

# ROHINGYA PRESS

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## 2 ADVISORS VISIT ROHINGYA CAMPS IN COX’S BAZAR



Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief Advisor Farooq-e-Azam and Home Affairs Advisor Lt. General Md Jahangir Alam Chowdhury visited the Rohingya camps at Ukhia upazila in Cox's Bazar district on Monday afternoon.

Upon reaching the camp, the two advisors ascended the observation tower. From there, they discussed the overall situation of the camp with relevant officials. After the inspection, in response to a question from journalists, Farooq-e-Azam said, “Bangladesh has provided

shelter to the Rohingyas. The international community also has a great responsibility towards the Rohingyas. If the assistance that has been provided for so long decreases, a crisis will be created.”

“This crisis is not for Bangladesh to bear alone. The international community, including everyone, must collectively face this crisis. Otherwise, it would be inhumane. Therefore, from the government's side, we are always presenting the reality to the international community,” he added.

The Relief Advisor also said that, “We have been informed about the situation in the Rohingya camps. Plans will be adopted to control law and order in the camps, which will be implemented to manage the camp situation.” Lt. General Md. Jahangir Alam Chowdhury said, “The barbed wire fences provided for camp security have been damaged. Decisions will be made on how to restore the barbed wire fence and how to enhance camp security.”

Earlier in the morning, the two advisors participated in separate programs in Cox's Bazar town.

Source: observerbd.com

### 119 Afghan refugees arrive in Rome via humanitarian corridors

A total of 119 Afghan refugees arrived at the Rome Fiumicino airport on July 10 through humanitarian corridors with a special flight from the Pakistani capital Islamabad.

Source: infomigrants.net

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# RULED BY FEAR AND PERSECUTION IN MYANMAR, ROHINGYA FLEE THE ARAKAN ARMY’S GRIP INTO BANGLADESH

From extortion to abduction, the Rohingya who fled describe a new wave of repression under rebel rule in Maungdaw and Buthidaung

Kalem Ullah, a schoolteacher from Maungdaw town in Myanmar’s Rakhine State, fled with his family to Bangladesh in recent weeks. Now living in a relative’s shelter in the Rohingya refugee camp in Cox’s Bazar’s Ukhiya, he says life under the Arakan Army’s control had become unbearable.

Though Myanmar’s military no longer holds full control in Rakhine, with as much as 80 percent of the state reportedly under the Arakan Army’s grip, Kalem says persecution of Muslims, especially Rohingya people, has continued or worsened.

“The internal situation in Myanmar is desperate,” he told bdnews24.com.

“The Arakan Army is targeting Muslims. They want to turn Myanmar into a state only for the Rakhine people. That’s why they’re discriminating against Muslims, burning

down homes, torturing men, and kidnapping women for ransom. They collect extortion money from every household in every village.” Similar accounts were shared by Rohingya refugees like Md Ibrahim and Khadija Begum, who arrived in Bangladesh from Maungdaw’s Haripara and Noapara. Khadija, a mother of five, has now turned to mendicancy for a living in a Ukhiya camp while caring for her bedridden husband.

“The Arakan Army and the junta are the same,” she said. “They’ve created this situation to drive Rohingya people out.”

Since the Arakan Army wrested control of much of Rakhine from the junta, violence, arson, and persecution of Rohingya Muslims have reportedly continued unabated. Each day, dozens risk their lives crossing by sea to enter Bangladesh in search of safety.

The Rohingya who spoke to bdnews24.com see little difference between the junta and the Arakan Army. They say the Arakan Army suspects even semi-educated

Rohingya people of supporting rival armed groups like the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) or the Rohingya Solidarity Organisation (RSO), deepening the mistrust and persecution. The resulting climate of fear has left many Rohingya people doubtful about ever returning to their homeland.

Optimism was briefly stirred during Ramadan this year when Chief Advisor Muhammad Yunus and UN Secretary-General António Guterres visited Camp 20 in Ukhiya on Mar 14, breaking fast with over 100,000 Rohingya people.

Yunus urged the displaced community to prepare to return soon and prayed that they might celebrate the next Eid in their own homes in Myanmar, in the Chattogram dialect familiar to the Rohingya. On Apr 4, the Chief Advisor’s Office in Dhaka said Myanmar had deemed 180,000 Rohingya people “eligible” for repatriation.

Read full article on our website.

Source: bdnews24.com