BHRN Urges the House of Commons to Support Genocide Amendment to Trade Bill

January 17, 2021-- London, UK -- The Burma Human Rights Network is urging all MPs in the House of Commons to support the Genocide amendment to the Trade Bill, which would revoke trade agreements if a court found one of the parties represented a state which was taking part in Genocide as defined by the UN's Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. The bill passed with cross-party support in the House of Lords and BHRN hopes for similar unity among MPs when it is brought to the House of Commons on Tuesday.

"The United Kingdom has an opportunity with this amendment to state unequivocally that it will not tolerate any state or government which commits genocide. There must be no business as usual with genocidal actors, and by adopting the amendment the UK will set an example that the world can follow to create real change that will save millions of lives across the world. The success of the amendment would be the UK's great success in defending the rights of the most vulnerable people throughout the world, including those in Burma," said BHRN's Executive Director, Kyaw Win.

The proposed amendment would bring significant scrutiny and economic consequences to the regimes in Burma and China, who enjoy trade deals with the UK despite ongoing genocidal campaigns against the Rohingya and Uyghurs. The amendment would also serve as a significant deterrent for nations that may abuse their minority populations in the future. In a post-Brexit UK, it is imperative that the UK establishes itself as a guardian of human rights and upholds the value of human life across the world.

Organisation's Background

BHRN is based in London, operates across Burma and works for human rights, minority rights and religious freedom in Burma. BHRN has played a crucial role advocating for human rights and religious freedom with politicians and world leaders.

Media Enquiries

Please contact:
Kyaw Win, Executive Director
Burma Human Rights Network (BHRN)
E: kyawwin@bhrn.org.uk T: +44(0) 740 345 2378