

30 September 2021

## **Bangladesh: Rohingya human rights defender Mohib Ullah killed**

On 29 September 2021, Rohingya human rights defender **Mohib Ullah** was [shot](#) and killed by unidentified individuals in Kutupalong camp in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. Mohib Ullah arrived at his office in the Kutupalong camp around 8:30 PM when three armed individuals attacked him. The human rights defender sustained at least three gunshot injuries to his chest and was pronounced dead by the doctors after being taken to Kutupalong MSF Hospital.

[Mohib Ullah](#) was a Rohingya refugee and human rights defender living in the Kutupalong camp in Bangladesh. He was also the chairperson of Arakan Rohingya Society for Peace & Human Rights (ARSPH). He documented various atrocities committed against the Rohingyas by Myanmar's military. The human rights defender also [advocated](#) for the rights and recognition of Rohingya refugees at the United Nations Human Rights Council, the White House and various other international platforms. In August 2019, he organised a large peaceful rally to mark the second anniversary of the military crackdown on Rohingyas in Myanmar, in which many Rohingya refugees participated in.

On 29 September 2021, Mohib Ullah was shot dead at his office in the Kutupalong camp. The police investigating the incident have suggested that three unidentified individuals entered his office and fired five rounds of bullets. Three bullets hit Mohib Ullah in the chest, fatally injuring him. The human rights defender was taken to Kutupalong MSF Hospital where he was later pronounced dead.

Prior to his death, Mohib Ullah had been facing [threats](#). The Kutupalong camp, one of the world's largest refugee camps housing over 900,000 Rohingyas, is continuously subjected to violence from extremist groups such as the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army. The threats against Mohib Ullah began to increase with his rising popularity and the support he gathered for the Rohingyas across the world. One Rohingya rights activist also [reported](#) that authorities in Bangladesh had been made aware of the risks to Mohib Ullah's life.

Front Line Defenders strongly condemns the killing of human rights defender Mohib Ullah as it believes it to be in direct response to his peaceful and legitimate work related to the human rights of Rohingyas. Front Line Defenders is also concerned about the reports of violence inside the Kutupalong camp and the risk to the lives of refugees who have already faced grave human rights violations. Rohingya human rights defenders in the camp face the risk of clampdown from authorities and further threats from the same groups that targeted Mohib Ullah. Front Line Defenders urges the authorities in Bangladesh to ensure the safety and well-being of all Rohingya refugees and human rights defenders residing in the Kutupalong camp.

### **Front Line Defenders urges the relevant authorities in Bangladesh to:**

1. Strongly condemn the killing of human rights defender Mohib Ullah;
2. Carry out an immediate, thorough and impartial investigation into the killing of Mohib Ullah, with a view to publishing the results and bringing those responsible to justice in accordance with international standards;
3. Investigate reports of violence and other forms of intimidation against residents of the Kutupalong camp and Rohingya human rights defenders, and adopt immediate measures to ensure their protection;

4. Guarantee in all circumstances that all human rights defenders in Bangladesh are able to carry out their legitimate human rights activities without fear of reprisals and free of all restrictions.

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