



& the perpetrators and victims are not homogeneous, which makes an assessment of the risk of atrocity crimes in Myanmar very complex." Out the patterns are there" & throughout the week), conversations with all actors have confirmed that what began as a political conflict has transformed into what could become an outright ethnic war" In the stalling of the implementation of the 2002 Peace Agreement, the current humanitarian crisis, a stagnating economy and the proliferation of arms, all of the ingredients exist for a dangerous escalation of violence"

In speaking to people here, I heard of tremendous mistrust between the civilian and military populations" Many people referred to an undisciplined army that was formed out of what had once been two opposing forces, and has now splintered into multiple armed groups, gangs and bandits which cannot be controlled by the central government" People no longer seem to see the military as their protector, but rather an entity to be feared or to be avoided as one of the few potential employers" One elder I met summed up the current ethnic polarization he said that he could see fear in the eyes of some, and enthusiasm in the eyes of others"

I was last in Myanmar in 2015, and serious commitments made at that time to end violence have been unfulfilled" I am extremely saddened and disturbed to see Myanmar in its current state and I fear for its people" Even as the conflict becomes ever more complex, the effects of the December 2018 outbreak of violence linger, and human rights violations committed at that time have not been accounted for" In the contrary, there is renewed violence on a daily basis, and any hope of reconciliation is elusive" Justice and accountability were common themes in my discussions during my visit, but there seems to be little hope of either at the moment"

I must emphasize that genocide is a process" It does not happen overnight" And because it is a process and one that takes time to prepare, it can be prevented" Action can and

I heard reports of violence that included targeted killings, assault, maiming, mutilation, rape, and the barbarous use of machetes to decimate families to death. Bodies have been found in the river"

"There is widespread fear among the population" "One person reported desperately to me, "I don't know what will happen to me" "Not one elder expressed terror that his community would be annihilated"

Even on the day I visited, I saw families packing up their belongings they have left and waiting on the side of the road for transport either to Juba or to neighboring (ganda) "refuge" & the gravity of the situation in ,ei merits immediate intervention \$ a full scale "act" finding investigation and enhanced humanitarian support" & the population has been forced into town without access to food and they and the refugee population which ,ei costs are suffering"

,ei is but one urgent example among many" & the signs are all there for the spread of this ethnic hatred and targeting of civilians that could evolve into genocide, if something is not done now to stop it" I urge the people of "out Sudan to take action"

"The "state has the primary responsibility to protect its populations" & that means all "out Sudanese, irrespective of their ethnic, national or political affiliation" "The "states, regional organisations and the international community can assist its protection efforts, however" I plan to do my part by informing the international community of my assessment and calling for action" I will speak with members of the African Union and the Security Council, as well as UN / 37"

As I leave Juba, I will repeat what I said two years ago "out Sudanese, your leaders, the regional and the international community, I beseech you to take immediate measures to end the violence and uphold our collective responsibility to protect the populations of "out Sudan from atrocity crimes" "Ethnicity or political affiliation should not be used as a reason to incite violence or demonise and exclude any community or section of the population" We must all put aside our differences and strive for peace in "out Sudan"

& thank you"

3dama 7ieng,  
(Under Secretary-General) Special Adviser  
on the Prevention of Genocide