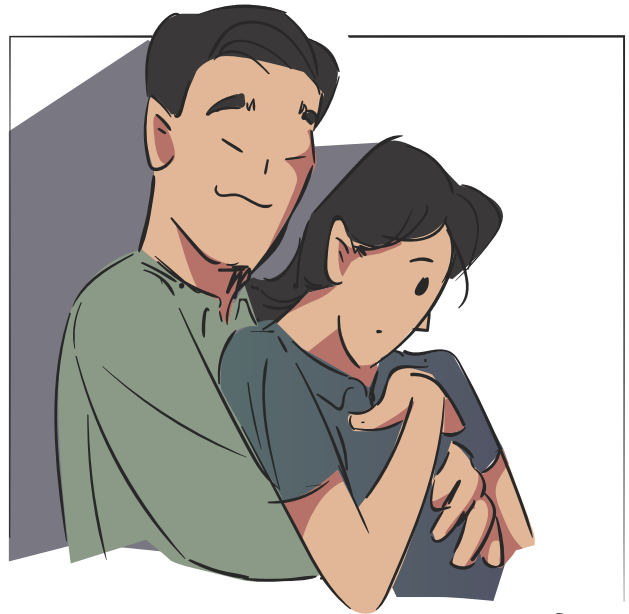


WHEN HE WANTS WOMEN TO DO SOMETHING FOR HIM, HE JABS AT THEM WITH HIS BIG TOE.

THAT CREEP ALWAYS SLAPS WORKERS' BUTTS WHEN HE WALKS BY THEM, TOO."



“HE HUGS THE GIRLS FROM BEHIND
WHENEVER HE GETS A CHANCE...



...HE OFTEN WILL REACH FROM BEHIND AND
FONDLE THEIR BREASTS.

HE GOES OUT OF HIS WAY TO RUB
THEIR THIGHS. WITH SOME OF THE
WOMEN, HE PINCHES AND TWISTS*
THEIR THIGHS TOO.



*THIS BEHAVIOR IS SEEN AS A FORM OF PUNISHMENT IN SOME BURMESE HOUSEHOLDS



HE SOMETIMES OFFERS WOMEN 5 LAKH
(\$150) TO SLEEP WITH HIM.

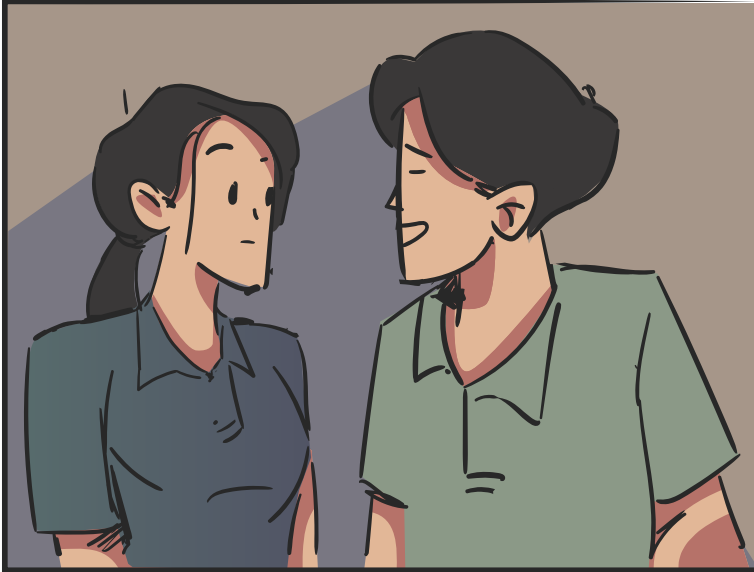
HE OFTEN MAKES LEWD PROPOSALS
AND PRESSURES WOMEN TO COME
AWAY WITH HIM FOR SOME SMALL
AMOUNT OF MONEY.

“WHATTT?!
REALLY?!”



"ONE OF MY FRIENDS WHO WORKS IN
ANOTHER GARMENT FACTORY TOLD ME ABOUT
A MACHINE OPERATOR FROM THE PRODUCTION
DEPARTMENT.

HE TARGETS PRETTY, CURVY GIRLS THERE.

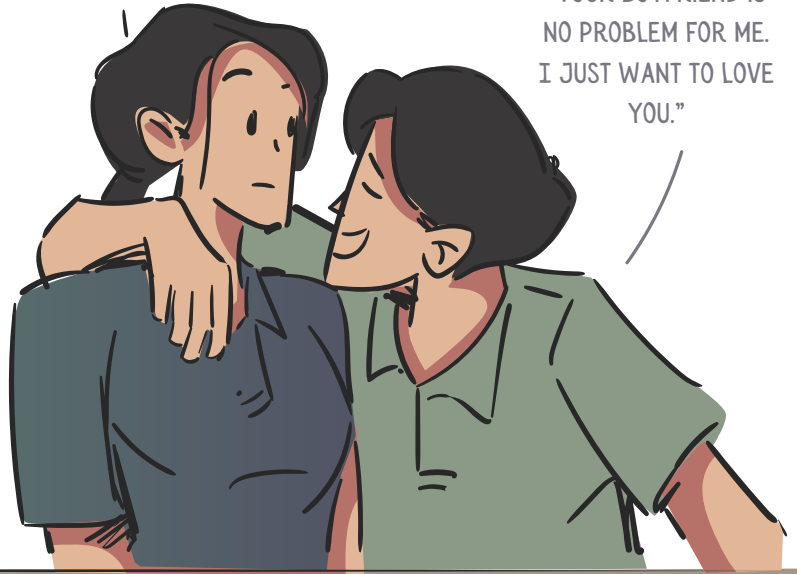


“DO YOU HAVE A
BOYFRIEND?
OR A HUSBAND?”

WHEN HE ASKS THEM, THE GIRLS USUALLY ANSWER TRUTHFULLY ‘YES’ OR
‘NO’, DEPENDING ON THEIR RELATIONSHIP STATUS.



HE DOESN'T CARE WHAT
THEY SAY.
HE ALWAYS BRUSHES OFF
THEIR ANSWERS.

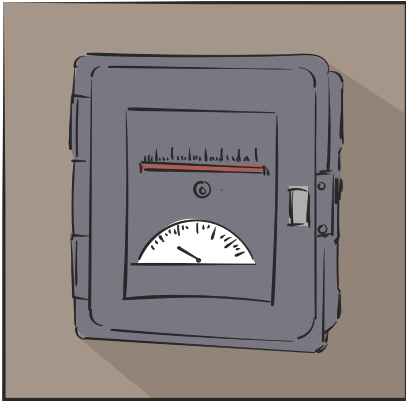
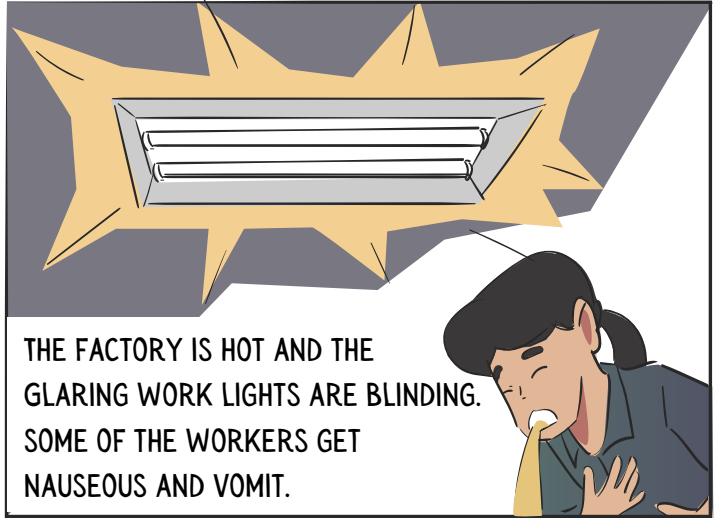


"YOUR BOYFRIEND IS
NO PROBLEM FOR ME.
I JUST WANT TO LOVE
YOU."



"AHH.
I'M FEELING DIZZY."

"OH NO."



THE FACTORY IS UNBEARABLY HOT.





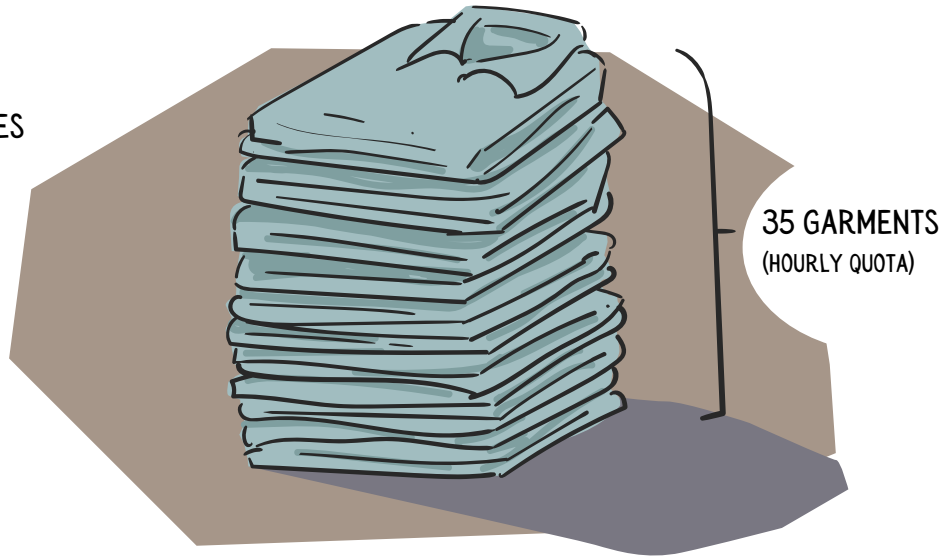
THERE IS NO OVERTIME PAY FOR WORKERS
DESPITE THE OVERTIME HOURS.



THE PRODUCTION QUOTA
USED TO BE 280
GARMENTS EACH DAY.

DURING 2021, THE BOSSES
INCREASED THE
PRODUCTION DEMANDS

NOW WORKERS HAVE
TO PRODUCE 420
GARMENTS PER DAY.



THE WORKERS HAVE TO STAY EXTRA HOURS TO MEET THIS QUOTA. NO OVERTIME PAY IS GIVEN.



THEY'RE ALSO MAKING US LIE TO
THE FACTORY INSPECTION TEAM
ABOUT BENEFITS WE DON'T EVEN
GET.

MA SHAR AND THE OTHERS DECIDED TO
ORGANIZE.

THEY PROTESTED: THEY CALLED ATTENTION
TO THE FREQUENT SEXUAL ASSAULTS BY
THE SUPERVISOR.

THEY DEMANDED THAT HE BE FIRED.





IN RESPONSE, THE
FACTORY HEADS CALLED
THE MILITARY REGIME
AND ASKED THEM TO
STOP THE WORKERS'
PROTESTS.

THE MILITARY REGIME ARRESTED
MA SHAR AND THREE OTHER PROTEST
LEADERS.





"LET'S FIGHT FOR OUR RIGHTS UNTIL WE WIN!"



Labor rights have all but vanished for Myanmar factory workers living in the shadow of Myanmar's military dictatorship. Factories (often foreign-owned) take advantage of the fact that there is no rule of law, and workers are routinely exploited and abused.

Without a democratic government, gaining labor rights is nearly impossible, and labor organizing is deadly. Nevertheless, workers and union leaders continue to find ways to resist.

Myanmar's workers deserve a democratic future.



W
♀



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M



I AM NOT REFERRING WHO THIS WOMAN IS. AS DEPICTED, THE THINGS ABOVE AND BELOW ILLUSTRATES THE CONTRAST BEFORE AND AFTER THE COUP. THE UPPER SECTION, FEATURING WAVES, SUN RAYS, AND ORIGAMI, CONVEYS PLEASANTNESS, FREEDOM, AND A BRIGHTER FUTURE. IN CONTRAST, THE LOWER PART IS FILLED WITH UNCERTAINTIES, TIREDNESS, AND DIFFICULTIES. IN THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, BEING A WOMAN ADDS TO THE ANXIETY.



BB
(Illustrator)

DAWN'S
DAWN'S
DAWN'S

GLOW

REVOLT AND
RESIST