

# FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS FOR MAUNG ZARNI

(and RO NAY SAN LWIN, ANWAR M.S., TUN KHIN, SIMON BILLINNESS, PHIL ROBERTSON , MATTHEW SMITH)

It was a pleasure seeing you in Toronto, Canada, and we Rakhine, Burmese, Buddhist, Westerners, Hindus, and others are curious to hear your opinions, knowledge, and expertise concerning the following questions.

1. Do you know why the terrorists group called ARSA (Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army) uses the term 'Rohingya' in its name?
2. Would you say that ARSA represents the aspirations of the Bengali Muslims?
3. You were in Bangladesh just recently. Did you meet with any ARSA members?
4. Do you know Ata Ullah, the leader of ARSA?
5. Why do you think ARSA is so popular in the Bengali villages throughout Arakan?
6. In the early predawn darkness of August 25, 2017, there were multiple coordinated simultaneous attacks on 30 police outposts and army facilities, and dozens of villages by ARSA with many boys and men from nearby villages. Do you acknowledge that this happened? What do you think a proper response to this should be?
7. Some of the villages raided were Hindu minority villages in which everyone was herded together in the darkness, savagely tortured, executed, and pushed into pre-dug pits in the ground. Do you acknowledge that this happened? Why did ARSA target so many non-Rakhine Buddhists, such as Hindus, Mro, Deignet, Thet, and Kamti?
8. There are disturbing videos from captured or killed ARSA member mobile phone cameras, which show ARSA training, putting on their black hoods and lining up with weapons in hand to storm nearby villages, young boys with long knives saying they want to cut the heads of Buddhists, hundreds of boys and young men assembling while shouting 'Allahu Akbar!' and other such phrases. Do you acknowledge that these videos exist? (if you need them we can provide them so that you can show your audiences exactly what is happening).
9. Many of these videos show the boys and men shouting 'ALLAHU AKBAR!' (Allah is the greatest!), 'ISLAM ZINJABAR!' (long live Islam!), 'MAUG KARA HIRI!' (cut the heads off the Buddhists) and other such things. Do you agree that there is a Jihad going on in Rakhine?

10. Do you endorse or oppose ARSA's methods? If you do oppose ARSA's methods, will you declare that is so? And, will you turn over to authorities any people, material, weapons, explosives, plans, info, or anything that can be helpful to ARSA?
11. Many of use are confused about whether to use the term Rohingya, or Bengali, or Bengali Muslims, which do you prefer and why?
12. Some say that the term Bengali is offensive, even though their largest mosque in the nation of Myanmar has 2 signs hanging on the mosque in English stating the name 'Bengali Sunni Jameh Mosque' - could they possibly be offending themselves?
13. The Bengalis (Rohingya) call the Buddhists, and all others who chose to be non-Muslim, very derogatory terms such as 'Infidel' and even more harshly, 'Kuffar'. Is that true? And why do they do that?
14. The Bengalis (Rohingya) call Buddhists and Hindus 'idol worshippers' and tell them that -according to their holy Quran - there should be no mercy for them, and that they have divine right to slaughter all idol worshippers and destroy all idols (statues of Buddha, Krishna, Ganesh, and all others, all pagodas, stupas, temples, and monasteries). Do you agree or disagree, and why?
15. Many say that the Bengali Muslims (Rohingya) are really Bangladeshis. In fact, there are videos of Bengalis waiting to cross the Naf river to Bangladesh, and when questioned 'Where are you going?' They answer 'home', and then they are asked 'What do you mean by home?' and they say 'Bangladesh'. Do you think most Bengalis are from Bangladesh?
16. Would you agree or disagree that for Bengalis in Rakhine, their cultural and ancestral homeland is historic Bengal - now Bangladesh - where they all share the same language, religion, dress, food, traditions, and culture?
17. Do you acknowledge, or not, that Arakan is the ancestral and cultural homeland of the Rakhine Buddhists, and other ethnic minorities?
18. Do you agree, or not, that the historic Buddhist Kingdom of Arakan had many minorities in its port cities such as Portuguese, Hindus, Dutch, Achenese, Javanese, Chinese, Ceylonese, Burmese from Kingdoms of Taungoo, Pegu, or Ava, and Muslims?
19. The Bengali Muslims (Rohingya) have stated - from 1947 to the present - that their goal is to have a Muslim-only, sharia law enforced, autonomous State. Is that what they want? And, is it what you would like to see for them? And, is it attainable?

20. In 1947 the Jamiatul-Ulama of North Arakan in Maungdaw, representing the Bengali Muslims at that time, issued an ultimatum to the government demanding a Muslim-only autonomous state be granted to them, but interestingly they never once used the term 'Rohingya' in the formal documents (which can be provided if you would like to study them). They referred to themselves as 'Arakan Muslims' instead of Bengali Muslims for the first time. Can you explain please?
21. Bengali Muslims (Rohingya) have an origin in Bengal, India. As well, there are Bengali speaking Hindus with an origin in Bengal, India, and they also are a minority in Myanmar. It seems like there is no trouble between Hindus and the greater Burmese population - they seem well integrated into the Burmese nation while retaining their Hindu identity and language, and there are no restrictions upon them. Why would one group of people, from the same place of origin, be liked and respected, and another group - the Bengali Muslims - be disliked and feared by all other peoples and cultures of Myanmar? Could it possibly be that the behavior of the Bengalis, combined with their Islamic religion, has created their own misery?
22. Almost all Muslim countries do not even acknowledge Buddhism and Hinduism as valid religions, while in ancient Burmese kingdoms, even under the military dictatorship, and currently there has been, and still is, religious freedoms for all. Do you agree?
23. Bengali Muslims have been accused of abusing the marriage laws of Myanmar, and therefore there is movement to restrict them. One issue is that when a Muslim marries a person of any other faith the non-Muslim must absolutely convert to Islam. Should this be condoned? And, on the issue of having multiple wives - should that be of any concern in Myanmar?
24. Historically, there was a significant event in 1942 called the Maungdaw Massacre, when around 30,000 Buddhists were slaughtered in the town of Maungdaw by Bengali Muslims with WWII weaponry, and hundreds of Buddhists villages were torched, sending 100,000 Buddhists fleeing for their lives. Do you acknowledge this event?
25. Do you acknowledge the 1977 plot of the Bengalis, with Libya and Bangladesh, to destabilize Burma, invade and seize Arakan, and, as well, the 1992 effort of the Saudi Arabian Military Chief to round up a Muslim army to liberate Arakan?
26. Are you aware of the 1988 invasion of Maungdaw by Bengalis, on the anniversary of the 1942 Massacre, mentioned above, as well as the 1994 Terrorist attacks in Maungdaw by Bengalis under the banner of the RSO (Rohingya Solidarity Organization)?

27. There have been many allegations of rape by Burmese army troops upon Bengali women. Of course, those who raped should be punished if proven guilty. One way to pursue justice would be to have all the Bengali women who are pregnant from being raped can be registered, and in just 6 months from now the DNA of their child can be tested for non-Bengali DNA. If positive, army units that were in that area, where she was raped, can be tested. Also, the women whose babies do not have DNA different from Bengali can also be punished for making fake rape charges. Do you agree that this could be a way to deal with this matter?
28. There are also allegations of rape by Bengali, or other, Muslim men upon the non-Muslim women, not only in Rakhine State, but throughout Myanmar. Many people, especially girls and women, say they are afraid of Muslim men raping them, and that almost all rapes that they know of are by Muslim men. Is this true? Is it true that rape and sexual crimes are very high in Muslim countries? Is it also true that rape has skyrocketed in Europe as Muslim migration increased rapidly?

Thank you in advance for your answers - which we look forward to hearing - in our quest for truth, accuracy, and metta (loving kindness).

by Rick Heizman, Burmese people worldwide, and all seekers of truth  
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