



## Roses for Rohingya

The Rohingya are a predominantly Muslim ethnic group living in Burma's western Rakhine State. They have been described by the United Nations as the most persecuted minority in the world. To escape violence, many Rohingya have fled to nearby countries, including Bangladesh, which now houses 1 million Rohingya refugees. The Rohingya are effectively stateless, and are denied citizenship and civil rights in both Burma and Bangladesh.

Join us this Valentine's Day in supporting the Rohingya by selling **roses to support those fleeing violence and trying to build a peaceful homeland.**

### What's going on in Burma exactly?

The Rohingya are being denied citizenship and basic human rights in their home country of Burma, where the government refuses to acknowledge their legal status. Not only are they denied citizenship, but they are also actively persecuted by the Burmese military, other ethnic groups, and Buddhist extremists. In recent months, the Rohingya have seen their villages burned, babies beheaded and thrown into fires, and escape routes filled with landmines. In 2015, Fortify Rights and Yale Law School released a [report](#) citing strong evidence that genocide is being committed against the Rohingya, and recommending that the UN Human Rights Council establish an inquiry into the human rights situation in Rakhine state. Since then, world leaders have described the situation as ethnic cleansing. Yanghee Lee, the UN human rights investigator appointed to Burma, [was barred in December](#) from starting an inquiry of conditions in Burma.

### Where do the funds go?

**The funds raised will go to STAND's #RiseForRohingya campaign** in collaboration with The Nexus Fund, to support the Rohingya. Nexus is working both to support those displaced by the violence and to fund peacebuilding programs led by local activists working on projects to reconcile communities and prevent future violence.

### Hosting Your Own Roses for Rohingya Fundraiser

With Valentine's Day around the corner, take this opportunity to spread love on your campus and around the world! By selling roses or other goodies this Valentine's season, your STAND chapter can raise money and awareness for the Rohingya in Burma.



## Goals:

Raise Awareness about the Rohingya in Burma: Although you may know about the situation the Rohingya are facing, many people still don't! Your fundraiser can be a way to educate your campus on this issue.

Raise money to donate to on-the-ground peacebuilding initiatives in Burma: Let those who buy a rose know that their money will go directly to peacebuilding programs in Burma, helping those impacted by the violence.

## Setting Up Your Fundraiser

If you're planning on setting up a physical stand to sell roses, we recommend setting up in your campus center or somewhere that gets lots of campus traffic. Make sure to bring plenty of roses and other supplies: you don't want to run out! You might also want to consider selling snacks or other drinks that are popular with students on your campus, or other Valentines-themed goodies (chocolates, candy hearts, etc.) If you really want to spice up your fundraiser, you can offer to deliver the roses to the recipient with a note from the person who bought it for them!

If you do not plan on setting up an actual stand, or would just like to add an online component to your fundraiser, try creating an online order form and dispersing it to your friends and peers on social media! You can create an online order form using Google Forms. Be sure to track payments clearly and to let them know where to pick up their roses on the day of delivery.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Where can I find roses to sell?

Reach out to your local florists about donating some roses to your chapter or providing you with a discount. Some businesses may sell them at a reduced price in exchange for advertising at your stand. We recommend calling or visiting the florists directly because they're more likely to respond to the personal touch. Many businesses are very receptive to student organizations and are often happy to help. If real roses are too much of a hassle, many stores now sell chocolate roses. These can be purchased ahead of time and stored more easily.

### Where can I learn more about what's happening in Burma?

Check out STAND's [one-pager](#) on Burma and also read more up-to-date news on Burma in STAND's [news briefs](#)!



## Where can I donate funds to the general Rise For Rohingya campaign?

1. **Set up a fundraising page** on [Crowdrise](#).
2. **Set up an individual page** on the website. If your chapter has a team page, join their team, so the money you raise goes towards both your chapter and your own fundraiser.
3. **Send a check to STAND at:**  
STAND LLC  
P.O. Box 21761  
Washington, DC, 20009  
  
\* Under notes, write "RiseForRohingya: [your name]" – be sure to leave us your contact info so we can get in touch regarding our perks!
4. **Donate by credit card** on [our donate page](#)  
  
\* Under "add special instructions to the seller" Write "RiseForRohingya: [your name]" – be sure to leave us your contact info so we can get in touch regarding our perks!
5. **Venmo us** at @standnow; under notes type "RiseForRohingya [your name]" – and let us know how we can contact you regarding our perks!
6. **Plan a Facebook fundraiser** under the organization "Aegis America Inc." STAND's parent organization. If you do this, be sure to email Mac at [mhamilton@standnow.org](mailto:mhamilton@standnow.org) so we can earmark these funds for #RiseForRohingya!