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Amnesty International reports & statements

See the following recent AI news releases [dates given in day/month/year format].

12/01/2007 [Brazil: Another victim in the Guarani-Kaiowá's struggle for land](#) AMR 19/002/2007
11/01/2007 [Amnesty Recommendations to German Presidency: Guantanamo anniversary is a grim reminder for EU to clarify renditions.](#) IOR 61/001/2007
11/01/2007 [India: Deaths in West Bengal during protest against new industrial project](#) ASA 20/004/2007
11/01/2007 [Worldwide protests call for Guantánamo closure on 5th anniversary](#) AMR 51/008/2007
10/01/2007 [Egypt: protection of torture victim is key for justice to be done](#) MDE 12/003/2007
10/01/2007 [Five years Now! - No independent hearing; no family contact! Is This The American Way?](#) AMR 51/009/2007
10/01/2007 [India: Armed groups target civilians once again](#) ASA 20/003/2007
10/01/2007 [Somalia: Civilians must not be a casualty of the conflict in Somalia](#) AFR 52/001/2007
09/01/2007 [Bangladesh: Human rights under threat as election tensions intensify](#) ASA 13/001/2007
08/01/2007 [Guantanamo - Amnesty International global protests mark 5 year anniversary](#) AMR 51/006/2007
02/01/2007 [India: Kalinga Nagar police firing one year on - Orissa must ensure speedy justice for adivasi victims and address their concerns over displacement](#) ASA 20/001/2007
02/01/2007 [Thailand: Amnesty International's response to bombings in Bangkok](#) ASA 39/001/2007

These and other press releases and reports are accessible at:
<http://web.amnesty.org/library/eng-recent/index>

Asylum seekers/refugees

Netherlands. The European Court of Human Rights has ruled that the Netherlands may not eject a Somali asylum seeker from the country, because it would be in violation of the European Convention on Human Rights. See Radio Netherlands, 12 January;
<http://www.radionetherlands.nl/currentaffairs/dut070112mc>

Children

Sudan. The UN says it will investigate allegations that some peacekeepers in southern Sudan have been involved in the rape and sexual abuse of children. BBC 3 January
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/6226829.stm>

Taiwan. Amendments to Taiwan's basic education law have come into force which ban corporal punishment in schools. BBC 29 Dec
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/asia-pacific/6215949.stm>

Death Penalty

Iraq. Saddam Hussein was executed by hanging in Baghdad on 30 December. Unofficial video of the hanging revealed he had been taunted and verbally abused moments before he died. The chronology is given at the Wikipedia site:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Execution_of_Saddam_Hussein

USA. On Friday, the US Supreme Court agreed to set a new standard for when a death row prisoner is too mentally ill to be executed without violating the constitution. MSNBC 8 Jan
<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/16522083/>

USA. One of the first inmates scheduled to be executed in 2007 is Ronald Chambers who has been on death row thirty-one years after he was first sentenced to death for murder. Death Penalty Information Center (DPIC) 2 January
<http://www.deathpenaltyinfo.org/article.php?did=2040&scid=64>. For AI background on the case see: <http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGAMR510022007>

USA. Most executions in ten states are effectively on hold as aspects of their capital punishment laws are examined. DPIC 29 December;
<http://www.deathpenaltyinfo.org/article.php?did=2039&scid=64>; See also the DPIC report for 2006 at: <http://www.deathpenaltyinfo.org/2006YearEnd.pdf>

HIV/AIDS

Libya. Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi has rejected calls for the release of six foreign medics sentenced to death for infecting children with HIV/AIDS. BBC 30 December
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/africa/6219027.stm>

Bulgarian liberal deputies have proposed a resolution calling for a special European Parliament rapporteur for the case of the six medics sentenced to death in Libya and also for a revision of EU policy towards Tripoli should there be further negative developments, reports the EU Observer, 11 January; <http://euobserver.com/9/23235> .

The science journal *Nature* has a special web feature on this case. See
<http://www.nature.com/nature/focus/aidsmedicslibya/index.html>

Right to health

Africa. The African continent is facing 25% of the world's morbidity rate with only 3% of its healthcare personnel, report Karl Blanchett and Regina Keith in *Le Monde Diplomatique* December 2006, <http://mondediplo.com/2006/12/12africa>

Iraq. The number of civilians killed in political violence in Iraq reached record levels in December, according to Iraqi government figures. The interior ministry says 1,930 Iraqis died last month, 3.5 times the number killed in January 2006. BBC 2 Jan
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/americas/6224047.stm>

UK. Two UK-based academics have devised a way to invent new medicines and get them to market at a fraction of the cost charged by big drug companies. Guardian 2 Jan
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/medicine/story/0,,1981199,00.html>

UK. A transplant surgeon has warned against selling body parts, after a report suggested organs are for sale online. BBC 8 Jan
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/6240307.stm>

Torture

Argentina. A witness in a human rights trial was abducted and tortured using methods reminiscent of Argentina's military dictatorships reported Associated Press. Mercury Times, 31 December; <http://www.mercurynews.com/mld/mercurynews/news/world/16356625.htm>

Turkey. The European Committee for the Prevention of Torture has published for the first time reports of its visits to Turkey from 1990-1996. See:
<http://www.cpt.coe.int/documents/tur/2007-01-11-eng.htm>

USA/Guantanamo. A 244 page report released by the FBI under the Freedom of Information Act provides details of treatment of prisoners at Guantánamo. See <http://foia.fbi.gov/guantanamo/detainees.pdf>. The contents of the report are summarised in the *Guardian* 3 January; <http://www.guardian.co.uk/guantanamo/story/0,,1981955,00.html>

Publications

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Bonner R, The CIA's Secret Torture, *New York Review of Books*, 11 January. Reviewing *Ghost Plane: The True Story of the CIA Torture Program* by Stephen Grey; and *Report of the Events Relating to Maher Arar* by the Commission of Inquiry into the Actions of Canadian Officials in Relation to Maher Arar. [Http://www.nybooks.com](http://www.nybooks.com)

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<http://www.internationalbreastfeedingjournal.com/content/1/1/27>

Kuan-Teh Jeang . Libya, HIV, and open communication. *Retrovirology* 2006, 3:99 , 28 December 2006;
<http://www.retrovirology.com/content/pdf/1742-4690-3-99.pdf>

Lalit Dandona , Vemu Lakshmi , G Anil Kumar and Rakhi Dandona. Is the HIV burden in India being overestimated? *BMC Public Health* 2006, 6:308, 20 December 2006;

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/6/308/abstract>

Ude-Koeller S. et al. Girl or boy?--Parents' preferences, choice of sex, and sex reassignment surgery for children with disorders of sex development. *Ethik Med.* 2006 Mar;18(1):63-70
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?db=pubmed&cmd=Retrieve&dopt=AbstractPlus&list_uids=17153252&query_hl=6&itool=pubmed_DocSum

Okie S. Sex, Drugs, Prisons, and HIV. *NEJM* 2007; 356:105-108,
<http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/356/2/105>.

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