

# Govt, int'l community urged to put pressure on Myanmar

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Academics and lawyers at a symposium in Dhaka on Saturday called on the international community to focus on the need for the compensation for state-sponsored violence forcing Rohingyas to flee their home in Rakhine in Myanmar to Bangladesh.

At the symposium on 'Prosecution for violation of human rights: the Rohingya in context' organised by Bangladesh Institute of Law and International Affairs at its auditorium, they also called on Bangladeshi diplomats to mobilise their efforts to pressurise Myanmar to compensate Rohingyas.

They said that otherwise Bangladesh would suffer in future because of geopolitics.

Dhaka University law faculty dean Rahmat Ullah said there was geopolitics on the Rohingya issue and both China and India had their interests inside Myanmar.

He suggested that Bangladeshi diplomats should extend their efforts to ensure compensation for Rohingyas by Myanmar.

Since August 2017, over 700,000 Rohingya women, men and children have entered Bangladesh fleeing ethnic cleansing by the Myanmar security forces.

According to United Nations estimate, there are over one million Rohingyas, mostly women and girls, in Cox's Bazar now.

Detailing the scope of getting damages for Rohingyas, International Crimes Tribunal prosecutor Tapas Kumar Baul said that the damages should be demanded, and a peaceful movement should be waged to this end.

He alleged that trafficking continued in the Rohingya camps while child marriage was rampant.

Bangladesh Islamic University assistant professor for law Mohammad Shahadat Hossain wondered how the Rohingya crisis would be solved and compensation could be claimed considering Myanmar's relations with China and India.

Independent University teacher Quazi Omar Foysal, detailing International Criminal Court decision on the jurisdiction over Rohingya deportation, said that Bangladesh submitted confidentially its observations on June 11, 2018.

He said that in recent development, the UN Fact Finding Mission on Myanmar in its full report endorsed the ICC jurisdiction and it seemed that the interpretation of deportation upheld by the chamber would have permanency.

He said that the prosecutor decided to conduct preliminary examination into this situation with a narrow subject matter especially deportation, persecution and other inhumane acts of a similar nature.

He said, 'Hopefully, the prosecutor will seek the authorisation for investigation soon'.

BRAC University law teacher Mostafa Hosain, Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust research specialist Taqbir Huda and students and researchers from different universities participated in the symposium.