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HOW THE ARAKAN ARMY FOUND ITS PLACE UNDER MYANMAR’S SUN



On October 27, 2023, the ongoing civil war in Myanmar took a dramatic turn. Codenamed Operation 1027 after the month and date of the launch, three rebel groups called the Three Brotherhood Alliance launched their first coordinated attack on the Tatmadaw, Myanmar’s armed forces.

The alliance, comprising the Arakan Army (AA), the Ta’ang National Liberation Army (TNLA, a Palaung group based in Northern Shan State), and the Myanmar National

Democratic Alliance Army (MNDA, a Kokang group based in Eastern Shan State), attacked multiple targets on military, police, and defence installations along the Chinese border.

Two years earlier, being part of an alliance was essential for the AA, as it was a new armed group and had come under Tatmadaw scrutiny. It would enable the AA to gain operational experience, after which it would be capable of undertaking independent operations in Rakhine state.

Source: thehindu.com

HUMAN RIGHTS MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT TO VISIT BANGLADESH

A delegation of five Human Rights subcommittee members of the European Parliament will visit Bangladesh from 16 to 18 September to hold meetings with representatives of the interim government, non-government organisations, civil society organisations, labour representatives and representatives of multilateral organisations operating on the ground.


They will also visit the Rohingya refugee camps near the city of Cox’s Bazar, to the south of the country, reports a press release.

The interim authorities launched a reform process in autumn 2024, including the country’s electoral system, judiciary and other key institutions.

■ Source: en.prothomalo.com


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■ The Vatican has expressed hope for free, fair, just and transparent elections in Bangladesh, while making it clear that it does not wish for any particular outcome.



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‘WARS,DISASTERS,DISPLACEMENT, HUNGER’ CONTINUE TO BURDEN MYANMAR



Four years after the military coup which deposed the democratically elected government, Myanmar’s civil conflict grinds on, leaving millions displaced and without a home.

“The suffering of millions of people across Myanmar is immense,” said UNHCR chief Filippo Grandi. “With aerial bombardments, destruction of property, and forced recruitment, they live in daily fear for their lives.”

He added that “civilian men, women and children must be protected from violence, and solutions found so that they can choose to return home in safety and dignity.”

Many crises in need of response
A brutal civil war is not all Myanmar has to face.

In March, a 7.7 magnitude earthquake hit the country affecting multiple regions including the capital, Nay Pyi Taw. The UN relief chief Tom Fletcher said then on X that the humanitarian response "has been hampered by lack of funding."

Mr. Grandi, who visited the affected communities earlier this year, urged wider humanitarian access and discussed solutions for the forcibly displaced.

“Millions of people forcibly displaced within the country and as refugees throughout the region, want nothing more than to be able to return home. They demand – and are entitled to – the safety and security that comes with peace.” Mr. Grandi said.

ROHINGYA REFUGEE CHILDREN ROBBED OF RIGHT TO EDUCATION

Eight years after nearly 1 million Rohingya fled Myanmar to escape mass killings, rape and arson, the world seems to be abandoning them to an even quieter catastrophe: the collapse of their children’s education. In Bangladesh’s Cox’s Bazar camps, international aid cuts have forced the closure of more than 4,500 learning centers. More than 227,000 Rohingya children are now locked out of classrooms, with some 1,200 teachers displaced.

The effects have been immediate and devastating. Child marriage, child labor and human trafficking are all on the rise. A generation of young Rohingya is being deprived not only of literacy and numeracy, but of the very tools they need to rebuild their shattered community. In the absence of schooling, children are being pushed into lives of exploitation, desperation and even potential radicalization.

For years, international donors insisted that humanitarian aid to the Rohingya was unsustainable without local solutions.

■ Source:news.un.org

■ Source: arabnews.pk