



**Department of Sociology
University of Dhaka**

**Nationality crisis and Rights of Rohingya Refugee Children:
A Sociological Analysis of Children's Rights in Bangladesh**

**A thesis submitted in part fulfilment of the requirements for
the degree of Masters of Social Science.**

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Among Myanmar's ethnic minorities, the Rohingya are a stateless Muslim population from Northern Rakhine State, stand out for their particularly harsh treatment by Myanmar authorities and their invisibility as a persecuted minority. Despite decade of severe repression, there has been minimal international recognition to the needs of this extremely vulnerable population. This research paper on the issue of "Nationality Crisis and the Rights of the Rohingya Refugee Children: A sociological analysis of children's Rights in Bangladesh" is originated for the course advanced research thesis writing in response to partial fulfillment of the requirement of the degree of M.S.S. in Sociology from University of Dhaka. This study is conducted direct supervision of research guide. It has undergone all the research steps starting from the selection of the topic, formation of the research problem and preparing the research design during collection of information for the study. This study although might have limitations due to immaturity of thought and inexperience's in field research.

I am thanking the Department of Sociology to assign me to work with my supervisor. I am also grateful to the chairman of Department of Sociology and the members of academic committee of the department for approving the research proposal.

I would also like to thank the camp in-charge and staffs of the Nayapara Rohingya refugee camp for their cordial and humble support to facilitate my visit in the camp.

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ABSTRACT

The refugee population in South Asia constitutes roughly about 14 percent of the world's total refugees. The refugee flows are caused by a complex interaction of political, economic and social forces shaped by both indigenous condition and external pressures. Some refugees are tolerated or ignored; others are allowed to remain on humanitarian grounds. Some are stateless, denied the protection afforded by citizenship. Many are regarded by the host governments simply as illegal aliens. Bangladesh has a long story of hosting Rohingya from the Northern Rakhaine state of Myanmar. Presently, there are two Rohingya refugee camps in Bangladesh situated in Cox's Bazar. Registered Rohingyas are living in these camps. In addition, there are many unregistered Rohingyas who are living outside the camp illegally. Bangladesh is a developing country with huge population. It is very difficult to host this Rohingya population for a country like Bangladesh. The exodus of Rohingyas to Bangladesh is caused by existing racial conflict in Myanmar that snatches away their citizenship status. For this reason, they are taking refugee status in Bangladesh. They do not have any fixed identity as well as nationality both in host country (Bangladesh) and their country of origin (Myanmar). As a result, Rohingyas and their children are not having basic rights to live their livelihood. In this context, this study is an initiative to explore the nationality crisis and the violation of children's rights associated with this issue.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACF	Action Contre La Faim (Action Against Hunger)
BDRCS	Bangladesh Red Crescent Society
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
GOB	Government of Bangladesh
HI	Handicap International
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
IPD	In Patient Department
MOH	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
MSF	Médecins Sans Frontières
NGO	Non Governmental Organizations
OCHA	UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OPD	Out Patient Department
PHR	Physicians for Human Rights
RIB	Research Initiative Bangladesh
RMMRU	Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit
RRRC	Office of the Refugee and Repatriation Commissioner
RTMI	Research Training Management International
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
TAI	Technical Assistance Incorporated
UNFPA	United Nations Populations Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

VERC Village Education Research Centre

WFP World Food Program

WHO World Health Organization

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Chapter One Introduction

For many years, human societies across the world have established a close contact with one another. Recently an increasing interaction among people and countries has been noticed. The pace of integration increased dramatically due to the rapid changes in communication, transportation and telecommunication system. This globalization process also fosters the rate of international migration. People are moving from their country of origin to a foreign country for better opportunities and better standard of living. However the motivation for this movement has become more difficult to identify and categorize. People are leaving for employment or for existing unstable situation. Some people live like diaspora in their own country. The cases of Rohingya do not match with any of these categories. They are being forcibly migrated due to racial conflict in their country of birth. Rohingya are the ethnic and religious minority of Myanmar, who are being persecuted in their own country.



Figure 1: The Photo was taken when a Rohingya Muslim man along with his family fled Myanmar to Bangladesh to escape religious violence cries as he pleads from a boat after he and others were intercepted by Bangladeshi border authorities in Taknaf, Bangladesh, June 2013 evidently depicts 'boatpeople'.
[Source: *Word Press.com*]

Currently, more than 200000 Rohingya are living in Bangladesh both legally and illegally. Rohingya who are being registered by the camp authority in Bangladesh is defined as legal. On the other hand, illegal means who are not being registered by the authority of Bangladesh. Illegal Rohingya survive involving with illegitimate activities (*Ahmed, 2010*).

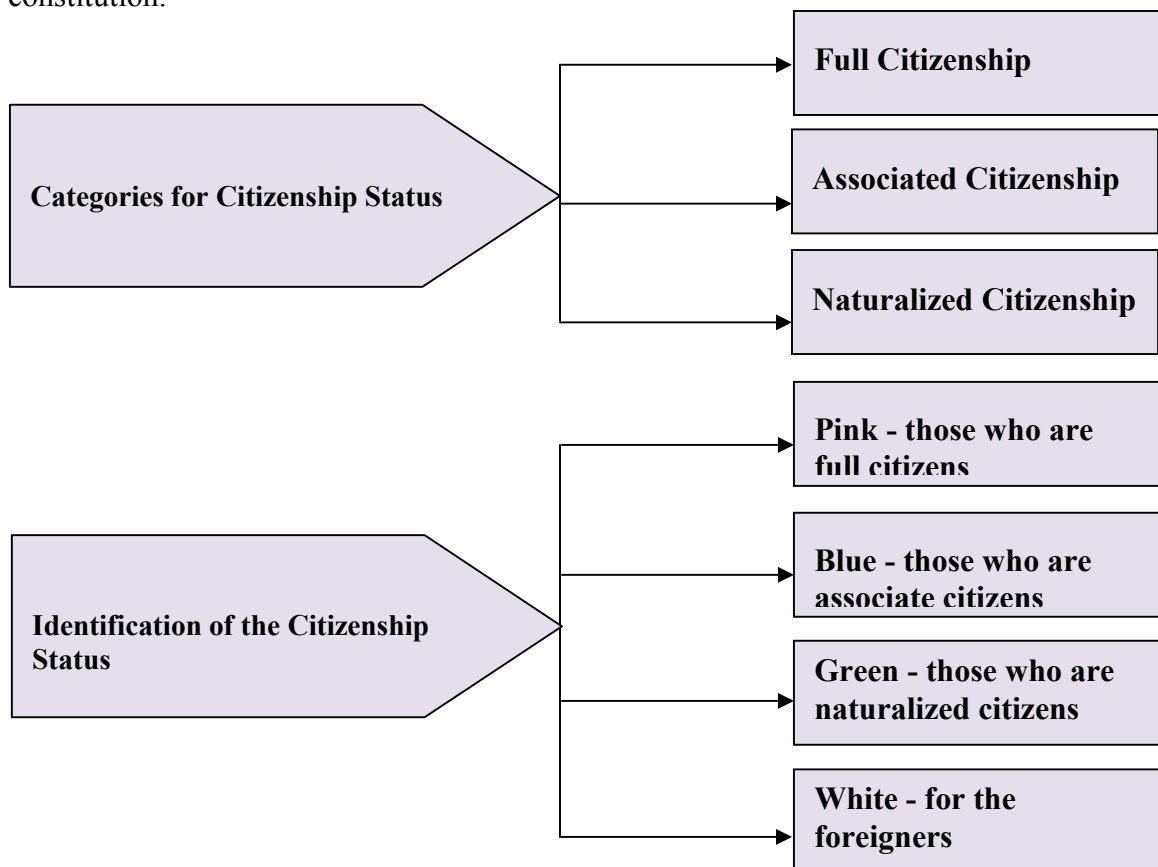
Among the Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh a significant number of children live in camps. Children constitute the half of the total population in the camps (UNHCR Report). These children are born stateless. They are being deprived from all the rights and opportunities from the Myanmar as their country of origin. Indeed, they are not getting enough opportunities and privileges in their host country either.

There have been significant researches in on the sufferings of the Rohingya and their socio-economic condition in the Bangladesh. However few researches focused on the nationality problem of the Rohingya refugees and the basic rights of their children. Therefore, this research tries to focus on the problem associated with the Rohingya identity and also on the rights of the Rohingya refugee children comparing it with the rights of the children of Bangladesh as their (Rohingya) host country.

1.1.1 Background of the study

1.1.1.1 Rohingya, the persecuted minority

The Rohingya are the Muslim minority group of Myanmar. They have been fled from Myanmar due to the operation Nega Min (Dragon King) to root out people who lived in Myanmar illegally. This operation resulted in violence, arrest, harassment and exodus to Bangladesh. The Government of Myanmar passed Citizenship Act in 1982, denied citizenship status to Rohingyas. Rohingya, the minority group of North Arakan state, became stateless and excluded from the all the rights provided by the Myanmar constitution.



[Source: Ahmed Imtiaz; “The Rohingya from Stateless to Refugees”]

In order to be a full citizen of the country, one must be able to provide evidence of the birth place and nationality of one's ancestors prior to the British annexation in 1823. A naturalized citizen is one who has a parent who has full citizenship right and one was an associate citizen. The Rohingyas did not fall under any of these four colors. For the Rohingya Muslim from Arakan state, becoming a registered citizen is almost impossible. Instead they were forcibly pushed into Bangladesh. As foreigners, they experience discrimination in many ways (*Human Rights Watch, 1997*).

1.1.1.2 Exodus to Bangladesh

Denial of citizenship rights in homeland, restrictions on freedom of movement, and economic opportunities are the main causes of Rohingya exodus to Bangladesh. Rohingya people have been subjected to systematic domination in Myanmar. They are being subjected to rape and sexual violence. Forced labor was used to repress this ethnic minority. Rohingya people in Myanmar do not have property rights because this right is only provided to the citizens of Myanmar [*Ahmed, 2010*].

As the Rohingya, in Myanmar do not have the citizenship rights, their children's do not have access to the state run schools beyond primary education. Government of Myanmar imposed financial coercion in the forms of extortion, arbitrary taxation and unfair penalties [*Ahmed 2010*].

Table 1.1.1.2.1: Forces behind the Rohingya Exodus

Deprivation of citizenship

Forced labor

Forced eviction and relocation

Deprivation of rights to education

Massive killing

Sexual harassment

Looting of properties

Breaking of mosques

Lack of religious freedom

[Source: *Ahmed, Imtiaz; "The Plight of the Stateless Rohingyas-Response of the State, Society & the International Community"; 2010.*]

1.1.2 Statement of the Problem

1.1.2.1 Nationality Crisis of Rohingya

Nationality crisis of Rohingya started right after they became stateless. It is a state of having no fixed place to live and no fixed identity. Nationality is a prerequisite to exercise economic, social and political rights. Without identity document many stateless people find it difficult to obtain political asylum. This is exactly what is happening with the Rohingya refugees. They have no fixed place for living, no fixed identity as a result they are deprived of social services and health care. They face problems in getting social

care but also deprived of civil and political rights (*Weissenbrodt and Collins; Human Rights Quarterly*). Myanmar deliberately sets difficult criteria for citizenship. Rohingyas do not have the right to participate in any political activity as they are not citizen of Myanmar. They cannot take part in any decision making process of the country.

In contrast, they live in Bangladesh as a burden. Bangladesh is a less developed country in the world map. It has a huge population with 40% of total population living below the poverty line. With its limited resources it is very difficult for Bangladesh to maintain the extra burden of the Rohingya refugees. Therefore, Bangladesh cannot provide social, medical and health care opportunities to the Rohingyas as well as their children. As a result, Rohingya refugees are suffering from nationality problems in the host country and also in their country of origin.

1.1.2.2 Rights of Rohingya Refugee Children

1.1.2.2.1 Rohingya Children in Myanmar

Children constitute the half of the total refugee population in a country (UNHCR Report). Children as a refugee require special care, guidance and protection. Children's are the most vulnerable refugee. Rohingya refugee children in Myanmar are being subjected to various forms of exclusion and discrimination (Forum-Asia, 2003).

1.1.2.2.2 **Right to a nationality**

Rohingya children are born stateless. The Rohingyas have been rendered stateless through the Citizenship Act of 1982, which states that citizens are those belonging to one of 135 “national races”, among which the Rohingyas do not feature or those whose ancestors settled in the country before 1823, the start of the British colonization of Rakhine State (*Lewa, 2003*).

Rohingya children discriminated against on the basis of their ethnicity from birth and are deprived of the rights inherent to citizenship. As a consequence of their statelessness Rohingya children face discrimination with regard to health, education and employment (*Lewa, 2003*).

1.1.2.2.3 **Right to be free from forced labour**

Rohingya children are subject to forced labour. Children are particularly affected by forced labour in Northern Rakhine State. Women are not allowed to participate in any income generation activities. Male adults earn the basic needs for the family. As a result, children have to bear the burden of forced labor (*Lewa, 2003*).

1.1.2.2.4 **Right to freedom of movement**

Rohingya children and their parents need permission to travel to another village. Rohingya children as well as their parents are subject to severe restriction of movement. They are virtually confined to their village tracts. They need to apply for a travel pass even to visit a neighbouring village (*Lewa, 2003*).

1.1.2.2.5 **Right to food**

Lack of proper food is another kind of discriminatory attitude towards Rohingya refugee children in Myanmar. Food insecurity is the direct consequence of the discriminatory policies and violation of human rights. As a result 60% of Rohingya children are suffering from chronic malnutrition in Myanmar (*Lewa, 2003*).

1.1.2.2.6 **Right to health**

Rohingya children face restrictions in reaching health services due to their lack of freedom of movement. Moreover, geographical and infrastructure constraints further reduce accessibility and some remote areas remain completely isolated during the rainy season (*Lewa, 2003*).

1.1.2.2.7 **Right to education**

Rohingya children are not allowed take higher education beyond primary education because they are not citizen of Myanmar. They are not allowed to join university on a full time basis. They can only study university level courses through distance education. However, Rohingya teachers, being denied citizenship cannot be employed as civil servants and are not allowed to teach in government schools (*Lewa, 2003*).

1.1.3 **Discriminatory Policy against Rohingya Children**

The government of Myanmar a discriminatory policy against the Rohingya ethnic group in the country's western Arakan state. It includes banning Rohingya children from

obtaining travel permits, attending school and, in the future, marrying (*Human Rights Watch, 2013*).

Children of Rohingya minority people do not have citizenship status in Arakan State. They often lack access to basic public services, including health, sanitation, and education (*Burma News International*).

Between 1991 and 1992, over 250,000 Rohingya refugees arrived in neighboring Bangladesh because of religious and political persecutions, and other human rights abuses in their homeland, such as forced labor, restrictions on movement, marriage, and education, as well as land confiscation, arbitrary arrest, and extortion (*Kaladan Press, 9 January, 2012*).

Up to 400,000 Rohingya are living as refugees in neighbouring Bangladesh. Various NGOs have described them as one of the world's most persecuted minority groups. Those that remain in Burma suffer persecution at the hands of government officials as well as from local Arakan communities, where anti-Muslim sentiments strong and many inhabitants consider them illegal immigrants (*Burma News International*).

Rohingya children are living as a prisoner in their own village. They cannot stay in the village if they are not included in their family list. Some parents still live in the village without registering their children but they hide them or they have to register their own children with other parents. Rohingya children cannot leave the confines of their village without travel documents (*Ahmed, 2010*).

The Burmese government justifies this treatment of the Rohingya on national security grounds. They are claiming that the policy is aimed at managing "illegal migration". There is a ban on Rohingya parents producing more than two children. It stems from

alleged "control on population growth", The Arakan Project says, and unauthorized marriages can result in a 10-year prison term. More than 40,000 Rohingya children have been left unregistered. Those who are not registered face severe difficulties accessing education and healthcare.

The government has mooted a programme of registering blacklisted children and adding them to population censuses, but progress has been slow.

1.1.4 Two-child limit for Rohingya couples

Myanmar western state of Rakhine has placed a two-child limit for Muslim Rohingya couples. It is a gross violation of fundamental human rights (*Lewa, 2013*). Human rights groups mentioned that the policy makes Myanmar the only country in the world to impose such a restriction on a religious group. This new two-child policy adds up to another violation of human rights (Human Rights watch).

Human Rights Watch has accused Rakhine authorities for this "ethnic cleansing" against the Rohingya Muslims. Thousands of Rohingyas are deprived of citizenship rights due to this discriminatory policy. It has denied the right of citizenship and made Rohingya refugees vulnerable. Therefore it leads to acts of violence and persecution, expulsion, and displacement (*Lewa, 2013*).

1.1.5 Children's Rights in Bangladesh

The constitution of Bangladesh guarantees a wide range of civil and political rights. These rights are considered as fundamental rights. These rights include equality before law, non-discrimination on grounds of race, caste, sex, or place of birth etc (*UPR Report,*

2012). Bangladesh has signed into the International convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in August 1990. Bangladesh has committed itself to respect, defend and promotes the rights of all Bangladeshi children (*Humanium-help the Children*).

There are over 60 million children in Bangladesh (*bangladesh.wvasiapacific.org*). The Constitution of Bangladesh has provisions relevant to children's rights in its directive principles of state policy [*Articles 15, 17 and 25(1)*], the fundamental rights [*Articles 27, 28(1) (2) (3) (4), 31, 32, and 39(1) (2)*], and the power of judicial review [*Articles 26(1) (2)*]. Articles 27, 28 and 31 of the constitution lay down the general principles regarding the protection of children from all forms of discrimination. The constitution in these articles provide that all citizens being equal before the law and being entitled to equal protection, must be treated in accordance with law without any discrimination (*Asian Human Rights Commission, 2012*).

1.1.6 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are:

First, to find out the reasons behind the nationality problem of the Rohingya refugee children in the camp;

Second, to focus on the children's rights in Bangladesh and compare it with the rights of Rohingya refugee children;

Third, to provide assistance to improve the difficulties related to the rights of the children in the camp.

1.1.7 Purpose of the Study

This study investigates the background to the Rohingya refugee exodus and tries to give an overview of the persecution in Myanmar, which continues to prompt displacement into Bangladesh. This study also describes the nationality crisis of Rohingya refugees and the children born and brought up in the refugee camps in Bangladesh. It examines the impacts of persecution on the rights of Rohingya refugee children. It also examines how displacement as refugees has impacted on children in following areas:

1.1.7.1 Physical Health

Physical health includes the nutritional status of the Rohingya children. It means the living condition of children in the refugee camps. It focus on the fact that in the camp environment children are not getting proper care for the well being of their physical health.

1.1.7.2 Psychological Condition

Proper care of emotion is one of the most important factors for the psychological well being of a person. But in the refugee camps, children are depriving from this opportunities. As a result, personality cannot build up and they are lagging behind in the decision making process.

1.1.8 Hypotheses of the Study

A hypothesis is a tentative explanation for certain behaviors, phenomena or events that have occurred or will occur. The hypothesis states the researcher's expectations

concerning the relationship between the variables in the research problem. The hypothesis is formulated following the review of related literature and prior to the execution of the study. The related literature leads the researcher to expect a certain relationship."A good hypothesis states as clearly and concisely as possible the expected relationship (or difference) between two variables and defines those variables in operational, measurable terms" (Gay 1996, page 62).

Hypothesis can be classified in terms of how they were derived:

- Inductive hypothesis - a generalization based on observation
- deductive hypothesis - derived from theory

Hypotheses can also be stated as:

- Research hypotheses
- Statistical hypotheses

In this study, research hypothesis has been used. Hypothesis of this study is given below:

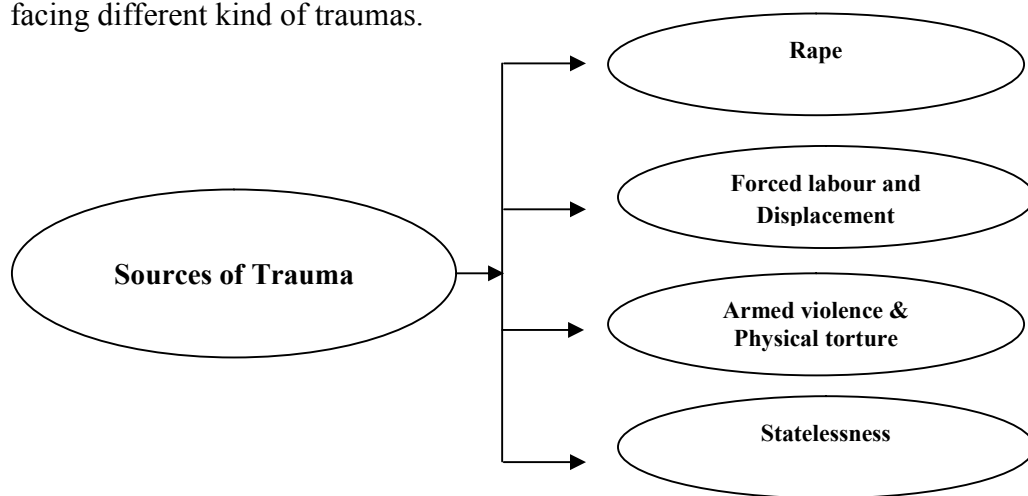
“It is hypothesized that Rohingya refugee children are not having basic rights from the home country (Myanmar) as well as host country (Bangladesh) due to their nationality problem”.

Chapter Two

Review of the Relevant Literature

Rohingyas, the persecuted minority of Myanmar, can be identified as “Asia’s new Palestine’s” (*Ahmed, 2010*). They deserve much significance. The year 2013 marks the 21st year for the Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh. The Rohingyas are both stateless and refugees. First, they become stateless in their homeland and then eventually they had to embrace the status of refugee hood under conditions of persecution, discrimination, and torture. The Government of Bangladesh had originally built 20 camps for Rohingya refugees in 1992. Currently, there are 2 camps for the Rohingya refugees in Cox’s Bazar. A number of literatures explore the nationality problem of the Rohingya Refugees and the rights of Rohingya refugee children’s in their refugee condition (*Ahmed, 2010*).

Refugees all over the world constantly face a reality where trauma, memory, and nationality capture a prominent place. Usually, more than half of any refugee populations are children. Refugee children are children first as children. They need special attention. As refugee, they are particularly at risk with the uncertainty (*Ahmed, 2010*). They are facing different kind of traumas.



[Source: *Ahmed Imtiaz; 'The Plight of the Stateless Rohingya', 2010; p-(43-44)*]

There is a correlation between trauma and memory. Memory is recalling, remembering, knowing, recollecting and having knowledge of a person's past (*Ahmed, 2010*). Gertz defines identification as “a social assertion of the self as being somebody in the world”(*Ahmed; 2010:47*). Space plays an important role on the construction of the identity or nationality of individual and a group. Rohingya living in Bangladesh is facing such problems. The Rohingyas are as much local as they are global, because they are persecuted in Bangladesh just like persecuted in Myanmar. A large number of Rohingya are not eligible to have Burmese nationality because of section (2) and (3) of the 1982 Burma Citizenship Law (*Ahmed, 2010*). Many people in Myanmar believe that Rohingyas are Bengali Muslims who migrated into Western Myanmar (formerly Burma) after 1948. This is also the official explanation of the Myanmar government by which they denies the citizenship rights to Rohingyas. As a result, they are showing a discriminatory attitude towards Rohingya Muslims in the country. They are forcing hundreds of thousands to take shelter in the neighboring country Bangladesh (*Global voice, 2013*).

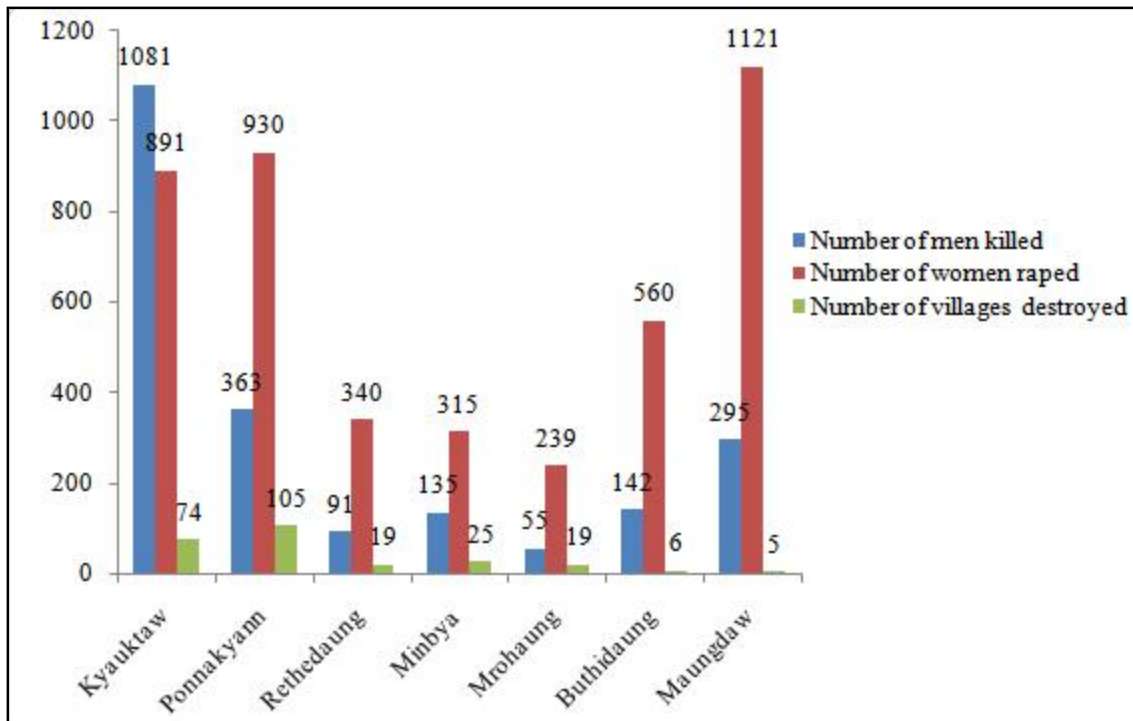


Figure 2: Summary of the Atrocities against Rohingya in Arakan, From 1978 to 1983
 [Source: Shwe Lu Maung, *Burma: Nationalism and Ideology – An Analysis of Society, Culture and Politics* (Dhaka: University Press Limited, 1989), pp.63-64]

Similarly, the Bangladesh government is refusing to protect Rohingya refugees who are facing serious human rights violations in their home country. Inter-communal violence which occurred in June in Burma's Rakhine State, forced thousands of Rohingya to cross the Naf River and enters into Bangladesh. Despite their obvious desperation, many of these refugees have been turned back by Bangladeshi authorities. The Refugees International (RI) team met with Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh who had suffered horrific experiences in Burma (<http://refugeesinternational.org>). There are approximately 28,000 Rohingya are living as recognized refugees in camps in southern Bangladesh. They are dependent on the UN and the international community. An estimated 200,000 other Rohingya are living illegally outside the camps. There were two waves of Rohingya

expulsions from Burma to Bangladesh: first occurred in 1978, and second in 1991-1992. Around 250,000 Rohingya crossed into the Chittagong area of Bangladesh (www.nationalityforall.org).

Bangladeshi government argues that it has no responsibility to protect refugees because it has not signed the United Nations Refugee Convention. Bangladesh law grants nationality to a person whose father or grandfather was born in the territories of Bangladesh and who was a permanent resident of such territories on 25 March 1971 and continues to reside there. The law also describes Bengalis who were in West Pakistan during the 1971 war and facing obstacles over returning to Bangladesh as permanent residents eligible for Bangladeshi citizenship.

Bangladeshi citizenship is provided primarily Jus Sanguinis. It means the citizenship that is occurred through bloodline and place of the birth. Therefore, any person who is born to a Bangladeshi woman illegitimately outside Bangladeshi land would still be a Bangladeshi citizen. However, a person born to a two non-nationals would not get Bangladeshi citizenship (*ko; 1990*).

Jus soli Citizenship is acquired at birth when the identity or nationalities of the parents are unknown. In this regard, the child is assumed to be born to Bangladeshi national(s), and hence, given citizenship upon birth (*ko; "1990*).

Naturalization is a process through which any adult of good character residing in Bangladesh for a period of five years, having resided in Bangladesh continuously for years can apply for naturalization. The person who is a citizen of a nation where Bangladeshis are not allowed to naturalize (for instance, Saudi Arabia) is not eligible for naturalization (*ko; 1990*).

Therefore, from the above categorization, it can be said that in Bangladesh, Rohingyas are on the brink of extinction. The prime concerns of Rohingyas are not to be eliminated. The most common identity of the Rohingyas is that they are an ethnic group from the Northern Rakhine State (formerly Arakan State) of Myanmar. Myanmar prohibits the use of the term 'Rohingya'. They (Myanmar) argue that it is the creation of Bengali insurgents. Myanmar deliberately sets different criteria for citizenship to go on with their cleansing efforts for Rohingyas in Arakan state. The government has placed boundaries within boundaries for Rohingyas. The government requires Rohingya villagers to obtain a travel permit from the chairman of the local Peace and Development Council to cross boundaries (*Ahmed, 2010*).

The Rohingya problems derived from widespread violations of human rights against Muslim Minority by the military junta in Myanmar. Therefore, it is causing massive influx to Bangladesh. Rohingyas became stateless without a legal nationality in 1962. However, such crossing into Bangladesh did not change their status here; in Bangladesh they are also facing various discriminations. [*British journal of Arts and Social science; 2012; [http: www.bjournal.co.uk/BJASS.aspx](http://www.bjournal.co.uk/BJASS.aspx).*].

Until 1936, Burma (Myanmar) was administered from New Delhi under the Governor General. Two of the northern districts of Arakan providence were under Chittagong division. There was no restriction on crossing from one area to the other. The Rohingya immigrants from Myanmar are mostly Muslim farmers and laborers from Rakhine region of Myanmar. They have taken shelter in the nearing towns like Teknaf-Cox's Bazar of Bangladesh. Rohingyas are very often considered as, 'illegal immigrants' and not included in national races of Myanmar. Along with this, the system of excessive unpaid

community labour, denial of nationality rights, arbitrary taxation and extortion, concept of model villages, forced relocation, restriction on freedom of movement and poor level of security appreciate their massive influx to Bangladesh [*Lema; April, 2000*].

Bangladesh has been relatively friendly in the past. Rohingyas look very similar to native Bengali people physically. Their language is similar to southeastern district of Bangladesh. Many have found a home in Bangladesh by utilizing their physical and linguistic similarities. They have married locally, found jobs and run businesses illegally (*Ahmed, 2009*). Recently, the local media has reported many unlawful activities allegedly committed by undocumented Rohingyas. These include that Rohingyas arrested in Middle Eastern countries with fake Bangladeshi passports. They are damaging the environment by forest encroachment, and are involved with militant groups and drug smuggling (*Ahmed, 2010*).

Usually, more than half of refugee populations are children (UNHCR Report, 1994). In order to improve and enhance the protection and care of refugee children, UNHCR has adopted a policy on Refugee Children, endorsed by the UNHCR Executive Committee in October 1993. Refugee children require special care and assistance. Refugee children face greater danger than the average children (*UNHCR, 1994*). Infants and young children are often the earliest and most frequent victims of violence, disease, and malnutrition which accompany population displacement and refugee outflows. In the aftermath of emergencies and in the search for solutions, the separation of families and familiar structures continue to affect adversely refugee children of all ages (*Human Rights Watch, 2000*). Thus, helping refugee children to meet their physical and social needs often means providing support to their families and communities. Protection of the

Rohingya refugees has often been overlooked simply because of the acute poverty of their host country. Bangladesh is one of the most aid-dependent countries in the world. The socio-economic indicators across the nation are overwhelmingly poor. Children under the age of 18 make up more than 50% of the officially recognized Rohingya population (*Human Rights Watch, 2000*). Children constitute very visible presence in the camps (*UNHCR, 1994*).

Adolescents for example, have completely different perspectives on their present situation and future than pre-teens. Because many of them are unable to remember a life in Myanmar before they became refugees. They are at a different stage of development with a variety of social pressures and protection issues. It set them completely apart from other age groups. The specificity of needs and vulnerabilities in terms of age and sex is the key to develop effective protection strategies. There has been very little effort in the camps to distinguish between these categories of children beyond the most obvious lines of gender. Children are generally perceived by their peers as ‘adults’ upon reaching the ages of 11-13, which is even confused by their recognition as ‘Child’ under the Convention on the Rights of the Child (*UNHCR, 1994*).

Furthermore Rohingyas are spending long period of time in Bangladesh as refugees. There is a growing tendency to view them as somehow distanced from the general children of Bangladesh. This is especially true in the case of the children who have been born in the camps and have grown up without experiencing the persecution that is still persists in many forms in their homeland (Myanmar). Yet these are just as much victims of conflict as those who bear the physical or mental scars, for their immediate environment, their childhood and in fact every aspect of their lives continue to be

constrained by the conflict in Burma and by their status as refugees. Their existence is characterized by emergency rations, restricted movement, and limited access to facilities, all of which have arguably disrupted their lives to a greater extent than if they had remained in Burma.

Rohingya children, who continue to be born in both Burma and Bangladesh, as stateless and without citizenship has a serious consequences. In order to attain Burmese citizenship, at least one parent must already be a citizen themselves (*Human Rights Watch, 1 January, 1997*). The separation of the Rohingya by the international community and by Burmese groups has led to an overall lack of support for twenty years. This has led to severe illiteracy and an overall lack of education, substandard health and miserable living conditions. There are few options for a productive future. It is striking how many Rohingya told RI, “My life is over. All I want is for my children to have a chance at a better life.” Two generations of the Rohingya have said this. The vast majority of their community suffers the same neglect and lack of opportunity that their parents faced (<http://refugeesinternational.org>).

The UN, donor countries, and above all countries in South and Southeast Asia, started to address the plight of all Burmese refugees. There must also be an acknowledgement that the Rohingya, like other Burmese refugees, will continue to live in a state of protracted exile (*Abrar, RMMRU publications*).

In relation to the Millennium Development Goals, Bangladesh has some distance to go to meet these targets with respect to children. Almost half the populations of children fewer than five years are underweight. While the net primary school enrolment rate is 94%, only 65% of children complete the fifth grade, and the youth literacy rate is 63%.

Children and adolescents (under the age of 18) comprise 56% of the total refugee population in the camps. A relatively significant number of them (2,461 as of January 2007) are not registered. Because, they were born after the 1992 registration or born to unregistered parents who are living in the camps. Although recently profiled by UNHCR, these children have not yet been formally recognized by the Government of Bangladesh. It is a significant hardship because children who are not in the family book are not eligible for food rations, health care or education services. Families therefore have to seek for further resources. These insufficient foods have resulted in relatively high levels of malnutrition among the children (*UNHCR, 2007*).

There are only a limited number of sports and cultural activities for children have been organized in the camps and these only from time to time. At present, there are no specific services available to refugee children with special needs or disabilities. With regards to cases of sexual exploitation of children, there have been reports and cases of refugee minors (females) being harassed, abused or raped by local villagers. These cases are being taken up and charges pursued by the refugee parents with the help of UNHCR, BLAST [Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust] and the RRRC Office [Office of the Refugee and Repatriation Commissioner]. Unfortunately no training is provided to workers who deal with children in the refugee camps (*UNHCR, 2007*).

A survey found that out of 508 children of under 5 years of age, 65% were anemic and therefore, chronically malnourished (*UNHCR, 2007*). The global acute malnutrition rate was 12.8% for children between 6–59 months. While it is believed that the situation has improved in the last two years. Current indications are that malnutrition is relatively high. Another factor contributing to the relatively high incidence of malnutrition is the lack of

access to food distribution of some 5,000 persons living in the camps who are not registered, including a large number of children and newborns. Those who are registered share their food rations with those who are not registered. It reduces the calorific intake of the population as a whole. An outreach programme has been initiated for home visits to identify malnourished children. The programme is severely limited because of the absence of qualified nutritionists (*UNHCR, 2007*).

There are various communicable diseases in the camps. Among the most common diseases in the camps are associated with overcrowded, poor sanitation and insufficient personal hygiene. These include respiratory problems, skin infections, diarrhoea, dysentery, and malaria. It also reflects a need to focus more on health activities than on prevention. Dental care has been absent in the camps. Altogether it is causing problems for the vast majority of refugees (*UNHCR, 2007*). Refugee children are prohibited from having formal education within or outside the camps. Education is therefore provided informally for elementary education (kindergarten – grade 6). The teachers are refugee volunteers who have received some basic and ongoing training from TAI [Technical Assistance Incorporated]. Classes run for two hours a day. Classes are based on the Myanmar curriculum focusing on Burmese, English and Mathematics. The fact that many children are not adequately learning. The absence of lighting is also responsible as children are unable to study at night (*UNHCR, 2007*).

Rohingya refugees left for Bangladesh in search for protection. However, Bangladesh fails to provide sufficient protection to them as well as their children. Their presence in Bangladesh has created a security dilemma for the host country. They hardly received any protection while in Bangladesh. Rohingya crisis is no longer a simple humanitarian

tragedy. It is a potential threat to Bangladesh's internal stability. In short, while Rohingya refugee and their children in camps live in serious deprivations in all areas of their lives. We can only imagine how much worse these conditions are for Rohingya children living outside the camps. Many do not have refugee status and are often regarded as "economic migrants" (*Ullah, 2011*).

In May 2008, UNHCR announced that the Bangladeshi government would co-operate with its proposal to repatriate thousands of refugees from Myanmar. UNHCR proposed to go for a tripartite agreement with the governments of Myanmar and Bangladesh to resolve the Rohingya refugee issue. However, the proposal was condemned by Rohingya and Arakan activists. Human rights organizations reported almost slave-like conditions for Rohingyas living in Arakan, They are subjected to restrictions on their freedom of movement, have had their land confiscated and endure forced labour and arbitrary taxation (*UNHCR, 2008*).

Rohingya children live in a difficult environment where there are limited resources for all Bangladeshi children, let alone them. Rohingya refugee children born in recent years are likely to be the offspring of adults who lived in similar circumstances as children, on one hand demonstrating human resilience and on the other a legacy of deprivation. Protracted refugee situations that engulf succeeding generations without any durable solutions for resettlement and/or integration clearly signal a neglected emergency. Bangladesh's incapacity to successfully host the Rohingya refugees on one hand and the reluctance of Myanmar's authorities to reintegrate them on the other hand, condemn Rohingya's children both inside and outside refugee camps to be vulnerable to extreme deprivation and exploitation, and very limited access to basic resources with dire consequences for

their survival (*The Impact of neglected emergencies on Children; World Vision Project 2009*).

The Muslim Rohingya crisis has been disrupting the bilateral relations between Myanmar and Bangladesh since the late 1970s. This paper tries to explore the crisis of Rohingya as a Muslim minority in Myanmar and their forced migration to Bangladesh. The Rohingya problem is seen as composed of various clusters of past and present human rights violations in Myanmar. It has caused their forced migration to neighboring countries like Bangladesh. Bilateral negotiations between Bangladesh and Myanmar can eventually bring about a durable solution to the Rohingya problems in Bangladesh-Myanmar relations (*Information on the situation of Rohingya refugees, 28 March 2001*).

Chapter Three

Theoretical Framework

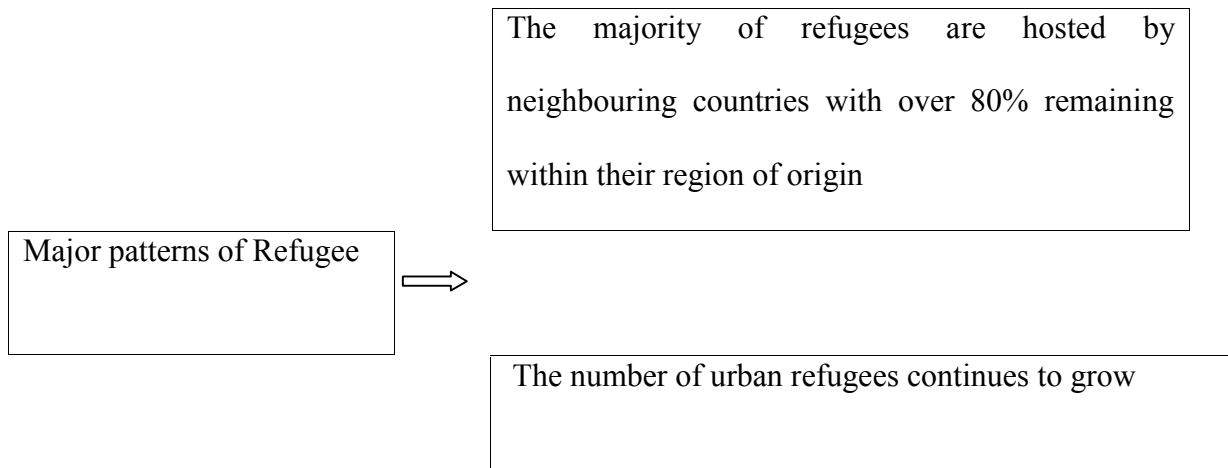
In the introduction of this thesis, there is an investigation on the nationality crisis and the rights of the Rohingya refugee children in the context of Bangladesh. This framework is interdisciplinary. It has paradigms from anthropology, geography and Sociology.

Refugees are considered as transnational actors, such as aliens or migrants. They challenge the prevalent norms of belonging based on citizenship established by the state. The membership rights of citizens are based on attributes such as birth, residence, and marriage. It deliberately excludes non-citizens. In India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, the state-formation shaped the nature of citizenship rights. The state allocated and legalized “belonging” by providing social, economic and political rights to the members of the state. This paper examines the theoretical construction of state-formation to citizenship rights (*Chowdhury, 2012*).

Bangladesh hosts Rohingya refugees in two camps of kutupalong and Nayapara in its southern Cox’s Bazar district. The Government of Bangladesh had originally built 20 camps for Rohingya refugees in 1992. But currently there are 2 camps for the Rohingya refugees. There are various forms of discrimination against the Rohingya refugees. They are restricted to move outside the camps. There are many young children (39% of total population was born in the camp) who know no other words than its boundaries. Being depriving from basic human needs in their life, they are surviving in conditions of utmost deprivation and insecurity (*Ahmed, 2010*).

3.1.1 Refugee

Refugee, by definition, are those fleeing from war, conflict, persecution or a fear of persecution (Abrar,1999;Amal-ud-dollah,1999;Barky,2000;Robinson & Segrott,2002) that act in the decision to escape (Middleton,2005,p-2;Smith,1991). Refugee flows, asylum seekers, internal displaces and development induced displaces have increased exponentially since the end of cold war (Castles, 2003).



[Source: Ullah, 2011; p-140]

The 1951 Refugee Convention established UNHCR. It spells out that a refugee is someone who "owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality, and is unable to, or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country."

Since then, UNHCR has offered protection and assistance to tens of millions of refugees, finding durable solutions for many of them. Global migration patterns have become increasingly complex in modern times, involving not just refugees, but also millions of economic migrants. But refugees and migrants, even if they often travel in the same way,

are fundamentally different, and for that reason are treated very differently under modern international law (*Refugee Children: Guidelines on Protection and Care: UNHCR*).

Migrants, especially economic migrants, choose to move in order to improve the future prospects of themselves and their families. Refugees have to move if they are to save their lives or preserve their freedom. They have no protection from their own state. Indeed, it is often their own government that is threatening to persecute them. If other countries do not let them in, and do not help them once they are in, then they may be condemning them to death - or to an intolerable life in the shadows, without sustenance and without rights (*Ahmed, 2010*).

Rohingya refugees are being deprived from nationality rights and basic human needs in their country of origin (Myanmar) and host Country Bangladesh. As a result of their persecution they are suffering from various forms of discrimination in their country of settlement.

3.1.2 Determinants of “Belonging” in Exile and “Home” in Refugee Narratives

The notion of “belonging” within a state is determined by membership. Citizens belonging to a territory are politically accepted and are considered legal members of the state. These rights of citizenship are granted either on the basis of birth or domicile or marriage. The countries of asylum and origin determine the nature of rights of refugees and other individuals who live within a particular demarcated territory. The spheres of inclusion/ exclusion of rights are thus determined by the state. In search of recognition, refugees are faced with a dilemma regarding their decision to continue to reside in exile or to repatriate “home” (*Chowdhury, 2012*).

However, non-citizens can also make claims to belonging. There exists a correlation between the identities of people residing within a territory and the sense of belonging they derive from it. The sense of belonging depends on a perceived sense of attachment to a certain land and the resulting identity. Soguk asserts, refugees or “moving people” tend to “transgress political or cultural borders” and seek to “reaffirm” the proposed boundaries of belonging. In contrast to statist rules of belonging, migration empowers those who move as they challenge the government’s ability to impose “difference” by patrolling the “dynamics of bodies” at the borders (*Soguk, 1999*).

3.1.3 Nationality

Nationality refers to the country of citizenship. Nationality is sometimes used to mean ethnicity, although the two are technically different. People can share the same nationality but be of different ethnic groups and people who share an ethnic identity can be of different nationalities.

3.1.4 Culture of Identity in Refugee Narratives

Cultural identity is own sense of culture. It is important to know who we are. It also refers to the traditions, customs, and practices that affect a person. Stuart Hall addresses the issues of identity, cultural practices, and cultural production. He discusses two ways of reflecting on cultural identity.

Firstly, identity understood as a collective, shared history among individuals affiliated by race or ethnicity that is considered to be fixed or stable. According to this understanding our cultural identity reflects the common historical experiences and shared cultural codes

which provide us as “one people.” This is known as the oneness of cultural identity, beneath the shifting divisions and changes of our actual history

Stuart Hall also explores a second form of cultural identity. This cultural identity refers to “what they really are”, or rather “what they have become” (*Hall.Stuart; “Cultural identity and Diaspora”*).

From these, it can be said that Rohingya refugees are lacking both. They have no fixed identity and therefore no nationality in turn, as they are not belonging to any culture.

3.1.5 Social Identity Theory

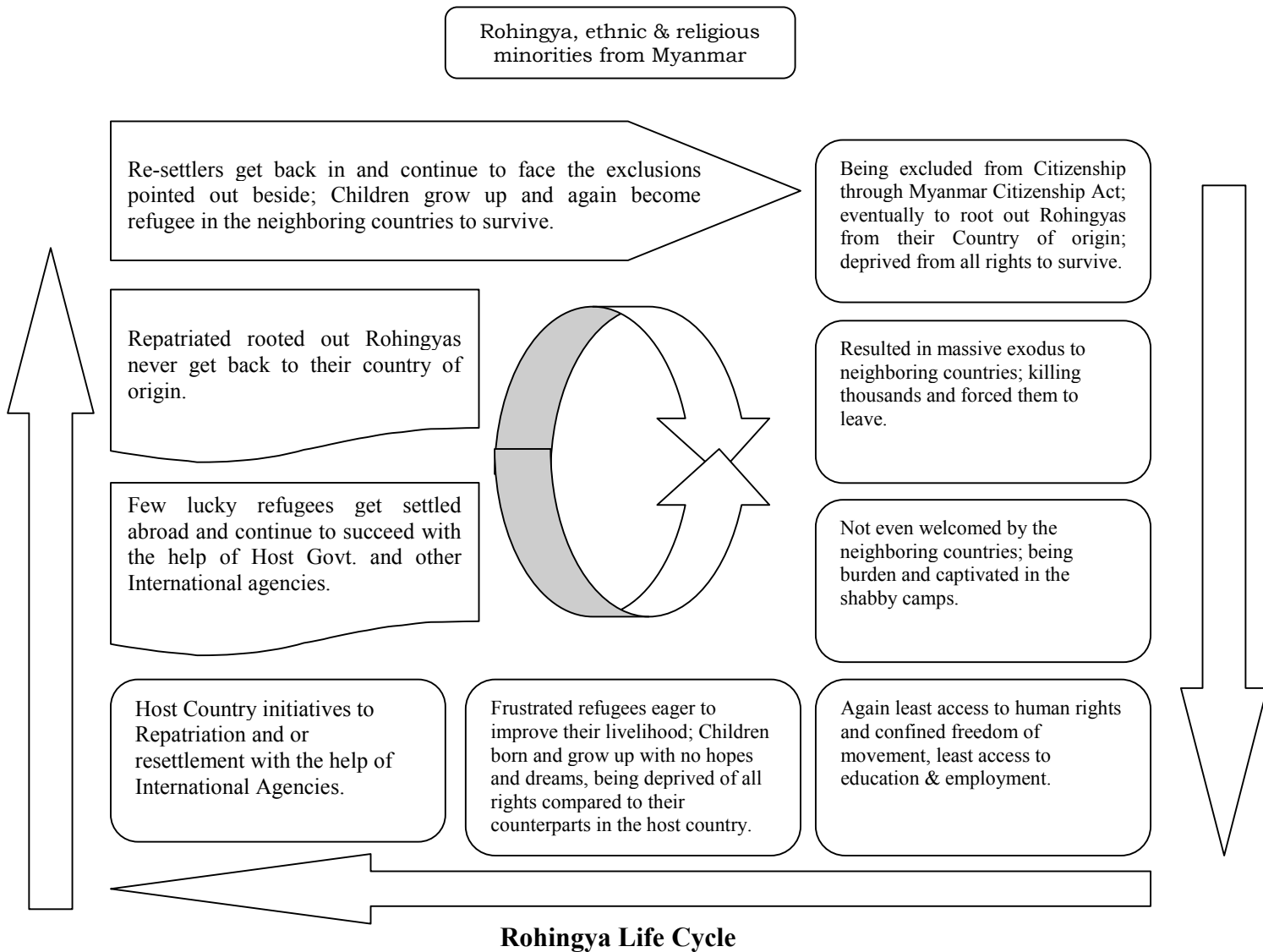
In social identity theory and identity theory, the self is reflexive. It can take itself as an object and categorize, classify or name itself in particular ways. It is the process through which self-categorization or identification, an identity is formed (*Turner, Hogg, Oakes, Reicher and Wetherell 1987*).

In the Social Identity Theory, a person has not one, “personal self”, but rather several selves that correspond to widening circles of group membership. Different social contexts may appreciate an individual to think, feel and act on the basis of his personal, family or national “level of self” (Turner et al, 1987). Apart from the “level of self”, an individual has multiple “social identities”. Social identity is the individual’s self-concept derived from perceived membership of social groups (Hogg & Vaughan, 2002). In other words, it is an individual-based perception of what defines the “us” associated with any internalized group membership. This can be distinguished from the notion of personal identity which refers to self-knowledge that derives from the individual’s unique attributes (*Stets. Jan E;Burke. Peter J; “Identity Theory and social Identity Theory; Vol.63.No.3, 2000*).

Prejudiced views between cultures may result in racism; in its extreme forms, racism may result in genocide (Chowdhury, 2012). This is exactly what is happening with the Rohingya refugees. They are persecuted in Myanmar as well as are deprived from basic rights in their host country Bangladesh.

3.1.6 Conceptual Framework

Conceptual framework means relate one concept with the other. When we talk about conceptual framework we should identify the independent and dependent variable.



This research has delved into the fact that Rohingya minorities have historically been excluded from the mainstream. Exclusions acted as humiliation, which entailed a number of variables such as prejudice, discrimination, stigmatization, derision, and deprivation. Humiliation toward this community reached an extent that it went beyond the level of tolerance. Not that the international community has been unaware of this pattern of systematic brutality, however the tyrannical government never paid any heed to the encouragement from the international community to uphold human rights. Thus, human rights violations continued on the highest magnitude. On the practical side, Bangladesh might not welcome this mass exodus, however it showed respect to the Geneva Convention and tried to provide protection with the assistance of the UNHCR; obviously it was entirely insufficient. This is where the main argument lays that life before and after was not too much different. However, the exorcism from state sponsored brutality was their complacency. This means that two distinctive features in Arakan and in Teknaf: in Arakan there is state-sponsored persecution to cleanse ethnic minorities, and in Bangladesh state there is the inability to provide necessary protection.

Life of Rohingya refugees can be drawn as a systematic cycle of deprivation throughout their life. Being excluded from their rights as citizen/resident in their native Myanmar, they flee away from their country of origin to the neighboring countries i.e., Bangladesh, Malaysia, Thailand, etc. Even in the recent exodus in 2012, thousand of Rohingyas fled to Bangladesh as they were forced to leave Myanmar and Bangladesh neither welcomed them as it was still drowned with numerous internal scarcities. Other than registered Rohingyas in two refugee camps in Nayapara and Kutupalong, there are thousands of

other refugees living outside the camps with no human rights and their presence as unwanted guests makes the living condition hazardous for natives (Ullah, 2011).

Limited humanitarian access continues to have an adverse effect on the lives of hundreds of thousands of Rohingya refugees in southeastern Bangladesh. Aid workers and activists say Rohingya communities fear that what little support they have might disappear as a result of threats made by the Bangladeshi government to further limit humanitarian activities. According to the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), there are more than 200,000 Rohingyas in Bangladesh, of whom only 30,000 are documented and living in two government camps assisted by the agency, both within 2km of Myanmar. The vast majority live in informal settlements or towns and cities with scant or no assistance. UNHCR is only allowed to assist those who registered before 1992, when the process was discontinued by the government, leaving most Rohingya undocumented. This leaves the hundreds of thousands who arrived subsequently in Bangladesh without access to documentation or registration, and living in what Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) describes as “deplorable conditions,” in their latest activity report. Assistance for the Rohingya has been precarious for some time. In July 2012, the Bangladesh government ordered three prominent international NGOs - MSF, Action Contre la Faim (ACF), and Muslim Aid - to cease aid to the Rohingyas in and around Cox’s Bazar, sparking renewed concern about the deteriorating situation, including increased levels of malnutrition and an environment rife with abuse and impunity (<http://www.irinnews.org/report/99157/analysis-how-bangladesh-aid-restrictions-impact-rohingyas>).

Bangladesh has long insisted that the presence of humanitarian aid organizations in Rohingya communities creates a “pull factor” for other Rohingya to enter the country. It has blamed bouts of sectarian violence between Muslims and Buddhists in Bangladesh on the persecuted minority from Myanmar and has restricted their movement.

More than 176,000 people are now in need across the frontier in Myanmar, following two bouts of inter-communal violence between Buddhist ethnic Rakhine residents and Muslim Rohingyas in Rakhine State in June and October 2012, which left 167 people dead and more than 10,000 homes and buildings destroyed, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reported.

In Myanmar, 140,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs), mostly Rohingya Muslims, are living in more than 70 camps and camp-like settings, with another 36,000 vulnerable people living in 113 isolated and remote host communities in Minbya, Myebon, Pauktaw, Mrauk-U, Kyauktaw, and Sittwe in Rakhine State.

Falling health indicators

In 2010, Physicians for Human Rights (PHR), a US-based human rights organization, found that acute malnutrition rates in children under the age of five were above 18 percent in some unregistered Rohingya settlements in Bangladesh, exceeding the “critical” 15 percent threshold set by the World Health Organization (WHO) (Human Rights Watch, 2010).

According to Refugees International, a UK-based advocacy organization, in 2013 malnutrition rates in one unofficial camp were double the emergency threshold, with 30 percent of the camp population malnourished. But without a proper account as to how many Rohingya are actually in the country, it is difficult to move forward. A few organizations operate in both registered and unregistered camps: ACF works to address malnutrition and sanitation, but aid restrictions hamper wider assistance (Ullah, 2011).

Current scenario in the Refugee camps:

Violence against women a major concern

Violence against women has been increasing over the years as the number of unregistered refugees is increasing. Recent violence against women and children proves that without registration or any legal status in Bangladesh, refugees who fall victim to such violence have no legal recourse and that has raised serious violation of human rights against the refugees who find no way to escape but to accept.

Desperate situations call for desperate measures

Without food aid, unregistered people are forced into illegal activities to survive. Refugees have latrines and water but they also need housing and food. As things are not easy to get, they have to go find work to pay for it. The UNHCR released a statement saying that “people [living outside the official camp] have found informal ways to survive without government or UNHCR support.”

Restrictions on Humanitarian Agencies

Critics say the sheer number of Rohingyas in Bangladesh signals a failed humanitarian effort, with an "embarrassing gap between the numbers in-country, and those officially recognized by the UN agency responsible for protecting them, and the host government.

A 2011 review of UNHCR's work with the Rohingya in Bangladesh said the agency had been unable "to develop an effective advocacy strategy" for the rights of the hundreds of thousands of unregistered Rohingya residing in "emergency-like conditions" in makeshift sites. Rohingya refugees are going through humiliation and exploitations in the camps and makeshift sites. After recent exodus of refugees from Myanmar to Bangladesh, In June, 2013, Bangladesh Government has been trying to restart a long-delayed voluntary repatriation program for Rohingya Muslim refugees living in the country which Myanmar approved on principle. Bangladesh has been pushing for a resumption of the program since Myanmar refused to extend the original agreement past 2005. The process stopped completely in July 2005 after the Myanmar government refused to extend the deadline continuing to block some repatriation efforts. Plans to restart it in 2009 were stalled after about 9000 refugees cleared for repatriation refused to return(<http://www.irinnews.org/report/99157/analysis-how-bangladesh-aid-restrictions-impact-rohingyas>).

Myanmar has always refused to recognize the Rohingya as an ethnic group, calling them Bengalis that implies they are illegal immigrants from Bangladesh and arrived during or after British occupation. Bangladesh also refuses to recognize the term and objected when being interviewed, insisting they be called "undocumented Myanmar nationals" (Uddin, 2012).

Rohingyas on the other hand are willing to go back to Arakan state if they get their appropriate rights like other ethnic groups. They consider living in the camp as living in a big jail and demand for a durable solution. Forcing Rohingyas to go back to Myanmar would increase collapse of all human rights and let them die in uncertainties. Rohingyas never got their return welcomed by their country of origin and the problem that still remains with the Myanmar authority to pull them out again through the man made chaos and massacres. Even if few Rohingyas were forced to return to their country of origin, they were uprooted again through the recent massacres in past few years which let them the most ill-fated people on earth.

3.1.7 Sociological perspective of Refugee Children's Rights in Bangladesh

3.1.7.1 Cultural values

Culture determines the norms and values of a society. This includes a society's approach to the raising of its children. Each society has particular rule and regulations to take care of their children. Culture is not static. It is continuously changing. But a refugee movement can disrupt each and every aspect of culture. So the role of Rohingya children's changes by taking refugee status in Bangladesh. Language, customs and religious practices are also being disturbed in this situation (UNHCR, 1994).

3.1.7.2 Refugee Experience

Refugee means the changes in the roles and statuses of a person. Children in particular can be affected seriously through this changing process. It has an extreme emotional affect on the children (UNHCR, 1994).

3.1.7.3 Recreation

Traditional music, dance and other arts are important representation of a culture. Such activity plays an important role in restoring and maintaining social cohesion (UNHCR, 1994).

3.1.7.4 Right to Participate

There is a link between right to participate and psychological well-being. In refugee condition children don't have the right to participate in any kind of decision making process. As a result they become distressed and it affects their mental health (UNHCR, 1994).

3.1.7.5 Camp Environment

Rohingya children in Bangladesh are living in a little shabby camp. There are no proper opportunities for safe drinking water, sanitation and health care. On the other hand, it is an artificial environment where the children are growing up. This is especially for those who are born in the camp and spent their entire lives there (UNHCR, 1994).

3.1.7.6 Family Support

The best way to provide physical and psychological well being to the Rohingya children is through the family. A family is the basic social institution from which children can get proper learning of tradition, norm and values (UNHCR, 1994).

3.1.7.7 Support Groups

The creation of support groups may help Rohingya children to talk about their problem and acute suffering that they are facing while living in the camps (UNHCR, 1994).

Chapter Four

Methodology

Nationality crisis is a big problem for persecuted Rohingya minority of Myanmar who are now residing in Bangladesh. This research focuses on the nationality crisis and rights of the Rohingya refugee children. Proper methodology is required for reliable research work. Quantitative research method has been used in this research. In order to find out the facts involved in this topic certain steps have been taken in this research study. These steps are the following:

4.1.1 Selection of the Site

For the objectives of the research, site selection is necessary. This research mainly focuses on Rohingya as refugee and tries to find out their problems. There are two camps in Bangladesh for registered Rohingya. These camps are situated in Teknaf and Ukhiya, in Cox's Bazar. One is Kutupalong refugee camp and the other is Nayapara refugee camp. There are many legal (registered) and illegal (un-registered) Rohingya refugees are living in camps and outside the camp. Among this one refugee camp (registered Rohingya refugee) has been chosen for gathered data based on research topic.

4.1.2 Sampling

Random sampling procedure has been followed in this study. Nayapara refugee camp is the main sampling site in this research.

In this research random sampling procedure has been used. Because Nayapara refugee camp is consist with area of 3.234 sq. km. There are 3067 refugee families with 18,378

refugee persons. So it is very difficult to cover up all the persons in a short period of data collection. For this reason random sampling is used. Sample has been chosen from every after five sheds to cover 562 sheds in the camp. A total of 100 refugees have been interviewed for collecting data.

Number of Refugee Shed(s)	Covered Number of Shed(s)	Random Sampling
562	100	Every 5 Sheds

4.1.3 Data Collection Instrument

In this research, the main focus is on the nationality crisis and the rights of Rohingya refugee children. Questionnaire is used for collecting data from the respondent. Questionnaire contains both open-ended and close-ended questions. There are also some unstructured questions to respondents.

4.1.4 Pretest

Pretest is a small trial run of a researcher in which researcher check out whether the procedures and methods that have been used will actually work (Walsh, 1996). The aim of this research is to use a research instrument which would collect information as much as possible without disturbing respondents. Pretest is needed to understand the weakness of questionnaire. The pretest should be conducted in the same manner as the final study. After this pretest some questions have been reviewed and edited and a final draft of questionnaire made to conduct the final survey.

4.1.5 Negotiation and Gaining Access

The site of this research is located in a rural area and all the respondents were Rohingya. It was not too much easy to communicate with them and to gain access to their houses. They speak not too much. In order to communicate with them interpreter has been employed. In the start of negotiation, the objective of research project has been explained very clearly and honestly to each of the respondents. Finally, respondents were requested to participate in interview.

4.1.6 Preparation for the data collection

Interview schedule were prepared in order to facilitate the data collection from the field. On the basis of the knowledge and information from the relevant literature interview schedule was prepared. On the basis of the field test and modification from the supervisors and senior professors the schedule was finalized.

4.1.7 Data Preparation and Analysis of Data

Analysis of field data means coding and interpreting the data. Data entry means the act of entering data that has been collected from the respondent. As there are both open-ended and close-ended questions in questionnaire coding method has been used for entering close-ended questions. Close-ended questions contains different category of responses from which respondents choose the best one match with their problem. Code such as 1, 2, and 3...has been used for entering data. SPSS (version 19) has been used for entering data from close -ended questions.

4.1.8 Interpretation of Collected Data

In this research there are two types of interpretation for collected data. These are detailed interpretation and graphical interpretation. Detailed interpretation has been used to describe data those are open-ended. That means those data does not fall into any fixed category. It includes the opinion of the respondent for solving the problem. Graphical data has been used for close-ended questions. Bar chart, pie chart and line chart has been used for describing graphical representation of close-ended questions.

4.1.9 Reliability and Validity

Reliability and validity are central issues in all scientific measurement. Both concern how concrete measures or indicators, are developed for constructs. Perfect reliability and validity are virtually impossible to achieve in social research. Therefore, to confirm reliability and validity some ideals have been followed. They are:

- There are clear operational definitions of different important terms needed for this research.
- The questionnaire of the study consisted of selected questions, which limits the responses to those necessary for the purpose of this study.
- A fixed measurement tool or questionnaire has been selected to examine the research objective.

By following the above procedure it has been tried to keep the measurement of this research as much as valid and reliable.

4.1.10 Ethical Consideration

Ethical issues are more important in any research. In this research, respondent's participation was voluntary. All information has been collected according to the answer of respondents. No data has been edited or manipulated.

4.1.11 Limitations of the Study

There are several limitations in this study. Those are described below:

- Sample size was small because of lack of time, budget and political unrest.
- Only elder members of the camp were interviewed, children's were not interviewed because of lack of time.
- Questionnaire was small and much information was not possible to seek out because of lack of time.

Chapter five

Data Presentation, Analysis & Testing

This Research on the Nationality crisis and the rights of Rohingya refugee children entails the real scenario in the refugee camp. A comprehensive survey was conducted in Nayapara Rohingya Camp, a remote location quite distant from the Port Cox's Bazar. Out of 3,067 families living in near about 562 sheds, 100 respondents covering almost all families in the refugee camp participated in the survey. This research aims to measure the significance of all levels of data collected in the survey to find out the refugees' various problems, crisis and struggling arose from their statelessness, violence against children and their expected rights to count to ensure survival and better future as well.

5.1.1 The Rohingya Refugees in Bangladesh

In 1992, refugees from Myanmar (Burma) braved the Arakan forests, hills and the Naf River to take shelter in Bangladesh. They are generally known as "Rohingya" which is originated from the term Rohang/Roshan, the ancient name of Arakan. The Government of Bangladesh (GOB) with the support from United Nations stood by their side despite its own socio-economic problems. The GOB had originally built twenty camps for the Rohingya refugee in 1992. Currently there are two camps for the Rohingya refugees. Nayapara refugee camp is one of the camps which is situated in Teknaf in Cox's Bazar district.

Table 5.1.1.1 General Information of Nayapara refugee camp

Camp started on	19 th November, 1992	Community center	01
Area of the camp	3.234 sq. Km.	Community Technical	01
No of Blocks	07	Access (CTA) center	01
Refugee families	3,067	VCT center	
Refugee persons	18,378 (30 June, 2013)	Block center	07
Refugee sheds	562	Library	01
Total no of Schools	11	Soap-making center	01
Total No of Students	4652	Garbage pits	94
Male Students	2338	Latrines (Units)	925
Female Students	2314	Bath House (Units)	415
Mosques	13	Tap points	407
Men center	01	Water distribution point	69
Women center	02	Incinerator	08
General Information of Health Sector			
<u>Out Patient Department (OPD)</u>			
➤ Doctor: 02 (Vacant 01)			
➤ Medical Assistant: 03			
➤ Nurse: 01			
➤ Giving service from 8:00 am to 2:30 pm.			
<u>In Patient Department (IPD)</u>			
➤ Doctor: 02			
➤ Medical Assistant: 04			
➤ Nurse: 04			
➤ Bed: 26			
➤ Giving 24 hours service			

- Birth Rate: 3.46%
- Mortality rate: 0.37%
- Growth rate: 3.09%
- Infant Mortality rate: 0.64 per thousand.
- Neonatal Mortality rate: 0.6 per thousand
- Maternal Mortality rate: 0.07
- Rate of Contraceptive Prevalence: 25.54%

Education

School: 11 (10 primary, pre-primary+1 adult literacy)

Students: Primary & Pre-primary 3474 (Boys-1716 and Girls-1758)

Adult: 330 (Male – 152 and Female – 198)

Total Teachers: 69 (Bangladesh – 28 and Refugees – 41)

Sports Facility

- Basket Ball
- Volley Ball
- Table Tennis
- Chess

Challenges to Overcome:

- Continuously increase the undocumented Myanmar Nationals around the camp.
- Large family size and high growth rate of Rohingya refugees.
- Recent substantial changes in the attitude of the host people.
- Involvement in unsocial activities of Rohingyas affecting the socio economic environment of Cox's Bazar and the whole of Bangladesh.

5.1.2 Respondents' Background

This survey was conducted to find out the factors responsible (Table 5.2.1) for nationality crisis among Rohingya Refugees and their children who are being deprived of their fundamental as well as other human rights as children. Respondents (Mean age of 41 and 40-50 in range) were chosen from inside the Nayapara Refugee Camp. Among them, 81% were Male and the rest 29% were Female. Most of the respondents have been living in the camp for almost over 20 years; have already become acquainted and used to the deprivation. Rohingya refugees are being confined to the camp and living under extreme poverty, 33% of them are unemployed, living on aid only, 26% refugees are employed as volunteers in various programs of Government and non-government organizations including International agencies that are working for them inside the camp while few (26%) have not set themselves to any specific but some seasonal labors.

The most important factor that leads to the nationality crisis among Rohingya refugees as per this survey that says 78% of the refugees believe that they are not getting the adequate facilities that are needed to survive and that eventually affects their living standard in a very shabby and unhealthy environment.

This survey says that almost 74% of the respondents believe that they are under nationality crisis that deprives themselves and their children living in the camp as well.

Table 5.1.2.1 Data Distribution of Respondents' on Selected Criteria

Characteristics		Percentage
Gender	Male	81
	Female	29
Age	-	41.68
Age range	18-28	12.0
	29-39	30.0
	40-50	43.0
	51-61	11.0
	62-72	2.0
	73-83	1.0
	84>	1.0
Religion	Muslim	100
Living in the camp for year(s)	18	5.0
	19	1.0
	20	11.0
	21	32.0
	22	50.0
	35	1.0
Number of family members	1-5	29.0
	6-10	61.0
	11-15	10.0
Occupation	Unemployed	33.0
	Service	26.0
	Self employed	1.0
	Seasonal labour	26.0
	Teaching	10.0
	Multiple jobs	4.0
Adequate facilities	No	78.0
	Yes	22.0
Status quo	No	78.0
	Yes	22.0
Nationality crisis of the respondent	Yes	74.0
	No	26.0



Figure 3: Status quo in the camp

5.1.3 Factors addressing the Rights of the Rohingya Refugee children

The factors comprising the rights of the refugee children and the factors (Table 5.1.3.1) leading to the nationality crisis are correlated.

Table5.1.3.1 Percentage Distribution of Rohingya Children’s Rights

Rights of Rohingya refugee Children		Percentage
Security	Yes	12.0
	No	88.0
Children living alone	Yes	22.0
	No	78.0
Child labour	Yes	92.0
	No	8.0
Harassment against children	Physical	98.0
	Mental	91.0
	Sexual	66.0

This survey tells us that about 88% believe that children in the camp are not secured, added to that the surprising 22% of them finds children are living of their own inside the camp. Children are being used as physical labor (92%) in all kinds of laborious works inside the camp which is against international labor laws and very detrimental to their mental growth. The camp authority use children as a source of cheap labor. Children living inside the camp are being harassed, beaten and abused in a number of ways, this survey focused on the physical (98%), mental (91%) and sexual (66%) harassment that the children are facing on a daily basis, Although the authorities in the camp are taking strong actions against these, 72% believe that the harassment against refugee children leads them to the strongest crisis.

Refugees are housed in semi-permanent structures built in 1992. Many of them are

Overcrowded and in serious need of repair. Until 2006, the (Government of Bangladesh) GoB allowed only minimal repair and maintenance; however, recent agreements have enabled the construction of larger and more permanent shelters in accordance with international standards. The exercise of construction has begun and is envisaged for completion by end 2008 provided adequate funding is provided. Similarly, sanitation facilities, previously in bad conditions, have been rebuilt. Bathing cubicles continue to be a source of concern as they are not well lit which exposes women to risks of harassment and violence (UNHCR, 2007).

Table5.1.3.2 Percentage Distribution of Birth Registration and Birth certificate

Birth registration	Yes	68.0
	No	32.0
Birth certificate	Yes	16.0
	No	84.0

Birth registration is a very important evidence for a person to have his birth certified where as 68% of the respondents found children are not having their birth registered in the camp. Birth certificates are not given to their parents also as the Government are not recognizing their birth which comprises 84%, quite large in number.

Table5.1.3.3. Percentage Distribution of Adequate Food

Sufficient food	Yes	7.0
	No	93.0
Food quality	Yes	20.0
	No	80.0

Day-to-day necessities are not supplied to the refugee children; 93% of the refugee children are not given sufficient food and even if given, lacking quality of 80% food are given to the increasing number of children. Anemia and malnutrition are severe in the

camps. A survey conducted in 2005 found that out of 508 children under 5 examined, an alarming 65.4% were anemic and chronically malnourished. The global acute malnutrition rate was determined as being 12.8% for children between 6-59 months. The reason for the relatively high percentage of malnutrition in camp is the lack of access to food distribution of some 5,000 persons living in the camps who are not registered, including a large number of children and newborns. Those who are registered share their food rations with those who are not. It reduces the calorific intake of the population as a whole below international standards (UNHCR, 2007). The prevalence of all forms of malnutrition is higher for children in the camps than for children in the surrounding area. This is in spite of access to feeding programmes, healthcare and immunization. There are higher rates of diarrhoea among the younger children in the camps than their counterparts in the local community (Feeny, 2001).

Table 5.1.3.4 Percentage Distribution of Educational Opportunities

Education scope	Primary	61.0
	Others	39.0
Effective Education System	Yes	1.0
	No	99.0
Regular School attendance	Yes	42.0
	No	58.0
Academic certificate	Yes	84.0
	No	16.0

Education scope in the camp for the school going children limits to formal primary level (60%) and the rest are being customized inside the family which is a big factor to lag a community behind. Education system already in place is not at all effective (99%) to help refugee children grow as learner as 58% of the children that already started attending

school dropped in the half way through. Reasons for this are poor quality of education, poor teacher motivation, lack of textbooks etc (Feeny, 2001).

Table5.1.3.5 Percentage Distribution of Water Facilities

Pure drinking water	Yes	42.0
	No	58.0
Sufficient water supply	Yes	3.0
	No	97.0

There are severe water shortages in Nayapara camp. The water level of the Nayapara reservoir (the main source of water for the camp) suffers from both a seasonal drop brought on by the beginning of the dry season in early November, and the construction of two illegal dams by local villagers in 1998, which further decreased the amount available. During the months December-May of each year Nayapara is now subsequently forced to regularly rely on an emergency water trucking operation using vehicles supplied by UNHCR, which transport an average of 5 million liters of water to the camp each month from the Dumdumia Dam (Feeny, 2001). However, even with Supply of pure and adequate drinking water is essential for a community; this survey says that there is very insufficient supply of water for drinking and other usage (97%) that increases the diseases carried through water i.e., anemia, diarrhoea, jaundice etc.

Table5.1.3.6 General Information of Health sector

Medical treatment	Yes	99.0
	No	1.0
Healthcare	Yes	1.0
	No	99.0

Medical treatment is in better shape inside the camp as various national and international agencies are working on ensuring the medical treatment and supports to the refugees that comprises 99%. Available medical staff is not sufficient to meet demand, with current doctor's daily number of examinations being four times the international standard. There is, moreover, a serious shortage of female health care staff. This causes significant difficulty in addressing the needs of refugee children (mainly girls) who are often not comfortable talking freely about their health problems with male personnel. These anxieties are aggravated by reports of harassment and abuse of women by male health staff (UNHCR, 2000).

As a result, there is a need to focus more on preventive health as many common diseases in the camps stem from overcrowding, poor sanitation and insufficient personal hygiene.

5.1.4 Factors affecting Nationality Crisis

Table 5.1.4.1 Relationship between Children living alone in the Camp and nationality crisis.

Children living alone in the Camp	Nationality Crisis	
	Yes	No
No	73.0%	92.3%
Yes	27.0%	7.7%
Significant at 0.05 level.		

The Table 5.4.1 shows that 73% (54 out of 74) Rohingya refugees believing in nationality crisis are not happening for the reason children living alone in the camp while 27% (20

out of 74, significant at 0.05 level) believe that the children's living alone is the reason for nationality crisis. Refugees who believe that children's living alone doesn't result in the nationality crisis represent 92.3% (24 out of 26) while only 7.7% (2 out of 26) believe that nationality crisis happens for the children's living alone in the camp.

Table 5.1.4.2 Relationship between Child Labour and Nationality crisis

Children being used as labour.	Nationality Crisis	
	Yes	No
No	6.8%	23.1%
Yes	93.2%	76.9%
Significant at 0.05 level.		

The Table 5.4.2 shows that 93% (69 out of 74) of the Rohingya refugees believe that Children's being used as labour results in Nationality crisis (significant at 0.05) where 6.8% (5 out of 74) believe that the nationality crisis doesn't happen only for Children's involvement in labour work. Refugees who believe that there is no nationality crisis in the camp happen for Children's being used as labor comprises 23.1% while 76.9% (6 out of 26) believe that this nationality crisis might happen for other reasons but Children's involvement in labour work. Many children in the camp are found as shop-keeper. They are also used as domestic worker. In 1999, parents of 2 refugee children reported to UNHCR that their children had taken by camp authority to work as domestic helpers (Feeny, 2001). This was the only incident of child labor that has been reported. But it is not likely to be the only one.



Figure 4: Children as labor in the camp.

Table 5.1.4.3 Relationship between effective Education system in the camp and Nationality crisis

Effective education system in the camp	Nationality Crisis	
	Yes	No
No	98.6%	84.6%
Yes	1.4%	15.4%
Significant at 0.01 level.		

Table 5.1.4.3 shows that 98.6% (73 out of 74) of the Rohingya refugees believe that there is a strong relationship between Effective education system in the camp and Nationality crisis (significant at 0.01level) while only 1.4% opposes the relationship . On the other hand, 84.6% (22 out of 26) refugees believe that lacking effective education in the camp has no relationship with nationality crisis while only 15.4% (4 out of 26) believe that there is effective education system prevails in the camp education but that does not let refugees suffer for nationality crisis. For the first 5 years of stay within the camps, the Rohingya children were denied access to any form of education by the Government of Bangladesh. Education was viewed more as a luxury than a necessity, and is still only recently gaining acknowledgment as one of the pillars of assistance in humanitarian aid. It was therefore not until 1997 that the first non-formal schools were introduced into the camps, and even then the GOB has restricted them to kindergarten/primary levels only (Feeny, 2001).Refugee children are prohibited from accessing formal education. Education is therefore provided informally for primary school children, by refugee

volunteers who have received only limited teacher training. The school curriculum is restricted to Burmese, Maths and English. Many classrooms are overcrowded and lack sufficient books and other learning materials. Secondary education is not permitted (UNHCR, 2007).

Table 5.1.4.4 Relationship between Children being physically harassed in the camp and Nationality crisis

Children being physically harassed in the Camp	Nationality Crisis	
	Yes	No
No	5%	9.1%
Yes	95%	90.9%
Significant at 0.05 level.		

Table 5.1.4.4 shows that 95% of Rohingya refugees believe that Children's being harassed physically in the camp results in nationality crisis (significant at 0.05 level). Refugees (90%) believe that although Children are being physically harassed in the camp but that doesn't result in Nationality crisis while 9.1% of the refugees believe in nationality crisis does not happen for the children's being harassed in the Camp. A Rohingya child suffers from high level of risk regarding rape and harassment. It occurs especially when children go outside to collect fuel woods. Sexual and gender based violence is a very serious protection issue in the camps and surrounding areas. It occurs in many forms. Violence within the home is a widespread both within refugee families but also within the host community. Women who are beaten by their husbands, fathers

and other male authority figures have little redress to punish such abuse or to further prevent it since domestic violence is not a criminal offence in Bangladesh. Rape and sexual abuse is also used as a means to coerce women into marriages against their will and/or as a means of exacting revenge on male family members. Refugees report that male family members have been falsely accused and detained to enable others to abuse their female daughters and/or wives and force them into marriages against their will. Rape and sexual abuse of women in detention is also a prevalent protection problem (UNHCR, 2007).

Table 5.1.4.5 Other criteria that resulted in Nationality Crisis

Criteria		Nationality Crisis	
		Yes	No
Child Security	No	86.5%	92.3%
	Yes	13.5%	7.7%
Sufficient Food	No	93.2%	92.3%
	Yes	6.8%	7.7%
Food Quality	No	81.1%	76.9%
	Yes	18.9%	23.1%
Pure Drinking Water	No	62.2%	46.2%
	Yes	37.8%	53.8%
Sufficient Water Supply	No	95.9%	100%
	Yes	4.1%	0%
Birth Registration	No	33.8%	26.9%
	Yes	66.2%	73.1%
Birth Certificate	No	81.1%	92.3%
	Yes	18.9%	7.7%
Medical Treatment	No	1.4%	0%
	Yes	98.6%	100%
Healthcare	No	98.6%	100%
	Yes	1.4%	0%
Regular School Attendance	No	58.1%	57.7%
	Yes	41.9%	42.3%
Academic Certificate	No	16.2%	15.4%
	Yes	83.8%	84.6%

Table 5.1.4.5 lists the number of other factors responsible for nationality crisis in the refugee camp but the evidence to prove them was not strong enough as their particular relationships with nationality crisis did not meet the significance level.

Among the refugees who believe in the nationality crisis exists in the camp, 86.5% of them find there is no security for children in the camp while 13.5% believe that children are secured in the camp. On the other hand, 92.3% refugees believe that although children are not secured in the camp, reasons for nationality crisis could happen for other reasons.

Quality of food and its sufficient supply in the camp are important factors tend to boost nationality crisis in the camp, 93.2% refugees find the strong relationship between absence of sufficient food supply and nationality crisis while 92.3% refugees believing in no existence of nationality crisis in the camp find the lack of sufficient supply of food in the camp.

Out of the Refugees who believe in nationality crisis, 81.1% believe that quality of food matters to the nationality crisis while 76.9% out of the refugees who believe in the non-existence of nationality crisis in the camp finds quality of food is not maintained in the camp.

Ensuring supply of pure drinking water is really important for everyone in the camp as the deviation might result in various diseases carried through water , i.e., diarrhoea, anemia, worms, etc.

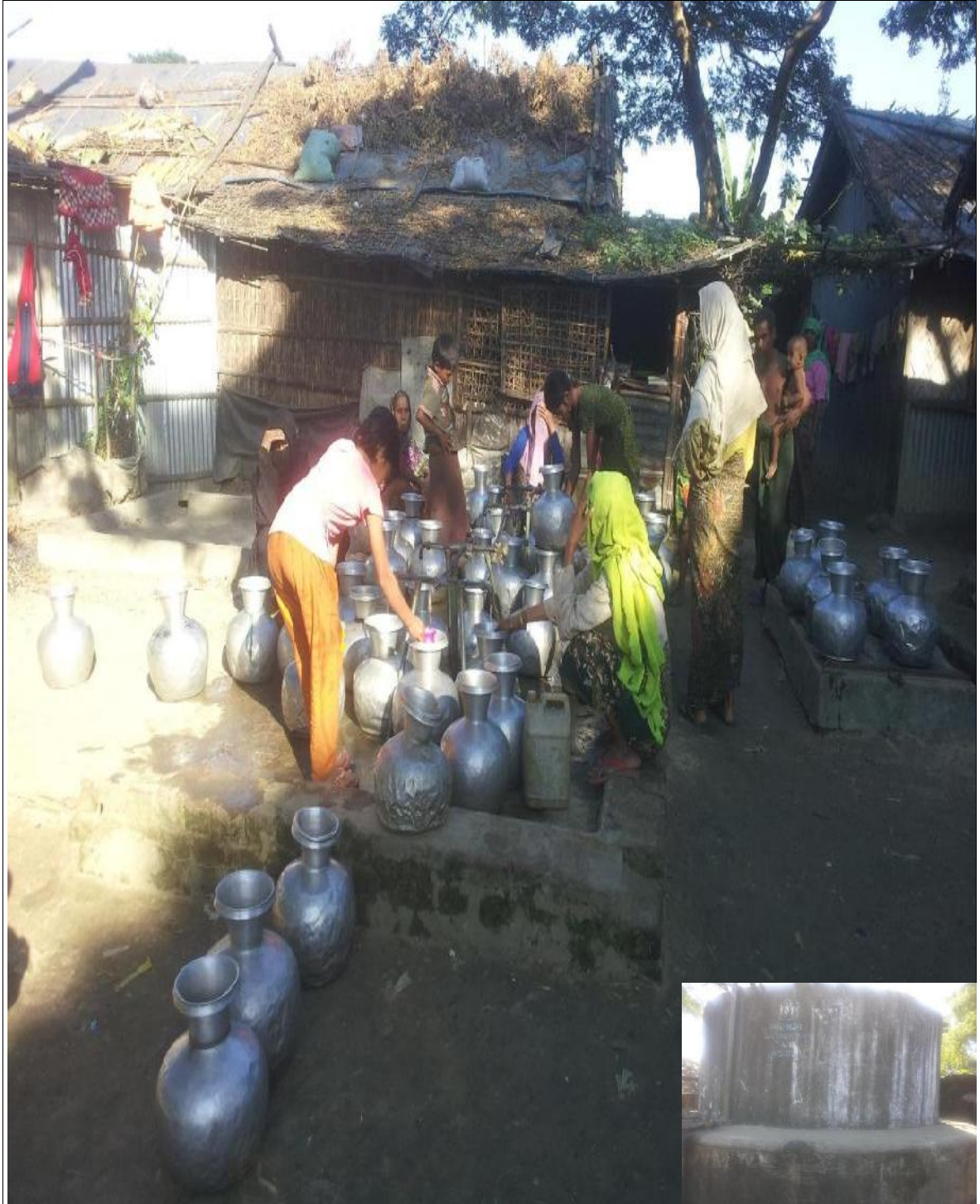


Figure 5: Scarcity of water in the camp

In Nayapara refugee camp, 62.2% out of the refugees who finds that there is lack of pure drinking water and also finds nationality crisis exists in the camp. On the other hand, 46.2% out of the refugees not believing nationality crisis in the camp, finds the scarcity of pure drinking water in the camp as well.

Sufficient water supply for other usage is quite important for the refugees living in Nayapara camp as there are 3,067 families with only 69 water distribution points. This survey entails that 95.9% of the refugees believing in the nationality crisis exists in the camp, do not see sufficient water supply is there for the refugees while 100% out of the refugees believing in non-existence of nationality crisis, confirms that sufficient water supply in the camp and nationality crisis are not related in importance.

Birth registration of refugee children and the certificates given to their parents are important for the refugee children living in the camp. This survey clarifies that 33.8% out of the refugees believing in the existence of nationality crisis in the camp finds that children are not registered at birth, while 66.2% of them say that notwithstanding children are registered at birth; nationality crisis still exists among them.

Although birth certificate is very important for the children to have their rights ensured in the camp, 92.3% out of the refugees find the refugees are not given birth certificates at birth but that does not relate to the nationality crisis.

This survey finds the extreme importance of Medical treatment and healthcare for the refugee children. Out of the refugees who believe in the existence of nationality crisis in the camp, 98.6% of them find that refugees are getting medical treatment in the camp but healthcare is not ensured for the refugees at their need while 100% of the refugees believe

that ensuring medical treatment in the camp and absence of healthcare does not signifies the nationality crisis.

Ensuring regular attendance at school and certifying academic excellence to the children are very important for the children living in the camp. This survey finds that 58% of the refugees believe that there is a relationship between children's irregular attendance at school and nationality crisis and 83.8% believe that even if academic certificates are given to the children, nationality crisis still prevails in the camp.

Chapter Six

Conclusion

The Rohingya problem emanated from widespread violations of human rights against Muslim minority at the hand of military junta in Myanmar and causing massive influx to Bangladesh. They became stateless without a legal nationality in 1962 when the new military rule denied citizenship and many of them forced to migrate to Bangladesh, Thailand, India, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Malaysia since 1978. The irony of fate is that the Rohingyas have been confirmed to a cycle of acute discrimination, escape, trafficking, poverty, detention, extortion and deportation. The 1982 Citizenship Law, the Rohingyas were denied citizenship and rendered stateless by the military junta considers a large bulk of these people as recent migrants from Bangladesh. Crossing the borders and taking refuge in Bangladesh was not something that was unexpected. But such crossing into Bangladesh did not change their views on the state and also could not change their status.

The Rohingyas have not only faced difficulty obtaining social services and protections, they also have faced problems on their civil and political rights, such as their right not to be subjected to arbitrary detention. Unnecessary imprisonment is one of the most pervasive and most difficult problems faced by stateless Rohingyas. According to the UNHCR, when stateless persons are unable to return to their countries of habitual residence after having left them, the result is often prolonged detention outside of the country in which they habitually reside. The reason for such detention is that without proof of identity or nationality stateless persons often cannot reenter their state of

habitual residence. The problems faced by stateless Rohingya are typical of the difficulties faced by much other stateless population.

By focusing on the above problems facing by Rohingya refugees this study focuses on the deprivation of their and also their children's rights associated with their identity problem that has resulted in nationality crisis.

A number of variables related to nationality crisis and its effects on children's have been analyzed quantitatively. 93% (69 out of 74) of the Rohingya refugees believe that Children's being used as labour results in Nationality crisis (significant at 0.05) where 6.8% (5 out of 74) believe that the nationality crisis doesn't happen only for Children's involvement in labour work. In the camp there is extreme use of children as a labor that is affecting their physical and mental health. Education system is not effective for the camp residence. 98.6% says that existing education is not functional for children. It is only limited to primary education and madrasa to some extent. They are denied access to any form of education by the Government of Bangladesh. Education is considered as luxurious element as Rohingyas are not having proper housing to live and food to eat.

Out of the respondents, 93% reported that there is scarcity of food. Food provided by donor and NGOs does not meet the quality. There are severe shortages of pure drinking water in the camp. Among respondents, 97% say that there are shortages of sufficient water. Children particularly girls and women have to collect water from UNHCR water distribution point by standing for hours. Due to insufficient drinking water it increases the availability of disease such as diarrhoea, dysentery etc. Children are being harassed physically in the camp results in nationality crisis. A child suffers from high level of risk regarding rape and harassment. Findings from this study show that 95% reported the

existence of physical harassment in the camp. Birth registration and certificates are the evidence of having identity but Rohingya and their children do not have such type of registration. Only 16% reported of having birth certificate.

From the above discussion it can be said that Rohingya refugees particularly children are not having rights to live as human being in the camp. Although this research attempted to cover all families in Nayapara Rohingya refugee camp, limited budget, time constraint and recent political turmoil made this endeavor quite tough in the end.

This study tries to focus on the problem associated with Rohingya identity; it only focuses on the registered Rohingya living in the Nayapara refugee camp. There are many unregistered Rohingya refugees who are living illegally in the makeshifts outside the camp and are lacking their rights as human. So further researches should be focused on those unregistered Rohingya refugees to address their humanitarian condition to the respected authority.

Recommendations

Considering the importance of nationality crisis of the Rohingya and problems associated with these following steps can be taken.

Steps can be taken to ensure child healthcare in the camp

Health care systems in the camp are not satisfactory though there are presences of many trained health worker in the camp. Rohingya refugee particularly their little children are suffering from anemia and malnutrition. There is no hospital for treatment. Hospitals are situated outside the camp and a patient has to visit long hours to reach hospital that is vulnerable for their health. Sometimes it is not possible to go outside the camp without the permission of concerned

authority as there are restrictions on freedom of movement for Rohingyas.

In addition, a large population in a tight space has a significant impact on the overall quality of health. Respiratory tract infections (RTI), such as the common cold, continue to be the top cause of overall morbidity year round for children under five. Other communicable diseases, such as chicken pox, also happily thrive in densely populated areas. During the winter season, the number of in-patient admissions rises, especially among infants and children.

As a result, Rohingya and their children are having a poor health. Due to this following steps can be taken to improve and ensure adequate health care in the camp.

Supplies of adequate Medicine-There are severe shortages of medicines in the camp. Sometimes it is become difficult to save a life due to this scarcity of proper medicines.

Increase Doctors' sincerity- As the camp is situated in remote area; doctors often remain absent. So it is very important to post more trained doctors in the camp.

Advanced treatment- There are scarcity of technical apparatus. So advanced medical equipment should be placed in health centre.

Increase Childcare hospital- Specialized childcare treatment should be established in the camp to reduce child death.

Increase number of Child specialist- To ensure child health in the camp specialized doctors should be placed in the camp.

Lessen pollution- Pollution must be control to make a healthy environment in the camp.

Mass awareness for fatal diseases- Awareness against fatal diseases can be increased by campaigning.

How to make education system in camp effective for children

Education is the basic right of a human being. But Rohingya children are facing discrimination in terms of education. Primary education is limited for them. They have no fixed syllabus, text books and other reading materials. Faculties are not properly educated. Steps that can be effective for developing existing education system are given below.

Reforming Education system- existing education system should improve to encourage regular attendance at the school.

Implementing Higher studies- Higher education should be implemented in camps to secure better future for Rohingya children.

Commencing Vocational education- vocational education can increase skilled professionals in the camp.

Steps can be taken to encourage children to attend school

Only 42% of total children regularly go to school. The reason for being absent from school is use of children as cheap labor. Another factor that fosters this is the lack of awareness among parents. Most of the Rohingya parents are not educated. So they could not understand the importance of education; as result children remain absent from school. Sometimes reading materials are expensive and it becomes tough to afford such cost for poor Rohingya parents.

Following steps can be taken to encourage children for attending school regularly.

No physical punishment- Physical punishment by teachers at school should be banned.

Helping more Qualified teachers to come in- Steps should be taken to encourage more teachers in the camp by giving proper facilities.

Awareness among guardians- the importance of education should spread among parents. So that they become eager to send their children at school.

Food against education- By offering food against education can encourage children and their parents to participate in educational opportunities.

Play alongside education- Spending long period at school can make children's monotonous. So it is necessary to have playing activities in the camp.

Participation of more NGOs- Awareness through NGOs can increase participation of young children at school.

Encouraging students through stipends- Children can be eager to attend school if scholarships are available.

Steps can be taken to ensure sufficient supply of water

Water scarcity is a serious problem in the Nayapara Rohingya refugee camp. The UNHCR finances a government department to supply the water in the camps and maintain the facilities. Water is transported from the hilly forests through canals to a reservoir, and treated in water treatment plants. MSF is responsible for monitoring the quality of the water in Nayapara camp. The cause of the water shortage is the miscalculation that the amount of water allocated for Nayapara is consuming only by the refugees. In fact, there are hundreds of additional consumers using this supply of water. The water supply network, including the treatment plant, was installed 10 years ago as an emergency response. By now, the permanent infrastructure has run down, the pipes are exposed and leaking, and the storage tanks have rusted. Therefore, following steps can be taken to improve water scarcity in the camp. By digging pond and well, constructing tube-well and also reserving rain water can help to reduce water shortages in the camp.

Steps taken by Authority to help Children facing harassment

Children particularly girls are in risk in terms of harassment. Rape, sexual abuse and domestic violence are most common form that children are facing in the camp. So camp authority should focus on the following points to help children facing harassment in the camp.

- Exemplary punishment.
- Taking into law enforcing agencies.
- Mass Awareness.
- Informing camp communities.

How to help Children through improving camp environment

The Rohingya refugees remain trapped in a desperate situation with no future in Bangladesh. These unfortunate people are caught between a crocodile and a snake. Without access to camp services, conditions are becoming worse for camp residences. Unsanitary water sources, insufficient waste disposal, and visible illness are a threat to its residents. Therefore, to improve camp environment following steps can be taken.

Stopping environment pollution- Environment pollution is the problem that has severe consequences on the people. So it is necessary to stop pollution in the camp.

Secured boundary- There are fixed boundary in the camp. So outsiders can easily enter into the camp. Due to this, there are various types of illegal activities are happening in the camp. Therefore, it is necessary to ensure secured boundary in the camp.

Non-access of outsiders- Continuous access of outsiders should stopped

Get parents rid of polygamies- there are common incidents of parents having polygamies.

It has negative impact on the children's mental health. So it is necessary to stop this.

Implementation of law against violence- Camp authority should concern to stop violence against children. Because it is reported that children are facing physical, sexual and mental violence's in the camp.

Development of socio-economic status- Moreover, development of overall socio-economic condition can help Rohingya and their children to lead a better life.

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APPENDIX I

QUESTIONNAIRE ON NATIONALITY CRISIS and RIGHTS of The ROHINGYA REFUGEE CHILDREN: A SOCIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF CHILDRENS RIGHTS IN BANGLADESH

Section 1: General information of the Respondent

1.1. Name:

1.2. Camp Name: (a) Nayapara (b) Kutupalong

1.3. Sex of Respondent: () Female () Male

1.4. How old are you?

1.5. Religion:

Section 2: Socio-economic conditions

2.1. How many years do you living in this camp?

Ans:

2.2. Numbers of family member?

Ans:

2.3. Do all family members live together?

Ans: (a) Yes (b) No

2.4. Do you an earning member?

Ans: (a) Yes (b) No

2.5. Occupation:

(a) Employed

(b) Self-employed

(c) Seasonal labor

(d) Service

(e) Unemployed

2.6. Do you think there are enough facilities in the camp for you and your family?

Ans: (a) Yes (b) No (If no Then why?)

2.7. Do you think that children have enough security in the camp?

Ans: (a) Yes (b) No (If no then why; please explain)

2.8. Do you have sufficient privacy in the camp?

Ans: (a) Yes (b) No (If no then explain why?)

2.9. How do the general living arrangements of the camp are affecting your lives?

Ans:

2.10. Are there children who are alone?

Ans: (a) Yes (b) No

2.11. Are there children who are facing aggressive and violent manner in the camp?

Ans: (a) Yes (b) No (if yes then please explain the types of violence)

Section 3: Nationality crisis

3.1. Do all refugee children have a nationality?

Ans: (a) Yes (b) No

3.2. Are refugee children registered at birth?

Ans: (a) Yes (b) No

3.3. Are parents provided with birth certificates?

Ans: (a) Yes (b) No

Section 4: Food and Nutrition

4.1. Are children receiving adequate quantity and quality of food?

Ans: (a) Yes (b) No

4.2. Is food provided culturally and socially acceptable, palatable and digestible?

Ans: (a) Yes (b) No

4.3. Are cooking fuel and utensils made available?

Ans: (a) Yes (b) No

4.5. Do the children used as labor for collecting water?

Ans: (a) Yes (b) No

Section 5: Health facilities

5.1. Are the health services meeting the health needs of children and adolescents?

Ans: (a) Yes (b) No

5.2. What are the diseases children faces in the camp due to malnutrition?

Ans: (a) Anemia

(b) Diarrhoea

(c) Worms

5.3. Is there a need for training of nutrition staff in carrying out necessary interventions?

Ans: (a) Yes (b) No

Section 6: Educational opportunities

6.1. What are the education system existing in the camp?

- (a) Primary
- (b) Secondary
- (c) Higher Secondary
- (d) Others

6.2. Is available education relevant to the refugee experience and needs?

Ans: (a) Yes (b) No

6.3. Are certificates being made available to validate the academic achievement of refugee

Children?

Ans: (a) Yes (b) No

6.4. Do children regularly go to school?

Ans: (a) Yes (b) No

6.5. What actions might be taken to increase the numbers of refugee children in school?

Ans:

Section 7: Water facilities

7.1. Do refugee children have access to adequate potable water?

Ans: (a) Yes (b) No

7.2. Is adequate water available for bathing and washing?

Ans: (a) Yes (b) No

7.3. What are the sources of water?

Ans: (a) River water

(b) Tube-well water

(c) Well water

Section 8: Policy and Recommendations

8.1. Are regular evaluations of child protection and welfare efforts carried out?

Ans:

8.2. Have effective steps been taken to prevent abuse of children?

Ans: (a) Yes (b) No

8.3. Are effective remedial services available to all victims of abuse?

Ans:

8.4. What are the steps camp authorities takes to ensure security of refugee children?

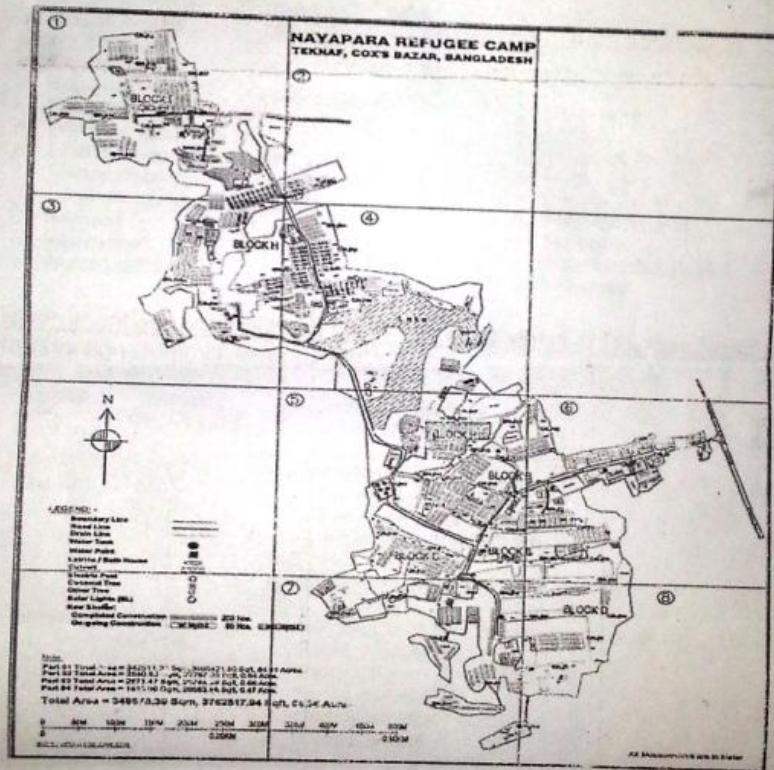
Ans:

8.5. What additional measures would strengthen security of the children?

Ans:

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
BANGLADESH

QUICK FACTS
OF
NAYAPARA REFUGEE CAMP



OFFICE OF THE CAMP-IN-CHARGE
NAYAPARA REFUGEE CAMP
TEKNAF, COX'S BAZAR, BANGLADESH

The Rohingya Refugees in Bangladesh

In 1992, refugees from Myanmar (Burma) braved the Arakan forests, hills and the Naf river to take shelter in Bangladesh. They are generally known as "Rohingya" which is originated from the term Rohang/Roshan, the ancient name of Arakan. The Government of Bangladesh (GOB) with the support from United Nations stood by their side despite its own socio-economic problems. The GOB had originally built twenty camps for the Rohingya refugee in 1992. Currently there are two camps for the Rohingya refugees. Nayapara refugee camp is one of the camps which is situated in Teknaf in Cox's Bazar district.

General Information of Nayapara refugee camp

o Camp started on	: 19th november, 1992.	o Community center	: 01
o Area of the camp	: 3.234 sq. Km.	o Community Technical Access (CTA) center	: 01
o No. Of blocks	: 07	o VCT center	: 01
o Refugee families	: 3,067	o Block center	: 07
o Refugee persons	: 18,378 (30 June, 2013)	o Library	: 01
o Refugee sheds	: 562	o Soap-making center	: 01
o Total no. of Schools	: 11	o Garbage pits	: 94
o Total students	: 4652	o Latrines (Units)	: 925
Male students	: 2338	o Bath house (Units)	: 415
Female students	: 2314	o Tap points	: 407
o Mosques	: 13	o Water distribution point	: 69
o Men center	: 01	o Incinerator	: 08
o Women center	: 02		

Government agencies working under The supervision of Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (RRRC)

Agency	Ministry/ Department	Responsibilities	No. of Staffs
Camp-In-Charge	(Ministry of Food & Disaster Management)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Maintaining Law & order > Voluntary Repatriation > Shelter & infrastructure > Water Management & Sanitation > Overall Co-ordination > Protection & Resettlement 	28
MOH	(Ministry of Health and Family Welfare)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Running Out Patient Department (OPD) and In Patient Department (IPD) > Immunization > Family Planning > Health education > Referral patient 	45
Police Camp	(Bangladesh Police)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Assisting Camp-In-Charge > Ensuring Security > Communicating to Police Station 	18
Ansar Camp	02 Ansar Battalion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Assisting Camp-In-Charge > Ensuring Security 	98
Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) Camp	42 BGB Battalion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Assisting Camp-In-Charge > Ensuring Security 	31

UN Agencies Involved in Rohingya Refugee Operation

Agency	Activities	Implementing Agency
UNHCR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Funding Agency > Protection > Voluntary Repatriation > Supplying Non-Food Items > Monitoring > Resettlement 	GOB, BDRCS, ACF, RTMI, TAI, RIB, VERC
WFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Supplying Food Items > Supporting Food for Training (FFT) > Supplying Biscuits to School Children > Monitoring Food Distribution; Supplying Food to SFP and TFP 	GOB, BDRCS, ACF, TAI, RIB, VERC
WHO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Immunization Program 	GOB
SAVE THE CHILDREN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Primary Education 	VERC
UNFPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Funding at In Patient Department (IPD) 	RTMI

NGOs Activities in the Camp

Agency	Full Name	Activities
BDRCS	Bangladesh Red Crescent Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Distribute Food & Non Food items among the Refugees
ACF	Action Contre La Faim (Action Against Hunger)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Nutrition (OTP, SC, SFP, GMP) Running Therapeutic Feeding Centre (TFC) Running Supplementary Feeding Centre (SFC) Growth Monitoring Program (GMP) Stabilization Center (SC) > Mental Health > Hygiene promotion
TAI	Technical Assistance Int.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Self Help Activities - Home Gardening, Tree Plantation, Tooth powder & Soap Making. > Community Service - Skill Development - Tailoring, Carpentry, Electrical, School Bag, Panty & Napkin Making, Social Awareness, Food Basket Monitoring. > SGBV Program, Adult Education & Scouting. > Community Technology Access & Myanmar Language Lab.
RTMI	Research Training Management International	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Reproductive Health > Conducting Referral Services To Refugee Patients > Family Planning > Anti-natal Care (ANC) and Post-natal Care (PNC)
RIB	Research Initiative Bangladesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Participatory Action Research (PAR) Group Training. > Introducing KAJOLI System For Pre Schooling Children. > Crass Program for under 03 years children
VERC	Village Education Research Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > School Program (Primary Education)
HI	Handicap International	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Logistic support for handicap refugees

SUPPLYING BASIC NEED

Ration per person bi-weekly

■	Rice	6.300 Kg
■	Pulse	0.560 Kg
■	S/Oil	0.280 Kg
■	Salt	0.140 Kg
■	Sugar	0.140 Kg
■	Blended Food	0.700 Kg

Provides basic food ration of 2,160 kilo calories per person per day compared to the standard 2,100 kilo calories.

Non-Food Item

- > Compressed Rice Husked (CRH)
- > Kerosene
- > Soap
- > Tooth Powder
- > Relief materials

Repatriation Kits (From Bangladesh side)

○ Blanket	per family 01 piece	○ Lungi (Adult)	per person 01 piece
○ Kerosene Lantern	per family 01 piece	○ Lungi (Teenager)	per person 01 piece
○ Cooking Pots (set of 03)	1-6 persob 01 set	○ Lungi (Child)	per person 01 piece
○ Sleeping Mat	7 above 02 sets	○ Plastic Sheet (4x5m)	per family 01 piece
	1-3 persons 01 piece		
	4-6 persons 02 piece	○ Thami (Adult)	per person 01 piece
	7 above 03 piece	○ Thami (Child)	per person 01 piece
○ Gunny bag	per family 01 piece	○ Biscuit	per person 160 Gms
○ Glass	per family 01 piece	○ Plastic Jerry can	per family 01 piece
○ Plate	per family 01 piece	○ Ration for 02 weeks	per family
○ Taka (Bangladeshi) 15,000/-	per family		

Repatriation Kits (From Bangladesh side)

- Ration for 06 months
- 19,000/- Kyats repatriation grants per person
- 25,000/- Kyats Grant for house building per family
- Traveling allowance, 1500 Kyats per person

Running Programs

- Water Management
- Sanitation
- Health and Family planning
- Nutrition program Community Service & Skill Development
- Education
- Food and Non-food Item Distribution

Water Management

- Water Supply: Surface Water
- Water Reserve: Through Artificial Lake
- Area of Lake: 4.18 Acres.
- Purification Plant: 03 Nos.
- Water Supply Tank: 22 Nos
- Water Requirement: 325000 Liter (1 Per:20 Ltr)
- Cost of Water Purification: Per Liter- 0.005 Tk.

General Information of Health Sector

• Out Patient Department (OPD)

- Doctor : 02 (Vacant 01)
- Medical Assistant: 03
- Nurse: 01
- Giving service from 8.00 am to 2.30 pm.

▪ In Patient Department (IPD)

- Doctor: 02
- Medical Assistant: 04
- Nurse: 04
- Bed: 26
- Giving 24 hours service

- Birth Rate:- 3.46%
- Mortality rate:- 0.37%
- Growth rate -: 3.09%
- Infant Mortality rate:- 0.64 per thousand.
- Neonatal Mortality rate:- 0.6 per thousand
- Maternal Mortality rate:- 0.07
- Rate of Contraceptive Prevalence:- 25.54%

Education

Schools: 11 (10 primary, pre-primary + 1 adult literacy)

Students: Primary & Pre-Primary 3474 (Boys—1716 and Girls -- 1758)
Adult: 330 (Male – 152 and Female – 198)

Total Teachers: 69 (Bangladeshi – 28 and Refugees – 41)

Sports facility

- Basket Ball
- Table Tennis
- Volley Ball
- Chess

Challenges to Overcome

- Continuously increase the undocumented Myanmar Nationals around the camp
- Large family size and high growth rate of Rohingya refugees
- Recent substantial changes in the attitude of the host people
- Involvement in unsocial activities of Rohingyas affecting the socio economic environment of Cox's Bazar and the whole of Bangladesh.

Dr Mohammad Kamruzzaman
Senior Assistant Secretary,
&
Camp-In-Charge
Nayapara Refugee Camp
Teknaf, Cox's Bazar.