

UNREST IN BURMA'S ARAKAN STATE: A CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS (UPDATED)

- **The rape and murder of a 27-year-old Buddhist Rakhine woman and the murder of 10 Muslim pilgrims trigger deadly sectarian clashes between Buddhists and Muslims in Arakan State starting on 8 June.**
- **According to the regime, as of 21 June, 62 people had died and over 2,000 buildings, including seven mosques and nine Buddhist monasteries, had been destroyed as a result of the unrest. However, various organizations say that the death toll might be much higher as a result of escalating attacks and reprisals affecting Muslim Rohingya and Buddhist Rakhine.**
- **Regime imposes a curfew and a ban on public gatherings of more than five people in six of 17 townships in Arakan State. President Thein Sein declares an indefinite state of emergency which allows the military to take over administrative control of Arakan State.**
- **World Food Program estimates that 90,000 people have been displaced due to the unrest. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees warns of a risk of a severe humanitarian crisis due to ongoing violence and poor conditions in IDP camps.**
- **Bangladeshi authorities push back more than 2,000 Rohingya fleeing violence in Arakan State. Bangladeshi FM Dipu Moni says Bangladesh is already “overburdened” with Rohingya refugees and cannot take any more “under any circumstances.”**
- **Regime warns journalists that they could be charged under existing laws, including the Emergency Provisions Act, if they publish inflammatory reports on the ongoing violence in Arakan State.**
- **Daw Aung San Suu Kyi expresses concern over the handling of the situation by local Rakhine authorities, in particular their failure to dampen anti-Muslim sentiment. Daw Suu also calls on Buddhists to “have sympathy for minorities.”**
- **International reactions: UN warns that discrimination against ethnic and religious minorities poses a threat to Burma’s democratic transition; US, UK are “deeply concerned” over the ongoing violence; EU welcomes the regime’s “measured response” to the crisis; OIC “condemns systematic acts of violence and intimidation against the peaceful Rohingya population.”**
- **The authorities’ decades-long discriminatory policies and practices targeting Rohingya have reinforced the racial and religious animosity between the two communities in Arakan State. Rohingya have suffered restrictions on marriage, freedom of movement, and religious practice. In addition, the regime has routinely subjected Rohingya to forced labor, extortion, land confiscation, and other human rights abuses.**

Chronology of events

- **28 May:** Unknown assailants raped and murdered a 27-year-old Rakhine woman in Rambree Township.¹
- **29 May:** Local police detained three local Rohingya in connection with the 28 May murder of the Rakhine woman in Rambree Township.²
- **30 May:** Regime authorities transferred the three suspects to Kyaukpyu jail.³
- **3 June:** Local Rakhine in Taunggoat distributed leaflets that warned Rakhine women of potential sexual assaults by Muslims.⁴
 - A mob of about 300 Buddhist Rakhine in Taunggoat Township attacked a bus and beat to death a group of 10 Muslim pilgrims who were returning to central Burma following a visit to Sandoway.⁵ The mob attacked the bus because they allegedly believed it was carrying those responsible for the 28 May rape and murder of the Rakhine woman in Rambree Township.⁶ Regime authorities made no arrests in connection with the attack.⁷
- **4 June:** The trial of the three Rohingya men accused of the 28 May rape and murder of the Rakhine woman in Rambree Township began at a court in Kyaukpyu.⁸
 - The regime's Ministry of Information issued a press release that warned against "anarchic" activities and said that legal action would be taken against those who break the law.⁹
- **5 June:** About 50 Muslims held a peaceful demonstration at a mosque in downtown Rangoon to demand justice for the 3 June killing of the 10 Muslims in Arakan State.¹⁰
 - A regime statement published in the state-run New Light of Myanmar warned against "anarchic and lawless" acts, but referred to the victims of the 3 June murderous attack in Taunggoat, Arakan State, as 'kalar' – a derogatory term for Muslims or persons of Indian appearance.¹¹
- **6 June:** State media issued a retraction for the use of racially offensive language in reference to the victims of the 3 June attack in Taunggoat. They urged readers to refer to the victims as 'Islamic residents.'¹²
 - Daw Aung San Suu Kyi expressed condolences to Muslim leaders who visited the NLD headquarters and said there was an urgent need for justice and proper law enforcement. Daw Suu said that the killings could have been instigated with the intention of widening sectarian rifts.¹³ Daw Suu expressed concern over the handling of the situation by local Rakhine authorities, in particular their failure to dampen anti-Muslim sentiment.¹⁴ She also called on Buddhists to "have sympathy for minorities."¹⁵
 - The regime formed a 16-member committee to investigate the 3 June killing of 10 Muslims in Taunggoat.¹⁶ The committee is headed by regime Deputy Home Affairs Minister Brig Gen Kyaw Zan Myint and is comprised entirely of regime officials.¹⁷ The committee would have to report its findings to President Thein Sein by 30 June.¹⁸
 - Police in Buthidaung briefly detained two local Rohingya for printing pictures of the 10 Muslims killed in Taunggoat on 3 June.¹⁹

¹ NLM (05 Jun 12) Three murderers who raped, stabbed a woman to death to be brought to trial soonest

² NLM (05 Jun 12) Three murderers who raped, stabbed a woman to death to be brought to trial soonest

³ NLM (05 Jun 12) Three murderers who raped, stabbed a woman to death to be brought to trial soonest

⁴ NLM (05 Jun 12) 10 Muslims killed in bus attack

⁵ AFP (04 Jun 12) Sectarian unrest spreads in west Myanmar; Reuters (04 Jun 12) Buddhist vigilantes kill 9 Muslims in Myanmar bus attack; Kaladan News (04 Jun 12) Massacre of Muslim pilgrims by the gang of Rakhine terrorists in Taungup; BBC (04 Jun 12) Muslims killed in attack in Burma's Rakhine province; NLM (05 Jun 12) 10 Muslims killed in bus attack

⁶ AFP (04 Jun 12) Nine dead in Myanmar mob attack: govt official; AFP (04 Jun 12) Sectarian unrest spreads in west Myanmar; BBC (04 Jun 12) Muslims killed in attack in Burma's Rakhine province

⁷ BBC (04 Jun 12) Muslims killed in attack in Burma's Rakhine province

⁸ Xinhua (19 Jun 12) Two men sentenced to death for raping ethnic Rakhinese woman in Myanmar

⁹ AP (04 Jun 12) Gov't calls for calm after western Myanmar clashes; AP (04 Jun 12) Gov't calls for calm after western Myanmar clashes; Xinhua (04 Jun 12) Myanmar gov't urges people to stay under law in wake of bloody clashes; AFP (06 Jun 12) Call for calm as Myanmar sectarian unrest spreads

¹⁰ Reuters (05 Jun 12) Myanmar Muslims protest over mob killings; Mizzima News (05 Jun 12) Muslims protest at Bengali mosque in Rangoon against murder of Muslims

¹¹ DVB (06 Jun 12) State media issues correction after publishing racial slur

¹² DVB (06 Jun 12) State media issues correction after publishing racial slur

¹³ Reuters (07 Jun 12) Myanmar assigns top cop, minister to probe Muslim deaths

¹⁴ AFP (06 Jun 12) Suu Kyi tries to defuse Myanmar sectarian strife

¹⁵ AFP (06 Jun 12) Suu Kyi tries to defuse Myanmar sectarian strife; DVB (06 Jun 12) State media issues correction after publishing racial slur

¹⁶ Reuters (07 Jun 12) Myanmar assigns top cop, minister to probe Muslim deaths; Xinhua (07 Jun 12) Myanmar to probe bloody incident in Rakhine state; NLM (07 Jun 12) Formation of Investigation Committee

¹⁷ Reuters (07 Jun 12) Myanmar assigns top cop, minister to probe Muslim deaths; Xinhua (07 Jun 12) Myanmar to probe bloody incident in Rakhine state; AFP (07 Jun 12) Myanmar opens probe into Muslim killings; NLM (07 Jun 12) Formation of Investigation Committee; Mizzima News (07 Jun 12) Gov't appoints committee to investigate Muslim murders; Irrawaddy (07 Jun 12) Govt Forms Committee to Investigate Violence in Arakan State

¹⁸ Reuters (07 Jun 12) Myanmar assigns top cop, minister to probe Muslim deaths; Xinhua (07 Jun 12) Myanmar to probe bloody incident in Rakhine state; NLM (07 Jun 12) Formation of Investigation Committee

¹⁹ Kaladan News (07 Jun 12) 10 Muslims massacre pictures distributing in northern Arakan

- **8 June:** Violence erupted in Maungdaw Township when a crowd of Muslims threw stones at regime buildings and local businesses after Friday prayers at a local mosque.²⁰ Police fired warning shots in an attempt to disperse the crowd. The crowd then set fire to homes of Rakhine Buddhists in the area.²¹ Buddhists also launched reprisal attacks on Muslim villages.²² According to a spokesperson from the Rohingya-affiliated National Democratic Party for Development, riots erupted after security forces opened fire on Muslims and several of them were killed.²³
 - All Myanmar Islam Association issued a statement that condemned “the terrorizing and destruction of lives and property of innocent people” in Arakan State.²⁴
 - The regime imposed an indefinite 6pm-6am curfew in Maungdaw and Buthidaung Townships.²⁵ It also banned public gatherings of more than five people.²⁶
- **8-9 June:** Riots were reported in Maungdaw, Buthidaung, and Akyab.²⁷
 - The regime deployed additional Tatmadaw troops to reinforce local police.²⁸
- **9 June:** Regime officials, including Defense Minister Lt Gen Hla Min, Arakan State Chief Minister Hla Maung Tin, Tatmadaw Western Command Commander Brig Gen Ko Ko Naing, and Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement Deputy Minister Phone Swe, visited areas of social unrest in Arakan State.²⁹
 - The regime’s Navy dispatched warships to Burma’s territorial waters off the Arakan coast.³⁰
 - NLD issued a statement that called on the authorities to restore order in Arakan State.³¹
 - One of three Rohingya men accused of the 28 May rape and murder of the Rakhine woman in Rambree Township hanged himself in Kyaukpyu jail.³²
- **10 June:** Riots were reported in Akyab.³³
 - The regime imposed an indefinite 6pm-6am curfew in Akyab, Sandoway, Kyaukpyu, and Rambree Townships.³⁴ It also banned public gatherings of more than five people.³⁵
 - President Thein Sein imposed a state of emergency in Arakan State.³⁶ The state of emergency allowed the military to take administrative control of Arakan State.³⁷ The emergency order is in effect until further ordered.³⁸

²⁰ Reuters (08 Jun 12) Four killed as Rohingya Muslims riot in Myanmar: government; DVB (08 Jun 12) Riots erupt in Arakan state; Irrawaddy (08 Jun 12) Riot Claims Three Lives in Arakan State; AFP (08 Jun 12) Myanmar police "open fire" amid religious unrest; RFA (08 Jun 12) Four Dead in Religious Clash; BBC (11 Jun 12) Q&A: Unrest in Burma's Rakhine state

²¹ AFP (08 Jun 12) Myanmar police "open fire" amid religious unrest; BBC (08 Jun 12) Burma police clash with Muslim protesters in Maung Daw; AP (09 Jun 12) 7 dead in religious rioting in western Myanmar; gov't says troops opened fire, calm restored; AFP (08 Jun 12) Four killed in religious clashes in Myanmar; RFA (08 Jun 12) Four Dead in Religious Clash; DVB (08 Jun 12) Riots erupt in Arakan state; BBC (11 Jun 12) Q&A: Unrest in Burma's Rakhine state

²² BBC (11 Jun 12) Q&A: Unrest in Burma's Rakhine state

²³ Reuters (08 Jun 12) Four killed as Rohingya Muslims riot in Myanmar: government; AFP (09 Jun 12) Myanmar beefs up security

²⁴ NLM (09 Jun 12) All Myanmar Islam Association issues statement of its stance; Xinhua (09 Jun 12) Biggest Islam association in Myanmar appeals for calm in wake of unrest in western state

²⁵ NLM (09 Jun 12) Maungdaw, Buthidaung in Rakhine State placed under curfew; Xinhua (08 Jun 12) Myanmar issues curfew order in unrest-affected western state regions; NLM (09 Jun 12) Riots occur in Maungdaw of Rakhine State - Curfew imposed to restore peace and tranquility of community after controlling all situations

²⁶ Xinhua (08 Jun 12) Myanmar issues curfew order in unrest-affected western state regions; NLM (09 Jun 12) Maungdaw, Buthidaung in Rakhine State placed under curfew; AP (08 Jun 12) Sectarian tension in Myanmar results in imposed curfew

²⁷ AFP (10 Jun 12) Myanmar media warns of sectarian "anarchy"; AFP (10 Jun 12) Myanmar media warns of sectarian "anarchy"; AFP (09 Jun 12) Myanmar beefs up security; NLM (11 Jun 12) Riots break out in Sittway, Rakhine State - Situation gets controlled in time Section-144 issued for ensuring community peace and tranquility

²⁸ AP (08 Jun 12) Sectarian tension in Myanmar results in imposed curfew; Irrawaddy (09 Jun 12) Tense Calm Returns after Latest Outbreak of Violence in Arakan State; Reuters (09 Jun 12) Myanmar steps up security after Muslim-Buddhist violence; NLM (10 Jun 12) Tatmadaw military columns help local administrative teams, police forces to restore stability, rule of law; AFP (09 Jun 12) Myanmar beefs up security

²⁹ Xinhua (09 Jun 12) Situation in Myanmar's western state returns to normal: official; Reuters (09 Jun 12) Myanmar steps up security after Muslim-Buddhist violence

³⁰ NLM (10 Jun 12) Tatmadaw military columns help local administrative teams, police forces to restore stability, rule of law; Xinhua (09 Jun 12) Situation in Myanmar's western state returns to normal: official; Reuters (09 Jun 12) Myanmar steps up security after Muslim-Buddhist violence

³¹ NYT (10 Jun 12) Crisis in Myanmar Over Buddhist-Muslim Clash

³² NLM (19 Jun 12) Two who rob, rape and murder a woman from Kyauknimaw Village sentenced to death; Xinhua (19 Jun 12) Two men sentenced to death for raping ethnic Rakhinese woman in Myanmar; Irrawaddy (18 Jun 12) Death Sentence for Arakan Rape-Murderers; Mizzima News (19 Jun 12) Three death sentences given in rape-murder of Rakhine woman

³³ Reuters (11 Jun 12) Muslim, Buddhist mob violence threatens new Myanmar image; Irrawaddy (10 Jun 12) Attack in Sittwe Raises Tensions in Arakan State; AFP (10 May 12) Myanmar imposes curfews after riots; AFP (10 Jun 12) Myanmar declares emergency in unrest-hit state

³⁴ NLM (11 Jun 12) Sittway Township in Rakhine State placed under curfew; AFP (10 May 12) Myanmar imposes curfews after riots; Xinhua (10 Jun 12) Myanmar gov't declares state of emergency in Rakhine; WSJ (10 Jun 12) Myanmar Clashes Spur Web Use, Crackdown; Xinhua (10 Jun 12) Myanmar president calls on all parties to cooperate to restore order; Xinhua (10 Jun 12) Curfew imposed in Myanmar's Sittway; Irrawaddy (10 Jun 12) Attack in Sittwe Raises Tensions in Arakan State

³⁵ NLM (11 Jun 12) Sittway Township in Rakhine State placed under curfew; AFP (10 May 12) Myanmar imposes curfews after riots; Xinhua (10 Jun 12) Myanmar gov't declares state of emergency in Rakhine; Xinhua (10 Jun 12) Myanmar president calls on all parties to cooperate to restore order; Xinhua (10 Jun 12) Curfew imposed in Myanmar's Sittway; Irrawaddy (10 Jun 12) Attack in Sittwe Raises Tensions in Arakan State

- Rangoon Division Chief Minister Myint Swe warned journalists that they could be charged under existing laws, including the Emergency Provisions Act, if they published inflammatory reports on the ongoing violence in Arakan State.³⁹ In addition, regime Censorship Board Deputy Director-General Tint Swe reminded journalists that all news must undergo censorship before it is published.⁴⁰
- About 600 ethnic Rakhine gathered at Rangoon's Shwedagon Pagoda to demand Rohingya be "removed" from Burma.⁴¹
- **11 June:** Riots were reported in Akyab, Maungdaw, and Pauktaw.⁴²
 - UN agencies based in Akyab as well as other NGOs began withdrawing their staff.⁴³ The UN said it would temporarily withdraw non-essential staff (over 40 people) from Arakan State and relocate them to Rangoon.⁴⁴
 - Burmese Rohingya Association of Thailand (BRAT) called on UN Sec-Gen Ban Ki-moon to intervene to stop the violence in Arakan State during a demonstration in Bangkok, Thailand.⁴⁵ BRAT also called on the UN to establish an "independent and impartial" commission of inquiry to investigate allegations of crimes against humanity committed during the ongoing violence in Arakan State.⁴⁶
- **12 June:** Riots were reported in Akyab.⁴⁷ Ferry cargo companies stopped the delivery of food supplies to the town.⁴⁸
 - Bangladesh said that from 10-12 June it pushed back 11 boats that carried about 500 Rohingya fleeing violence in Arakan State.⁴⁹
 - Bangladeshi authorities pushed back three boats that carried 1,000 Rohingya fleeing violence in Arakan State.⁵⁰
 - Bangladeshi FM Dipu Moni said Bangladesh was already "overburdened" with Rohingya refugees and could not take any more "under any circumstances".⁵¹
 - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) called on Bangladeshi authorities to "allow safe haven" for Rohingya fleeing violence in Arakan State.⁵²
 - UN Sec-Gen's Special Advisor for Burma Vijay Nambiar met with President Thein Sein in Naypyidaw to discuss the ongoing violence in Arakan State.⁵³
 - A commentary in the state-run newspaper New Light of Myanmar warned that continued unrest could put the unity of the country in jeopardy.⁵⁴
- **13 June:** UN Sec-Gen's Special Advisor for Burma Vijay Nambiar visited Maungdaw.⁵⁵
 - Akyab residents said they faced food shortages and skyrocketing prices for the limited food commodities available. Shops, banks, schools, and markets remained closed.⁵⁶
- **14 June:** Some shops and banks in downtown Akyab reopened, while the main market and schools remained closed.⁵⁷

³⁶ NLM (11 Jun 12) State of Emergency declared in Rakhine State; Xinhua (10 Jun 12) Myanmar president calls on all parties to cooperate to restore order; BBC (11 Jun 12) Burma violence: Tension high in Rakhine state; RFA (10 Jun 12) Emergency Declared in Rakhine; Xinhua (10 Jun 12) Myanmar gov't declares state of emergency in Rakhine; WSJ (10 Jun 12) Myanmar Clashes Spur Web Use, Crackdown; Reuters (10 Jun 12) Myanmar president says unrest threatens move to democracy

³⁷ AP (10 Jun 12) State of emergency declared for western Myanmar; BBC (11 Jun 12) Burma violence: Tension high in Rakhine state; RFA (10 Jun 12) Emergency Declared in Rakhine; WSJ (10 Jun 12) Myanmar Clashes Spur Web Use, Crackdown

³⁸ NLM (11 Jun 12) State of Emergency declared in Rakhine State; AFP (10 Jun 12) Myanmar declares emergency in unrest-hit state

³⁹ Irrawaddy (11 Jun 12) Press Warned Against Inciting Arakan Clashes; Media accused of biased coverage of unrest in Arakan state

⁴⁰ Irrawaddy (11 Jun 12) Press Warned Against Inciting Arakan Clashes; Media accused of biased coverage of unrest in Arakan state

⁴¹ AFP (10 May 12) Myanmar imposes curfews after riots; AFP (10 Jun 12) Myanmar declares emergency in unrest-hit state; RFA (10 Jun 12) Emergency Declared in Rakhine

⁴² AFP (12 Jun 12) Security forces patrol strife-hit Myanmar state; NLM (13 Jun 12) Security force trying to bring peace and stability to Rakhine State Action taken against mobs to prevent arson attacks, clashes; VOA (11 Jun 12) Violence Escalates in Burma's Rakhine State

⁴³ Xinhua (11 Jun 12) Situation in Myanmar's riot-hit Rakhine state under control

⁴⁴ DPA (11 Jun 12) Myanmar deploys troops after Buddhists and Muslims clash; AP (12 Jun 12) Sectarian violence continues in western Myanmar city despite state of emergency; AFP (12 Jun 12) Security forces patrol strife-hit Myanmar state

⁴⁵ VOA (11 Jun 12) Violence Escalates in Burma's Rakhine State; Nation (12 Jun 12) Call for UN to intervene in Rohingya 'genocide'

⁴⁶ Nation (12 Jun 12) Call for UN to intervene in Rohingya 'genocide'

⁴⁷ AP (12 Jun 12) Sectarian violence continues in western Myanmar city despite state of emergency; AP (12 Jun 12) Death toll passes 20 in Myanmar ethnic violence; DPA (12 Jun 12) Fires and clashes break out amid sectarian violence in Myanmar; AFP (12 Jun 12) Calls grow for end to Myanmar sectarian unrest

⁴⁸ AP (13 Jun 12) Food shortages add to misery in Myanmar strife

⁴⁹ AP (12 Jun 12) Bangladesh sends back boatloads of Rohingya Muslims fleeing Myanmar sectarian violence; AP (12 Jun 12) Bangladesh sends back Muslims fleeing Myanmar

⁵⁰ AP (12 Jun 12) Bangladesh sends back boatloads of Rohingya Muslims fleeing Myanmar sectarian violence

⁵¹ Reuters (13 Jun 12) Riot-hit Myanmar town calmer as troops restore order

⁵² Bloomberg (12 Jun 12) UN Calls for Bangladesh to Protect Victims of Myanmar Clashes

⁵³ UN News Center (12 Jun 12) Myanmar: UN envoy discusses state of emergency with President

⁵⁴ AFP (12 Jun 12) Calls grow for end to Myanmar sectarian unrest

⁵⁵ AFP (13 Jun 12) UN envoy visits unrest-hit western Myanmar

⁵⁶ AP (13 Jun 12) Food shortages add to misery in Myanmar strife

- Arakan State Security and Border Affairs Minister Col Htein Lin said that from 8-13 June seven mosques and nine Buddhist monasteries had been burned down.⁵⁸
- Bangladeshi FM Dipu Moni said that Bangladesh was not bound by international law to accept refugees fleeing violence in Burma's Arakan State.⁵⁹
- **15 June:** Unknown assailants burned about 60 houses in Akyab.⁶⁰
 - Regime authorities arrested 22 “rioters” in Chienkhali Village, Maungdaw Township.⁶¹
 - Regime Border Affairs Minister Lt Gen Htay vowed authorities would bring “offenders to justice and restore stability as soon as possible.”⁶²
 - UN Sec-Gen's Special Advisor for Burma Vijay Nambiar called for a “full, impartial, and credible” investigation into unrest in Arakan State.⁶³
- **16 June:** State-run newspaper New Light of Myanmar said that from 28 May to 14 June a total of 78 riots had broken out and 2,230 houses and buildings had been destroyed as a result of the violence in Arakan State.⁶⁴
 - Regime authorities in Kyauktaw Township detained about a dozen local villagers in connection with the ongoing riots.⁶⁵
- **18 June:** A court in Kyaukpyu sentenced to death the remaining two Rohingya men accused of the 28 May rape and murder of the 27-year-old Rakhine woman in Rambree Township.⁶⁶
 - The regime said that over 52,200 people were being housed in 66 camps in six townships.⁶⁷
- **19 June:** Twelve people - 10 Buddhists and two Muslims - died and 20 homes were destroyed during riots in Kutaung and Anautpyin Villages, Rathidaung Township.⁶⁸
 - The World Food Program said that 90,000 people had been displaced due to unrest in Arakan State.⁶⁹ Of this total, the agency had provided 82,000 with emergency food aid.⁷⁰
- **21 June:** Regime authorities arrested 60 Muslims from Anautpyin Village, Rathidaung Township, in connection with the 19 June riots.⁷¹
- **22 June:** UNHCR warned of a risk of a severe humanitarian crisis in Arakan State due to ongoing sectarian violence and poor conditions in IDP camps.⁷²

According to the regime, 62 people had died as a result of the unrest from 28 May to 21 June.⁷³ However, various organizations said that the death toll might be much higher as a result of escalating attacks and reprisals affecting Muslim Rohingya and Buddhist Rakhine.⁷⁴ On 16 June, a regime official said that more than 200 people remained missing from Maungdaw.⁷⁵

⁵⁷ Xinhua (14 Jun 12) 29 killed in riot in Myanmar's Rakhine state: gov't official

⁵⁸ AP (14 Jun 12) Myanmar authorities say contending ethnic groups suffered similarly in recent violence; Xinhua (14 Jun 12) 29 killed in riot in Myanmar's Rakhine state: gov't official; DVB (15 Jun 12) Official says order restored in Arakan state

⁵⁹ Xinhua (14 Jun 12) Bangladesh discards int'l pleas to open border to Myanmar clash victims

⁶⁰ Irrawaddy (15 Jun 12) More Houses Torched, but Sittwe 'Stable'

⁶¹ NLM (17 Jun 12) Rioters arrested in Maungdaw Tsp; Xinhua (17 Jun 12) 22 rioters arrested in Myanmar's Rakhine

⁶² NLM (17 Jun 12) Union Border Affairs and MID Minister visits villages in northern Maungdaw Tsp

⁶³ UN News Center (15 Jun 12) UN envoy calls for investigation into disturbances in Myanmar state

⁶⁴ AP (16 Jun 12) Myanmar ethnic violence death toll put at 50; AFP (16 Jun 12) 50 dead as Myanmar counts cost of communal unrest; Xinhua (16 Jun 12) 50 killed despite security restored in Myanmar's Rakhine State: state media

⁶⁵ DVB (18 Jun 12) Villagers protest army's arrests

⁶⁶ AP (18 Jun 12) Two condemned in killing blamed for Myanmar violence; AFP (19 Jun 12) Death sentences in Myanmar unrest murder case; NLM (19 Jun 12) Two who rob, rape and murder a woman from Kyauknimaw Village sentenced to death; BBC (18 Jun 12) Burma unrest: Death sentences in Rakhine murder case; Xinhua (19 Jun 12) Two men sentenced to death for raping ethnic Rakhinese woman in Myanmar; Irrawaddy (18 Jun 12) Death Sentence for Arakan Rape-Murderers; DVB (18 Jun 12) Three men given death sentence for murder that sparked riots

⁶⁷ OCHA (20 Jun 12) Myanmar: Displacement in Rakhine State Situation Report No. 2

⁶⁸ AP (20 Jun 12) New communal clashes in western Myanmar kill up to a dozen people; RFA (20 Jun 12) Twelve Killed in Latest Violence; Irrawaddy (20 Jun 12) A Dozen Reported Dead in Latest Arakan Violence; AP (21 Jun 12) Myanmar official says 62 died in recent communal unrest as Bangladesh turns back more refugees; RFA (21 Jun 12) Arrests Over Violence in Rakhine; Xinhua (21 Jun 12) Death toll rises to 62 in Myanmar's riot-hit Rakhine state: official

⁶⁹ AlertNet (19 Jun 12) About 90,000 displaced in Myanmar's Rakhine after clashes - WFP

⁷⁰ OCHA (20 Jun 12) Myanmar: Displacement in Rakhine State Situation Report No. 2

⁷¹ RFA (21 Jun 12) Arrests Over Violence in Rakhine

⁷² Xinhua (22 Jun 12) UN warns more severe humanitarian crisis in Myanmar

⁷³ Xinhua (21 Jun 12) Death toll rises to 62 in Myanmar's riot-hit Rakhine state: official

⁷⁴ Reuters (09 Jun 12) Myanmar steps up security after Muslim-Buddhist violence; AFP (12 Jun 12) Security forces patrol strife-hit Myanmar state; Kaladan News (09 Jun 12) 100 Rohingyas killed and 500 wounded in Maungdaw; Kaladan News (10 Jun 12) Breaking News: Nearly 1000 houses burnt down in Sittwe, over 100 killed, more than 300 wounded; Kaladan News (17 Jun 12) Muslims are not protected in Arakan: Nurul Islam, President of ARNO

⁷⁵ Reuters (16 Jun 12) Anger, fear linger after Myanmar communal clashes

International reactions to violence in Burma's Arakan State

Bangladesh

"Bangladesh appreciates the steps taken by Myanmar in containing the unrest and reaffirms its commitment to stand by the government and people of Myanmar in their efforts to restore peace and stability in the state of Rakhine. [...] Bangladesh is confident that the government of Myanmar would be able to deal with the situation in the best possible manner and restore normalcy in the region in the shortest possible time."⁷⁶ - Ministry of Foreign Affairs statement [12 June].

China

"China supports Myanmar's efforts to safeguard domestic stability and ethnic harmony."⁷⁷ - Foreign Ministry spokesperson Liu Weimin [12 June].

European Union

"We believe that the security forces are handling this difficult inter-communal violence in an appropriate way. [...] We welcome the priority which the Myanmar Government is giving to dealing with all ethnic conflicts."⁷⁸ - High Representative's Spokesperson Maja Kocijancic [11 June]

Organization of Islamic Cooperation

"The OIC condemns such systematic acts of violence and intimidation against the peaceful Rohingya population who have suffered for decades and urge the OIC Member States and the international community to urgently request the Myanmar government to prevent such violence and loss of life and bring the culprits to justice."⁷⁹ - OIC statement [11 June]

United Kingdom

"I am deeply concerned by the ongoing violence in Rakhine State. We call on all parties to act with restraint, and urge the authorities and community leaders to open discussions to end the violence and to protect all members of the local population."⁸⁰ - Foreign Office Minister Jeremy Browne [10 June]

United Nations

"The underlying tensions that stem from discrimination against ethnic and religious minorities pose a threat to Myanmar's democratic transition and stability. I urge all sides to exercise restraint, respect the law and refrain from violence. [...] It is critical that the Government intensify its efforts to defuse tension and restore security to prevent the violence from spreading further."⁸¹ - Special Rapporteur on human rights in Burma Tomás Ojea Quintana [13 June]

"This is an issue which has the potential of impacting on the entire reform process and requires to be handled very sensitively and in line with the international norms of international conduct."⁸² - Sec-Gen's Special Advisor for Burma Vijay Nambiar [14 June]

United States

"The United States continues to be deeply concerned about reports of ongoing ethnic and sectarian violence in western Burma's Rakhine State and urges all parties to exercise restraint and immediately halt all attacks. [...] We urge the people of Burma to work together toward a peaceful, prosperous, and democratic country that respects the rights of all its diverse peoples."⁸³ - Secretary of State Hillary Clinton [11 June]

⁷⁶ Xinhua (12 Jun 12) Bangladesh voices concern on Myanmar sectarian unrest, issues "alert" warning

⁷⁷ Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (13 Jun 12) Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Liu Weimin's Regular Press Conference on June 12, 2012

⁷⁸ Reuters (11 Jun 12) EU welcomes "measured" Myanmar response to rioting

⁷⁹ OIC (11 Jun 12) OIC is concerned over the report of violence against Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar

⁸⁰ UK FCO (10 Jun 12) Foreign Office Minister Jeremy Browne 'deeply concerned' by ongoing violence

⁸¹ OHCHR (13 Jun 12) "Tensions between ethnic and religious minorities threaten Myanmar's democratic transition" – UN expert; UN News Center (13 Jun 12) UN expert warns of threat from escalating communal violence in Myanmar

⁸² VOA (14 Jun 12) UN Envoy Visits Burma's Stricken Rakhine State

⁸³ RFA (11 Jun 12) Situation Tense in Rakhine