

ZIMBABWE TIME FOR ACCOUNTABILITY

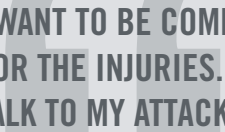
**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



**'IF THE PROBLEM IS TO BE RESOLVED
THE GOVERNMENT MUST PROSECUTE
THE PERPETRATORS TO SHOW ITS
COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS.
IF THAT DOES NOT HAPPEN WE WILL.'**

George, victim of state-sponsored violence in
Hurungwe, August 2008

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I WANT TO BE COMPENSATED FOR THE INJURIES. I WANT TO TALK TO MY ATTACKERS AND BE TOLD THE TRUTH ABOUT WHY I WAS BEATEN. I ALSO WANT THEM TO BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE.

Lyn, an 86-year-old woman victim of politically motivated violence, August 2008

People who have committed human rights violations have not been held to account for their crimes. Despite Zimbabwe's legal obligations to tackle impunity, members of the security forces, "war veterans" and supporters of President Robert Mugabe's party, ZANU-PF, have faced no investigation, prosecution or censure. They have been encouraged to commit further violations by the failure of the government to take action against them.

In the months before the presidential election run-off on 27 June 2008, soldiers, "war veterans" and ZANU-PF members attacked suspected supporters of the political opposition. At least 180 people were killed and more than 9,000 people were injured as a result of torture, beatings and other forms of targeted political violence. About 28,000 people were displaced from rural areas.

Zimbabwe has a long-standing history of impunity. In particular, the police have not been held to account for assaulting and torturing critics of the government and have been encouraged to enforce the law in a partisan manner. The government has forcibly evicted hundreds of thousands of people from their homes, has denied opposition supporters access to subsidized food and has harassed and intimidated human rights defenders. All these violations have been committed with virtually total impunity.



Opposition supporters whose legs
have been broken in election-related
violence, 2008

ACT NOW

CALL ON THE ZIMBABWEAN AMBASSADOR IN YOUR COUNTRY. PRESS THE AMBASSADOR TO URGE THE ZIMBABWEAN AUTHORITIES TO:

- establish an independent commission of inquiry to look into all aspects of the human rights violations in Zimbabwe since 2000, including violations perpetrated during the 2008 elections;
- ensure that perpetrators are held to account and that victims receive reparations for their suffering.

WRITE TO:

Please write to the Zimbabwean Ambassador at the Zimbabwean Embassy in your country. If you would like help finding the contact details of the Ambassador please contact aagnew@amnesty.org.

Salutation: Dear Chief Adviser

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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