

TO: TRANSLATORS/PRESS OFFICERS  
FROM: DINA STAVRINIDES, IS PRESS OFFICE  
DATE: 27 MAY 1994

At last, here is the full and final version of the Annual Report Summaries 1994, AI INDEX: POL 10/03/94. Please note that this document is embargoed for 7 July along with all other Annual Report materials - the embargo time is currently being decided upon - will keep you posted. Translators: please contact me if you are going to have any problems meeting the 5 June deadline. Total number of words - 7452

---

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS WORLDWIDE  
DETAILED IN AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S ANNUAL REPORT 1994

**EXTRAJUDICIAL EXECUTIONS**

- Up to 10,000 people were victims or possible victims of extrajudicial execution by government forces in 61 countries, including Angola, Burundi, Colombia, Croatia, Egypt, Haiti, Israel and the Occupied Territories, Pakistan and Turkey. More than half of that total were allegedly extrajudicially executed in Africa.

**"DISAPPEARANCES"**

- Almost 700 people "disappeared" or remained unaccounted for in 27 countries, including Brazil, Chile, India, Lebanon, Libya, The Philippines, Sudan and Zaire. More than 200 people were reported to have "disappeared" in Iraq.

**TORTURE/ILL-TREATMENT**

- Torture, including rape, or ill-treatment of almost 4,000 prisoners in prison, police stations or special secret detention centres took place in 112 countries, including the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, China, India, Iran, Iraq, Israel and the Occupied Territories, Turkey and Venezuela.  
- More than 600 people died apparently from torture and ill-treatment in some 49 countries, including Bangladesh, South Africa and Saudi Arabia.

**PRISONERS**

- More than 23,000 known prisoners of conscience or possible prisoners of conscience were held in at least 63 countries. In Bosnia-Herzegovina alone, at least 15,000 were held in detention camps.  
- More than 100,000 political prisoners were held in administrative detention - without charge or trial - in some 58 countries, including Algeria, Angola, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, Haiti, India, Peru and Syria.

**UNFAIR TRIALS**

- Thousands of political prisoners were imprisoned after unfair trials in 25 countries, with most cases in the Middle Eastern countries of Algeria, Egypt and Tunisia.  
- Nearly 2,500 political prisoners were still held after unfair trials in previous years in 14 countries.

**DEATH PENALTY**

- Executions of approximately 2,000 people were carried out in 32 countries, including China, Egypt, Ghana, Latvia, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia and USA. More than 1,400 executions, or 70 percent of the total, took place in China in 1993.  
- More than 8,200 people in 57 countries including China, Indonesia, Jamaica, Japan, Morocco, Ukraine and USA, were on death row, either after death sentences passed in 1993 or previous years.

**HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES BY ARMED OPPOSITION GROUPS**

- Armed opposition groups committed human rights abuses, such as deliberate and arbitrary killings, torture and hostage-taking in at least 34 countries - including Afghanistan, Angola, Colombia, India, Israel and the Occupied Territories and Sri Lanka.

---

VICTIMS OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS DETAILED IN  
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S ANNUAL REPORT 1994

**HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS**

Around the world, human rights activists were harassed, detained, assaulted or otherwise were the victims of human rights violations in more than 30 different countries, including China, Cuba, Morocco, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela and Viet Nam.

**WOMEN**

Women were the victims of many human rights violations, including rape by security forces, in 45 different countries.

**JOURNALISTS**

Almost 200 journalists were the target of human rights violations.

**INDIGENOUS PEOPLE**

Amnesty International documented more than 2,600 human rights violations against indigenous people, with more than 2,000 members of ethnic minority groups in Myanmar being targeted by government forces in counter-insurgency campaigns.

---

**AFRICA**

Highlights of Amnesty International Report 1994  
covering events from January to December 1993.

Human rights defenders were under attack on the African continent throughout 1993. Many activists were singled out for killing or "disappearance", while others faced harassment and detention because of their work to protect the weak and to hold the powerful to account.

More than ever, such work was necessary: thousands were killed by government forces or police in Africa and thousands more remained locked up in prison, without charge or trial, many of them prisoners of conscience.

As a wave of pro-democracy activism swept across Africa, hopes that human rights would become a fundamental cornerstone in those societies were dashed by political violence on an unprecedented scale. Human rights violations in Africa previously involved many political arrests and torture, while 1993 saw many more political killings and "disappearances", which Amnesty International has called one of the greatest threats to human rights this decade.

Human rights activists in Rwanda were targeted by security forces and local government officials for having assisted a 1993 investigation into human rights violations by representatives of foreign human rights groups. For example, a Tutsi man whose son had assisted the commission as an interpreter was reportedly forced by an armed Hutu gang to commit suicide. Local police did not intervene to save his life. Other human rights activists were seriously wounded in beatings and grenade attacks.

In a foreshadowing of a terrible carnage that would begin in 1994, Rwanda saw about 300 unarmed civilians extrajudicially executed in 1993 by government forces, with more than 300 deliberate and arbitrary killings by the rebel Rwandese Patriotic Front. In neighbouring Burundi, a coup attempt in which

the newly-elected President was killed triggered widespread killings by members of both Hutu and Tutsi ethnic groups, as well as the armed forces, in which tens of thousands of people died. Local Hutu government officials and supporters of the murdered President killed thousands of unarmed Tutsi civilians. Tutsi groups and the security forces also killed thousands of unarmed Hutu civilians.

In Nigeria, hundreds of critics and opponents of the government, including human rights activists, were detained as prisoners of conscience. Hundreds of pro-democracy protestors including a leading human rights activist and two human rights lawyers were arrested during demonstrations after the government annulled the results of the country's 1993 presidential election. Members of the Ogoni ethnic group were the victims of extrajudicial executions; the security forces were implicated in inter-communal killings.

More than 800 prominent citizens of Chad, including representatives of human rights groups, attended a National Conference in 1993 which introduced measures to engender respect for human rights. Some recommendations, such as abolishing special courts, were implemented. However, no releases of political prisoners arrested before the conference were announced. The security forces extrajudicially executed more than 300 civilians.

In South Africa, the level of political violence remained high, with more than 4,300 people killed during 1993. From the rank and file to the top military and police officers, South African security forces continued to be implicated in targeted assassinations of political activists and members of the armed wing of the African National Congress (ANC). Amnesty International also attended an internal investigation by the ANC, which found that its officials had abused human rights in exile during the 1980s.

Amid the continuing conflict in the south and west of Sudan, thousands of civilians and prisoners were reported to have been killed by government and opposition during the year. Anyone detained by security forces was at risk of ill-treatment and torture, including school children.

In Zaire, soldiers extrajudicially executed hundreds of unarmed civilians during riots, attacks on protestors and in reprisals against citizens. Supporters of the president killed several thousand opponents. Hundreds were also killed in Angola in a wave of extrajudicial executions by government forces.

Civil war was also the context of political killings and "disappearances" in Liberia, where forces loyal to the interim government in Monrovia massacred nearly 600 people -- mainly women, children and old people -- in displaced people's camps. Rival armed factions also indiscriminately killed civilians in disputes for control of territory.

Although there were some glimmers of good news about human rights in the region, as political prisoners and prisoners of conscience were released in several countries, across Africa there were nearly 700 prisoners of conscience in 18 different countries and more than 8,000 detainees were left waiting for release in 26 countries.

Although more than 20,000 suspected opponents of the government in Ethiopia were released after being detained without charge or trial since 1991 or 1992, several thousand continued to be held. Many suspected government opponents were reported to have been tortured or "disappeared". Some 1,500 officials of the former government, suspected of human rights violations, were also being held.

Among those prisoners of conscience released in Malawi was lawyer Vera Chirwa, who had spent 11 years in prison after being abducted from a neighbouring country and convicted of treason after an unfair trial. A June referendum in Malawi led to the adoption of a multi-party system and major political reforms, resulting in long-term political prisoners being released, including three who had been imprisoned since the mid-1960s.

Treason charges against more than 30 prisoners, including prisoners of conscience, were dropped in Uganda and dozens of uncharged political prisoners were also freed. Yet there were reports of torture and ill-treatment of prisoners, with at least four alleged victims dying.

As part of a cease-fire agreement in Senegal, more than 250 political detainees who had been held without trial in connection with an armed separatist group were unconditionally released. Many of those freed were alleged to have been tortured by the army and gendarmerie.

Torture and ill-treatment remained common in Africa with more than 1,400 cases of torture documented in 29 countries in the region. In Zaire, torture and ill-treatment of hundreds of political detainees resulted in some 24 reported deaths from abuse. There were also reports of prisoners being subjected to frequent beatings, electric shocks, whipping and rape.

Another striking example was Equatorial Guinea, where government forces continued to routinely torture prisoners, often by beating them on the soles of their feet with truncheons or breaking the bones in their hands. Three political prisoners reportedly died as a result of torture.

On the positive side, two countries rejected the capital punishment. In Gambia, for example, parliament voted overwhelmingly to abolish the death penalty. In Guinea-Bissau, as well, the National Assembly approved a new constitution that moved the country to a multi-party political system and, at the same time, abolished the death penalty.

---

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN AFRICA  
DETAILED IN AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S ANNUAL REPORT 1994

**EXTRAJUDICIAL EXECUTIONS**

- Thousands of people were victims of extrajudicial execution or possible extrajudicial executions by security forces in 20 countries, including Angola, Chad, Liberia, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan and Zaire. Tens of thousands were killed when inter-ethnic violence broke out in Burundi after a coup attempt in October and many of the victims were extrajudicially executed by the army.

**"DISAPPEARANCES"**

- Some 100 people were reported to have "disappeared" in six countries and the fate of hundreds of others was still unknown after their "disappearance" in previous years. The countries included Chad, Ethiopia, Senegal, Sudan and Zaire.

**TORTURE/ILL-TREATMENT**

- Detainees were tortured or ill-treated in prison, police stations or special secret detention centres in 29 countries, including Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Liberia and South Africa.

- More than 300 people died apparently from beatings and other torture in some 12 countries, including Cote d'Ivoire, Sierra Leone and South Africa.

**PRISONERS**

- Nearly 700 prisoners of conscience or possible prisoners of conscience, detained solely for the peaceful exercise of their human rights, were held in at least 18 countries in the region, including Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Nigeria and Sudan.

- More than 8,200 people were held in administrative detention - without charge or trial - in some 25 countries, including Angola, Burundi, Chad, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Senegal, South Africa and Zaire.

**UNFAIR TRIALS**

- More than 30 political prisoners were imprisoned after unfair trials in seven countries, including Burundi and Nigeria.
- More than 90 political prisoners were still held after unfair trials in previous years in at least three countries.

**DEATH PENALTY**

- More than 22 people were executed - by hanging, firing squad or other method
- in four countries, including Ghana and Uganda.
- More than 1,000 people in 18 countries including Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda and Zambia, were on death row, either after death sentences passed in 1993 or previous years.

**HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES BY ARMED OPPOSITION GROUPS**

- Armed opposition groups committed human rights abuses, such as deliberate and arbitrary killings, torture and hostage-taking in at least 14 countries
- including Angola, Chad, Congo, Liberia, Mozambique, South Africa, Somalia and Sudan.

-----

**AMERICAS**

**Highlights of Amnesty International Report 1994  
covering events from January to December 1993**

Under the protection of almost total impunity, appalling and relentless human rights abuses continued to be perpetrated by government agents in many countries across the Americas region in 1993. Once again most governments in the region failed to take any effective action to end the endemic and widespread violations in their countries and bring those responsible for recent and past violations to justice.

In October 1993, Amnesty International launched a worldwide campaign against extrajudicial executions and "disappearances" -- violations which remained a very serious problem in many countries of the region throughout the year and continued to be carried out on a terrifying scale.

Despite promises by President Carpio to improve Guatemala's human rights situation and end corruption and impunity, nearly 150 extrajudicial executions and several "disappearances" were carried out by the security forces and their civilian agents. In El Salvador there was a series of killings of members of the former armed opposition and dozens of other killings which appeared to have been carried out by "death squads" linked to the armed forces.

In the major cities of Brazil, hundreds of adolescents, street children, and adults were killed or "disappeared" by the police and death squads, which often included off-duty police officers. Peasants and indigenous people were killed by hired gun-men, also often off-duty police officers apparently acting with the acquiescence of local authorities, in rural areas and in the Amazonian rain forest others were "disappeared".

In Colombia, the government continued its intense counter-insurgency activities and many hundreds of people were the victims of extrajudicial executions by the armed forces and their paramilitary agents. Over 120 people "disappeared" after being seized by the security forces or paramilitary groups. "Death squad" style killings of people regarded as "disposable" continued in urban areas. Although Congress approved a bill designed to penalise those responsible for "disappearances" it had still not become law by the end of the year and the armed forces continued to evade accountability for thousands of extrajudicial executions and "disappearances" committed in recent years.

Hundreds of people in Haiti "disappeared" or were extrajudicially executed by the army or their armed civilian auxiliaries, especially during crackdowns on suspected supporters of exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide following the collapse of the agreement by which he was to return to office. Hundreds of people, including human rights activists, peasants, trade unionists, members of the Catholic Church and journalists were arrested without warrant. Many were held without charge for longer than the 48-hour limit specified in the Constitution and many were asked to pay money to gain release or avoid ill-treatment. Amnesty International was concerned that thousands of Haitian asylum seekers continued to be forcibly returned by the USA to Haiti, where they were at grave risk of torture or other human rights violations, without having their asylum claims examined.

Torture and ill-treatment continued to be widespread and endemic throughout the region. In Mexico there were frequent reports of torture and ill-treatment by law enforcement agents, particularly the state judicial police. The most common methods reported were beating, near-asphyxiation with plastic bags, forcing alcohol into the nose, and applying electric shocks. Confessions extracted under duress continued to be admitted as evidence in courts, and medical treatment for detainees who had been tortured was frequently unavailable.

In Chile there were at least 30 reported cases of torture and ill-treatment of criminal suspects by the police. A woman arrested by the investigations police was held in incommunicado detention for 18 days. During that time she was reportedly raped, subjected to electric shocks, beaten and kicked. Members of the investigations police were subsequently charged with her illegal arrest but not her torture.

Police in several provinces in Argentina were reported to have tortured or ill-treated detainees. Emergency surgery performed on a 16 year-old after he was reportedly beaten by the police revealed extensive damage to his abdominal organs. Although a judicial inquiry was opened into this case, no results were known by the end of the year.

Torture and other ill-treatment by police was widely reported in many other countries in the region, including Venezuela, Peru and Colombia.

Prison conditions remained uniformly poor in many countries in the region including Brazil. In Venezuela prison conditions were so harsh they frequently amounted to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment. Scores of prisoners were killed in violent incidents, including protests against prison conditions.

In Peru, at least 4000 political prisoners, including some 200 prisoners of conscience, awaited trial or were tried under judicial procedures which fell short of international standards.

In Cuba, at least 500 prisoners of conscience were believed to be held, some serving sentences as long as 13 or 15 years' imprisonment. Scores of non-violent government opponents such as members of unofficial political, trade union or human rights groups were arrested. Detention and trial procedures in all political cases fell far short of international standards.

Although the death penalty has been abolished in most countries in Latin America, it continued to be widely used in other countries of the Americas. Thirty-eight prisoners, including four juvenile offenders, were executed in the USA during the year -- more than any year since executions resumed in 1977. More than 2750 prisoners were under sentence of death in 34 states under US federal military law and US federal civilian law.

In Jamaica, about 80 prisoners had their death sentences commuted as a result of changes in the law. More commutations were expected as a result of a landmark judicial ruling, which is also applicable to other countries in the English-speaking Caribbean.

Indigenous people continued to be the target of violations in a number of countries in the region. In Guatemala, an indigenous activist was shot dead after participating in a peaceful demonstration against the presence of military and civil patrols in his area. Dozens of people in Mexico, including Indian peasant activists, were arrested for their peaceful political activities during a raid on several Indian communities by the Chiapas state police. All of those imprisoned were tortured and ill-treated to force confessions to crimes they did not commit.

Armed opposition groups in five countries in the region were responsible for serious human rights abuses. For example in Peru, the *Partido Comunista del Peru* (*Sendero Luminoso*), Communist Party of Peru, (Shining Path), continued to be responsible for deliberate and arbitrary killings. And in Colombia, armed opposition groups deliberately and arbitrarily killed scores of people and held several hundred hostages.

---

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN THE AMERICAS  
DETAILED IN AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S ANNUAL REPORT 1994

**"DISAPPEARANCES"**

- People "disappeared" or remained unaccounted for in many countries. Hundreds of people "disappeared" in Colombia, hundreds more remained unaccounted for from past years in countries including Argentina, Chile and Mexico.

**EXTRAJUDICIAL EXECUTIONS**

- At least 2000 people were apparently extrajudicially executed by government security forces or their agents in 15 countries, including Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala and Haiti.

**TORTURE OR ILL-TREATMENT**

- Torture, ill-treatment or rape of prisoners were reported in 22 countries, including Argentina, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Uruguay, USA and Venezuela.

**PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE**

- Hundreds of prisoners of conscience, jailed solely for the peaceful exercise of their human rights, were held in several countries in the region, including Cuba and Peru.

**UNFAIR TRIALS/DETENTION WITHOUT CHARGE OR TRIAL**

- Other political prisoners were held after unfair trials or held without charge or trial in several countries including Haiti and Peru.

**DEATH PENALTY**

- The death penalty was retained in eight countries and thousands of people remained on death row, notably in the USA, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago.

**HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES BY ARMED OPPOSITION GROUPS**

- Armed opposition groups committed human rights abuses, such as torture, hostage taking or deliberate and arbitrary killings in Chile, Colombia, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Peru.

---

ASIA  
Highlights of Amnesty International Report 1994  
covering events from January to December 1993.

Despite declarations of support for the universality of human rights at the United Nations World Conference on Human Rights in June 1993, many Asian governments continued to allow their security forces to commit human rights violations of every description throughout the year. Political killings, "disappearances", torture, detention of prisoners of conscience and the death penalty continued to be widespread across the region.

Amnesty International launched a campaign against extrajudicial executions and "disappearances" worldwide -- the greatest threat to human rights in the 1990s -- in October and these human rights violations remained one of the most pressing and widespread problems in Asian countries. There were reports from at least nine Asian countries where security forces acted with a deadly sense of impunity. In virtually all cases there were no official investigations into the human rights violations and in the few instances where there were, the perpetrators were rarely brought to justice.

Extrajudicial killings continued to be reported in Indonesia and East Timor and the fate of thousands of Acehnese and East Timorese who "disappeared" or were reportedly extrajudicially executed by Indonesian soldiers in previous years remained unknown. No official investigations into the killings in Aceh had been initiated by the end of the year. Meanwhile, nearly two years after completing its investigation into the 1991 massacre in East Timor, the Indonesian Government had failed to identify most of the up to 250 dead and the more than 200 "disappeared".

In Afghanistan, deliberate and indiscriminate bombings of homes, hospitals and mosques in Kabul left hundreds of people dead and thousands injured, among them children. Hundreds more, including former and current government officials, members of rival Mujahideen groups, unarmed civilians and members of ethnic minorities were deliberately killed by government forces and Mujahideen groups throughout the country.

In Cambodia, hundreds of people were killed and others "disappeared" in politically motivated attacks by armed factions of all political parties in the lead up to elections in May. The deputy director of a prison was charged with the murder of seven prisoners who were shot at point blank range while pleading for mercy on their hands and knees following an escape attempt.

Over a dozen deaths were reported in Pakistan which the authorities alleged were "encounter" killings but in fact appeared to be extrajudicial executions or deaths as a result of torture. Torture was systematic in police and army custody and police arrested dozens of women reportedly in order to rape them. No members of the security forces were brought to justice.

In neighbouring India hundreds of political activists were extrajudicially executed and scores more "disappeared" by the security forces in the states of Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab. Armed opposition or separatist groups also committed numerous abuses, including deliberate killings of civilians and taking hostages.

Torture was widespread in 19 countries in Asia. It was routine in every state of India, where torture methods most frequently cited were beatings, suspension by the wrists or ankles, electric shocks and rape. Victims often came from under-privileged and vulnerable sections of society and though most were criminal suspects, many were political detainees suspected of supporting armed opposition or separatists groups.

In Indonesia and East Timor torture and ill-treatment of political detainees, peaceful protestors and criminal suspects was common, resulting in some deaths. At least 17 students arrested for taking part in a peaceful demonstration in East Java were reportedly forced to undress, hit with metal rods, punched and given electric shocks. The authorities denied the incident and there was no investigation.



Torture and ill-treatment of criminal and political prisoners were widely reported in China, most commonly in the form of severe beatings, use of electric batons and shackles, deprivation of sleep and food, and exposure to extremes of cold or heat.

Political imprisonment on a large scale also continued in China with thousands of political prisoners including hundreds of prisoners of conscience arrested in previous years remaining in prison. Hundreds more political activists and members of religious or ethnic groups were arrested during the year and scores of them were held without charge or sentenced to prison terms after unfair trials. Over a dozen prisoners of conscience were released from prison in 1993, but not unconditionally.

In Myanmar (Burma), hundreds of government opponents remained imprisoned, including dozens of prisoners of conscience, despite the release of some 2,000 others and at least 40 new political arrests were made. Some of those held were detained without trial, but most had been sentenced after unfair trials. Nobel Peace Prize Winner Aung San Suu Kyi, spent her fifth year under house arrest.

At least 60 prisoners of conscience and possible prisoners of conscience remained in prison in Vietnam throughout 1993 and at least nine political arrests were reported. At least 13 prisoners of conscience were released, along with several political prisoners who had been held without trial.

In Indonesia and East Timor, more than 200 suspected government opponents were prisoners of conscience or possible prisoners of conscience, including 33 people arrested or sentenced during the year. About 250 other political prisoners continued to serve lengthy sentences imposed after unfair trials.

The death penalty continued to be widely used in at least 12 Asian countries, with China again standing out in the world for the extent to which it uses capital punishment. Amnesty International's death sentence figures for 1993 in China were the highest the organization has ever recorded in one year, with at least 2,564 people sentenced to death and more than 1,419 of them known to have been executed. The actual figures were believed to be far higher. Some of those executed were reportedly publicly displayed shortly before their deaths, despite "execution parades" being illegal in the country.

At least 12 people were sentenced to death and six people executed in Malaysia. Among those executed were three Filipinos and two Pakistanis who had reportedly been tortured in custody and convicted of drugs offenses after unfair trials.

And in Japan, Amnesty International was gravely concerned when a *de facto* moratorium on executions -- in force since November 1989 -- ended when three men who had been on death row for between 13 and 23 years were hanged in March. Four others, including a 70-year-old man, were executed in November and about 90 people remained under sentence of death, some held in conditions amounting to ill-treatment, at the end of the year.

Armed opposition groups in at least seven countries in Asia, among them India, Pakistan, Cambodia and Sri Lanka, were responsible for gross human rights abuses including political killings, abductions and torture.

-----

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC  
DETAILED IN AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S ANNUAL REPORT 1994

EXTRAJUDICIAL EXECUTIONS

-More than 1000 people were apparently extrajudicially executed by government security forces or by "death squads" said to be linked to them in at

least 11 countries, including Afghanistan, Cambodia, India, Indonesia and East Timor and Pakistan.

### "DISAPPEARANCES"

-About 100 people "disappeared" in seven countries including Afghanistan, Cambodia, India, Papua New Guinea, Philippines and Sri Lanka and many people who "disappeared" in previous years remained unaccounted for.

### TORTURE OR ILL-TREATMENT

-Torture or ill-treatment, including rape, of prisoners were reported in 20 countries, including China, Indonesia and East Timor, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Pakistan.  
-In at least ten countries - including Bangladesh, China, India and Papua New Guinea - people died in custody, apparently as a result of torture.

### PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

- Hundreds of prisoners of conscience, jailed solely for the peaceful exercise of their human rights, were held in at least 14 countries, including China, Indonesia and East Timor, Myanmar and Vietnam.

### ADMINISTRATIVE DETENTION

-Twelve countries between them held tens of thousands of political prisoners without charge or trial, particularly China and India.

### UNFAIR TRIALS

-In at least five countries, including China, the Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea and Myanmar, political prisoners were held after unfair trials in 1993 and in at least seven countries, including China and Indonesia and East Timor, after unfair trials in previous years.

### DEATH PENALTY

-The death penalty was imposed in at least 10 countries, and thousands of people remained on death row.  
-Executions were carried out in at least 10 countries in the region. In China alone, Amnesty International knows of over 1,419 executions in 1993 and of over 2,564 death sentences passed by the courts.

### HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES BY ARMED OPPOSITION GROUPS

-Armed opposition groups in at least seven countries in Asia, among them India, Pakistan, Cambodia and Sri Lanka, were responsible for gross human rights abuses including political killings, abductions and torture.

---

## EUROPE

### Highlights of Amnesty International Report 1994, covering events from January to December 1993

1993 saw no improvement on the human rights front in Europe. Violent internal conflicts and civil wars led to political killings, "disappearances" and other abuses. Racist ill-treatment by the police and security forces went unpunished in many countries, contributing to a climate of growing intolerance.

The bloodshed in the former Yugoslavia continued to dominate the headlines. All three sides in the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina killed unarmed civilians: hundreds of men, women and children were mercilessly slaughtered. At least 15,000 people -- many of them prisoners of conscience -- were held in detention camps, often in appalling conditions. All three sides held

detainees, but the majority were imprisoned by Bosnian Croat forces. Whole populations were forcibly expelled from their homes.

Lives were also lost in less publicized conflicts. In Tadjikistan a wave of extrajudicial executions and "disappearances" which began in 1992 continued into 1993. Scores of people were killed, most of them just because of the part of the country they came from. In Georgia both Georgian and rebel Abkhazian forces were reported to have tortured and killed non-combatant civilians in the disputed region of Abkhazia.

Conflict between government forces and armed secessionists in the mainly Kurdish southeastern provinces of Turkey grew fiercer during 1993. Scores of unarmed civilians were extrajudicially executed by the armed forces in reprisal killings in the area. The Turkish police were also reported to have committed extrajudicial executions not only in the southeast but also in pursuit of members of armed political groups in Istanbul and Ankara.

In many European countries, from France, Germany and Italy to Bulgaria, Romania and Yugoslavia racist ill-treatment by police was a growing problem. Governments throughout the region proved unwilling to deal firmly with their own law enforcement personnel, creating a climate of impunity in which racist assaults persisted and spread.

In France there were numerous well-attested cases of police ill-treating non-Europeans. A 17-year-old Zairian was shot dead by a police inspector during interrogation, provoking widespread demonstrations and disturbances in Paris. In the United Kingdom several people being deported were ill-treated by police and private security agents: one woman died as a result. There was a marked increase of reports of police ill-treatment in Germany. Most of the victims were foreign nationals, and many of them were refugees who had fled to Germany to escape persecution in their own countries. German police officers were also accused of failing to intervene to protect the victims of racist assaults.

Police collusion with racist mobs was a feature of attacks on Roma (Gypsies) in Romania. Armed police failed to protect two Roma brothers who were kicked and beaten to death in September: fellow villagers were driven from their homes which were vandalized and burned. No one had been charged with these crimes by the end of the year. In both Bulgaria and Hungary police officers themselves beat Roma men, women and children, claiming they were looking for criminal suspects. In one incident in Hungary, police officers allegedly shouted "Stinking Gypsies, we will make soap of you and finish off what Hitler started!" In the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, there were almost daily reports of ethnic Albanians being beaten and abused by police in Kosovo province.

Torture and ill-treatment of prisoners was widespread across Europe. Torture by police or gendarmes (soldiers carrying out police duties in rural areas) was reported from all parts of Turkey, especially the major cities and the southeast. At least 24 people died in custody, apparently as a result of torture. Among them were criminal suspects and people detained on suspicion of involvement with armed political organizations. In Albania three men died as a result of ill-treatment in police custody, and in Russia there were at least six deaths reported in police or military custody.

The refugee crisis in Europe continued, with hundreds of thousands of people trying to escape the appalling human rights abuses in the territories of the former Yugoslavia. Virtually all European governments required nationals from Bosnia-Herzegovina to have visas -- in most cases visa requirements had been imposed only after the war started. Most European governments also followed a policy of insisting that refugees stay in the nearest "safe" area to their homes. The result of these exclusionary measures was that many refugees were forced to stay in countries where they were at risk, such as Croatia, which forcibly returned Bosnian Muslim refugees to Bosnia-Herzegovina.

European governments, particularly those of the European Union, continued to move towards common policies on asylum-seekers, but the agreed policies fail to provide the protection refugees should receive. For example, they include returning asylum-seekers to "third countries" -- countries passed through since fleeing -- on the grounds that they should seek asylum there, and "screening out" from normal procedures certain types of applications, such as those deemed "manifestly unfounded" or from people coming from countries considered "safe". Individual countries also made it more difficult for refugees to find safety. An amendment to the Constitution in Germany and a new law on asylum procedures severely restricted the right to seek asylum there. Asylum-seekers from republics of the former Soviet Union were among thousands of people expelled from the Moscow area in Russia; they were at risk of being deported to their home countries where they faced serious human rights violations.

Conscientious objectors to military service were imprisoned in a number of European countries: they were prisoners of conscience. About 400 conscientious objectors, mostly serving four-year prison terms, were held in Greece. In France over 700 conscientious objectors to military service were imprisoned during 1993. In both countries, the vast majority of such prisoners were Jehovah's Witnesses.

Other prisoners of conscience were jailed for the peaceful exercise of their basic human rights in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, where ethnic Albanians were sentenced to prison terms for non-violent political activity; in Greece, where more than 15 people were prosecuted for criticizing government policies on ethnic minorities and foreign affairs; in Romania, where five men were imprisoned solely because of their homosexuality; and in Albania, where at least 16 prisoners of conscience were briefly imprisoned for writing articles or taking part in demonstrations.

The death penalty has been abolished in most countries of Europe, and Greece abolished it during 1993. However, several republics which were formerly part of the Soviet Union continued to condemn prisoners to death. At least 500 people were on death row in Russia, and at least 13 people were reportedly executed in Georgia.

Opposition groups also committed human rights abuses in several countries of the region. In the United Kingdom, for example, where violence in Northern Ireland intensified, 70 civilians were killed by Loyalist and Republican armed groups. In Turkey forces of the secessionist *Partiya Karkarene Kurdistan* (PKK), Kurdish Workers' Party, were responsible for deliberately killing 200 unarmed civilians, including children. In Spain, three civilians were killed and scores injured, including children, in attacks by armed opposition groups.

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN EUROPE DETAILED  
IN AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S ANNUAL REPORT 1994

**TORTURE/ILL-TREATMENT**

- Detainees were tortured or ill-treated in prison, police stations or other detention centres in 27 countries, including Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, France, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Turkey and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.
- More than 40 people died apparently from beatings by police and other torture in some 10 countries.

**PRISONERS**

- Tens of thousands of prisoners of conscience were held in 15 countries including France, Greece and Turkey. In Bosnia-Herzegovina at least 15,000 people -- many of them prisoners of conscience -- were held in detention camps, often in appalling conditions.

#### EXTRAJUDICIAL EXECUTIONS

- Hundreds of extrajudicial executions or possible extrajudicial executions were reported in seven countries - Croatia, France, Georgia, Tadjikistan, Turkey and Yugoslavia. Hundreds of civilians and captured or wounded combatants were deliberately and arbitrarily killed in the course of the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

#### DEATH PENALTY

- Some 22 people were known to have been executed in Albania, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Russia, Turkmenistan and Ukraine and more than 600 were sentenced to death or remained on death row in 13 countries.

#### HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES BY ARMED OPPOSITION GROUPS

- Armed opposition groups committed human rights abuses, such as torture, deliberate and arbitrary killings or hostage-taking in at least seven countries - including Spain, United Kingdom and Turkey.

### MIDDLE EAST

#### Highlights of AI Report 1994 covering events from January to December 1993

Gross human rights violations continued throughout the Middle East during 1993, including imprisonment of prisoners of conscience, extrajudicial executions, "disappearances", torture, arbitrary detention and unfair trials of political prisoners. Governments in the region failed or were reluctant to investigate past or present human rights violations, allowing security forces to commit human rights abuses with impunity. Armed opposition groups in some countries were responsible for deliberate and arbitrary killings. There were new killing of exiled opponents of exiled opponents of the Iranian government agents.

In Algeria, where thousands of suspected supporters of Islamist groups have been arrested since the imposition of the state of emergency in 1992, reports of extrajudicial executions and torture became increasingly widespread in 1993. In Israel and the Occupied Territories about 150 Palestinians were shot dead by Israeli security forces, some of them in circumstances suggesting that they may have been extra judicially executed or otherwise unjustifiably killed.

Widespread arrests of suspected government opponents were carried out in Iraq throughout the year, with scores of civilians, including women and children, extrajudicially executed during attacks by Government forces on civilian targets in the southern marshes.

Arbitrary arrests and detentions of suspected government opponents were also reported in Tunisia, where hundreds of people suspected of sympathizing with unauthorized Islamist and left-wing opposition groups, as well as other government critics, were arrested during the year.

In Egypt thousands of people, most of them members or sympathizers of banned Islamist militant groups, were detained under state of emergency legislation in force since 1981. In Iraq thousands of suspected government opponents were detained and tens of thousands of others who had been arrested in previous years continued to be detained.

In Morocco, where over 100 people were arrested during the year for alleged political offenses, over 450 political prisoners convicted after unfair trials, including 140 prisoners of conscience, continued to be held. In Syria several thousand political prisoners, including prisoners of conscience, continued to be held, most of them without charge or trial.

Widespread torture of political detainees was reported from virtually every country in the region. In Algeria, the dramatic increase in torture and ill-treatment recorded in 1992 continued, with the most common method of torture being the so-called "chiffon" (cloth) whereby the victim is tied to a bench and partially suffocated with a cloth soaked in dirty water or chemicals. In Tunisia, political prisoners were often reportedly denied medical treatment for injuries or other ailments sustained as a result of torture in pre-trial detention. Torture of political detainees reportedly remained common in Syria, with methods including beating on all parts of the body.

Judicial punishments of flogging and amputation of hands continued to be imposed in Iran, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

In Israel and the Occupied Territories, Palestinians under interrogation continued to be systematically tortured or ill-treated. In Egypt several detainees died apparently as a result of torture, and in Morocco, at least three people died in custody allegedly as a result of torture or ill-treatment.

There was also a dramatic increase in the use of the death penalty in the region. In Algeria 26 people were executed by firing squad, the first death sentences to be carried out since 1989. In Egypt at least 43 people, including 15 sentenced in previous years, were executed. In Kuwait, judicial executions were carried out for the first time since 1989. At least 93 people, including political prisoners, were executed in Iran, and at least 80 people were executed in Saudi Arabia. Twelve people were executed in Jordan, the highest number recorded by Amnesty International over the past two decades.

Political trials which violated international fair trials standards continued throughout the region. In Egypt, military trials of civilians fell far short of international standards, and in Algeria, defence rights were seriously curtailed in the Special Courts set up by the 1992 anti-terrorist law. In Kuwait, trials which failed to meet minimum international standards continued in the State Security Court. In Syria, trials of over 500 political prisoners, including prisoners of conscience, were held throughout the year by the Supreme State Security Court, whose procedures grossly violate international human rights standards. Dozens of the defendants, including prisoners of conscience, were sentenced to heavy prison terms.

In Morocco, six Sahrawi civilians arrested after demonstrations in Assa in September 1992 were sentenced in July to 20 years' imprisonment in two trials in the Rabat Military Courts. The trials were held in camera and breaches occurred at all stages of pre-trial and trial procedures. In Iran, political trial hearings were held in camera, in the absence of defence lawyers, and sometimes lasted only minutes.

"Disappearances" continued to occur throughout the region in 1993. In Iraq, hundreds of detainees "disappeared" and the fate of 100,000 people who "disappeared" in previous years remained unknown. In December, Mansour Al Kikhya, a former Minister of Foreign Affairs and prominent government opponent of the Libyan government, "disappeared", after attending a human rights conference in Cairo, Egypt, following his reported abduction by Libyan Government agents. The fate of thousands of people who had been abducted by armed groups in Lebanon in previous years also remained unclear. Hundreds of Sahrawis and Moroccans who "disappeared" after their arrest by Moroccan security forces in previous years remained unaccounted for: some were believed to be still alive in secret detention. In Kuwait, the fate of at least 62 detainees

who "disappeared" from custody in 1991 remained unknown. The fate of hundreds of detainees who "disappeared" in previous years in both the former People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the Yemen Arab Republic also remained unknown.

Armed opposition groups were responsible for grave human rights abuses in several countries in the region. Kurdish opposition groups and the Kurdish authorities in control of part of Iraqi Kurdistan committed human rights abuses, including torture of prisoners in their custody, and Kurdish opposition groups committed deliberate and arbitrary killings of targeted political activists and unarmed prisoners. Scores of deliberate killings of civilians were carried out in Duhok, Arbil and Suleymania regions between April and August, some of which were politically motivated. In Algeria, armed Islamist opposition groups carried out numerous attacks in which over 150 civilians, including foreign nationals, were killed.

Banned Islamist militant groups were also responsible for deliberate and arbitrary killings of civilians during the year in Egypt and in Israel and the Occupied Territories, where the number of attacks by armed Palestinians increased. Some 35 Israeli civilians were killed in such attacks, as were over 100 Palestinian civilians suspected of "collaborating" with the Israeli authorities.

---

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST  
DETAILED IN AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S ANNUAL REPORT 1994

**EXTRAJUDICIAL EXECUTIONS**

- At least 1,400 people were victims or possible victims of extrajudicial execution by security forces in eight countries, including Egypt, Iraq, Israel and the Occupied Territories and Lebanon.

**"DISAPPEARANCES"**

- Hundreds were reported to have "disappeared" in Iraq and at least 40 in Libya.  
- The fate of more than 100,000 others was still unknown after their "disappearance" in previous years in seven countries including Iraq, Kuwait, Morocco and Western Sahara, Syria and Yemen.

**TORTURE/ILL-TREATMENT**

- Detainees were tortured or ill-treated in prison, police stations or special secret detention centres in virtually every country in the region including Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Iran and Israel and the Occupied Territories.  
- Detainees died apparently from beatings and other torture in seven countries, including Algeria, Egypt, Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

**PRISONERS**

- Hundreds of prisoners of conscience or possible prisoners of conscience were held in at least 14 countries in the region. In Iraq, thousands of suspected government opponents were detained and tens of thousands of others who had been arrested in previous years continued to be held; many of them prisoners of conscience.  
- Thousands of people were held in administrative detention - without charge or trial - in at least ten countries in the region including Algeria, Israel and the Occupied Territories, Jordan and Lebanon.

**UNFAIR TRIALS**

- More than 3,000 political prisoners were imprisoned after unfair trials in at least nine countries, including Algeria, Egypt, Kuwait, Syria and Tunisia.
- In Tunisia over 2,000 political prisoners, among them prisoners of conscience, were serving sentences imposed after unfair trials in 1993 or previous years. Many more were still held after unfair trials in previous years in other countries, including Iran, Libya, Morocco and Yemen.

#### **DEATH PENALTY**

- More than 390 people were executed - by hanging, firing squad or other method
- in ten countries.
- More than 400 people in seven countries, including Morocco and Yemen, were on death row, either after death sentences passed in 1993 or previous years.

#### **HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES BY ARMED OPPOSITION GROUPS**

- Armed opposition groups committed grave human rights abuses, such as deliberate and arbitrary killings, torture of prisoners or hostage-taking, in at least five countries - Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Israel and the Occupied Territories and Lebanon.