

Press Releases

DECEMBER 09/12/2019

ROHINGYA CAMPAIGNERS LAUNCH A GLOBAL BOYCOTT MOVEMENT, URGING CORPORATIONS, AND FOREIGN INVESTORS, PROFESSIONAL AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATIONS TO SEVER THEIR INSTITUTIONAL TIES WITH MYANMAR, ON THE EVE OF MYANMAR'S GENOCIDE TRIAL AT THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE (ICJ).



London, UK: On the 9th December 2019, International Genocide Day, 30 human rights, academic and professional organizations from 10 countries jointly launched an international “Boycott Myanmar Campaign” in order to bring to bear economic, cultural, diplomatic and political pressure on Myanmar’s coalition government of Aung San Suu Kyi and the military.

The launch of the campaign coincides with the arrival in the Hague of Myanmar’s de facto head of state, Suu Kyi, as she attempts to defend the country against allegations of genocide in the opening sessions of [The Gambia vs Myanmar at the ICJ](#) from 10 through 12 December.

The Burmese Nobel Peace Prize recipient has been condemned worldwide for her shocking denials and dismissals of well-documented evidence and victims’ first-hand testimonies of the violent genocidal purge of nearly 1 million Rohingyas by the Myanmar government and its state organs, including the Burmese Armed Forces since October 2016.

Nay San Lwin, the Germany-based co-founder of the [Free Rohingya](#)

[Coalition](#) and one of the initiators of the campaign, says, “the United Nations International Fact-finding Mission on Myanmar have unequivocally stated that Myanmar, my ancestral country of birth and citizenship, has adopted policies of intentional destruction of my own Rohingya ethnic community. As Rohingya rights activists, we campaigned hard for the release of Daw Suu throughout her 15-years of captivity by the Burmese military. Since her release she has only used her freedom to collaborate with the murderous military.”

Nay adds, “on behalf of the Rohingya community of survivors, I therefore urge you to use your liberty and power, as citizens and consumers, both individually and as representatives/members of activist networks, religious communities, educational institutions, or professional or parliamentary associations, to cut any and all institutional and formal ties with Myanmar.”

In addition to the Fact-finding Mission’s damning findings of genocide against the Rohingya, UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights Situation in Myanmar, Yanghee Lee, has found that Myanmar is similarly engaged in state-directed military repression against its other national minorities such as Shan, Kachin, Ta’ang, Karen, Rakhine, and Chin communities.

The campaign begins with an online petition drive, urging the Norwegian Nobel Committee to strip Aung San Suu Kyi’s Nobel Peace prize which was awarded to her 28 years ago, arguing that Myanmar civilian leader is “wholly unworthy” of the honor.

Dr Maung Zarni, a veteran Burmese human rights activist who led the Free Burma campaign as a student in the United States in the 1990s, says, “our new Boycott Myanmar campaign is inspired by the anti-apartheid consumer and cultural boycott and divestment in the 1980’s which contributed to the collapse of the apartheid. Apartheid was deemed a ‘crime against humanity’ by the United Nations. International campaigning helped free Nelson Mandela and his comrades from nearly three decades of imprisonment.”

Before its dissolution several months ago, the UN Fact-finding Mission on Myanmar had called for foreign investors to sever their business ties with the

Burmese military and its cronies. The Boycott Myanmar Campaign intends to go beyond targeting the military and its international business ties, to send a strong, united message of denunciation and disapproval to the Burmese civil society. Groups such as former political prisoners' networks, Buddhist monks and nuns, Burmese media outlets, university departments, lawyers' associations, merchants' associations etc. are currently serving as popular cheerleaders in support of the Myanmar government's systematic destruction of Rohingya identity, history and physical existence, with mass rallies being held throughout Myanmar and in diaspora.

"I am a Burmese and a Buddhist from an extended military family in Mandalay. I unequivocally support this Boycott Myanmar campaign. My country of birth is like Nazi Germany of 1930's. It is not only the Burmese military who pull the trigger on thousands of Rohingyas that are guilty of genocide, but also the public who view and treat Rohingyas in the same way the Nazi Germans discriminated, excluded and ostracized Jews and other national minorities" says Zarni, who first alerted the world to his country's grave international crimes in 2013.

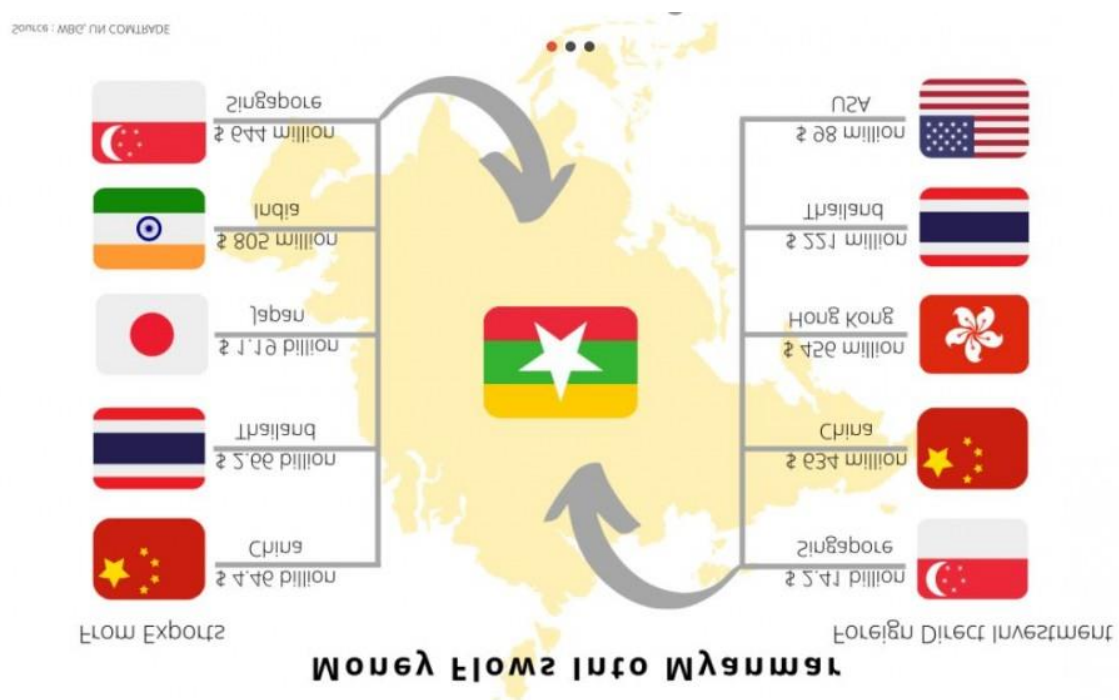
Among the initiators of the global campaign are the [Free Rohingya Coalition](#), [Forsea.co](#), [Restless Beings](#), [Destination Justice](#), [Rohingya Human Rights Network of Canada](#), [Rohingya Human Rights Initiative of India](#), and [Asia Centre](#).

BOYCOTT MYANMAR CAMPAIGN' LAUNCHED

December 09, 2019

In a bid to [FORCE MYANMAR](#) to bear economic, cultural, diplomatic and political pressure globally, 30 human rights, academic and professional organizations of 10 countries today jointly launched a campaign to boycott the south Asian country.

The launch of the '[BOYCOTT MYANMAR CAMPAIGN](#)' coincides with the arrival in the Hague of Myanmar's de facto head of state, Suu Kyi, as she attempts to defend the country against allegations of genocide in the opening sessions of The Gambia vs Myanmar at the ICJ from 10 through 12 December.



Infograph: Boycott Myanmar Campaign

The boycott campaign against Myanmar also marked the International Genocide Day, today, reads a news release published on the campaign's website.

Among the initiators of the global campaign are the Free Rohingya Coalition, Forsea.co, Restless Beings, Destination Justice, Rohingya Human Rights

Network of Canada, Rohingya Human Rights Initiative of India, and Asia Centre, it said.



Infograph: Boycott Myanmar Campaign

The Burmese Nobel Peace Prize recipient has been condemned worldwide for her shocking denials and dismissals of well-documented evidence and victims' first-hand testimonies of [THE VIOLENT GENOCIDAL PURGE](#) of nearly 1 million Rohingyas by the Myanmar government and its state organs, including the Burmese Armed Forces since October 2016, the news release said.



Infograph: Boycott Myanmar Campaign

"The United Nations International Fact-finding Mission on Myanmar have unequivocally stated that Myanmar, my ancestral country of birth and citizenship, has adopted policies of intentional destruction of my own Rohingya ethnic community," Nay San Lwin, the Germany-based co-founder of the Free Rohingya Coalition and one of the initiators of the campaign, says.

"As Rohingya rights activists, we campaigned hard for the release of Daw Suu throughout her 15-years of captivity by the Burmese military. Since her release she has only used her freedom to collaborate with the murderous military."

Nay adds, "on behalf of the Rohingya community of survivors, I therefore urge you to use your liberty and power, as citizens and consumers, both individually and as representatives/members of activist networks, religious communities, educational institutions, or professional or parliamentary associations, to cut any and all institutional and formal ties with Myanmar."

WHAT IS THE CRISIS?

Since August 2017, some 7,50,000 Rohingyas have fled a brutal military campaign in Rakhine and took shelter in Bangladesh, joining some 3,00,000 others who had fled earlier waves of violence.

According to a report of the Ontario International Development Agency, Myanmar state forces killed nearly 24,000 Rohingyas and raped thousands of women and girls since August 2017.

The UN termed the atrocities a classic example of ethnic cleansing. Over the last two years, UN Security Council took no concrete action against Myanmar mainly because of opposition from China and Russia that have veto powers.

WHAT IS HAPPENING ON DEC 10-12?

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) will begin its first ever hearing on the genocide case against Myanmar on December 10.

The European Rohingya Council (ERC) and Myanmar Muslim Association Netherlands (MMAN) are organising a Rohingya solidarity rally from December 10 to 12 in front of the ICJ at The Hague, Netherlands.

“Join us at the historic event in the pursuits of long-awaited justice and accountability for Rohingya victims of Myanmar Genocide as ICJ hears the case filed by The Gambia against Myanmar for the gravest crimes it has committed,” according to an announcement issued by the ERC on Twitter.

In a video message on Twitter, Rohingya activist Mohammad Eleyas called for international community -- especially the European Union -- to stand for the rights of Rohingyas.

“We are Rohingyas, we are human beings. You know Myanmar committed genocide. We don’t have any ability to take precaution against Myanmar military and Buddhist extremists in prudence. So, we need your help and support,” he said.

[HTTPS://WWW.THEDAILYSTAR.NET/ROHINGYA-CRISIS/NEWS/BOYCOTT-MYANMAR-CAMPAIGN-LAUNCHED-1837903](https://www.thedailystar.net/rohingya-crisis/news/boycott-myanmar-campaign-launched-1837903)

ROHINGYA CAMPAIGNERS LAUNCH MYANMAR BOYCOTT MOVEMENT

Several Rohingya advocacy groups launch movement to put economic, cultural, diplomatic, political pressure on Myanmar

Sorvar Alam | 09.12.2019



Anadolu Agency

When Myanmar's state counselor arrived at the Hague to defend her country at the International Court of Justice (ICJ), several rights groups launched a global

boycott initiative urging corporations, foreign investors, professional and cultural organizations to sever their institutional ties with Myanmar.

Thirty Human rights, academic and professional organizations from 10 countries jointly launched the "Boycott Myanmar Campaign" from London, in hopes to "bring to bear economic, cultural, diplomatic and political pressure on Myanmar's coalition government of [state counselor] Aung San Suu Kyi and the military", the campaigners said in a statement. Myanmar faces a lawsuit at the ICJ filed by West African country Gambia, with the support of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, for atrocities against Rohingya Muslims in the country over the past few years.

Suu Kyi, a Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, said in a statement last month that she, as foreign minister, is to attend the first hearing of the lawsuit on Dec. 10, to defend "the interests of the country".

The latest massive military crackdown on Rohingya Muslims in the northern Rakhine state of Myanmar in 2017 forced more than 750,000 Rohingya refugees, mostly women and children, to flee the country and cross into Bangladesh.

Since Aug. 25, 2017, nearly 24,000 Rohingya Muslims have been killed by Myanmar's state forces, according to a report by the Ontario International Development Agency (OIDA).

More than 34,000 Rohingya were also thrown into fires, while over 114,000 others were beaten, said the OIDA report, titled "Forced Migration of Rohingya: The Untold Experience."

Some 18,000 Rohingya women and girls were raped by Myanmar's army and police and over 115,000 Rohingya homes were burned down and 113,000 others vandalized, it added.

Suu Kyi is widely criticized for her silence against the mass killings and war against humanity as she now attempts to defend against alleged military atrocities -- which the UN human rights chief described as a "textbook example of ethnic cleansing" -- at the international court.

The Boycott Myanmar Campaign began with an online petition drive, urging the Norwegian Nobel Committee to strip Suu Kyi's Nobel prize awarded to her 28 years ago, arguing she is "wholly unworthy" of the honor.

Nay San Lwin, the Germany-based co-founder of the Free Rohingya Coalition and one of the initiators of the campaign, said: "On behalf of the Rohingya community of survivors, I therefore urge you to use your liberty and power, as citizens and consumers, both individually and as representatives/members of activist networks, religious communities, educational institutions, or professional or parliamentary associations, to cut any and all institutional and formal ties with Myanmar."

The global campaign was jointly initiated by 30 organizations including the Free Rohingya Coalition, Forsea.co, Restless Beings, Destination Justice, Rohingya Human Rights Network of Canada, Rohingya Human Rights Initiative of India, Korean Civil Society in Solidarity with Rohingyas, and Asia Centre.

The campaigners intend to go beyond targeting "the military [of Myanmar] and its international business ties, to send a strong, united message of denunciation and disapproval to the Burmese civil society."

"Groups such as former political prisoners' networks, Buddhist monks and nuns, Burmese media outlets, university departments, lawyers' associations, merchants' associations are currently serving as popular cheerleaders in support of the Myanmar government's systematic destruction of Rohingya identity, history and physical existence, with mass rallies being held throughout Myanmar and in diaspora." the statement said.

Maung Zarni, a veteran Myanmar human rights activist expressed his "unequivocal support" for the campaign.

"I am a Burmese [Myanmar] and a Buddhist from an extended military family... My country of birth is like Nazi Germany of 1930's. It is not only the Burmese military who pull the trigger on thousands of Rohingyas that are guilty of genocide, but also the public who view and treat Rohingyas in the same way the Nazi Germans discriminated, excluded and ostracized Jews and other national minorities," said Zarni, who first alerted the world to alleged moves in his country against the Rohingya in 2013.

Several other Rohingya rights group, including the European Rohingya Council and Myanmar Muslim Association Netherlands announced they would stage Rohingya solidarity rally on Tuesday and Wednesday in front of the ICJ "to seek justice for the persecuted Rohingya community."

A number of rebel groups fighting the military in different part of Myanmar said they were ready to provide "evidence of war crimes" committed by the military not only against Rohingya but also against the other ethnic minorities in Myanmar.

In addition to the ICJ, Myanmar will face two more international lawsuits -- one at the International Criminal Court at the Hague and the other at a court in Argentina -- against the military atrocities.

[HTTPS://WWW.AA.COM.TR/EN/ASIA-PACIFIC/ROHINGYA-CAMPAIGNERS-LAUNCH-MYANMAR-BOYCOTT-MOVEMENT/1668214](https://www.aa.com.tr/en/asia-pacific/rohingya-campaigners-launch-myanmar-boycott-movement/1668214)

GLOBAL MOVEMENT 'BOYCOTT MYANMAR CAMPAIGN' LAUNCHED December 9th, 2019

The launch of the campaign coincided with Suu Kyi's arrival in The Hague

Around 30 human rights, academic and professional organizations from 10 countries have jointly launched a campaign worldwide to boycott Myanmar over allegations of genocide and crimes against humanity towards ethnic minorities.

According to its website, the international movement "[Boycott Myanmar Campaign](#)" was launched on Monday, to oblige Myanmar's coalition government of Aung San Suu Kyi and the military for bearing economic, cultural, diplomatic and political pressure.

The launch of the campaign coincided with Myanmar's de facto head of state Suu Kyi's arrival in the Hague as she tries to defend the country against allegations of genocide in the opening sessions of The Gambia vs Myanmar at the ICJ from December 10 to 12.

According to a press release issued on the campaign's website, the launch of the campaign also overlapped with the International Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and of the Prevention of this Crime, a day established by the UN General Assembly on December 9 in 2015.

The United Nations General Assembly also adopted the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (the "Genocide Convention") on the same day.

Among the initiators of the global campaign are the [Free Rohingya Coalition](#), Forsea.co, Restless Beings, Destination Justice, Rohingya Human Rights Network of Canada, **Rohingya Human Rights Initiative of India**, and Asia Centre, the press release said.

The global campaigners also urged corporations, foreign investors, professional and cultural organizations to sever their institutional ties with Myanmar.

Nay San Lwin, the Germany-based co-founder of the Free Rohingya Coalition, said: “The United Nations International Fact-finding Mission on Myanmar have unequivocally stated that Myanmar, my ancestral country of birth and citizenship, has adopted policies of intentional destruction of my own Rohingya ethnic community.”



Screenshot taken from Boycott Myanmar Campaign website

"As Rohingya rights activists, we campaigned hard for the release of Daw Suu throughout her 15-years of captivity by the Burmese military. Since her release she has only used her freedom to collaborate with the murderous military."

Nay San Lwin added: "On behalf of the Rohingya community of survivors, I therefore urge you to use your liberty and power, as citizens and consumers, both individually and as representatives/members of activist networks, religious communities,

educational institutions, or professional or parliamentary associations, to cut any and all institutional and formal ties with Myanmar.”

What is expected to happen at the ICJ hearing?

The ICJ on November 18 had decided to hold three days of hearings from December 10 to 12.

According to schedule posted on the ICJ website, first round of oral observations will be delivered by Gambia from 10am to 1pm local time on Tuesday, while Myanmar will submit its oral arguments at the same time on Wednesday.

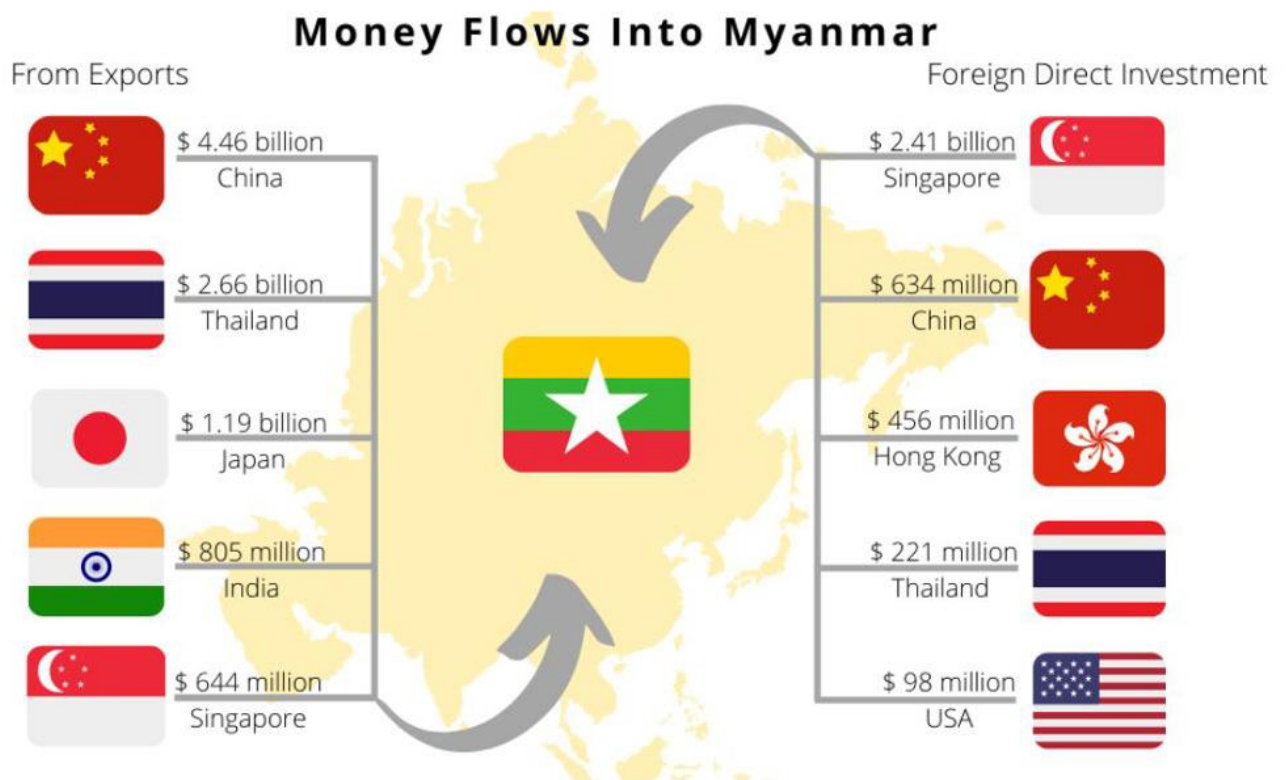
In the second round of oral observations, on Thursday, Gambia will place arguments from 10am to 11:30am and Myanmar from 4:30pm to 6pm.

The filing of this case, which provided a ray of hope among the Rohingyas, has been possible as both Gambia and Myanmar are signatories of the Genocide Convention.

This case has apparently put Myanmar under real pressure, mainly because any decisions by the ICJ are binding on member states.

The decision of Myanmar State Counsellor — and the de facto president — Aung San Suu Kyi to lead the lawyers on behalf of her country and reactions among people reflects a certain degree of fear on the part of Naypyidaw.

Gambia's justice minister Tambadou will lead his country during the hearings.



Screenshot taken from Boycott Myanmar Campaign website

Bangladesh will have no role to play during the hearings, but a delegation headed by Foreign Secretary Shahidul Haque will be present in the courtroom to observe the proceedings.

What is the Rohingya crisis? The atrocities against the Rohingyas — often described as one of the world’s worst persecuted communities — by Myanmar military, local Buddhists and different ethnic groups in Rakhine state is nothing new. Myanmar authorities and their local allies have been doing this for decades with full impunity.

Between the 1990s and October 2016, at least 250,000-350,000 Rohingyas lived in Bangladesh illegally. About 70,000 new Rohingyas joined them after another military crackdown in October and November in 2016.

After that, the latest exodus of Rohingyas since August 25, 2017 had seen the arrival of about 740,000 Rohingyas to Bangladesh due to unprecedented atrocities orchestrated by the Myanmar security forces and their allies.

Even after facing denouncement from other countries and compelling findings of an independent UN fact-finding mission and others, Myanmar government did not bring the perpetrators of the genocide, crimes against humanity and ethnic cleansing to

justice — as it enjoys unwavering support of its staunchest ally China, a veto yielding member the United Nations Security Council.

Naypyidaw also enjoys the support of powers like Russia and India to some significant extent.

However, things appeared to have moved in favour of the Rohingya refugees who cited accountability and justice as part of their prerequisite for repatriation to Rakhine, after Gambia, a small West African country, filed a case with the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on November 11 against Myanmar.

Abubacarr Marie Tambadou, the attorney general and justice minister of Gambia, had filed the case with the ICJ, The Hague-based principal judicial organ of the UN, alleging violations of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide by the Myanmar government.

Filing the case on behalf of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), Gambia also asked the ICJ to impose provisional measures, as a matter of extreme urgency, to protect the Rohingyas from further harm by ordering Myanmar to immediately stop all genocidal conducts.

Gambia is the chair of the OIC ad-hoc ministerial committee on accountability for human rights violations against the Rohingyas, which was established at the 45th OIC council of foreign ministers meeting in Dhaka in May 2018.

[HTTPS://WWW.DHAKATRIBUNE.COM/BANGLADESH/ROHINGYA-CRISIS/2019/12/09/ROHINGYA-ACTIVISTS-LAUNCH-GLOBAL-BOYCOTT-MYANMAR-CAMPAIGN?FBCLID=IWAR2CPDI3DTX7UGMFKGVSQ-YQ_OPSZOVYRL_QN3UFVFGJQBPSLFH4MUXFH6O](https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/rohingya-crisis/2019/12/09/rohingya-activists-launch-global-boycott-myanmar-campaign?fbclid=IWAR2CPDI3DTX7UGMFKGVSQ-YQ_OPSZOVYRL_QN3UFVFGJQBPSLFH4MUXFH6O)

RIGHTS GROUPS LAUNCH MYANMAR BOYCOTT AHEAD OF HAGUE GENOCIDE HEARINGS

DECEMBER 9, 2019



A general view of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) ahead of hearings regarding accusations of genocide of Rohingya Muslim minority by Myanmar filed by Gambia, in The Hague, Netherlands, December 9, 2019. REUTERS/Eva Plevier

THE HAGUE/COX'S BAZAR, Bangladesh (Reuters) - Human rights campaigners supporting Myanmar's Rohingya Muslim minority on Monday called for a global boycott of the country, a day before genocide hearings begin at the International Court of Justice in The Hague.

Myanmar leader and Nobel Peace prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, who arrived in the Netherlands on Sunday, will defend her country's record during three days of hearings initiated after a lawsuit was filed by Gambia in November.

On Monday the Netherlands and Canada put out a joint statement in support of Gambia, the tiny, mainly Muslim West African country that filed the suit in which the Buddhist-majority Myanmar is accused of genocide against its

Rohingya Muslim minority.

“Canada and the Netherlands consider it their obligation to support The Gambia before the International Court of Justice, as it concerns all of humanity,” the two countries said.

More than 730,000 Rohingya fled Myanmar in 2017 after a military-led crackdown. The United Nations has said the campaign was executed with “genocidal intent” and included mass killings and rape.

Myanmar authorities have strongly disputed that conclusion, categorizing the military operation as a legitimate counter terrorism response to attacks by Rohingya militants.

During three days of hearings, Gambia’s legal team will ask the 17-member panel of U.N judges at the ICJ to impose “provisional measures” to protect the Rohingya before the case can be heard in full. Suu Kyi’s office said last month that she would lead her country’s team in The Hague to “defend the national interest”. Several demonstrations are planned in coming days in The Hague by Rohingya survivor groups, as well as by government supporters.

REFUGEES PRAY

The Free Rohingya Coalition said in a statement it was starting the “Boycott Myanmar Campaign” with 30 organizations in 10 countries. It called on “corporations, foreign investors, professional and cultural organizations to sever their institutional ties with Myanmar”.

In the sprawling Bangladeshi camps where they now live as refugees, some Rohingya said they were praying to see justice delivered. One man read aloud to a group from a newspaper article about the hearings.

In her tent, 31-year-old Momtaz Begum shed tears as she recalled how soldiers locked her in her house in northern Rakhine state and set fire to the roof. She escaped to find her three sons dead and her daughter beaten and bleeding, she said. “The army killed my husband,” she said. “They raped me and torched my house, they stabbed my 6-year-old daughter in the head. Why did they kill our

innocent people, our kids? Why did they torture and rape our women? We demand justice.”

Myanmar has previously denied almost all allegations made by refugees against its troops, including of mass rape, killings and arson, and promised to punish any soldiers involved in what it says were isolated cases of wrongdoing. In Myitkyina, the capital of Kachin state in northern Myanmar near the border with China, hundreds of people marched in support of the Suu Kyi. More demonstrations are planned in the major cities Yangon and Mandalay when the hearings begin.

By the Reuters News [HTTPS://WWW.REUTERS.COM/ARTICLE/US-MYANMAR-ROHINGYA-WORLD-COURT/RIGHTS-GROUPS-LAUNCH-MYANMAR-BOYCOTT-AHEAD-OF-HAGUE-GENOCIDE-HEARINGS-IDUSKBN1YD0M2?FBCLID=IWAR39ACBOONYLB_W57DTTHEKE-R8G9XLMCRJDC6KONO2G360MXM7HTKOY6NOI](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-myanmar-rohingya-world-court/rights-groups-launch-myanmar-boycott-ahead-of-hague-genocide-hearings-iduskbn1yd0m2?fbclid=iwar39acboonylb_w57dttheke-r8g9xlmcrjdc6kono2g360mxm7htkoy6noi)

THE ROHINGYA ACTIVISTS FACING ABDUCTION THREATS FROM MYANMAR FOR FIGHTING FOR THE TRUTH

TASNIM NAZEER

9 December 2019

Two leading Buddhist activists of the Rohingya campaign in Europe are fearing for their lives after calls for their abduction were circulated in a [VIDEO](#) message by Aye Ne Win, the grandson of the former dictator of Myanmar.

Dr Maung Zarni, who is based in London, and Nay San Lwin, based in Germany, have both worked tirelessly to call for accountability and justice for the Rohingya Muslims being persecuted in Myanmar. Both activists have played a prominent role in supporting **GAMBIA** to bring scrutiny to the country's actions, much to the dislike of Myanmar's authorities.

Myanmar would never have thought that a small country in West Africa could pave the way for justice and bring other more powerful countries to shame. Yet, Gambia with the support of activists, is doing just that by filing a lawsuit with the UN's highest court, the International Court of Justice (ICJ), formally accusing Myanmar of genocide.

More than **750,000** Rohingya refugees, mostly women and children, have fled Myanmar in a bid to escape persecution. They have faced torture, gang rapes, violence, killings and have escaped across the border to Bangladesh after Myanmar's forces launched a brutal crackdown on the minority Muslim community in August 2017. To date, 1.2 million persecuted Rohingya were forced to seek sanctuary in Bangladesh.

THE NATIONS TAKING A STAND AGAINST MYANMAR'S ROHINGYA GENOCIDE – WHILE THE WEST TURNS A BLIND EYE

Steve Shaw



Now Myanmar is trying to find ways to silence and permanently shut down leading activists who want to ensure that those who have been harmed have a right to justice. They are using tactics such as intimidation and fear-mongering to halt efforts, yet both Dr Maung Zarni and Nay San Lwin remain undeterred by the threats and will be attending the ICJ – where Myanmar’s leader Aung San Suu Kyi is due to appear – this week.

In the video circulated, Aye Ne Win says: “Concerning Maung Zarni and Nay San Lwin, it is high time for Myanmar military intelligence services to launch an Israeli-style kidnap operation that captured Eichmann in South America. These creatures should not dare to come to our country. They scream foul from abroad but they need to be tried here [in Myanmar].”

Myanmar has a **HISTORY** of shutting down critics and has previously unjustifiably **JAILED** a filmmaker for Facebook posts criticising its military. It

also sent two Reuters journalists to jail for seven years, in a bid to conceal the extent of persecution of Rohingya Muslims. The international community must now condemn Ne Win and ensure that those who are being threatened have a right to be protected by the law.

“Threats against any activist anywhere are damaging to any effort to establish truth and seek justice for victims of human rights violations, as well as to attempts to resolve underlying causes of violence,” Katherine Southwick, an international legal scholar and advisor to the Free Rohingya Coalition, said. “The specific threats against Dr Maung Zarni and Mr Nay San Lwin are dangerous not just to the personal security of these men and their families. These threats also create a climate of fear and intimidation against any individual or non-governmental group that might call for, support, or cooperate with justice efforts like the ICJ case.” [WHEN WILL THE WORLD DO SOMETHING TO SAVE ROHINGYA MUSLIMS?](#) **CJ Werleman**



It is worth noting that Aye Ne Win is the oldest grandson of the late Burmese dictator General Ne Win, who initiated the institutionalised destruction of the Rohingya with the first state-organised wave of violent deportation of 250,000 of the minority as early as February 1978.

“These public threats to me and Rohingya campaigner Nay San Lwin coming from Aye Ne Win must be taken in the alarming context where dodgy regimes blatantly murder their dissidents and democrats on foreign soil,” Dr Zarni said. “In the last seven years since I blew the whistle on Myanmar genocide, the Myanmar Government – embassies in Brunei, Kuala Lumpur and London – have been engaged in threatening behaviours against me.”

It is clear that Aung San Suu Kyi feels threatened by the prospect of being held accountable for charges of genocide and will look to utilise methods of intimidation to her advantage.

No activist should ever be threatened with abduction for raising awareness of human rights violations. I have heard the testimonies of Rohingya women who have experienced harrowing rape, violence, murder of their loved ones and abuse at the hands of the Myanmar military. They deserve justice and accountability and the right to have some form of closure for what they have been through. Those who are supporting their rights to justice must be protected at all costs.

Will the international community stand up against Myanmar’s oppression or continue to remain silent?

[HTTPS://BYLINETIMES.COM/2019/12/09/THE-ROHINGYA-ACTIVISTS-FACING-ABDUCTION-THREATS-FROM-MYANMAR-FOR-FIGHTING-FOR-THE-TRUTH/](https://bylinetimes.com/2019/12/09/the-rohingya-activists-facing-abduction-threats-from-myanmar-for-fighting-for-the-truth/)

Suu Kyi arrives at The Hague to defend Myanmar of genocide, rights group calls for country boycott

December 09/12/2019 -



Myanmar's State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi departs for The Hague to defend Myanmar against charges of committing genocide against its Rohingya Muslim minority, in Naypyidaw, Myanmar on December 8, 2019. Myanmar's State Counsellor Office, REUTERS.

Text by: [FRANCE 24](#)

Human rights campaigners supporting Myanmar's Rohingya Muslim minority on Monday called for a global boycott of the country, a day before genocide hearings begin at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague, Netherlands.

ADVERTISING

Myanmar leader and Nobel Peace Prize laureate [Aung San Suu Kyi](#), who arrived in the Netherlands on Sunday, will defend her country's record during three days of hearings initiated after a lawsuit was filed by the Gambia in November.

Suu Kyi's office posted a picture of her arrival at Amsterdam's Schiphol airport where she was greeted by the ambassador to the Netherlands and then headed to The Hague, where the international court is located.

Several demonstrations are planned in coming days in the Dutch city by [Rohingya](#) survivor groups, as well as by [Myanmar](#) government supporters.

The Gambia, a tiny, mainly Muslim West African country, filed the suit in which the Buddhist-majority Myanmar is accused of [genocide](#), the most serious international crime, against its Rohingya Muslim minority.



[Ministry of Justice@Gambia MOJ](#)

Tomorrow, [@Gambia_MOJ](#) will be appearing before [@CIJ_ICJ](#) for the Provisional Measures hearing in The Gambia's case against [#Myanmar](#) over atrocities committed against the Rohingya. Stay tuned and follow us for live updates all week. [#justice4Rohyinga](#).



[Dec 9, 2019 · Gambia](#)

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More than 730,000 Rohingya fled Myanmar in 2017 after a brutal military-led crackdown. The United Nations has said the campaign was executed with “genocidal intent” and included mass killings and rape.

Myanmar vehemently denies allegations of genocide, and says its military campaign across hundreds of villages in northern Rakhine state was in response to attacks by Rohingya insurgents.

During three days of hearings, the UN will ask the 16-member panel of judges at the ICJ to impose “provisional measures” to protect the Rohingya before the case can be heard in full.

The Free Rohingya Coalition said in a statement it was starting the “Boycott Myanmar Campaign” with 30 organisations in 10 countries. It called on “corporations, foreign investors, professional and cultural organizations to sever their institutional ties with Myanmar”.

It said the boycott was intended to “to bring to bear economic, cultural, diplomatic and political pressure on Myanmar’s coalition government of Aung San Suu Kyi and the military”.

(FRANCE 24 with REUTERS)

ROHINGYA CAMPAIGNERS LAUNCH MYANMAR BOYCOTT

DECEMBER 09/12/2019

The Free Rohingya Coalition begins 'Boycott Myanmar Campaign' in the face of genocide hearings at the ICJ.



Human rights campaigners supporting Myanmar's **ROHINGYA** mainly Muslim minority have called for a global boycott of the country, a day before genocide hearings begin at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague.

The Free Rohingya Coalition (FRC) said in a statement on Monday it was starting the "Boycott Myanmar Campaign" with 30 organisations in 10 countries. It called on "corporations, foreign investors, professional and cultural organizations to sever their institutional ties with Myanmar".

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More than 730,000 Rohingya fled to neighbouring **BANGLADESH** following the brutal crackdown by the military in August 2017, which **UNITED NATIONS** investigators have concluded was carried out with "genocidal intent".

The FRC statement added that the campaign was intended to "to bring to bear economic, cultural, diplomatic and political pressure on Myanmar's coalition government of Aung San Suu Kyi and the military".

"We are doing this to correct the wrongdoings of Myanmar government and military...not because we hate our fellow Burmese," Ro Nay San Lwin, a Rohingya Muslim and cofounder of the FRC, told Al Jazeera.

"We want to see our country as a developed country but as the investments are financing the genocide we are compelled to do this," he added.

MYANMAR AT THE HAGUE

Myanmar's de facto leader and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, who arrived in the **NETHERLANDS** on Sunday, is set to defend her country's record during three days of hearings initiated after a lawsuit was filed by the **GAMBIA** in November.

Aung San Suu Kyi's office posted a picture of her arrival at Amsterdam's Schiphol airport where she was greeted by the ambassador to the Netherlands and then headed to The Hague, where the World Court is located.

Aung San Suu Kyi has come under severe criticism in recent years for her unwillingness to speak out on the Rohingya crisis, despite the **MYANMAR** military's violent campaign against the minority group.

Several demonstrations are planned in the coming days in the Dutch city by Rohingya survivor groups, as well as by government supporters.

The Gambia filed the suit on behalf of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation, in which Buddhist-majority Myanmar is accused of genocide, the most serious international crime, against its Rohingya minority.

During three days of hearings, its legal team will ask the 16-member panel of UN judges at the ICJ to impose "provisional measures" to protect the Rohingya before the case can be heard in full.

Aung San Suu Kyi's office said last month that she would lead her country's team in The Hague to "defend the national interest".

[HTTPS://WWW.ALJAZEERA.COM/NEWS/2019/12/ROHINGYA-CAMPAIGNERS-LAUNCH-MYANMAR-BOYCOTT-191209111101925.HTML?FBCLID=IWAR1-GCHHTWPT3XYLIM1YWMDOOSCSFSRUMGQTMTJWRJUPOBLNY4BG_R3918E](https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/12/rohingya-campaigners-launch-myanmar-boycott-191209111101925.html?fbclid=IWAR1-GCHHTWPT3XYLIM1YWMDOOSCSFSRUMGQTMTJWRJUPOBLNY4BG_R3918E)

Collected by: Sabber , Rohingya Human Rights Initiative