

# ANR SHOROHALOR YADGARI OKKOL



MY CHILDHOOD MEMORIES

ROHINGYA STORY-THREADING COLLECTION



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Kissa gaan hoil fultuli yore Rokeya  
Narrated and embroidered by Rokeya



ROHINGYA  
CULTURAL  
MEMORY  
CENTRE

ROHINGYA  
KIMOTI  
ROSOMOR  
GHOR



## FORISO

Doshan yaat garir rosomor kissa ar gura halor yaat gari okkol, kissa innawre hoye de Rohingya rosomor yaat garir zagar fultolar habil okkole. Fotti ekkan kissa ye zibonor ekkan sobok de, shomazhor otoba nizor nizor, arkanor tarar chondo halor zibon zaban nore turamura dehaa.

Arkanor gaang zagat, Rohingya kissa hoiya okkol fukor mazor (Middle East) molluk loi mil ashil, Rakhine razawin, ar Bengali fuths. Itarar zubanor rosom, rosomor kissa okkole dawila bodoilla asor goribo kiyalla boli hoile tara ek fissan ottu ar ek fissan tai goijje de ettolla. Fhunoya okkolle kessu kissa mil faibo, ar anka ar fultola hator ham diye hamore zinda rakibolla Rohingya fultoloya maya fuain dore.

Saba tuloya kabil zetarare tuaiyore fai ye etharare CMC maze raikke, Saleha Akter Urmi ek bosoror owore doshwa ibar fultolar dair maya fuain loi ham goijje, notun kabiliyoti unnoti gori bolla modot gori tarar bafaa raki bolla kula hala shojuk diye, sabar zoriye tara nizere nize zahir gori bolla. CMC maze hibar yaat garir kissa okkol bishi moshur shundor. Ay shun doizza hator fultola ar hator horloi silaye de kithab okkol ash foijjontor tarar moksot ola projet.

*“Anr ratto beshi kissa okkol hoi bolla ase. Ennan ekkan bala shozuk anrar gura halore mehsus gori bolla, ar anrar fuain dolla kessu sawli rakiballa,”* fultolar habil okkole hoiye de, zetara neki ek maa shor owore hator ham gojil ar hefazot gori rakil yaat gari la kissa dollagori yore.

## INTRODUCTION

*Threading Stories* is a collection of ten folktales and childhood memories, narrated and stitched by the embroidery artists of the Rohingya Cultural Memory Centre. Each story imparts a life lesson, whether social or personal, and represents a piece of their childhoods in Arakan.

In rural Arakan, Rohingya storytellers were familiar with many Middle Eastern *kissa*, Rakhine *razawin*, and Bengali *futhi*. Stories were passed down from generation to generation through oral storytelling, changing and taking on different influences with each generation's retellings. Audiences may find some of the tales familiar, while the drawings and *fultola* (embroidery) artwork offer a refreshingly original rendition by Rohingya women artisans.

As the founding artist-in-residence of the CMC, Saleha Akhter Urmi spent over a year working closely with the ten women of her embroidery group, helping them develop new skills, give free rein to their imaginations, and express themselves through art. *Threading Stories* is a capstone to her work at the CMC. These beautiful handstitched and hand-bound cloth books are their most ambitious project to date.

*“We have many stories to tell. This was a good opportunity to relive our childhoods, and to preserve something for our children,”* says the embroidery artists, who spent over a month creating the artwork and covers for the *Threading Memories* narrative collection.

Bormar Buthidong hode iyanot anr baaf mar fuwatii ai kushir saate takkilam. Anr shorohalor yadgari gaan furassaf baalagori monot ashil.

My parents and I lived happily in Buthidaung, Myanmar.  
My childhood was filled with wonderful memories.



Anr moore deki bolla attun bishi mone houto kiyolla boli  
hoile moo beraito aile anre nana nanir gorot maze hawekdin  
taakibolla nizaito.

I was always excited to see my uncle when he came to  
visit, because he would take me to spend a few days at  
my grandparents' house.



Anr nana nanir gor gaan gas gusala loi furaiya ashil ar hitarar  
goror ooran naan bishi bodda ashil.

My grandparent's house was full of trees  
and their courtyard was huge.



Anr mooto bai boin okkol loi ai nana nanir gorot maze  
fuwati takitam bade aara hawta batara hoitam bade faashai  
tashai goitam.

My cousins and I would stay all together at my  
grandparent's house and we would always chat  
and have fun.



Ai anr mooto bai boin loi fuwati rosi faaldoni, bade lukaloni  
kelaitam duhizza. Anr nani ye aarar kelare sai kushi hoito.

I played skipping, and hide and seek with my cousins  
all afternoon. My grandmother loved watching us play.



Ekmeta ai nanire hoilamde lurifira banai bolla ar gusto faddi  
bolla bade tarfoddin ein toyar goribo bolli hoi wadadil nani ye.

Once, I requested my grandma to cook *lurifira* with  
beef curry and she promised to prepare it for me the  
day after.



Tarfoddin, naniraw goror mumtun ashilde foir rottun soil duil.  
Attun balagori monot asse de kiboli hoile foir hibaat maze  
doilya bodoilya mas okkol assede iyan.

The next day, she washed rice in the pond that was  
in front of their house. I fondly remember there were  
different types of fish in that pond.



Bade, nani adde moor bou ye daiey maze soilor guri duppil.

Then, grandma and my uncle's wife made rice flour  
with a pounding tool.



Ai gheelam bazarot moor addey hibar fuwati gusto kini bolla.

I went to the market with her and my uncle to buy meat.



Aiyo modot gozzilam nani loi moor bou loi lurifira adde  
gusto ranabara goredde ayre.

I also helped grandma and my uncle's wife to prepare  
*lurifira* and beef curry.



Ai lurifira kessu banailam.

I made some *lurifira*.



Aara bekkulune lurifira loi kustode hailam jiyam loi ai bishi  
kushi auilam. Ein awilde anr fonsor shoohalor yadgari.

We all ate *lurifira* with beef curry which I enjoyed very  
much. This is a favourite childhood memory of mine.



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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