



HEGEMONY OF WILDERNESS

TORTURE SITUATION IN PAKISTAN

AHRC Special Report

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TORTURE IS ENDEMIC IN THE COUNTRY

Amid the demonstration of the most cruel form of torture by the police, armed forces, the intelligence agencies and paramilitary forces during the last year, from July 2009 to June this year, the government of Pakistan has ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the Convention against Torture, Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

It is also quite well known in Pakistan that torture prevails both in police and military custody. The primary method by which crimes are investigated is still the use of torture and in almost all police stations torture takes place daily. Dealing with this issue by the development of the police force will now be one of the main obligations of the state. Civil society and human rights organisations must now take greater interest in the attempt to eliminate the use of torture within the policing system

Torture in custody is a very common phenomenon in Pakistan because of the rouged legal system and impotent rule of law. The laws of the land are silent on the issue of torture by the law enforcement agencies. The Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) has no specific section about torture; it deals only about the word “hurt” and, even, in the definition of ‘hurt’ the state authorities, who are mainly responsible for exercising torture, are not mentioned in any way.



The criminal procedure code (CrPc) also does not mention any clause for punishing perpetrators of torture. The existence of a rogue legal system has meant that serious issues of torture are disregarded. Therefore, law enforcement authorities are given free hand to use torture as the best way to mint the money and obtain confessional statements which favour the police and other law enforcement authorities.

If Pakistan can develop its policing system based on modern policing philosophies and methodologies, the country will make a great leap towards becoming a nation based on the rule of law and democracy.

Torture in custody still needs attention from the law makers after so many ruthless demonstrations from the police and armed forces. During the past year (July 2009 to June 2010), the law enforcement agencies have shown their power of impunity by conducting torture in the open places before the public—women were not spared from facing torture before many persons. The reason is that there is no law in existence which criminalizes torture.



THE PRESIDENT OF PAKISTAN IS HELPLESS BEFORE THE PERPETRATORS OF TORTURE

An alleged perpetrator of the torture inflicted on the President of Pakistan has been appointed as the prosecutor general of Punjab Province. The height of the impunity given to the perpetrators of torture can be judged in the torture case of the sitting president of Pakistan, Mr. Asif Zardari, who was tortured in the police custody in May 1999 but since then the perpetrators received impunity by the courts and the junta. The main accused person for torturing the then senator Asif Zardari, Mr. Rana Maqbool, former inspector general of police (IGP) Sindh province, has been appointed in recent months as the prosecutor general by the chief minister of Punjab province. The government of Punjab is supposed to be against the president of Pakistan. The chief justice of the province was happy to have his photograph taken with the former IGP.



In a country where the sitting president himself is helpless before the perpetrators of torture on his own life it is easy for one to imagine that the torture has become the law of the day. The reason is the same that perpetrators of torture have impunity not only from law but also from the higher judiciary. In the absence of torture from the criminal law the law enforcement agencies always use torture as the best way to extract confessional statement of their own choice or bribes from the accused persons.

Mr. Iftikhar Mohammed Chaudhry, the Chief Justice of Pakistan, has termed the police torture as hegemony of wilderness during his observation after seeing police officials flogging suspects in public. In another case, Justice Javed Iqbal, senior judge of the Supreme Court, has observed that police treated the citizens in horrendous fashion. The rampant police torture means dishonouring human dignity, the judge observed.

ISI TORTURED TO DEATH A YOUNG MAN ON INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST TORTURE

One year ago, on the 2009 International Day against Torture, Mr. Sadiq Ali, 30, was fatally tortured in the custody of Inter-Service Intelligence agents [[AHRC-UAC-069-2009](#)]. In doing so, the Pakistan intelligence services made a mockery of all international standards and laws that condemn torture, and of all the victims and activists fighting for its criminalization. This heinous crime illustrated the lack of political will that the Pakistani government has shown for years in the fight against torture.

MORE THAN 100 PERSONS DIE IN CUSTODY

In one year, not much has changed in Pakistan regarding the issue of torture. The Global Peace Index, that takes into account wars, internal conflicts, political instability, distrust in other citizens and human rights violations, ranked Pakistan 145th, only two ranks before Afghanistan. This ranking is an illustration of the insecurity that reigns in Pakistan which torture is a feature of.



Amnesty International estimates that more than 100 persons die in police custody each year. Unfortunately, deaths from torture are often dubbed as suicides by the police. These abuses are permitted, in part, because of the unquestioned power of the police: "They are armed with sweeping powers of detention, investigation and the framing of the charge sheet under laws enacted by British colonial rulers" (<http://www.atimes.com/ind-pak/AL10Df02.html>). Policemen, also, receive very sparse salaries, which explains why bribing is so widespread.

According to the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, more cases of torture occurred in 2009 (1,300 were reported last year). The number of reported cases is actually a small percentage of the actual number, for the fact that hundreds of victims do not or cannot report cases due to a lack of victim and witness protection, organised intimidation and social taboos. The Asian Human Rights Commission (AHRC) also noted that torture becomes more systematic, more heinous and more pernicious.

THE FAMILIES OF THE VICTIMS ARE ALSO TORTURED

In many cases, the family of the victim is also directly targeted; brothers and parents are severely beaten, women relatives are raped. In September 2009, a parliamentarian arranged the arrest and torture of a man's mother and relatives because he was unhappy with this man's love marriage [[AHRC-UAC-120-2009](#)]. The AHRC reported a case in which a mother had to bring her younger son to the police station, where he was later tortured, in order to stop her older son being beaten up. [[AHRC-UAC-034-2010](#)]

A WOMAN WAS BEATEN AND TORTURED BY MALE POLICE OFFICIALS IN AN OPEN PLACE

A lady doctor, MS Abida, was tortured in the police station by the female police officers in the presence of male officers and many persons. The case was some months old but the video, made through a cell phone,



was released in the month of April. A female deputy superintendent of police (DSP) and station house officer (SHO) Women Zahida Perveen were also present on the occasion. Women constables slapped the woman, wearing red Shalwar Kameez,

who was later made to lie down on her stomach for flogging on the orders of male police officers. The SHO Nasrullah Niazi, on the occasion, appears to be talking to the woman, being subjected to the humiliation,



about learning some lesson. The woman in the TV footage appears to be shouting, asking the female and male police personnel to stop the insulting act. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tq00CoMmTNs&NR=1>

POLICE INVESTIGATION IN PRIVATE TORTURE PLACES

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D3-1L0khh0c&feature=related>
<http://vidpk.com/38674/Chiniot-Police-Torture-Chitar-Kahani-1/>

More than 150 private torture cells are operating in Lahore, capital of Punjab province, where the police detain accused persons illegally on the pretext of interrogation for many days to avoid legal complications. According to the reports the police department revealed that the Operations, Investigations and CIA wings of the City police have set up more than 150 private torture cells in the jurisdiction of 77 police stations in the provincial metropolis to interrogate robbers, car-lifters, and other gangsters by applying traditional methods of torture without any fear and hesitation. These private torture cells also help police escape the raids of court bailiffs in cases of illegal custody. The policemen set up these torture cells at private places including guesthouses, Deras of local influential people and sometime at rented apartments, where they carry out whatever they want. Interestingly, a couple of days ago, a police constable of Gulshan-e-Ravi Police Station identified as Muhammad Asif was found murdered with severe head injuries from a private torture cell.

TORTURE IN OPEN PLACES BY THE ARMY



More torture cases also occur in public places, thus perpetuating the culture of terror maintained by the law enforced agencies including army officers. In the armed conflict zones, where militancy from the Taliban has strong hold and the armed forces of Pakistan are conducting actions against militancy, army officers were arresting persons who were suspected of providing shelter to militants. They were tortured in the open places to scare the local population about the might of the army.

http://www.dailymotion.com/video/xaodvt_video-shows-pakistan-army-abuse_news

THE POLICE ARE THE MAIN PERPETRATORS IN TORTURE CASES

Torture in custody is a very common phenomenon and is almost seen as a "normal" thing because of the total collapse of rule of law. The lack of police procedures reform maintains the culture of torture in Pakistan. The primary method by which crimes are investigated is still the use of torture and it takes place daily in almost all police stations, notably as a way of extracting confessions, without acknowledging that confessions extracted under torture are often false. Torture is also used in bribery cases. Police officers arrest a man and threaten his family that they will torture him if they do not pay bribes. As poor and powerless people are mostly victims of these arbitrary arrests and torture cases, the family cannot satisfy the policemen's greediness. In January, a young Christian man was tortured to death by the Karachi police



and jail officials for not paying bribes in time for Eid [[AHRC-UAC-001-2010](#)]. A real bribery business, using torture, has been set up by the police, at the expense of the most vulnerable citizens.

The ill-training of police forces is one reason for the perpetuation of this kind of abuse. Because of the lack of awareness and training, investigation officers do not use the basic tools that can help put the investigation in a correct direction. They resort to outdated techniques, which leads to inefficient, slow or even unlawful proceedings. The claim that there is no need to change century-old 'traditions' thus helps the perpetuation of mistakes and abuses, such as torture. There is therefore a great need for better training, awareness-raising and equipping of the Pakistani police forces in order to put an end to human rights abuses.



The lack of efficient protection of victims and witnesses of torture contributes to the impunity of perpetrators. The AHRC has reported cases of miscarriage and obstruction of justice by the police, which puts victims in further danger and denies them their right to remedy. Recently, a couple was declared “Karo-kari” (black man, black woman) by a jirga, an illegal tribal tribunal, for getting a love marriage. They were harassed and threatened with death by the bride’s powerful family and the groom’s family was arrested and tortured. The police refused to file a First Information Report (FIR) to investigate the perpetrators, but took the complaint of the bride’s father against her husband [[AHRC-UAC-070-2010](#)]. In another case, a human rights defender, who had been tortured and sexually abused in police custody, had to suffer further intimidations and threats. The police illegally removed the court-ordered protection of the man and his family [[AHRC-STM-215-2009](#)].

POLICE OFFICERS CHARGED WITH TORTURE, BUT NO LAW EXISTS TO PROSECUTE

The whole of Pakistan watched through many television channels the public beating and torture of seven accused persons by the police officials in district Chiniot, Punjab province. The victims were striped naked in public by the station head officer (SHO) and four other officials, three were in plain clothes, of Bhawana police station and beaten with a wide leather strap, known as Chittar. Each accused was punished with 30 hard lashes with full force and two of them fainted on the spot. After this illegal punishments the accused were admitted to hospital on the orders of high officials of the province. The scene was watched by teenage girls and boys students of nearby schools. Please see the following video footage of public torture taken by cell phone: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cM03Kwe8K20&feature=youtube_gdata

The government of Punjab province, in an effort to cover up the heinous crime of torture in custody, arrested SHO and three other police officials and suspended them from services. The people were fooled into thinking that the accused police officials were booked on the charge of conducting torture. The fact is that torture in custody is not a crime under Pakistani law. Torture has never been criminalised by the state which provides impunity to the law enforcing authorities. The military and police are fully aware that there is no punishment for torture in custody, therefore; they consider that cruel and inhuman torture is a legal right. [[AHRC-STM-038-2010](#)]

All these abuses show the criminal nexus between the police and state officials or powerful local leaders that allow the constant impunity of perpetrators, to the detriment of Pakistani citizens. In the case of the



“Karo-kari” couple, the jirga had been held by a police officer. The violation of the rule of law by law-enforcement agencies thus perpetuate the feudal system still prevailing in Pakistan.

PAKISTAN AIR FORCE RUNNING TORTURE CELLS



Sumera, carried in the arms of her father, is produced in the court

In the end of March 2010 six persons from a Christian family were tortured for many days in the torture cell of the Pakistan Air Force at its Air Head Quarter in Islamabad, the capital of Pakistan. The arrest and torture continued for a period of 18 days and was due to the suspicion that they had stolen gold ornaments from the house of a Wing Commander in the Pakistan Air Force (PAF). A 14 year-old girl and her 16 year-old brother were tortured by the Wing Commander himself. As a result the girl is disabled and neither she nor her brother is able to walk properly. A Session Court has helped obtain the victims’ release but has not initiated any judicial process against the officials of the PAF even after finding evidence that the family was tortured and detained illegally in the PAF torture cell. Please see the case in detail at [[AHRC-STM-074-2010](#)].

This case of torture by the members of the Pakistan armed forces is ample proof that courts are still under the influence of the armed forces and are unable to implement the law equally. The Christian organisations assert that the worst kind of torture is reserved for them because of their religion and the fact that they are very poor. The Session court judge Mr. Barlas saved the lives of the family by taking prompt action to protect them from the PAF torture, but he should have taken action against the PAF and the Wing Commander, as it is his legal obligation, despite the fact that the victims did not want to pursue their own legal remedy.

AIR FORCE PERSONNEL ARBITRARILY DETAINED FOR 16 MONTHS, TORTURED AND RETRENCHED WITHOUT LEGAL BENEFITS

An employee of the Pakistan Air Force (PAF) was illegally detained and tortured by the Special Investigation Branch (SIB) of the PAF on charges of terrorism and securing funds for a terrorist organisation. After 16 months of illegal detention he was fired from his job without any benefits which included his pension. He was first targeted by the government when he refused to vote in the referendum of 2002, conducted by former President General Pervez Musharraf. He was then implicated along with 200 officers on charges of attempting to murder Musharraf. During the period of his arrest, a corporal of the air force died by means of torture and five were executed on charges of plotting to murder Musharraf. In addition, the 200 PAF and army personnel that were held in detention were charged with acts of sedition. [[AHRC-UAC-067-2009](#)]

MILITARY AND PARA-MILITARY ARE INVOLVED IN TORTURE DURING CUSTODY



The military and state intelligence agencies like Inter-Service Intelligence (ISI), the Military intelligence agency (MI), the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA), the Pakistan Navy, and the Frontier Constabulary (FC), are prominent agencies among others that are notorious for torturing people in custody. It is believed that the military is running 52 torture cells all over the country, where people are illegally kept for months and severely tortured.

A MISSING PERSON TELLS THE COURT THAT HE WAS TORTURED IN THE CUSTODY OF THE FRONTIER CORP.



The AHRC has been following the case of Mr. Murad Khan Marri. He was missing for eight months before the Frontier Corp (FC) announced that he had been arrested in March 2010 while crossing the Afghan border into Pakistan. He was produced before the chief justice of the High Court of Balochistan province on May 25. Mr. Marri told the court that he had been kept in different places of detention and severely tortured since his actual arrest on June 27, 2009 [[AHRC-STM-085-2010](#)]. His statement about his illegal detention of eight months by the FC, his torture at their hands and the declaration by the FC of his fake arrest eight months after his disappearance placed the chief justice in an awkward position. The judge was dumbfounded by his revelations could not even ask him why he was tortured and held incommunicado.

DIRTY AND DANGEROUS GAME BY THE INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES

Abdul Wahab, 55, a Baloch activist, who was arrested by plain clothed persons from an intelligence agency on May 28, 2008 after participating in a peace rally against the anniversary of the nuclear explosion by Pakistan and then held incommunicado in military torture cell, narrates the story of torture to the Daily The News. He confirmed that he was injected with a drug by intelligence agencies during the detention.

Doctors fear Wahab was injected with a drug that has been nicknamed 'truth serum'. After being injected with this drug the person becomes very communicative, sharing his thoughts without hesitation. Dorland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary describes that it is an 'ultra-short-acting barbiturate (drug) to produce general anesthesia, and for narcoanalysis in psychiatric disorders'.



The proper name for this drug is thiopental sodium; it is also called sodium pentothal. Eminent psychiatrist Prof. S. Haroon Ahmed, a prominent psychiatrist, elaborated the affects of the drug in detail. He says there are various kinds of methods that are used to extract information from people suspected of anti-social or anti-state activities. The effect of injection is that the person becomes uninhibited and frequently tells facts which he/she does not want to tell in normal situations. The



involvement of medical community in any act of torture or forced extraction of information has been banned by the international medical community.

[Please see the Interview](#)

THE ARMY PERSONALS TORTURED A NATIONALIST LEADER TO KNOW ABOUT THE DESIGNS OF USA

Dr. Safdar Sarki, a motel business owner from Yuba City, California, USA, narrates his 27-month ordeal in the military torture cell at Karachi, the largest commercial and industrial city of Pakistan. He says that "I was made to stand in a three-by-three-foot cell for many days. Once my feet got swollen, they struck it with rods, which hurt in the extreme," he recalls. He was forced to live like a blind man in a dark dungeon for eight months, so completely denied daylight that he could not know if it was day or night, after Pakistan's Military Intelligence secretly abducted him on suspicion of promoting U.S. interests.

[Please see the interview.](#)



A CHILLING TALE OF POLICE TORTURE

Mr. Shafiq Dogar was subjected to which included torment of various imaginative kinds, including his rape, after which red chili powder was put into his anus. Dogar's wife Riffat Rani and her younger sisters, 12 and 19, were also beaten by policemen and by law maker Iftekhhar Baloch. Since their release they have been threatened by Iftekhhar Baloch.



While policemen held Dogar down, one officer sodomised him. After some time the DSP asked the cook of the police station to bring him some red chili powder and a spoon. At around three am on May 6 Dogar is again hung upside down and a wooden spoon dipped in chilly powder paste was pushed inside his anus, twice. He fainted and was not able to clean himself until 11.00 a.m. However he was unable to walk until later that evening.

Please see the detail story: [AHRC-STM-122-2009](#)



CHILI POWDER WAS PUT INSIDE HIS NOSE

Mr. Fazal Abbas was arrested and tortured and kept in Qadirpur police station, Jhang district from April 22 to 25, 2009 and then shifted to Airport police station, Rawalpindi, on April 26, kept in police lock up to May 28. After his release from Punjab high court on May 28, 2009. He was severely beaten, hot iron rods on different parts of the body, red chilly powder were put in side the nose, ups and down whole night in several days, the bone of nose was broken. Judicial magistrates of three different police stations refused to conduct medical check ups.



[Please see the details](#)

AN ARMY COLONEL HAS HAD FOUR MEN ABDUCTED DUE TO A PERSONAL DISPUTE, IN PAKISTAN-HELD KASHMIR

Four young men were illegally arrested, detained and tortured by Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) officials because of a minor personal dispute. The first victim was allegedly taken hostage by a Lieutenant Colonel from ISI so that his uncle would pay a debt, and the other three were friends of the victim who inquired about him at the local police station. Three of the young men are still being held incommunicado and according to the fourth, who was released after six days, they have all been badly tortured by officials in a secluded place. The released victim is in ill health and has been warned against publicising the details of his friends' capture by the perpetrators. Although civilians in Muzaffarabad have held protest rallies, no action has yet been taken by the authorities. Please see the details by clicking the following link: [AHRC-UAC-172-2009](#)

THE LIFE OF A DISAPPEARED STUDENT LEADER IS IN DANGER

Mr. Zakir Majeed, a student leader from Balochistan province, was allegedly abducted by state intelligence agents on June 8, 2009 from Mastung, near Quetta. Majeed is the senior vice chairperson of the Baloch Student Organization, Azad. It is apprehended that he might have been killed while he was in the custody of state intelligence agencies. The government of Balochistan said that he was released on January 22, 2010, but his family members have said that he has not yet returned home. They have inquired after him at all local police stations, asking if he was booked under another case, but have not been able to find him. Please see the following links; [AHRC-STM-022-2010](#) ; [AHRC-UAC-058-2009](#)

The military uses the so-called 'war on terror' to illegally arrest people and torture them to force them to confess their involvement in anti-state activities. It is especially used in provinces with separatist claims, such as Baluchistan. Hundreds of men, women and children have been abducted and are at risk of being tortured. Some arrestees from the North-West Frontier Province have been detained by the Pakistani



military, before being handed over to the American Army to be sent to Guantanamo Bay detention center, in exchange for money.

INCREASING CASES OF RAPE DURING CUSTODY

The worst form of custodial abuse is rape perpetrated by policemen. Several incidents of women being raped while detained at police stations have been recorded in the recent past, in addition to women who were raped after being abducted or kidnapped by policemen. During the year the police have used its power of impunity by demonstration of the worst kind of torture against the weakest section of the population, the women.

A 13 YEARS OLD GIRL WAS CONTINUOUSLY RAPED FOR 21 DAYS BY THE POLICE

There is the revolting story of a 13 year-old girl, who was continuously gang-raped, mentally, and physically tortured by police officials during 21 days of illegal detention. After finding that she was pregnant, the policemen produced her before a Session court under false charges. The girl was sent to jail where she was finally released on bail. The judge who heard her case was unable to investigate the perpetrators, as they obtained a 'stay order' from the Lahore High Court, which prevents any police action against them. Their barbarian crimes thus remain unpunished. Pakistani laws recognize rape as a particularly heinous crime and do not allow bail without proper investigation. The High Court's decision obviously is a miscarriage of justice. The failure of the rule of law and ineptness of courts in Pakistan allow the continuity of such heinous crimes that are condemned by the country's laws and all international standards yet remain unpunished, cementing the impunity of those that victim calls 'wolves in uniforms'.

POLICE OFFICERS PARTICIPATE IN THE RAPE AND MURDER OF A WOMAN AND NO INVESTIGATION IS CARRIED OUT

No investigation is being done into the rape and murder of a woman last year by a group of men, which included two police officers. Station heads have allegedly requested bribes from the victim's family and accepted large sums from the accused, and no investigation has been done. The family has reported an escalation in threats pressuring them to withdraw their case, one being that the victim's daughters will soon suffer her fate. They have asked for protection but have received none. The AHRC is gravely concerned for their safety, and for those living under the jurisdiction of Cantt police station, where there appears to be gross corruption and scant regard for the rule of law. [[AHRC-UAC-084-2009](#)]

ARRESTED WOMAN ALLEGES BEING RAPED BY RANGERS

Uzma Fahad, an alleged liquor smuggler, has accused Pakistan Rangers Punjab personnel of raping her during interrogations. She was reportedly arrested red-handed carrying liquor at a Rangers picket in



Bhaman village, closed to the Pak-India border.

Also, hundreds of witnesses claimed to have seen Rangers personnel publicly assaulting Uzma outside the Ganga Ram Hospital, Lahore, the capital of Punjab province, where she had been brought for a medical examination.

Earlier, a case was registered against Uzma on the complaint of Rangers personnel under Sections 164 (8) (1), 157 of the Customs Act and 3/4 of the Drug Act. According to the first information report, Rangers personnel had installed a picket at the Bhaman village near the Pak-India border, where they arrested a woman, later identified as Uzma Fahad of Nawi Abadi Jallo, and recovered 26 bottles of imported liquor from her possession.



After the case was registered, Rangers personnel held her in custody for investigations and later presented her before a magistrate in Cantt courts the next morning. Upon being presented in a Customs Court, Uzma alleged that her captors had raped her during interrogations, on which, the court ordered for her medical examination.

The Rangers personnel then took her to the the Ganga Ram Hospital, where Deputy Medical Superintendent Dr Rauf informed them that the Batapur Police Station, where the FIR against Uzma had been registered, did not fall in the hospital’s jurisdiction and referred them to the Mian Munshi Hospital. But seven hours later they again arrived at the Ganga Ram hospital with court orders for her medical examination.

No disclosure: After completing the examination, Rauf told Daily Times that the doctor who had examined Uzma was refusing to disclose the results.

A GIRL RAPED IN CUSTODY BY POLICE OFFICERS AND HER SISTER KEPT NUDE IN LOCK UP

A 17-year-old girl A (her name is not being disclosed to protect her identity), the daughter of a labourer Manzoor Ahmed, resident of block C, Millat Town, Faisalabad, Punjab Province, was arrested on March 14, 2008, from her home by Ghulam Rasool, by Sub Inspector (SI) of Police Station Nishatabad on the suspicion of the murder of her fiancée. Her fiancée was killed by the deceased's rivals. The SI took A to a private room situated near the Police Station and held her there for 16 days, from 14-03-2008 to 29-03-2008. He thereafter he produced her before the first class magistrate for judicial remand.

During that period she was kept naked at all times and the SI along with constables Iqbal 4934/c, Ameer Watto1755/c and Shehbaz 4994/c physically teased and tortured her to force her to confess to the murder. After the physical torture a lady constable, Nargis would massage her to remove the marks of torture, particularly the bite marks on her body. During this period Shujat Ali Malhi, a Sub Inspector of Investigation of the Nishatabad Police Station raped her twice. This SI threatened her that if she did not confess to the murder she will be raped by all the staff of the police station. On the direction of SI Investigations, SI Ghulam Rasool arrested the victim's elder sister of from their house and both the sisters were made to sit in front of each other naked for three days while Ghulam Rasool, Iqbal, Ameer Watto and Shehbaz constables teased them, touched their private body parts and tortured them brutally. The name of the



victim was never mentioned in the first information report (FIR) and after one week of her illegal detention a supplementary statement was taken by the investigation officer from the father of deceased implicating victim 'A' in the murder [[AHRC-UAC-164-2008](#)]

PROXY TORTURE

Proxy torture in Pakistan a method frequently used to combat the war on terror cannot be made as an excuse to torture while in custody or to allow foreign forces to conduct torture practices. Proxy torture in Pakistan, a method frequently used to combat the war on terror cannot be made as an excuse to torture while in custody or to allow foreign forces to conduct torture practices.

Evidence of the close involvement of British agents in the [torture](#) of British citizens in [Pakistan](#) has emerged during a series of interviews with Pakistani intelligence officers.

Researchers from the New York-based [Human Rights](#) Watch (HRW) say several Pakistani officials have corroborated accounts of torture given by several victims. The officials not only made clear that their counterparts in British intelligence were fully aware of the methods they were employing during interrogations but claim the British agents were 'grateful' it was happening.

In a statement issued HRW said senior Pakistani officials had told it "on numerous occasions" that British officials were aware of the mistreatment of a number of terrorism suspects from the UK, including Rangzieb Ahmed and Salahuddin Amin, who are now serving life sentences in the UK, Zeeshan Siddiqui, whose whereabouts is unknown, and Rashid Rauf, who is said to have died in a US missile strike after escaping from custody.

HRW said senior officials in Pakistan had confirmed the "overall authenticity" of the allegations made by Ahmed, from Rochdale, who had three fingernails ripped out of his left hand after [M15](#) and Greater Manchester police drew up a list of questions and handed them to his Pakistani captors.

AMERICANS ALLEGE FBI, PAKISTANI POLICE USED ELECTRIC SHOCKS ON THEM

According to the AP news agency five American terrorism suspects alleged on February 2, 2010 that they were subjected to electric shocks and other torture by the FBI and Pakistani police, the latest wrinkle in a case that has added to sensitivities in U.S.-Pakistani relations.

The men tossed a tissue with some of the allegations scribbled on it to reporters as they headed to their latest hearing in court, where a judge delayed formally charging the suspects for at least two more weeks. The five men, all young Muslims from the Washington area, were [detained in December](#) 2009 in Punjab province's town of Sargodha, 120 miles south of Islamabad, not long after they arrived in Pakistan.

"Since our arrest, the U.S. FBI and Pakistani police have tortured us," read the message. "They are trying to set us up. We are innocent. They are trying to keep us away from public, media and families and lawyers. Help us."

Defense lawyer Tariq Asad said one suspect told the judge that the police gave them electric shocks and



warned them not to mention the alleged torture to the media or court. The suspect, Ramy Zamzam, said police threatened to destroy their passports and their lives.

U.S. Embassy spokesman Richard Snelsire denied the allegations of torture by the FBI, a domestic agency with no jurisdiction outside of the continental USA, whose agents have had some access to the men. Pakistani police have denied past allegations by the men that they were tortured while in custody.

CRIMINALIZING TORTURE FOR GOOD

Earlier this month, the President of Pakistan, Mr. Asif Ali Zardari, ratified the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT). These political gestures by the President must not be seen as an end, but as the beginning of another fight. The Parliament must now clearly incorporate torture in the national legislation and effectively criminalize it. These ratifications come quite late and Pakistan needs to catch up with the developments made by other countries that have already integrated the fight against torture in their legislation.

It is a big challenge for the country, but it must be seen as a great opportunity for deep much-needed changes. Law-enforcement agencies and the Army must be educated on these two international treaties and on the fundamental rights they promote.

The government will have to show a great political will to put an end to the heinous crime that is torture. Aside from legislative reforms, adequate funding must be provided to law-enforcement agencies and courts of justice. The military intelligence agencies must be placed under civilian control. An effective system of protection of victims and witnesses must be implemented. The fight against torture also requires a deep reform of the Pakistani policing system. Citizens and the civil society finally have a role to play in this fight by denouncing the use of torture and monitoring the government's actions against it. These are some of the recommendations that can be made to change, not only the legislation of Pakistan regarding torture, but also the practices and the mindset of the people and thus definitively put an end to impunity and torture in Pakistan.

The most important responsibility that arises from the ratification of the two UN instruments is to bring the obligations into the domestic law. Several of the laws in Pakistan will need to be restudied and many legal amendments will have to make to the country's laws in order to bring them into conformity with the undertakings of these two instruments. Of primary importance are the obligations to the protection of life. It is a well known fact that due to various conflicts that persist in the country in the recent decades the level of extrajudicial killings has increased enormously. Therefore one of the primary obligations of the state now is to find ways to ensure accountability in all matters relating to the protection of the right to life, particularly regarding the prevention of extrajudicial killings. The means by which this obligation should be carried out will be the pivotal point around which the new obligations ratified by the signing of these documents should be discussed.

The Asian Human Rights Commission welcomes the ratification of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention against Torture, Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment by the President of Pakistan. This is a very important step in the struggle of the human rights of all the citizens of the country. We therefore urge that all officers of the state and civil service, the police and the military be given the opportunities for education on these two human rights instruments.



VIDEOS ABOUT TORTURE

YouTube videos on torture by the police and Army in open places

http://www.dailymotion.com/video/xaodvt_video-shows-pakistan-army-abuse_news

<http://vidpk.com/38674/Chiniot-Police-Torture-Chitar-Kahani-1/>

<http://vidpk.com/2016/Pakistani-police-torture/>

<http://vidpk.com/23492/Police-torture--brutality-at-extreme--A-Special-Report/>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VQ4eQbAloOw>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mVBHhL66Yx4&feature=related>

Police injure the eyes of a young man during torture in Lahore, capital of Punjab province:

http://vidpk.com/view_video.php?vid=2014

A lady doctor was torture in a women police station while male officers watch:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TqO0CoMmTNs&NR=1>

Police investigation in private torture places;

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D3-1L0khh0c&feature=related>

<http://vidpk.com/38674/Chiniot-Police-Torture-Chitar-Kahani-1/>