



Arakan Rohingya National Council (ARNC)

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Press Release

Arakan Army (AA)'s Massacre of Over 600 Rohingya in Htan Shauk Khan Village Clear Evidence of Genocide and War Crimes

The Arakan Rohingya National Council (ARNC) strongly condemns the massacre of over 600 Rohingya civilians perpetrated by the Arakan Army (AA) on May 2, 2024, in Htan Shauk Khan village (known as Hoinya Seeree) in Buthidaung Township, Arakan State of Myanmar. Eyewitness testimonies and newly surfaced photos provide horrifying evidence of the mass killing of entire families including children, pregnant women, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. This atrocity is further proof of the AA's ongoing campaign of war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide against the Rohingya people.

This brutal massacre was not an isolated incident. It is part of a wider, systematic pattern of targeted violence, mass displacement, forced starvation, arbitrary detention, and destruction of Rohingya villages all carried out by AA with total impunity. Survivors have described how those unable or unwilling to flee the village were summarily executed by the AA, accused of being associated with the military, and burned with gasoline in an apparent attempt to destroy the evidence. The discovery of human remains including skeletons of children confirms these harrowing accounts.

Eyewitnesses, survivors, and rights organizations such as Fortify Rights have corroborated these reports and compiled documentation of hundreds of victims. These findings confirm what we have long asserted: the Arakan Army is perpetrating atrocities against the Rohingya population with deliberate intent and methodical genocide. Their refusal to investigate these crimes and their continued denial to let an investigation from outside has only strengthened the case for international intervention.

The ARNC reiterates its call for an immediate, independent investigation into this and other atrocities committed by the AA. The International Criminal Court (ICC) and other relevant international and regional bodies must act now to hold the perpetrators accountable. The longer the international community delays, the more complicit it becomes in these ongoing crimes. The silence and inaction of the global community, governments, institutions, and civil society have emboldened the perpetrators and contributed to the unfolding genocide against Rohingya in Arakan State.

No Justification for Persecution

There is no moral or legal justification for the Arakan Army's genocide against Rohingya. Resistance to military oppression cannot come through committing genocide against a community which is not a party in the conflict. **Genocide is genocide, no matter who commits it.**

Arakan Rohingya National Council (ARNC) will not rest until justice is done.

ARNC will not allow the truth to be buried.

ARNC will continue to pursue until those responsible are brought to Justice, as we believe, Justice ignored is injustice multiplied.

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