



MONARCH MUN 2024

Committee: UNHRC

Issue: Question of Rohingya
refugees in Myanmar

Student Officer: Daini Gong

INTRODUCTION

The Rohingya people have faced unimaginable suffering and agony, both in their home country of Myanmar as well as in neighboring countries as **refugees**. Generations of systemic oppression and discrimination in Myanmar have led to the **denial of lawful citizenship**, their freedom of movement and basic human rights including denied access to healthcare and education. These people have been marginalized in almost every aspect of life, resulting in extensive poverty and sensitivity. In refugee camps, particularly concentrated in **Bangladesh**, the conditions are atrocious. Overpopulated campsites leave the Rohingya people susceptible to diseases like cholera and numerous respiratory inflammations. Starvation and malnutrition have a tight grip on the community, with food aid frequently being inadequate to feed the growing population. Women and children are especially at risk, facing challenges including human trafficking, exploitation and assault. The horrid memories of forced migration along with the lack of necessities raise serious concerns over the mental health and well-being of the Rohingya community. To summarize, the Rohingya crisis represents one of the most significant **humanitarian issues** and deserves to be addressed and discussed, with sustainable solutions that upholds the peoples' rights and dignity.

Background Information



1978- Operation Nagamin (Dragon King)



1982- Citizenship Law



1992- Military Crackdowns



2012- Rakhine State Riots



2017- ARSA attacks and Military Repression



2019 to 2020- ICJ Case



Present Day- Continuing Struggle

- Operation Nagamin (Dragon King) was a military campaign sanctioned by the Myanmar government which specifically targeted the Rohingya population and led to about 200,000 people getting displaced.
- Although at that point, the Rohingya population had lived in the country for generations, the 1982 Citizenship law denied them their rightful citizenship, rendering them stateless.
- The Myanmar military again launched attacks on the Rohingya people leading to more than 250,000 people forced to leave their homes remain violence, assault and abuse of human rights.
- The 2012 Rakhine state riots was a brutal clash between the Rohingya Muslims and the Rakhine Buddhists, which ultimately led to the establishment of camps where the Rohingya continue to live in dire conditions.
- Military repression in 2017 marked a dreadful period where about 700,000 people were forced to flee from their camps in Bangladesh.
- The ICJ case initiated by Gambia accused Myanmar of mass genocide and in 2020 resulted in the ruling that required Myanmar to take steps to prevent further violence and preserve the evidence of the atrocities committed. Despite the ruling, concerns remain about their persecution.



Rohingya Refugees in Kutupalong refugee camp in Bangladesh commemorating two years since Myanmar's military's ethnic cleansing campaign

Relevant Treaties or Past Solutions

- 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide(A/RES/260)
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights (A/RES/217)
- UNHCR Executive Committee Conclusion on the Protection of Refugees and Displaced Persons (A/AC.96/1069)
- Situation of the Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar (A/RES/31/134)
- Situation of Human Rights in Myanmar (A/RES/70/233)

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

- Ease Safe and Voluntary Repatriation

Stimulate the country to Myanmar to cooperate with UNHRC and other international bodies and organizations to create safe and dignified environments for the Rohingya people to return home from camps in Bangladesh and other countries. Implement stricter guarantees to their safety renewal of their rightful citizenship to prevent any future possibility of displacement.

- Increase Accountability

Reinforce current investigations by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and other bodies to make sure that those responsible for the brutality against the Rohingya are held accountable. Support the establishment of an independent fact-finding mission to gather evidence to get justice for the Rohingya community.

APPENDICE

1. <https://www.hrw.org/news/2019/09/07/bangladesh-clampdown-rohingya-refugees>

- This link details Bangladesh's restrictive measures on Rohingya refugees, including limitations on internet access, movement, and security measures that worsened conditions in refugee camps.

2. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=04axDDRVy_o

- The video provides a brief explanation of the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar, highlighting the mass displacement, human rights abuses, and the challenges faced by Rohingya refugees seeking safety.

3. <https://www.unicef.org/emergencies/rohingya-crisis>

- The link provides an overview of UNICEF's response to the Rohingya crisis, focusing on the urgent humanitarian needs of Rohingya children and families in refugee camps, including health, education, and protection services.