

## Martyr's Day

August 12 commemorates the day that Saw Ba U Gyi, the first leader of the Karen Revolution, was killed by the Burmese Army.

However Martyrs' Day has become a day when Karen people remember all the people – villagers, medics, and teachers as well as soldiers – who have died in more than sixty years of civil war.

Karen people mark Martyrs' Day with ceremonies and pray services in Karen-controlled areas in Burma, in refugee camps in Thailand, and in Australia and other countries where Karen refugees have been resettled.

Photo: Sai Yod, a Shan medic who was shot by the Burmese Army while on a Free Burma Rangers relief mission to internally displaced people in Shan State.

**Courtesy Free Burma Rangers**

