



**ROAD TO THE HAGUE**

**ARMY OPERATIONS**

- On Aug 25, 2017, Rohingya militants attack police posts; a dozen officers killed
- Army operations begin in Rohingya villages
- UN says at least 1,000 died in the first two weeks of crackdown

**REFUGEE EXODUS**

- By Sept 5, 2017, more than **120,000** Rohingyas cross into Bangladesh, fleeing mass-killing, gang-rapes and arson

**POSSIBLE 'GENOCIDE'**



- Bangladesh, Myanmar on Nov 23 agree to start repatriation
- UN rights chief on Dec 5 warns of possible "elements of genocide", calls for int'l probe

**PROBE ANNOUNCED**

- On Sept 18, 2018, ICC announces preliminary probe into crimes against Rohingyas
- In November, attempt to repatriate **2,260** Rohingyas fails; they refuse to leave without guarantees of citizenship, safety

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# Protect Rohingyas from genocide

UN's top court in historic ruling asks Myanmar to take right steps, rejects Suu Kyi's arguments in genocide trial



AGENCIES

In a landmark ruling, the top court of the United Nations has ordered Myanmar to prevent acts of genocide against the country's persecuted Rohingya minority and to stop destroying evidence.

In a unanimously-ruled order issued by a panel of 17 judges, and read by presiding Judge Abdulqawi Ahmed Yusuf, the court yesterday upheld the provisions of the 1948 Genocide Convention - saying Myanmar had "caused irreparable damage to the rights of the Rohingya".

The Hague-based International Court of Justice rejected arguments made by Myanmar's civilian leader Aung San Suu Kyi in December and set out urgent steps for the majority Buddhist nation to end the violence.

In November, the Gambia filed a suit against Myanmar alleging it was committing "an ongoing genocide against its minority Muslim Rohingya population". It also asked the court to impose emergency measures following a 2017 military crackdown by Myanmar that sent around 740,000 Rohingyas fleeing into neighbouring Bangladesh.

UN investigators last year branded the bloody expulsion a genocide, and called for the prosecution of

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More than 7,50,000 Rohingyas took shelter in Bangladesh since August 2017. They joined 3,00,000 others from previous waves of violence in Myanmar.



"The court is of the opinion that the Rohingyas in Myanmar remain extremely vulnerable and needed to be protected from further bloodshed."

ABDULQAWI AHMED YUSUF  
PRESIDING JUDGE, ICJ

"Some Rohingya refugees may have exaggerated the extent of the abuses."

MYANMAR LEADER SUU KYI SAID BEFORE THE VERDICT



**THE GENOCIDE**



Following the August 25, 2017 attacks, rights violations and crimes in Myanmar reached a peak, with unlawful killings, rapes, and burning of villages on a large scale.  
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL



**UN COURT ORDERS**

1 Myanmar must take steps not to destroy or render inaccessible any evidence related to alleged genocide.

2 Myanmar must ensure that its military does not commit genocide or attempts to commit genocide or conspires to commit genocide.

3 The court not satisfied with Myanmar's efforts to facilitate the return of Rohingya refugees from Bangladesh, and to promote ethnic reconciliation, peace and stability in Rakhine State.

4 The court ordered Myanmar to report back within four months, and then every six months after that.

**'Justice partially served'**  
Rohingya activists hail ICJ ruling

PORIMOL PALMA

The Rohingyas have been facing persecution for decades. They have lived without citizenship and faced restrictions on freedom of movement. They have also been denied basic rights.

Many of them fled to Bangladesh or risked their lives to cross the seas to reach the shores of Malaysia and Indonesia,

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FOREIGN MINISTER AK ABDUL MOMEN

"It's a victory for humanity, a milestone for human rights activists, a victory for The Gambia, the OIC, the Rohingyas and of course, for Bangladesh."

**RE-RUN**

**Death came hissing thru' the air**

Survivors recount horror that unfolded in a Rohingya village

PINAKI ROY and MOHAMMAD ALI JINNAT

Hearing gunshots, Md Yunus realised that troops were closing in on their village. So he instantly ran towards a nearby hillock to hide with a belief that the military would target only young and grownup males.

But it was soon clear to his wife, Taslima Begum, that the army men were shooting at anyone and

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