

U.S. Department of Justice
Executive Office for Immigration Review

I-589, Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal

Applicant: Saw Han Tha Zaw

Submission Date: 2024-05-05T03:55:02UTC

Do you also want to apply for withholding of removal under the Convention Against Torture?: Yes
Part A.I. Information About You
1. Alien Registration Number(s) (A-Number) (if any): 2. U.S. Social Security Number (if any): 3. USCIS Online Account Number (if any):
4. Complete Last Name: Zaw 5. First Name: Saw Han Tha 6. Middle Name:
7. What other names have you used (include maiden name and aliases)?
8. Residence in the U.S. (where you physically reside) Street Number and Name: 5 WILLIAMS BLVD APT 2L Apt. Number: City: LAKE GROVE State: NY ZIP Code: 11755-2486 Telephone Number: 929-707-4206
9. Mailing Address in the U.S. (if different than the address in Item Number 8) In Care of (if applicable): Telephone Number: 929-707-4206 Street Number and Name: 5 WILLIAMS BLVD APT 2L Apt. Number: City: LAKE GROVE State: NY ZIP Code: 11755-2486
10. Gender (Male, Female): Male 11. Marital Status (Single, Married, Divorced, Widowed): married 12. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy): 12-09-1983 13. City and Country of Birth: City: Yangon Country: MMR 14. Present Nationality (Citizenship): MMR 15. Nationality at Birth: MMR 16. Race, Ethnic, or Tribal Group: Kayin 17. Religion: Christian
18.a. I have never been in Immigration Court proceedings.: Yes 18.b. I am now in Immigration Court proceedings: 18.c. I am not now in Immigration Court proceedings, but I have been in the past:

19.a. When did you last leave your country? (mm/dd/yyyy): 03-06-2024

Last Left Your Country Other:

19.b. What is your current I-94 Number, if any?: 797644100A3

19.c. List each entry into the U.S. beginning with your most recent entry. List date (mm/dd/yyyy), place, and your status for each entry. (Attach additional sheets as needed.)

Most Recent Entry Record:

Date of Entry: 03-07-2024

Place of Entry: NYC

Other Place of Entry:

Status: B2

Date Status Expires: 09-06-2024

Previous Entry Record(s):

20. What country issued your last passport or travel document?: MMR

21. Passport/Travel Document Number: MH332639

22. Expiration Date (mm/dd/yyyy): 04-27-2028

23. What is your native language (include dialect, if applicable)?: BUR

24. Are you fluent in English?: Yes

25. What other languages do you speak fluently?

Part A.II. Information About Your Spouse and Children

Your spouse

1. Alien Registration Number (A-Number) (if any):

2. Passport/ID Card Number (if any): MH721471

3. Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy): 02-18-1991

4. U.S. Social Security Number (if any):

5. Complete Last Name: San

6. First Name: Thae Nu

7. Middle Name:

8. Other names used (include maiden name and aliases)

9. Date of Marriage (mm/dd/yyyy): 12-18-2016

10. Place of Marriage: Yangon

11. City and Country of Birth:

City: Yangon

Country: MMR

12. Nationality (Citizenship): MMR

13. Race, Ethnic, or Tribal Group: Burmese

14. Gender (Male,Female): Female

15. Is this person in the U.S.? "Yes " (Complete Blocks 16 to 24). "No" (Specify location) : Yes

Spouse Location:

16. Place of last entry into the U.S.: NYC

Other Place of Last Entry:

17. Date of last entry into the U.S. (mm/dd/yyyy): 03-07-2024

18. I-94 Number (if any): 797645357A3

19. Status when last admitted (Visa type, if any): B2

20. What is your spouse's current status?: B2

21. What is the expiration date of his/her authorized stay, if any? (mm/dd/yyyy): 09-06-2024

<p>22. Is your spouse in Immigration Court proceedings?: No</p> <p>23. If previously in the U.S., date of previous arrival (mm/dd/yyyy):</p> <p>24. If in the U.S., is your spouse to be included in this application?: Yes</p>
<p>Your Children. List all of your children, regardless of age, location, or marital status.</p> <p>I have children: No</p> <p>Total number of children:</p>
<p>Part A.III. Information About Your Background</p>
<p>1. List your last address where you lived before coming to the United States. If this is not the country where you fear persecution, also list the last address in the country where you fear persecution. (List Address, City/Town, Department, Province, or State and Country.)</p> <p>Number and Street, Line 1 (Provide if Available): Building AA4,Room 204, Bo Bahtoo Housing</p> <p>Number and Street, Line 2 (Provide if Available): Ba Yint Naung Road , 43 Ward</p> <p>City/Town: North Dagon</p> <p>Department, Province, or State: Yangon</p> <p>State:</p> <p>Zip Code:</p> <p>Postal Code: 11421</p> <p>Country: MMR</p> <p>Dates: From (Month): 01</p> <p>Dates: From (Year): 2023</p> <p>Dates: To (Month): 03</p> <p>Dates: To (Year): 2024</p>
<p>2. Provide the following information about your residences during the past 5 years. List your present address first.</p> <p>Number and Street, Line 1: 5 Williams Blvd Apt 2L</p> <p>Number and Street, Line 2:</p> <p>City/Town: Lake Grove</p> <p>Department or Province:</p> <p>State: NY</p> <p>Postal Code:</p> <p>ZIP Code: 11755</p> <p>Country: USA</p> <p>Dates:From(Month): 03</p> <p>Dates:From(Year): 2024</p> <p>Dates:To(Month):</p> <p>Dates:To(Year):</p>
<p>Number and Street, Line 1: Building AA4,Room 204, Bo Bahtoo Housing</p> <p>Number and Street, Line 2: Ba Yint Naung Road , 43 Ward</p> <p>City/Town: North Dagon</p> <p>Department or Province: Yangon</p> <p>State:</p> <p>Postal Code: 11421</p> <p>ZIP Code:</p> <p>Country: MMR</p> <p>Dates:From(Month): 01</p> <p>Dates:From(Year): 2023</p>

Dates:To(Month): 03

Dates:To(Year): 2024

Number and Street, Line 1: Block11A 12-250 AYCT condo

Number and Street, Line 2:

City/Town: Dagon Seikkan

Department or Province: Yangon

State:

Postal Code: 11441

ZIP Code:

Country: MMR

Dates:From(Month): 11

Dates:From(Year): 2018

Dates:To(Month): 01

Dates:To(Year): 2023

3. Provide the following information about your education, beginning with the most recent school that you attended.

Name of School: University of Distance Education

Type of School: University

Location (Address):

Street Name and Number: Tha Htone St

Apt. No.:

City: Hlaing

State:

ZIP Code:

Province: Yangon

Postal Code: 11051

Country: MMR

Dates:From(Month):

Dates:From(Year): 2001

Dates:To(Month):

Dates:To(Year): 2005

Name of School: BEHS 2

Type of School: High School

Location (Address):

Street Name and Number: Insein Rd

Apt. No.:

City: Mayangone

State:

ZIP Code:

Province: Yangon

Postal Code: 11061

Country: MMR

Dates:From(Month):

Dates:From(Year): 1998

Dates:To(Month):

Dates:To(Year): 2000

Name of School: BEMS 3

Type of School: Middle School

Location (Address):

Street Name and Number: Daw Hla Pan Street

Apt. No.:

City: Mayangone

State:

ZIP Code:

Province: Yangon

Postal Code: 11062

Country: MMR

Dates:From(Month):

Dates:From(Year): 1993

Dates:To(Month):

Dates:To(Year): 1997

Name of School: BEPS 17

Type of School: Primary School

Location (Address):

Street Name and Number: U Aung Min ST

Apt. No.:

City: Mayangone

State:

ZIP Code: 11062

Province: Yangon

Postal Code: 11062

Country: MMR

Dates:From(Month):

Dates:From(Year): 1989

Dates:To(Month):

Dates:To(Year): 1993

4. Provide the following information about your employment during the past 5 years. List your present employment first.

Name and Address of Employer: Let's Grow Together Myanmar SME

Street Name and Number: No 83, Sein Pan Pyar Street

Apt. No.: Thuwanna 30 ward

City: Thingangyun

State:

ZIP Code:

Province: Yangon

Postal Code: 11071

Country: MMR

Your Occupation: Event Manager

Dates:From(Month): 06

Dates:From(Year): 2019

Dates:To(Month): 02

Dates:To(Year): 2024

5. Provide the following information about your parents and siblings (brothers and sisters). Check the box if the person is deceased.

Relationship (Mother, Father, Sibling): Father

First Name: Myint

Last Name: Zaw

Middle Name:

City/Town of Birth: Myan Aung

Country of Birth: MMR

Current Location: Yangon

Deceased:

Relationship (Mother, Father, Sibling): Mother

First Name: Naw

Last Name: Mabel

Middle Name:

City/Town of Birth: Yangon

Country of Birth: MMR

Current Location: Yangon

Deceased:

Part B. Information About Your Application

When answering the following questions about your asylum or other protection claim (withholding of removal under 241(b)(3) of the INA or withholding of removal under the Convention Against Torture), you must provide a detailed and specific account of the basis of your claim to asylum or other protection. To the best of your ability, provide specific dates, places, and descriptions about each event or action described. You must attach documents evidencing the general conditions in the country from which you are seeking asylum or other protection and the specific facts on which you are relying to support your claim. If this documentation is unavailable or you are not providing this documentation with your application, explain why in your responses to the following questions.

:

1. Why are you applying for asylum or withholding of removal under section 241(b)(3) of the INA, or for withholding of removal under the Convention Against Torture? I am seeking asylum or withholding of removal based on:

Race: Yes

Religion: Yes

Nationality: Yes

Political Opinion: Yes

Membership in a particular social group: Yes

Torture Convention: Yes

A. Have you, your family, or close friends or colleagues ever experienced harm or mistreatment or threats in the past by anyone?:

Yes

If "Yes," explain in detail: **1. What happened; 2. When the harm or mistreatment or threats occurred; 3. Who caused the harm or mistreatment or threats; and 4. Why you believe the harm or mistreatment or threats occurred.:** My family, colleagues, and I have experienced various forms of harm, mistreatment, and threats. These incidents include physical violence, arbitrary detention, extortion, and psychological abuse. These events have occurred multiple times, most notably following the military coup in Myanmar in February 2021. Specific incidents, like a violent home raid, occurred on December 11, 2022. The harm and mistreatment were caused by the Myanmar military and police forces. These forces, often in mixed attire of military and civilian clothes, conducted the assaults. (4) I believe these occurrences of harm and mistreatment were due to my active involvement in providing humanitarian aid and supporting democracy initiatives against the military regime. My actions, perceived as anti-government, made me and those associated with me targets for repression aimed at silencing dissent and curtailing democratic efforts.

B. Do you fear harm or mistreatment if you return to your home country?: Yes

If "Yes," explain in detail: **1. What harm or mistreatment you fear; 2. Who you believe would harm or mistreat you; and 3. Why you believe you would or could be harmed or mistreated.:** (1) I fear severe harm or mistreatment if I return to Myanmar, including arrest, torture, and possible execution. Given my past experiences, I anticipate physical violence, severe interrogations, and long-term detention under harsh conditions. Additionally, I fear for the safety of my family due to potential retribution and collective punishment. (2) The harm or mistreatment would likely be inflicted by the Myanmar military and police forces, which are known for their brutal crackdowns on dissent and resistance to the military regime. (3) My fear of harm is based on my previous involvement in humanitarian efforts and pro-democracy movements, which have already made me a target. The military regime maintains extensive surveillance and has a record of punishing those associated with opposition movements. My political activities while in the United States, supporting democracy and opposing military rule, have further elevated my risk profile, making my return to Myanmar exceedingly dangerous.

2. Have you or your family members ever been accused, charged, arrested, detained, interrogated, convicted and sentenced, or imprisoned in any country other than the United States (including for an immigration law violation)?: Yes

If "Yes," explain the circumstances and reasons for the action: I have been detained, interrogated, and imprisoned in Myanmar due to my involvement in humanitarian efforts and pro-democracy activities. Specifically, during a violent raid on December 11, 2022, by military and police forces, I was forcibly taken from my home without any legal warrant and subjected to physical violence. I was then detained at Insein Prison, known for its harsh conditions. During my time in detention, I endured extensive physical and psychological torture intended to coerce me into providing information about my network and activities. The reasons for these actions were directly related to my support for displaced persons and my participation in protests against the military coup. My activities were viewed as anti-government, leading to accusations of sedition and anti-state activities. These accusations were used to justify the violent actions against me, including my arrest and subsequent torture. The military's intent was to suppress dissent and punish those who actively opposed their rule, which unfortunately included me due to my visible and vocal opposition to their oppressive governance.

3.A. Have you or your family members ever belonged to or been associated with any organizations or groups in your home country, such as, but not limited to, a political party, student group, labor union, religious organization, military or paramilitary group, civil patrol, guerrilla organization, ethnic group, human rights group, or the press or media?: No

If "Yes," describe for each person the level of participation, any leadership or other positions held, and the length of time you or your family members were involved in each organization or activity.:

3.B. Do you or your family members continue to participate in any way in these organizations or groups?:

If "Yes," describe for each person your or your family members' current level of participation, any leadership or other positions currently held, and the length of time you or your family members have been involved in each organization or group.:

4. Are you afraid of being subjected to torture in your home country or any other country to which you may be returned?: Yes

If "Yes," explain why you are afraid and describe the nature of torture you fear, by whom, and why it would be inflicted.: I am deeply afraid of being subjected to torture if I return to Myanmar. My fear is based on my personal history and the well-documented practices of the Myanmar military. The nature of the torture I fear includes beatings, electric shocks, sexual violence, and psychological abuse. These methods are notoriously used by the military and police to extract information, punish dissent, and instill fear within communities opposing the regime. The torture would likely be inflicted by the military and police forces. They have previously targeted me due to my involvement in providing humanitarian aid, supporting democratic movements, and participating in protests against the military coup. My activities, both within Myanmar and from abroad, have positioned me as an opponent to the authoritarian military regime. The military has demonstrated a pattern of torturing individuals with similar profiles to mine, aiming to crush opposition and discourage further resistance. Thus, the fear of torture is a realistic and justified concern if I were forced to return.

Part C. Additional Information About Your Application

1. Have you, your spouse, your child(ren), your parents or your siblings ever applied to the U.S. Government for refugee status, asylum, or withholding of removal?: No

If "Yes," explain the decision and what happened to any status you, your spouse, your child(ren), your parents, or your siblings received as a result of that decision. Indicate whether or not you were included in a parent or spouse's application. If so, include your parent or spouse's A-number in your response. If you were previously denied asylum by USCIS, an immigration judge, or the

Board of Immigration Appeals, describe any change(s) in conditions in your country or your own personal circumstances since the date of the denial that may affect your eligibility for asylum.:

2.A. After leaving the country from which you are claiming asylum, did you or your spouse or child(ren) who are now in the United States travel through or reside in any other country before entering the United States?: No

If "Yes," , provide for each person the following: the name of each country and the length of stay, the person's status while there, the reasons for leaving, whether or not the person is entitled to return for lawful residence purposes, and whether the person applied for refugee status or for asylum while there, and if not, why he or she did not do so:

2.B. Have you, your spouse, your child(ren), or other family members, such as your parents or siblings, ever applied for or received any lawful status in any country other than the one from which you are now claiming asylum?: No

If "Yes," , provide for each person the following: the name of each country and the length of stay, the person's status while there, the reasons for leaving, whether or not the person is entitled to return for lawful residence purposes, and whether the person applied for refugee status or for asylum while there, and if not, why he or she did not do so:

3. Have you, your spouse or your child(ren) ever ordered, incited, assisted or otherwise participated in causing harm or suffering to any person because of his or her race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group or belief in a particular political opinion?: No

If "Yes," describe in detail each such incident and your own, your spouse's, or your child(ren)'s involvement.:

4. After you left the country where you were harmed or fear harm, did you return to that country?: No

If "Yes," describe in detail the circumstances of your visit(s) (for example, the date(s) of the trip(s), the purpose(s) of the trip(s), and the length of time you remained in that country for the visit(s).):

5. Are you filing this application more than 1 year after your last arrival in the United States?: No

If "Yes," explain why you did not file within the first year after you arrived. You must be prepared to explain at your interview or hearing why you did not file your asylum application within the first year after you arrived. For guidance in answering this question, see Instructions, Part 1: Filing Instructions, Section V. "Completing the Form," Part C.:

6. Have you or any member of your family included in the application ever committed any crime and/or been arrested, charged, convicted, or sentenced for any crimes in the United States (including for an immigration law violation)?: No

If "Yes," for each instance, specify in your response: what occurred and the circumstances, dates, length of sentence received, location, the duration of the detention or imprisonment, reason(s) for the detention or conviction, any formal charges that were lodged against you or your relatives included in your application, and the reason(s) for release.If you have been arrested in the United States, you must submit a certified copy of all arrest reports, court dispositions, sentencing documents, and any other relevant documents.:

Part D. Your Signature

I certify, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America, that this application and the evidence submitted with it are all true and correct. Title 18, United States Code, Section 1546(a), provides in part: Whoever knowingly makes under oath, or as permitted under penalty of perjury under Section 1746 of Title 28, United States Code, knowingly subscribes as true, any false statement with respect to a material fact in any application, affidavit, or other document required by the immigration laws or regulations prescribed thereunder, or knowingly presents any such application, affidavit, or other document containing any such false statement or which fails to contain any reasonable basis in law or fact - shall be fined in accordance with this title or imprisoned for up to 25 years. I authorize the release of any information from my immigration record that U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) needs to determine eligibility for the benefit I am seeking.

WARNING: Applicants who are in the United States unlawfully are subject to removal if their asylum or withholding claims are not granted by an asylum officer or an immigration judge. Any information provided in completing this application may be used as a basis for the institution of, or as evidence in, removal proceedings even if the application is later withdrawn. Applicants determined to have knowingly made a frivolous application for asylum will be permanently ineligible for any benefits under the Immigration and Nationality Act. You may not avoid a frivolous finding simply because someone advised you to provide false information in your asylum application. If filing with USCIS, unexcused failure to appear for an appointment to provide biometrics (such as fingerprints) and your biographical information within the time allowed may result in an asylum officer dismissing your asylum application or referring it to an immigration judge. Failure without good cause to provide DHS with biometrics or other biographical information

while in removal proceedings may result in your application being found abandoned by the immigration judge. See sections 208(d)(5) (A) and 208(d)(6) of the INA and 8 CFR sections 208.10, 1208.10, 208.20, 1003.47(d) and 1208.20.

Print your complete name: SAW HAN THA ZAW

Write your name in your native alphabet:

Did your spouse, parent, or child(ren) assist you in completing this application?: No

If "Yes," list the name and relationship.

Did someone other than your spouse, parent, or child(ren) prepare this application? (If "Yes," complete Part E.): Yes

Asylum applicants may be represented by counsel. Have you been provided with a list of persons who may be available to assist you, at little or no cost, with your asylum claim?: No

Signature Email Address: sawhanthazaw.usird.client@gmail.com

Signature Date: 05-05-2024

Electronic Filing Record

Part E. Declaration of Person Preparing Form, if Other Than Applicant, Spouse, Parent, or Child

I declare that I have prepared this application at the request of the person named in Part D, that the responses provided are based on all information of which I have knowledge, or which was provided to me by the applicant, and that the completed application was read to the applicant in his or her native language or a language he or she understands for verification before he or she signed the application in my presence. I am aware that the knowing placement of false information on the Form I-589 may also subject me to civil penalties under 8 U.S.C. 1324c and/or criminal penalties under 18 U.S.C. 1546(a).

Signature Of Preparer:

Date:

Complete Name of Preparer:

First Name: Ye Yint Myint

Last Name: Mo

Daytime Telephone Number: 646-698-2775

Address of Preparer

Street Number and Name: 6034 Booth Street

Apt. Number:

City: Elmhurst

State: NY

ZIP Code: 11373

Province:

Postal Code:

Country:

Attorney State Bar Number (if applicable):

Attorney or Accredited Representative USCIS Online Account Number (if any):

Evidence

Original File Name: Cover Letter_ Saw Han Tha Zaw.pdf

Category: Cover Letter

Original File Name: Statement_ Saw Han Tha Zaw.pdf

Category: Written Statements

Original File Name: SHTZ US Visa.pdf

Category: Visa

Original File Name: SHTZ Passport.pdf

Category: Passport

Original File Name: Birth Certificate Notary-Saw Han Tha Zaw.pdf Category: Birth Records
Original File Name: Birth Certificate Original-Saw Han Zaw.pdf Category: Birth Records
Original File Name: NRC Notary-Saw Han Tha Zaw.pdf Category: Foreign Identification Documents
Original File Name: NRC Original-Saw Han Tha Zaw.JPG Category: Foreign Identification Documents
Original File Name: I94 - SHTZ.pdf Category: I-94
Original File Name: Matriculaiton Notarial Translation.pdf Category: Other Education Documents
Original File Name: Matriculation Certificate.pdf Category: Other Education Documents
Original File Name: SHTZ Degree Notary.pdf Category: Other Education Documents
Original File Name: SHTZ Diploma in IT Notary.pdf Category: Other Education Documents
Original File Name: SHTZ Diploma Notary.pdf Category: Other Education Documents
Original File Name: Family List Original-Saw Han Tha Zaw.pdf Category: Other Identification
Original File Name: Family List Notary-Saw Han Tha Zaw.pdf Category: Other Identification
Original File Name: wedding.pdf Category: Marriage Certificate
Original File Name: 1988 Military Coup News Article (1).pdf Category: News Article
Original File Name: 2021 Civil Disobedience Movement (1).pdf Category: News Article
Original File Name: 2021 Military Coup News Article (1).pdf Category: News Article
Original File Name: 2021 Protest Civil Movement (1).pdf Category: News Article
Original File Name: Section 505 A News Article (1).pdf Category: News Article
Original File Name: UN HUMAN RIGHT COMM REPORT (1).pdf Category: News Article
Original File Name: Preparer.pdf Category: Preparer Signature
Supplement B, Form I-589
Additional Information About Your Claim to Asylum