



WEEKLY REPORT

MAY 1 - 9, 2014

Myanmar (Burma)

Sarah Parkinson

- 1 State's policy towards the Rohingya is 'ethnic cleansing in action'
- 2 Health crisis amongst Rohingya continues
- 3 Kachin IDPs forced to relocate by army

State's policy towards the Rohingya is 'ethnic cleansing in action'

- The Canadian International Council recently interviewed Matthew Smith, executive director of Fortify Rights. He describes the current situation of the Rohingya clearly: they are denied citizenship, ethnic identity, and have been the target of state-supported ethnic cleansing campaigns in Rakhine state. 150,000 Rohingya now live in IDP camps, 500,000 more are refugees in Bangladesh, and large but undocumented numbers have fled elsewhere, including Thailand and Malaysia.
- Fortify Rights has documented the situation and in February, released a report titled *Policies of Persecution*. The report contains recommendations for further investigation and action.
- Sources:

<http://opencanada.org/features/the-think-tank/interviews/this-is-ethnic-cleansing-in-action/> (interview)

http://www.fortifyrights.org/downloads/Policies_of_Persecution_Feb_25_Fortify_Rights.pdf (report)

Health crisis amongst Rohingya continues

- Only a few aid workers have returned to work in the IDP camps, and report much greater restrictions than previously. Journalists report people are dying in camps without medicine or doctors.
- Source: Washington Post

http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/lack-of-health-care-deadly-for-burmas-rohingya/2014/05/08/ac5a9ae8-d6e6-11e3-8a78-8fe50322a72c_story.html

Kachin IDPs forced to relocate by army

- Thousands of Kachin fled fighting between the Burmese army and the KIA last November. In one camp, 14 people were recently detained, and now the members of the camp are being forced to relocate, although they do not feel safe to return home.
- Source: DVB

<https://www.dvb.no/news/displaced-kachin-must-leave-cant-go-home-burma-myanmar/40515>

"There are reports almost daily about deaths, many of them pregnant women experiencing complications that could have been prevented, according to aid workers and Rohingya in the camps."

Washington Post on lack of health care in IDP camps
