



# QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

## A Resource for “The Rohingya Origin Story: Two Narratives, One Conflict”

1. What, if anything, surprised you?
2. Why is understanding the Rohingya’s history so important to the crisis? Why is it so complicated?
3. How is the religion of the Mrauk U Dynasty important in both narratives?
4. What connection do you see between British colonialization of Myanmar and the 1982 Citizenship Law? (See [“Q&A on the Rohingya Crisis and Buddhist Extremism in Myanmar”](#) for more about this law.)
5. Why do scholars find Francis Bacon’s documentation of the “Rooinga” so important? Do you agree?
6. What is the impact of the Buddhist nationalists referring to Rohingya as Bengali?
7. Did you find the insight of outside scholars helpful or more confusing? Why?
8. Identify another historic or current event in which religion was/is used as a tool to, successfully or unsuccessfully, foster nationalism/an exclusive national identity.
  - a. Compare and contrast that situation to the Rohingya Crisis. How are they alike? How are they different?
  - b. What, if anything, strikes you about the relationship between religion and nationalism in the example you’re using?
9. Look up the definition of *ethnicity* in Merriam Webster. Describe the difference between religious identity and ethnic identity.