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COMPANIES BUILT BASES ON ROHINGYA LAND AFTER THEY FLED MYANMAR SECURITY FORCES: UN REPORT



A bulldozer clears the remains of Hla Poe Kaung, a Rohingya village in Myanmar, in January 2018.

UNITED NATIONS INVESTIGATORS SAY MYANMAR'S MILITARY DEMOLISHED ROHINGYA VILLAGES, HIRING PRIVATE COMPANIES TO CLEAR THE LAND AND BUILD SECURITY INFRASTRUCTURE.

Myanmar companies received state contracts to build police posts and other infrastructure on land seized from Rohingya Muslims, who fled their homes amid violent “clearance operations” by security forces, United Nations investigators said in a report today. More than 700,000 Rohingya fled to Bangladesh in 2017

from western Myanmar — where they are an ethnic and religious minority in the mostly-Buddhist country — when security forces responded to insurgent attacks by targeting civilians.

■ Source: occrp.org

Reported by
Mariam Shenawy
OCCRP

More News:

■ World leaders will discuss how to assist the Rohingya in the world’s largest refugee settlement. But no one living there is attending the conference at the United Nations.



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SOLVING THE ROHINGYA CRISIS COULD PROVIDE A NEW REFUGEE REPATRIATION MODEL



Refugee crises have become one of the 21st century’s many ‘new normals’. Displaced peoples are a growing symptom of a fracturing natural and political world.

Conditions are rapidly changing, yet the international community is failing to imagine a model that allows for dignified, consistent and sustainable repatriation for refugees. In the closing era of Western-led development, aid has operated as a bandage. Yet all too often, long-term repatriation solutions models

have failed to materialise. The lurch towards both populism and protectionism has fundamentally disrupted the traditional international aid model. We cannot rely on new pledges and parcels. Now is the time for new ideas.

As we approach the high-level meeting on the Rohingya crisis at the UN general assembly, it’s time to imagine how a globally applicable, yet locally adaptable repatriation model could work. I believe that such a model should follow the principles of

economic opportunity, truth and reconciliation, security guarantees, self-determination and deep contextual understanding.

The unresolved humanitarian crisis on Bangladesh’s border offers an opportune test case. More than a million stateless Rohingya remain trapped in the “temporary” camps of Cox’s Bazar in Bangladesh six years after they were driven from their homes in Myanmar’s Rakhine State.

Source: globalpolicyjournal.com

MYANMAR: MAKING SURE THERE IS NO RETURN

ON MONDAY 29 SEPTEMBER THE UN INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATIVE MECHANISM FOR MYANMAR (IIMM) IS ISSUING A REPORT ANALYSING THE “DESTRUCTION AND SEIZURE OF ROHINGYA HOMES, FARMS, MOSQUES AND OTHER PROPERTY IN 2017”.

IT SAYS THE INTENTION WAS “REPURPOSING THE LAND TO ERASE ALL TRACES OF THE ROHINGYA’S LONG PRESENCE” IN MYANMAR. SHOWING HOW THE DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY CAN BE AN ESSENTIAL PART OF GENOCIDE.

The military leadership in Myanmar is facing multiple legal attempts to hold it accountable for the mass expulsion of Rohingya in 2017, where hundreds of thousands left their villages in Rakhine state, in the south-west of the country, and ended mainly in refugee camps in bordering Bangladesh.

At the International Court of Justice (ICJ) the Gambia has invoked the 1948 genocide convention against Myanmar in a case supported by at least 11 other states.

■ Source: justiceinfo.net

THE ILLUSION OF CHOICE: ROHINGYA VOICES ECHO FROM THE CAMPS AHEAD OF UN CONFERENCE



29 September, Tuesday, Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh: Eight years after hundreds of thousands of Rohingya fled a campaign of extreme targeted violence in Myanmar, a new report from Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) shows a population caught in a protracted crisis, facing constant threats of violence, diminishing aid, and a profound lack of control over their own future.

As the international community prepares for a high-level conference at the United Nations in New York on 30 September on the situation of Rohingya Muslims and Other Minorities in Myanmar, the voices of those most affected remain largely unheard. Ahead of the conference, MSF consulted 427 Rohingya refugees living in the camps in Bangladesh’s

Cox’s Bazar district; to provide a snapshot of the challenges faced by over a million Rohingya. The resulting report ‘The Illusion of Choice: Rohingya Voices Echo from the Camps’ includes findings that:

- 84% of Rohingya refugees would not feel safe returning to Myanmar
- 58% of refugees feel unsafe in the refugee camps in Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh

■ Source: prezly.msf.org.uk