



**INTER-DIOCESAN
CATHOLIC ACTION
(IDCA) MYANMAR**

Catholic Action (Myanmar)
National association
8035 members In 5 Dioceses
(Loikaw, Pekhon, Taunggyi, Taungngu, Kengtung)

Background



- Catholic Action (Myanmar) was established by PIME Missionary in 1936 as a parish committee. At that time, it was organized according to the parish and served as a bridge between the state and the church.
- At that time, due to political difficulties, the priests were not allowed to apostolic journey freely, so Catholic Action had to accompany the priest to wherever their apostolic journey.
- Through this, the Catholic Action Association has been accepted by the church as a reliable association and the number of members has increased.

Diocesan Association



- Due to the large influx of members, Catholic Action Association was established as a diocesan association in 1969 and was able to reorganize its organizational structure.
- After being formed as Diocesan Catholic Action, registration as a state-recognized association was carried out. By registering the association, the priests were able to request official travel permits and were able to visit many new places and deliver sermons.
- In 1990, due to a change in political policy, the association's registration was canceled and it had to operate only within the church.

Realities

- A monthly pray meeting was held at our relevant parish, pray and worship together, sharing experiences felt in our faith. If necessary, we visit and pray to members who are sick and receiving medical treatment in Hospital.
- We have also taken the lead in the church's welfare issues especially in case of death within the church with the guidance of parish priest.
- In order to organize the unity of the members, we hold a general meeting with all members in each diocese and annual retreats are held during lent and Myanmar holidays.



Priorities

- Catholic Action Myanmar priorities to increase their faith in Jesus, to develop a willingness to give and to be commitment person.
- To increase the spiritual strength of CA members, we did a bible sharing the first Sunday after holy mass, recite the rosary and prayer for our intention.
- To develop their willingness, we encouraged every action of CA members and allowing a person to take a leading role in our activities.
- To be commitment person, we delivered a high performance course, provided motivation to develop self-confidence, Acknowledgement of every leader within our movement.



Difficulties



- The communication become difficult after the Corona Crisis there have been continuous political lock down. There are roadblocks to the conflict areas. Telephone lines are down, making it difficult to contact members.
- The transportation also was difficult, If the information was to be sent, it could not be reached due to road barricade from the military. Citizen registration card are checked when entering and exiting a city in Myanmar and if we do not bring a citizen registration card we will not be allowed to continue our journey.
- Due to internet outages in the conflict areas, online meetings could not be held. CA members are not very technologically advanced and do not use modern technology, so it is difficult to meet online. We can just contact the members through telephone available places.

Challenges

- The country is unstable and increasing in the domestic production rate day and day. Due to the money inflation that many people are already facing starvation.
- The battles are still happening in many places that increasing homeless people and many churches was destroyed. We are not being able to worship in church where there is conflict area.
- The problem has not been resolved for 2 years now, those who want "Peace" have intervened, but both sides have not stopped, and it is still going on.
- There are a special need the prayer for them. There are many people who are asking for a small hope of peace.