

# ROHINGYA

## WHO ARE ROHINGYA?

The Rohingya are a predominantly Muslim ethnic group, who have lived in independent Arakan Kingdom, now Rakhine State of Myanmar or Burma for centuries. Their distinct language, culture, tradition and faith makes them a unique minority in the Buddhist-majority country.

The Rohingya were recognised as the citizens of Myanmar, following the country's independence from the British colonial rule in 1948. They have subsequently represented the new Myanmar and contributed in the nation-building politically, culturally, socio-economically and geographically.

## WHAT IS THEIR PLIGHT?

Following Dictator Ne Win's coup in March 1962, they were systematically denied of their distinctive ethnic identity, removed from public services, stripped of their citizenship implementing the 1982 Citizenship Law, and restricted freedoms that they have once enjoyed.

Now they are denied of rights to self-identity, nationality, freedom of movement, religion, marriage, education, healthcare, livelihood, liberty and security.

## A POPULATION UNDER THREAT

The United Nations considers the Rohingyas as "the world's most persecuted people" and its Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar found the gravest crimes being committed against the Rohingya by Myanmar Military under the leadership of Nobel Peace Laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, which it described "the ongoing genocide".

As of 2019, more than 1.2 million Rohingya refugees take shelters in neighbouring Bangladesh. 745,000 of them fled since August 25, 2017, and 36,000 of children lost at least one parent at the height of genocidal campaign.

Between 2017 and 2018, at least 392 Rohingya villages were partially or completely destroyed, and hundreds of women and girls were sexually assaulted and raped by the Myanmar Armed Forces.

Over 120,000 Rohingya are still confined to Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camps in Rakhine State since June 2012. The remaining Rohingya civilians inside the country continue to live in apartheid conditions - subjected to torture, extrajudicial killing, arbitrary arrest, rape and sexual violence, land confiscation, taxation and destruction of houses and religious structures.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

1. Celebrate diversity with Rohingya, share it friends and families, and on social media
2. Educate yourself and other about the plight of Rohingya
3. Follow Rohingya groups such as Rohingya Action Ireland, and create awareness campaigns for the threatened people
4. Sign petition for the rights of Rohingya locally or globally
5. Support, defend and stand up with Rohingya refugees
6. Call upon local, national and the European leaders to bring Myanmar Generals to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) or International Criminal Court (ICC); for sanctions on the military and its controlled businesses; to support restoration of Rohingya citizenship rights in Myanmar; support against refoulement of Rohingya refugees from Bangladesh; and for safe, dignified, voluntary and protected repatriation of refugees to their places of origin in Myanmar

Rohingya  
Action  
Ireland



@rohingyairl  
info@rohingya.ie



www.rohingya.ie

 **13:00, Sunday, August 25, 2019**

 **CARLOW COLLEGE, ST. PATRICK'S**  
College Street, Carlow, R93 A003

# INTERNATIONAL ROHINGYA REMEMBRANCE DAY

## PROGRAMMES

**13:00**      **Opening Song** by Roger Whelan  
**Contributions**

Rohingya Action Ireland  
The European Rohingya Community (ERC)  
Carlow County Development Partnership  
Rohingya Community Carlow

**Anastasia Crickley**

*Community Work Ireland and former president of  
the UN Committee for the Elimination of Racial  
Discrimination (CERD)*

**Reflection**

**Closing song** by Roger Whelan

**13:40**      **Raising of the Rohingya Flag**

**14:00**      **"TRIGGER"** - Rohingya Girls' Dance Project at the VISUAL Theater

**14:30**      **Documentary Film** - 10 years of Rohingya Resettlement in Carlow

**15:00**      **"BLOODLINES"** - Rohingya live performance at VISUAL Carlow

**16:00**      **Food and celebration** at Carlow College, St. Patrick's

**ALL-DAY ACTIVITIES:** Cricket Game, Tug of War, Rohingya Photographic Exhibition, Henna and Face Painting, Arts and Crafts, Music, Sport and Games.

Co-organisers and supporters

