

## **HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH PUBLICATIONS CATALOGUE**

### **Summer 2004**

Human Rights Watch conducts regular, systematic investigations of human rights abuses in more than 70 countries around the world. Our reputation for timely, reliable disclosures has made us an essential source of information for anyone concerned with human rights. The reports you will find here each describe human rights violations, detail the causes, and provide recommendations for how to end the abuses. Through field investigations and an extensive network of sources around the globe, Human Rights Watch recently examined human rights violations associated with Taliban massacres in Afghanistan, the trafficking of Thai women in Asia, rape in US prisons, refugees in Sierra Leone, and ongoing conflicts in Indonesia, Macedonia, Colombia, Russia, and the Congo.

To conduct research, Human Rights Watch sends members of our staff to talk with people who either experienced the abuse themselves or witnessed it. These witnesses and their voices are the heart of our work. Researchers work with local activists and other experts, then write up the findings. Since our founding, Human Rights Watch has published more than a thousand reports on more than one hundred countries worldwide. This catalog lists only those reports we currently have available. We sell the reports in an attempt to recoup some of the considerable expenses of research, production, and distribution. We address the human rights practices of governments of all political stripes, of all geopolitical alignments, and of all ethnic and religious persuasions. Human Rights Watch defends freedom of thought and expression, due process and equal protection of the law, and a vigorous civil society; we document and denounce murders, disappearances, torture, arbitrary imprisonment, discrimination, and other abuses of internationally recognized human rights. Our goal is to hold governments accountable if they transgress the rights of their people.

With our experienced staff of regional experts, lawyers, and linguists, Human Rights Watch has the capacity to expose abuses on a regular basis and a worldwide scale. This ongoing effort makes a difference saving lives, stopping torture, freeing prisoners and helping to create the space for citizens to exercise their civil and political rights. Human Rights Watch reports are unique, up-to-date, firsthand sources of human rights information and are available individually or through convenient subscriptions. Human Rights Watch began in 1978 with the founding of our European division, Helsinki Watch. Today, we have seven divisions covering Africa, the Americas, Arms, Asia, Children, Women, the Middle East and North Africa, as well as Europe and Central Asia. We maintain offices in New York, Washington, Los Angeles, London, Brussels, Moscow, Sarajevo, Tashkent, Tblisi, Hong Kong, and Rwanda. Human Rights Watch is a fully independent, nongovernmental organization, supported by contributions from private individuals and foundations worldwide. We accept no government funds, directly or indirectly.

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### **Human Rights Watch World Report 2004**

#### ***Human Rights and Armed Conflict***

Many of the world's worst human rights and humanitarian crises take place in combat zones. Despite pledges of protection by combatants, the United Nations, and powerful states, armed conflict continues to devastate civilian populations. This fourteenth annual World Report features fifteen essays, each devoted to the human rights consequences of a different aspect of armed conflict. From the Congo to Iraq, from terrorism to arms trafficking, from child soldiers to justice, this volume assesses current developments and suggests ways forward. This 407-page report reflects intensive investigative and advocacy work conducted in 2003 by Human Rights Watch staff, often in close partnership with human rights colleagues from around the world.

HRW Index No. 2947, 01/04, 407pp.; \$30.00

ISBN 1564322947

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ISBN 1564322955, 02/04, 285pp.; \$60.00

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### **Egypt**

#### ***In a Time of Torture***

##### **The Assault on Justice in Egypt's Crackdown on Homosexual Conduct**

This 144-page report documents the government's increasing repression of men who have sex with men. The trial of 52 men in 2001 for the "habitual practice of debauchery"—the legal charge used to criminalize homosexual conduct in Egyptian law—was only the most visible point in the ongoing and expanding crackdown. Today, Egyptian police use wiretaps and a growing web of informers to conduct raids on private homes or seize suspects on the street. Undercover police agents arrange meetings with men through chat rooms and personal advertisements on the Internet—and then arrest them.

HRW Index No. 2963

ISBN 1564322963, 03/04, 150pp.; \$25.00

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### **Iraq**

#### ***Off Target***

##### **The Conduct of the War and Civilian Casualties in Iraq**

Hundreds of civilian deaths in the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq could have been prevented by abandoning two misguided military tactics. The use of cluster munitions in populated areas caused more civilian casualties than any other factor in the coalition's conduct of major military operations in March and April. U.S. and British forces used almost 13,000 cluster munitions, containing nearly 2 million sub munitions, that killed or wounded more than 1,000 civilians. International humanitarian law, or the laws of war, does not outlaw all civilian casualties in wartime. But armed forces are obliged to take all feasible precautions for avoiding civilian losses, and to refrain from attacks that are indiscriminate or where the expected civilian harm exceeds the military gain. The term "casualty" refers to both dead and wounded. This 147-page

report also examines violations of international humanitarian law by Iraqi forces, including use of human shields, abuse of the Red Cross and Red Crescent emblems, use of antipersonnel landmines, and placement of military objects in mosques and hospitals. The Iraqi military's practice of wearing civilian clothes also eroded the distinction between combatants and civilians.

HRW Index No. 2939

ISBN 1564322939, 12/03, 147pp.; \$25.00

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## **Sudan**

### ***Sudan, Oil, and Human Rights***

This report investigates the role that oil has played in Sudan's civil war. This 754-page report is the most comprehensive examination yet published of the links between natural-resource exploitation and human rights abuses. The report documents how the government has used the roads, bridges and airfields built by the oil companies as a means for it to launch attacks on civilians in the southern oil region of Western Upper Nile (also known as Unity state). In addition to its regular army, the government has deployed militant Islamist militias to prosecute the war, and has armed southern factions in a policy of ethnic manipulation and destabilization. The report provides evidence of the complicity of oil companies in the human rights abuses. Oil company executives turned a blind eye to well-reported government attacks on civilian targets, including aerial bombing of hospitals, churches, relief operations and schools. The report also covers the SPLM/A's role in the struggle over oilfields. The regular SPLM/A forces have carried out serious human rights abuses, including summary execution of captured combatants. Commanding officers of the SPLM/A have taken no steps to investigate or punish these crimes.

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## **United States**

### ***Ill-Equipped***

#### **U.S. Prisons and Offenders with Mental Illness**

Mentally ill offenders face mistreatment and neglect in many U.S. prisons. One in six U.S. prisoners is mentally ill. Many of them suffer from serious illnesses such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and major depression. There are three times as many men and women with mental illness in U.S. prisons as in mental health hospitals. The rate of mental illness in the prison population is three times higher than in the general population. This 215-page report examines how prisons are dangerous and damaging places for mentally ill people. Other prisoners victimize and exploit them. Prison staff often punishing mentally ill offenders for symptoms of their illness – such as being noisy or refusing orders, or even self-mutilation and attempted suicide. Mentally ill prisoners are more likely than others to end up housed in especially harsh conditions, such as isolation, that can push them over the edge into acute psychosis. Woefully deficient mental health services in many prisons leave prisoners under treated – or not treated at all. Across the country, prisoners cannot get appropriate care because of a shortage of qualified staff, lack of facilities, and prison rules that interfere with treatment. The report is based on more than two years of research and hundreds of interviews with prisoners, corrections officials, mental health experts and attorneys and makes recommendations on services and regulations that would assist and protect mentally ill prisoners.

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## **Uzbekistan**

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#### **Religious Persecution in Uzbekistan**

This 319-page report details the arrest and torture of detainees in an ongoing campaign that has resulted in the incarceration of an estimated 7,000 Muslim dissidents. The government's targets are independent Muslims who

practice their faith outside state-run mosques and madrassas or beyond the strict controls set out by the government's laws on religion.

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ISBN 1564322998, 3/04, 319pp.; \$25.00

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## Recent Short Reports

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#### *"Enduring Freedom"*

##### **Abuses by U.S. Forces in Afghanistan**

This 59-page report is based on research conducted by Human Rights Watch in Afghanistan and Pakistan in 2003 and early 2004. Human Rights Watch documented cases of U.S. forces using military tactics, including unprovoked deadly force, during operations to apprehend civilians in uncontested residential areas situations where law enforcement standards and tactics should have been used. Afghan forces deployed with U.S. forces have also mistreated persons during search and arrest operations and looted homes. The report also details mistreatment in U.S. detention facilities.

(C1603), 03/04, 60pp., \$10.00

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#### *Killing You is a Very Easy Thing For Us*

##### **Human Rights Abuses in Southeast Afghanistan**

Afghan warlords and political strongmen supported by the United States and other nations are engendering a climate of fear in Afghanistan that is threatening efforts to adopt a new constitution and could derail national elections scheduled for mid-2004. The report warns that violence, political intimidation, and attacks on women and girls are discouraging political participation and endangering gains made on women's rights in Afghanistan over the last year. The 101-page report documents army and police troops kidnapping Afghans and holding them for ransom in unofficial prisons; breaking into households and robbing families; raping women, girls and boys; and extorting shopkeepers and bus, truck and taxi drivers.

The report also describes political organizers, journalists and media editors being threatened with death, arrested and harassed by army, police and intelligence agents.

(C1505), 07/03, 101pp., \$7.00

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### Algeria

#### *Truth and Justice on Hold*

##### **The New State Commission on "Disappearances"**

On September 20, Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika announced a new body to investigate the thousands of cases of persons who were "disappeared" during the civil strife of the 1990s and who remain unaccounted for. Since 1999 there have been only very isolated reports of new "disappearances." However, the state has not implemented legal and institutional safeguards surrounding arrest and detention procedures that would help to prevent the practice in the future.

(E1511), 12/03, 30pp., \$7.00

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### Angola

#### *Some Transparency, No Accountability*

##### **The Use of Oil Revenue in Angola and Its Impact on Human Rights**

More than four billion dollars in state oil revenue disappeared from Angolan government coffers from 1997-2002, roughly equal to the entire sum the government spent on all social programs in the same period. Meanwhile, although the 27-year civil war ended in 2002, an estimated 900,000 Angolans are still internally displaced. Millions more have virtually no access to hospitals or schools. According to United Nations estimates, almost half of Angola's 7.4 million children suffer from malnutrition. This 93-page report details how much money was generated by oil, how much disappeared from public coffers, and how this shortfall undermined Angolans' civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

(A1601), 01/04, 95pp., \$10.00

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## ***Struggling Through Peace***

### **Return and Resettlement in Angola**

The Angolan government and the United Nations are failing to ensure the safe and voluntary return of millions of Angolans to their homes. This 29-page report documents several incidents of government authorities using violence, or the threat of violence, to drive people out of camps where they had been living sometimes for years. The report also raises concerns about reported incidents of rape and other sexual violence against internally displaced women and returning refugees. Hundreds of Angolan refugees have spontaneously returned to their homes since the ceasefire of April 2002, but millions of internally displaced people, refugees and ex-combatants remain in exile, in transit or in temporary resettlement sites within Angola. Rather than paying special attention to children, women, and vulnerable groups, the Angolan government has granted preference to ex-combatants for resettlement. The government has also failed to provide people with identity documents that would help them get access to humanitarian assistance, which is in any case inadequate. The report urges the Angolan government and international agencies to ensure reasonably uniform conditions in the areas to which the internally displaced, refugees, and former combatants will return, and to pay special attention to the needs of women, children and other vulnerable groups. Most importantly, the Angolan government must respect international and domestic law requiring the voluntary basis on which displaced people should be resettled.

(A1516), 08/03, 29pp., \$5.00

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## **Azerbaijan**

### ***Crushing Dissent***

#### **Repression, Violence and Azerbaijan's Elections**

This 61-page report documents hundreds of arbitrary arrests, widespread beatings and torture, and politically motivated job dismissals of members and supporters of the opposition following the October 15 presidential election, which was widely condemned by the international community as fraudulent. Human Rights Watch found that the complete dominance of the presidency was one of the root causes of human rights abuses in Azerbaijan. The report also contains recommendations to the Azerbaijani government and the international community.

(D1601), 01/04, 61pp., \$10.00

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## **Bangladesh**

### ***Ravaging the Vulnerable***

#### **Abuses Against Persons at High Risk of HIV Infection in Bangladesh**

Bangladesh is stoking an emerging AIDS epidemic with violent police abuse of sex workers, injection drug users and men who have sex with men. In this 51-page report, Human Rights Watch documents rapes, gang-rapes, beatings and abductions by both police officers and powerful criminals known as mastans. Their targets — sex workers, men who have sex with men and injection drug users — are both at high risk of HIV infection and the people most capable of bringing AIDS information and services to their peers. In a direct blow to the fight against AIDS, some of the abuses are committed against AIDS outreach workers. In one region of Bangladesh, HIV prevalence among injection drug users jumped from 1.7 percent in 2001 to 4 percent in 2002.

While HIV prevalence in the population overall is reportedly still low, the country's poverty, gender inequality, and proximity to raging epidemics in India and Southeast Asia point to the possibility of an AIDS explosion. Human Rights Watch urged Bangladesh to institute civilian review of police officers, to prosecute police and mastans who perpetrate abuses, to bring its criminal procedures in line with international standards, and to support peer-driven AIDS prevention services among persons at high risk of HIV.

(C1506), 08/03, 51pp., \$5.00

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## **Burundi**

### ***Everyday Victims***

#### **Civilians in the Burundian War**

The Burundian military and armed opposition forces have committed serious war crimes, including civilian killings and rapes. The recent political agreement between the major parties in Burundi's ten-year civil war should not have granted immunity from prosecution for such blatant and widespread crimes. This 63-page report documents massacres and rapes of civilians and attacks on civilian property between April and November, when the government and the Forces for the Defense of Democracy (FDD), the main rebel group signed an peace accord guaranteeing all sides provisional immunity from prosecution for war crimes.

(A1520), 12/03, 64pp., \$10.00

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## **Canada**

### ***Abusing the User***

#### **Police Misconduct, Harm Reduction and HIV/AIDS in Vancouver.**

An anti-drug crackdown by the Vancouver Police Department has driven injection drug users away from life-saving HIV prevention services, raising fears of a new wave of HIV transmission in the city that is already home to the worst AIDS crisis in the developed world, said Human Rights Watch. In a 25-page report released today, "Abusing the User: Police Misconduct, Harm Reduction and HIV/AIDS in Vancouver," Human Rights Watch documents instances of unnecessary force and mistreatment, arbitrary arrest, and other intimidation and harassment of drug users as part of a campaign commonly referred to as Operation Torpedo. The crackdown began on April 7 in the city's impoverished Downtown Eastside neighborhood. Though drug traffickers are the ostensible targets, drug users not charged with selling drugs have been driven to places where health workers cannot reach them to ensure access to sterile syringes and other HIV prevention services.

(B1502), 05/03, 25pp., \$5.00

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## **China**

### ***Demolished***

#### **Forced Evictions and the Tenants' Rights Movement in China**

Chinese local authorities and developers are forcibly evicting hundreds of thousands of homeowners and tenants who have little legal recourse. China's rapid urban development, fueled in Beijing by preparations for the 2008 Olympics, is leading to the eviction of homeowners and tenants in violation of Chinese law and international standards on the right to housing. This 45-page report details the problems many Chinese citizens face.

(C1604), 03/04, 45pp., \$7.00

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### ***Locked Doors***

#### **The Human Rights of People Living with HIV/AIDS in China**

Widespread discrimination against people with HIV/AIDS is fueling the spread of the epidemic in China. This 94-page report is based on more than 30 interviews with people with HIV/AIDS, police officers, drug users,



and AIDS outreach workers in Beijing, Hong Kong, and Yunnan province. Many people living with HIV/AIDS have no access to health care because hospitals refuse to treat them. Human Rights Watch found that at one hospital, the door to the AIDS clinic was actually padlocked. National laws discriminate against people with HIV/AIDS, and some local laws ban them from using swimming pools or working in food service. The police send drug users to detoxification centers, where they are forced to labor without pay to make trinkets for tourists. Instead of receiving help for their problem, they are driven underground, making it harder for the government to combat the AIDS virus.

(C1507), 09/03, 95 pp., \$10.00

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## **Cote D'Ivoire**

### ***Trapped Between Two Wars***

#### **Violence Against Civilians in Western Côte d'Ivoire**

This 55-page report documents widespread abuses against civilians in fighting following a September 2002 army mutiny. The abuses include summary executions, sexual violence against women and girls, and looting of civilian property by Ivorian government troops, government-supported civilian militias, and by the rebel groups. Both sides have recruited Liberian fighters, some of them from refugee camps in Côte d'Ivoire. Côte d'Ivoire's eight-month conflict was characterized by limited direct fighting between the nominal warring parties, but serious and sometimes systematic abuses against civilians. The new report documents these abuses in the west of the country, where tensions over land and proximity to Liberia exacerbated the conflict. The report calls for an international commission of inquiry to investigate abuses and recommend measures to bring perpetrators to justice, and for an extensive field-based human rights monitoring presence. It also calls on the Ivorian government to immediately stop backing the militias.

(A1514), 08/03, 55pp., \$7.00

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## **Croatia**

### ***Broken Promises***

#### **Impediments to Refugee Return to Croatia**

Eight years after the end of the war in Croatia, ethnic discrimination continues to impede the return of hundreds of thousands of Croatian Serbs displaced by the war. This 61-page report describes the plight of displaced Croatian Serbs and urges that progress on return be made a condition of Croatia's application to join the European Union. The report is based on two years of research involving a comprehensive review of local legislation and extensive interviews with returned refugees, temporary occupants of their houses, and representatives of Serb civic associations, national and local governmental bodies, international organizations, and Croatian human rights groups. The report includes recommendations to the Croatian government and the international community to facilitate the return of Serb refugees.

(D1506), 09/03, 61pp., \$7.00

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## **Democratic Republic of Congo**

### ***Covered in Blood***

#### **Ethnically Targeted Violence in Northern DRC**

The war in Congo has been misdescribed as a local ethnic rivalry when in fact it represents an ongoing struggle for power at the national and international levels, Human Rights Watch said in a new report released today. The 57-page report, 'Covered in Blood' Ethnically Targeted Violence in Northern DR Congo, provides evidence that combatants in the Ituri region of northeastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) have slaughtered some five thousand civilians in the last year because of their ethnic affiliation. But the combatants are armed and often directed by the governments of the DRC, Rwanda and Uganda. A number of treaties and ceasefires, the most recent signed in Burundi on June 19, have supposedly ended the conflict between the governments of Uganda, Rwanda, and the DRC, as well as Congolese rebel movements set to share power with the Kinshasa government. But the minor players—often the proxies for the principals—continue the war.

(A1511), 07/03, 57pp., \$7.00  
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## **Egypt**

### ***Security Forces Abuse of Anti-War Demonstrators***

Egypt should investigate and discipline police and plainclothes security officials who beat demonstrators protesting the Iraq war and tortured some of those detained. In this 40-page report, Human Rights Watch documents excessive use of force by security forces to disperse demonstrators protesting the U.S.-led war against Iraq in March, violating their right to freedom of assembly. After arresting hundreds of protesters, police then beat and mistreated many detainees, some to the point of torture, and failed to provide medical care to persons seriously injured. Human Rights Watch calls on the government to dismiss charges against persons detained solely for attempting to exercise their right of free assembly.

(E1510), 11/03, 40pp., \$7.00  
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## **El Salvador**

### ***No Rest***

#### **Abuses Against Child Domestic Workers in El Salvador**

Tens of thousands of girls in El Salvador work as domestics, a form of labor that makes them particularly vulnerable to physical abuse and sexual harassment. This 35-page report calls on the Salvadoran government to include domestic workers, who are almost exclusively girls and young women, in its program to address hazardous child labor. Girls as young as nine work as domestics in El Salvador and may labor 12 hours or more, up to six days a week, for wage of \$40 to \$100 a month. They are particularly vulnerable to physical abuse and sexual harassment from members of the household in which they work.

(B1601), 1/04, 38pp., \$7.00  
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### ***Deliberate Indifference***

#### **El Salvador's Failure to Protect Workers' Rights**

This 110-page report documents serious violations of workers' human rights and examines the role of the government. It features case studies in the private and public sectors, in manufacturing and service industries, and concludes that workers face an uphill battle to exercise their rights, regardless of the sector. Three of the highlighted companies supplied internationally known, U.S.-based apparel corporations. Human Rights Watch found that employers delay salary payments, fail to pay overtime due, deny mandatory bonuses and vacation payments, and pocket workers' social security contributions, preventing them from receiving free public health care. Most pervasively, employers use myriad tactics to violate workers' right to freedom of association. The report calls on El Salvador to strengthen its labor laws by requiring reinstatement for workers illegally fired or suspended for legitimate trade union activity, banning anti-union hiring discrimination, and streamlining union registration requirements according to ILO recommendations. Human Rights Watch urges the Ministry of Labor to uphold workers' human rights by following legally mandated inspection procedures, facilitating rather than obstructing union registration, and refraining from participating with employers in illegal anti-union conduct.

(B1505), 12/03, 98pp., \$12.00  
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## **India**

### ***Compounding Injustice***

#### **The Government's Failure to Redress Massacres in Gujarat**

The ringleaders of massacres committed in 2002 are still roaming free in Gujarat, Human Rights Watch charged in a new report. The 70-page report, *Compounding Injustice: The Government's Failure to Redress*

Massacres in Gujarat, examines the record of state authorities in holding perpetrators accountable and providing humanitarian relief to victims of state-supported massacres of Muslims in February and March 2002. Human Rights Watch urged the federal government to take over cases of large-scale massacres where the state government has sabotaged investigations. More than one hundred Muslims have been charged under India's much-criticized Prevention of Terrorism Act (POTA) for their alleged involvement in the train massacre in Godhra. No Hindus have been charged under POTA in connection with the violence against Muslims, which the government continues to dismiss as spontaneous and unorganized. Although the Indian government initially boasted of thousands of arrests following the attacks, most of those arrested have since been acquitted, released on bail with no further action taken, or simply let go. Police regularly downgrade serious charges to lesser crimes - from murder or rape to rioting, for example - and alter victims' statements to delete the names of the accused. Even when cases reach trial, Muslim victims face biased prosecutors and judges. Hindu and Muslim lawyers representing Muslim victims, and doctors providing medical relief to them, have also faced harassment and threats.

(C1503), 07/03, 70pp., \$7.00

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## Indonesia

### ***Aceh Under Martial Law Problems Faced by Acehnese Refugees in Malaysia***

In this report, Human Rights Watch documents the failure of the Malaysian government to offer protection and assistance to Acehnese refugees fleeing persecution and armed conflict in Aceh. Malaysia's treatment of Acehnese in Malaysia falls far short of internationally accepted standards for treatment of refugees and asylum seekers. Statements by Malaysian officials suggest that the government fears that by granting protection to refugees it would open up a floodgate of asylum seekers to the country. Such fears do not justify the abuses of Acehnese in Malaysia that are detailed in this report, nor the Malaysian government's policy of routinely expelling Acehnese, who face the possibility of summary execution, forced disappearance, torture, detention, or persecution upon return to Indonesia.

(C1605), 04/04, 27pp., \$7.00

Purchase online

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### ***Aceh under Martial law***

#### **Inside the Secret War**

This 50-page report documents violations of human rights and humanitarian law since the Indonesian government imposed martial law in Aceh on May 19 and renewed military operations against the armed, separatist Free Aceh Movement (Gerakan Aceh Merdeka, or GAM). Based on testimony from Acehnese refugees in Malaysia, the report documents the role of the Indonesian security forces in extrajudicial executions, forced disappearances, beatings, arbitrary arrests and detentions, and drastic limits on freedom of movement in Aceh.

(C1510), 12/03, 50pp., \$10.00

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[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/inacunmalaw.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/inacunmalaw.html)

### ***Muzzling the Messengers***

#### **Attacks and Restrictions on the Media**

The Indonesian government has blocked Indonesian and foreign correspondents from covering the military campaign in Aceh, where gross human rights violations are taking place. Indonesia's security forces and separatist guerrillas have intimidated journalists in the northwestern province. This 33-page report documents violations of press freedom in Aceh after the Indonesian government on May 19 declared a state of military emergency in the province and renewed its war there against the armed, separatist Free Aceh Movement (Gerakan Aceh Merdeka, or GAM). On November 6 the government extended martial law in Aceh, due to expire November 19, for another six months.

(C1509), 12/03, 33pp., \$7.00

Purchase online

[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/inmume.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/inmume.html)

## ***A Return to the New Order?***

### **Political Prisoners in Megawati's Indonesia**

In this report Human Rights Watch looks specifically at non-violent activists who have been arrested, detained, and convicted under two groups of articles in the Indonesian Criminal Code (KUHP) that criminalize "insulting" the executive and "sowing hate" against the government. Human Rights Watch remains deeply concerned that President Megawati is dismantling the fundamental rights to freedom of expression and assembly to spare herself and her government from public criticism. Instead of working to eliminate the discredited policies of Soeharto's New Order, Megawati's legacy may be their resurrection. (Bahasa Indonesia)

(C1504), 07/03, 23pp., \$3.00

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[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/inretonewor.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/inretonewor.html)

## **Iran**

### ***"Like the Dead in Their Coffins"***

#### **Torture, Detention, and the Crushing of Dissent in Iran**

This 73-page report provides the first comprehensive account of the treatment of political detainees in Tehran's Evin Prison and in secret prisons around the capital since the government launched its current crackdown in 2000. Human Rights Watch has documented systematic abuses against political detainees, including arbitrary arrest, detention without trial, torture to extract confessions, prolonged solitary confinement, and physical and psychological abuse. Human Rights Watch calls on the Iranian government to release all political prisoners and effectively prohibit torture immediately.

(E1602), 5/04, 73pp., \$10.00

Purchase online

[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html)

## **Iraq**

### ***Hearts and Minds***

#### **Post-War Civilian Casualties in Baghdad by U.S. Forces**

The U.S. military is failing to conduct proper investigations into civilian deaths resulting from the excessive or indiscriminate use of force in Baghdad. This 56-page report confirms twenty deaths in the Iraqi capital alone between May 1 and September 30. In total, Human Rights Watch collected credible reports of 94 civilian deaths in Baghdad, involving questionable legal circumstances that warrant investigation. This number does not include civilians wounded by U.S. troops. The precise number of Iraqi civilians killed by U.S. soldiers since the end of major military operations is unknown, and the U.S. military told Human Rights Watch that it keeps no statistics on civilian deaths. In compiling this report, Human Rights Watch conducted more than 60 interviews and gathered information from five sources: Iraqi witnesses and family members of victims, police records from all the police stations in Baghdad, local and international human rights groups, media accounts, and the U.S. military. The report categorizes civilian deaths in Baghdad since May 1 in three basic groups: during raids, at checkpoints, and after ambushes on convoys. In all three circumstances, soldiers often quickly resorted to the use of lethal force. Their fire was not always directed at the intended target, or proportionate to the threat. The report also proposes concrete ways to reduce civilian deaths in Iraq.

(E1509), 10/03, 72pp., \$10.00

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[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/irheandmi.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/irheandmi.html)

### ***Climate of Fear***

#### **Sexual Violence and Abduction of Women and Girls in Baghdad**

The insecurity plaguing Baghdad and other Iraqi cities has a distinct and debilitating impact on the daily lives of women and girls, preventing them from participating in public life at a crucial time in their country's history. Human Rights Watch interviewed rape and abduction victims and witnesses, Iraqi police and health professionals, and U.S. military police and civil affairs officers, and learned of twenty-five credible allegations of rape or abduction. The report found that police officers gave low priority to allegations of sexual violence and abduction, that the police were under-resourced, and that victims of sexual violence confronted indifference

and sexism from Iraqi law enforcement personnel. The report also found that U.S. military police were not filling the gap when Iraqi police were unwilling or unable to conduct serious investigations of sexual violence and abduction. This 17-page report concludes that the failure of Iraqi and U.S.-led occupation authorities to provide public security in Iraq's capital lies at the root of a widespread fear of rape and abduction among women and their families.

(E1508), 07/03, 16pp., \$3.00

Purchase online

[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/ircloff.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/ircloff.html)

### ***Basra Crime and Insecurity under British Occupation***

This report, based on four weeks of field research by Human Rights Watch researchers in southern Iraq, shows that more than six weeks after the fall of Basra, the security situation remained poorly addressed by coalition forces. Despite efforts by the British military to deploy their relatively small number of troops to improve security conditions in the city, the population continued to live in fear of violent crimes and with growing concerns about the failure of the coalition forces to provide them with greater security.

(E1506), 06/03, 24pp., \$3.00

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[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/irfofatoprse.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/irfofatoprse.html)

### ***Violent Response***

#### **The U.S. Army in al-Falluja**

With major military operations continuing in al-Falluja, U.S. authorities should investigate the apparent use of excessive force against Iraqi protesters there on April 28 and 30, Human Rights Watch urged in a new report released today. This challenges the U.S. military's assertion that its troops came under direct fire from individuals in the crowd of protesters on April 28. Human Rights Watch found no conclusive evidence of bullet damage on the school where the soldiers were based. In contrast, buildings facing the school had extensive multi-caliber bullet impacts that were inconsistent with U.S. assertions that soldiers had responded with "precision fire." The Human Rights Watch report also asserts that U.S. authorities failed to equip or adequately train the troops, primarily paratroopers of the 82nd Airborne Division, for the complex law enforcement tasks of military occupation. U.S. military and political authorities are also to blame for placing combat-ready soldiers in the highly volatile environment of al-Falluja without adequate law enforcement training and crowd control devices, the report said. Even translators were lacking.

(E1507), 06/03, 19pp., \$3.00

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[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/irvire.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/irvire.html)

### ***The Mass Graves of al-Mahawil***

#### **The Truth Uncovered**

This report attempts to tell the story of the mass graves around al-Hilla. It identifies the victims, the circumstances of their arrest, and their ultimate execution and mass burial. The conclusion is inescapable those whose bodies were recovered from these mass graves were the victims of a coordinated campaign of repression, arrests, and executions carried out by the Iraqi government in the aftermath of the failed Shi`a uprising in 1991. The report demonstrates the importance of the evidence that can be gathered from the mass graves that are being discovered all around Iraq, all of which have their own individual history, but which together testify to decades of mass murder by the Iraqi government.

(E1505), 05/03, 15pp., \$3.00

Purchase online

[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/irmagrofal.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/irmagrofal.html)

### ***Flight From Iraq***

#### **Attacks on Refugees and Other Foreigners and Their Treatment in Jordan**

Attacks and harassment amidst the security vacuum in Iraq forced refugees and other foreigners to flee the country and become refugees again, this time in Jordan. Based on research in Baghdad and Jordan, this 22-page Human Rights Watch report details the abuses against refugees and foreigners in Iraq, as well as their treatment upon arrival in Jordan. Housing is frequently the pretext for the violence and harassment. Many landlords, forced by the previous government to take Palestinian tenants at discounted rates, are taking advantage of the

breakdown in law and order to evict Palestinian tenants from their homes or to extort unrealistic rent increases from them. In other cases, violence and threats have come from individuals who seem to have no legitimate claim to the property. Human Rights Watch criticized Jordanian authorities for limiting refugees' entry to Jordan and recommended that Jordan provide immediate protection and assistance to all refugees, including those currently trapped near the Jordanian border in accordance with international refugee law standards.

(E1504), 05/03, 22pp., \$3.00

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## **Jordan**

### ***Honoring the Killers***

#### **Justice Denied For "Honor" Crimes in Jordan**

This 37-page report documents the killings and attempted murders of women by male family members who claim they are defending family "honor." The report also details the cases of women, threatened with "honor" crimes, who languish in prison for years while held in protective custody.

(E1601), 4/04, 37pp., \$7.00

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## **Kazakhstan**

### ***Political Freedoms in Kazakhstan***

This 53-page report details government harassment of Kazakhstan's opposition through arbitrary criminal and misdemeanor charges and threats of job dismissal, in many cases aimed at preventing them from running for public office. Among those imprisoned were Galymzhan Zhakianov and Mukhtabar Ablizaov, the founding leaders of the Democratic Choice of Kazakhstan, an opposition group formed in November 2001. Abliazov was released in May 2003. Also imprisoned and then released in 2003 was Sergei Duvanov, an opposition journalist and trenchant critic of government corruption.

(D1603), 4/04, 53pp., \$10.00

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[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html)

### ***Fanning the Flames***

#### **How Human Rights Abuses are fueling the AIDS Epidemic in Kazakhstan**

Human rights abuse against injection drug users and sex workers in Kazakhstan is fueling one of the fastest growing AIDS epidemics in the world, Human Rights Watch said in this new report. The 54-page report, "Fanning the Flames How Human Rights Abuses are Fueling the AIDS Epidemic in Kazakhstan," documents instances of violent police brutality, lack of due process, harassment and stigmatization that drive drug users and sex workers underground and impede their access to life-saving HIV prevention services. Routine and sometimes violent harassment of injection drug users and sex workers by the police adds to their already marginal status in Kazakhstan. Drug users may be arrested for possession of very tiny amounts of narcotics, police find it easy to pin false charges on them, and they are convenient targets when arrest quotas need to be filled.

(D1504), 06/03, 54pp., \$7.00

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[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/kafaf.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/kafaf.html)

## **Liberia**

### ***How to Fight, How to Kill***

#### **Child Soldiers in Liberia**

This 43-page report documents how more than 15,000 child soldiers fought on all sides of the Liberian civil war, and that many units were composed primarily of children. The report argues that establishing a firm peace in the West African nation will depend on the successful reintegration of child soldiers into civil society.

(A1602) 02/04, 44pp., \$7.00

## Malaysia

### *In the Name of Security*

#### **Counterterrorism and Human Rights Abuses Under Malaysia's Internal Security Act**

This 60-page report documents a pattern of serious abuses against detainees, including beatings, burning with lit cigarettes, and psychological abuse. In addition to suffering from various forms of physical and psychological abuse, detainees held under the Internal Security Act (ISA) have been denied basic due process rights. The Malaysian authorities should allow independent monitors access to the nearly 100 men held under its Internal Security Act—some for nearly three years—on accusations of connections to terrorist groups.

(C1607), 5/04, 59pp., \$10.00

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[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html)

## Mexico

### *Justice in Jeopardy*

#### **Why Mexico's First Real Effort To Address Past Abuses Risks Becoming Its Latest**

This 29-page report examines the shortcomings of the Special Prosecutor's Office and concludes that its main problem has been the inadequate support it has received from the government. President Vicente Fox created the Special Prosecutor's Office in November 2001 to investigate and prosecute human rights violations committed under previous governments. A year and half later, the office has yet to produce significant results, and there is discouraging evidence that it lacks the powers and resources necessary to manage the task it has been assigned.

(B1504), 7/03, 30pp., \$5.00

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[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/mejuinje.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/mejuinje.html)

## Nepal

### *Trapped by Inequality*

#### **Bhutanese Refugee Women in Nepal**

Bhutanese refugee women in Nepal encounter gender-based violence and systematic discrimination in access to aid. This 77-page report examines the uneven response of UNHCR and the government of Nepal to rape, domestic violence, sexual and physical assault, and trafficking of girls and women from refugee camps. These problems persist despite reforms UNHCR introduced after internal investigations uncovered "sexual exploitation" of refugee women and girls by aid workers in Nepal and West Africa in 2002. The Human Rights Watch report shows how Nepal's laws constrain the prosecution of gender-based violence. Specific domestic violence legislation does not exist in Nepal. A 35-day statute of limitations and burdensome medical reporting procedures prevent rape victims from filing complaints with the police and pressing criminal charges. The same obstacles have prevented any prosecution of aid workers and Nepalese government employees accused of "sexual exploitation" in October 2002.

(C1508), 09/03, 76pp., \$10.00

Purchase online

[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/netrbyin.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/netrbyin.html)

## Nigeria

### *The Warri Crisis*

#### **Fueling Violence**

The 29-page report, "The Warri Crisis Fueling Violence," documents how violence in Nigeria's southern Delta State this year, especially during the state and federal elections in April and May, resulted in hundreds of deaths, the displacement of thousands of people, and the destruction of hundreds of homes. Among the dead were probably dozens killed by the government security forces. At the height of the violence, 40 percent of Nigeria's oil production was closed down.

(A1518), 12/03, 29pp., \$7.00

Purchase online

[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/nigeria.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/nigeria.html)

### ***Renewed Crackdown on Freedom of Expression***

This 40-page report documents killings, arrest, detention, ill-treatment, torture and other forms of harassment and intimidation of real or perceived critics of the government over the past two years. Most of these abuses have been carried out by the Nigerian police or by members of the intelligence services known as the State Security Service (SSS). Brutal measures have been used to repress critical expression. In the most serious cases, people have been shot dead simply for exercising their right to protest. During massive public protests in July at an increase in the price of fuel, between 12 and 20 people were shot dead by the police in Lagos, in the oil city of Port Harcourt, and on the outskirts of Abuja. The victims included peaceful protestors and passersby who were not even involved in the protests.

(A1519), 12/03, 40pp., \$7.00

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[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/nirecronfrof.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/nirecronfrof.html)

### ***The Miss World Riots***

#### **Continued Impunity for Killing in Kaduna**

The 32-page report provides detailed eyewitness accounts of how soldiers and police killed people in cold blood between November 21 and 23, during an operation intended to restore law and order. Fighting between Muslims and Christians broke out in the northern city of Kaduna in November 2002 following controversy around the Miss World beauty contest. Some Muslims considered an article in the newspaper *This Day* to be blasphemous. Muslim youths started attacking Christians, Christians retaliated, and within three days, around 250 people were killed. Not only did the security forces fail to intervene at the first signs of violence, but once they were deployed they contributed significantly to the violence by killing and injuring people who were not posing any threat to security. The Human Rights Watch report also describes well-organized attacks by Muslim and Christian youths during the three days of violence. Youths of both faiths singled out their victims and attacked them purely on the basis of their religion. In addition to killing scores of people, they destroyed many buildings, including churches, mosques, schools and homes. The Human Rights Watch report concludes that the conflict in Kaduna was more political than religious and stemmed from unresolved disputes between different ethnic and political groups. It links the 2002 riots to clashes between Muslims and Christians in Kaduna in 2000, in which more than 2,000 people were killed following disagreements over the introduction of Sharia (Islamic law).

(A1513), 07/03, 33pp., \$5.00

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## **Philippines**

### ***Unprotected***

#### **Sex, Condoms and the Human Right to Health**

In this 70-page report, Human Rights Watch says that the Philippine government bans the use of national funds for condom supplies. Some local authorities, such as the mayor of Manila City, prohibit the distribution of condoms in government health facilities. School-based HIV/AIDS educators told Human Rights Watch that schools often prohibited them from discussing condoms with students.

(C1606), 5/04, 70pp., \$10.00

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[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html)

## **Russia**

### ***Lessons Not Learned***

#### **Human Rights Abuses and HIV/AIDS in the Russian Federation**

This 62-page report documents how harsh drug policies and routine police harassment of injection drug users—the population hit hardest by AIDS in Russia—impedes their access or makes them afraid to seek basic HIV-prevention services such as syringe exchange, which is available in other countries around the world. Now that AIDS is rapidly spreading into the general population, these misguided policies have widespread consequences.

(D1605), 4/04, 62pp., \$10.00

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[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html)

### ***To Serve Without Health***

#### **Inadequate Nutrition and Health Care in the Russian Armed Forces**

This 40-page report details how conscripts are deprived of adequate food. The diet of conscripts often lacks meat and green vegetables, and falls short of the Russian military's own nutritional standard for soldiers. The food they do receive is often of poor quality, rotten, or bug-infested. The hazing system that has made Russia's military notorious also prevents junior conscripts from getting enough to eat, as senior conscripts confiscate younger conscripts' most desirable food. In some dramatic cases, this treatment has led to the death of conscripts or permanently damaged their health.

(D1509), 11/03, 40pp., \$7.00

Purchase online

[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/rutosewihe.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/rutosewihe.html)

### ***Spreading Despair***

#### **Russian Abuses in Ingushetia**

Russia's forces are committing abuses against displaced Chechens in Ingushetia as the conflict in Chechnya spills over into this neighboring republic. This 28-page report documents arbitrary arrest and detention, ill-treatment, and looting by Russia's forces in Ingushetia this summer. The report charges that these abuses are among the tactics Russian authorities are using to pressure displaced persons living in Ingushetia to return to Chechnya. The report details seven security operations federal and local forces conducted in June 2003 in settlements for displaced persons, as well as in Ingush villages. The operations followed a pattern of sweep operations or targeted raids seen in Chechnya—large groups of armed personnel, often arriving on armored personnel carriers, would surround a settlement and conduct sweeps or random checks at peoples' homes. In those security operations, at least eighteen people were arbitrarily detained, most of whom were not released until several days or weeks later, without ever receiving an explanation of the grounds for their detention. In other operations, federal forces appear to be responsible for killing one civilian and seriously injuring two others.

(D1508), 09/03, 28pp., \$5.00

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## **South Africa**

### ***Forgotten Schools***

#### **Right to Basic Education for Children on Farms in South Africa**

This 59-page report found that the government's failure to negotiate contracts with farm owners impedes children's right to basic education. In the worst cases, farm owners have deliberately obstructed children's access to the schools. The report documents cases where farm owners or managers prevent learners and teachers from getting to school by locking school facilities or obstructing access otherwise, generally due a lack of contractual arrangements. While the police and authorities from the provisional departments of education intervene on occasion to ensure access, such intervention has not prevented further interference at the same schools.

(A1607), 5/04, 59pp., \$7.00

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[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html)

## **Sudan**

### ***Darfur Destroyed***

#### **Ethnic Cleansing by Government and Militia Forces in Western Sudan**

This 77-page report documents how Sudanese government forces have overseen and directly participated in massacre summary executions of civilians, burnings of towns and villages, and the forcible depopulation of wide swathes of land long-inhabited by the Fur, Masalit and Zaghawa ethnic groups. The report also documents how "Janjaweed" Arab militias—whose members are Muslim—have destroyed mosques, killed Muslim religious leaders and desecrated Korans belonging to their enemies.

(A1606), 5/04, 77pp., \$10.00

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[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html)

### ***Darfur in Flames***

#### **Atrocities in Western Sudan**

This 49-page report describes a government strategy of forced displacement targeting civilians of the non-Arab ethnic communities from which the two main rebel groups—the Sudan Liberation Movement/Army (SLM/A) and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM)—are mainly drawn. Human Rights Watch found that the military is indiscriminately bombing civilians, while both government forces and militias are systematically destroying villages and conducting brutal raids against the Fur, Masaalit and Zaghawa ethnic groups.

(A1605), 04/04, 49 pp., \$10.00

Purchase online  
[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html)

### **Uganda**

#### ***State of Pain***

##### **Torture in Uganda**

This 76-page report documents cases of torture committed by military, intelligence, and security agents in the government's pursuit of armed rebels. However, politicians challenging the de facto single-party state and the 18-year rule of Uganda's president, Yoweri Museveni, are often detained, severely beaten and threatened with death by the uncontrolled security apparatus.

(A1604), 03/04, 76pp., \$7.00

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[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html)

#### ***Just Die Quietly***

##### **Domestic Violence and Women's Vulnerability to HIV in Uganda**

The Ugandan government's failure to protect women from domestic violence and discrimination increases women's risk of contracting HIV. This 77-page report documents widespread rape and brutal attacks on women by their husbands in Uganda, where a specific domestic violence law has not been enacted and where spousal rape is not criminalized. Many women told Human Rights Watch that a fear of violent repercussions impeded their access to HIV/AIDS information, HIV testing, and HIV/AIDS treatment and counseling. The Human Rights Watch report says that HIV/AIDS programs focusing on fidelity, abstinence, and condom use do not account for the ways in which domestic violence inhibits women's control over sexual matters in marriage. In the report, Human Rights Watch urges the Ugandan government to enact domestic violence legislation, and to make women's health, physical integrity, and equal rights in marriage a central focus of AIDS programming.

(A1515), 08/03, 77pp., \$7.00

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[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/ugjudiequ.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/ugjudiequ.html)

#### ***Abducted and Abused***

##### **Renewed War in Northern Uganda**

Abductions, torture, recruitment of child soldiers, and other abuses have sharply increased in the past year in northern Uganda due to renewed fighting between Ugandan government forces and rebels, a coalition of national and international organizations. This 73-page report details how a slew of human rights abuses have resulted in a humanitarian crisis. Since June 2002, the rebel Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) has abducted nearly 8,400 children and thousands more adults, a sharp rise from 2001. The LRA has also escalated the seventeen-year war against northern Uganda's civilians by targeting religious leaders, aid providers, and those living in internally displaced persons (IDP) camps. The report draws on interviews with recently abducted children who escaped from the LRA. It gives voice to internally displaced persons living in the IDP camps that have been attacked by the LRA, and the aid workers attempting to reach these victims despite frequent LRA ambushes on relief convoys.

(A1512), 07/03, 73pp., \$7.00

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## **Ukraine**

### ***Women's Work***

#### **Discrimination Against Women in the Ukrainian Labor Force**

Gender discrimination in Ukraine is cutting women out of the work force while the Ukrainian government is doing nothing to stop the problem. This 52-page report describes how Ukrainian employers discriminate against women job seekers in the way they announce vacancies and interview applicants. Both government agencies and private businesses regularly request male applicants more frequently than females in their job advertisements. Employers also use information on women's family circumstances-which they require the women to give during interviews-to deny women employment. Age and appearance requirements also exclude many women from jobs for which they are professionally qualified. Government officials routinely deny that discrimination against women in the labor force is a problem in Ukraine. But Ministry of Labor inspectors lack the will and the training to investigate discriminatory recruitment practices. Meanwhile, the State Employment Service endorses such discrimination by posting vacancy announcements with gender specifications, and even requesting gender-specific vacancy information from employers. Human Rights Watch appeals to the Ukrainian government, the European Union, and international organizations to take bolder steps in promoting non-discrimination.

(D1505), 08/03, 52pp., \$7.00

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[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/ukwowo.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/ukwowo.html)

## **United States**

### ***Injecting Reason***

#### **Human Rights and HIV Prevention for Injection Drug Users**

Government interference with sterile syringe programs is thwarting HIV prevention efforts in California. State laws and local enforcement are preventing drug users from obtaining the sterile syringes they need to protect themselves from HIV. This 61-page report documents police stopping, arresting, and harassing participants in needle exchange programs established by some California counties under state law. Even where needle exchange programs are legal, police remain authorized to arrest program participants under an antiquated law prohibiting the possession of "drug paraphernalia." Over a quarter of new AIDS cases in the United States can be traced to infected syringes. Sharing syringes is also a major risk factor in the spread of hepatitis B and C. California is home to nearly one eighth of reported AIDS cases in the United States. The Human Rights Watch report recommends legalization of needle exchange programs and nonprescription pharmacy sales of syringes. It also calls on police departments to cease stops and seizures of participants in clean needle programs, a practice courts have recently prohibited in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New York.

(G1502), 09/03, 61pp., \$10.00

Purchase online

[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/usinre.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/usinre.html)

## **Uzbekistan**

### ***From House to House***

#### **Abuses by Mahalla Committees**

Uzbekistan's neighborhood committees violate fundamental human rights, carrying the government's repressive policies to the local level. This 38-page report documents the role neighborhood, or mahalla, committees have played in three critical areas of government abuse: the government's six-year campaign against so-called Islamic fundamentalists, its response to domestic violence, and the 2000-2001 forced resettlement in southern Uzbekistan. For centuries, the mahalla was an autonomous institution organized around Islamic rituals and social events, but the current government transformed it into a national system for surveillance and control. Uzbekistan is divided up into approximately 12,000 mahallas, each containing between 150 and 1,500 households. The mahalla committees are local government authorities with the power to administer a range of activities. Human Rights Watch called on the government to ensure that mahalla committees stop discrimination and surveillance of independent Muslims; provide in-depth training of mahalla officials on the

provision of protection to complainants in domestic violence cases; and facilitate, rather than block, access for international organizations and the media to resettlement villages.

Human Rights Watch further called on international donors to require reform of mahalla committees as a condition for funding projects involving the committees.

(D1507), 09/03, 37pp., \$5.00

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## **Venezuela**

### ***Caught In The Crossfire***

#### **Freedom of Expression in Venezuela**

The Venezuelan government is not doing enough to protect journalists from violence, Human Rights Watch said in a new report released today. Human Rights Watch also urged the government to protect freedom of expression by ending its ongoing investigation of the country's private television networks, and dramatically revising its proposed law to regulate the contents of radio and television broadcasts. The launch of Human Rights Watch's report coincides with renewed public debate in Venezuela over draft legislation that the government of President Hugo Chávez has introduced on the "social responsibility of radio and television." The draft legislation would impose stringent and detailed controls over radio and television broadcasts, greatly limiting what could be aired during normal viewing hours. Under the guise of protecting children from crude language, sexual situations and violence, it would subject adults to restrictive and puritanical viewing standards. The 26-page report describes how journalists face physical violence and threats, often by fervent civilian supporters of President Hugo Chávez. Noting the justice system's failure to identify and punish those responsible for the attacks, the report recommends that the attorney general set up a special panel to investigate the problem.

(B1503), 05/03, 20pp., \$3.00

Purchase online

[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/vecaincr.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/vecaincr.html)

## **Zimbabwe**

### ***Not Eligible***

#### **The Politicization of Food in Zimbabwe**

Zimbabwean authorities discriminate against perceived political opponents by denying them access to food programs. International relief agencies in Zimbabwe fail to ensure that access to food is based on need alone and is not biased by domestic or international political concerns. This 51-page report documents how food is denied to suspected supporters of Zimbabwe's main opposition party and to residents of former commercial farms resettled under the country's "fast-track" land reform program. The report examines the widespread politicization of the government's subsidized grain program, managed by the Grain Marketing Board, as well as the far less extensive manipulation of international food aid. According to the report, government authorities and party officials of the ruling Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (ZANU-PF) manipulate the supply and distribution of government-subsidized grain and the registration of recipients for international food aid. International aid agencies must devote greater resources and attention to preventing the manipulation of recipient lists. The report also examines international community's tacit complicity in preventing food from reaching former commercial farm areas resettled under land reform.

(A1517), 10/03, 52pp., \$7.00

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[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/zinotel.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/zinotel.html)

## Thematic Reports

### ARMS

#### *Off Target*

##### **The Conduct of the War and Civilian Casualties in Iraq**

Hundreds of civilian deaths in the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq could have been prevented by abandoning two misguided military tactics. The use of cluster munitions in populated areas caused more civilian casualties than any other factor in the coalition's conduct of major military operations in March and April. U.S. and British forces used almost 13,000 cluster munitions, containing nearly 2 million submunitions, that killed or wounded more than 1,000 civilians. International humanitarian law, or the laws of war, does not outlaw all civilian casualties in wartime. But armed forces are obliged to take all feasible precautions for avoiding civilian losses, and to refrain from attacks that are indiscriminate or where the expected civilian harm exceeds the military gain. The term "casualty" refers to both dead and wounded. This 147-page report also examines violations of international humanitarian law by Iraqi forces, including use of human shields, abuse of the Red Cross and Red Crescent emblems, use of antipersonnel landmines, and placement of military objects in mosques and hospitals. The Iraqi military's practice of wearing civilian clothes also eroded the distinction between combatants and civilians.

HRW Index No. 2939

ISBN 1564322939, 12/03, 147pp.; \$25.00

Purchase online

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#### *Struggling Through Peace*

##### **Return and Resettlement in Angola**

The Angolan government and the United Nations are failing to ensure the safe and voluntary return of millions of Angolans to their homes. This 29-page report documents several incidents of government authorities using violence, or the threat of violence, to drive people out of camps where they had been living sometimes for years. The report also raises concerns about reported incidents of rape and other sexual violence against internally displaced women and returning refugees. Hundreds of Angolan refugees have spontaneously returned to their homes since the ceasefire of April 2002, but millions of internally displaced people, refugees and ex-combatants remain in exile, in transit or in temporary resettlement sites within Angola. Rather than paying special attention to children, women, and vulnerable groups, the Angolan government has granted preference to ex-combatants for resettlement. The government has also failed to provide people with identity documents that would help them get access to humanitarian assistance, which is in any case inadequate. The report urges the Angolan government and international agencies to ensure reasonably uniform conditions in the areas to which the internally displaced, refugees, and former combatants will return, and to pay special attention to the needs of women, children and other vulnerable groups. Most importantly, the Angolan government must respect international and domestic law requiring the voluntary basis on which displaced people should be resettled.

(A1516), 08/03, 29pp., \$5.00

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### Children's Rights

#### *Forgotten Schools*

##### **Right to Basic Education for Children on Farms in South Africa**

This 59-page report found that the government's failure to negotiate contracts with farm owners impedes children's right to basic education. In the worst cases, farm owners have deliberately obstructed children's access to the schools. The report documents cases where farm owners or managers prevent learners and

teachers from getting to school by locking school facilities or obstructing access otherwise, generally due a lack of contractual arrangements. While the police and authorities from the provisional departments of education intervene on occasion to ensure access, such intervention has not prevented further interference at the same schools.

(A1607), 05/04, 59pp., \$7.00

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### ***No Rest***

#### **Abuses Against Child Domestic Workers in El Salvador**

Tens of thousands of girls in El Salvador work as domestics, a form of labor that makes them particularly vulnerable to physical abuse and sexual harassment. This 35-page report calls on the Salvadoran government to include domestic workers, who are almost exclusively girls and young women, in its program to address hazardous child labor. Girls as young as nine work as domestics in El Salvador and may labor 12 hours or more, up to six days a week, for wage of \$40 to \$100 a month. They are particularly vulnerable to physical abuse and sexual harassment from members of the household in which they work.

(B1601), 01/04, 38pp., \$7.00

Purchase online

[http //store yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html)

### ***You'll Learn Not To Cry***

#### **Child Combatants in Colombia**

More than 11,000 children fight in Colombia's armed conflict, one of the highest totals in the world. Both guerrilla and paramilitary forces rely on child combatants, who have committed atrocities and are even made to execute other children who try to desert. The first comprehensive report published on this issue, "You'll Learn Not to Cry" documents how Colombia's illegal armies have recruited increasing numbers of children in recent years. Only Burma (Myanmar) and the Democratic Republic of Congo are believed to have significantly larger numbers of child combatants than Colombia. The 150-page book, based on interviews with 112 former child combatants, documents how both guerrillas and paramilitaries exploit the desperation of poor children in rural combat zones. Many join up for food or physical protection, to escape domestic violence, or because of promises of money. Some are coerced to join at gunpoint, or join out of fear. Others are street children with nowhere to go. Children as young as thirteen are trained to use assault rifles, grenades and mortars. Human Rights Watch urged guerrilla and paramilitary forces to end all recruitment of children under the age of eighteen and to demobilize the children in their ranks. Pending complete demobilization, the group urged the following immediate and unconditional steps: firmly prohibit forcible recruitment; allow those who wish to leave without reprisals; cease executions of children; and provide proper medical care for the sick or wounded.

HRW Index No. 2882

ISBN 1564322882, 09/03, 168pp.; \$15.00

Purchase online

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### ***Abducted and Abused***

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(A1512), 07/03, 73pp., \$7.00

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## Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender

### *In a Time of Torture*

#### **The Assault on Justice in Egypt's Crackdown on Homosexual Conduct**

This 144-page report documents the government's increasing repression of men who have sex with men. The trial of 52 men in 2001 for the "habitual practice of debauchery"—the legal charge used to criminalize homosexual conduct in Egyptian law—was only the most visible point in the ongoing and expanding crackdown. Today, Egyptian police use wiretaps and a growing web of informers to conduct raids on private homes or seize suspects on the street. Undercover police agents arrange meetings with men through chat rooms and personal advertisements on the Internet—and then arrest them.

HRW Index No. 2963

ISBN 1564322963, 03/04, 150pp.; \$25.00

Purchase online

[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html)

### *More Than a Name*

#### **State-Sponsored Homophobia and its Consequences in Southern Africa**

Many leaders in southern Africa have singled out lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people as scapegoats for their countries' problems, Human Rights Watch and the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC) state in this report. The two international human rights monitoring organizations released a new book-length report, *More Than a Name State-Sponsored Homophobia and its Consequences in Southern Africa*. The 298-page report documents pervasive harassment and violence against sexual minorities in Botswana, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. The report documents verbal attacks, police harassment, official crackdowns, and community violence aimed at lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. Victims have been assaulted, imprisoned, expelled from schools, fired from jobs, denied access to medical care, evicted from their homes, and driven into exile or, in some cases, to suicide.

HRW Index No. 2866

ISBN 1564322866, 05/03, 310pp.; \$25.00

Purchase online

[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/soafmothna.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/soafmothna.html)

## HIV/AIDS & HUMAN RIGHTS

### *Unprotected*

#### **Sex, Condoms and the Human Right to Health**

In this 70-page report, Human Rights Watch says that the Philippine government bans the use of national funds for condom supplies. Some local authorities, such as the mayor of Manila City, prohibit the distribution of condoms in government health facilities. School-based HIV/AIDS educators told Human Rights Watch that schools often prohibited them from discussing condoms with students.

(C1606), 5/04, 70pp., \$10.00

Purchase online

[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html)

### *Lessons Not Learned*

#### **Human Rights Abuses and HIV/AIDS in the Russian Federation**

This 62-page report documents how harsh drug policies and routine police harassment of injection drug users—the population hit hardest by AIDS in Russia—impedes their access or makes them afraid to seek basic HIV-prevention services such as syringe exchange, which is available in other countries around the world. Now that AIDS is rapidly spreading into the general population, these misguided policies have widespread consequences.

(D1605), 04/04, 62pp., \$10.00

Purchase online

[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html)

### ***Injecting Reason***

#### **Human Rights and HIV Prevention for Injection Drug Users**

Government interference with sterile syringe programs is thwarting HIV prevention efforts in California. State laws and local enforcement are preventing drug users from obtaining the sterile syringes they need to protect themselves from HIV. This 61-page report documents police stopping, arresting, and harassing participants in needle exchange programs established by some California counties under state law. Even where needle exchange programs are legal, police remain authorized to arrest program participants under an antiquated law prohibiting the possession of “drug paraphernalia.” Over a quarter of new AIDS cases in the United States can be traced to infected syringes. Sharing syringes is also a major risk factor in the spread of hepatitis B and C. California is home to nearly one eighth of reported AIDS cases in the United States. The Human Rights Watch report recommends legalization of needle exchange programs and nonprescription pharmacy sales of syringes. It also calls on police departments to cease stops and seizures of participants in clean needle programs, a practice courts have recently prohibited in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New York.

(G1502), 09/03, 61pp., \$10.00

Purchase online

[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/usinre.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/usinre.html)

### ***Locked Doors***

#### **The Human Rights of People Living with HIV/AIDS in China**

Widespread discrimination against people with HIV/AIDS is fueling the spread of the epidemic in China. This 94-page report is based on more than 30 interviews with people with HIV/AIDS, police officers, drug users, and AIDS outreach workers in Beijing, Hong Kong, and Yunnan province. Many people living with HIV/AIDS have no access to health care because hospitals refuse to treat them. Human Rights Watch found that at one hospital, the door to the AIDS clinic was actually padlocked. National laws discriminate against people with HIV/AIDS, and some local laws ban them from using swimming pools or working in food service. The police send drug users to detoxification centers, where they are forced to labor without pay to make trinkets for tourists. Instead of receiving help for their problem, they are driven underground, making it harder for the government to combat the AIDS virus.

(C1507), 09/03, 95 pp., \$10.00

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### ***Ravaging the Vulnerable***

#### **Abuses Against Persons at High Risk of HIV Infection in Bangladesh**

Bangladesh is stoking an emerging AIDS epidemic with violent police abuse of sex workers, injection drug users and men who have sex with men. In this 51-page report, Human Rights Watch documents rapes, gang-rapes, beatings and abductions by both police officers and powerful criminals known as mastans. Their targets — sex workers, men who have sex with men and injection drug users — are both at high risk of HIV infection and the people most capable of bringing AIDS information and services to their peers. In a direct blow to the fight against AIDS, some of the abuses are committed against AIDS outreach workers. In one region of Bangladesh, HIV prevalence among injection drug users jumped from 1.7 percent in 2001 to 4 percent in 2002. While HIV prevalence in the population overall is reportedly still low, the country’s poverty, gender inequality, and proximity to raging epidemics in India and Southeast Asia point to the possibility of an AIDS explosion. Human Rights Watch urged Bangladesh to institute civilian review of police officers, to prosecute police and mastans who perpetrate abuses, to bring its criminal procedures in line with international standards, and to support peer-driven AIDS prevention services among persons at high risk of HIV.

(C1506), 08/03, 51pp., \$5.00

Purchase online

[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/baravu.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/baravu.html)

### ***Just Die Quietly***

#### **Domestic Violence and Women's Vulnerability to HIV in Uganda**

The Ugandan government's failure to protect women from domestic violence and discrimination increases women's risk of contracting HIV. This 77-page report documents widespread rape and brutal attacks on women by their husbands in Uganda, where a specific domestic violence law has not been enacted and where



spousal rape is not criminalized. Many women told Human Rights Watch that a fear of violent repercussions impeded their access to HIV/AIDS information, HIV testing, and HIV/AIDS treatment and counseling. The Human Rights Watch report says that HIV/AIDS programs focusing on fidelity, abstinence, and condom use do not account for the ways in which domestic violence inhibits women's control over sexual matters in marriage. In the report, Human Rights Watch urges the Ugandan government to enact domestic violence legislation, and to make women's health, physical integrity, and equal rights in marriage a central focus of AIDS programming.

(A1515), 08/03, 77pp., \$7.00

Purchase online

[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/ugjudiequ.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/ugjudiequ.html)

### ***Fanning the Flames***

#### **How Human Rights Abuses are Fueling the AIDS Epidemic in Kazakhstan**

Human rights abuse against injection drug users and sex workers in Kazakhstan is fueling one of the fastest growing AIDS epidemics in the world, Human Rights Watch said in this new report. The 54-page report, "Fanning the Flames How Human Rights Abuses are Fueling the AIDS Epidemic in Kazakhstan," documents instances of violent police brutality, lack of due process, harassment and stigmatization that drive drug users and sex workers underground and impede their access to life-saving HIV prevention services. Routine and sometimes violent harassment of injection drug users and sex workers by the police adds to their already marginal status in Kazakhstan. Drug users may be arrested for possession of very tiny amounts of narcotics, police find it easy to pin false charges on them, and they are convenient targets when arrest quotas need to be filled.

(D1504), 06/03, 54pp., \$7.00

Purchase online

[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/kafaf1.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/kafaf1.html)

### ***Abusing the User***

#### **Police Misconduct, Harm Reduction and HIV/AIDS in Vancouver**

An anti-drug crackdown by the Vancouver Police Department has driven injection drug users away from life-saving HIV prevention services, raising fears of a new wave of HIV transmission in the city that is already home to the worst AIDS crisis in the developed world, said Human Rights Watch. In a 25-page report released today, "Abusing the User Police Misconduct, Harm Reduction and HIV/AIDS in Vancouver," Human Rights Watch documents instances of unnecessary force and mistreatment, arbitrary arrest, and other intimidation and harassment of drug users as part of a campaign commonly referred to as Operation Torpedo. The crackdown began on April 7 in the city's impoverished Downtown Eastside neighborhood. Though drug traffickers are the ostensible target, drug users not charged with selling drugs have been driven to places where health workers cannot reach them to ensure access to sterile syringes and other HIV prevention services.

(B1502), 05/03, 25pp., \$5.00

Purchase online

[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/caabus.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/caabus.html)

## **Refugees**

### ***Darfur Destroyed***

#### **Ethnic Cleansing by Government and Militia Forces in Western Sudan**

This 77-page report documents how Sudanese government forces have overseen and directly participated in massacre summary executions of civilians, burnings of towns and villages, and the forcible depopulation of wide swathes of land long-inhabited by the Fur, Masalit and Zaghawa ethnic groups. The report also documents how "Janjaweed" Arab militias— whose members are Muslim — have destroyed mosques, killed Muslim religious leaders and desecrated Korans belonging to their enemies.

(A1606), 05/04, 77 pp., \$10.00

Purchase online

[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html)

### ***Darfur in Flames***

### **Atrocities in Western Sudan**

This 49-page report describes a government strategy of forced displacement targeting civilians of the non-Arab ethnic communities from which the two main rebel groups—the Sudan Liberation Movement/Army (SLM/A) and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM)—are mainly drawn. Human Rights Watch found that the military is indiscriminately bombing civilians, while both government forces and militias are systematically destroying villages and conducting brutal raids against the Fur, Masaalit and Zaghawa ethnic groups.

(A1605), 04/04, 49pp., \$10.00

Purchase online

[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/2004reports.html)

### ***Aceh Under Martial Law Problems Faced by Acehnese Refugees in Malaysia***

In this report, Human Rights Watch documents the failure of the Malaysian government to offer protection and assistance to Acehnese refugees fleeing persecution and armed conflict in Aceh. Malaysia's treatment of Acehnese in Malaysia falls far short of internationally accepted standards for treatment of refugees and asylum seekers. Statements by Malaysian officials suggest that the government fears that by granting protection to refugees it would open up a floodgate of asylum seekers to the country. Such fears do not justify the abuses of Acehnese in Malaysia that are detailed in this report, nor the Malaysian government's policy of routinely expelling Acehnese, who face the possibility of summary execution, forced disappearance, torture, detention, or persecution upon return to Indonesia.

(C1605), 04/04, 27pp., \$7.00

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### ***Trapped by Inequality***

#### **Bhutanese Refugee Women in Nepal**

Bhutanese refugee women in Nepal encounter gender-based violence and systematic discrimination in access to aid. This 77-page report examines the uneven response of UNHCR and the government of Nepal to rape, domestic violence, sexual and physical assault, and trafficking of girls and women from refugee camps. These problems persist despite reforms UNHCR introduced after internal investigations uncovered "sexual exploitation" of refugee women and girls by aid workers in Nepal and West Africa in 2002. The Human Rights Watch report shows how Nepal's laws constrain the prosecution of gender-based violence. Specific domestic violence legislation does not exist in Nepal. A 35-day statute of limitations and burdensome medical reporting procedures prevent rape victims from filing complaints with the police and pressing criminal charges. The same obstacles have prevented any prosecution of aid workers and Nepalese government employees accused of "sexual exploitation" in October 2002.

(C1508), 09/03, 76pp., \$10.00

Purchase online

[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/netrbyin.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/netrbyin.html)

### ***Spreading Despair***

#### **Russian Abuses in Ingushetia**

Russia's forces are committing abuses against displaced Chechens in Ingushetia as the conflict in Chechnya spills over into this neighboring republic. This 28-page report documents arbitrary arrest and detention, ill-treatment, and looting by Russia's forces in Ingushetia this summer. The report charges that these abuses are among the tactics Russian authorities are using to pressure displaced persons living in Ingushetia to return to Chechnya. The report details seven security operations federal and local forces conducted in June 2003 in settlements for displaced persons, as well as in Ingush villages. The operations followed a pattern of sweep operations or targeted raids seen in Chechnya—large groups of armed personnel, often arriving on armored personnel carriers, would surround a settlement and conduct sweeps or random checks at peoples' homes. In those security operations, at least eighteen people were arbitrarily detained, most of whom were not released until several days or weeks later, without ever receiving an explanation of the grounds for their detention. In other operations, federal forces appear to be responsible for killing one civilian and seriously injuring two others.

(D1508), 09/03, 28pp., \$5.00

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[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/spde.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/spde.html)

## ***Broken Promises***

### **Impediments to Refugee Return to Croatia**

Eight years after the end of the war in Croatia, ethnic discrimination continues to impede the return of hundreds of thousands of Croatian Serbs displaced by the war. This 61-page report describes the plight of displaced Croatian Serbs and urges that progress on return be made a condition of Croatia's application to join the European Union. The report is based on two years of research involving a comprehensive review of local legislation and extensive interviews with returned refugees, temporary occupants of their houses, and representatives of Serb civic associations, national and local governmental bodies, international organizations, and Croatian human rights groups. The report includes recommendations to the Croatian government and the international community to facilitate the return of Serb refugees.

(D1506), 09/03, 61pp., \$7.00

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(A1516), 08/03, 29pp., \$5.00

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(A1512), 07/03, 73pp., \$7.00

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## ***Flight From Iraq***

### **Attacks on Refugees and Other Foreigners and Their Treatment in Jordan**

Attacks and harassment amidst the security vacuum in Iraq forced refugees and other foreigners to flee the country and become refugees again, this time in Jordan. Based on research in Baghdad and Jordan, this 22-page

Human Rights Watch report details the abuses against refugees and foreigners in Iraq, as well as their treatment upon arrival in Jordan. Housing is frequently the pretext for the violence and harassment. Many landlords, forced by the previous government to take Palestinian tenants at discounted rates, are taking advantage of the breakdown in law and order to evict Palestinian tenants from their homes or to extort unrealistic rent increases from them. In other cases, violence and threats have come from individuals who seem to have no legitimate claim to the property. Human Rights Watch criticized Jordanian authorities for limiting refugees' entry to Jordan and recommended that Jordan provide immediate protection and assistance to all refugees, including those currently trapped near the Jordanian border in accordance with international refugee law standards.

(E1504), 05/03, 22pp., \$3.00

Purchase online

[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/irflfrir.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/irflfrir.html)

## **Women's Rights**

### ***Honoring the Killers***

#### **Justice Denied For "Honor" Crimes in Jordan**

This 37-page report documents the killings and attempted murders of women by male family members who claim they are defending family "honor." The report also details the cases of women, threatened with "honor" crimes, who languish in prison for years while held in protective custody.

(E1601), 4/04, 37pp., \$7.00

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(C1508), 09/03, 76pp., \$10.00

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[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/netrbyin.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/netrbyin.html)

### ***From House to House***

#### **Abuses by Mahalla Committees**

Uzbekistan's neighborhood committees violate fundamental human rights, carrying the government's repressive policies to the local level. This 38-page report documents the role neighborhood, or mahalla, committees have played in three critical areas of government abuse: the government's six-year campaign against so-called Islamic fundamentalists, its response to domestic violence, and the 2000-2001 forced resettlement in southern Uzbekistan. For centuries, the mahalla was an autonomous institution organized around Islamic rituals and social events, but the current government transformed it into a national system for surveillance and control. Uzbekistan is divided up into approximately 12,000 mahallas, each containing between 150 and 1,500 households. The mahalla committees are local government authorities with the power to administer a range of activities. Human Rights Watch called on the government to ensure that mahalla committees stop discrimination and surveillance of independent Muslims; provide in-depth training of mahalla officials on the provision of protection to complainants in domestic violence cases; and facilitate, rather than block, access for international organizations and the media to resettlement villages. Human Rights Watch further called on international donors to require reform of mahalla committees as a condition for funding projects involving the committees.

(D1507), 09/03, 37pp., \$5.00

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[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/uzfrhotoho.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/uzfrhotoho.html)

### ***Women's Work***

#### **Discrimination Against Women in the Ukrainian Labor Force**

Gender discrimination in Ukraine is cutting women out of the work force while the Ukrainian government is doing nothing to stop the problem. This 52-page report describes how Ukrainian employers discriminate against women job seekers in the way they announce vacancies and interview applicants. Both government agencies and private businesses regularly request male applicants more frequently than females in their job advertisements. Employers also use information on women's family circumstances-which they require the women to give during interviews-to deny women employment. Age and appearance requirements also exclude many women from jobs for which they are professionally qualified. Government officials routinely deny that discrimination against women in the labor force is a problem in Ukraine. But Ministry of Labor inspectors lack the will and the training to investigate discriminatory recruitment practices. Meanwhile, the State Employment Service endorses such discrimination by posting vacancy announcements with gender specifications, and even requesting gender-specific vacancy information from employers. Human Rights Watch appeals to the Ukrainian government, the European Union, and international organizations to take bolder steps in promoting non-discrimination.

(D1505), 08/03, 52pp., \$7.00

Purchase online  
[http //store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/ukwowo.html](http://store.yahoo.com/hrwpubs/ukwowo.html)

### ***Struggling Through Peace***

#### **Return and Resettlement in Angola**

The Angolan government and the United Nations are failing to ensure the safe and voluntary return of millions of Angolans to their homes. This 29-page report documents several incidents of government authorities using violence, or the threat of violence, to drive people out of camps where they had been living sometimes for years. The report also raises concerns about reported incidents of rape and other sexual violence against internally displaced women and returning refugees. Hundreds of Angolan refugees have spontaneously returned to their homes since the ceasefire of April 2002, but millions of internally displaced people, refugees and ex-combatants remain in exile, in transit or in temporary resettlement sites within Angola. Rather than paying special attention to children, women, and vulnerable groups, the Angolan government has granted preference to ex-combatants for resettlement. The government has also failed to provide people with identity documents that would help them get access to humanitarian assistance, which is in any case inadequate. The report urges the Angolan government and international agencies to ensure reasonably uniform conditions in the areas to which the internally displaced, refugees, and former combatants will return, and to pay special attention to the needs of women, children and other vulnerable groups. Most importantly, the Angolan government must respect international and domestic law requiring the voluntary basis on which displaced people should be resettled.

(A1516), 08/03, 29pp., \$5.00

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Afghan warlords and political strongmen supported by the United States and other nations are engendering a climate of fear in Afghanistan that is threatening efforts to adopt a new constitution and could derail national elections scheduled for mid-2004. The report warns that violence, political intimidation, and attacks on women and girls are discouraging political participation and endangering gains made on women's rights in Afghanistan over the last year. The 101-page report documents army and police troops kidnapping Afghans and holding them for ransom in unofficial prisons; breaking into households and robbing families; raping women, girls and boys; and extorting shopkeepers and bus, truck and taxi drivers.

The report also describes political organizers, journalists and media editors being threatened with death, arrested and harassed by army, police and intelligence agents.

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**Sexual Violence and Abduction of Women and Girls in Baghdad**

The insecurity plaguing Baghdad and other Iraqi cities has a distinct and debilitating impact on the daily lives of women and girls, preventing them from participating in public life at a crucial time in their country's history. Human Rights Watch interviewed rape and abduction victims and witnesses, Iraqi police and health professionals, and U.S. military police and civil affairs officers, and learned of twenty-five credible allegations of rape or abduction. The report found that police officers gave low priority to allegations of sexual violence and abduction, that the police were under-resourced, and that victims of sexual violence confronted indifference and sexism from Iraqi law enforcement personnel. The report also found that U.S. military police were not filling the gap when Iraqi police were unwilling or unable to conduct serious investigations of sexual violence and abduction. This 17-page report concludes that the failure of Iraqi and U.S.-led occupation authorities to provide public security in Iraq's capital lies at the root of a widespread fear of rape and abduction among women and their families.

(E1508), 07/03, 16pp., \$3.00

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***Compounding Injustice***

**The Government's Failure to Redress Massacres in Gujarat**

The ringleaders of massacres committed in 2002 are still roaming free in Gujarat, Human Rights Watch charged in a new report. The 70-page report, *Compounding Injustice: The Government's Failure to Redress Massacres in Gujarat*, examines the record of state authorities in holding perpetrators accountable and providing humanitarian relief to victims of state-supported massacres of Muslims in February and March 2002. Human Rights Watch urged the federal government to take over cases of large-scale massacres where the state government has sabotaged investigations. More than one hundred Muslims have been charged under India's much-criticized Prevention of Terrorism Act (POTA) for their alleged involvement in the train massacre in Godhra. No Hindus have been charged under POTA in connection with the violence against Muslims, which the government continues to dismiss as spontaneous and unorganized. Although the Indian government initially boasted of thousands of arrests following the attacks, most of those arrested have since been acquitted, released on bail with no further action taken, or simply let go. Police regularly downgrade serious charges to lesser crimes - from murder or rape to rioting, for example - and alter victims' statements to delete the names of the accused. Even when cases reach trial, Muslim victims face biased prosecutors and judges. Hindu and Muslim lawyers representing Muslim victims, and doctors providing medical relief to them, have also faced harassment and threats.

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