



Dear friends and supporters,

Warm greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Thank you once again for standing with the people of Myanmar. Since the earthquake earlier this year, your faithful prayers and generous support have brought tangible hope to families and communities deeply affected by the crisis.

In our previous updates, we shared how your giving helped meet urgent needs — from food and shelter to rebuilding efforts and ongoing care. Earlier this month, I had the privilege of visiting Myanmar in person. I walked alongside our local partners, listened to stories from the ground, and witnessed firsthand how God is moving through your support.

More than a report, I hope that this update will provide a glimpse into the quiet strength of a nation acquainted with hardship, yet pressing on with courage and resilience. I pray it encourages you with signs of God's faithfulness, the resilience of the people you've helped, and the new doors He is opening for ministry.

📍 MANDALAY REGION: THREE-PHASE EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

Over the past three months, the team has been actively engaged in supporting communities affected by the earthquake in the Mandalay region through a three-phase relief effort:

Phase 1: Immediate Needs Response

In the early days, we responded swiftly to urgent needs by providing food, blankets, and essential supplies to families in crisis.

Phase 2: Relationship Building & Targeted Aid

With our dedicated church planters and partners, we cultivated deeper relationships within the community. We distributed school supplies, medicine, water filters, and financial assistance—particularly to those with medical needs—with care and compassion. We could build a local operation team and rent a space for the earthquake operation center.

Phase 3: Long-Term Recovery & Holistic Support (Current Phase)

We have now begun the process of rebuilding homes and laying the foundations for the sustainable recovery of community life.

Highlights include:

- Preparation of materials like wood, bamboo walls, and concrete foundations
- Construction of bamboo houses and community water towers in affected villages
- Permission granted by local authorities to proceed with rebuilding
- MoU signed by our partners to begin shelter construction in Oh Tohtan (north), Mandalay region, and additional villages in Tada-U township



SHELTER SPECIFICATIONS

We aim to build 42 bamboo houses across 7 villages. Each home:

- Measures 14x16 feet and houses 4-6 people
- Is elevated 5 feet off the ground to prevent flooding from the nearby river
- Is built with high-quality materials to last 20-30 years





✿ MORE THAN REBUILDING: EMOTIONAL AND SPIRITUAL RECOVERY

Alongside rebuilding efforts, our team is committed to nurturing emotional and spiritual recovery. We've launched:

- English classes and an after-school enrichment programmes for children
- Trauma-informed debriefing training for church planters to support families
- Ongoing opportunities for spiritual conversations as relationships deepen

We're already seeing fruit: communities that were once closed are now open. Families who received help are asking why the team goes beyond providing once-off relief and continues to visit and care for them – giving us opportunities to share about our loving God who has not forgotten them.



✈ OUR VISIT TO MYANMAR IN JULY 2025

Last July, my team leader and I were able to visit Myanmar to spend time with the local partners, learn more about their ministries, relief projects and culture, and consider how our team in Singapore can continue partnering and collaborating with them moving forward.

But beyond the operations and programmes, this past week opened my eyes to what life is like in a resilient nation familiar with uncertainty.

! P.S. The following reflections are just based off my short visit as a foreigner in the city areas and my personal observations! It may not be reflective of the situations for all locals, especially those located outside of the cities I was in.

Going in, with the civil war, recent earthquakes, continued aftershocks and limited news coverage on the nation, I was prepared for the atmosphere on-the-ground to be somber and living conditions to be fairly challenging.

In some ways, there were signs that this seemed to be the case. For example, compared to my previous visit in 2017, people seemed to keep to themselves more. There was a marked increase of military presence on the roads and streets.

Building projects from a couple years ago stand half-completed. Some houses and buildings affected by the earthquake remain un-demolished for families who could not afford demolition and rebuilding. There were frequent power cuts, limited programmes on the TV, and VPNs were needed to access platforms online.



On the other hand, life seemed... strangely normal. The streets were filled with traffic, many malls and shops remained opened, and families were out and about in the streets and parks. We even visited a night market that reminded me of the ones we see in Singapore and Taiwan. Four months from the earthquake, many of the houses affected are in the process of being rebuilt. Roads and bridges affected by the earthquake were either already rebuilt or had temporary alternative paths installed. Life has resumed for the people. And in fact, our flights to and from the country were full! Of both locals and foreign visitors.



And so, when I reflect on the time I spent there, I am reminded of the resilience of the people in this nation. That even in continued uncertainty, they press on to resume what they can.

We thank God that due to the relief the team can provide and their regular visits, local communities have been touched by the love and care received and are open to spiritual conversations. There remains many ministry opportunities, and recent situations have opened significant in-roads to communities previously unreached!

I am privileged to have my assumptions/perspectives once again challenged and shifted, to see how God is moving in various communities around the world, and to consider the role my team and I can play to support these ministries and partners!



🙏 HOW YOU CAN CONTINUE TO PRAY

- **Provision of Resources:** Please pray that the necessary shelter materials will be readily available and accessible for purchase.
- **Revelation of God's Love:** Pray that each community member will tangibly experience God's love through this rebuilding project.
- **Open Doors for the Gospel:** Lift the outreach efforts—including Kids' games, trauma healing for children, and debriefing sessions—and ask the Lord to open more opportunities to collaborate with local partners and share the hope of the gospel with the local community.

WITH GRATEFUL HEARTS

Thank you for being part of this journey of restoration. Because of your support, hope is being restored — not just in homes, but in hearts.



If you'd like to find out more about how life on-the-ground is like in Myanmar or about any of the relief efforts and ministries in OM, do reach out to me at sophia.lim@om.org. I would love to meet you for a chat and coffee!

In Christ's service,

Sophia Lim

Partnership Development Executive
Operation Mobilisation (OM) Singapore