



Zimbabwe
HUMAN RIGHTS
N G O F o r u m

POLITICAL VIOLENCE REPORT

September 2007

9 November 2007

A report by the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum

OVERVIEW

After promises of changing the political environment especially in recognition of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) mediation initiative between the ZANU PF and the two MDCs, politically motivated violence, and use of force by state security agents in Zimbabwe continued in September albeit at reduced levels compared to August 2007. In separate responses to the concerns raised by civil society and the MDC on politically motivated violence, the Government of Zimbabwe (GoZ) through the Minister of Home Affairs, Kembo Mohadi¹ and President Mugabe,² noted that any allegations of violence after the 11 March 2007 incidents were false. However, the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum (Hereinafter The Forum) contends that the year 2007 has been the worst and evidence to corroborate these allegations is available. In April 2007, the Forum recorded 10 cases of torture. In May there were a total of 373 cases of politically motivated human rights violations. June and July were marked with high numbers of forceful dispersion of demonstrators by the police leading to unlawful arrests and detentions.

In this report the Forum notes that the month of September was characterised by a systematic wave of human rights violations against various groups of citizens agitating for attention from the GoZ on a myriad of issues concerning inter alia, the provision of education, the need for a people driven constitution and other issues linked to economic and social rights. The Forum strongly believes that the issues for which people are advocating are not in any way criminal and the people who represent such constituencies deserve to be heard by the GoZ.

This report records that in the month of September there were 29 cases of violations on the freedoms of association, expression and movement. A total of 86 cases were recorded for unlawful arrest and detention against citizens who were demonstrating, attending meetings or simply belonging to an organisation that was deemed to be propagating information considered to be criminal by the police. Some of these violations were perpetrated against members of the ZCTU who had planned on holding a 2-day stay away on 19 and 20 September to protest a proclamation by President Mugabe that there would be a salary and wage freeze in 2007.

The Forum notes with deep concern the continued harassment, intimidation and torture of students in higher and tertiary education institutions by state security agents acting in concert with security officers from the different institutions. This report also details the level of victimisation that students' institutions

¹ See The Herald, Thursday 25 October 2007 at 1. Mohadi is reported to have said that the allegations made by the MDC were all hearsay and there seemed to be nothing of substance in them.

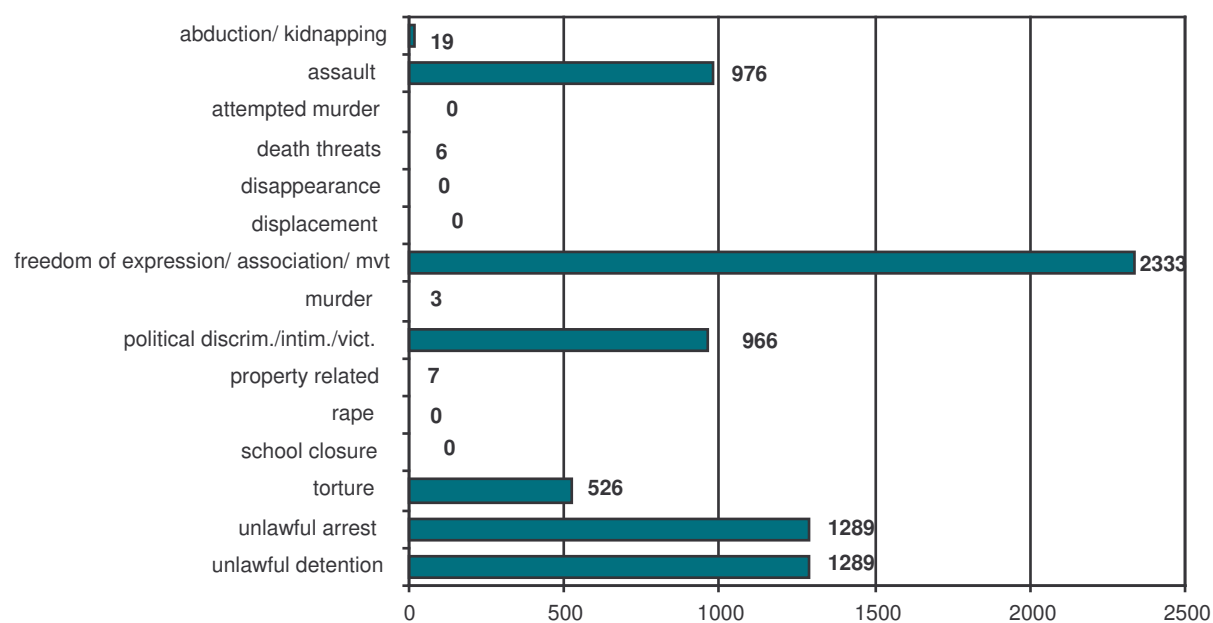
² See The Saturday Herald 27 October 2007 at 1.

of higher and tertiary learning continue to endure for questioning the GoZ on such issues as the availability, accessibility and quality of education in Zimbabwe.

Totals: 1 September – 30 September 2007



Cumulative Totals: 1 January – 30 September 2007



The graph should be read along with the table depicting the monthly totals of violations for September 2007 on page 16.

Key Abbreviations

AIPPA – ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT	WOZA - WOMEN OF ZIMBABWE ARISE
CIO – CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE ORGANISATION	ZANU PF – ZIMBABWE AFRICAN NATIONAL UNION PATRIOTIC FRONT
MDC – MOVEMENT FOR DEMOCRATIC CHANGE	ZCTU – ZIMBABWE CONGRESS OF TRADE UNIONS
MP – MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT	ZNA – ZIMBABWE NATIONAL ARMY
NAGG - NATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE	ZPS – ZIMBABWE PRISON SERVICE
NCA – NATIONAL CONSTITUTIONAL ASSEMBLY ASSOCIATION	ZRP – ZIMBABWE REPUBLIC POLICE
OVT – ORGANISED VIOLENCE AND TORTURE	ZNLWVA – ZIMBABWE NATIONAL LIBERATION WAR VETERANS ASSOCIATION
POSA – PUBLIC ORDER AND SECURITY ACT	ZIMTA – ZIMBABWE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
PTUZ – PROGRESSIVE TEACHERS UNION OF ZIMBABWE	ZUPCO – ZIMBABWE UNITED PASSENGER COMPANY
UMP – UZUMBA MARAMBA PFUNGWE	

Sources: The information contained in this report is derived from statements made to the Public Interest Unit of the Zimbabwe Human Rights Forum, its members and statements taken by a network of human rights activists and newspaper reports,

Notes to the tables:

Torture:

All cases of torture fall under the definition of torture according to the general definition given in the United Nations Convention against Torture and Other Forms of Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment and Punishment.

The four elements of torture are:

- 1 **Severe** pain and suffering, whether physical or mental
- 2 **Intentionally** inflicted
- 3 With a **purpose**
- 4 By a state official or another individual acting with the **acquiescence of the state**.

Those individuals referred to in point # 4 as state officials include the ZRP, ZNA,

Unlawful arrest and detention:

Arrest by the Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) with no reasonable suspicion that an offence has been committed. Detention thereafter for a period exceeding 48 hours without access to redress through the courts or subsequent release without charge.

Abduction/kidnapping:

A kidnapping by a member(s) of an organised group that is not the ZRP, ZNLWVA, ZNA, ZPS and the ZNLWVA (as a reserve force of the ZNA).

Disappearance:

Kidnapped persons whose whereabouts remained unknown at the time of reporting.

Property related

These are incidents in which property rights have been violated. This includes arson, property damage and destruction and theft.

Cases of Political Violence

Note: *The identities of victims whose names have not been published in the press and are not public officials are protected. This is done in order to protect the victim from further violence, intimidation and possible recriminatory attacks.*

The purpose of this report is to record the nature of the politically motivated violence and intimidation that continues to prevail in the country. The Monthly Political Violence Reports are primarily based on victims' accounts, accompanied by medical evidence where possible, obtained from member organisations of the Forum and other partner organisations. Use is also made of press reports.

The Report cannot be considered as the exhaustive record of all incidents of politically motivated violence in Zimbabwe in the period under review. Nevertheless, every incident reported to the Human Rights Forum directly or through its members is meticulously documented and included in the reports. Care is also taken to record the incidents in the language in which they were reported to the Forum.

The situation prevailing in the country is such that it has not been possible to verify all of these accounts. The Forum has done what it can to verify the reports, and is satisfied that the vast majority of them are substantially true. It is also not possible to rule out whether a victim's account is exaggerated or contains inaccuracies.

All reports derived from the press are denoted with the symbol Σ

Bulawayo

Bulawayo North-East

18 September 2007

Magodonga Mahlangu, a member of WOZA was arrested by members of the ZRP Law and Order Section whilst shopping in the city centre in Bulawayo. She was subsequently detained for one night at Bulawayo Central Police Station. Two other members of WOZA, Rosemary Siziba and Sitshiyiwe Ngwenya, were arrested on the same day in Bulawayo. The two were allegedly picked up from their homes at night. Rosemary Siziba was with her one and half year old daughter. It is alleged that Mahlangu was threatened with death whilst in Bulawayo Central Police Station. All the three women were charged under the Criminal Law (Codification and Reform) Act – Section 140 - *malicious damage to property* and section 143 (b) – *the crime of malicious damage to property or negligently causing serious damage to property*. The police reportedly charged the victims with marking roads in

Bulawayo with inscriptions such as 'choose love over hate', a campaign which WOZA has been undertaking. However, the victims argued that there was no reasonable evidence to link them to the alleged crime.

HARARE

Harare Central

05 September 2007

The victim reports that he was arrested at Albion/Mbuya Nehanda Commuter bus rank while calling out for passengers to board his commuter bus by close to six plain - clothes police officers who forced him and 20 other of his colleagues into a commuter omnibus. The police officers reportedly told them they had been arrested for touting for passengers. The group was driven to Harare Central Police Station where the male victim was forced to remove his shoes, handcuffed and assaulted with a shambock. He was later forced to squat with his head on the floor but he could not due to the injuries he had sustained during the assault. He was detained for two days and released on a \$40 000 fine.

Zimonline, 15 September 2007

Harare Central

14 September 2007

Σ. Police reportedly broke up a peaceful demonstration by members of an organisation called *the Restoration of Human Rights Zimbabwe (ROHR Zim)* in Harare Central Business District. The police reportedly assaulted eleven members of the group before they were taken to Harare Central Police Station. Other members of the group, who were part of the demonstration, managed to flee thus avoiding arrest. The group was demonstrating against the worsening economic situation in the country.

Zimonline, 19 September 2007

18 September 2007

Σ. Members of the ZRP reportedly raided the offices of the ZCTU at Charter House in Harare on the eve of a mass job action for which the trade union body had called on 19 and 20 September. The police were reportedly looking for the Union's Secretary General Wellington Chibebe for questioning on the proposed job action. Three other ZCTU members, Wilson Gambanje, Charles Chikozho and Isaac Tebetebe were reportedly arrested that same morning.

20 September 2007

Memory Kadau, an intern with the lobby group *Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition*, was arrested whilst manning the Coalition's stand at the Non Governmental Organization (NGO) Expo held in the Harare Gardens from 19 – 22 September. She was arrested around 15:50 hours and spent the whole night in cells at Harare Central Police Station and was released the following afternoon. Kadau was arrested by three plain - clothes police officers from the Harare Central Police Station's Law and Order Section.

They accused her of distributing material that denigrated President Robert Mugabe. The police also accused the Crisis Coalition of allegedly abusing the late national hero and Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army Chief, General Josiah Magama Tongogara by using his pre-independence speech on free and fair elections on the organisation's banner. The police confiscated the banner and other materials of the Coalition and took them to Harare Central Police Station. Kadau was reportedly subjected to intensive interrogations and the police officers threatened to beat her up if she failed to disclose the whereabouts of the Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition's leadership.

Zimonline, 1 October 2007

28 September 2007

Σ.A journalist, James Jemwa and two actors Antony Tongani and Slyvvanos Mudzova were reportedly arrested in Harare at the Theatre in the Park during the performance of a political satire entitled *Final Push*. The title of the play is taken from the opposition MDC's planned protest march in 2003, which was thwarted by the police. Two plain - clothes police officers, who were in the audience at the beginning of the play, allegedly went back stage midway through the play and dragged the two actors to a waiting police truck. The journalist who was filming the play was also arrested after he went backstage to enquire about the commotion there. The three were reportedly detained at Harare Central Police Station for two days.

SW Radio Africa, 28 September 2007

28 September 2007

Σ.It is reported that Raymond Majongwe, received death threats from suspected CIO agents for calling for a teachers' strike that went on for close to three weeks. Majongwe, who heads the *Progressive Teachers Union of Zimbabwe (PTUZ)*, was reportedly threatened at his home and has received threatening telephone calls from strangers. On the night in question, Majongwe allegedly received a phone call from a male voice on a mobile number warning him that his death was imminent. Apparently Majongwe's wife and children have also received threats from unknown people since the strike commenced.

Harare North

5 September 2007

Shadreck Vengesai, a University of Zimbabwe (UZ) student, was arrested on campus for distributing fliers encouraging students to demonstrate against the University administration over the accommodation crisis at the UZ. He was detained at Avondale Police Station and released on the same day.

18 September 2007

Two student leaders from the University of Zimbabwe, Lovemore Chinoputsa (Students Representative Council President) and Fortune Chamba (SRC Legal and Academic Affairs Secretary),

were arrested after addressing students and protesting the refusal by the Vice Chancellor Professor Levy Nyagura to abide by a court order ordering him to reinstate the students in their halls of residence. The two student leaders were detained overnight at Avondale Police Station before being taken to Harare Central Police Station Law and Order Section where they were finally released after being warned to desist from the activities for which they had been arrested.

ZimOnline, 24 September 2007

Hatfield

22 September 2007

Σ. Suspected ZANU PF youths reportedly assaulted and harassed the residents of Epworth in a bid to force them to attend a ZANU PF meeting which was being held in the area. Furthermore, a commuter omnibus that was ferrying commuters home was reportedly stopped by the youths and the commuters were coerced into attending the ZANU PF meeting. Commuters who refused to comply were reportedly assaulted by the youths. It is also reported that shops in the area were forced to close for the day as the ZANU PF youths also assaulted shoppers in the local stores.

The Financial Gazette, 20-26 September 2007

Kuwadzana

13 September 2007

Σ. Members of the ZNA attached to the Price Control Task Force, reportedly assaulted and harassed vendors and residents who were at the Kuwadzana 4 shopping centre. It is alleged that a number of families had to flee their homes as the soldiers followed them there. One of the identified victims, a 70 - year old pensioner, Mr Kambadza was allegedly assaulted by the soldiers on allegations that he was selling bread at the black market price outside his home. The army officers reportedly confiscated goods from the vending stalls after the owners had fled.

Zimonline, 18 September 2007

Mbare

17 September 2007

Σ. Tennyson Muchepfa, Michael Kandukutu and Mucheni all members of the ZCTU were reportedly assaulted and arrested by suspected CIO officers in the Workington industrial area of Harare. . The three were picked up whilst distributing fliers that were advertising the proposed ZCTU stay away on 19 and 20 September. They were taken to Mbare Police Station and later on transferred to Harare Central Police Station where they were kept in police custody. The victims were reportedly denied access to food and legal representation

MANICALAND

The Financial Gazette, 20-26 September 2007

September 2007

Σ. It is reported that members of the CIO threatened workers at Border Timber Limited (BTL) as well as workers at Karina Textiles (KT) with unspecified action if they participated in the ZCTU proposed stay away. The state agents allegedly convened and addressed the workers of the two companies in Mutare and warned them not to take part in the proposed strike. At BTL the state security agents are reported to have met with the company management and instructed them to censure any of their employees who heeded the calls for the stay away. The company's management responded by issuing a memorandum stating that disciplinary action would be taken against any employee who participated in the stay away. The workers at BTL and KT have reportedly shown solidarity with ZCTU in the past.

MASHONALAND CENTRAL

Zimonline, 7 September 2007

Chiweshe

07 September 2007

Σ. Grain Marketing Board (GMB) officials, together with some members of the National Youth Service reportedly forced some residents of Chiweshe communal lands to sell their maize to the GMB at below market rates. It is alleged that the National Youth Service members and GMB officers raided some homes in the communal area demanding that the villagers sell their surplus grain to the GMB. The Chiweshe area had a better harvest than most parts of the country where rains were erratic. The villagers were reportedly selling their maize to private buyers who were offering nearly three times more than the GMB.

MASVINGO

Zimonline, 2 October 2007

Gutu North

25 September 2007

Σ. Tecla Mumbengegwi, the wife of Zimbabwe's Finance Minister Samuel Mumbengegwi faces murder charges after being accused of leading a group of soldiers that fatally assaulted a Masvingo villager for allegedly stealing from the Minister's farm. She was arrested with about 10 soldiers based at 42 Infantry Battalion in Gutu who were her alleged accomplices in the assault that led to the villager's death. The soldiers were remanded in police custody. Mumbengegwi, who had earlier reported to the police that property from her farm near Mupandawana Growth Point had been stolen, reportedly enlisted the soldiers' help after complaining of slow progress in the police investigations.

Angered by the slow pace of the investigations, Mumbengegwi reportedly teamed up with the soldiers and collected the suspect from his home before taking turns to beat him up.

Masvingo Central

13 September 2007

Great Zimbabwe University student Ogylive Makoya was arrested at the University campus and detained for three days at Masvingo Central Police Station. The student had been on the police's wanted list after disturbances that occurred on campus during the orientation week. He was accused of being part of the group of students who assaulted a student aligned to the *Zimbabwe Congress of Students Union (ZICOSU)* a grouping that is allegedly linked to ZANU PF during orientation.

SW Radio Africa, 27 October 2007

25 September 2007

Σ. Suspected ZANU PF supporters reportedly assaulted Masvingo residents indiscriminately prior to the MDC's 8th year Anniversary celebrations in the city. It is alleged that Masvingo South Zanu PF legislator Walter Mzembi, was responsible for organising the groups of ZANU PF supporters that carried out the assaults. The attacks are reported to have been aimed at deterring the Masvingo residents from attending a public meeting that had been organised by the Youth Forum at the Charles Austin Theatre.

Zimonline, September 2007

28 September 2007

Σ. It was reported that ZNA officers and CIO officers overseeing food aid distribution were allegedly denying food to opposition supporters as punishment for not backing the ruling ZANU PF party. State security agents that were deployed at the Grain Marketing Board (GMB)'s depots countrywide had reportedly taken over the vetting of beneficiaries with known opposition supporters denied food aid. It is reported that some opposition supporters in Masvingo were turned away at GMB depots and told to go and get food from the MDC.

28 September 2007

Suspected ZANU (PF) youths allegedly disrupted a public meeting organised by the Youth Forum in Masvingo. Hordes of ZANU (PF) youths are said to have invaded Charles Austin Theatre Hall at around 16:00 hours when the Vice President of the *Zimbabwe National Students Union (ZINASU)*, Gideon Chitanga was delivering his address. The youths, who are members of the *Zimbabwe Congress of Students Union (ZICOSU)*, a government aligned student's body started hurling abuse and insults at Chitanga before ordering everyone out of the hall. The police then arrested 11 youths who were attending the meeting including Maddock Chivasa (NCA Spokesperson) who was also one of the speakers, Edson Hlatshwayo (Great Zimbabwe University Student Executive Council Secretary General) and Wellington Zindove, (Programmes Coordinator of the Youth Forum) who were the organisers of the public meeting. The 11 arrested were detained at Masvingo Central Police Station over - night. The following morning 8 of them were released without any charges. The other three Chivasa, Hlatshwayo and Zindove, remained in custody. Chivasa was facing charges of undermining

police authority while Hlatshwayo was being held on allegations that he had assaulted college guards two weeks earlier. Wellington Zindove was held on allegations that he had organised a platform to attack the government. Masvingo police had cleared this meeting under the provisions of POSA.

29 September 2007

Police in Masvingo arrested two student leaders from Great Zimbabwe University. The two, Whitlow Mugwiji, (President of Great Zimbabwe University) and Courage Ngwarai, (SRC member) who had spent 3 nights in police cells the previous week were arrested after skirmishes with the campus security. Whitlow Mugwiji was charged with trespassing, whilst Courage Ngwarai was charged with malicious injury to property. They were detained at Masvingo Central Police Station. The skirmishes started when the security guards threatened the student leaders with violence, apparently because they were coming from a ZINASU meeting, which was discussing the cadetship program. The two were in the company of other general council members from the *Zimbabwe National Students Union (ZINASU)* when the chaos ensued. The other student leaders, who included Mehluli Dube and Zwelithini Viki, escaped but were briefly detained after they had taken food to their incarcerated colleagues. All the arrested were later released.

MATEBELELAND SOUTH

Gwanda North

29 September 2007

Plain - clothes officers, from the Law and Order Section of the ZRP arrested the *National University of Science and Technology (NUST)* SRC Vice President Mehluli Dube and subsequently charged him with treason whilst attending an All Stakeholders Constitutional Conference at the Trade Fair Grounds in Bulawayo. The charges of treason stem from alleged subversive statements Dube reportedly made at a Crisis Coalition meeting held in Gwanda.

MIDLANDS

Gweru urban

11 September 2007

The male victim reports that he was assaulted by members of the army, police and ZANU PF supporters while drinking at Senga Beer hall. He reports that he was assaulted because he played a song on his portable radio that was said to have denigrated the person of the President of Zimbabwe, Robert Mugabe. He believes he was also assaulted because the assailants found some MDC cards on him. The victim was reportedly dragged out of the bar and further assaulted by a group of about 5 men before being taken to Senga Police Sub Post. The police officers reportedly transferred the victim

to Gweru Central Police Station but he lost consciousness on the way. When he regained consciousness a few hours later he had been dumped by the police along the Harare highway.

	MAIN EVENTS 2007
January	State security agents allegedly go on a rampage assaulting, torturing and shooting at illegal diamond miners near Marange in Manicaland. The ZRP anti - riot squad violently disrupts a demonstration of close to 500 NCA members. 8 Christian Alliance members are arrested and harassed by members of the ZRP at the launch of the Christian Alliance Kadoma Chapter. Arnold Tsunga (Director of Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights and Acting Secretary of the Law Society of Zimbabwe) is arrested and interrogated by CIO operatives at the Harare International Airport on his return from the World Social Forum in Kenya.
February	Police impose a ban on “political gatherings” Students, WOZA, NCA and the MDC hold a number of demonstrations separately against tertiary fee hikes, for “love” and against violence; for a new Constitution and for elections to be held in 2008 rather than 2010 respectively Raymond Majongwe and other PTUZ leaders are arrested as teachers protest against their low salaries. Suspected MDC supporters allegedly assault police at Ximex Mall in Harare and angry vendors assault Municipal police officers. St Mary’s (Harare) widows and elderly women are assaulted by the police as they demonstrate against high rentals and high water bills. The MDC attempts to hold a star rally in Highfield at Zimbabwe Grounds on 18 February 2007 but the rally is dispersed by police.
March	Save Zimbabwe Campaign attempts to hold a prayer meeting on 11 March in Highfield. The riot police who use brute force on civic leaders and others who intended to participate thwart the meeting. Gift Tandare dies after being shot by the police on 11 March at the aborted prayer meeting in Highfield Following the violence on 11 March, widespread assaults and abductions ensue mainly perpetrated against human rights defenders, MDC supporters and leadership, reportedly by state security agents. Officers from the CID raid ZCTU offices on 13 March ahead of a planned stay away. Nelson Chamisa, MDC MP for Kuwadzana, is severely assaulted at the Harare International Airport on his way to attend a meeting of the ACP – EU in Brussels A memorial service for Gift Tandare is held on 27 March in Borrowdale. Last Maengahama, Deputy Secretary for Local Government in the Tsvangirai led faction of

	the MDC, is abducted in Borrowdale and dumped in Mutorashanga by suspected state agents after attending a memorial service for Gift Tandare on 27 March. Police cordon off much of the central business district of Harare as they conduct a raid at the MDC headquarters on 28 March. 80 people, including senior MDC officials, are arrested during the raid.
April	82 WOZA members are arrested for protesting against incessant power cuts by the Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority in Bulawayo's High Density suburbs. Levison Chikafu, a Prosecutor in Mutare, is detained for six hours at Mutare Central Police Station. He is questioned over his alleged acceptance of a bribe from a jailed murderer and granting bail to undeserving suspects. It is suspected that he was being victimised for prosecuting the Minister of Justice. Two National University of Science and Technology (NUST) students, Trust Nhubu and Valencio Jachi, are reportedly abducted and tortured by suspected CIO operatives in Bulawayo on 19 April. The Chivi North legislator and the former Masvingo Governor, Josiah Hungwe as well as other ZANU PF members, are reportedly injured following a skirmish between the two ZANU PF factions that were contesting in the ZANU PF Masvingo Provincial Elections.
May	Alec Muchadehama and Andrew Makoni (lawyers) are arrested by the police and held in detention being denied access to lawyers, food and families. Jonathan Samkange (a lawyer) is arrested by the police for allegedly having connived with a witness in a case he is handling. Scores of students at the University of Zimbabwe are arrested, assaulted and brutalised by the University's security agents and the police. The police disperse students at the National University of Science and Technology (NUST) in Bulawayo. Members of the Law Society of Zimbabwe, gathered outside the High Court in Harare to proceed to the Ministry of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs with a petition protesting the arrest of two of their colleagues, are dispersed by the police and some assaulted with baton sticks. Later, their President, Beatrice Mtetwa and four others are savagely assaulted by the police in a field near the city.
June	MDC activists who had been incarcerated for almost 72 days are released on free bail on 7 June Arthur Mutambara, the leader of the other MDC faction's passport is taken away by police. Bans on political rallies and gatherings are lifted in Harare on 29 June The world commemorates International Day Against Torture on 26 June 9 People are arrested and tortured in relation to an alleged foiled coup plot
July	About 267 NCA activists are detained and arbitrarily beaten up country wide as they

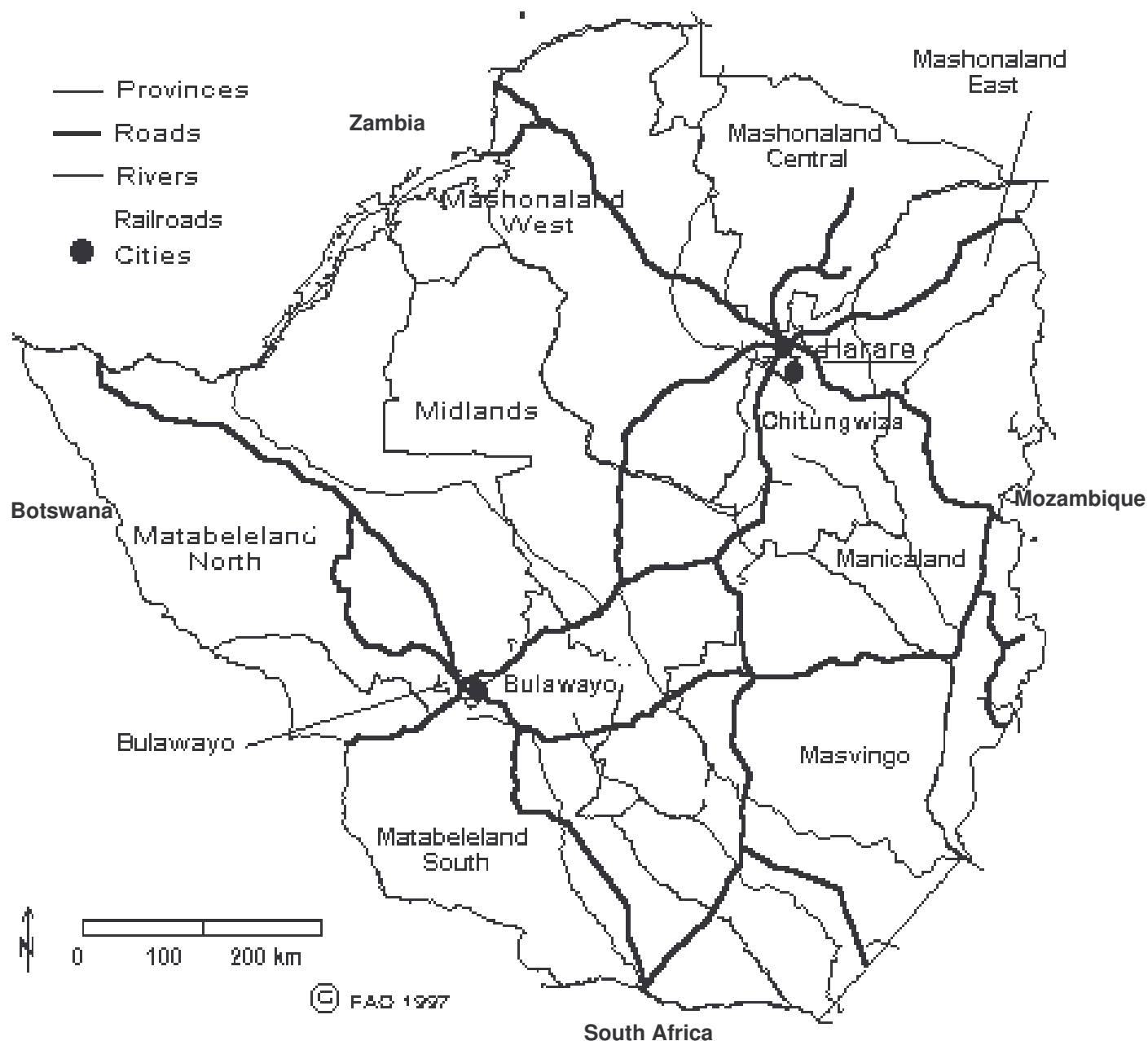
	demonstrate against Constitutional Amendment (No 18) Bill on 25 July. Armed police officers assault and arrest students from the University of Zimbabwe following demonstrations against fees top up on 7 July. Furthermore, resident students are evicted from campus and sleep in the cold after they are left stranded. The University of Zimbabwe Vice – Chancellor, Levy Nyagura suspends 26 students for allegedly inciting students to demonstrate and engaging in riotous behaviour.
August	A 62 - member delegation of the Southern African Peoples' Solidarity Network (SAPSN) traveling to Lusaka, Zambia, for the SADC Peoples' Summit is turned back by the Zambian immigration authorities at the Chirundu Border Post. The Zambian authorities then hands over the Zimbabwean civil society activists to the Zimbabwean police who detain and harass 40 of the victims at Chirundu Police Post. Clever Bere, National University of Science and Technology Students Representative Council President is arrested and tortured at Bulawayo Central Police Station on 6 August 2007. Police reportedly round up close to 100 commuter omnibus drivers and their assistants in Harare on 29 August 2007 before assaulting them for defying a government directive to reduce fares On 6 August it is alleged that members of the Zimbabwe National Army brutalised women and children in the high-density suburb of Dzivaresekwa in Harare for vending. More than 70 uniformed soldiers went on a rampage, assaulting villagers and looting goods in Esigodini, Matabeleland South on 8 August after some of their colleagues had been involved in a scuffle during a drunken brawl in the village. A journalist from the Standard was reportedly abducted and held captive by suspected ZANU PF supporters in Gutu, Masvingo on suspicions of spying for the US based Studio 7 news station. It is alleged that armed police and CIO officers barred members of the MDC who wanted to attend the memorial service of the late MDC National Chairperson, Isaac Matongo on 11 August in Masvingo.
September	Police arrest 11 Members of Restoration of Human Rights Zimbabwe (ROHR Zim) in Harare on 14 September. ZCTU organises a stay - away on 19 and 20 September. The stay - away protested the Presidential Proclamation on salary and wage freezes. The NGO Expo is held from 19 – 22 September. Memory Kadau, the Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition intern, is arrested whilst manning the organisation's stand at the Expo. MDC holds its 8th year Annivesary celebrations in Masvingo on 28 September. Masvingo residents are assaulted by ZANU PF supporters prior to the celebrations. The wife of Zimbabwe's Minister of Finance, Tecla Mumbengegwi, allegedly takes part in the assault and resultant murder of a vilager accused of stealing from the Minister's farm.

The table below and the graphs on page 4 above depict the number of violations committed on the persons whose circumstances are described in the report. One individual may have been subjected to many violations and thus appear under several categories of violations.

Monthly totals of human rights violations from 1 January 2007 to 30 September 2007

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Total
Abduction/ kidnapping	0	0	8	2	1	0	1	7	0	19
Assault	45	183	128	68	43	14	176	103	16	776
Attempted murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Death threats	0	2	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	6
Disappearance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Displacement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Freedom of expr/ass/mvt	553	294	597	125	167	201	296	71	29	2333
Murder	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Political Discrim/ intim/vict	1	294	597	10	16	17	15	11	5	966
Property related	0	0	3	0	1	1	1	0	1	7
Rape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
School closure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Torture	4	82	168	10	51	13	180	17	1	526
Unlawful arrest	16	278	203	51	47	207	275	169	43	1289
Unlawful detention	16	278	203	51	47	207	275	169	43	1289
Monthly Totals	636	1411	1909	318	373	660	1219	547	140	7214

ADMINISTRATIVE MAP OF ZIMBABWE



The **Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum** (also known as the “Human Rights Forum”) is a coalition comprising 17 member organisations. It has been in existence since January 1998 when non-Governmental organisations working in the field of human rights joined together to provide legal and psychosocial assistance to the victims of the Food Riots of January 1998.

The Human Rights Forum has now expanded its objectives to assist victims of organised violence, using the following definition:

“Organised violence” means the inter-human infliction of significant avoidable pain and suffering by an organised group according to a declared or implied strategy and/or system of ideas and attitudes. It comprises any violent action, which is unacceptable by general human standards, and relates to the victims’ mental and physical well-being.”

The Human Rights Forum operates a Research and Documentation Unit and offers legal services to assist victims of organised violence and torture claim compensation from perpetrators through its Public Interest Unit.

Member organisations of the Human Rights Forum are:

- Amnesty International (Zimbabwe) (AI (Z))
- Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace (CCJP)
- Gays and Lesbians of Zimbabwe (GALZ)
- Human Rights Trust of Southern Africa (SAHRIT)
- Legal Resources Foundation (LRF)
- Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA)
- Media Monitoring Project of Zimbabwe (MMPZ)
- Nonviolent Action and Strategies for Social Change (NOVASC)
- Transparency International (Zimbabwe) (TI (Z))
- Women of Zimbabwe Arise (WOZA)
- Zimbabwe Association for Crime Prevention and the Rehabilitation of the Offender (ZACRO)
- Zimbabwe Association of Doctors for Human Rights (ZADHR)
- Zimbabwe Civic Education Trust (ZIMCET)
- Zimbabwe Human Rights Association (ZimRights)
- Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights (ZLHR)
- Zimbabwe Peace Project (ZPP)
- Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association (ZWLA)

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