

Burma newsletter Sept 15 2016

Subject: Rohingya genocide does not matter

Assalamu Alaikum

I am simply sad.

It is a sad day for Rohingya Muslims. Their foremost ally, President Obama, has just given up. Meanwhile, this is a happy day for the Burmese military. Their genocide of Rohingyas does not matter to the world.

Burma Task Force USA along with 45 other human rights organizations asked President Obama not to lift the sanctions but the President went ahead any-way. Even the New York Times editorial board joined in.

The Rohingya's peaceful struggle continues for the restoration of their citizenship, right to marry, right to have children, right to travel, right to be free from the 100 or so concentration camps.

If we had a million dollar lobbying firm working for us in Washington DC this probably would not have happened. But the poor Rohingya who are fighting for their lives cannot afford that.

**Adding insult to injury:**

Harvard University is giving Suu Kyi Humanitarian of the Year Award.

It is shocking and disgraceful.

Harvard will honor Aung San Suu Kyi as its "Humanitarian of the Year--2016" on September, 17!

This is the same Suu Kyi who remained silent on the persecution of the Rohingya. Since achieving power she has been condemned in editorials, in leading newspapers from around the world, and by human rights organizations, for the inhumane way she has responded to the persecution of the Rohingyas. Is Harvard unaware of this fact or do they just not care?

By bestowing this award upon Suu Kyi, Harvard has betrayed its motto "Veritas" or "Truth." It must withdraw the award now.

**10 Minute Action:**

- 1) Contact the office of the President of Harvard, Drew Gilpin Faust. Call: +1(617) 495-1502  
Email: [president@harvard.edu](mailto:president@harvard.edu).
- 2) Call Harvard Foundation: +1(617) 495-1527.
- 3) Tweet and get others to tweet at Harvard Foundation regarding its terrible decision.  
[@harvfoun](https://twitter.com/harvfoun) copy to [@harvard](https://twitter.com/harvard) and [@thecrimson](https://twitter.com/thecrimson) their daily paper. Use the hashtags [#HarvardSuuKyi](https://twitter.com/HarvardSuuKyi) & [#HarvardHumanitarian](https://twitter.com/HarvardHumanitarian)

**Ask:**

- Withdraw the decision to honor her with the “humanitarian” award.

**Talking Points**

- Suu Kyi Has been silent in the face of Rohingya genocide.
- Suu Kyi, as the NYTimes noted, “cowardly” caved to Buddhist nationalists and banned the use of the name “Rohingya.” Denying the Rohingya their self-identity, thereby contributing to the perpetuation of genocide.
- Suu Kyi has put extremist Buddhists in the commission who are on record asking that Rohingya be killed while no Rohingya is appointed to the advisory commission headed by Kofi Annan tasked to find solutions.
- Suu Kyi has never visited a single Rohingya IDP camp. 150,000 Rohingya remain in what has been described as deplorable “21st-century concentration camps.”
- Suu Kyi has never addressed the racist and genocidal 1982 citizenship law.
- A report of Suu Kyi expressing bigoted anti-Muslim sentiments emerged from a new book detailing an encounter with BBC reporter Mishal Hussain, after which Suu Kyi was heard saying, “No one told me I would be interviewed by a Muslim.”

**Seven Nobel Laureates Call it a Genocide:**

Please click, play and share the following video:

<https://youtu.be/ypw0Wqb2gW0>