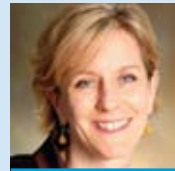


**Message from Ellen Dorsey
Amnesty International USA's
Chair, Board of Directors**



As we look at the magnitude of suffering around the world, it seems impossible to see how individuals can change the systems of oppression that create human rights violations, war and discrimination on a mass scale. Yet, quite simply, surrendering to this sense of powerlessness is what enables human rights violations to occur.

Through my work at Amnesty, first as a volunteer, then a staff member and now the Board Chair, I have received an incredible education on how, collectively and individually, Amnesty International members like you make an impact on people's lives.

This year, Amnesty International USA staff, activists and members mounted a massive campaign to stop the execution of Troy Davis, a Georgia death row inmate whose trial exposed deep flaws in the criminal justice system.

Even in Sudan, an almost unimaginable human rights catastrophe, Amnesty is making a difference. Our global call for protection for the people of Darfur helped secure United Nations' authorization of a peacekeeping force 26,000 strong. Amnesty has also pressed China, Sudan's largest foreign investor, to convince the Sudanese government to allow speedy unimpeded deployment of the peacekeepers. And we have successfully encouraged the Government of Chad to allow the UN to protect civilians in the conflict area across the border from Darfur.

Amnesty has helped free more than 50 Sudanese prisoners who were targeted by the government for speaking out. We've exposed the continuing sale of weapons to Sudan in violation of the UN arms embargo. And our Eyes on Darfur satellite tracking project is empowering people all over the world to prevent violence in endangered villages.

In the face of unprecedented challenges to the rights of individuals and to the core human rights principles you and I hold dear, Amnesty accomplished more this year than anyone could have expected. It's because of people like you, who invest your time and energy to protect men, women and children who have no other advocates. On behalf of the entire Amnesty board of directors, I want to express our deepest gratitude for your commitment to human rights.

Yours truly,

AMNESTY SPEAKS OUT!
Amnesty in Action



All Photos: ©AI except where mentioned.

1. Rally held in New York for the freeing of Dr. Haleh Esfandiari.
2. Demonstration demanding the release of Karim Amer, the first Egyptian blogger to be tried for writing blogs criticizing Egypt's al-Azhar religious authorities, President Husni Mubarak and Islam.
3. Photo by David Rendell. AI student activists rallying in front of the Egyptian consulate in New York in support of LGBT rights and the Agouza 12.
4. Women marching in Afghanistan to protest violence against women.
5. Student Action Week rally in support of the *Save Darfur* campaign.
6. January 11 demonstration before the Supreme Court on the fifth anniversary of the first detentions at the Guantánamo Bay detention facility—calling for its closure.

AMNESTY ACTS!
Freed Prisoners Of Conscience

Dr. Haleh Esfandiari Allowed to Leave Iran

Dr. Haleh Esfandiari was allowed to leave Iran on September 2, 2007. Head of the Middle East Program at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, D.C., and a well-known advocate of dialogue between the U.S. and Iranian governments, Esfandiari was detained when she traveled to Iran to visit her elderly mother. On December 30, 2006, while on her way to the airport to return to the United States, her taxi was stopped by armed, masked men, who took both her passport and her belongings. She was then detained incommunicado from May 8 to August 21 on trumped-up charges of anti-government activities. In May, Amnesty activists began sustained pressure on Iranian authorities to free Esfandiari and in June Amnesty organized a public rally calling for her release.



Environmental Activist Released!

Sudanese prisoner of conscience Dr. Mohamed Jalal Ahmed Hashim was released from detention on August, 25, 2007. A prominent opponent of the construction of the Kajbar Dam in Sudan, Dr. Hashim was arrested on June 16. He expressed his sincere thanks to Amnesty International, explaining that so many faxes arrived that the security services holding him suspected that he was a very important person with many contacts worldwide. Since several of the faxes mentioned his diabetes, prison medical staff started to closely monitor his health.

Mesfin Woldemariam, and 37 other Ethiopian Political Prisoners Freed

On July 20 university professor and founder of the Ethiopian Human Rights Council, Mesfin Woldemariam, was freed from prison and pardoned shortly after being sentenced to a long prison sentence for speaking out and criticizing the May 2005 elections in Ethiopia. As Ethiopia's most respected human rights defender, Professor Woldemariam and his fellow defendants, including many prominent journalists and opposition party officials, refused to participate in their trial because they considered it to be a sham and politically motivated. Amnesty International USA adopted Professor Woldemariam as a Special Focus Case, and he was the subject of AIKids Summer Post Card Action.



AMNESTY REPORTS!

Maze of Injustice: The failure to protect Indigenous women from sexual violence in the USA. Indigenous women in the U.S. experience far higher levels of sexual violence than other American women, as well as a systemic failure to punish those responsible. Amnesty's groundbreaking report represents the voices of the survivors who for too long have been ignored because of both their gender and Indigenous identity. Coupled with effective advocacy work, the report launch and press coverage have led to rapid response from Congress, which held hearings in September at which AIUSA testified.

Cruel and Inhuman: Conditions of isolation for detainees at Guantánamo Bay. Approximately 385 men of around 30 nationalities are detained without charge or trial in the U.S. military base at Guantánamo Bay, Cuba. Most languish in harsh conditions, confined to mesh cages or enclosed in maximum security cells. This report describes how official investigations have revealed interrogation techniques and detention conditions that clearly violate the international prohibition on torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.

Egypt: Systematic abuses in the name of security. For most of the last 40 years, Egyptians have lived under a state of emergency, which confers wide powers on security officials to detain prisoners indefinitely. This report details the problems arising from this state of affairs, such as the systematic use of torture, rape and other ill-treatment in detention centers across Egypt, including police stations and premises run by the military and state security.

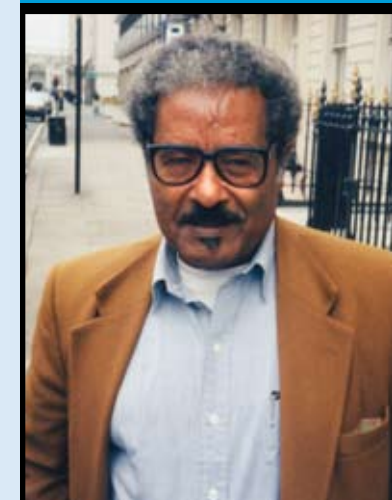
Injustice and Impunity: Mexico's flawed criminal justice system. While the Mexican government has recently shown considerable commitment to international human rights law, this Amnesty report shows that much remains to be done. The criminal justice system continues to be misused to detain and prosecute social or political activists and human rights defenders. People are detained on the basis of obviously flawed or fabricated evidence; others are denied access to legal counsel; and reports of torture are routinely dismissed or ignored by judges.

"Are we citizens of this country?": Civilians in Chad unprotected from Janjawid attacks. This report describes the unfolding crisis in eastern Chad, where Janjawid militia crossing over from Sudan, as well as local Chadian armed groups, are escalating their attacks on civilians, including rapes and killings. Urgent action is needed to protect the inhabitants of eastern Chad from attacks, a responsibility the Chadian government has been unwilling or unable to meet.



**A YEAR of
COURAGE
IN ACTION**

COVER PHOTOS (Clockwise, top left to bottom left): Recently released from prison, Ethiopian human rights defender Mesfin Woldemariam ©AI; a Burmese Monk holding a peaceful political opposition demonstration ©AI. At risk for imprisonment, Zimbabwe human rights defender Maureen Kademaunga ©AI; jailed member of the Moroccan Association for Human Rights, Abderrahim Karrad ©private; Ma Khin Khin Leh, imprisoned for holding a non-violent demonstration in Myanmar ©private.



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Amnesty International USA
2007 YEAR IN REVIEW



Message from Larry Cox Amnesty International USA's Executive Director



Around the world, the assumption that human beings have the right to live without fear and with equal access to justice is under siege from all sides. Yet, as Americans, we are particularly offended by the human rights violations “justified” by the Bush administration’s “war on terror” because these abuses are committed in **our** names.

This year, you and your fellow members of Amnesty International USA spoke up for *The America I Believe In*. We mobilized hundreds of thousands of Americans to say “no” to torture, “no” to illegal detention and secret prisons, “no” to kidnapping innocent people, and “yes” to the international human rights standards and values we hold dear.

With your support, Amnesty launched our *86 Days* campaign, a grassroots effort to close down the detention facilities at Guantánamo Bay and overturn the Military Commissions Act of 2006, which tore up *habeas corpus* for detainees in U.S. custody. This campaign continues Amnesty’s leadership in bringing the United States government back to the human rights principles that are the very foundation of peace, justice and security in the world.

In stark contrast to the failings of political will we witnessed this year, Amnesty stood in solidarity with people engaged in transformative acts of courage to advance human rights: the monks who led the peaceful protests in Burma (Myanmar), the journalists and human rights activists in China who are reporting the truth in the face of government retribution, and human rights defenders across the globe who risk their own lives to champion the most vulnerable in their societies.

The booming chorus of Amnesty’s 2.2 million members amplified the voices of these brave individuals. Your postcards, letters, e-mails, faxes and public demonstrations unlocked the darkest jail cells and freed people unjustly imprisoned. Your actions halted torture, protected women and girls from sexual violence and stopped executions.

Amnesty’s power comes from people like you, who act upon your convictions and refuse to stand by and watch in silence while our fellow human beings are murdered, tortured, imprisoned and denied the basic necessities of life, often with impunity. I am grateful that you are one of us.

Best wishes,

AMNESTY CAMPAIGNS!

DENOUNCE TORTURE—INDIVIDUALS AT RISK—INSTANT KARMA: THE CAMPAIGN TO SAVE DARFUR—STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN—ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY

Denounce Torture:

The detention facility at Guantánamo Bay and the infamous Military Commissions Act have stained America’s soul. Through our *86 Days* and *The America I Believe In* campaigns, Amnesty is standing up for an America that doesn’t torture or use cruel, inhuman treatment ... doesn’t hold people without charge, without fair trials, without hope and without end ... doesn’t kidnap people off the street and ship them to nations known for their brutality ... doesn’t use secret prisons ... and doesn’t rob people of their basic dignity. You can join our efforts by going online and signing Amnesty’s *The America I Believe In* pledge at www.tearitdown.com.

Individuals at Risk:

Amnesty International began in 1961 with a letter-writing campaign on behalf of six prisoners of conscience. Since then, work on behalf of individuals has remained the foundation of Amnesty International’s mission. Every year, Amnesty frees hundreds of men, women and children—imprisoned solely for the peaceful expression of their beliefs—from the darkest jail cells. As we do so, we raise awareness about human rights abuses affecting millions of people.

Instant Karma: The Campaign to Save Darfur:

The Amnesty International Campaign to Save Darfur is a global effort to mobilize millions of people around the

catastrophe in Darfur, Sudan. Amnesty sounded the alarm early in 2003 and 2004 and provide much of the early documentation about the human rights catastrophe unfolding in Darfur. In addition, Amnesty has worked over many years to free more than 50 prisoners who were targeted by the government for speaking out. In 2006 Amnesty launched Instant Karma—a campaign that combines the power of John Lennon’s music recorded by some of the world’s best-known artists, including U2, Green Day, and Aerosmith, together with cutting-edge forms of instant activism.

Stop Violence Against Women:

Every day, women and girls around the world are threatened, beaten, raped, mutilated and killed with impunity. Amnesty International’s 2.2 million members are working to hold governments around the world accountable for government-sanctioned and private-citizen violence against women, and to finally make women’s human rights a reality.

Abolish the Death Penalty:

Amnesty International continues to build momentum towards a world without executions. The majority of nations have now abandoned the practice, and last year executions worldwide fell significantly. Yet 25 countries continued to engage in state-sanctioned killing last year, with 91 percent of these executions occurring in just six nations, including the United States.

All Photos: ©AI



AMNESTY TIMELINE IMPORTANT HUMAN RIGHTS EVENTS IN 2007

JANUARY 12, 2007: Amnesty’s work to abolish executions scores another victory when the New Mexico House of Representatives passes a bill banning capital punishment in the state and replacing it with life in prison without parole.

JANUARY 31: Environmental defender Andrei Zatoka is released from a Turkmenistani jail after being detained by local police six weeks earlier for his peaceful work as an environmental activist.

MARCH 8: In celebration of International Women’s Day, Amnesty International USA awards the Ginetta Sagan Human Rights Award to Mexican journalist Lydia Cacho Riberio, who daily risks her own life to defend the rights of women and children in Mexico.

MARCH 21: Amnesty International USA Executive Director, Larry Cox, urges the U.S. Congress to appropriate sufficient funds for Iraqi refugees, approximately two million of whom have fled Iraq and sought sanctuary in bordering countries.

APRIL 16: Under relentless pressure from Amnesty International, the United Nations Security Council passes Resolution 1769, which will provide for nearly 20,000 troops and 6,000 police to be sent to protect civilians in Darfur, Sudan. On July 31 we took one major step toward this goal when the UNSC unanimously approved this resolution.

APRIL 26: Ahead of Colombian President Alvaro Uribe’s visit to Washington, D.C., Amnesty International makes public for the first time a list of more than 100 cases of serious human rights abuses, including massacres and enforced “disappearances,” which implicate Colombian security forces and paramilitary groups.

MAY 1: AIUSA activists and members across the country help gain the passage of a U.S. House of Representatives resolution condemning the killings of

women in Guatemala, where there have been more than 2,500 unsolved murders of women and girls since 2001.

JUNE: Amnesty International breaks new ground in protecting human rights by launching the *Eyes on Darfur* project, which uses newly acquired high-resolution commercial satellite images of Darfur to help protect 12 intact but vulnerable villages caught on the frontline of the conflict.

JUNE 12: In a historic effort to mobilize activism around the atrocities occurring in Darfur, Sudan, more than 50 international recording artists unite behind *Instant Karma: The Amnesty International Campaign to Save Darfur*.

JUNE 26: Amnesty International marks the 20th anniversary of the U.N. Convention Against Torture, celebrating its remarkable achievements in the struggle to eradicate torture, while noting that serious challenges remain.

JUNE 28: Amnesty commends the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *Panetti v. Quarterman*, which halted the execution of a man with severe schizophrenia. The verdict is another indication of the growing awareness that those with serious mental illness should be barred from the death penalty.

JULY 20: Thirty-eight political prisoners are freed from Ethiopia including Mesfin Woldemariam, Ethiopia’s most prominent human rights defender. AIUSA highlighted the cases of Professor Mesfin and others through its Special Focus Case project, undertaking intensive campaigning by Amnesty’s student and community chapters for the release of prisoners of conscience.

AUGUST 7: In a meeting with Mexican President Felipe Calderon, Amnesty International Secretary General Irene Khan calls on his government to match its rhetoric about human rights with meaningful action to protect all its citizens.

SEPTEMBER: Peaceful demonstrations increase in Burma as Buddhist monks and ordinary citizens take to the streets. Within 24 hours, Amnesty organizes a rally outside the Burmese Embassy in Washington, D.C., to allow continued peaceful demonstrations. Additionally AIUSA testifies before Congress and meets with senior State Department officials and foreign diplomatic personnel.

SEPTEMBER 27: Amnesty International USA provides a statement to the Chief Medical Panel supporting the U.S. Justice Department’s inquiry into deaths in custody of individuals subdued using Taser stun guns and similar electrical weapons. Amnesty had raised concerns about both the safety of the weapons and their potential for abuse.

OCTOBER 1: Amnesty releases a groundbreaking report, *Stop the Death Penalty: The World Decides*, which finds that we are closer than ever to a world free of executions, but standing in the way are a handful of nations that continue to engage in capital punishment.

OCTOBER 6: Amnesty International activists march across the globe in public support of the people of Burma and to send a message to Burmese authorities to release thousands of people recently detained for peaceful protest. Amnesty also urges the U.N. Security Council to immediately impose a mandatory arms embargo on Burma.

OCTOBER 17: Amnesty International USA activists nationwide rally on the first anniversary of the Military Commissions Act (MCA). The events also kick off Amnesty’s “86 Days to Guantánamo” grassroots campaign to shut down the detention facility in Guantánamo Bay and reverse the damage done by the MCA.

DECEMBER 10: More than forty branches of Amnesty International around the world participate in a Global Write-a-thon, generating tens of thousands of letters, e-mails, and faxes on behalf of individuals at risk of human rights violations.