

From Broken Norms to Shared Values : Sports Education as Social Repair

Nway Hnin Wai

Abstract

This study will examine how sport and physical education can function as structured mechanisms for social repair and civic reconstruction in contexts of prolonged institutional breakdown. Grounded in Myanmar's educational disruption from 1962 to 2025, with particular emphasis on the post-2021 period, the study will propose a community-based, youth-centered sports education initiative to be piloted in Karenni State.

Employing a Sports-Federalism-Peace framework as an analytical lens, the research will conceptualize sport-based learning environments as micro-level civic arenas where rule-governed interaction, fairness, and shared responsibility are practiced. Within this framework, sports education is positioned not merely as physical activity but as a structured platform through which federal values, such as equality, mutual accountability, and respect for diversity, can be cultivated through everyday practice.

Adopting a qualitative, case-oriented design, the study will develop a conceptual and operational model to guide future field implementation. It will propose that sport-based educational spaces can serve as platforms for rebuilding interpersonal trust, fostering rule-based social interaction, and enabling non-violent forms of conflict engagement among youth in displacement-affected contexts.

In addition, the study will frame this initiative as an initial, youth-driven and community-based effort toward peacebuilding and national reconciliation. While grounded in the Karenni context, the proposed model will offer broader relevance for Myanmar's federal transition by contributing to debates on civic culture formation and inclusive policy development.