
MYANMAR'S MILITARY TURNS TO BUDDHISM IN BID FOR LEGITIMACY

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Generals court countrys monks to try and win respect in an environment where almost everybody hates them.

A plan is under way for Min Aung Hlaing, head of Myanmar's military and leader of last year's coup, to build the biggest sculpture of a sitting Buddha in the world – part of his attempt to forge a legacy as a protector of Buddhism.

But, in the last year, soldiers directly under his command have killed nearly 1,500 people in a crackdown on the military's opponents that violates Buddhism's first and most important principle: to abstain from killing.

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