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****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

Project Einstein: Bangladesh Photography Book Released

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New Photo Book Highlighting Rohingya Voices
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In the past few weeks Thailand has expelled hundreds of Rohingyas, stateless asylum seekers originally from Rakhine State in Myanmar/Burma. News agencies report that Thai authorities have intercepted hundreds of Rohingya on boats, denying them entry, towing them out and abandoning them to an uncertain fate at sea. Additional refugees are being detained in Thailand. Little is known of their condition.

More than 28,000 Rohingya live in refugee camps in Bangladesh. An estimated 200,000 more live in precarious refuges without refugee status around those camps. Due to deteriorating living conditions and persecution, Rohingya have been attempting to flee

Myanmar and Bangladesh in boats, hoping to reach neighboring Thailand or Malaysia.

While the international community is learning of the plight of Rohingya pushed out to sea, little is known of Rohingya culture or daily life. Digital Democracy (D2) announces the release of its book highlighting the situation of Rohingya living in refuge in Eastern Bangladesh. The book, *Project Einstein: Bangladesh*, features photos and voices of Rohingya youth from the Bangladesh-Burma Border.

In 2007, D2's founders Mark Belinsky and Emily Jacobi traveled to Bangladeshi refugee camps with cameras and audio equipment. There, they trained 11 children, 10-14 years old, in digital photography. The children worked in teams to document the four themes they wanted to communicate to the world: happy, sad, disabled, and peace. Through photography and recorded interviews they explored these themes. The photos and stories in the book are their answer to the question, "What would you like to show the world?"

The book is available for purchase in both hard and soft-cover at www.dtwo.org/products

Project Einstein: Bangladesh was produced with the support of What Kids Can Do (WKCD), a non-profit organization that works to highlight the voices and ideas of young people and show the world how powerful they can be when given the opportunities and support they need. An audio slideshow of the children of *Project Einstein* and their photos can be viewed on WKCD's website: http://www.whatkidscando.org/featurestories/2008/08_project_einstein/index.html

Project Einstein was produced in collaboration with New Words, a production and media company that creates, advises and strategizes for businesses and non-profits. View more photos from the Bangladesh-Burma border and other media projects at www.newwordsmedia.com

Digital Democracy works with local partners to connect people through new technologies that encourage education, communication and participation. For additional information or questions please contact: Emily Jacobi – ejacobi@dtwo.org - #347-328-3110