

## Questions for reflection

The following questions were presented to the participants of the Seventh Human Rights Folk School held by the Asian Human Rights Commission (AHRC) in August 2007. They are an attempt to pose issues of human rights in a practical manner that resonates with the lives and dilemmas faced by thousands on a daily basis.

1. When there is no rice in the bowl can you eat the bowl instead? When there is no justice in courts, of what use is the law? Of what use is a wig to a judge when wit has left him? Of what use is a lawyer when justice does not exist and wit has left the judges?
2. Does a confession extracting officer become a law enforcement officer simply because he wears the uniform of the force that employs him?
3. Does a paltry amount of financial compensation amount to redress for forced disappearances, torture, extrajudicial killings, burning of houses and other similar acts?
4. How much must a victim be willing to pay in terms of time, money, emotional distress and the bearing of threats to life and limb in order to obtain justice?