

ROHINGYA PRESS

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AID ALONE IS NOT ENOUGH FOR THE ROHINGYA



The tragic saga of the Rohingya people stranded in Bangladesh, now in its eighth year, has been defined as much by an extraordinary humanitarian response as by a glaring political failure.

While the international community has mobilised aid on an unprecedented scale to sustain over a million refugees, a new report from the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) reiterates what has long been clear to us: that charity alone is not a solution. The crisis requires a political resolution, and the voices of the Rohingya

themselves must guide the way. The OHCHR study, based on interviews with 125 Rohingya men and women, cuts through the geopolitical inertia to reveal a simple truth. The refugees’ desire is not to reside indefinitely in camps, but to return home to Myanmar.

This aspiration hinges on obtaining full citizenship, recognition of their Rohingya identity, and guarantees of equal rights, education, and freedom of movement. For them, justice means land restitution, compensation, and accountability for past crimes.

■ Source: thedailystar.net

MYANMAR RISKS REPEATING HISTORY WITH THE ARAKAN ARMY

In 2017, the Myanmar military or Tatmadaw launched a brutal campaign against the Rohingya in northern Rakhine State. Thousands were killed, women were raped, hundreds of villages were burned to the ground, and more than 700,000 people were forced to flee to Bangladesh.

At that time, many across Myanmar remained silent – or worse, accepted the military’s propaganda, which painted the Rohingya as outsiders and terrorists.

But within only a few years, the same military turned its weapons against the wider population of Myanmar. After the February 2021 coup, peaceful protesters were gunned down in the streets, ethnic communities faced airstrikes and artillery shelling, and an entire nation was thrown into a new era of suffering.

■ Source: thediplomat.com

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MYANMAR'S
ROHINGYA:
PERSECUTED AND
DISPLACED

Imagine living in the 21st century but still deprived of fundamental human rights, counted as a stateless, exposed to the vulnerabilities of ethnic cleansing, and on the brink of forced migration. These are the atrocities the Rohingya, a Muslim ethnic minority in Myanmar, formerly known as Burma, are still facing at the hands of Myanmar's state authorities.

To start with, in 1982, a law was passed by the Burmese government, in which citizenship was subjected to ethnicity and the Rohingya and other minority communities were excluded from this criteria. The law stripped them of their citizenship and left them stateless. Following the year 1989, Burma was renamed as Myanmar, which required everyone to renew their identities. Still, the Rohingya never received that. Resultantly, a wave of migration toward Bangladesh was seen due to the discrimination, forced labor and torture.

■ Source: dailysabah.com

BANGLADESHI CSOS URGE
LOW-COST, LOCALLY-LED
ROHINGYA RESPONSE AHEAD
OF UN CONFERENCE



Bangladeshi civil society organisations (CSOs) on Thursday urged the international community to adopt a low-cost, locally-led approach in the Rohingya response as the crisis enters its eighth year amid a worsening funding shortfall.

The call came at a press conference organised by COAST Foundation and Cox's Bazar CSO-NGO Forum in Dhaka on Thursday, ahead of the UN Rohingya Conference scheduled for September 30 in New York. Bangladesh is currently sheltering over 1.15 million Rohingya refugees who

fled genocide in Myanmar. As of September, only 38 per cent of this year's funding requirements have been met, worsened by cuts in U.S. support.

To bridge the gap, the government increased its contribution by 263 per cent compared to 2024, financed largely by a World Bank loan – a move criticised by CSOs as contrary to humanitarian principles. Presenting a study on aid localization, Shahinur Islam said local NGOs could manage the response with significantly lower costs.

■ Source: thefinancialexpress.com.bd