

A LANDSCAPE OF MY DREAM
HEALTH, EDUCATION & LIVELIHOOD PROGRAM (HELP) FOR
ROHINGYAS



I HAVE A DREAM.....

I have a dream... I paint a dream on the canvas of my mind where in one side of the canvas, my Rohingya mothers, sisters and brothers are operating their machines and on the other side of the canvas, their sons and daughters are flying aeroplane, some of them building gigantic cruise ships, some of them working in the World Health Organization as doctors, some of them working in different countries as engineers and architects, some of them working as ICT specialists in the Tech giant companies, some of them working as journalists in international news media, some of them receiving international awards for their extraordinary performance in the film industry and some of them are in professor jobs in internationally reputed universities like Oxford and Cambridge..... Similar dreams I have painted in my book "Poshak Shilpi" while working with around five thousand garments workers during my garments profession.

Ahmedur Rahman Farooq
(Soe Win)

His Excellency Sir Filippo Grandi

UN High Commissioner for Refugees

Geneva, Switzerland

Dated: 07 March 2023

Subject: Submission of my concepts regarding self reliance initiatives for Rohingya refugees and the host community with the set up of two Export Processing Zones (EPZ) in Cox's Bazar of Bangladesh

Honorable Sir,

My name is Ahmedur Rahman Farooq. My Burmese name is Soe Win. I am a Rohingya from *Ombadi Rwa* under *Senthaung Ookso* of *Kyawktaw* Township of Arakan (Rakhine State) of Burma. My father's name is *Rwasugri* Hafiizur Rahman and my mother's name is Noor Chemon Masua.

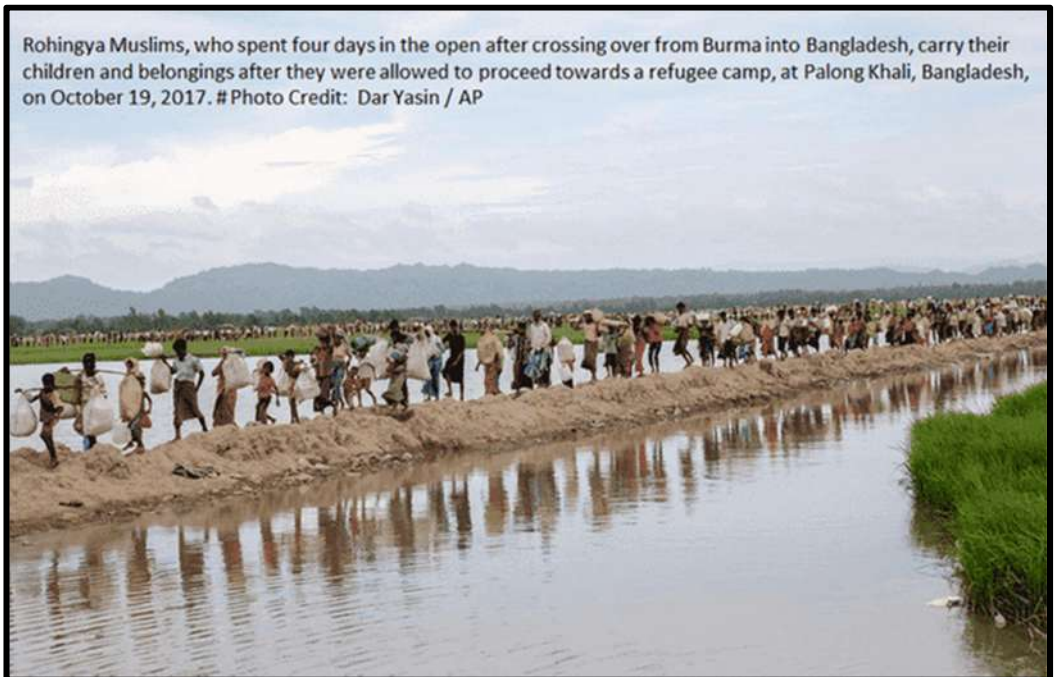
At the very beginning, I would like to humbly express deep gratitude from the core of my heart to the international community, all UN Bodies including the UNHCR, UNHRC, WFP and so on, the World Bank, NGOs and the world media for standing strongly by the side of our oppressed Rohingya community with all necessary support to save them from the Genocide and also to the government and people of Bangladesh for opening their border and their hearts for them, sheltering the Rohingya refugees despite their huge limitations.

I would also like to express my deep gratitude to the UN Security Council Member States - USA, UK, France, Albania, Brazil, Ecuador, Gabon, Ghana, Japan, Malta, Mozambique, Switzerland and United Arab Emirates for the adoption of the Resolution 2669 (2022) at its 9231st meeting, on 21 December 2022, which is the first such resolution on Myanmar including the Rohingya issue in over five decades. I would

also like to express deep gratitude to the People's Republic of China and Russian Federation for their kindness to abstain from blocking the Resolution by their Veto power.

I would also like to humbly express gratitude to the humanitarian nations of 132 countries who adopted the historic unanimous Resolution No: A/76/312_E on 17 for Rohingyas on November 2021 in the UN General Assembly, for the first time in the UN history.

As you are kindly aware that the Rohingyas, a population of around 3.5 million people both at home and abroad, are the most persecuted and biggest stateless community of the world. Being politically liquidated and financially and economically crippled, the Rohingyas have been leading a sub-human and slavish life generation after generation. They have never been given any opportunity to let them stand on their own feet utilizing their natural abilities and resources.



All heinous tactics have been used covertly or overtly to make them completely helpless in order to force them to wield them to any direction as the vested quarters desire in line with their politics, conspiracies and Interest - calculation.

You are also kindly aware that now Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh is home to over one million Rohingya refugees living in cramped makeshift camps and it is the world's largest refugee settlement, where they are now facing an uncertain future. They are fully dependent on the donations of the international community. Under such a situation, on 17 February 2023, the UN announced its plan to cut food aid for Rohingya refugees, citing fund shortfall. The World Food Program (WFP) said it would reduce the value of its food assistance to \$10 per person from \$12. His Excellency the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burma Sir Tom Andrews has already made an urgent appeal to member states of the UN to reverse **"the shameful, catastrophic cuts"** to food rations for Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh.



"I have spoken with desperate families in the camps who have already had to cut back on essential food items due to a spike in prices. Reversing these cuts in food aid is literally a matter of life and death for Rohingya families," the Honorable Special Rapporteur said. "Unless they are quickly reversed, the impact of these cuts will be catastrophic and long-lasting," he said.

Your Excellency is also aware that the amount of the international donation for the Rohingya refugees have already started decreasing from year to year. The total requirement of the Joint Response Plan (JRP) of the Rohingya Refugee Crisis in Bangladesh in 2018 was \$950.8 million, but the fund received was \$688.1 million. In 2019, the JRP requirement was \$921 million, but the fund was received \$650 million. In 2020, the JRP requirement was \$877 million, but fund received was \$574.9 million. In 2021, the JRP requirement was \$943.1 million, but fund was received \$681 million. In 2022, the JRP requirement was \$881 million, but fund was received \$554.7 million.

Video shows smugglers beating Rohingya on trafficking boat

Rarely seen images obtained by AFP show smugglers mercilessly beating rake-thin refugees crowded onto a fishing boat.



This video grab taken on December 4, 2020 from an AFP TV video shows Rohingya refugees in a boat in Chakmarkul on August 26, 2020 [AFP]

The Rohingyas already live in inhumane conditions in the camps. The reduction in aid means further worsening the situation. There is a common proverb: "Necessity knows no law." To meet their individual and family needs, the Rohingya refugees are likely to seek alternative sources of income. Ultimately, their needs will compel many of them to be involved in criminal activities, including drugs and arms peddling, human trafficking, kidnapping and extortion etc.

After years of limbo in the refugee camps in Bangladesh and the instability prevailing in Burma following the military takeover, our Rohingya refugees feel they have no option but to undertake perilous sea journeys due to utter frustration and with a dream of humane life, many Rohingya refugees are regularly attempting to cross to Malaysia and Indonesia by rickety wooden boats where hundreds of exhausted and dehydrated Rohingya refugee men, women and children are dying most often in the Bay of Bengal or in the Andaman sea after their boats either break or their engines go out of order which ultimately leaves them to drift on the open sea for days and sometimes for weeks without food and water.

On the other hand, most unfortunately, a remarkable level of dissatisfaction is growing among the host community against the Rohingya refugees for whom they have opened their hearts with unprecedented love and affection and even shared their own food with them few years back during the Refugee Crisis in 2017.

It is true that the prolonged stay of the Rohingya Refugees is causing serious negative impact on the host community in Bangladesh. It is creating strain on the resources available for the host community living in the adjacent areas to the camps particularly in areas of groundwater availability, inflationary pressure on local markets, deforestation and contamination of agricultural lands, reduced wage rate and demand for labour etc.

The strain on the resources is thereby causing many other indirect problems in the host community. It has also degraded the quality of life and environment of the host community adjacent areas. As a result, a conflict-like situation between the host community and the Rohingya community is increasing. Response of most of the host community people is, "Take them back to their own country".

PROPOSAL:

Under these circumstances, I would like to humbly submit my below concepts / proposals to your good office for your kind review and to take up the issue with the government of Bangladesh who has already done huge sacrifices for the Rohingyas on humanitarian grounds:

(1) To set up two EPZs (Export Processing Zone), one in Bhashanchar refugee camp and the other one in Ukhiya refugee camps.

(2) Rohingya refugees and also the members of the host community will work in the factories in the two EPZs.

(3) To grant Duty Free access for all the products of these two EPZs in the World market. Besides, all clothing items of all the UN organs including the uniforms can be produced in these EPZs.

(4) All the Enterprises of these two EPZs will run on *"Proportionately Grade-wise - Equal - Profit Sharing Basis "* * with all employees and workers. This will make them fully solvent financially and it would not be necessary for them to depend for alms or donations from anyone or anywhere.

(5) Initially, two factories can be set up as pilot project, one for **"Woven"** * and the other one for **"KNIT"** *. I am providing below some pictures of all preliminary requirements regarding yarns, fabrics, machinery and accessories etc



where it may cost around 2 million US Dollars for two factories of non-composite medium range. And to employ around one million manpower of Rohingya refugees and the members of the host community in Cox's Bazar, it may require \$7.5 million US Dollars to set up non-composite type factories. Notably, it is not necessary to set up composite factories there because the factories can procure the fabrics and raw materials from other composite factories of Bangladesh because Bangladesh has already a strong base in ready garments manufacturing sector where there is already a 200 billion US Dollar investment with one of the most efficient and dedicated workforce of the world and it is the second largest RMG exporting country of the world. With this one million manpower in the garments manufacturing process in Cox's Bazar, it is possible to export minimum 8.5 billion US Dollar worth garments every year in the position of their low skill level and with cheap price garments. Once this one million manpower become highly skillful with the efficiency to do any top critical expensive garments, it would be possible to export around 14 billion US Dollar worth garments every year.

Mentionably, I can submit a detailed project plan of two factories of both **"Woven"** and **"Knit"** as pilot project, in case I get any response from your good office. Notably, during my career as a garments professional, I had the opportunity to work with nearly 5 thousand garments workers, handling production, planning, merchandising, marketing and factory operation. My book **"Poshak Shilpi"** is based on my garments profession.

Once the refugees and also the members of the host community of 18 years above can be engaged in the manufacturing operations, many of the existing problems will be solved. Besides, since higher education like that of college or university is not accessible for the Rohingyas, at least the manufacturing skill of the Rohingyas will be a life-long asset for them with which they will be able to use to build their future not only in the refugee camps in Bangladesh but also in their own homeland Arakan of Burma after their repatriation. With this they will also be able to save themselves from the wrath of different heinous tactics of different national and international vested quarters who constantly work to push the Rohingyas to utmost helplessness so that they can use them in whatever way they wish to serve their heinous interest.

"Give me the strength to make my love fruitful in service...
Give me the strength never to disown the poor
or bend my knees before insolent might,"
-Rabindranath Tagore.

Finally, I would like to request Your Excellency to kindly review my concepts above.

Wishing you a long..... long happy life.

With best regards.

Ahmedur Rahman Farooq Soe Win

Health, Education & Livelihood Program (HELP) for Rohingyas

Enclosures: My 3 Books

- (1) **The Plight of Rohingyas in the World Media-** محنة روهنجيا المسلمين في وسائل الإعلام العالمية
- (2) **Rohingyas: Tears Down the Cheeks**
- (3) **Poshak Shilpi (Garments Artiste -** فنان الملابس



PILOT PROJECT - 1



Yarns ! Fabrics: Woven & Knit ! Accessories ! Machinery !



WOVEN

KNIT

POPLIN FABRICS

YARNS

SINGLE JERSEY

1x1, 2x1, 2x2 Rib

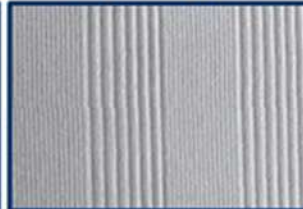


TAFFETA FABRICS

PIQUE

DROP NEEDLE

WAFFLE SOLID



VELVET FABRICS

WAFFLE PRINTED

POLAR FLEECE

BONDED POLAR FLEECE



WOVEN

WOVEN

WOVEN

WOVEN

ORGANDIE FABRICS

CHIFFON FABRICS

CHINTZ FABRICS



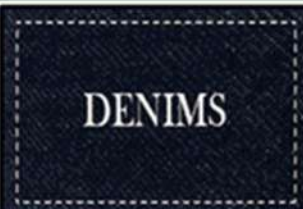
GEORGETTE FABRICS

LACE FABRICS



DENIMS

FOR INQUIRY:



HEALTH, EDUCATION & LIVELIHOOD PROGRAM (HELP) FOR ROHINGYAS



PILOT PROJECT - 2



Yarns ! Fabrics: Woven & Knit ! Accessories ! Machinery !



MACHINERY

GARMENTS DIVISION

In Pages Below:

MACHINERY OF (1) DYEING (2) KNITTING (3) PRINTING (4) EMBROIDERY (5) R&D (6) OTHERS



AUTO CUTTER

AUTO SPREADER

CAD SECTION



Garments Division: Common Machinery & Equipments

(1) Lock Stitch: 1 needle lock stitch (2) Lock Stitch: 2 Needle lock stitch (3) Verticle : 1 needle lock stitch side cutter (4) Over Lock : 2 needle, 4 Thread, 2 looper over lock (5) Flat Lock : 3 needle 5 Thread small cylinder bed (6) Flat Lock : 3 needle 5 Thread cylinder bed (7) Feed of The Arm : 2 needle feed of the arm double chine stitch (8) Button Hole : Computer controlled Button holing (9) Button stich : Computer controlled Button stitching (10) Kansai : D.F.B Kansai (11) Kansai : Kansai P.D.M (12) 2 Needle Chain Stitch : 2 Needle 4Thread chain stitch (13) Kansai Chain Stitch : Kansai double needle chain stitch (14) Siruba Chain Stitch : P/L 2 needle chain stitch (15) Snap Button : Snap Button (16) 4 Needle Cover Stitch : 4 Needle cover stitch (17) 4 Needle Cover Stitch : 4 Needle cover stitch (18) ZigZag : 1 Needle ZigZag with standard 3step Zigzag Stitch (19) Bartack machine : Computer Control Bartacking (20) Piquoting machine (21) Button Ascolite machine (22) Rib Cutter (23) VacuumTable/Iron (24) Iron (25) Thread Reconing (26) Label cutter machine (27) Heat Press machine (28) Bend Knife cutting machine (29) Fusing Machine (30) Needle Detector (31) Button Pull tester (32) Thread Sucker (33) Piping cutter.#



Health, Education & Livelihood Program (HELP) for Rohingyas



PILOT PROJECT - 2



Yarns ! Fabrics: Woven & Knit ! Accessories ! Machinery !



KNITTING FLOOR



EMBROIDERY

SCREEN PRINTING

DRYER



PILOT PROJECT - 2

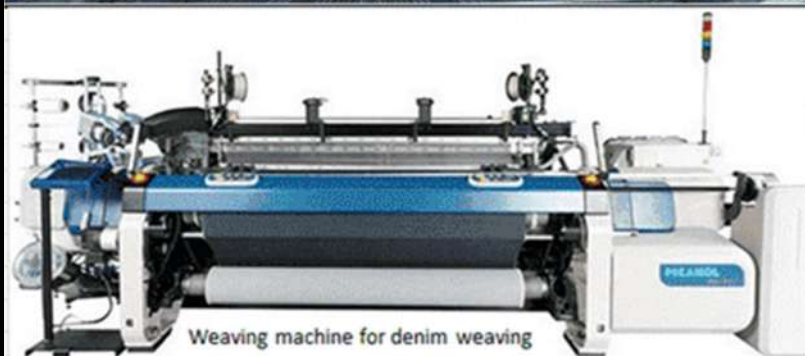


WOVEN MACHINERY



Quality & Comfort

that is guaranteed in every thread weavers



Weaving machine for denim weaving



Thank You!

