

ABSTRACT

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THE ROHINGYA CONFLICT AND BANGLADESH'S NATIONAL SECURITY: THE CASE OF THE ARAKAN ROHINGYA SALVATION ARMY (ARSA)

(xiv + 112 pages: 1 figure, 3 appendices)

Keywords: ARSA, Rohingya, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Tatmadaw, ethnic identity, insurgency, security, refugee camps, securitizing move

The case of the tripartite Rohingya conflict in Myanmar reached new heights of tension after an insurgent group called the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) perpetrated attacks against Myanmar's Border Guard Police officers in 2016. These attacks were followed by an indiscriminate crackdown by Myanmar's military on Rohingya villages which resulted in the mass exodus of around 700,000 Rohingya—who mostly fled to Bangladesh. The involvement of both ARSA and Bangladesh in the continuation of the Rohingya conflict from the time of the 2017 mass exodus becomes the basis for the establishment of the research questions of this study. This research aims to explain the reasons that contribute to the establishment of ARSA and to explain how ARSA's involvement in the Rohingya conflict threatens Bangladesh's national security. The narrative analysis technique was utilized to analyze the findings alongside the theory of constructivism and other international relations concepts. This research concludes that ARSA is the by-product of the constructed Rohingya resistance identity as well as the back-to-back atrocities the Rohingya had to face after and during the 2012 inter-communal violence. Bangladesh with its fair share of national issues including political violence and militancy has to face the additional problem of the Rohingya refugee crisis. The existence of ARSA and countless criminal gangs in the Rohingya refugee camps causes the problem of refugee camp militarization which contributes to the issue of militancy as well as extremism in the country. Additionally, the determination of ARSA as a terrorist organization by the Tatmadaw through a securitizing move becomes Myanmar's reason to continue to delay the repatriation of the Rohingya refugees. These circumstances and in particular the involvement of ARSA in the Rohingya conflict have made the already poor living conditions of the Rohingya even more insufferable.

References: 20 books (2001-2021) + 27 journal articles + 23 research reports + 30 news articles + 8 internet sources

ABSTRAK

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KONFLIK ROHINGYA DAN KEAMANAN NASIONAL BANGLADESH: KASUS ARAKAN ROHINGYA SALVATION ARMY (ARSA)

(xiv + 112 halaman: 1 ilustrasi, 3 lampiran)

Kata kunci: ARSA, Rohingya, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Tatmadaw, identitas etnis, pemberontakan, keamanan, kamp pengungsi, langkah sekuritisasi

Kasus konflik tripartit Rohingya di Myanmar mencapai puncak ketegangan baru setelah kelompok pemberontakan bernama *Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army* (ARSA) melakukan serangan terhadap *Border Guard Police* Myanmar pada tahun 2016. Serangan ini diikuti dengan operasi brutal oleh militer Myanmar di area kediaman Rohingya yang mengakibatkan 700.000 Rohingya melarikan diri dari Myanmar—sebagian besar ke Bangladesh. Keterlibatan ARSA dan Bangladesh dalam kelanjutan konflik Rohingya sejak krisis 2017 ini menjadi dasar dari penetapan dua pertanyaan penelitian skripsi ini. Skripsi ini bertujuan untuk menjelaskan alasan-alasan yang berkontribusi terhadap pembentukan ARSA dan menjelaskan bagaimana keterlibatan ARSA dalam konflik Rohingya mengancam keamanan nasional Bangladesh. Teknik analisis naratif, perspektif teori konstruktivisme dan konsep hubungan internasional lainnya digunakan untuk menganalisis data yang ditemukan. Penelitian ini menyimpulkan bahwa ARSA adalah “produk hasil” dari *resistance indentity* Rohingya serta kekejaman yang telah dihadapi Rohingya setelah dan selama kekerasan antar komunitas yang terjadi di Rakhine pada tahun 2012. Bangladesh dengan isu-isu dalam negerinya sendiri dihadapkan dengan masalah tambahan yang diakibatkan dari krisis Rohingya 2017. Keberadaan ARSA dan gerombolan kriminal di kamp-kamp pengungsi Rohingya menyebabkan masalah militerisasi kamp pengungsi yang berkontribusi pada isu militansi serta ekstremisme di Bangladesh. Selain itu, penetapan ARSA sebagai organisasi teroris oleh Tatmadaw melalui langkah sekuritisasi menjadi alasan Myanmar untuk terus menunda repatriasi para pengungsi Rohingya. Keadaan ini dan khususnya keterlibatan ARSA dalam konflik Rohingya memperburuk kondisi kehidupan Rohingya di kamp-kamp pengungsi di Bangladesh.

Referensi: 20 buku (2001-2021) + 27 artikel jurnal + 23 laporan penelitian + 30 artikel berita + 8 sumber daring