



## ANOTHER TRUTH: Does the NCA Work?

### *Press Release for Film Screening and Panel Discussion*

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

As Myanmar's military continues offensives in Kachin State, youth-run Sun Kingdom Films will premiere its documentary exploring the failures of the country's peace process at Chiang Mai University on Thursday, Feb. 8 at the Regional Center for Sustainable Development (RCSO).

Subtitled in English and featuring original commentary from ethnic leaders, legal experts, journalists and Kachin civilians, ANOTHER TRUTH scrutinises the inherent flaws of Myanmar's Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA), which—along with the military-drafted 2008 Constitution—lies at the centre of the government-led peace initiative and the current political impasse.

Shot throughout 2017, ANOTHER TRUTH focuses largely on how the NCA has failed the Kachin nation, and why many believe that the path set out by the government and military will not pave the way for the system of democratic federalism long sought after by the country's marginalised ethnic communities.

"We wanted to show why the NCA is deadlocked—there is no trust building," said Hkun Li, a documentary photographer and one of seven Kachin people who made the film.

Since the breakdown of a 17-year ceasefire between the Myanmar Army and the Kachin Independence Organisation in 2011, Kachin State has been wracked by conflict, with civilians bearing the brunt of the violence. ANOTHER TRUTH reveals the numbers of those affected by this war: 120,000 displaced, 367 villages destroyed, and nearly 15,000 houses lost.

Since late January, thousands of civilians have been trapped by renewed Myanmar Army offensives in the Kachin State townships of Tanai, Sumprabum and Waingmaw, with reports of people being used as human shields by troops.

The launch of ANOTHER TRUTH is being held amidst this complex political backdrop. Thursday's screening will be followed by a panel discussion featuring filmmaker Hkun Li, ethnologist and artist Kaw Seng, and longtime journalist Bertil Lintner. The event is scheduled from 1:30 until 4:00 pm and is open to the media and public.

**LOCATION:** Meeting Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Operational Building, Faculty of Social Sciences, Chiang Mai University

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