**Arakan Rohingya National Organisation (ARNO)** 

Press release

11/10/2016

Rohingya civilians under attacks, demand urgent protection

Arakan Rohingya National Organization (ARNO) expresses its serious concern on the

ongoing police and military crackdowns on innocent Rohingya civilians in Maungdaw

Township following attacks by unidentified assailants on three separate police outposts in

Northern Arakn on Sunday 9 October.

Taking law into their own hands the police and army have turned North Arakan into a hell

for the Rohingyas making indiscriminate arrests, killing dozens of innocent villagers--

including an infant child, and a 13-year boy -- torching and plundering villages and homes,

torturing everyone they see, and violating the womenfolk. Due to curfew order and

imposition of blockade, the Rohingya in the area are facing acute shortage of food and

essentials. Around the clock sense of utter insecurity and abject helplessness are prevalent.

These military attacks on civilians are most grave and blatant violation of international law.

The fundamental principle of international humanitarian law has never permitted to target

civilians, other non-combatants, or civilian property for attacks as codified in the Geneva

Conventions, which Burma/Myanmar ratified in 1992. As such, Myanmar government and

military have to take responsibility for breach of its treaty obligation.

We, therefore, demand Myanmar government to ensure complete security of life, property

and dignity of the Rohingya people. In the meantime, we urge upon the UN with the

international community, OIC, USA, EU, ASEAN neighbouring Bangladesh and other

Myanmar's neighbours to intervene for the protection and peaceful living of Rohingya

minority in Myanmar.

For more details, please contact:

Ronnie: Mob: +44-7783118354

Ko Ko Linn: Mob: +880 1726068414

Email: info@rohingya.org

www.rohingya.org

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Our mailing address is:

Arakan Rohingya National Org. 24 Warwick Road London, 01 E12 6QP United Kingdom

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