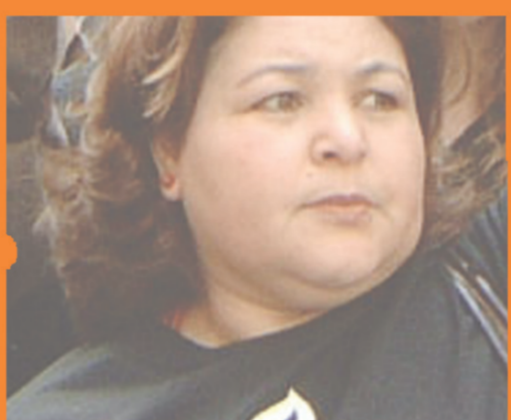


# AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

HUMAN RIGHTS  
HAVE NO BORDERS



TORTURA  
NUNCA  
MAS



منظمة العفو الدولية  
تطالب بالتحقيق في التعذيب

منظمة العفو الدولية  
انتعاش الحملة الدولية لتأهية التعذيب

- AI MOROCCO
- AI IS
- AI SWITZERLAND
- AI NORWAY
- AI FAROE ISLANDS
- AI FINLAND
- AI IRELAND
- AI NEPAL
- AI SPAIN
- AI AUSTRIA
- AI PHILIPPINES
- AI GHANA
- AI TANZANIA
- AI UK
- AI SIERRA LEONE
- AI DENMARK
- AI KOREA
- AI TOGO
- AI MEXICO
- AI JAPAN
- AI HONG KONG
- AI NEW ZEALAND

# TOGETHER AGAINST TORTURE



## Indonesian human rights activists tortured and killed

Four young human rights volunteers, one of them a woman, and a local villager were seized by armed men in the Indonesian province of Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam. They were beaten before all but one were shot dead.

Ernita binti Wahab, Idris Yusuf, Bakhtiar Usman and Nazaruddin Abdul Gani worked with the organization Rehabilitation Action for Torture Victims in Aceh (RATA). On 6 December 2000 they were stopped by around 14 men in unmarked vehicles.

The four were ordered from their vehicle at gunpoint, beaten with rifle butts, and had shots fired near their feet. They were then driven away. After about three hours they stopped and Ernita binti Wahab and Idris Yusuf were taken out and shot in the head at point-blank range. Nazaruddin Abdul Gani managed to escape. Bakhtiar Usman's body was later found at the scene.

A police investigation led to the arrest of four civilians and four soldiers. However, the four civilians escaped in March 2001 and the



Police "escort" Eren Keskin (centre), a human rights defender who acts for women subjected to sexual violence in custody, Istanbul 2002 © Human Rights Association, Istanbul branch.

### "No, not here..."

an Indonesian military commander tells his men to finish off the captives somewhere less public when their vehicle stops at a military checkpoint

four military personnel were released after their detention orders expired. The Indonesian Human Rights Commission (*Komnas HAM*) announced in January 2001 that it would investigate the killings, but an investigation team was never established.

*"We are measuring your coffin"*

a telephone death threat to Turkish human rights activist Eren Keskin

## Human rights lawyer tortured with electrodes in Zimbabwe

Gabriel Shumba is a lawyer with the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum, a non-governmental organization, who has given advice and assistance to many torture victims. When he was arrested in January 2003, he was tortured himself.

Gabriel Shumba was arrested by police on 15 January 2003 with four other people including an opposition Member of Parliament. When Gabriel Shumba appeared in court on 17 January, medical evidence was presented supporting his claim that he had been subjected to electric shocks from electrodes placed on his tongue, feet and genitals.

This was no isolated incident: Amnesty International has documented a pattern of harassment, arrest and torture in Zimbabwe. Rarely, if ever, are those responsible brought to justice. People who expose human rights violations are themselves at risk of arrest and torture. Those who stand up for an independent judiciary face intimidation and unfair trials. Human rights defenders in Zimbabwe fear for their safety and in some cases, for their lives.

*"They electrified me on my genitals, on my toes, in my mouth, and they said 'this is the mouth you use to defend human rights'."*

Human rights lawyer Gabriel Shumba

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## Human rights defender harassed and threatened in Turkey

Eren Keskin is a lawyer and a human rights activist in Turkey. She has been repeatedly harassed because of her work. She has exposed the torture of women prisoners in Turkey and is one of the founders of a legal aid project for women survivors of sexual assault in custody. Harassment against her has included telephone death threats, being shot at, physical assault by a police officer and arbitrary detention and ill-treatment.

Eren Keskin has faced 86 lawsuits in relation to her human rights activities. In one trial she was charged with "insulting the state security forces". Her crime was to publicize the sexual torture that some of her women clients reported they had suffered in custody. In another trial she was charged with disseminating "separatist propaganda" after participating in a panel discussion on Violence against Women.

Eren Keskin faces seemingly endless court cases as she supports the survivors of sexual torture. However, the Turkish authorities have yet to show any determination to use the courts to bring the torturers to justice.

*"...He had been decapitated and his ears, nose and eyes removed"*

a witness describes the dead body of murdered human rights activist Manuel García de la Cruz

# Act now to stop torture!

- Join Amnesty International – together we can make a difference.
- Contact Amnesty International and other human rights organizations working to eliminate torture to see how you can help.
- Write to your government asking what it is doing to combat torture in your country and around the world.
- Write to your government asking for assurances that it has ratified the UN Convention against Torture and its Optional Protocol.

For further information please write to the address in the box below, if there is one:



Or contact Amnesty International's International Secretariat in London: Campaign against Torture, Amnesty International, Peter Benenson House, 1 Easton Street, London WC1X 0DW, United Kingdom

Or visit the Amnesty International website:

[www.amnesty.org](http://www.amnesty.org)



Ernita binti Wahab © Private

*"They stripped me, put a dirty sock in my mouth and threw cold water over me. I could barely breathe."*

Wa'el Tawfiq

## Electric shock torture by Egyptian police

In Egypt, anyone taken into custody is at risk of torture. The police have tortured people from all walks of life, including women, children and the elderly. They have tortured political suspects, criminal suspects, and people not accused of anything who have found themselves in the hands of the police.

Wa'el Tawfiq was arrested during the Cairo International Book Fair on 22 January 2002. An active member of the Egyptian People's Committee for Solidarity with the Palestinian *Intifada*, Wa'el Tawfiq was taken to the State Security Investigations headquarters at Lazoghly Square, Cairo.

For two days he was subjected to electric shocks and other forms of torture. He was blindfolded, stripped to his underwear and surrounded by four officers who punched and kicked him. Then electric shocks were applied to his right wrist. A dirty sock was placed in his mouth and bottles of freezing water were poured over him.

Wa'el Tawfiq can identify at least one of the officers who tortured him and he filed a detailed complaint. Yet the authorities have taken no steps towards prosecuting those responsible for his torture.



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## Torture used as a tool of terror in Guatemala

Manuel García de la Cruz was tortured and murdered on 6 September 2002. His death was a brutal warning to human rights defenders.

Manuel García de la Cruz was a human rights activist in the indigenous human rights organization CONAVIGUA which works to secure the human rights of Guatemala's indigenous people. He was working alongside women who had lost members of their family during the years of armed conflict in which some 200,000 people, the vast majority indigenous, were killed. He was involved in exhumations of clandestine mass graves and in accompanying widows to court to seek justice on behalf of victims. When his body was recovered, he had been decapitated and his ears, nose and eyes removed.

His murder followed months of threats and harassment directed at human rights groups, including the ransacking of the offices of CONAVIGUA and other organizations in July 2002.

The brutality of Manuel García de la Cruz' mutilation was deliberate. Amnesty International believes that it was intended to intimidate his entire community, to deter them from exposing human rights violations committed in the past and to deter them from seeking justice and redress. His torture and death cannot be allowed to go uninvestigated and unpunished.



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