

BTF Newsletter June 12, 2018

Subject line: Burma Task Force Condemns Rohingya Repatriation Agreement Between UN and Myanmar – No Return Without Citizenship!

AsSalamu Alaikum.

Hopefully the blessed final days of Ramadan are filling you with serenity and gratitude. These are the holiest days of the holy month, when good deeds carry great weight, and actions speak much louder than words.

It is with this in mind that Burma Task Force has condemned the recently signed Memorandum of Understanding between the United Nations and the Myanmar government as woefully inadequate. The agreement, signed on June 6, excludes the critical issue of citizenship and has drawn widespread criticism from Rohingya refugees and international observers.

The Myanmar government has once again demonstrated bad faith through its unwillingness to restore citizenship to over a million Rohingya Muslims. Without citizenship, basic rights to security, property, and livelihood are effectively non-existent.

Excluding the critical issue of citizenship means Myanmar is not negotiating in good faith. Rohingya refugees will not simply return to a situation in which their very lives are in jeopardy because of ethnic and religious hate that is directed at them. The legal guarantees and civil protections of citizenship must be part of any repatriation agreement.

Burma Task Force is working diligently to apply the international pressure that, God willing, will result in the restoration of citizenship for the Rohingya. We have retained a powerful attorney of international law to bring Myanmar before a tribunal of the International Criminal Court (ICC), where the government will be forced to recognize and answer for its crimes. Our lawyer just finished visiting the refugee camps in Bangladesh, and is now returning to the ICC to prosecute our case.

Your kind donations ensure that we can continue this vital work to bring accountability to the perpetrators of the Rohingya genocide, and to assure lasting justice for the Rohingya.

Donate Now

With your support we will be able to retain more attorneys and specialists in international law who will help us not only aid the Rohingya, but resolve the root causes of their plight.

In the short term, we continue to construct immediate solutions for our Rohingya brothers and sisters in the camps, including a fully-funded sewing school for women refugees. Again, your kind donations make such ambitious projects a reality, and your continued support will allow us to expand our vocational programs into more areas.

Donate Now

The holy month of Ramadan is almost over, but there is still plenty of time to make a real difference in the lives of our persecuted brothers and sisters in the camps in Bangladesh. Please, consider donating today. If that is not possible at this time, then please pray for them, and for the continuing success of our work.

Peace,

Imam Abdul Malik Mujahid

Burma Task Force Chair