

# ROHINGYA PRESS

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## UN EXPERT INVESTIGATES REPORTS OF INDIAN NAVY CASTING ROHINGYAS INTO SEA

A UN expert said on Thursday he was investigating ‘credible reports’ that Rohingya refugees were forced off an Indian navy ship into the Andaman Sea, in what would be an ‘unconscionable’ act.

‘The idea that Rohingya refugees have been cast into the sea from naval vessels is nothing short of outrageous,’ said Tom Andrews, the United Nations special rapporteur on the rights situation in Myanmar.

‘I am seeking further information and testimony regarding these developments and implore the Indian government to provide a full accounting of what happened.’

Andrews, who is an independent expert mandated by the UN Human Rights Council but who does not speak on behalf of the UN itself, said he was ‘deeply concerned by what appears to be a blatant disregard for

the lives and safety of those who require international protection’. The mostly Muslim Rohingya have been heavily persecuted in Myanmar for decades.

One million Rohingya live in a string of squalid camps in Bangladesh after escaping a 2017 military crackdown in Myanmar. Thousands of them risk their lives each year on long sea journeys to seek refuge elsewhere.

Andrews’ statement pointed to reports that Indian authorities in the past week detained dozens of Rohingya refugees living in Delhi, ‘many or all of whom held refugee identification documents’.

Around 40 members of the group were reportedly blindfolded and flown to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and then transferred to an Indian naval ship, he said.

■ Source: newagebd.net

## BSF PUSHES 5 ROHINGYAS THROUGH KURIGRAM BORDER



Members of Indian Border Security Force (BSF) on Thursday pushed five Rohingyas registered with the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) in India into Bangladesh through Kurigram border.

The five Rohingyas are members of the same family and had been living in Matia Refugee Camp in Assam, India, said a press release.

A patrol team of BGB-22 battalion held them from Notunhat Bazar area on the Bhawalkuri border in Charbhurungamari Union of Kurigram district around 6:00 AM on May 7, the release said. The detainees are Mohammadullah, 44, his wife Romana Begum, 35, and their children Tahmina Akhtar, 20, Redowan, 15 and Tasmina Akhtar, 13.

■ Source: observerbd.com

### More News:

**Rohingya crisis: a thought-provoking public seminar**  
Visiting scholar Dr Farhana Afrin Rahman, a Leverhulme Early Career Fellow at the University of Cambridge, and a Junior Research Fellow at Wolfson College Cambridge, is the guest speaker at a public seminar on Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, being hosted at the University of Auckland.



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INDIA, MYANMAR, AND  
THE WEIGHT OF REGIONAL  
INSTABILITY ON BANGLADESH



Before their latest fighting, India and Pakistan fought three wars, and those experiences suggest that conflicts between these two countries rarely remain confined within their borders.

Bangladesh inevitably feels the ripple effects. Much like during the India-Pakistan cricket matches, Bangladesh finds it difficult to remain emotionally neutral or indifferent to their armed confrontations.

This is not solely due to their geographical proximity. Their shared religious and sociocultural heritages also formed a connection over the centuries.

These inseparable connections are why it often feels like Bangladesh, Pakistan, and India are members of a vibrant, albeit feuding joint family. The "past" may have politically divided these societies, but their separate "presents" have not emotionally detached them from one another.

■ Source: thedailystar.net

BETWEEN IDENTITY AND TERRITORY:  
THE ETHNO-POLITICAL CONFLICT IN  
RAKHINE STATE

The conflict in Myanmar's Rakhine State—historically known as Arakan—is one of the most protracted and complex ethno-political crises in Southeast Asia. At its core lies a struggle between the predominantly Buddhist Rakhine (Arakanese) population and the stateless Muslim Rohingya minority, whose contested identity and historical presence in the region have sparked decades of tension, violence, and displacement. The Rakhine people, themselves a marginalized ethnic group within Myanmar, have long harbored grievances against the central government for political and economic neglect.

This has fostered a strong regional nationalism, which views the Rohingya not only as religious outsiders but also as demographic and political threats. The Rohingya, on the other hand, claim deep historical roots in the region, yet have been systematically denied citizenship under Myanmar's 1982 Citizenship Law, rendering them one of the world's largest stateless populations.

The conflict escalated dramatically in 2017 when

Myanmar's military launched a brutal crackdown in response to attacks by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA). The operation led to mass atrocities, including killings, sexual violence, and the displacement of over 700,000 Rohingya to Bangladesh—actions widely condemned as ethnic cleansing and possibly genocide. While the international community has focused on the humanitarian crisis, the deeper ethno-political dynamics remain unresolved. The Rakhine nationalist movement, represented by groups like the Arakan Army, seeks greater autonomy or even independence, complicating the narrative that frames the Rohingya solely as victims. This dual marginalization—of both Rakhine and Rohingya—has created a volatile environment where identity, territory, and political power collide.

Efforts at reconciliation and repatriation have largely stalled. Myanmar's military junta, which seized power in 2021, has shown little interest in addressing the root causes of the conflict.

■ Source: E-International Relations