

Justice For All Canada welcomes and applauds the [progressive step](#) towards achieving accountability for Myanmar's indiscriminate massacre of ethnic Rohingya Muslim minorities in Myanmar's Rakhine state.

"We take this moment to endorse and highlight the [significant effort](#) undertaken by Canadian Foreign Minister, Honourable François-Philippe Champagne, and Netherlands Foreign Affairs Minister, Stef Blok, in joining The Gambia's [ongoing case](#) with the International Court of Justice on behalf of Rohingya genocide victims," said Taha Ghayyur, Executive Director, Justice for All Canada.

International legal proceedings began when Gambian Justice Minister, Abubacarr Tambadou, courageously levelled persecution charges against Myanmar and its military, for the atrocities committed against Rohingya men, women and children. Minister Tambadou was moved by the likeness of the Rohingya tragedy to Rwanda's own 1994 genocide, which claimed the lives of 800,000 people.

Justice For All Canada wishes to reiterate that the merciless actions by Myanmar authorities represent an ill-intent to completely destroy the Rohingya as an ethnic Muslim minority in the largely Buddhist nation (Myanmar). Since 2017, more than 700,000 Rohingya have fled to Bangladesh, according to the UNHCR. Bangladeshi Prime Minister, Sheikh Hasina, estimated the number of displaced Rohingya living in refugee camps has reached 1.1 million people.

According to multiple credible reports:

- Tens of thousands of Rohingya parents have been "reportedly lost and presumed dead"¹
- Tens of thousands of Rohingya have been killed, beaten and were the victims of arson²
- More than 15,000 Rohingya women and girls have been raped³
- Entire Muslim Rohingya villages in Myanmar were demolished and replaced by police barracks, government buildings and relocation camps⁴

We hope that through the involvement of Canadian and Dutch democratic leadership, swift justice can take place to bring the Myanmar military and its government officials accountable for these crimes against humanity.

"Justice For All Canada implores all country parties that have signed the *Genocide Convention* and the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* to honour their treaty obligations by taking all measures within their power to prevent and denounce genocide," said Ghayyur.

As a leading human rights organization advocating on behalf of forgotten Indigenous communities such as the Rohingya, we remind Canada's Federal Government to stand by its drafting of key human rights policies, such as its Feminist International Assistance Policy (FIAP), which clearly articulates the long-term individual and community-wide effects of violence against women and girls.

¹ BARRON, LAIGNEE (8 March 2018). "More Than 43,000 Rohingya Parents May Be Missing. Experts Fear They Are Dead". *TIME*. Archived from the original on 11 December 2018. Retrieved 18 October 2018.

² Habib, Mohshin; Jubb, Christine; Ahmad, Salahuddin; Rahman, Masudur; Pallard, Henri (18 July 2018). "Forced migration of Rohingya: the untold experience".

³ Ibid

⁴ Head, Jonathan (10 August 2019). "Rohingya crisis: Villages destroyed for government facilities". *BBC*.