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Izzeldin Abuelaish

via a French number, and many members of the technical team did not want their names added to the film's credits for fear of reprisals from Hamas.

According to Alex Szalat, Dr Izzeldin Abuelaish would like to take his complaint about the death of his three daughters to the international courts, as this is unlikely to succeed in Israel, which currently refuses to accept responsibility for its mistake. The director confirms that the aim of this documentary is to raise public awareness and have an impact everywhere, particularly in schools, festivals and synagogues, to help Dr Izzeldin Abuelaish get this crime recognised. 'He lives for this, for the memory of his daughters, and he'll continue to the end and we'll follow him. I think he'll get an apology from the Israeli government', she anticipated. Dr Izzeldin Abuelaish's commitment, if only to the education of girls and women in Arab countries, is very important.

Pupils and spectators were the first to see the film, which the director admitted is not yet fully edited. Versions in Arabic and other languages will also be made available so that it can be shown everywhere, including Gaza. When asked by an audience member about solutions to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Tal Barda said she

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Tal Barda

has none, and is not very optimistic about the future of her country. 'I distinguish between the Israeli government and the Israeli people. We have a far-right minister, but half the population is against him [...] Hamas won the elections with a narrow majority. I think it's a question of education that will take 20 or 30 years; it's the children who grow up in the camps who see the Israelis as enemies.' Alex Szalat added that the extremists on both sides are not helping to change things. In conclusion, Tal Barda believes that the situation in Israel is so difficult that she has no intention of making another film about the conflict with Palestine.

UPROOTED

28 September 2023 from 2.00 p.m. to 3.30 p.m., Gold Room



Emmanuel Davidenkoff, Olga Prud'homme Farges and Pramila Patten

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In September 2017, the Rohingya minority, who lives mainly in the northern Arakan State in western Burma, was the victim of ethnic cleansing and was forced to flee to the Kutupalong camp in Bangladesh. Today, one million refugees live in this 13 square kilometre camp. It is the most densely populated camp in the world. Filmmaker Olga Prud'homme Farges went there to interview women who had been abused, in most cases raped, with complete impunity. The film tells their stories

and gives a voice to these women who are otherwise ignored.

After the screening, Olga Prud'homme Farges began by talking about a multi-faceted reality. She revisited the term 'Muslim minority' and explains that the reality is more complex, since the Rohingya are not all Muslims. In particular, she interviewed Hindu Rohingya.

What's more, the causes of the ethnic cleansing are mixed: 'Burma needed to clear the Arakan region in the north-west because they discovered hydrocarbons there to exploit, as well as build a pipeline to take oil from the Arabian Peninsula to China that was inaugurated six months after the aggression that began in August 2017. Within three months, the entire population had to flee to neighbouring Bang-

MODERATOR

Emmanuel Davidenkoff, Deputy Editorial Director – Le Monde – President of the Prix Liberté 2020 Jury

SPEAKERS

Pramila Patten, United Nations Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict

Olga Prud'homme Farges, Documentary filmmaker, journalist and author

ladesh and cross the border. The army arrived, burning everything.'

Although she wanted to address the persecution of the Rohingya in her film, the director did not expect so many women and children to want to speak so freely. 'This film is a bit of a serendipity story', she explained. While she was looking for children and their families in the camp to hear what they had to say, she had not anticipated that a 9-year-old child would want to testify about the rape she had suffered, nor that, the next day, ten women would also want to speak out, demonstrating that no one in the camp cares about them. Emmanuel Davidenkoff explained that sexual violence is often hushed up.



Olga Prud'homme Farges and Pramila Patten

ones demanding that the Rohingya return home. Pramila Patten added that the situation has deteriorated even more since the documentary was filmed. These people are still living in temporary shelters made of bamboo and tarpaulins, and the Bangladeshi government is systematically refusing to renovate and reinforce the camps. Emmanuel Davidenkoff pointed out that Bangladesh is one of the poorest countries in the world. Citing a report in Le Monde, published a few months ago, he explained that these camps are absolute lawless zones, where from 4pm onwards, NGOs are no longer allowed to intervene and must leave the camp until the following morning. 'Even in the Far West they must have had more laws than that', he concluded.

At the end of the sequence, the audience, mainly young people, were invited to ask questions. 'If there are a million refugees in the camps, what's the total Rohingya population?' asked one of them. Pramila Patten replied that she didn't have any precise figures, but in Bangladesh the government estimates that there are 1.2 million. To conclude, Olga Prud'homme Farges added that most of the community has fled Arakan, around 80%.

Burma is home to 126 different ethnic groups, but if there's one stateless community, it's this one

Pramila Patten about the Rohingyas

Pramila Patten, the United Nations Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict, is very familiar with the case of the Rohingya, an issue she has been tackling since 2002. She explained this silence about the violence suffered in part by the largely unfavourable political situation, particularly in 1982, when a law was passed abolishing their nationality and therefore their rights. 'Burma is home to 126 different ethnic groups, but if there's one stateless community, it's this one', she said. Before 2017, there was an outpouring of solidarity and compassion from the Bangladeshi people, but now they are the

BLUE ISLAND

29 September 2023, 10:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Auditorium



Serge Gordey

To be Hong Kongese, to be free and Chinese?

Serge Gordey introduced the screening of the documentary film directed by Chan Tzewoon, entitled *Blue Island* (2022), without revealing the subject, preferring to highlight the Normandy region's partnership with the Docs Up Fund agency which produces 'films that come from countries where the question of human rights is being raised, where filmmakers are taking it up.' Before launching the film, the producer specified that it is 'not a report or a classic film but a particular way of seeing the world, an author's view which takes the time to reflect, which tells us much more than the images that flood us every day.'

After watching the film, Philippe Le Corre said that 'this documentary seems to reflect three things: the complexity of the

feeling of belonging to Hong Kong, between the relationship with China and the territory of Hong Kong; the difficulty of dealing with the Chinese Communist Party, illustrated by the way the production mixed actors and real people; and the ambivalence of being both a spectator and a player in history.' The researcher then briefly reviewed 'the complicated history of the Rock, which was a British colony

MODERATOR:

Philippe Le Corre, researcher at the Asia Society Policy Institute and geopolitical advisor, Asia Society France

SPEAKERS:

Serge Gordey, Producer, Docs Up Fund
Nathan Law, Hong Kong democratic opponent