



Weekly Report

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Myanmar (Burma)

Sarah Parkinson

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Burmese Vice-President Responds to Growing International Concern about Situation of Rohingya

- During a recent visit to Malaysia, President Obama spoke about the treatment of Rohingya in Burma, saying, “Myanmar won’t succeed if the Muslim population is oppressed.” The British foreign minister has also spoken to the Burmese ambassador regarding ongoing restrictions to aid in Rakhine state.
- In response to this, the Vice President of Burma acknowledged ongoing violence in Rakhine was tarnishing the country’s international reputation, and requires ongoing international humanitarian assistance.
- Source: Irrawaddy

<http://www.irrawaddy.org/burma/arakan-unrest-may-tarnish-burmas-image-vice-president.html>

Rohingya in West Burma face health crisis

- Aid agencies still do not have access to displaced Rohingya populations in the West, since being sent out of Rakhine State in February. Journalists report people are dying in camps without medicine or doctors.
- Source: Straits Times

<http://www.straitstimes.com/news/asia/south-east-asia/story/health-crisis-among-rohingya-west-myanmar-after-aid-groups-are-force>

Burmese refugees face persecution

- There are numerous stories of Rohingya refugees being held captive in camps in Thailand, or facing persecution as they escape.
- One recent account by Associated Press describes eye-witness reports:
- Source: NPR

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=307146762>

"...A boat approached with at least a dozen Myanmar soldiers on board. They ordered the Rohingya men to remove their shirts and lie down, one by one. Their hands were bound. Then they were punched, kicked and bludgeoned with wooden planks and iron rods..."

-Associated Press on plight of Rohingya refugees fleeing by boat
