



Craig Whittaker MP

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Human Rights Violations in Rakhine State, Myanmar

Thank you for contacting me about the situation in Rakhine State.

I am appalled by the allegations of gross human rights violations against large numbers of Rohingya, including reports of the Burmese military and local militia forcing hundreds of thousands of men, women and children from their homes and villages being burnt.

I am pleased that the UK response has been robust. Recently, at the UN, the Foreign Secretary and other Foreign Ministers met with senior Burmese representatives to urge an end to violence against the Rohingya people. The UK has been clear that international aid agencies, including the UN, must have full and unhindered humanitarian access to the region and has urged Burma to implement the Annan Commission recommendations. The violence must end and the Burmese government must protect the rights and freedoms of all people in Burma.

The UK is at the forefront of responding urgently to the plight of the Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh. We are the largest bilateral donor to the funds created to tackle the humanitarian crisis, and are meeting the needs of vulnerable men, women and children in both Bangladesh and Burma, supporting the provision of food for 65,000 of the most vulnerable people, of water for up to 26,000 and of vital medical care.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Kind regards,

Craig Whittaker MP