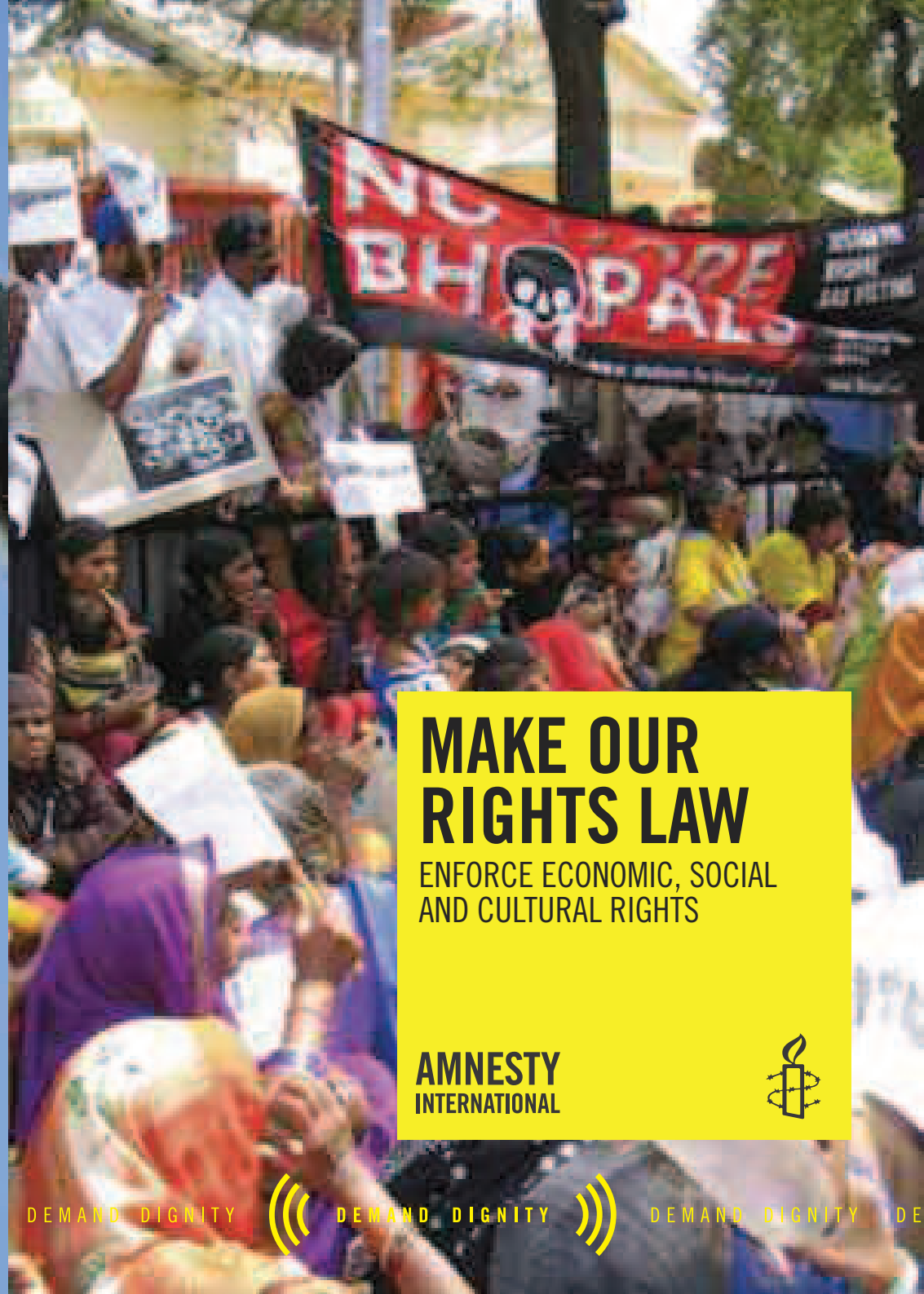


MAKE OUR RIGHTS LAW

ENFORCE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL



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Image: Members of Amnesty International India join survivors from the 1984 Bhopal gas disaster at the end of an 800km march from Bhopal to Delhi. Thousands of people were killed by the chemical leak at a Union Carbide pesticide plant. More than 100,000 people continue to suffer health problems as a result. © Amnesty International

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Imagine a company has polluted your water supply and made it unsafe to drink but there's nothing you can do. Your child cannot get education because of where you come from but your demand for equality is ignored.

For too many people, the rights to adequate housing, food, water, health, work and education are denied on a daily basis. Governments have too often paid only lip service to their obligations under international law to ensure economic, social and cultural rights for all.

All governments have committed to reducing poverty and meeting the UN Millennium Development Goals. But people living in poverty are often denied their rights and any real opportunity to hold governments accountable.

The Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) creates a new international mechanism which will enable people whose rights have been denied or who lack access to an effective remedy in their own country to seek justice through the UN. The Protocol must be ratified by their government to be legally binding.

Tell your government that if it really wants to ensure access to justice for all human rights and reduce poverty, it should prove it by ratifying the Protocol.

Amnesty International is part of the international NGO Coalition for an Optional Protocol to the ICESCR.

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Dear

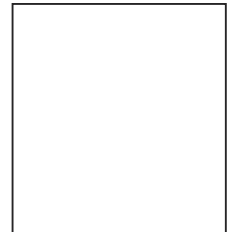
I urge you to ensure that victims of all human rights abuses are provided with access to effective remedies by ratifying the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

By doing this, our country will demonstrate a clear commitment to ensuring that all people, particularly those living in poverty, can access justice and hold governments to account when their rights are denied. It will also strengthen the legal recognition and implementation of economic, social and cultural rights nationally and around the world.

Yours sincerely,

Name: _____

Address: _____



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Image: © iStockphoto.com/arturbo
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