Date : 31 October 2018

Life Threatening Conditions Continue In Northern Rakhine State

31st Oct 2018, London - BHRN's Findings on Suffering in Northern Rakhine State Reinforced by UN Investigator. The Burma Human Rights Network has documented evidence which corroborates statements made on October 24th, 2018 by the chair of the UN fact-finding mission on Myanmar, Markuzi Darusman, who stated that those Rohingya who remain inside of Burma face severe restrictions and repression in what he described as an ongoing genocide. The remarks were made during a press conference in New York City ahead of the UN Security Council briefing. BHRN has spoken to villagers inside of Northern Rakhine State who complain of severe travel restrictions, lack of food and medical aid, and children suffering from dehydration.

"It is imperative that the international community takes these findings seriously as the Rohingya who remain inside of Rakhine State continue to suffer. While media attention on Rakhine State has dwindled, the military's campaign continues through other means. Those who are killed by restrictions on movement, food, and medicine should be no less worrying than those who are killed by bullets and knives. As such, action by the international community is long overdue," said BHRN Executive Director, Kyaw Win.

The Rohingya who remained in Northern Rakhine State face severe travel restrictions which prohibit them from leaving their villages. BHRN has received multiple reports of villages not receiving aid due to restrictions or the remote nature of their location. As a result, many of these villages are complaining of health issues, especially among children or those with pre-existing illnesses like hepatitis. During the rainy season, children were often reported sick with flu or diarrhea, which put them at greater risk of dehydration which can be life threatening for small children. BHRN has received reports of hepatitis patients being unable to obtain life-sustaining medicine, with some fleeing to Bangladesh for treatment.

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Background on the Burma Human Rights Network (BHRN)
Burma Human Rights Network (BHRN) is based in London and operates across Burma/Myanmar 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
+44 (0) 740 345 2378
kyawwin78@gmail.com
http://www.bhrn.org.uk