



## **ARAKAN ROHINGYA UNION**

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## **ARAKAN ROHINGYA UNION NEWS LETTER** **Special Edition**

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Arakan Rohingya Union, Director General, Reza Uddin met with OIC Secretary General H.E Mr.Hissein Brahim Taha.

The Director General of the Arakan Rohingya Union (ARU), Reza Uddin, recently embarked on a significant diplomatic mission to Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, and Japan. His first stop was in Saudi Arabia, where he held a productive meeting with H.E. Mr. Hussein Brahim Taha, the Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), at the OIC Headquarters.

Arakan Rohingya Union, a global Rohingya umbrella organization, was formed under the patronage of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Secretary General (38<sup>th</sup> OIC-Council of Foreign Ministers Resolution (No. 4/37 MM.) as an united Rohingya Coordinated council to reclaim the rights of Rohingya people in their homeland, Myanmar. Arakan Rohingya Union is registered in the USA.

in Jeddah on July 10th, 2024. During this hour-long meeting, the Director General expressed his heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Taha for his unwavering support for the Rohingya cause and for the ongoing case at the International Court of Justice (ICJ).



The Director General provided a comprehensive update on the dire situation in Arakan State, emphasizing the ongoing conflict between the Arakan Army and the Myanmar military. He highlighted the plight of the remaining Rohingya population, estimated at around 600,000, along with the thousands of newly displaced individuals from Buthidaung. He reported alarming conditions, including widespread homelessness resulting from house burnings, along with numerous casualties and disappearances. The Director General also underscored the pressing challenges faced by the Rohingya community, such as starvation, lack of medical care, and the impending monsoon season. In Maungdaw, thousands of Rohingya remain trapped, with no means of escape. The rising commodity prices and lack of income have created an extremely precarious situation for the affected population.

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**ARU Director General with H.E Dr. Abdulrahman Al Zaid, Deputy Secretary General of Muslim World League.**

In addition to his meeting with the OIC Secretary General, the Director General of ARU recently made a courtesy visit to the headquarters of the Muslim World League in Mecca, the holy city of Islam. He was warmly welcomed by H.E. Dr. Abdulrahman Al Zaid, the Deputy Secretary General of the Muslim World League.

During their meeting, the Director General expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the Muslim World League and its Secretary General, H.E. Dr. Abdulkarim Al Issa, for their unwavering support regarding the Rohingya issue and their continued engagement with Rohingya and other minority communities worldwide. He provided an update on the current situation in Arakan and the conditions faced by Rohingya refugees in camps and internally displaced persons (IDP) camps.

The Director General requested humanitarian assistance from the Muslim World League for the displaced people in Arakan, regardless of their faith or ethnicity. They also discussed potential strategies for development in the post-war era in Arakan, emphasizing the need for inclusive benefits for all communities residing there.

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In response, H.E. Dr. Al Zaid assured that the Muslim World League is prepared to assist and facilitate efforts to alleviate the suffering of those affected.

While at the OIC, the Director General also requested the General Secretariat's assistance in facilitating the ARU's 2nd Congress, scheduled for later this year. This congress is crucial for the ARU, given the critical state of the Rohingya community.



The Director General's next stop was Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where he engaged with officials from the Prime Minister's office, various Members of Parliament, Malaysian NGOs, and the Rohingya Society in Malaysia (RSM). Notably, he met with H.E. Tansri Hamid Alber, the former Malaysian Foreign Minister and OIC Rohingya Special Envoy.

During these meetings, the Director General addressed the Rohingya situation in Arakan, particularly the ongoing conflict and its repercussions. He also highlighted the challenges faced by the Rohingya community in Malaysia, including human trafficking, hate speech, prolonged detention, and limited access to education for Rohingya children.

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To combat hate speech and foster understanding within Malaysian communities, the Director General along with ARU senior advisor, Brig General Manzur Qader (Rtd), Mr. Tun Khin (President, BROUK) and Mr. Nay San Lwin (Co-founder, FRC) proposed several collaborative initiatives:



1. **\*\*Engage with Local Community Leaders:\*\*** Building partnerships with influential community leaders, religious figures, and grassroots organizations to raise awareness about the plight of the Rohingya and promote tolerance and inclusivity.
2. **\*\*Conduct Awareness Campaigns:\*\*** Organizing campaigns to educate the Malaysian public on the Rohingya's history, culture, and challenges, utilizing various media platforms to share accurate information and dispel myths.
3. **\*\*Collaboration with Media Outlets:\*\*** Partnering with media organizations to ensure balanced reporting on Rohingya issues, encouraging journalists to highlight humanizing stories and provide accurate information.
4. **\*\*Establish Partnerships with NGOs:\*\*** Joining forces with Malaysian NGOs focused on human rights and refugee rights to amplify efforts against hate speech and promote inclusivity.

The Director General emphasized the importance of Malaysia's active role in addressing the [Arakan Rohingya Union](#), a global Rohingya umbrella organization, was formed under the patronage of the [Organization of Islamic Corporation \(OIC\) Secretary General](#) (38<sup>th</sup> OIC-Council of Foreign Ministers Resolution (No. 4/37 MM.) as an united Rohingya Coordinated council to reclaim the rights of Rohingya people in their homeland, Myanmar. [Arakan Rohingya Union](#) is registered in the USA.



situation in Myanmar, especially as it prepares to assume the chairmanship of ASEAN in the coming year. He expressed gratitude for Malaysia's hospitality in providing shelter to over 200,000 Rohingya refugees.



The final leg of the trip took the ARU Director General to Japan, where he met with members of the Rohingya community during an event hosted by two organizations, BRAJ and RCJ. The discussions encompassed the situation in Arakan, the conditions in refugee camps, and potential collaborative efforts to improve the plight of Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh and within Arakan. They also explored avenues for collaboration with the Japanese government to seek a political solution for the Rohingya.

Overall, the ARU Director General's visits to Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, and Japan were pivotal in garnering support for the Rohingya cause, raising awareness about the ongoing crisis in Arakan, and fostering collaborative efforts to improve the situation of the Rohingya community both within Myanmar and in the countries they have sought refuge in.

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