



No sighting of Datuk Seri Nicky in Penang



Anina to conduct her own defence against Ismail Sabri



Insurance agent succeeds in bid to challenge her unilateral conversion



It's karma for Suu Kyi



By [Dzulkifli Abdul Razak](#) - February 15, 2021 @ 12:08am

13



Demonstrators hold placards calling for the release of detained Myanmar's State Counselor Aung San Suu Kyi during a protest against the military coup in Yangon, Myanmar, 14 February 2021. Protests against the military coup continued across the country despite orders banning mass gatherings and reports of police arresting anti-coup protesters in night-time raids. Myanmar's military junta on 13 February ordered the arrest of several prominent anti-coup activists while suspending privacy laws that restricted police from detaining suspects or searching private property without court warrants. - EPA/LYNN BO BO

ON Feb 1, an unexpected coup was launched in Myanmar, taking the world by surprise. Some, however, were less so because of their belief in the force of karma.

In fact, they argued that the event was a karmic consequence on Aung San Suu Kyi, who is known to have offered support to the Myanmar military, the Tatmadaw, by covering up and even defending them in relation to the alleged Rohingya genocide.

She even appeared before the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague to deny the accusations of genocide that were pointed to the military. Others use this to leverage criticism against Myanmar's democracy led by Suu Kyi as a farce, since the Rohingya community was deprived from exercising their voting rights.

This is made worse by the various purported crimes towards this community, including ethnic cleansing and violation of international human rights in very many blatant ways, especially against women and

MOST POPULAR

LATEST

MOST READ

- 14m [New Scott's Gummies to support children's growth, development](#)
- 18m [No sighting of Datuk Seri Nicky in Penang](#)
- 21m [#Showbiz: Alive Again concert to help artistes in April](#)
- 29m [5 tips to heal from trauma](#)
- 35m [Boy with leukaemia gets to ride in police MPV](#)
- 42m [Wan Rosdy: No overlap between Pahang's SICP and MySejahtera](#)
- 45m [Over 74,000 have completed full Covid-19 vaccination](#)

VACCINE



NATION 43 minutes ago

[Wan Rosdy: No overlap between Pahang's SICP and MySejahtera](#)



NATION 2 hours ago

[Covid-19 vaccination: Additional groups to join Phase 2](#)



NATION 5 hours ago

[Sabah government to have more campaigns to encourage vaccination](#)



NATION 5 hours ago

[Vaccine queue-jumpers investigation almost completed](#)



NATION Mar 24, 2021 @ 11:23am

[Sabah govt departments, community leaders reach out to the public for vaccination](#)



PROPERTY Mar 22, 2021 @ 3:50pm

[Melaka - Relatively stable in 2021](#)

ACROSS NEW STRAITS TIMES



CRIME & COURTS 19 minutes ago

[No sighting of Datuk Seri Nicky in](#)

children. Others called it state terrorism.

YOU MAY ALSO LIKE

- [Ousted Myanmar party calls for release of Suu Kyi, other leaders](#)
- [Britain tells citizens to leave Myanmar, Suu Kyi lawyer denies graft](#)
- [Key aide of Myanmar's Aung San Suu Kyi arrested](#)
- [Suu Kyi charged with breaking 'import/export law'](#)

Towards this end, as recent as August 2017, some 740,000 Rohingyas were forced to flee from Rakhine State to the neighbouring country due to operations that the United Nations deemed as genocidal. Those who left for Bangladesh after a military crackdown reportedly "celebrated" the coup and the detention of Suu Kyi by the Tatmadaw.

Regarded as the country's de facto leader, she hesitantly, at the time, and publicly came to the defence of the Myanmar atrocities at the ICJ hearing in 2019. "She is the reason behind all of our suffering," to quote a Rohingya community leader, Farid Ullah, from Kutupalong – the world's largest refugee settlement.

The unfolding of the coup is an interesting development because "karma" is often quoted as a term that refers to the spiritual principle of cause and effect. Accordingly, the karma of an individual can be said to influence the future of that individual based on their intent and deed (as the cause).

As a rule of thumb, it postulates that good intent and good deeds contribute to good karma, while bad intent and deed otherwise. It is also juxtaposed to the concept of "rebirth" as part of the philosophy of karma, and is well ingrained in many schools of thoughts, such as in Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism, as well as Taoism.

Karma, within this understanding, is able to affect one's future in the current life, as well as the nature and quality of future lives. Apparently, where a bad or evil karma is involved, a Myanmar tradition resolves this by the beating of metal and tin materials to drive away the undesirable karma.

This explains why many protesters who are against the coup were seen noisily banging metal pots, pans or buckets as part of the civil disobedience campaign involving mainly youngsters and students.

This must now be taken in the context of what took place in The Hague, where Suu Kyi's office said she would fly to "defend the national interest". There, she reportedly sat impassively through graphic accounts of mass murder and rape perpetrated by Myanmar's military at the start of a three-day hearing on allegations of genocide at the UN's highest court.

"I stand before you to awaken the conscience of the world and arouse the voice of the international community," Abubacarr Marie Tambadou, the Gambia's attorney-general and justice minister, said as he opened his country's case against Myanmar at the ICJ on Dec 10. "In the words of Edmund Burke: 'The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.'

"Another genocide is unfolding right before our eyes, yet we do nothing to stop it," he said. "This is a stain on our collective conscience. It's not only the state of Myanmar that is on trial here, it's our collective humanity that is being put on trial."



Penang



NATION 3 hours ago
[Concrete block falls off lorry along MRR2 highway](#)



CRIME & COURTS 4 hours ago
[Government gets RM48 million from Jho Low's father](#)



GROOVE Mar 24, 2021 @ 5:02pm
[#Showbiz: China to digitally remove Zheng Shuang from drama series](#)



REGION Mar 24, 2021 @ 3:51pm
[Singapore blogger ordered to pay \\$100,000 for defaming PM](#)

The village of Min Gyi was a case in point, drawing on witness accounts recorded in a report by UN investigators, who estimated 750 people were killed there, including more than 100 children under the age of 6.

The court was also told of "extrajudicial killings, rape or other forms of sexual violence, burning of homes and destruction of livestock...calculated to bring about a destruction of the Rohingya group in whole or in part".

Suu Kyi's fast-fading legacy is arguably giving birth as a darker consequence of the karma. As commonly understood: what goes around comes around.

The writer, an NST columnist for more than 20 years, is International Islamic University Malaysia rector

RELATED ARTICLES

WORLD

Nov 8, 2020 @ 12:24pm

Myanmar goes to polls, Suu Kyi forecast to triumph

WORLD

Feb 7, 2021 @ 9:56am

Myanmar arrests Suu Kyi's Australian economic advisor

WORLD

Mar 18, 2021 @ 2:09pm

Myanmar's ousted leader Suu Kyi faces new corruption charges from junta

WORLD

Feb 15, 2021 @ 7:38pm

Myanmar's Suu Kyi to face court this week: Lawyer

Recommended by

Alaska tirade shows China and the US are further apart than ever

Sponsored | Nikkei Asia

Sell your car in 24 hours, instant...

Book Now

Stay at home and we'll do the rest. With Free home...

Sponsored | Carsome Malaysia

The Japanese Way To Remove Body Toxins

Sponsored | Nuubu

marriage under wraps
Elizabeth Tan | New Straits...
New Straits Times

for 66407,000 a week in
Mayfair record | New Strait...
New Straits Times

between Pandang's OTT and
MySejahtera | New Straits...
New Straits Times

It's karma for Suu Kyi



GET MOBILE APP



- NEWS**
- [Crime & Courts](#)
- [Exclusive](#)
- [Govt / Public Policy](#)
- [Nation](#)
- [Politics](#)

- BUSINESS**
- [Business Times](#)
- [Property](#)
- [Cars Bikes Trucks](#)

- LIFE & TIMES**
- [Sunday Vibes](#)
- [Bots](#)
- [Heal](#)
- [Flair](#)
- [Jom!](#)
- [Groove](#)

- SPORTS**
- [Football](#)
- [Badminton](#)
- [Tennis](#)
- [Cycling](#)
- [Golf](#)
- [MMA](#)
- [MotorSport](#)
- [Cricket](#)
- [Others](#)

- WORLD**
- [World](#)
- [Region](#)

- OPINION**
- [Columnists](#)
- [Letters](#)
- [Leader](#)

- GALLERY**
- [Photos](#)
- [Infographics](#)

- NSTTV**
- EDUCATION**
- VOUCHER**