



Zimbabwe  
**HUMAN RIGHTS**  
N G O F o r u m

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**POLITICAL VIOLENCE REPORT**

**December 2006**

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27 February 2007

A report by the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum

## OVERVIEW

The year 2006 saw a continued rise in the violations of freedoms of association, expression, assembly and movement. 2006 was markedly worse than 2005 as regards violations of these freedoms. There was a shift from the use of the Public Order and Security Act (POSA) and the Miscellaneous Offences Act (MOA) to the use of the Criminal Law Codification Act, which is just as notorious. These Acts have been used to take away the rights to freedom of expression, association, assembly and movement.

Students demonstrated throughout the year against the tuition fee hikes at higher and tertiary education institutions and they were met by brute force from the police as shall be seen in this report. The Women of Zimbabwe Arise (WOZA), National Constitutional Assembly (NCA), Zimbabwe Council of Trade Unions (ZCTU) and other organizations continued to demonstrate, in spite of the brute force, assault, torture, intimidation and general repression they met from the police and other agents of the state. The use of the Criminal Law Codification Act rather than the condemned POSA seems to reflect that the Government wants to keep everyone on their toes. POSA was condemned together with the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (AIPPA) by the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights Fact-Finding Mission in 2002 in their recommendations to Zimbabwe. The African Commission urged the Government to either repeal or amend this repressive legislation. The Criminal Law Codification Act was not condemned by the African Commission but it is possibly more repressive than POSA.

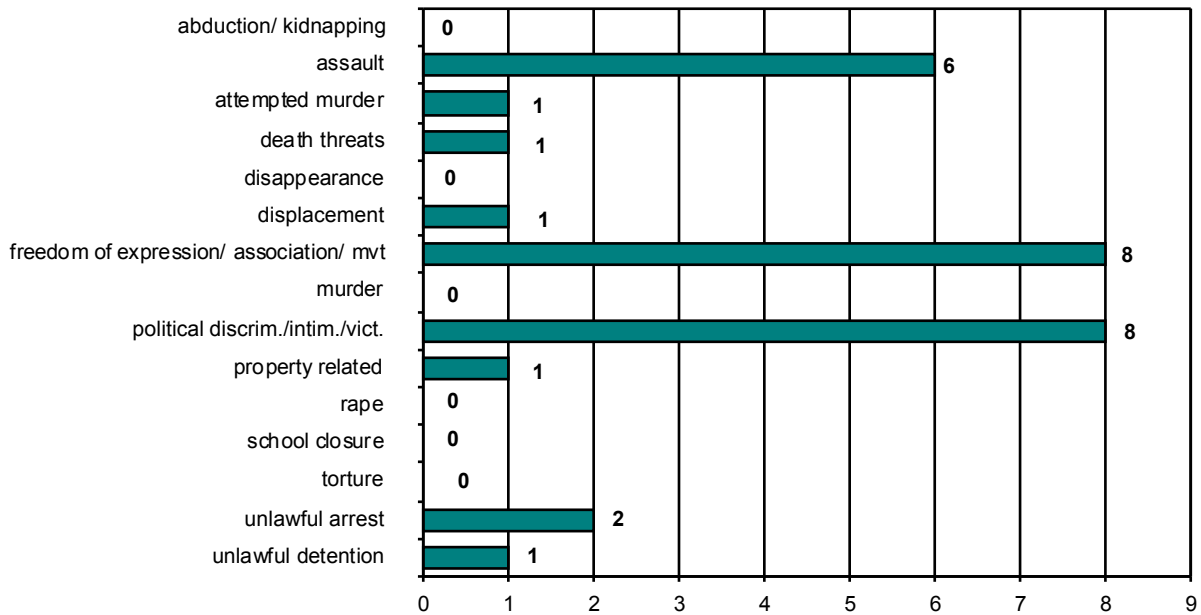
The use of torture was widespread in 2006. The torture of students from Bindura State University and the ZCTU demonstrators in May and September respectively dealt a huge blow to civil society and for the respect for and protection of human rights in Zimbabwe. Torture is regarded internationally as a gross human rights violation and should never be condoned under whatever circumstances.

In 2006 Government declared its intention to set up a Human Rights Commission for Zimbabwe. This met with strong criticism from civil society, which reiterated the necessity for the adherence to international human rights instruments and the Paris Principles.

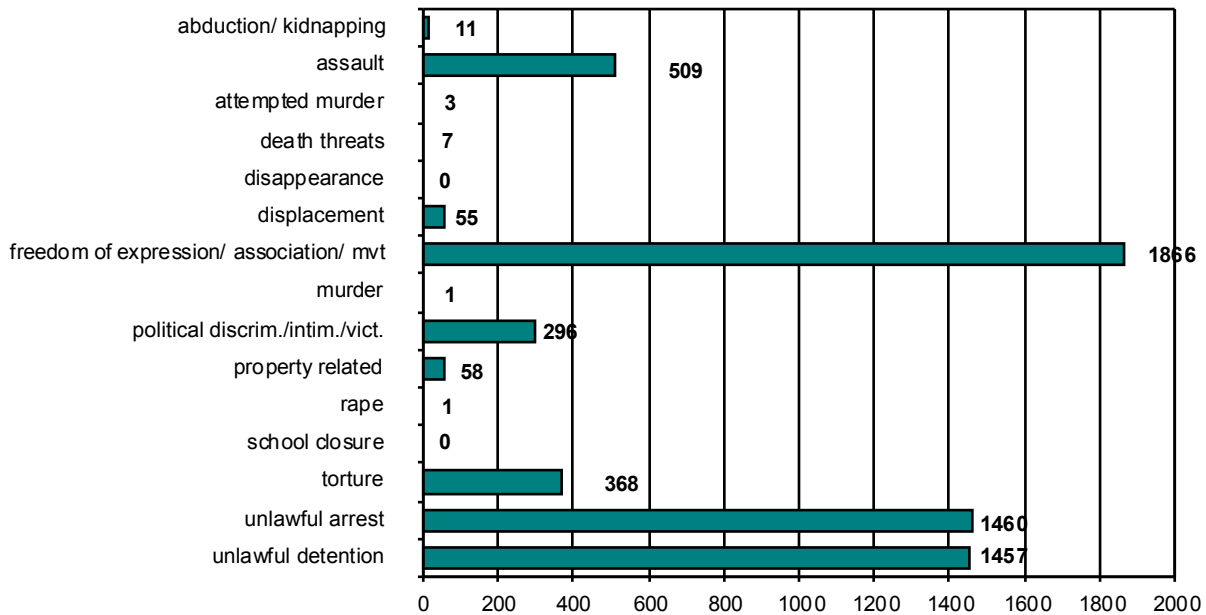
This report proffers a comparative analysis between the two years, 2005 and 2006. It is sad to note from the findings that the human rights situation in Zimbabwe continued to decline in 2006. The Human Rights NGO Forum urges Government to take seriously and adhere to international human rights treaties to which it is a party.

The Human Rights Forum issued a number of analytical reports during 2006 (see Appendix), which in themselves are an indication of the serious deterioration in the human rights climate in 2006. Three reports, dealing with Operation Murambatsvina, violations by the Zimbabwe Republic Police, and violations against women, offered serious critiques of the Zimbabwe government's failure to ensure the observance of human rights. The other reports, dealing with the response of the Zimbabwean courts to civil suits by victims of human rights abuses, the Zimbabwe government's response to the concerns of the EU, and the prospects for transitional justice, amplified and extended many of the conclusions in the data-driven reports.

Totals: 1 December–31 December 2006

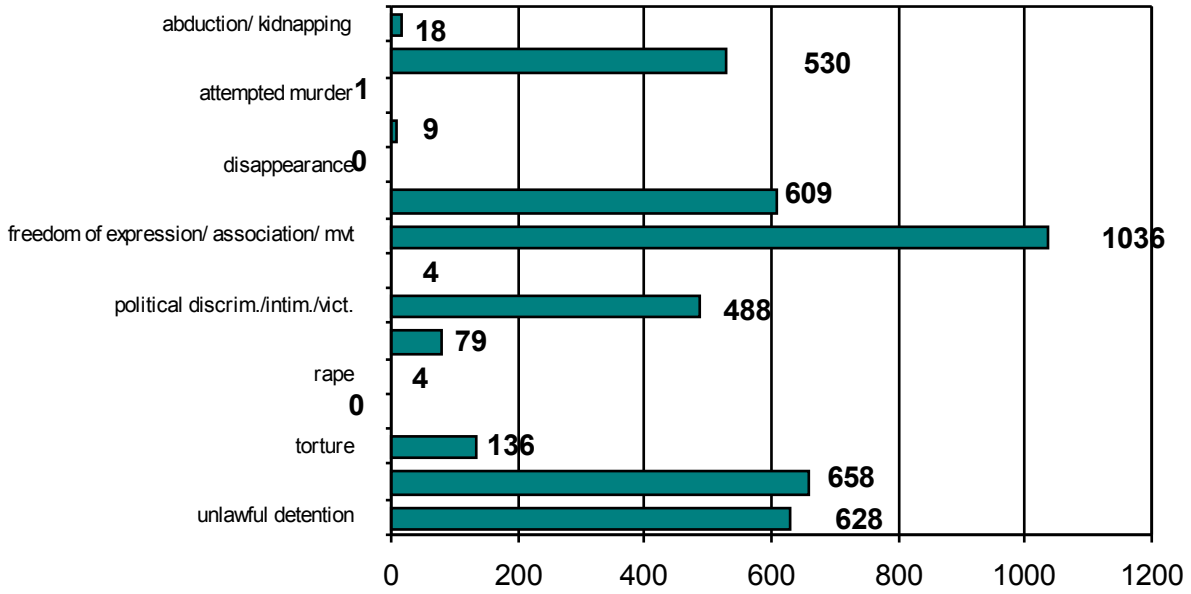


Cumulative Totals: 1 January–31 December 2006



The graph should be read along with the table depicting the monthly totals of violations from 1 January 2006 to 31 December 2006. The total quantifiable number of victims reported in December 2006 is 10.

### Cumulative Totals: 1 January-31 December 2005



### Key Abbreviations

AIPPA – Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act

BSA - Broadcasting Services Act

CIO – Central Intelligence Organisation

MDC – Movement for Democratic Change

MP – Member of Parliament

ZPS – Zimbabwe Prison Service

NAGG - National Alliance for Good Governance

NCA – National Constitutional Assembly

OVT – Organised Violence and Torture

POSA – Public Order and Security Act

PTUZ – Progressive Teachers Union of Zimbabwe

UMP – Uzumba Maramba Pfungwe

ZANU PF–Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front

ZCTU – Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions

ZNA – Zimbabwe National Army

ZRP – Zimbabwe Republic Police

ZNLWVA – Zimbabwe National Liberation War Veterans Association

ZIMTA – Zimbabwe Teachers Association

ZUPCO – Zimbabwe United Passenger Company

**Sources:** The information contained in this report is derived from statements made to the Public Interest Unit of the Zimbabwe Human Rights Forum, statements taken by a network of human rights activists and newspaper reports,

### Notes to the tables:

#### Torture:

All cases of torture fall under the definition of torture according to the general definition given in the United Nations Convention against Torture and Other Forms of Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment and Punishment.

The four elements of torture are:

- 1 **Severe** pain and suffering, whether physical or mental
- 2 **Intentionally** inflicted
- 3 With a **purpose**
- 4 By a state official or another individual acting with the **acquiescence of the state**.

Those individuals referred to in point # 4 include the ZRP, ZNA, ZPS and the ZNLWVA (as a reserve force of the ZNA) and by any other grouping when directly sanctioned by the state.

#### Unlawful arrest and detention:

Arrest by the Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) with no reasonable suspicion that an offence has been committed. Detention thereafter for a period exceeding 48 hours without access to redress through the courts or subsequent release without charge.

#### Abduction/kidnapping:

A kidnapping by a member(s) of an organised group that is not the ZRP, political party, ZNLWVA, ZNA, MDC, Zanu PF etc

#### Disappearance:

Kidnapped persons whose whereabouts remained unknown at the time of reporting. Their whereabouts have still to be ascertained through follow up reports or further investigation.

#### Property related

These are incidents in which property rights have been violated. This includes arson, property damage and destruction and theft.

**Cases of Political Violence**

**Note:** *The identities of victims whose names have not been published in the press and are not public officials are protected. This is done in order to protect the victim from further violence, intimidation and possible recriminatory attacks.*

*The purpose of this report is to record the nature of the politically motivated violence and intimidation that continues to prevail in the country. The Monthly Political Violence Reports are primarily based on victims' accounts, accompanied by medical evidence where possible, obtained from member organisations of the Human Rights Forum and other partner organisations. Use is also made of press reports on politically motivated violence. The Monthly Political Violence Report cannot therefore be considered as the exhaustive record of all incidents of politically - motivated violence in Zimbabwe in the period under review. Nevertheless, every incident reported to the Human Rights Forum directly or through its members is meticulously documented and included in the reports. Care is also taken to record the incidents in the language in which they were reported to the Forum.*

*The situation prevailing in the country is such that it has not been possible to verify all of these accounts. The Human Rights Forum has done what it can to verify the reports, and is satisfied that the vast majority of them are substantially true. It is also not possible to rule out whether a victim's account is exaggerated or contains inaccuracies.*

*All reports derived from the press are denoted with the symbol  $\Sigma$ .*

## **HARARE**

### **Chitungwiza**

*12 December 2006*

At about 14:30 hrs, a male victim was reportedly distributing flyers with his colleagues for people to adhere to an MDC stay away. As they were distributing the flyers, 3 trucks carrying police officers approached them and ordered them not to hand out the flyers. They asked the officers if it was unlawful to distribute flyers. The police officers allegedly responded by assaulting them and throwing teargas cannisters at them. The victim tried to run away but he fell into a ditch. He believes he inhaled a lot of teargas.

In the same incident a male victim, who was at his house, was reportedly arrested for distributing the above-mentioned flyers. He was taken to Makoni Police Station where he was interrogated over the distribution of the flyers. An elderly man who is a member of ZANU-PF was present and accused the victim of having distributed the flyers. He was then allegedly struck on the head by the police.

A 3<sup>rd</sup> victim, a female, went to C Junction where she saw the flyers scattered around the road. She picked some up to read. As she was reading one of the flyers, the police arrived and arrested her. She reports that she had no idea who had put the flyers there. She was taken to Makoni Police Station and interrogated over the contents of the flyers. The victim was allegedly assaulted by the police officers and later taken to Harare Central Police Station on Wednesday at around 18:00 hrs. She was released after paying a fine of Z\$ 250.

*13 December 2006*

A male victim reports that he attended an MDC stayaway in Chitungwiza the previous day. On the date of the incident, he was standing at a junction near Seke Teachers College. When he saw police officers, who were looking for those who had attended the stayaway, he hid behind some bushes but was spotted. He tried to run away but he was kicked on the leg by the police officers and had difficulty standing up.

*17 December 2006*

A male victim reports that on the date in question at about 21:00 hrs he met 2 men known to him to be from the Job Sikhala<sup>1</sup> group of the Pro-Senate MDC faction. The 2 allegedly assaulted him with a log for having attended an MDC anti-Senate rally in Chitungwiza. He reportedly fell to the ground screaming. He was later told that he lost consciousness for a short while. The next day he reportedly went to report the matter to Job Sikhala. The 2 assailants are said to have admitted that they had in fact assaulted the victim. Job Sikhala allegedly gave him \$5000 dollars and ordered him not to report to the police or else he would be forced to leave the St Mary's area.

**Hatfield**

*28 December 2006*

Σ. Unknown assailants poured petrol and set light round the home of the Chairperson of the NCA Dr. Lovemore Madhuku. It is reported that Madhuku and 9 other occupants of his house woke shortly after midnight on Saturday to find flames surrounding the house. After 10 minutes, those inside the house broke windows and managed to put out the flames. A 5 litre bottle of petrol was found hidden next to the wall. The press reports that it is suspected that state agents carried out the attack.

**MASHONALAND CENTRAL*****Mt Darwin North***

*7 December 2006*

The middle aged male victim reported that on the date in question he was assaulted by 2 ZANU PF supporters known to him using bricks and stones. He was assaulted for being an MDC activist.

***Shamva***

*14 December 2006*

On the day in question 2 victims were arrested on allegations of stealing cattle in their home area in Shamva. They were taken to Madziva Police Post where they were allegedly assaulted by 2 police officers who they named. The police officers reportedly assaulted them using fists and booted feet as well as batons under their feet. One of the victims reportedly sustained injuries on the buttocks, upperback and rib area while the other sustained injuries on his buttocks and face. They were detained at Madziva Police Post overnight and later remanded for a month. They were later released on bail.

***Shamva***

*22 December 2006*

The victim, who was the MDC candidate for Ward 5 Shamva in the Rural District Council (RDC) elections, claims that she was threatened by Zanu PF supporters into leaving her home and family due to her participation in the RDC election. She is now in hiding fearing that she might be assaulted or killed by the ZANU PF supporters.

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<sup>1</sup> Job Sikhala is an MDC Pro-Senate Member of the House of Assembly for St Marys.



## COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

As indicated earlier, 2006 appears to have been the worst year yet for the number of violations reported to the Human Rights Forum. In fact, 2006 accounts for 27% of all violations reported to date, and 2005 and 2006 together are nearly half of all violations since the Human Rights Forum began giving statistical reports in July 2001. This can be clearly seen from the Table below. Furthermore, it can be seen that the overall trend, apart from 2004, shows that human rights violations have been increasing each year since 2001.

Table 1

	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>Totals</b>
Abductions	116	223	52	62	18	11	<b>482</b>
arrest & detention	670	274	627	389	1286	2917	<b>6163</b>
Assault	0	86	388	401	530	509	<b>1891</b>
attempted murder	0	2	10	8	1	3	<b>24</b>
death threats	0	12	80	35	9	7	<b>143</b>
disappearance	0	28	4	0	0	0	<b>32</b>
displacement	0	11	208	189	609	55	<b>1072</b>
Freedoms	12	39	809	760	1036	1866	<b>4522</b>
Murder	34	61	10	3	4	1	<b>114</b>
Political discrimination	194	388	450	514	488	296	<b>2310</b>
property violation	356	807	153	132	79	58	<b>1564</b>
Rape	0	7	6	3	4	1	<b>21</b>
school closure	0	45	1	0	0	0	<b>46</b>
Torture	903	1172	497	160	136	368	<b>3236</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2285</b>	<b>3155</b>	<b>3295</b>	<b>2656</b>	<b>4200</b>	<b>6092</b>	<b>21620</b>

Against this understanding, some brief comparisons between 2005 and 2006 are made. The trends between the 2 years will be analysed. The full details of the violation recorded during 2005 and 2006 are given below.

Table 2

	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Abductions</b>	18	11
<b>Assault</b>	530	509
<b>Attempted murder</b>	1	3
<b>Death threats</b>	9	7
<b>Disappearance</b>	0	0
<b>Displacement</b>	609	55
<b>Freedoms</b>	1036	1866
<b>Murder</b>	4	1
<b>Political discrimination</b>	488	296
<b>Property violation</b>	79	58
<b>Rape</b>	4	1
<b>School closure</b>	0	0
<b>Torture</b>	136	368
<b>Unlawful arrest</b>	658 <sup>2</sup>	1460
<b>Unlawful detention</b>	628	1457
<b>Total</b>	<b>4200</b>	<b>6092</b>

As can be seen from the Table above, there were many more violations recorded in 2006 than in 2005. 2005 had recorded the highest number of violations since the Forum began recording in July 2001. However 2006 has far surpassed 2005. Very marked increases are seen in the number of unlawful arrests & detentions, torture and interference with basic freedoms. Overall it cannot be concluded that 2006 has seen any improvement in the human rights climate.

<sup>2</sup> Unlawful arrest and detention were added together in the December 2005 Monthly Political Violence Report. In this report we have separated them.

### ***The Parliamentary elections in 2005***

2005 was another election year, and, as in the past, the Forum anticipated a marked increase in the number of violations. The elections in 2005 were held against the standards of the SADC Principles and Guidelines for Democratic Elections, and these ostensibly provided a set of criteria for evaluating the validity of elections. The Forum produced 2 reports on the elections, and unequivocally indicated that neither the pre-election period<sup>3</sup>, nor the election itself<sup>4</sup>, conformed to the Principles and Guidelines.

Although it was generally concluded that the 2005 elections were less violent than elections in the previous 5 years, they were not free from human rights violations, and certainly allegations about the political use of food abounded<sup>5</sup>. It is evident, from the Forum's own data, that there was a significant rise in reported violations during the 3 months prior to the March Parliamentary Election in 2005.

Thus, the Forum was able to conclude, in respect of the 2005 Parliamentary Elections:

*"Although many of these reports do not come from non-partisan sources, the allegations of violence and denial of food aid are remarkably consistent with the reports of threats made prior to the elections, outlined earlier in this report. This consistency lends credibility to all allegations of this nature made prior to, and after, the elections. It also supports the hypothesis advanced in this report that ZANU(PF) won the election in a manner which was neither free nor fair, not due to stuffed ballot boxes, but by creating a captive electorate dependent upon the favours of the ruling party and one which was starved of information, free choice and food."*<sup>6</sup>

### ***Operation Murambatsvina***

The 2005 Parliamentary Elections were followed very quickly by the now-notorious *Operation Murambatsvina*. The magnitude of the displacements drew widespread comment, and the Forum has issued 3 reports in connection with this event<sup>7</sup>. It is not the intention of this report to re-cover the ground of these two previous reports, but it is worth making several brief comments on events subsequent to the publication of the reports.

Firstly, it is evident that the Government of Zimbabwe has shown little inclination to accept any liability for the enormous harm caused to many hundreds of thousands of ordinary Zimbabweans, and, as was pointed out in the second Forum report, continues merely to vilify and denigrate all persons and organizations, which raised concerns about *Operation Murambatsvina*.

<sup>3</sup> See Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO (2005), *It's the Count that Counts: Food for Thought. Reviewing the Pre-election Period in Zimbabwe*. March 2005. HARARE: ZIMBABWE HUMAN RIGHTS NGO FORUM.

<sup>4</sup> See Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum (2005), *Of Stuffed Ballots and Empty Stomachs. Reviewing Zimbabwe's 2005 Parliamentary Election and Post- Election Period*. July 2005, HARARE: ZIMBABWE HUMAN RIGHTS NGO FORUM.

<sup>5</sup> See again Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum (2005), *Of Stuffed Ballots and Empty Stomachs. Reviewing Zimbabwe's 2005 Parliamentary Election and Post- Election Period*. July 2005, HARARE: ZIMBABWE HUMAN RIGHTS NGO FORUM.

<sup>6</sup> See again Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum (2005), *Of Stuffed Ballots and Empty Stomachs. Reviewing Zimbabwe's 2005 Parliamentary Election and Post- Election Period*. July 2005, HARARE: ZIMBABWE HUMAN RIGHTS NGO FORUM.

<sup>7</sup> See Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum (2005), *Order out of Chaos, or Chaos out of Order? A Preliminary Report on Operation "Murambatsvina"*. June 2005. HARARE: ZIMBABWE HUMAN RIGHTS NGO FORUM.; Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum (2005), *The Aftermath of a Disastrous Venture. A Follow up report on "Operation Murambatsvina"*. August 2005. HARARE: ZIMBABWE HUMAN RIGHTS NGO FORUM; Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum(2006), *Political Repression disguised as Civic Mindedness. Operation Murambatsvina one year later*. November 2006. HARARE: ZIMBABWE HUMAN RIGHTS NGO FORUM.

Secondly, the concerns raised by the Forum and others were matched by the 2005 resolution of the African Commission for Human and Peoples' Rights on the human rights situation in Zimbabwe. Again the Government of Zimbabwe has responded by vilifying and denigrating the Commission, rather than addressing directly the concerns of all these parties and bodies. Here it is worth pointing out that the African Commission, in its resolution on Zimbabwe, raised many other areas of concern, including the continuation of gross human rights violations, the continued application of draconian legislation, and amendments to the Constitution of Zimbabwe. These are all issues about which the Forum has seen fit to comment in the past.

Thirdly, there was evidence that the Government of Zimbabwe was obstructing efforts by humanitarian agencies to render assistance to those affected by *Operation Murambatsvina*, which is contrary to the Government's Responsibility to Protect.

Thus, the Forum remains concerned about the effects of the displacements, and considers that the crisis engendered by the Government was continuing rather than abating as the Government asserted.

Despite the 2 major events above in 2005 wherein a number of violations were committed, 2006 saw a rise in the number of violations recorded even though 2006 was not an election year. Of note in 2006 is the rise of incidents of torture. Two major events stand out as regards torture in 2006, the ZCTU demonstration of September 2006 and the Bindura State University demonstrations of May 2006. During these 2 events students and ZCTU activists were brutally tortured and assaulted by a regime that desperately tries to hold on to power. This intention was clearly manifested in December when ZANU-PF held its annual congress in Goromonzi and tried to institute through a party caucus, the postponement of the 2008 Presidential Elections and the synchronization of the Presidential and Parliamentary Elections to a further date, 2010.

### ***Assault and other incidents of violence***

Incidents of assault were higher in 2005 as compared to 2006 recording 530 and 509 respectively for each year. In 2005 the highest number of assaults recorded in a month were for March, which recorded 259, almost half the number of assaults recorded in the year. This is attributable to incidents surrounding the 31 March 2005 Parliamentary Elections, which included the Women of Zimbabwe Arise (WOZA) vigil on the night of the elections themselves. WOZA held a candlelight vigil as they prayed for divine intervention that the elections would not be rigged. In the process, the women who had gathered at Africa Unity Square, Harare, for the vigil were assaulted and arrested under POSA. In the run up to the elections, there were also assaults reported against MDC candidates and activists who were apparently assaulted for trying to campaign particularly in Zvimba North.

The highest number of assaults recorded for 2006 was 178, which was for May. This was also the highest number of assaults between the 2 years. This number is attributed to the Budiriro House of Assembly By-elections and the "commemoration" of *Operation Murambatsvina* by civil society led by Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition. The commemoration was for 2 months starting 18 May, the date on which the year before, the government had destroyed not only the informal settlements and businesses but the lives of many people as well. *Operation Murambatsvina* is described above. Most importantly the large number of assaults in May 2006 is attributed to the rapine torture, assault, and wanton disregard for human dignity and the integrity of the human person carried out by the police and intelligence officers against unarmed innocent students who were boycotting classes at Bindura State University. The students were boycotting the classes in an effort to let the Government and the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education understand that the tuition and accommodation fee hikes were untenable. The fees had been hiked in February 2006 to a level that far surpassed the loans the students were being offered. This effectively meant that tertiary and higher education had become a preserve of the rich.

The least number of assaults recorded in 2006 was in June and December 2005, which recorded 4 incidents in 2006 and 8 in 2005. December 2006 recorded 6 incidents of assault. December is usually a month where most organizations are preparing to close down so the low numbers might not necessarily reflect a reduced incidence of violations but the fact that information collected in December is collected within a short period of time as the organizations are closing shop for the Christmas and New Year holidays. The 4 cases recorded in June 2006 are the least cases of assault recorded in both years. One might take this as a welcome state of events as regards human rights adherence by the State. However, in this month, the use of intimidation was very high. Civil Society leaders and church leaders were intimidated by state security agents in order to deter protests which were set for 22 June. Could it be assumed that the state felt that intimidation alone would suffice to achieve its goals since the torture and assaults of the Bindura State University students were still resonating in the minds of many?

### ***Abduction and kidnapping***

Abduction/kidnapping was higher in 2005, when 18 cases were recorded, whereas only eleven cases were recorded in 2006. This is a decrease and a welcome change and it seems the trend is that incidents of abduction and kidnapping continue to be on the decline, 2004 had recorded 62 cases. For 2005, the highest number of abductions recorded is 6, in March and the lowest are 0, recorded in the months of July and September through to December. The 6 recorded in March were recorded during the March 2005 Parliamentary Elections. Elections in Zimbabwe are usually a focus for an increase in human rights violations. May 2006 recorded 5 abduction and kidnapping violations. This was during the Bindura State University tortures, the Budiriro House of Assembly By-election and a number of NCA demonstrations in support for a new constitution for Zimbabwe. October and April recorded 2 incidents each, July and March recorded 1 incident each while all the other months had no incidents of abduction and kidnapping.

### ***Attempted murder***

There were only 1 attempted murder recorded in 2005, having been recorded in September during a new wave of farm invasions, which befell the country, particularly in Manicaland, in Chipinge and Nyazura areas. 2006 recorded 3 cases of attempted murder, 2 in April and 1 in December. April 14 saw the torture and attempted murder of Nixon Nyikadzino, an NCA activist, by Military Intelligence officers.

### ***Death Threats***

2005 recorded a total of 9 cases of death threat of which 3 were in April. This was part of the post election retribution that pervaded the country after 31 March 2005 Parliamentary Elections and also the MDC demonstration against the election results. In May and October 2 incidents were recorded each month and in January and March there were 1 each. 2006 saw a slight decrease in the number of death threats recording a total of 7, 2 in March and April and 1 in June, July and December.

### ***Disappearances***

Disappearances are becoming more and more an uncommon phenomenon in Zimbabwe. In 2005 as in 2006 there were no disappearances recorded. This is a welcome state of events.

### ***Displacement***

Displacements were markedly higher in 2005 than in 2006, 609 and 55 respectively. The highest in 2006 was 54 in April followed by 1 in December. The 54 cases in April were due to the eviction of residents of Nenyere Flats in Mbare by ZANU-PF activists who wanted to occupy the places and also due to the eviction of squatters along Macheke River in Masvingo by the police. Some ran away due to violence being perpetrated against them. 2005 saw a very high increase in incidents of displacement due to *Operation Murambatsvina/Restore Order*.<sup>8</sup> In August 2005 the highest displacement incidents were recorded between the 2 years under review, amounting to 500 incidents. This was due to displacements at Donhoro farm. In May when *Operation Murambatsvina* began, 27 displacements were recorded, which was lower than April where displacements were due to post-election retribution when 55 displacements were recorded. In January 2005 17 displacements were recorded that were associated with Vice President Mujuru's celebrations on her appointment as Vice President, which led to political violence throughout the country.

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<sup>8</sup> See again Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum (2005), *Order out of Chaos, or Chaos out of Order? A Preliminary Report on Operation "Murambatsvina"*. June 2005. HARARE: ZIMBABWE HUMAN RIGHTS NGO FORUM; Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum (2005), *The Aftermath of a Disastrous Venture. A Follow up report on "Operation Murambatsvina"*. August 2005. HARARE: ZIMBABWE HUMAN RIGHTS NGO FORUM.

### ***Freedom of expression/association/movement<sup>9</sup>***

The right to freedom of expression, association and movement continues to be the most violated right in Zimbabwe. This is possibly due to POSA and other repressive legislation as well as a general culture of repression and intolerance. In 2005, a total of 1036 violations of this right were recorded, which is markedly lower than the 1866 recorded for 2006. This shows that violations of this right are by no means decreasing. In 2005, the highest number was recorded in May viz 349. This was linked with the continuation and intensification of post election retribution. The election month itself, March 2005 recorded 268 violations of the right to freedom of expression, association and movement. In December the least number of incidents, namely 8, were recorded.

In 2006 the highest number of the violations to the right to freedoms was recorded in September, which recorded 560 violations. This was the month in which WOZA women demonstrated against poor service delivery by Harare City Council and ZCTU demonstrated and their members were brutally assaulted and tortured. February 2006 recorded a very high number of violations of this right as well, namely 410 cases. This was due to WOZA demonstrations against the deteriorating state of the economy as well as country-wide demonstrations by students against increases in tuition fee hikes in tertiary and higher education institutions. The NCA also demonstrated in this month on the President's birthday. All these demonstrations, like all demonstrations in Zimbabwe, were met by brutal suppression and undue force against the unarmed citizens. This was done in clear violation of the Constitution of the country and article 19 of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, article 9 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and against the resolution by the African Commission of 2005 that POSA and AIPPA should either be amended or repealed to give full observance to the right to freedom of expression. The lowest number of cases on this right was recorded in June 2006, being only 4 violations.

### ***Murders***

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<sup>9</sup> It is important to note here that all numbers in the Monthly Political Violence Reports refer to numbers of violations and not numbers of people. Hence, a person may be affected by more than one violation in respect of a single incident.

In 2005, 4 people were murdered in politically motivated circumstances. Of the 4 people murdered in 2005, 2 were ZANU-PF, one was from the MDC and the other unknown. In April, during post election retribution, Ebrahim Mofat, an MDC activist, was murdered by ZANU-PF activists on 28 April in Hurungwe East constituency. In the same month Febby Muchacha was murdered at Kimcote farm in unclear political circumstances in a gruesome murder that shocked Zimbabwe. The other 2 murders were of Gift Chimbandi and Godwin Ganda in March and May respectively. Gift Chambandi was burnt to death when his house was burnt down.

A case of wrongful death took place in August when Prince Chabuda was shot dead by plain-clothes police detectives who are reported to have mistaken the vehicle he was travelling in for one that was being used by a gang of robbers. The death has been categorised under murder.

The Forum continues to urge state agents to exercise restraint and due care and diligence in the exercise of their duties and adhere to Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by law enforcement officials (the Basic Principles), adopted by the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 1990, United Nations Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials, adopted December 17, 1979, G.A res 34/169, annex, 34 U.N. GAOR Supp. (No.46) at 186, U.N. Doc. A/34/46 (1979), which stipulate that the use of force should be restrained until and unless it is absolutely necessary.

### ***Political discrimination/intimidation/victimization***

More cases of political discrimination/intimidation/victimisation were recorded in 2005 than in 2006, 448 and 296 respectively. In 2005, the highest number of cases was recorded in March at 128 and April being relatively close at 113 cases. The lowest number of cases in 2005 was in December, namely 4. March 2005 saw the Parliamentary Elections and the WOZA vigil and April saw post-election retribution as well as an MDC demonstration against the results of the March 31 Parliamentary Elections. May 2006 recorded the highest number of political discrimination/intimidation/victimization cases, 179 and July and August recorded 2. In May 2006, the events surrounding the Budiro House of Assembly By-election, Bindura students' torture and the NCA demonstration account for the high number of cases recorded.

### ***Property related***

Property-related violations of human rights decreased from 79 in 2005 to 58 in 2006. Violations of this right are on the decrease possibly due to the individual personal criminal consequences that can befall perpetrators.

### ***Rape***

In Kadoma West, there was one incident of rape recorded in October 2006. The victim was allegedly assaulted and raped by ZANU PF activists at Tsungai Business Centre. 2005 recorded 4 cases. The 4 cases in 2005 occurred in April at Kimcote farm in a gruesome incident that pricked the conscience of many Zimbabweans. There is a decline in 2006 to just a single case. The low figures undoubtedly reflect the reluctance of victims to report.



### ***School closure***

School closure is one of the less violated category of rights. There were no incidents of school closure recorded either year under review.

### ***Torture***

Torture remains a perennial problem in Zimbabwe. The highest number of torture cases recorded in 2005 was in March, being 98 cases, which occurred during the Parliamentary Elections. These were mostly attributed to the 97 WOZA women who were allegedly tortured on the night of 31 March 2005, while holding a prayer vigil for the elections not to be rigged. There was a marked increase in the incidents of torture from the 136 in 2005 to 368 cases in 2006. These are attributed to the ZCTU demonstrations in September and the Bindura State University students' demonstration and subsequent barbaric torture in May 2006. September 2006 recorded the highest number of cases in the year, 143 in total and May recorded 86.

The practice of torture is proscribed in all international human rights instruments to which Zimbabwe is a party. The Universal Declaration on Human Rights (Article 5), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Articles 7 and 10) the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (Article 5) all unequivocally prohibit the practice of torture. The provisions in these international human rights treaties are legally binding on states parties and Zimbabwe has every obligation to adhere to the norms enshrined therein. The fundamental nature of the human right to be free from torture is emphasized by the fact that under the major international human rights instruments no derogation is permitted from this right either in times of "public emergency which threatens the life of the nation"<sup>10</sup> or "in time of war, or other public emergency threatening the life of the nation" or "in time of war, public danger, or other emergency that threatens the independence of Security of a State Party." Article 3 of the Convention Against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT) states, "No state may permit or tolerate torture or other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment". The Forum notes with great concern that after the torture of ZCTU members, the President of Zimbabwe Mr Robert Gabriel Mugabe condoned and encouraged the police to continue in this disgraceful conduct when he said "when the police say move, you move. If you don't move, you invite the police to use force".<sup>11</sup> Zimbabwe is also urged to ratify and domesticate CAT.

As can be seen from Table 1 on page 8, torture has been increasing in 2006, with more than double the number of cases of 2005. It is also the case that torture is not merely confined to political cases, and more cases are being reported of torture being used in ordinary criminal cases. This is a very matter, and it is clear that there is need for serious reform of the Zimbabwe Republic Police. Here it is worth pointing out that the practice of torture by the Zimbabwe Republic Police has been mentioned in other reports of the Human Rights Forum, and is also confirmed by civil suits mounted by the Forum in the Zimbabwean courts.

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<sup>10</sup> International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Article 4.

<sup>11</sup> President R. G. Mugabe addressing Delegates at the Zimbabwe Embassy in Cairo, Egypt on the torture of ZCTU activists.

***Unlawful Arrest and Detention***

2005 recorded an increase in the number of unlawful arrests and detention-658 unlawful arrests and 628 unlawful detentions from 2004<sup>12</sup> but 2006 was markedly higher than 2005. 2006 recorded 1460 unlawful arrests and 1457 unlawful detentions. Unlawful arrests and detentions go hand in glove but sometimes an arrest can be lawful but the detention is unlawful because it exceeds the time stipulated in the Criminal Procedure and Evidence Act viz 48 hours and this does not include weekends or public holidays.

2005 was the worst single year since the Forum began publishing monthly reports in July 2001 as stated in our 2005 December Monthly Political Violence Report. 2006 is markedly worse than 2005. The total number of violations in 2005 was 4200 and in 2006 it was 5792. This shows that human rights violations continue to be on the increase rather than on the decline. Of note is the fact that gross human rights violation categories like torture continue to be on the rise.

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<sup>12</sup> See our December 2005 Monthly Political Violence Report

	<b>MAIN EVENTS 2005</b>
<b>January</b>	<p>-WOZA women are arrested and detained unlawfully as they demonstrate against hikes in school fees.</p> <p>-The newly appointed woman Vice President holds celebrations throughout the country and in Bindura, press reported that people are forced to attend the celebration.</p> <p>-ZANU PF youths reportedly move from door to door forcing Epworth residents to register as voters and to vote for ZANU PF</p>
<b>February</b>	<p>-Political violence and victimization surrounds campaigns and preparations for the 31 March 2005 Parliamentary elections.</p> <p>-WOZA members demonstrate on 12 February in Bulawayo to commemorate Valentine's Day under the theme "<i>the power of love will conquer the love of power</i>".</p> <p>-Police reportedly disrupt an MDC training session of Parliamentary candidates in the March 31 Parliamentary elections and MDC supporters on 16 February at Harare Sheraton Hotel. They arrest MDC Director of Elections Mr. Ian Makoni.</p> <p>-NCA members are arrested and assaulted by the police after holding a demonstration dubbed "<i>no election without new constitution</i>" on 17 February in Harare.</p>
<b>March</b>	<p>-ZANU PF supporter and war veteran, Gift Chimbandi, is reportedly burnt to death under unclear circumstances. MDC supporters are suspected to have burnt his house leading to his death.</p> <p>-Zimbabwe's 6<sup>th</sup> Parliamentary Election since Independence is held on 31 March 2005.</p> <p>-A WOZA peaceful candle light vigil is disrupted by riot police and the women are reportedly badly assaulted and arrested. The vigil was held at Africa Unity Square in Harare to safeguard the March 31 vote from manipulation.</p> <p>-MDC activists throughout the country are arrested or assaulted for putting up posters and distributing campaign material and people are victimized for attending MDC rallies by ZANU PF supporters.</p> <p>-MDC Parliamentary candidate for Zvimba North constituency is reportedly victimized for trying to campaign in the area.</p>

<b>April</b>	<p>-Febby Muchacha a 70 year old woman living at Kimcote Farm in Beatrice is reportedly raped and murdered when a gang of 5 attacks the resettled farmers around 3:00 hrs on 13 April 2005</p> <p>-Ebrahim Mofat is reportedly murdered by ZANU-PF activists in Hurungwe East on 28 April 2005.</p> <p>-MDC supporters demonstrate against the election results on 4 April 2005 in Harare.</p> <p>-Widespread post-election retributive displacements and post-election victimization is reported.</p> <p>-Independence celebrations are held on 18 April 2005 marking what the Government termed the '<i>silver jubilee</i>' of Independence</p>
<b>May</b>	<p>-<i>Operation Murambatsvina</i>, officially announced on 19 May 2005 by the Chairperson of the Commission running Harare, Sekesai Makwavarara, leaves many people homeless and closes down informal traders.</p> <p>-ZCTU offices are raided by police Fraud Section as the police search for illegal forex transactions in what many think was a clamp down on civil society.</p> <p>-MDC is involved in violent intra-party political squabbles.</p> <p>-War veteran Godwin Ganda is murdered on 2 May 2005 in what is suspected to be political victimisation.</p> <p>-Post election political victimisation and displacement is rampant in Mount Darwin South Constituency.</p>
<b>June</b>	<p>-<i>Operation Murambatsvina</i> continues, ironically during the same month as the World Refugee Day and the International Day against Torture which are on 20 June and 26 June respectively.</p> <p>-WOZA demonstrates against the effects of <i>Operation Murambatsvina</i> on 18 June 2005 in commemoration of World Refugee Day, which is on 20 June. 2005.</p>

	<b>MAIN EVENTS 2005</b>
<b>July</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NCA members are reportedly assaulted and arrested as they demonstrate for a new constitution on 21 July 2005.</li> <li>- <i>Operation Murambatsvina</i> continues and Porta Farm residents are forcibly evicted by the riot police.</li> <li>- ZCTU Women Advisory Council (WAC) meeting is disrupted as infighting in the ZCTU reportedly intensifies.</li> </ul>
<b>August</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NCA members are reportedly assaulted as they demonstrate for a new constitution on 4 August 2005.</li> <li>- Vendors are rounded up and their goods confiscated by police on horse-back in Mutare as <i>Operation Murambatsvina</i> continues and 500 residents of MacDonald (dzhonhoru) farm are reportedly evicted by police in Harare.</li> </ul>
<b>September</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Constitutional Amendment Bill No 17 is signed into law by the President. The Act establishes the senate, takes away the right of appeal from people aggrieved by the acquisition of their farms and limits appeal to the courts only to the amount offered for compensation. It also seeks to take away travel documents from people perceived to be against the economic interests of the country</li> <li>- Members of WOZA demonstrate in Harare and Bulawayo on 21 September 2005 to mark the International Day for Peace.</li> <li>- A new wave of farm invasions hits Manicaland Province.</li> </ul>
<b>October</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chitungwiza residents demonstrate over poor services being provided by the Municipality on 13 October. The demonstration becomes violent as MDC and ZANU-PF supporters clash.</li> <li>- The police, army and prison officers indiscriminately assault people at Budiriro 4 Shopping Centre on 15 October. Targeted assaults take place thereafter.</li> <li>- Six researchers of the Mass Public Opinion Institute are assaulted by self-styled war veterans in Waterfalls whilst seeking public opinion on the political, social and economic variables in Zimbabwe.</li> <li>- On October 24, Nomination Courts in Zimbabwe's 10 administrative provinces sit for the aspiring candidates to submit their names for the Senate elections scheduled for November 26.</li> </ul>

<b>November</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- NCA members demonstrate for a new constitution and against the Senate elections set for 26 November 2005 on 5 November 2005</li><li>- ZCTU members demonstrate on 8 November 2005 for the reduction of taxes, cost of living adjustment and against the rising costs of fuel and other basic commodities. Many of them are arrested and detained in inhuman conditions in police holding cells.</li><li>- The 16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence begins on 16 November 2006.</li><li>- Senate Elections are held together with the Gutu North by-election on 26 November 2005.</li></ul>
<b>December</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The world commemorates World Aids Day on 1 December</li><li>- MDC MP for Mabvuku, Hon. Mabhawu, is reportedly assaulted in Highfield just before an MDC rally as the divisions in the MDC persist</li><li>- The world celebrates World Human Rights Day on 10 December and WOZA demonstrates in Harare and Bulawayo to commemorate the day.</li></ul>

*The table below and the graphs on page 3 above depict the number of violations committed on the persons whose circumstances are described in the report. One individual may have been subject to many violations and thus appear under several categories of violations.*

**Monthly totals of human rights violations from 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005**

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
<b>Assault</b>	17	54	259	59	34	16	12	10	6	43	12	8	<b>530</b>
<b>Abduction/ kidnapping</b>	2	3	6	2	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	<b>18</b>
<b>Attempted murder</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
<b>Death threats</b>	1	0	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	<b>9</b>
<b>Disappearance</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Displacement</b>	17	1	3	55	27	0	1	500	4	1	0	0	<b>609</b>
<b>Freedom of expression/ass/m vt</b>	31	57	268	112	349	36	15	8	21	43	88	8	<b>1036</b>
<b>Murder</b>	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>4</b>
<b>Political Discrim/vict/intim</b>	31	49	128	113	41	7	11	6	6	5	87	4	<b>488</b>
<b>Property related</b>	0	0	0	18	2	1	1	50	4	0	2	1	<b>79</b>
<b>Rape</b>	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>4</b>
<b>School closure</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Torture</b>	1	5	1(97) <sup>13</sup>	16	7	4	1	1	0	0	2	1	<b>136</b>
<b>Unlawful arrest</b>	8	63	86	16	315	30	9	0	16	30	78	7	<b>658</b>
<b>Unlawful detention</b>	8	63	57	15	315	30	9	0	16	30	78	7	<b>628</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>907</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>1096</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>4200</b>

<sup>13</sup> The 97 torture cases in brackets relate to the WOZA women who held a vigil in Harare's Africa Unity Square on the night of the 2005 Parliamentary Election on 31 March 2005 (see March 2005 Report). It was only established after the publication of the March 2005 Report, after expert advice from medical practitioners, that the level of the assaults was sufficiently severe to constitute torture. Accordingly the 97 are included in the statistics of torture as well as assault since they were also assaulted in the process.





	<b>MAIN EVENTS 2006</b>
<b>January</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Voice Of the People (VOP) Board of Trustees continue to be victimized by the police under the accusation of breaching the Broadcasting Services Act and in the process 2 employees of one Board member are arrested and detained without charges being preferred against them</li> </ul>
<b>February</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- WOZA women hold demonstrations on 13 and 14 February in Bulawayo and Harare on the deteriorating state of the economy.</li> <li>- Students mostly from state tertiary institutions hold demonstrations over the increases in tuition fees.</li> <li>- NCA demonstrate for a new constitution on the birthday of the President viz 21<sup>st</sup> February.</li> <li>- President's birthday celebrations are held in Mutare on 25 February.</li> <li>- The MDC pro-Senate faction holds its National Congress in Bulawayo.</li> </ul>
<b>March</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 7 people are arrested in Harare and Mutare on 6 and 7 March 2006 on the accusations of plotting to assassinate President Mugabe during the 21<sup>st</sup> February Movement celebrations.</li> <li>- MDC supporters are assaulted at Mbare Bus Terminus while coming from an Anti-Senate MDC rally on 12 March.</li> <li>- MDC anti-Senate Faction holds its Congress from 17-19 March at City Sports Center in Harare.</li> <li>- Demonstrations against the huge tuition fees increases in tertiary education continue in Bulawayo</li> </ul>
<b>April</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Residents of Nenyere flats in Mbare are forcibly evicted from the flats to make way for ZANU-PF youths on 4 April. Widows are the main targets for eviction</li> <li>- NCA demonstrates for a new constitution on 7 April.</li> <li>- Campaigning starts in Budiro for the Parliamentary by-election to be held on 20 May.</li> <li>- Military Intelligence officers torture Nixon Nyikadzino a.k.a Mao, an NCA activist, on 14 April.</li> <li>- Intra-party violence erupts in Zengeza between the two MDC factions on 18 April after Tsvangirai holds a rally there on Zimbabwe's Independence Day.</li> <li>- About 50 squatters along Macheke river are arrested and their camp burnt down by the police on 20 April</li> </ul>

<b>May</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Civil society commemorates <i>Operation Murambatsvina</i> for 2 months from 18 May to 18 July.</li> <li>- Budiro House of Assembly by-election is held on 20 May.</li> <li>- NCA holds demonstrations for a new constitution on 11 and 18 May.</li> <li>- Bindura students are arrested and tortured by the police after there are class boycotts on 8 May and the burning of a computer lab at the Bindura University of Science Education on 10 May.</li> </ul>
<b>June</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- State security agents threaten several members of civic society, including church leaders in a bid to deter them from mobilising for protests on 22 June.</li> <li>- National University of Science and Technology students join Bulawayo Residents Association in protesting against the increases in transport fares on 12 June.</li> <li>- The City of Harare issues eviction letters to some residents occupying Matapi flats in Mbare on 27 July.</li> </ul>
<b>July</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pro-Senate Faction of the MDC, Ms Trudy Stevenson, who is an MP for Harare North together with other party officials, are attacked by suspected members from the Anti-Senate faction while coming from a rally in Mabvuku.</li> <li>- The National Constitutional Assembly holds demonstrations in Harare and Mutare on 12 July to press for constitutional reforms and 128 activists are arrested.</li> <li>- The Combined Harare Residents Association holds a protest march in Harare in protest over the management of the City by a Commission. 18 residents are arrested including two journalists.</li> <li>- The Second Session of the Sixth Parliament of Zimbabwe is opened on 25 July.</li> </ul>
<b>August</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Police arrest 153 activists from WOZA in Bulawayo on 21 August. They were protesting the introduction and implementation of the Monetary Policy by the Reserve Bank Governor.</li> <li>- Wellington Chibebe, Secretary General of the Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) is arrested and assaulted by police officers at a police roadblock on 15 August.</li> <li>- Soldiers go on a rampage on 3 August beating commuter omnibus drivers, conductors and other innocent civilians at the Kuwadzana bus terminus in Harare.</li> <li>- Prince Chabuda is shot dead along High Glen Road on 29 August by plain-clothes police detectives who are reported to have mistaken the vehicle he was travelling in for one that was being used by a gang of robbers</li> </ul>

<b>September</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 8 Zimbabwe National Student Union leaders are arrested while having a meeting at Palm Lodge in Harare on 9 September.</li> <li>- 107 WOZA women are arrested in Harare while protesting against the poor service delivery by the City of Harare.</li> <li>- Police brutally assault and torture ZCTU demonstrators in the City Centre, Willowvale Industrial Area and Chitungwiza on 13 September</li> <li>- 50 ZNA personnel reportedly attack MDC supporters who were on a door-to-door campaign for the Chikomba by-election scheduled for 7 October 2006. The incident took place on 17 September.</li> <li>- On 25 September, about 200 NCA members protest for a new constitution as well as the use of brute force against ZCTU members by the police.</li> </ul>
<b>October</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chikomba and Rushinga by-elections and Rural District Council elections are held on 7 October.</li> <li>- Five WOZA members, including a 75 – year old grandmother, are arrested after demonstrating in Bulawayo on 25 October.</li> <li>- Unknown assailants reportedly attack the house of suspended Chitungwiza Mayor Misheck Shoko on 21 October.</li> <li>- An MDC supporter is reportedly raped in a politically-related incident in Kadoma on 12 October.</li> </ul>
<b>November</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 57 WOZA members are arrested on 29 November in Bulawayo after they had gathered to read a document called the ‘People’s Charter’</li> <li>- About 250 NCA members are arrested and some are assaulted during a demonstration for a new constitution on 1 November.</li> <li>- It is reported that Simba Mabasa , a driver for Tobacco Industry and Marketing board (TIMB) gets arrested and detained for four days for allegedly interfering with the Presidential motorcade on 16 November</li> </ul>
<b>December</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The world commemorates International Human Rights Day on 10 December 2006</li> <li>- NCA Chairperson, Madhuku’s house is petrol bombed by suspected CIO agents</li> </ul>

*The table below and the graphs on page 3 above depict the number of violations committed on the persons whose circumstances are described in the report. One individual may have been subjected to many violations and thus appear under several categories of violations.*

**Monthly totals of human rights violations from 1 January 2006 to 30 November 2006**

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Assault	7	32	32	20	178	4	68	12	34	9	107	6	509
Abduction/ kidnapping	0	0	1	2	5	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	11
Attempted murder	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Death threats	0	0	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	7
Disappearance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Displacement	0	0	0	54	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	55
Freedom of expr/ass/mvt	7	410	57	24	174	4	157	153	560	5	307	8	1866
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1 <sup>14</sup>	0	0	0	0	1
Political Discrim/vict/inti m	7	8	29	23	179	4	2	2	6	6	22	8	296
Property related	0	0	1	50	4	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	58
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
School closure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Torture	3	0	19	17	86	1	68	0	143	3	28	0	368
Unlawful arrest	8	312	46	103	235	11	146	161	352	6	78	2	1460
Unlawful detention	8	312	46	103	235	11	146	157	354	6	78	1	1457
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>1074</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>1096</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>589</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>1450</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>6092</b>

<sup>14</sup> A case of wrongful death took place in August when Prince Chabuda was shot dead by plain-clothes police detectives who are reported to have mistaken the vehicle he was travelling in for one that was being used by a gang of robbers. The death has been categorised under murder.

## APPENDIX

### Reports issued by the Human Rights Forum in 2006.

#### Special Reports

[Exploring transitional justice options in contemporary Zimbabwe](#) (January 2006)

[An analysis of Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum legal cases 1998 - 2006](#) (June 2006)

[Political repression disguised as Civic Mindedness: Operation Murambatsvina one year later](#)  
(November 2006)

["Who guards the guards?" Violations by Law Enforcement Agencies in Zimbabwe, 2000-2006](#)  
(December 2006)

[Zimbabwe's Failure To Meet The Benchmarks In The Cotonou Agreement](#) (December 2006)

["A Woman's Place is in the Home?" Gender Based Violence and Opposition Politics in Zimbabwe](#)  
(December 2006)

#### Human Rights Bulletin

[The African Commission and Zimbabwe No. 38](#)

[Spousal Notification and HIV/AIDS No. 39](#) (January)

[The Right to Education No. 40](#) (March)

#### Press Releases

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 11 April 2006 | <a href="#"><u>Statement by the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum on the proposed Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission</u></a>                        |
| 15 May 2006   | <a href="#"><u>Statement by Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum under Agenda Item 4</u></a>   |
| 26 June 2006  | <a href="#"><u>An Analysis of Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum Legal Cases 1998 – 2006</u></a>   |
| 4 July 2006   | <a href="#"><u>Statement by the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum on the attack on the Pro-Senate faction of the MDC</u></a>                      |
| 4 August 2006 | <a href="#"><u>Statement by the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum on the refusal of magistrates to try the minister of justice, legal and</u></a> |

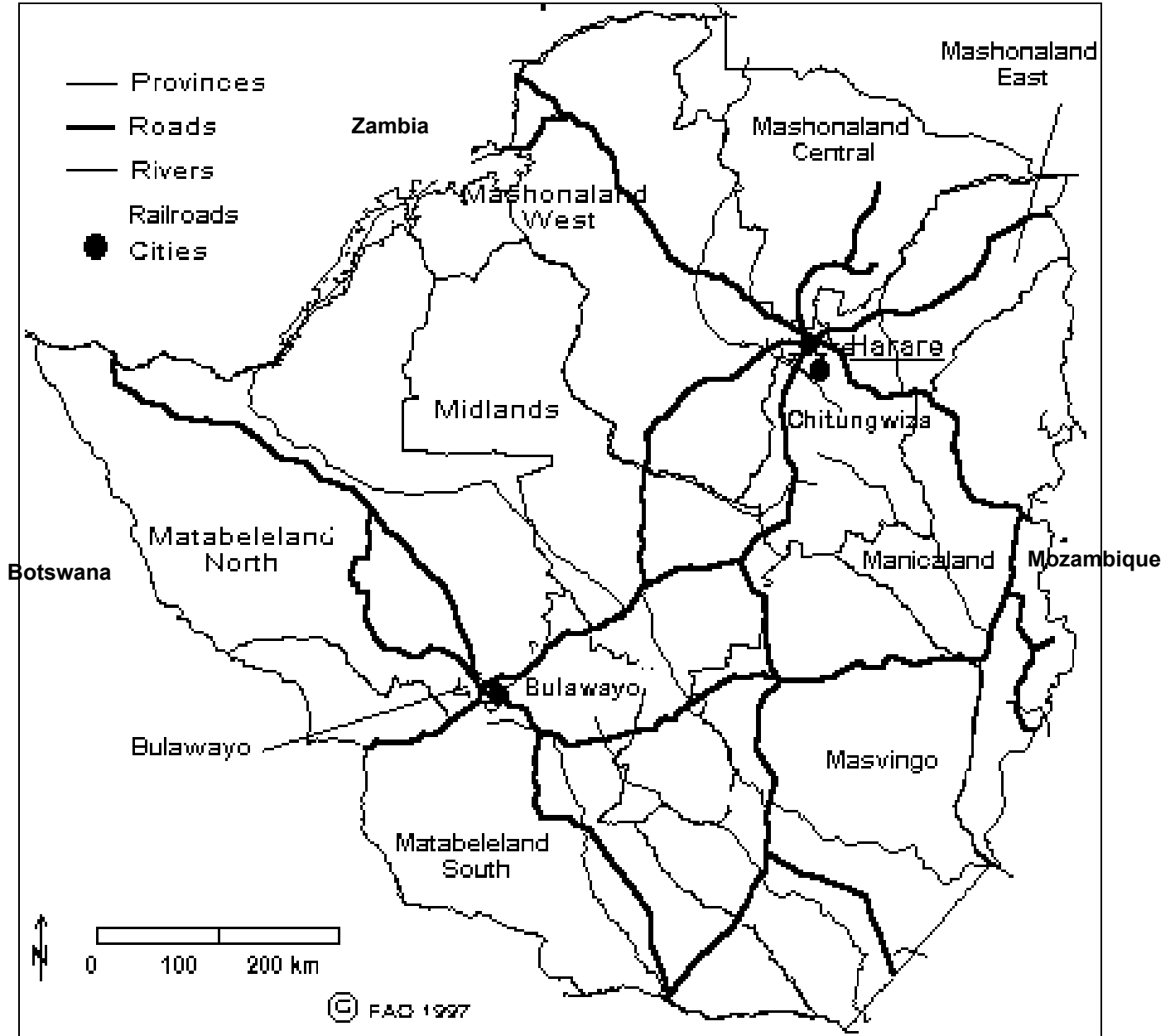
[parliamentary affairs](#)

- 30 August 2006 [Joint Statement by the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum and Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights on the subversion of the administration of justice in Mbare](#)
- 06 September 2006 [Statement by the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum on the interception of communications bill 2006](#)
- 15 september 2006 [Statement by the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum on the unlawful arrest and ill treatment of the ZCTU](#)
- 30 november 2006 [Statement by the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum on Operation Murambatsvina One Year Later](#)
- 08 december 2006 [Statement by the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum on escalation of politically motivated violence against women in Zimbabwe](#)
- 11 december 2006 [Statement by the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum on commemorating World Human Rights Day](#)
- 11 december 2006 [Statement by the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum on violations by Law Enforcement Agencies in Zimbabwe, 2000-2006](#)

**Political Violence Reports:**

Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum (2006), MONTHLY POLITICAL VIOLENCE REPORTS FOR JANUARY-NOVEMBER 2006, HARARE: ZIMBABWE HUMAN RIGHTS NGO FORUM.

# ADMINISTRATIVE MAP OF ZIMBABWE



South Africa

The **Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum** (also known as the “Human Rights Forum”) is a coalition comprising 16 member organisations. It has been in existence since January 1998 when non-Governmental organisations working in the field of human rights joined together to provide legal and psychosocial assistance to the victims of the Food Riots of January 1998.

The Human Rights Forum has now expanded its objectives to assist victims of organised violence, using the following definition:

**“Organised violence” means the inter-human infliction of significant avoidable pain and suffering by an organised group according to a declared or implied strategy and/or system of ideas and attitudes. It comprises any violent action, which is unacceptable by general human standards, and relates to the victims’ mental and physical well-being.”**

The Human Rights Forum operates a Research and Documentation Unit and offers legal services through the Public Interest Unit of the (formerly the Legal Unit of the ZHRF.)

Core member organisations of the Human Rights Forum are:

- Amani Trust (AT)
- Amnesty International (Zimbabwe) (AI (Z))
- Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace (CCJP)
- Gays and Lesbians of Zimbabwe (GALZ)
- Human Rights Trust of Southern Africa (SAHRIT)
- Legal Resources Foundation (LRF)
- Media Monitoring Project of Zimbabwe (MMPZ)
- Nonviolent Action and Strategies for Social Change (NOVASC)
- Transparency International (Zimbabwe) (TI (Z))
- Zimbabwe Association for Crime Prevention and the Rehabilitation of the Offender (ZACRO)
- Zimbabwe Association of Doctors for Human Rights (ZADHR)
- Zimbabwe Civic Education Trust (ZIMCET)
- Zimbabwe Human Rights Association (ZimRights)
- Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights (ZLHR)
- Zimbabwe Peace Project (ZPP)
- Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association (ZWLA)

The Human Rights Forum can be contacted through:

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The International Liaison Office, 56- 64 Leonard Street London EC 2A 4 LE– email: [IntLO@hrforumzim.com](mailto:IntLO@hrforumzim.com)



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Website: [www.hrforumzim.com](http://www.hrforumzim.com)

Previous reports of the Human Rights Forum can be found on our website.

**To report political violence incidents occurring to yourself or someone you know, please contact us on the above addresses as it is most important for all these incidents to be documented and to sue for compensation where possible.**