



WEEKLY REPORT

Myanmar (Burma)

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APRIL 6–11, 2014

- 1** Aid agencies seek to restore humanitarian services in Rakhine State
- 2** UN envoy warns that ongoing persecution of the Rohingya could constitute 'crimes against humanity.'
- 3** Burmese newspapers run black on their covers to protest the arrest of journalists

Aid agencies seek to restore humanitarian services in Rakhine State

- Following a series of attacks on aid agencies in Rakhine that caused most of them to evacuate, the UN, international NGOs and the Myanmar authorities are negotiating the resumption of services.
- The government has introduced new measures to protect foreign aid workers. Nonetheless, foreign workers report Rakhine is now in a 'climate of fear' in which landlords fear to rent to them.
- Source: IRIN

<http://www.irinnews.org/report.aspx?ReportID=99910>

UN envoy warns that ongoing persecution of the Rohingya could constitute 'crimes against humanity'

- Outgoing UN envoy Tomas Quintana commented on recent developments in Burma by saying, "recent developments in Rakhine state are the latest in a long history of discrimination and persecution against the Rohingya community which could amount to crimes against humanity."
- Source: Toronto Star

http://www.thestar.com/news/world/2014/04/08/un_envoy_warns_of_possible_crimes_against_humanity_in_burma.html

Burmese newspapers run black on their covers to protest the arrest of journalists

- Observers warn that the climate for media in Burma is worsening, after one reporter was arrested for trying to interview an education official, and convicted for "disturbing a civil servant."
- In a speech in Berlin, opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi reminded the world that Burma is not yet a democracy and needs the close attention of the world to ensure that it carries through with its reforms.
- Source: The Guardian

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/apr/11/burma-newspapers-black-front-pages>

"The current situation has not only affected displaced people in camps around Sittwe [the capital]. Hundreds of thousands of people in isolated villages depend on international NGOs for essential services, particularly in the northern part of Rakhine State,"

- Pierre Péron, UNOCHA
