



Hidaya Foundation Trust

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Consulate General of
Union of Myanmar

To,
The President,
Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Dated: 11/09/2017.

Through: The Consul General, Embassy of Myanmar, Kolkata, India
Subject: Memorandum of Protest Against the Indiscriminate Massacre of the Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar

Dear Sir,

We, the representatives of the civilian society in Kolkata, Howrah and overall West Bengal, would like to submit to you our united voice of concern and protest against the indiscriminate massacre of the Rohingya Muslims in the Rakhine State of your country.

The persecution of the Rohingya has been going on for a few years and even your State Councilor, Nobel Laureate Aung San Suu Ki had formulated an enquiry commission led by honorable Kofi Annan, former Secretary General of the United Nations, to propose a possible solution to the issue. The commission recommendations clearly state the removal of the restrictions on the movement and also providing citizenship of the Rohingya Muslims, if any semblance of peace is to return to the region. These recommendations were released in August 2017 and we, from your neighboring country people, as well as the rest of the world, were eagerly waiting for your administration to act upon them and bring relief to the suffering masses. But the reality is just the opposite – the atrocities are far from being stemmed, as is evident from the daily influx of fleeing Rohingya refugees into India and Bangladesh.

We, the civilian community in West Bengal, respect Myanmar's need to maintain territorial integrity but also strongly condemn the systematic ethnic cleansing that is reportedly being practiced in the Rakhine State. The images percolating to us, despite the ban on media and international aid organisations from entering the affected areas is extremely distressing and are evident of man-slaughter unheard of in recent times.

Hence, we would like to bring to your kind notice, our dissenting voice via this memorandum of protest and our peaceful gathering at the doorsteps of the Embassy of Myanmar in Kolkata. Kindly allow a fair and humane treatment of the Rohingya Muslims and implement the Kofi Annan Committee recommendations at the earliest, so that the conflict can be resolved at the earliest without further loss of lives.

In expressing our dissent, **Hidaya Foundation Trust** is joined by **Bangla Deeniyat Centre** – the Eastern India counterpart of one of the largest moral education movements in India, and **Garment Manufactures Association of Howrah**, the representative body of one of the largest garments manufacturing hubs of India.

Thanks & Regards,

Chairman,
Hidaya Foundation Trust.