

# ROHINGYA PRESS

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## ROHINGYA YOUTH NOOR MOSTAFA TO BE RECOGNISED AS ‘JULY MARTYR’



Rohingya youth Noor Mostafa, who was shot dead during the student-led mass uprising last year, will be officially recognised as a July martyr, Information Advisor Mahfuj Alam has said in a Facebook post.

The announcement was made on Wednesday afternoon. While the authenticity of the Facebook page could not be independently verified, Mahfuj has previously shared posts from this verified account.

Attempts to reach him by phone were unsuccessful. The Facebook post stated that the

advisor presented a proposal in the Cabinet meeting for the recognition of Noor on Jun 22.

The July Mass Uprising Directorate is processing the recognition. A gazette notification in this regard will be issued soon, he added, saying “July belongs to everyone!”

When contacted, Deputy Secretary Yasmin Begum of the Cabinet Division told bdnews24.com: “Discussions of the Advisory Council are confidential. Please contact the individual who made the post.” Zahirul Islam, deputy

secretary of the July Uprising Department-related activities at the Ministry of Liberation War Affairs, said: “This hasn’t come to my attention. If we receive such a case, we will verify and proceed per procedure. As of now, I have no information on this.”

According to media reports, Noor Mostafa was shot outside Eidgaon Police Station in Cox’s Bazar on Aug 5 last year and died the following day in hospital.

His father Shafiul Alam and mother Noor Begum fled Myanmar in 1992 and settled permanently in the Eidgaon region.

Although Noor was born and educated in Bangladesh, he was excluded from the official list of July martyrs due to his parents not having national ID cards.

His family has not received any formal recognition or state assistance either.

Source: bdnews24.com

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Source: thediplomat.com



# ROHINGYA REFUGEES' FUTURE AT STAKE AMID EDUCATION CRISIS: Dr. Azeem Ibrahim

The recent Human Rights Watch report on the Rohingya education crisis in Bangladesh should be a wake-up call for the entire international community. According to the findings, more than 6,400 learning centers in the Rohingya refugee camps have been shut down, cutting off educational access for approximately 300,000 children. This is not just a tragedy for these young people, it is a deliberate failure that will haunt the region for generations.



More than 6,400 learning centers in the Rohingya refugee camps have been shut down, affecting approximately 300,000 children-AFP

The closures, driven by deep cuts in foreign aid, are not simply about bricks and mortar. They represent the systematic erasure of hope for an already persecuted and stateless population. Education is the only lifeline that could offer Rohingya children a chance to break the cycle of displacement, dependency and despair. Instead, they are being pushed into a future where illiteracy, child labor, exploitation and radicalization are their only options.

The consequences are stark. Without access to basic education, this generation of Rohingya will remain permanently cut off from the skills and knowledge they

need to support themselves or contribute meaningfully to any future society, whether in Myanmar, should repatriation ever become possible, or elsewhere in the region. Their entire existence will be defined by dependence on shrinking aid budgets and precarious handouts.

And this is not just a moral failure. It is a strategic blunder.

By denying education to nearly a third of a million children, we are laying the groundwork for long-term instability in the region. Disaffected, disenfranchised youths are vulnerable to criminal networks and extremist groups that thrive in precisely these kinds of

environments. Human traffickers and armed groups will find in the camps a large, desperate and increasingly ungoverned population. Bangladesh, already overwhelmed, will bear the brunt of this fallout.

For Bangladesh, which has already shown remarkable generosity by hosting nearly a million Rohingya since 2017, the consequences will be profound. With more than half the refugees now under the age of 18, the collapse of the education system will lead to a steep rise in social and economic burdens. In the absence of structured learning and opportunity, the refugee population will be left with little recourse but to rely



on the host country for indefinite support. This is not sustainable economically, politically or socially.

Some officials have framed the issue as a simple result of donor fatigue. But that is a dangerously misleading narrative. The international community is not being asked to bankroll a long-term welfare project. It is being asked to prevent the creation of a vast, disenfranchised underclass that will destabilize the region for decades to come. The current aid cuts, which have brought support down to just \$3 per person per month, are not just irresponsible, they are self-defeating.

Bangladesh's government has historically restricted Rohingya access to formal education, citing concerns about permanent integration. Children were allowed only informal learning centers using a basic curriculum. Yet even these limited systems are now being dismantled. While Dhaka understandably fears anything that could imply long-term resettlement, cutting education sends the worst possible signal: that the world no longer sees the Rohingya as worth investing in.

This must change. Education is not a political luxury, it is a

humanitarian imperative. There are clear, achievable steps the international community and regional governments can take. First, the immediate restoration of funding for basic education services through the UN and key nongovernmental organizations must be prioritized. Major donors, especially the US, the EU, the UK and Gulf countries, must recognize that education is the front line of regional stability.

Second, Bangladesh should ease restrictions on formal education and allow the full rollout of the Myanmar national curriculum in exile. This curriculum, supported by UNICEF, offers Rohingya children a pathway to eventual reintegration into Myanmar, aligning with Bangladesh's long-term goal of repatriation.

Third, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and other regional stakeholders, including Malaysia and Indonesia, must advocate for more sustainable funding mechanisms and long-term development strategies for the exiled Rohingya, ensuring they are treated not merely as a burden but as future contributors to peace and prosperity in the region.

Fourth, a global Rohingya

education fund could be established — a multidonor pooled mechanism focused specifically on protecting and restoring education in the refugee camps, with oversight from an international body to ensure transparency and impact.

Ultimately, this crisis is about more than the future of 300,000 children. It is about whether we, as an international community, are prepared to uphold our basic moral responsibilities or whether we are content to let an entire people slide into oblivion.

We already failed the Rohingya when we allowed their genocide to unfold in Myanmar. Failing them again in exile by taking away even the hope of a future is a betrayal of a different kind, but no less devastating.



If the world cannot summon the will to fund pencils and books for stateless children, then what exactly is left of our shared humanity?




*Dr. Azeem Ibrahim is the director of special initiatives at the Newlines Institute for Strategy and Policy in Washington, DC. X: @AzeemIbrahim*



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 /RohingyaPress2  
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 +8801805117405  
 /RohingyaPress2  
 /RohingyaPress2

 info@rohingyapress.com  
rohingyapress2@gmail.com  
 www.rohingyapress.com