

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi
State Counsellor for Myanmar
Office of the State Counsellor
No.15, Ministries Zone
Naypyitaw

9 November 2017

Dear Daw Aung San Suu Kyi

FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF EDINBURGH

Concerning the developing situation in Northern Rakhine State, I should like to share with you the City of Edinburgh's continuing support for the Myanmar people in their quest for full democracy and human rights.

Your personal courage and relentless pursuit for democratic justice stands out as a beacon here in Edinburgh, and around the world. The dark shadow of oppression must be fought at every opportunity and those that light the way to freedom must be encouraged and supported by all means necessary.

Since you were awarded the Freedom of the City on 18 June 2005, reflecting our commitment to you, many important steps forward have been taken but we recognise just how fraught the task you face continues to be.

The City of Edinburgh Council condemns the violence in Rakhine in the strongest possible terms and calls on you to use your immeasurable moral courage and influence to allow the United Nations to intervene as swiftly as possible, and to ensure the safe return of the Rohingya people.

International mediation and scrutiny can help resolve the situation in a peaceful and non-violent manner and we stand by, ready to help you if necessary.

At a time when democracy is being threatened around the world, it is vital that we who seek and sustain democratic freedom stand together in facing down our common enemies.

I wish you and your people great strength in dealing with your current struggles, and trust that effective action to stop the violence will be taken as swiftly as possible.

Yours sincerely

FRANK ROSS
LORD PROVOST