Emmaus Asia condemns the cruelty & human rights violation by Myanmar Government against Rohingya population

Serious human rights violation and cruelty is faced by the innocent Rohingya people by the hands of Myanmar’s autocratic Government. Rohingya have existed in Myanmar for centuries, but they were not considered to be one of the country’s 135 official ethnic groups. Since late 1970s, nearly one million Rohingya are estimated to have fled Myanmar. By 1982, a new citizenship law was passed that prevented Rohingya from easily accessing full citizenship, rendering many of them stateless.

With this perception of Rohingya as outsiders and illegal immigrants, in the last several months, the unarmed innocent Rohingya people have been mercilessly killed and have become the victim of systematic ethnic cleansing, forcing them to leave their own country. This is an act of systematic ethnic cleansing by Myanmar’s government to root them out of their homes. It has resulted into the mass exodus of more than 400,000 people. They have lost everything and are living in very inhuman difficult conditions as refugees in the eastern border of Bangladesh.

Freedom of movement is a fundamental right championed by the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights (articles 13 & 14). The forced denial of fundamental rights and human dignity is the crime to humanity, unacceptable to all of us. Being part of Emmaus movement, we strongly believe in human dignity, Right to live with self-respect, irrespective of any faith, caste, creed, and color. With pain, we witness the sheer violation of the fundamental human values, ‘Freedom of Movement’ by the Myanmar autocratic government. It has brought immense and unimaginable suffering to the poor minority Rohingya population.

Despite all the efforts made by United Nations, the situation still continue to be very serious. Thousands of Rohingya people are at risk of being wiped out completely by the cruel act of the autocratic government of Myanmar. Their inhuman actions have compelled them to migrate as helpless refugees to Bangladesh. The situation is extremely grim and pathetic. Thanks to Bangladeshi Government which has opened its borders, and extended its welcome & solidarity, by offering safety and shelter to suffering families.

Emmaus Asia strongly condemns the act of violence against the Rohingya people by Myanmar autocratic Government for their brutal act of ethnic cleansing and killing innocent people. Being a member of Emmaus movement, it is must that we all condemn the act of Myanmar’s Government, and take action to support the refugees by all possible means.

The planet Earth belongs to all. We are all equal, with one home – the world, and the entire humanity is one large family. Every human being has the right to move, not only within a state but within countries beyond borders and live with peace and dignity.

In Solidarity,

Moon Sharma
President (on behalf of Emmaus Asia)