

Seminar on ‘Post-International Court of Justice (ICJ) Verdict: Justice for Rohingyas’

The Center for Peace Studies (CPS), SIPG and the Department of Law of North South University successfully organized a seminar on ‘Post-International Court of Justice (ICJ) Verdict: Justice for Rohingyas’ on Thursday, 5 March 2020 at 2:00 pm at the Syndicate Hall, North South University. Prof. Dr. Payam Akhavan of McGill University, who presented the case of the Rohingya crisis to the ICJ on behalf of Gambia, shared his experience of presenting the case to the ICJ and views on the verdict of ICJ on the Rohingya crisis. This is the first time that the official legal team interacted with academics, students, media and civil society members in Bangladesh. He answered to the questions of the media and students by stating that this ruling is significant to move ahead towards drawing support from the international community as well as reaching sustainable solutions to the crisis. We, however, ‘need to work together strategically and pragmatically’, Prof. Akhavan said. On behalf of the 57-member of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC), The Gambia filed a suit against Myanmar at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in November 2019, alleging it was committing “an ongoing genocide against its minority Muslim Rohingya population” and violating the 1948 Genocide Convention. On 23 January 2020, in a landmark verdict, the ICJ, the top court of the United Nations, ordered Myanmar to prevent acts of genocide against the country’s persecuted Rohingya minority and to stop destroying evidence.

The session was moderated by Mr. Md. Shahidul Haque, Senior Fellow of SIPG and the former Foreign Secretary of the Government of Bangladesh. At the beginning of the seminar, Prof. Tawfique SK M. Haque, Director, SIPG, provided the welcome remarks. Representatives from different print and electronic media attended the seminar. Members of CPS and SIPG, the faculties of Department of Political Science and Sociology (PSS), and other faculties of North South University were also present. At the end, Ishtiaque Ahmed, Barrister, MCI Arb., J.S.D, Chair, Department of Law, NSU gave the vote of thanks.



