

Thompson Rivers University Students' Union

805 TRU Way, Kamloops BC, V2C 0C8



Kazi Shahidullah, Chairman
University Grants Commission of Bangladesh
UGC Bhaban, Plot # E-18/A
Agargaon, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar
Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh

Friday, September 27th 2019

Allow Rohima Akter Khushi to Complete her Studies

Honourable Chairman Shahidullah,

On behalf of the Thompson Rivers University Students' Union, we urge you to allow **Rohingya student Rohima Akter Khushi** to continue her studies at Cox's Bazar International University. As a **Rohingya refugee**, denying her education based solely on her identity is an affront to the human rights commitment that Bangladesh has made under the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights.

We are deeply concerned about reports from Amnesty International that **Rohima Akter Khushi** has been suspended from the university due to her being **Rohingya**. Previously, university authorities have told Amnesty International that **Khushi's suspension** is due to the rule of Bangladesh government. As a refugee and a woman, **Khushi** has demonstrated a huge sense of tenacity in the face of adversity, and we hope that you can do your part to promote access to education for every person including the **Rohingya**.

For these reasons, we reiterate our request that you end the suspension and allow **Rohima Akter Khushi** to complete her higher education. Furthermore, we ask that you work with the international community to provide all children, including **Rohingya** refugees, access to accredited primary and secondary education in Cox's Bazar. Finally, we seek a commitment from you. We want you to commit to the promotion of academic freedom and the right to education for all as enshrined in the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sierra Rae".

Sierra Rae
President
TRU Students' Union

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brandon Hayashi".

Brandon Hayashi
Vice President Equity
TRU Students' Union

cc. His Excellency Mizanur Rahman, High Commissioner for Bangladesh