

DIRECTORY

of **Asia-Pacific
Human Rights
Centers**

2008

Asia-Pacific Human Rights Information Center
Osaka, Japan

Directory of Asia-Pacific Human Rights Centers

2008

Asia-Pacific Human Rights Information Center

Directory of Asia-Pacific Human Rights Centers

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We launched the Directory of Asia-Pacific Human Rights Centers in late 2007 to highlight the important role that organizations, institutes, and other entities that gather and disseminate information on human rights play or should play in the field of human rights.

This Directory (with an online version) profiles the organizations, institutes, and other entities in the Asia-Pacific that perform the role of human rights centers in one way or the other. The numerous issues, programs, approaches and outputs they work on show the existence of resources that are useful for human rights protection, promotion and realization.

This Directory provides a substantive list of the human rights centers in the Asia-Pacific. Yet, it certainly does not cover all the human rights centers existing in various parts of the region. It includes human rights centers that work at various levels – community, national, regional and international.

We hope that this Directory helps focus attention to the importance of gathering and disseminating information on human rights as shown by the valuable work of the human rights centers. We hope also that this Directory opens more opportunities for people, particularly those in small communities, to make the human rights centers work for their needs and aspirations.

We thank the human rights centers profiled in this Directory for supporting the objectives of this project.

Osamu Shiraishi

Director

HURIGHTS OSAKA

ABOUT THIS DIRECTORY

The Asia-Pacific Human Rights Information Center (HURIGHTS OSAKA) created this Directory of Asia-Pacific Human Rights Centers to facilitate wider dissemination of human rights information in the region and beyond, support the development of human rights centers in the region, and provide opportunities for possible networking among them.

This Directory compiles the objectives, programs, activities, special concerns, publications, other relevant information, and the contact details of the human rights centers in the region.

In this Directory, a human rights center is defined as an institution engaged in gathering and disseminating information related to human rights. The information refers to the international human rights instruments, documents of the United Nations human rights bodies, reports on human rights situations, analyses of human rights issues, human rights programs and activities, and other human rights-related information that are relevant to the needs of the communities in the Asia-Pacific.

The human rights centers covered by this Directory are non-governmental, government-supported and university-based institutions. Many of them do not call themselves human rights centers, but they recognize their role as institutions that gather and disseminate human rights information.

Many of the human rights centers in this Directory focus on particular human rights issues (such as those relating to women, children, indigenous peoples) or limit their operation to a particular area (such as province/state or the academic community). There are also a number of human rights centers with regional or subregional character (some cover Asia-Pacific, Asia, Pacific or the subregions within them). Many are regional networks on specific human rights issues. Many have libraries or documentation/resource/information centers where materials on human rights are made available to the public (or to the members of their particular community – such as students in the case of universities). Many of their own resources (up-to-date information on human rights issues, publications, teaching/learning materials) are available in their websites.

This Directory serves as a tool that allows the “Asia-Pacific Human Rights Centers” to know which human rights centers exist, what human rights issues are covered, what programs/ initiatives are being implemented, and what human rights resources are available in the region. It facilitates the identification of areas that are not yet covered, giving motivation to create new projects. It highlights human rights research activities, formal or otherwise.

Preparing the Directory

The idea of having a Directory of Asia-Pacific Human Rights Centers arose in 2001 when HURIGHTS OSAKA explored the possibility of having a conference of human rights centers in Asia-Pacific to discuss the state of human rights research in the region, define the regional human rights research agenda, and determine the possibility of establishing a network among the human rights centers. At that time, only around fifty institutions have been identified as human rights centers. Limited logistical resources hindered the realization of this plan.

Four years later, HURIGHTS OSAKA revived this project in a more modest manner by continuing the inventory of human rights centers in the region. Printed and web-based information provided the needed data to draft profiles of various types of institutions that wholly or partially perform human rights center functions. By 2007, the number of centers in the list of HURIGHTS OSAKA rose to almost a hundred. By early 2008, another hundred institutions were identified as possible human rights centers. Now the Directory has the profile of one hundred eighty-four human rights centers.

HURIGHTS OSAKA took the time and effort to contact the human rights centers for the review of the draft profiles. This process, in a sense, constituted an initial networking with them, especially for those that HURIGHTS OSAKA has not contacted previously.

Online version

The profiles in this Directory are shorter versions of the online center profiles. The online version, launched in November 2007, has enough space to accommodate the long profiles of some centers.

The online version of the Directory has the wiki format to allow the centers to update their profiles. Profiles of unlisted centers will be uploaded as information about them become available.

The online version of this Directory is accessible through this web address: <http://hurights.pbwiki.com> or through HURIGHTS OSAKA's website (www.hurights.or.jp).

List of centers

This Directory includes all human rights centers with sufficient information on their objectives, programs, activities, special concerns, publications, other relevant information, and contact details. There is a separate list for institutions that have been identified as human rights centers but without adequate information to create a complete profile. (See appendix)

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

This Directory came about through the efforts of a number of people. HURIGHTS OSAKA acknowledges their contribution and thanks them all for their work.

Ms. Maria Rita Alfaro, who was a HURIGHTS OSAKA intern in 2005, developed the initial template for the profiles in this Directory. She put together the first draft center profiles in a common template. In 2007, another intern of HURIGHTS OSAKA, Mr. Harvey Beasley, helped develop the online version of the Directory. While HURIGHTS OSAKA was contemplating a simple directory file to be uploaded onto its website, Mr. Beasley suggested a better format, the wiki format. This led to the development of an online Directory that allows the human rights centers to correct and update their profiles online. Mr. Beasley, who also designed the online Directory, provides technical support for the maintenance of the website.

From mid-2008, HURIGHTS OSAKA received two interns who became involved in the development of the Directory. Mr. Sam Shoushi, who speaks Arabic, helped gather information on human rights centers in West Asia. He also contacted some of the West Asian human rights centers for the review of their draft profiles. The second intern, Ms. Yeseul Christeena Song, who speaks Korean, helped obtain additional information on some Korean human rights centers and reviewed the texts of the profiles prior to lay-out. Both Mr. Shoushi and Ms. Song reviewed the proof of this Directory before it went to printing.

Ms. Maria Fe Villena did the lay-out of this Directory while nursing her newborn child.

The staff of HURIGHTS OSAKA undertook the rest of the work.

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60. Center for Human Rights Studies and Advocacy, Nusa Cendana University
61. Center for Human Rights Studies, Padang State University
62. Center for Human Rights Studies and Advocacy, Riau University
63. Center for Human Rights and Terrorism Studies, Sriwijaya University
64. Center for Human Rights Studies, University of Surabaya
65. Center for Human Rights Studies, Syiah Kuala University
66. Center for Human Rights Studies, Tanjungpura University
67. Center for Law and Local Autonomy, Faculty of Law, Tadulako University
68. Center for Public Policy and Human Rights, Lampung University
69. Center for the Study of Law and Human Rights, Mularwarman University
70. Consultation Laboratory and Legal Service, Faculty of Law, Muhammadiyah University of Malang
71. The Habibie Center
72. Human Rights Center, University of Indonesia
73. Human Rights Association, Faculty of Law, Padjadjaran University
74. Human Rights Law Studies, Faculty of Law, Airlangga University
75. Imparsial, The Indonesian Human Rights Monitor
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80. Research Institute, Jakarta State University

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Iran

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82. Center for Human Rights Studies, Mofid University
83. UNESCO Chair for Human Rights, Peace and Democracy, Shahid Beheshti University

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 97. Institute for Human Rights Research and Education, Kwansei Gakuin University
 98. Institute of Human Rights Studies, Kansai University
 99. Institute for the Study of Social Justice (ISSJ), Sophia University
 100. Kyoto Human Rights Research Institute
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- 127. Informal Sector Service Center (INSEC)
- 128. South Asia Forum for Human Rights (SAFHR)

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- 136. Al Mezan Center for Human Rights
- 137. Mandela Institute for Human Rights
- 138. Palestinian Human Rights Monitoring Group (PHRMG)
- 139. The Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue & Democracy (MIFTAH)
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- 145. Coalition Against Trafficking in Women - Asia Pacific (CATW-AP)
- 146. DINTEG
- 147. Human Rights Seedbed
- 148. Institute of Human Rights (IHR)
- 149. KARAPATAN
- 150. The Legal Rights and Natural Resources Center Kasama sa Kalikasan/Friends of the Earth Philippines
- 151. National Institute for Policy Studies (NIPS)
- 152. Philippine Human Rights Information Center (PhilRights)
- 153. Psychosocial Support and Children's Rights Resource Center (PST-CRRC)
- 154. Salonga Center for Law and Development (Salonga Center)
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- 162. Law & Society Trust - Sri Lanka (LST)

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Thailand

- 168. Alternative ASEAN Network on Burma (Altsean-Burma)
- 169. Asian Coalition for Housing Rights (ACHR)
- 170. Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA)
- 171. Asian Research Center on Migration (ARCM)
- 172. Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD)
- 173. Asia-Pacific Network of People with HIV/AIDS (APN+)
- 174. Burma Issues
- 175. Committee for Asian Women (CAW)
- 176. Child Workers in Asia Foundation (CWA)
- 177. Karen Human Rights Group (KHRG)
- 178. Mekong Region Law Center (MRLC)
- 179. Office of Human Rights Studies and Social Development (OHRSD), Mahidol University

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Appendix

The Australian Human Rights Centre

The University of New South Wales

Year Established: 1986

Short Historical Background

The Australian Human Rights Centre (AHRC) is a multidisciplinary Research Institute based in the Faculty of Law at The University of New South Wales. Its predecessor, the Australian Human Rights Information Centre (AHRIC), was established in 1986 to coordinate and develop interdisciplinary teaching and research in the area of human rights, with a particular focus on Asia and the Pacific. During the first decade of its existence, the Centre organized a series of seminars, workshops, public lectures and occasional publications. In June 1995, the Human Rights Centre received funding from the Federal Attorney General's Department to establish a national human rights database and documentation centre. The Human Rights Centre was renamed the Australian Human Rights Centre to reflect the development of a national database and documentation centre.

Objectives

The AHRC aims to increase public awareness of and academic scholarship in domestic and international human rights standards, laws and procedures through research projects, education programs and publications. It will:

- undertake and facilitate interdisciplinary research projects with a particular focus on economic, social and cultural rights
- develop human rights educational initiatives by hosting workshops, seminars and conferences, co-ordinating interdisciplinary human rights teaching and internship programs and providing a forum for domestic and international scholarship and debate on contemporary human rights issues
- provide accessible information on significant human rights developments in Australia, the Asia-Pacific region and internationally, facilitate access to online human rights resources via the AHRC website and publish the Australian Journal of Human Rights, the Human Rights Defender and occasional papers and publications.

Programs

Research Initiatives

International Trade, Transnational Corporations and Human Rights Project - research exploring the interrelationship between international trade, investment and business activities (and related law and policy) and economic and social rights.

Human Rights Impacts of WTO Law - exploring two aspects of this area of concern.

The Australian Human Rights Project - research on a national approach to supporting human rights advocacy and education.

Other Research Activities

- Evolution of the UNCHR: Examination and analysis of documents relating to the establishment and evolution of the UNCHR
- Refugees' Rights: Background research for the Australian NGOs attending the Executive Meeting of the UNHCR on people movements and human rights
- The Australian Human Rights Project: Promoting human rights standards for social justice
- 'Taking Steps' Australia's Draft National Action Plan for Human Rights
- HREOC National Inquiry into Children in Immigration Detention (2002)
- Draft framework for reporting on Indigenous disadvantage: Steering Committee for the Review of Commonwealth/State Service Provision, Council of Australian Governments (2002)
- Poverty in Australia: A Focus on Indigenous Poverty
- Human Rights in Taiwan: Issues for the 21st Century
- International Protection of Refugees: Voluntary Repatriation, Non-Refoulement and Cessation
- High Court of Australia Case Note: Muin v Refugee Review Tribunal

Activities

- Maintenance of the Human Rights Documentation Center, including cataloguing of documents and investigation of installing a more accessible virtual collection of United Nations Human Rights documentation as well as documentation from other sources to provide a facility for specialised or advanced human rights study and research, consistent with its research program. The work has been carried out by student volunteers, the Centre's Interns and other volunteers.
- Development of the AHRC website <http://www.ahrcentre.org> - upgrade of the website to make the research material of the AHRC accessible and creation of links with AustLII.

Publications

- The Australian Journal of Human Rights
- Human Rights Defender

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Castan Centre for Human Rights Law

Monash University

Year Established: 2000

Short Historical Background

The Castan Centre was established by the Monash Law School in 2000 to meet the need for, and interest in, the study of human rights law, globally, regionally and in Australia. It is a non-partisan, non-profit organization named after Ron Castan AM QC (1930-1999), a tireless advocate for Indigenous Australians, and a lead counsel on the ground-breaking Mabo case and other key actions including Wik the Tasmanian Dams Case and cases protecting the right to free speech. His work exemplified the important connection between the law and the protection of human rights.

Objectives

The Castan Centre's mission is to bring together the work of national and international human rights scholars, practitioners and advocates from a wide range of disciplines (including politics, health, business, economics, international relations, development, cultural studies, social welfare and information technology, as well as law) in order to promote and protect human rights. The Centre uses research and public education to generate innovative theoretical and practical approaches to understanding and implementing the growing body of international and domestic human rights law.

Programs and Activities

The Castan Centre's activities span a wide range of education and research areas. They include:

- Research projects, including current projects covering human rights and the World Trade Organization, native title representative bodies and human trafficking, and the development of a human rights case database in conjunction with Oxford University Press
- University human rights courses, including the teaching of numerous undergraduate human rights courses and postgraduate human rights degrees (law and non-law). The LLM (Human Rights) was first offered by Monash Law School in 2006 and is the only masters-level human rights law degree in the country
- Providing opportunities for students. These include a Victorian human rights moot competition, a human rights careers lecture series and internship opportunities at the Centre and with partner organizations worldwide.
- Human rights training for international and Australian government officials. Current and past clients include the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Judicial College of Victoria, Victorian Equal Opportunities and Human Rights Commission, the Indonesian Government and the Iraq Ministry of Human Rights.
- Assistance to Aboriginal communities through the provision of legal advice.
- Community engagement through public lectures and seminars given by many international experts and

leaders (including His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Jose Ramos Horta), conferences and a human rights essay competition for secondary school students.

Special Concerns

The Castan Centre's human rights law mandate includes civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, as well as collective rights, sectoral rights, international humanitarian law, and international, comparative and domestic human rights theory, policy and practice in both public and private domains.

Publications

The many publications of its Directors and academic members include:

- The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights: Cases, Materials and Commentary, Joseph, S., Schultz, J., and Castan, M. (2nd ed) (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004).
- A Handbook on the Individual Complaints Procedures of the UN, Joseph, S., co-authored with Katie Mitchell, Linda Gyorki and Carin Benninger-Budel (Geneva: OMCT, 2006).
- Corporations and Transnational Human Rights Litigation, Joseph, S. (Oxford: Hart Publishing, 2004).
- Future Seekers II: Refugees and Irregular Migration in Australia, Crock, M., Saul, B. and Dastyari, A. (Federation Press, June 2006).
- The Refugees Convention 50 Years On: Globalisation and International Law, Kneebone, S. (ed) (Dartmouth/Ashgate - 2003)
- Commercial Law and Human Rights, Bottomley, S. and Kinley, D. (eds) (Dartmouth Publishing Co., Aldershot, 2001)
- The Castan Centre publishes a bi-annual newsletter as well as the annual publication of papers from its Human Rights Year in Review conferences.

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Centre for Asia Pacific Social Transformation Studies (CAPSTRANS)

Year Established: 1999

Short Historical Background

CAPSTRANS is an Australian Research Council Key Centre for Teaching and Research and a joint venture of the University of Wollongong and the University of Newcastle. Although the boundaries of the Asia Pacific are contested, our research focus includes East and Southeast Asia, the Pacific islands, the APEC economies and the countries of the Indian subcontinent.

Objective

CAPSTRANS aims to examine the rapid economic development and social transformation processes through innovative research by combining methods from a variety of disciplines, including political science, economics, management studies, sociology, anthropology, media studies, social history and language and literature studies.

Programs

Research Program

CAPSTRANS concentrates on five interlinked research programs to achieve an understanding of social transformation in the Asia Pacific region:

- Mobility and Exclusion
- Globalization and International Development
- Australia in the Asia-Pacific
- Culture and Representation
- Globalization and Education

Teaching program

An important feature of the Centre's work is its contribution to postgraduate teaching programs in development and social change. Students enrolled in these coursework and research degrees benefit from their interactions with internationally recognized researchers. In turn, we see these students as a vital part of the Centre's intellectual activities.

Activities

CAPSTRANS is engaged in a series of collaborative research programs on how migration and other forms of mobility have led to the exclusion of some groups from development processes, and to limited opportunities to participate in political processes. Staff and students are currently working on projects that examine formulations of identity and citizenship along border zones intersect with gender, ethnicity, class and sexuality in shaping experiences of mobility and exclusion; and processes of democratization, including human rights and women's rights activism.

Special Concerns

The Asia Pacific region offers unique insights into social transformation processes triggered by national and international development policies and their effects at local, regional and transnational levels. A full list of the current research projects is available on CAPSTRANS website.

Publications

- Communicating Conflict Multilingual Case Studies of the News Media, Elizabeth Thomson & Peter R.R. White (eds). Continuum Books. (2008)
- Hegemony: Studies in Consensus and Coercion, Richard Howson and Kylie Smith (eds). (Routledge, 2008)
- Higher Education in the Asia Pacific: Challenges for the Future, Peter Kell and Gillian Vogl (eds). (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2007)
- Medi@sia: Global Media/tion In and Out of Context, Tod Joseph Miles Holden (ed). (2006)
- Democracy and Civil Society: NGO Politics in Singapore, Terence Chong, James Gomez and Lenore Lyons (eds.) (2005)
- Journeys of desire - A study of the Balinese text Malat, Adrian Vickers (2005)
- A History of Modern Indonesia - Adrian Vickers (2005)
- Intellectual Property Harmonisation Within ASEAN and APEC: The Max Planck Series on Asian Intellectual Property Law 10, Christoph Antons, Michael Blakeney and Christopher Heath (eds). (Kluwer Law International, 2004)
- Korea's Development under Park Chung Hee: Rapid Industrialization, 1961-1979, Hyung-a Kim. Routledge (Curzon, 2004)
- A State of Ambivalence: The Feminist Movement in Singapore, Lenore Lyons. (Brill, 2004)
- Law and Development in East and Southeast Asia, Christoph Antons (ed) (2003)
- Migration in the Asia Pacific: Population, Settlement and Citizenship, Robyn Iredale, Charles Hawksley and Stephen Castles (eds). (Edward Elgar, 2003)
- Return Migration in the Asia Pacific, Robyn Iredale, Fei Guo, and Santi Rozario. (UK : Edward Elgar, 2003)
- Adult Education @ 21st Century, Peter Kell, Sue Shore and Michael Singh (eds). (Peter Lang, 2003)
- Television, Regulation and Civil Society in Asia, Philip Kitley. (London: Routledge Curzon, 2003)
- Globalization, Culture and Inequality in Asia, Timothy J. Scrase, Todd Joseph Miles Holden, and Scott Baum (eds). (Melbourne: Trans Pacific Press, 2003)

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Human Rights Council of Australia (HRCA)

Year Established: 1978

Short Historical Background

The Human Rights Council of Australia Inc. is a private non-governmental organization which promotes understanding of and respect for human rights for all persons without discrimination through adherence to the International Bill of Rights, and other human rights instruments, internationally and within Australia.

The Council was established in 1978 and for many years, under the leadership of James Dunn, has been an important link between the Australian human rights movement and human rights activists in other parts of the world. The Council is affiliated with the International League of Human Rights and has Special Consultative Status with ECOSOC.

The Human Rights Council of Australia Inc is incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1984 (N.S.W.) and is a non-profit organization

Objectives

The Council aims

1. to promote a better understanding and implementation of human rights
2. to monitor and make public the performance of governments in complying with their international human rights obligations
3. to contribute particularly to the promotion and protection of human rights in Australia and the Asian-Pacific region
4. to promote the further development of Australian policy with respect to human rights
5. to undertake such other tasks regarding developments internationally and in Australia with respect to human rights.

Programs and Activities

The Council is active in many fields and endeavors concerning the promotion of human rights in Australia and throughout the world. It has pioneered the Rights Way to Development and been instrumental in raising awareness on issues such as landmines, sports and human rights.

The Council engages in the following activities:

- a. Conducting studies and where appropriate, taking action on matters of human rights as elaborated in the International Bill of Rights
- b. Supporting and publicizing the activities of and cooperating as appropriate with individuals, networks or organizations whose aims are consistent with those of the Human Rights Council of Australia
- c. Producing and/or distributing statements, reports or other materials on human rights issues collecting and collating studies already made on particular human rights issues, evaluating and adapting them with a view to their application in Australia and the Asian-Pacific region
- d. Obtaining information on cases/situations of violation

of human rights

- e. Making representations to governments and appropriate bodies on human rights issues
- f. Engaging in and commissioning research projects, holding public meetings and seminars
- g. Promoting as appropriate the formulation and adoption of constitutions, conventions, treaties and other measures which guarantee the rights contained in the International Bill of Rights
- h. Maintaining links with the United Nations and non-governmental agencies working in the field of human rights.

Special Concerns

- The Human Rights Approach to Development
- Sport and human rights
- Indigenous Issues
- Self-determination
- Business and human rights
- Australia's commitment to human rights

Publications

- The Rights Way to Development - A Human Rights Approach to Development Assistance
- The Rights Way to Development - Manual for a Human Rights Approach to Development Assistance
- Development – Policy and Practice
- Influencing Donors: A training programme for Southern NGOs

Address

Human Rights Council of Australia, Inc.
PO Box 1071
North Sydney NSW 2059 Australia
ph (612) 9957 5200
fax (612) 9957 4063
e-mail: Patrick Earle
<http://hrca.org.au>

Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning

Year Established: 1987

Short Historical Background

The Jumbunna Aboriginal Education Centre was first established in 1987 after persistent lobbying by Aboriginal students, notably Burruga Gutya (Ken Canning) and Frances Peters. Before Jumbunna was established, Ken and Frances were the only Aboriginal students enrolled at the then NSW Institute of Technology. After just one year of operation the center's student enrolments increased to thirty. By 1993, two hundred seventy-five Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students were enrolled at the University of Technology Sydney (UTS). Initially Jumbunna was set up to provide cultural and academic support, tutorial assistance and counselling, as well as to address other student needs. Jumbunna has evolved over the years, and in 2001 was structured as an Indigenous House of Learning that supports students, promotes Australian Indigenous culture, history and philosophy across the university, and nurtures and develops Indigenous research and Indigenous researchers. Today, Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning provides cultural and academic support for Australian Indigenous students studying at UTS, and undertakes research into matters of significance to indigenous communities.

Objectives

Jumbunna aims

1. To focus on the recruitment, retention and graduation rates of Indigenous Australians
2. To support the teaching and learning issues of Indigenous students, and the promotion of Indigenous Studies within the university
3. To undertake high quality research as well as advocacy of issues of concern to the Indigenous community; and
4. To provide advice and expertise in Indigenous areas as a contribution to the UTS community, the Australian Indigenous community, and at national and international forums.

Program

Jumbunna aims to produce the highest quality research on Indigenous legal and policy issues and to develop highly skilled Indigenous researchers. Our current projects explore aspirations for Indigenous regional governance, corporate governance, the new arrangements for Indigenous policy making and program and service delivery in the post-ATSIC environment, Indigenous land issues and issues related to Indigenous people's contact with the criminal justice and legal system.

The approach to research includes consultation with the Indigenous community to identify research priorities, including engagement with a peer network and a commitment to disseminating research outcomes in a broad and accessible manner that includes publications, briefing papers and new media outcomes.

Publications

Journals

- Balayi: Culture, Law and Colonialism (Balayi) - challenges its readers and contributors to be alert to injustice in the relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians, and offers an invitation to speak about this injustice. Production of this publication will cease after Volume 10 has been distributed.
- Journal of Indigenous Policy (JIP)- provides a forum for intellectual discourse on Indigenous policy development and implementation as it affects the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Australia
- Ngiya: Talk the Law (Ngiya) - challenges its readers and contributors to make a contribution to current debates about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander legal and policy issues.

Other Information

Jumbunna is guided by and reports to a Community Advisory Committee three times a year. Its staff are active at a range of levels in community service, from sitting on Boards and Councils of major institutions to various contributions at the grassroots level. These community activities cross cultural, education, health, land, law and governance issues at federal, state, local government and community levels. Its research work is actively disseminated to the community through the Indigenous media, through the production of new media products, and through community liaison activities. The Ngiya network provides a regular forum for Indigenous peers outside the university to provide input and feedback on our research work.

Address

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ph (61-2) 95141902
Toll Free Number: 1800 064 312
fax (61-2) 95141894
e-mail: martin.nakata@uts.edu.au
www.jumbunna.uts.edu.au/index.html

Bahrain Center for Human Rights (BCHR)

Year Established: 2002

Short historical background

The Bahrain Center for Human Rights (BCHR) is a non-profit, non-governmental organization (NGO) registered with the Bahraini Ministry of Labor and Social Services since July 2002. Despite an order by the authorities in November 2004 to close it, the BCHR is still functioning after gaining wide internal and external support for its struggle to promote human rights in Bahrain. BCHR adopted a mission statement of encouraging and supporting individuals and groups to be proactive in the protection of their own and others' rights, and is struggling to promote democracy and human rights in accordance with international norms.

The twenty-six founding members include prominent doctors, lawyers, journalists, and NGO leaders (men and women). Membership in the BHRC general assembly is open for volunteers who serve more than six months at one of its committees. BCHR's general assembly elects its board of directors for a two-year term. So far, BCHR's activities are funded from membership fees and small donations from individuals.

Objectives

BCHR aims

1. To promote freedoms and basic rights (civil, political, economic and social)
2. To combat racial discrimination
3. To promote a human rights culture
4. To provide support and protection to the vulnerable victims of torture
5. To conduct research on, and overcome, the difficulties facing the implementation of international human rights laws and standards.

Programs and Activities

Awareness-raising on human rights issues – BCHR believes in a grassroots approach, and thus its primary agenda is to help the affected people understand what their rights are and how to go about protecting them (rather than asking the government to change the situation). As such, BCHR arranges public seminars, community-level discussion forums, and street demonstrations, all with the aim of raising awareness of human rights issues and building solidarity among affected people.

Advocacy - BCHR engages in advocacy work as part of building a human rights culture in Bahrain. It lobbies the Bahraini authorities, government officials, and stakeholders on various issues in order to press for greater responsibility, recognition of, and respect for human rights.

Organizing of independent issue-based committees - BCHR believes that the affected people must speak for themselves rather than being spoken for by others. Wherever

possible, BCHR initiates and facilitates a number of independent, issue-based committees that affected people can choose to join to pursue their own course of action and speak with their own voice. The committees initiated by the BCHR include: the "Unemployed and Underpaid People Committee", "Landless People Committee", and "Victims of Torture Committee."

Socio-economic rights promotion - unlike most other human rights organizations in Bahrain and the region, BCHR gives special priority to economic and social rights. BCHR finds these rights as integral components of human rights in general and, more importantly, almost all human rights issues are in some way tied to fundamental social and economic conditions. Some people commit human rights abuses due to socio-economic pressures, while many victims of human rights abuses are unable to seek justice because of huge socio-economic imbalances in society. Therefore, BCHR regards socio-economic rights as a key to the improvement of the general human rights conditions in the country.

Publications

BCHR mainly prepares reports and publishes news articles such as the following:

- Media coverage of elections marred by self-censorship, political pressure, exclusion of voices and blocking of Internet (2008)
- The release of Arab detainees in Guantanamo: Successful model for the national, regional and international joint efforts (2008)
- Mounting Unrest and Violations in Bahrain (2008)
- Security forces assault journalists covering repression of protest (2007)
- Crackdown on Activists in Bahrain Continues (2007)

These documents can be accessed online: www.bahrainrights.org.

Address

Bahrain Center for Human Rights (BCHR)
Manama, Bahrain
ph (973) 39633399; (973) 39400720
fax (973) 17795170
e-mail: info@bahrainrights.org
www.bahrainrights.org

Bahrain Human Rights Watch Society (BHRWS)

Year Established: 2004

Short historical background

The Bahrain Human Rights Watch Society (BHRWS) is a Bahraini human rights organization established in November 2004. The Society was established mainly to consolidate the principles of human rights in the Kingdom. It has remarkable achievements in protecting housemaids and fighting for women's rights in Bahrain. The Society has sought to support women's rights activists' campaign for the introduction of personal status law to protect women in cases of divorce and child custody. In association with the National Coalition to Stop Violence Against Women, the BHRWS launched the Respect Movement, a petition in support of the Personal Status Law. The second part of the Respect Movement's Agenda is a petition for laws to protect housemaids, who are not currently protected by Bahrain's Labor Laws.

Objectives

BHRWS aims:

1. To play a role in consolidating the principles of human rights in the Kingdom at both thought and practice levels. It endeavors to stop and eradicate all effects of any violation of those rights and to guarantee non-discrimination between citizens on the basis of race, language, religion, sex or opinion
2. To contribute towards raising the standards of democratic practice in the Kingdom, to form an integrated and balanced model based on the spread of freedoms, guarantee of political pluralism, respect for the rule of law and to guarantee the right to political, civil, economic, social and cultural development
3. To consolidate the principles of human rights in the Kingdom inspired by the message of all divine faiths, the values of human heritage, the Kingdom's Constitution, the rules and concepts of the National Action Charter and the principles adopted by international human rights instruments
4. To strive for membership of the Kingdom in regional and international conventions and agreements concerning human rights.

Programs and Activities

The Society strives to achieve its objectives through a number of measures including the following:

1. Drawing up an integrated plan to enhance and develop the protection of human rights in the Kingdom, and propose means for implementing this plan
2. Expression of opinions when consulted on public or private issues related to the protection and respect of human rights, citizens' rights, rights of groups and organizations and on how to defend and boost them
3. Submission of proposals and recommendations to the concerned authorities in all that concern the protection, support and improvement of human rights
4. Expression of opinions and drafting of necessary proposals and recommendations on issues presented to

it by concerned authorities and parties, in connection with human rights protection and enhancement

5. Receiving complaints concerning human rights, monitoring and studying those complaints and referring appropriate cases to concerned bodies. Then following up the complaints or enlightening the complainants about the procedures to be followed and assisting them with those procedures, settling them and solving the complaints with the concerned bodies
6. Enhancing and guaranteeing consistency between the national legislations, regulations and practices, and the international human rights conventions to which the Kingdom is a state-party, and seeking their effective implementation
7. Participating as a part of Bahraini delegations in gatherings and meetings of local and international organizations concerned with the protection of human rights
8. Information dissemination and publication of human rights and the efforts exerted to fight all forms of discrimination, including sectarian and religious discrimination through the media (using the press, radio, television, etc.) and educational means to increase public awareness.

Publications

Various reports on Women's Rights in Bahrain and BHRWS' Respect Movement (http://bhrws.org/eng/index.php?action=view&page_id=13)

Other Information

The 'Respect' Movement is under the umbrella of the Bahrain Human Rights Watch Society calling on the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain to implement key reforms, including the establishment and enforcement of equal protection measures for domestic workers under the labor laws.

Address

Bahrain Human Rights Watch Society
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fax (973) 17531822
email: info@bhrws.org
www.bhrws.org

Ain o Salish Kendro (ASK)

Year Established: 1986

Short Historical Background

Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK) is a legal aid and human rights organization in Bangladesh. It was established in 1986 with the purpose of providing free legal aid to the disenfranchised from the rights perspective. In time, it realized that legal aid could not be the only aspect of a necessary holistic strategy to create an enabling environment for the disenfranchised to assert and enjoy their rights. From that realization, ASK consequently developed programs that spread out in multiple areas, such as, investigation, advocacy, media campaign, documentation, training and action research with a view to create an enabling environment for demanding good governance, non-discrimination and social justice. Currently, ASK has been implementing its programs under sixteen separate units and one component. It obtained Special Consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

Objective

ASK aims to establish in Bangladesh the rule of law based on the principles of equality, democracy, human rights, justice and gender equity.

Activities

ASK carries out following activities:

- Provision of free legal aid to distressed individuals and communities
- Provision of temporary shelter to victims of violence
- Offering psychosocial counseling to the survivors of violations
- Human rights awareness raising
- Advocacy for the promotion of the rights of working children
- Campaigns for relevant legal and policy reforms
- Mobilization of communities to inculcate and promote gender and social justice
- Research on human rights, advocacy and policy issues
- Monitoring and documenting cases of human rights violations; and fact-finding missions where needed

Publications

The following are some of the ASK publications:

English Language

- Annual Human Rights Report - This is a regular yearly publication of ASK which provides analysis of the yearly state of human rights of the year.
- Agency, Inequality and Human Rights, Amartya Sen
- Twenty years on the front line, Dina Siddiqi
- Children Cry Alone, Lubna Marium
- Her Unfearing Mind (Women and Muslim Laws in Bangladesh), Sultana Kamal
- Rights and Realities

Bangla Language

- Bangladeshe Jongi tatporata o tar bichar (An Account of Militancy in Bangladesh and the Trials)
- RAB: Santras Nirmul Na Rastrear Santras (Stop Terrorism or Terrorism by the State)
- Janasartho Mamla (Public Interest Litigation)
- Narir 71 O Juddha Porobarti Kathya Kahini.
- Smriti o Kotha - 1971
- Dharshon-Porobarti Aini Lorai
- Aine Nari Nirjatan Prosanga
- Amar Prithibi - Khursheed Erfan Ahmed
- Adhikar o Bastobota
- Paribarik Aine Bangladesher Nari
- Manober Nishanka Mon, Sultana Kamal

English and Bangla Languages

- United Nations Human Rights Mechanisms, Qumrunnessa Nazly

Address

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26/3 Purana Paltan Line, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh
ph (88-02) 8315851, 9337173,9360336
fax: (88-02) 8318561
e-mail: ask@citechco.net
www.askbd.org

Community Development Library (CDL)

Year Established: 1980

Short Historical Background

The Community Development Library (CDL), a non-governmental development organization, came into being in 1980 with the mission of delivering development information to activists and organizations who are committed to the promotion of sustainable development, gender equity, social justice, human rights and community education.

Objectives

CDL aims

1. To provide in-depth material and information on areas of key concern, particularly on environment, education, health, women, children, human rights, peace and ethnic minorities
2. To educate, inspire and empower underprivileged people, including people with disability, to take part in the process of social development and also to benefit themselves
3. To raise mass awareness on human rights, social equality and justice for all citizens including religious and ethnic minority groups, gender balance, disaster mitigation and preparedness, health, environment, etc. through publications, workshops, seminars, study circle and networking activities
4. To promote development initiatives of different grass-roots groups and organizations through advisory service, training and logistic support and introducing those initiatives to the larger audience through publication/videos
5. To highlight the positive aspects of development endeavors by documenting and disseminating case studies of successful projects
6. To lobby and campaign on issues which have direct and indirect impact on the lives of the people, specially those who are under-privileged and suffer various levels of discrimination
7. To establish and strengthen development information network among existing networks, NGOs and other groups
8. To bridge the communication gap that exists between the policy-makers, social development activists, program implementers and the grass-roots people by providing information on ideas and experiences of innovative and sustainable development efforts
9. To provide audio-visual services and training on information-centered topics to non-governmental organization workers and other beneficiaries.

Programs

Rural Information Resource Center (RIRC) - CDL provides development information services at the grassroots level through twenty-five Rural Information Resource Centers (RIRC) that have library facilities and organize seminars, workshops, study circles, discussion meetings, video shows, sharing experiences to narrow the knowledge and information gap that persists among the govern-

ment, non-governmental organizations, civil society, private sector, the media and the related development stakeholders on various development issues.

Central Library, Documentation & Information Center - located in Dhaka, the library has two sections (reading and reference) with books, periodicals, and newspapers in open access and easily reached by the interested readers. Since 1980, CDL has collected 21,500 books and Research Reports on different issues and subjects.

Development Resource Promotion Centre - this is an outlet for publications and literature (both in-house and from other institutions). The sales are done through both Dhaka central office and the RIRCs.

Development Communication and Information Service - CDL publishes current news, bulletin, poster, translated development information, compiled development literature, etc.

Urban Information Resource Centre - launched in 1986 with a vision to enhance the accessibility to education facilities of urban poor children and to integrate child literacy with environmental and vocational training so that education becomes meaningful in their lives.

Other programs

Women's Forum - this initiative was taken with an aim of informing women communities especially the under-privileged women, about their socio-economic rights and responsibilities, the way they can organize and empower themselves and strive for ensuring their social rights. All the RIRCs of CDL have Women's Forum.

Children's Corner - every RIRC has a Children's Corner that contains different children-related materials for use by children.

Youth Forum - RIRCs have twenty-six Youth Forums all over the country that engage in various information, social awareness raising and development activities that benefit a large number of people.

Address

Community Development Library (CDL)
House-67/B, Road 9A,
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Bangladesh
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fax (880-2) 8110254
e-mail : cdl@bol-online.com; info@cdl.com
www.cdlibd.org

The Cambodian Center for Human Rights (CCHR)

Year Established: 2002

Short Historical Background

The Cambodian Center for Human Rights (CCHR) is a registered non-governmental organization that was established in October 2002 with the mission to promote democracy, to promote and protect civil and political rights, and to promote free, fair and credible elections in Cambodia. CCHR is not affiliated with any political party.

Objectives

CCHR aims

1. To educate the people on democracy and human rights concepts and principles
2. To strengthen the foundation of democracy at the grass-root level, inform the public in the country and international community of the human rights situation in Cambodia
3. To widen public opinion in support of democracy, human rights and sustainable development; strengthen cooperation with civil society groups working on reform of laws, governance, and judicial system
4. To reduce incidence of political violence and rights violations.

Programs

- Education program
- Radio program
- Advocacy and Public Relations program
- Monitoring and Investigation program

Activities

Capacity building - increasing the understanding of human rights activists or focal point volunteers on the principles of human rights and democracy and assisting them in establishing "Community for Democracy" network to strengthen the basic foundation of democracy at the grass-root level.

Public Forum - informing the people on current and important issues and problems in the country and giving them the opportunity to express their opinions and concerns on different issues.

Radio broadcasts - the radio broadcast called "Voice of Democracy" (VOD) aired through Sambok Khmum FM 105 Mhz with programs such as: Live on Air, News, Education and Cultural/Entertainment, brings information to the people and also responds to listeners' questions through its live programs. The radio live roundtable discussion, provide opportunity to the peoples to express their concerns and opinions.

Monitoring and investigation - complaints on cases involving violations of civil and political rights are monitored

and investigated to assist victims and their relatives seek justice and legal resolution.

Advocacy - dissemination of issues to the public and working for legislative and policy reforms of the government on human rights and democracy issues.

Public Relations - building network and exchanging of ideas and information with local, regional and international organizations and coalitions working on human rights, democracy and governance issues.

Website - information on issues and activities of CCHR are posted in the website.

Publication - Monthly bulletin in Khmer is printed for distribution and a web-based newsletter in English is posted regularly. Booklets on laws are also produced for free distribution.

Address

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e-mail : info@cchr-cambodia.org

www.cchr-cambodia.org

Documentation Center of Cambodia (DC-Cam)

Year Established: 1995

Short Historical Background

The Documentation Center of Cambodia (DC-Cam) is a Cambodian academic research institute established in January 1995 by Yale University's Cambodian Genocide Program (CGP) to facilitate training and field research in Cambodia related to CGP's mission. The DC-Cam became an autonomous Cambodian institute in January 1997. With the inauguration of DC-Cam as an autonomous research institute, the documentation and research products of the CGP have been deposited at DC-Cam to make them accessible to the Cambodian people. These materials were principally collected and produced by the Cambodian people themselves, with support from scholars and experts in the United States, Australia and elsewhere. Through the World Wide Web, many of these research products have been made available to all interested parties at <http://www.yale.edu/cgp>.

Objectives

DC-CAM aims:

1. To record and preserve the history of the Khmer Rouge regime for future generations
2. To compile and organize information that can serve as potential evidence in a legal accounting for the crimes of the Khmer Rouge.

Programs and Activities

The Center's main work is to collect, document, and catalogue materials related to the Khmer Rouge regime. These materials are inputted and organized into four extensive databases: (1) Bibliographic containing over 30,400 biographies, (2) Biographic containing over 2,900 documents, (3) Photographic containing over 5,100 documents, and (4) Geographic containing maps of over 19,000 mass graves and 189 prisons. In addition, DC-Cam carries out a number of projects emphasizing research, outreach, and education.

Affinity Group – link with similar centers in other countries in other regions of the world.

Cham Muslim Oral History - seeks to record the experiences of Cham Muslims during the Khmer Rouge era and empower Cham Muslim women to speak out about their experiences.

Forensics - A team of North American forensic experts along with the Center's Mapping Project members collaborate on the exhumation of mass graves and memorials.

Genocide Education - seeks to promote genocide education across Cambodian schools.

Legal Training/Victim Participation - assists the tribunal members in locating and accessing Khmer Rouge related documents, and educates the Cambodians on how to file

complaints for atrocities committed during the Khmer Rouge regime.

Living Documents – assists genocide survivors, considered "living documents," participate in the tribunal process.

Mapping – mapping of the mass graves, former Democratic Kampuchea prisons, and genocide memorial sites in Cambodia.

Promoting Accountability – documentation of the insights of thousands of former Khmer Rouge cadres and their family members on the inner workings and local-central dynamics of Democratic Kampuchea.

Public Information Room - a public space for researchers, students, and members of the general public to access DC-Cam materials.

Radio – broadcasting of articles from the Center's magazine, *Searching for the Truth*, and excerpts from books such as *The Diary of Ann Frank* (translated Khmer version).

Student Outreach - aims to promote youth volunteerism, educate the youth about the Khmer Rouge period, and facilitate conversation between the survivor generation and their children about a sensitive and traumatic past.

Victims of Torture (VOT) - seeks to address the mental health problems of survivors.

Publications

Some of its past publications include:

- *Searching for the Truth*, monthly (Khmer) and quarterly (English) magazine
- *The Khmer Rouge Division 703: From Victory to Self-Destruction*
- *Seven Candidates for Prosecution: Accountability for the Crimes of the Khmer Rouge*
- *The Chain of Terror: The Khmer Rouge Southwest Zone Security System*
- *A History of Democratic Kampuchea (1975-1979)*
- Annual and quarterly reports are published online.

Address

Documentation Center of Cambodia (DC-Cam)

P.O. Box 1110

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Phnom Penh, CAMBODIA

ph (855-23) 211 875

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e-mail: dccam@online.com.kh

www.dccam.org

Khmer Institute of Democracy (KID)

Year Established: 1992

Short Historical Background

The Khmer Institute for Democracy (KID) was founded in October 1992 with the goal of inculcating democratic values into Cambodian society. It upholds and consolidates Cambodia's pluralistic liberal democratic order as determined by the 1991 Paris Peace Agreements, by all international human rights instruments adhered to by Cambodia, and by the Cambodian Constitution of 1993.

Objectives

The Institute aims to acculturate democratic values into Cambodian society. It upholds and consolidates Cambodia's pluralistic liberal democratic order.

Programs and Activities

The *Proto-Ombudsman Program (Citizen Advisor Project)*, started in 1999, is now run by one hundred eighty-four Citizen Advisors, of whom forty-five are women, operating in seven provinces: Battambang, Siem Reap, Kampong Thom, Kampong Cham, Kratie, Prey Veng and Svay Rieng. It aims to assist local people in remote areas, where there is a poor knowledge of democracy and limited respect for human rights, to address disputes related to domestic violence, land issues, divorce, rape, defamation, breach of contract, etc.

The *Local Self-Administration Program* aims to strengthen decentralization and local democracy by building the capacity of the commune councils, assisting the commune councils to administrate their communes effectively and provide better services to the people, contributing to the development of the commune, and encouraging active participation of the population in the work of the commune councils.

The *Community Information Center Program* operates through the four branch offices in Kampong Cham, Svay Rieng, Kratie and Stung Treng provinces to provide access to news and information on democracy, human rights, elections, agriculture, health, combating drug abuse, decentralization, education and economic growth through a Khmer language web portal (www.cambodiacic.org, www.BohChnout.info) for Cambodian citizens (training on accessing the internet provided).

Promotion and Preservation of Human Rights in Rural Cambodia, a two-year project (2006-2008) in Dang Tong and Chhouk district of Kampot province and in Boseth, Phnom Srouch and Tpong district of Kampong Speu province. The project consists of the extension of the network of ombudsmen in two new provinces to provide legal counselling and law dissemination to the rural population to enhance the protection and preservation of human rights, and prevent conflict.

The *Khmer Rouge Tribunal Program* aims to strengthen

the judicial reform process in Cambodia, with the ultimate goal of eliminating Cambodia's culture of impunity and ensuring respect for the rule of law. The Institute conducted a survey in 2004 among five hundred thirty-six people in six provinces on the Khmer Rouge Regime and Cambodians' perception of the upcoming Khmer Rouge trials. According to the survey, 96.8 % of the respondents want to have a Khmer Rouge trial, 44.1 % would prefer to have no trial at all than just a sub-standard trial, 89.1% still think about the Khmer Rouge years, and 24.7 % are not aware of Khmer Rouge trials being set up.

Victim and Witness Protection Standards for the Khmer Rouge Tribunal and Beyond Program consists of police training on victim and witness protection according to international standards, education on the process of the Khmer Rouge Tribunal, and the advocacy for employment of international standards in the Tribunal processes.

Areas of Democracy Work:

Political Parties and Political Leadership; Civic Society Strengthening; Civic Education; Media and Freedom of Expression; Transparency and Anti-Corruption; Elections; Decentralization and Local Government; Legislative Development and Assistance; Rule of Law; Human Rights; Women's Issues; Political and Civic Participation of Youth

Activities

- Research
- Publication
- Training
- Advocacy
- Conferences and workshop series

Publication

- Democracy and Law (monthly bulletin)

Other Information

Om Radsady Library has a collection of materials on management, trafficking of children, commune council administration, political sciences, social sciences, democracy, human rights as well as novels, the bi-monthly bulletins of the Royal Palace, Truth magazines and local and foreign newspapers.

Address

Khmer Institute of Democracy
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e-mail: kid@camnet.com.kh; director.kid@online.com.kh
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The Center of Women's Law Studies and Legal Services

Peking University

Year Established: 1995

Short Historical Background

The Center of Women's Law Studies and Legal Services was founded by the Law Department of Peking University in 1995 to provide legal services, and to study and promote women's rights in the Chinese legal system. The Center seeks to promote women's consciousness of their legal rights, to increase legal protection for women's rights, and to improve the treatment of women by the legal system.

The Center has become an integrated institution of research, teaching and legal services. In addition to providing free legal counseling, the Center researches and publishes analyses of legal problems facing China's women. It is staffed by law department faculty staff, graduate students and full- and part-time lawyers, and receives help from some of China's most noted pioneers in the fields of women's issues and women's law.

Objectives

The Center aims

1. To provide legal consultation, free of charge, to women across the nation, answering questions posted through letters, e-mails, telephone calls and visits
2. To undertake major complex cases involving problems typically faced by women in asserting their rights, and provide legal aid to indigent women
3. To prepare research reports on major issues concerning women's rights, and submit suggestions and proposals to the legislative, executive and judicial branches that would further improve the legal system in areas relating to women's rights
4. To cooperate with experts, scholars, legal institutions and universities in discussing theories and practice in the area of legal aid services to women and protection of women's rights
5. To cooperate with the media in educating women on their legal rights and in heightening their consciousness to safeguard their rights. Also, enhance public concern about women's rights and legal aid services in this respective field.

Programs and Activities

Public interest litigation - integrates social resources, advocates social transformation, and fully and comprehensively guarantees the public interests of the disadvantaged group. Public interest litigation as a strategy and modality fosters legal reform from the grassroots level through case handling, research, seminars, advocacies, legislative recommendations and regional legislative experiment.

Women's Watch - undertakes comprehensive and in-depth exploration and practices in the protection of

women's rights. The goal of "Women's Watch" is to create a data bank, think tank, observation spot, monitoring and publicity center on women's rights and related issues.

Research - includes theoretical studies on the protection of women's rights and legal assistance. The Center studies the state of women's rights in China, the pressing need to protect women's rights and to set up a system of legal assistance, and the outstanding difficulties and key issues. The Center has been actively exploring ways to institutionalize the protection of women's rights and legal assistance. Over the past ten years, Center members have written more than two hundred research articles and reports, published nearly one hundred papers, hosted more than sixty seminars and forums, and submitted more than seventy legal letters, legislative proposals and reports to relevant authorities, some of which have attracted the attention of the relevant authorities, thus successfully pushing forward the reform of relevant policies.

Publications

- The Chinese Women Work Rights and Interests Protection - Theory and Practice
- A Comprehensive Q & A - Guide on Workers' Rights
- A Comprehensive Q&A Guide on Human Rights
- A Comprehensive Q&A Guide on Marital Rights
- A Compilation of Common Legal Regulations for Protecting Women's Rights in the Workplace
- Domestic Violence and Legal Assistance
- The Theory and Practice Behind Securing Rights for Contemporary Chinese Women
- Theory and Practice of Protection of Women's Rights and Interests in Contemporary China
- The Theory and Practice of Chinese Legal Assistance
- Women's Legal Assistance (Case Studies and Legal Manual)

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Center for Gender and Law Studies (CGLS)

Institute of Law, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

Year Established: 2002

Short Historical Background

The Center for Gender and Law Studies (CGLS), Institute of Law, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, established in September 2002, engages in promoting research on theoretical and practical issues in the relationship between gender and law.

Objectives

The CGLS aims

1. To carry out and further research on gender and law
2. To analyze Chinese laws from a gender perspective, and on the basis of the analysis, to submit legislative advice to the state legislative body
3. To advocate for public policy on the basis of comparative study of gender theory and practical surveys
4. To form a network on gender and law studies and, by sharing resources, promote gender mainstreaming in legal research and education
5. To build up an international forum by facilitating exchanges between Chinese legal professionals and foreign counterparts
6. To disseminate and popularize its research output and to raise the gender awareness of the public.

Programs

Research projects

1. *Comparative Study on Gender and Law* (April 2003 -July 2005) – the project utilized the new method of incorporating gender perspective into legal research.
2. *Amendment of the Law on Protection of Women's Rights and Interests (LPWRI)* (October 2003-October 2005) – aimed to improve the LPWRI in effectively guaranteeing women's human rights during the transitional period of China, and to promote gender equality and sustainable development of society.
3. *Theoretical and Action Research on Gender and Law* (2005-2009) - a continuation of the project "Comparative Study on Gender and Law," it aims to improve theoretical and action research, and to give an impetus to gender mainstreaming in the legal field.
4. *Study on Gender Equality Issues Arising in the Course of Legal Construction* (2006-2009) - aims to analyze gender bias or discrimination existing in the legal system in China, and to explore their causes and forms of expression in order to provide legal proposals.

Activities

CGLS holds the following activities:

1. Seminars – aim to promote academic exchanges with scholars and experts both from China and abroad through a range of roundtables and seminars.
2. Lectures – aim to set up a domestic and international exchange platform to facilitate research on gender and law using multi-disciplinary approaches, to train a contingent of research personnel to form the research

base, and to gear up to efforts on gender mainstreaming internationally.

3. Training – aims to actively advocate gender awareness and to make persistent efforts to incorporate gender perspective into legal research and education through various training activities.
4. Study Course - different study courses on different academic works, such as classical feminist works and course book of gender and law, for the purpose of equipping participants on relevant theories.
5. Writing Teaching Materials - CGLS cooperates with experts in writing teaching materials concerning gender and law.
6. Survey - together with sociologists, CGLS administered the "Questionnaire on Status of Legal Workers" in China among members of the police, prosecution offices, courts, law firms, institutions of higher learning, and research institutes in cities of different administrative levels in four regions of China to explore and analyze the gender awareness of legal personnel, the status of women in the legal profession and the status of gender equality in contemporary China. Being the first gender survey among legal personnel, it provided empirical data and an objective foundation for gender and law studies.
7. Analysis of Law - applying gender perspective, members of CGLS examine the main existing laws, departmental rules and regulations, local regulations, judicial interpretations, background materials of legislation, public policies and international treaties concerned, to see whether or not there are gender-blind points and mistaken gender concepts.

Publications

Studies on Basic Framework of the Law on Gender Equality.

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The Cultural Development Center for Rural Women

Year Established:

Short Historical Background

The Cultural Development Center for Rural Women is a non-governmental organization that seeks to promote the social development of China's rural women. Since its foundation, it has grown from its core activity of publishing a magazine to become a major non-profit organization with an integrated program that "supports the poor by combining development projects, news media and information services, and dissemination of the results of research."

The Center grew out of the Rural Women Magazine (formally Rural Women Knowing All) project, which began publication in January 1993. The magazine, supervised by the All-China Women's Federation and administered by China Women's News, is the only monthly magazine for rural women.

The Center is registered with the Changping Branch of Beijing Industrial and Commercial Administrative Bureau.

Objectives

The Center aims to create opportunities for self-empowerment and development together with rural women—those who live in the poorest parts of China—and also dedicated to improving the quality of life for migrant women in China's cities.

Programs

The Center has programs focusing on the following:

- Strengthening rural women's community participation
- Raising rural women's ability and opportunity to participate in politics
- Helping establish a system to prevent rural women's suicide
- Reproductive health
- Improving the quality of life of poor rural women
- Providing for opportunities for girl dropouts aged between 16-18 to study
- Upholding migrant women's civil and labor rights
- Enhancing the social space for migrant women's development.

Activities

Rural women's community development – this includes microfinance, literacy classes, and projects aimed at enhancing reproductive health, preventing suicide of women, and increasing participation of women in politics.

Rural women's training and re-education – through the Practical Skills Training Center for Rural Women (established in 1998), the first center in China aimed at raising the overall capacity of rural women instead of merely training them for a diploma – the Center offers training in practical skills, and raising trainees' awareness of gender, citizenship, participatory and people-oriented concepts.

Legal services for migrant women's – through the "Migrant Women's Club" (established in 1996), the first to serve migrant workers in China, the Center works to uphold migrant women workers' legal rights and interests, and is also concerned with their spiritual well-being, their overall quality of life and their capacity for self-improvement.

Publications and disseminating experiences - through service and practice, the Center is dedicated to exploring innovation in service provision in rural women's development, and in learning and sharing the lessons of its many years of experience.

Research and publicity – themed around the various problems that rural women encounter, the Center has organized research groups, and sponsored seminars and workshops on these issues. It undertakes survey and investigation on these issues and produced suggestions for policy changes that are brought to the attention of the government and the media. It has sponsored two seminars on Rural Women Development and Countermeasures, two seminars on Migrant Women's Legal Rights and two seminars on Rural Women's Participation in Politics as well as many other workshops, discussion meetings and news releases.

Publications

Newsletter

- Seeds

Teaching materials

- Rural Teenage Girls' Basic Reader
- Manual for Preventing Rural Women's Suicide

Books

- Rural Women's Development and Countermeasures
- Report on Suicide Among Rural Women
- The Census Registration System and Female Migrants

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The China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS)

Year Established: 1993

Short Historical Background

The China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), founded in January 1993, is a non-governmental national-level academic organization enjoying a special consultative status in the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

The CSHRS now has more than one hundred members from different colleges, universities, research institutes and specific work units in thirty-one provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the Central Government. They are all experts and scholars in various disciplines such as philosophy, political science and law.

Since its founding, CSHRS has devoted its efforts to the promotion of human rights activities by actively organizing studies on Chinese human rights theories, and developing exchanges and cooperation with foreign countries.

Objectives

CSHRS aims

1. To conduct studies on Chinese and foreign human rights theories, and the historical and present situation of human rights both in and outside China
2. To establish academic ties with overseas human rights organizations, experts and scholars
3. To work on promoting mutual understanding and support between the Chinese people and those throughout the world in safeguarding human rights, and exploring ways to ensure the development of human rights theories and practice.

Programs and Activities

Preparation and publication of human rights materials including such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and China's Human Rights, the History of Human Rights, An Introduction to Human Rights Issues, Women's Human Rights in China, International Laws on Human Rights, and Human Rights Problems in the United States. Also, nearly a hundred articles were published in various newspapers and magazines, including "China Strives to Realize People's Economic, Social and Cultural Rights" and "Promote the Healthy Development of the International Human Rights Cause."

Publication of translated materials including the World Documents of Human Rights, the Supplement to World Documents of Human Rights, and the Human Rights Encyclopedia. These books collect and introduce, ancient and modern, Chinese and foreign human rights theories and thoughts. They also include various declarations, conventions, agreements, resolutions and constitutional documents of different countries and international communities.

Financial aid to promote human rights theoretical study.

In 1996, it jointly formed with the China Foundation for Human Rights Development (CFHRD) the Assessment Group of the China Foundation for Human Rights Studies. It has funded research on various topics including New Progress of Human Rights in China in 1997, the Human Rights Problems in the United States, and Major Differences Between China and Western Countries in Human Rights Issues. The research work has all been completed to date.

Seminars to keep its members nationwide well-informed about the latest domestic and foreign human rights theoretical research results through information exchanges. During the seminars, experts from various fields were invited to discuss recent developments in human rights theories and practices.

Data of Human Rights Research - this mainly publishes theoretical articles written by experts and introduces major activities organized by the CSHRS. It offers as a result a large amount of data on human rights theoretical research.

Popularization and education of human rights knowledge - writing and compiling books such as 100 Questions About Human Rights, and Human Rights in China--A Collection of White Papers on Human Rights. It has joined hands with the CFHRD to produce a TV documentary, Interviews on Human Rights in China, in which ten-odd CSHRS executive members give special explanations on some major issues.

International Exchange - includes establishing working relationship with human rights institutions in many countries, and participating in international human rights conferences.

Publication

- China Human Rights Magazine

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Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

China University of Political Science and Law

Year Established: 2002

Short Historical Background

The Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (IHRHL) is an independent full-time inter-disciplinary academic institute with the mandate to undertake research, teaching, training, consultancy, resource support and co-operation in the field of human rights and humanitarian law. IHRHL was established by, and directly affiliated to, the China University of Political Science and Law (CUPL).

IHRHL, established in June 2002, accepts visiting or part-time fellows from other institutions within and outside CUPL.

Objectives

IHRHL aims

1. To carry out research, teaching, training, consultancy, resource support and cooperation in the field of human rights and humanitarian law
2. To promote in China the prevalence of human rights education, the dissemination of human rights knowledge, the enhancement of human rights consciousness, the nurturance of human rights culture, the improvement of human rights system and the advancement of human rights capacities, and
3. To accelerate the universal recognition, respect, protection and fulfillment of human rights of all without any discrimination.

Programs and activities

Research and publication - compiled the two-volume Textbook on International Human Rights Law in 2002 (in cooperation with Norwegian Center of Human Rights (NCHR), Oslo University, Norway) and the International Human Rights Law textbook in 2004 (with the support of the Cultural and Educational Section, British Council Beijing, and in cooperation with Foreign Affairs College and Zhongnan University of Economics and Law). It is also implementing many national and international research programs including The National Human Rights Institution (in cooperation with RWI, Lund University, Sweden), Comparative Study in Human Rights Protection under States of Emergency, China's Practice in Ratification and Implementation of International Human Rights Conventions, The Sources of Human Rights in Perspective of Social System, and Human Rights and Human Harmony, etc.

Teaching - CUPL is the only University in mainland China which grants Master and Ph.D degrees in Human Rights Law since May 2005 and the Major of Human Rights Law since February 2006. The major courses under the Program and the Major include Theories of Human Rights, International Human Rights, Substantive Rights, Domestic Human Rights Protection Mechanisms, Human Rights Research Methodology, Constitutionalism and Human Rights, Criminal Justice and Human Rights, International

Humanitarian Law, etc. The staff members have undertaken the majority of the teaching assignments. The IHRHL also provides an optional course of International Human Rights Law to the undergraduate students.

Training Programs - in cooperation with various institutions, IHRHL undertook the following training activities:

1. Second Sino-Nordic Advanced Workshop on International Human Rights Law for University Teachers in November 2002 in Beijing (with Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law [RWI], Lund University, Sweden and Norwegian Center of Human Rights [NCHR])
2. Human Rights Law Training Program for University Teachers from 1 September to 31 October 2003 in Beijing (with the European Union Commission)
3. The Fourth Advanced Workshop on International Human Rights Law for Chinese University Teachers on 16-27 August 2004 in Beijing (with Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR), RWI and NCHR)
4. Human rights training course was held in December 2007 in Beijing (with support from Norway, the USA, Sweden).

International Exchange and Cooperation - IHRHL has co-operated closely with the relevant institutions of Norway, Denmark, Sweden, the United Kingdom, Canada, the European Union and the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in the field of human rights law teaching, training, research and capacity building. It has also started cooperation with the relevant institutes of the U.S.A, Germany as well as some other countries.

Publications

- Textbook on International Human Rights Law, two volumes (2002)
- Textbook on International Human Rights Law (2004)

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The Law and Globalization Research Center

Renmin University

Year Established: 1998

Short Historical Background

The Law and Globalization Research Center, affiliated with Renmin University, was founded in 1998 with fifteen researchers, among which are ten professors, and five associate professors. The Center was the successor to the Jurisprudence Department, and has been permitted to grant masters and doctoral degrees by the Ministry of Education since 1986.

Objectives

The Center aims to combine the general theory of law and globalization with both practical and academic research.

Programs and Activities

The Center concentrates on law and globalization research and international exchange, whose main direction includes the general theory of law and globalization, globalization and human rights, globalization and Chinese legal system development.

Since its establishment, it has been holding many international academic meetings, consisting of an international academic colloquium on the law and globalization, an international academic colloquium on post-modernism and the modernization of China's legal system, an international academic colloquium on law and globalization - the theory behind the practice, and an international academic colloquium on Marxist law and contemporary international relations, etc. It holds a "jurisprudence forum" where invited well-known domestic and international scholars give lectures. It engages in international research and communication projects supported by the Asian Development Bank, China and Europe's higher education project, the Ford Foundation, etc.

It has undertaken a large number of social science research projects. In a research project supported by the Ministry of Education Key Research Base, the Center undertook a research on European Union's policy on China's human rights situation and China's counter-policy.

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The Research Center for Human Rights

Peking University Law School (RCHR)

Year Established: 1997

Short historical background

The Research Center for Human Rights of Peking University Law School (RCHR) was founded on 25 April 1997. It is an academic association of professors and scholars in international law, criminal procedure law, administrative law, comparative law and other areas of human rights.

Objectives

The RCHR is dedicated to facilitating academic exchanges between scholars both at home and abroad in the field of human rights, advancing the consciousness of human rights of Chinese citizens, and promoting human rights in China.

To fulfill these objectives RCHR tries to develop human rights research and education in China.

Programs and Activities

Human rights courses - RCHR offers courses to both undergraduate and graduate students on many areas of human rights. These courses, among others, include: Human Rights and Rule of Law, Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; International Human Rights Protection Mechanisms, Regional Protection of Human Rights, Business and Human Rights, and International Humanitarian Law. It has also sponsored a joint masters program on human rights with Lund University in Sweden, which is the first professional human rights education program in China.

Symposiums and seminars - it holds academic symposiums and seminars on theoretical and practical problems of human rights both at domestic and international levels.

Advisory service - it offers advisory opinions to the Chinese governmental institutions, including legislative, judicial and executive organs on matters such as the implementation of international human rights conventions.

Translation and publication - it edits and translates academic works and publishes documents and other materials on human rights.

Research and education - it implements projects on research and education on human rights in cooperation with domestic or international institutions. It publishes human rights books.

Publications

- Judicial Justice and Human Rights Protection (Chinese Legal System Press, 2001)
- Selected Documents on International Human Rights Law (Peking University Press, 2002)
- Human Rights in the Perspective of Law (Peking University Press, 2003)

- Reports on the Pre-trial Detention System in China (Peking University Press, 2004).

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The Pacific Concerns Resource Centre (PCRC)

Year Established:1980

Short Historical Background

The Pacific Concerns Resource Centre Inc. (PCRC) was first established in Hawai'i in 1980. From 1986 it was based in Auckland before moving to Suva in 1993.

PCRC serves as the secretariat for the Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific (NFIP) Movement which was set up in 1975 in opposition to continued nuclear tests in French Polynesia. Since then, NFIP Movement has met every three years, bringing together representatives from around the region from over a hundred affiliated non-governmental and community organizations from around the Pacific: indigenous peoples' organizations; church, trade union and peace activists; environmentalists; and movements for sovereignty and self-determination.

In 1999, PCRC gained General Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council - the only non-governmental organization in the Pacific to hold this status.

Objectives

PCRC aims to coordinate, articulate and disseminate information about the concerns and struggles of peoples of the Pacific in their desire to exist free from exploitation, from the threat of environmental degradation and from both foreign and internal forms of subjugation.

Programs

PCRC collects and disseminates information, advocates and lobbies, promotes discussion and understanding and mobilizes resources within and outside the region on five campaign areas: demilitarization, decolonization, environment, human rights and good governance and sustainable human development.

It has programs on the following issues:

- a. Human rights and good governance
 - Good governance
 - Indigenous rights
 - Refugees
- b. Demilitarization
 - Internal militarization in the Pacific
 - Foreign military forces
 - Johnston Atoll chemical agents disposal system
 - Missile defence and Kwajalein atoll
 - The Rarotonga Treaty for a South Pacific nuclear free zone
 - Nuclear test victims
- c. Decolonization
 - West Papua, Te ao Maohi/French Polynesia, Kanaky/ New Caledonia, Tokelau,
- d. Sustainable Human Development
 - World Trade Organisation
 - ACP-EU Cotonou Agreement
 - Pacific regional Trade Agreements

Activities

Library - PCRC maintains a library collection of books, periodicals, reports and pamphlets collected by the NFIP Movement since 1975. The library has a strong Pacific emphasis, with specialist collections covering PCRC's five main campaign areas: decolonization, demilitarization, environment, sustainable human development, and human rights and good governance. There are also substantial reference and periodical sections.

Networking and Partnership with other Civil Society Organizations - PCRC is the regional focal point for the Pacific Regional Non-Governmental Organisations (PRNGO) a collective of eleven Pacific-focused and regional civil society organizations predominantly based in Fiji that collectively lobby the Pacific Forum countries on agreed issues and concerns.

PCRC is also a member of Fiji's NGO Coalition on Human Rights.

Publications

- Pacific News Bulletin
- Report of the Inaugural Pacific Consultation on the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, March 15-17 2004, Nadave, Suva
- 2004 Pacific Civil Society Forum Meeting, Apia, Samoa
- No Te Parau Tai, No Te Parau Mau, No Te Tiamaraa
- For justice, truth and independence
- Kirisimasi - Fijian troops at Britain's Christmas Island nuclear tests
- The French nuclear tests in Polynesia: Demanding the truth and proposals for the future
- After Moruroa - France in the South Pacific
- Moruroa and Us - Polynesians' experiences during thirty years of nuclear testing in the French Pacific
- The 3rd NGO Parallel Forum - Rarotonga, Cook Islands
- Independence and Sovereignty for Te Ao Maohi (French Polynesia)
- Report of the inaugural Indigenous Peoples of the Pacific Workshop on the United Nations Draft Declaration on the Rights of the Indigenous Peoples
- Indigenous Peoples' Knowledge and Intellectual Property Rights Consultation
- Never Again?
- Freedom 2000
- Collision Course at Kwajalein - Marshall Islanders in the shadow of the Bomb
- Nuclear Free & Independent Pacific Conference 1983

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Pacific Regional Rights Resource Team (RRRT)

Year Established: 1995

Short Historical Background

Initially established as a legal literacy project with a focus on women and children, the Pacific Regional Rights Resource Team (RRRT) has expanded over the years to provide training, technical support, policy and advocacy advice in human rights to promote social justice and good governance throughout the Pacific region. Based in Suva, Fiji, RRRT is managed by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC).

Objectives

RRRT aims

1. To strengthen the capacity of policy makers to adopt and apply human rights principles and good governance practices
2. To strengthen the capacity of implementation-level agencies to develop, promote and apply human rights principles and good governance practices
3. To strengthen the capacity of civil society and marginalized groups to advocate, assert, monitor and defend human rights and good governance - with special focus on the poor, women and children
4. To strengthen the capacity of RRRT to enhance its delivery of innovative and cutting edge human rights support and services to its partners in promoting good governance.

Programs

Training & Advocacy - RRRT designs and delivers comprehensive, sustained, quality training programs tailor-made for all levels of government and civil society, from Members of Parliament to rural community-based advocates, from social workers to judges. The training uses inclusive and interactive training approach. RRRT runs training workshops for Community Paralegals, the judiciary, lawyers, medical practitioners, teachers and police on human rights and gender equality issues, community-based women and men on their legal rights, government departments and personnel on human rights issues and the Convention On The Elimination Of All Forms Of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

RRRT also conducts regional workshops for human rights and women's advocates in partnership with other regional or international organizations on such issues as gender and economic literacy, the right to land and adequate housing, feminism and legal theory.

The Community Paralegal Training (CPT) program is the main component of RRRT's micro-level activities. The objective of the CPT program, introduced in 1997, is to extend outreach, create a pool of human rights advocates and build organizational capacity to support RRRT-backed Legal Rights Training Officers (LRTOs) that are employed in partner organizations.

Technical Support & Policy Advice - RRRT provides professional and technical support, and acts as a resource base

for information. It offers expert advice to governments and civil society in the development of national human rights advocacy, lobbying and mobilization strategies. It advises on the development of national human rights, gender and youth policies and the drafting of national human rights legislation. It also offers technical input to governments and civil society organizations concerning obligations in relation to international human rights conventions.

Activities

RRRT undertakes activities such as the following:

- Developing model legislation to combat discrimination against persons living with HIV/AIDS
- Developing appropriate legislation for the protection and promotion of civil society organizations and assistance to civil society in advocating for the establishment of human rights machinery in each Pacific Island country
- Producing human rights publications and advocacy materials tailored specifically for the Pacific, including a human rights training manual, booklet on the right to adequate housing and an annual Pacific Digest on human rights case law
- Assisting partners with research, social impact assessments and monitoring and evaluation exercises.

Publications

- Pacific Human Rights Law Digest Volume 1 (2005)
- The Big Seven: Human Rights Conventions & Judicial Declarations (2005)
- Ko e hā'a e CEDAW?, Tonga Catholic Women's League & Pacific Regional Rights Resource Team (2005)
- CEDAW Roadmap: Reporting before the Committee (2003)
- All about CEDAW in 10 Questions and Answers: A Basic Information Guide to CEDAW (2001)
- Law for Pacific Women: a Legal Rights Handbook, P. Imrana Jalal, Fiji Women's Rights Movement FWRM (1998)
- Right Hia - RRRT's e-newsletter

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Asia Monitor Resource Centre (AMRC)

Year Established: 1976

Short Historical Background

As international companies increased their investment in Asia, it became clear that the poor working conditions they brought required an informed response from labor and its supporters. Asia Monitor Resource Centre (AMRC) was part of that response and was founded in Hong Kong in 1976. It is an independent non-governmental organization (NGO) that focuses on Asian labor concerns. The Centre supports a democratic and independent labor movement promoting the principles of labor rights, gender consciousness, and active workers' participation in work related issues.

The AMRC seeks to become a strategic research, education, and information resource partner of the broad Asian labor movement in the struggle for decent jobs, equality, and dignity for Asian working men and women.

Objective

AMRC aims to support and contribute towards the building of a strong, democratic, and independent labor movement in Asia by understanding and responding to the multiple challenges of asserting workers' rights to jobs, decent working conditions, and gender consciousness, while following a participatory framework.

Programs and Activities

Research

AMRC undertakes research with regional and local labor groups into issues affecting workers in Asia. Current research projects include:

- Comparative labor law in Asian countries
- Lay-offs in China's state owned enterprises
- Informalization of labor
- Occupational Safety and Health Education
- Mobility of capital
- Women workers in Asian Export Processing Zones
- The impact of TNC subcontracting on workers and social development
- Migrant workers in Southern China
- Monitoring workers' conditions and workers' rights in the sports shoe, garment, toy, electronics, and gem and jewellery industries.

Information and Documentation

AMRC monitors and processes information on all aspects of labor in Asia including:

- global and regional trends
- national social, political and labor situations
- data on wages and employment
- trade union profiles
- occupational safety and health
- transnational corporations
- industry-specific data.

Services

AMRC provides services to the following:

- grassroots NGOs concerned with women workers, labor issues, and development
- activists within the labor movement
- labor organizations specializing in areas such as education and training, health and safety, and labor rights
- NGOs in developed countries and international organizations concerned with labor rights and labor standards in Asia
- organizations requesting information on specific countries or industries for the purpose of raising public awareness of labor issues in Asia
- NGOs seeking North-South or South-South collaboration on research projects, monitoring, information exchange, and the analysis and sharing of experiences of organizing.

Internships

AMRC offers both long- and short-term internship programs, ranging from two months to one year for Asian labor organizers and activists in the fields of documentation and information management, research, publication, project or issue-based programs, i.e., occupational safety and health, toys production, export promotion zones, and Asian transnational corporations, etc.

Web site

reflects the results of AMRC's research of past and ongoing projects. Archive pages offer information about previous Asian Labour Update (ALU) magazines and other publications, reports, and activities, some of which are available as free downloads.

Publications

- *Asian Labour Update (ALU)* - synonymous with AMRC since 1992, it is a quarterly newsletter examining important labor issues and current events in the Asian region from the workers' perspective.
- AMRC regularly produces books and reports, mostly in English, that reflect its work, studies, and projects.

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Asian Human Rights Commission (AHRC)

Year Established: 1986

Short Historical Background

The Asian Human Rights Commission (AHRC) was founded by a prominent group of jurists and human rights activists in Asia. The AHRC is an independent, non-governmental body, which seeks to promote greater awareness and realization of human rights in the Asian region, and to mobilize Asian and international public opinion to obtain relief and redress for the victims of human rights violations. AHRC promotes civil and political rights, as well as economic, social and cultural rights.

Objectives

1. To protect and promote human rights by monitoring, investigation, advocacy, and taking solidarity actions
2. To work towards social equality, with particular emphasis on social groups who have suffered discrimination in the past, such as women and children and minorities, including Dalits
3. To develop a speedy communication system using modern communication techniques to encourage quicker actions to protect human rights, redress wrongs and prevent violations in future
4. To develop appropriate modes of human rights education and especially promote the folk school approach
5. To promote appropriate legal and administrative reforms, particularly judicial and police reforms
6. To develop close links with the victims of human rights violations to promote solidarity with victims, to preserve the memory of the victims and to organize significant commemorations linking large sections of people for the purpose of eliminating human rights violations
7. To participate in peacemaking, reconciliation, conflict resolution, truth commissions, international tribunals
8. To develop cultural and religious programs for the promotion of human rights
9. To encourage ratification of United Nations instruments and development of local legislation, law enforcement and judicial practices in keeping with such instruments, and assist the formation and functioning of national human rights commissions
10. To promote the United Nations, particularly its human rights agencies and assist organizations and persons in Asia to utilize these agencies for better promotion and protection of human rights in Asia
11. To work towards the development of regional human rights mechanisms and encourage people's participation in this process by promoting the Asian Human Rights Charter.

Programs

- Investigation – investigates specific allegations of human rights violations
- Promotion – aimed at creating greater awareness of human rights and preventing the occurrence of human rights violations in the future
- Communication and Information

Activities

1. Human Rights School – introduces a different way of studying human rights
2. Urgent Appeals Program – consists of a network of contacts of thousands of persons and organizations that deal with human rights violations in Asia.
3. Religious Group on Human Rights – facilitates meetings of religiously-motivated individuals and groups on various issues, such as torture, and runs an e-mail newsletter for this network.
4. Human-Rights-Related Legal and Judicial Training – facilitates analysis and strategizing of ways to bring about reforms in the legal and judicial systems that incorporate respect for human rights according to international standards.
5. Human Rights Training Programs
6. Internships
7. Country-specific Programs
8. Campaign on Eradication of Poverty

Special Concerns

- Rule of law and human rights
- Legal reforms
- Policing
- Criminal justice system
- Torture

Publications

Some of AHRC's recent publications are the following:

- The State of Human Rights in Eleven Asian Nations (2007, 2006)
- Sri Lanka's Dysfunctional Criminal Justice System
- Peoples' power calling for reforms in Pakistan
- Sri Lanka: The Delgoda Family Massacre and Confronting Lawlessness
- Human Rights SOLIDARITY – periodic newsletter

Complete list of books at: www.ahrchk.net/pub/mainfile.php/books/

Special online publications on specific issues:

1. Article 2 (www.article2.org) : published by the Asian Legal Resource Centre (ALRC) in conjunction with Human Rights SOLIDARITY.
2. www.disappearances.org: also known as the Cyber-space Graveyard for Disappeared Persons
3. www.hrschool.org: internet-based Human Rights School

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Asian Migrant Centre (AMC)

Year Established: 1989

Short Historical Background

Asian Migrant Centre (AMC) is a regional, non-governmental, non-profit organization established in Hong Kong in 1989. It was formally registered with the Hong Kong government on 23 December 1991. AMC operates as a monitoring, research, information, publishing, training, support and action center dedicated to the promotion of the human rights and empowerment of migrant workers and their families in Asia towards meaningful social participation as women, workers, agents of change and partners in social development.

Objective

AMC's primary goal is to promote the human rights, dignity and empowerment of migrant workers and their families in Asia, so that they are able to assert and defend their rights and interests, and become partners in sustainable, just and gender-fair social development.

Programs and Activities

Migrants Human Rights (MHR) Program – in view of the tremendous “gap” between international standards on migrants human rights (MHR) and the daily struggles and realities of migrants' working and living conditions, the program works to increase the “critical mass” of organizations advocating for MHR, strengthen region-wide mechanisms to document rights violations, and improve the capabilities, skills and conceptual and practical understandings of advocates on using MHR standards.

The MHR program strives to fulfill AMC's strategic objectives of working with the Asian migration advocacy network, the Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA), to promote the use of migrants human rights standards and the practice of monitoring, documenting, reporting and redressing migrants' rights violations among a broad base of migrant workers' organizations and their support groups in Asia.

Asian Migrant Yearbook - The Asian Migrant Yearbook is AMC's annual publication, providing a yearly report on migration for over twenty countries in Asia.

Mekong Migration (MM) Program – this program aims to cover two areas, namely the intra-Mekong cross-border migration under the Mekong Project; and outgoing migration of Chinese people into Asian countries/territories such as Japan, Korea, Macau, Taiwan and Hong Kong.

Mekong Project – in collaboration with more than twenty regional and national research partners covering the six countries of the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS), the project involves a joint action-oriented research to map migration issues, needs and strategies in the GMS.

Mekong + China Migration (MCM) Program – this program monitors, analyzes and strategizes on migration issues

and needs in the GMS, and looks into the issues surrounding out-going cross-border migration of Chinese people.

Information Monitoring (IMY) Program - collects, organizes and manages a wide range of information related to migration in Asia. AMC maintains a library accessible to migrant workers in Hong Kong, and plans to computerize the library and other sources of information in order to provide access through the Internet. In addition, AMC periodically publishes monographs and reports based on its research, along with statements, conference reports, educational and training materials.

Publications

- Asian Migrant Yearbook
- Resource Book: Migration in the Greater Mekong Subregion
- MFA Newsletter
- Framework Setting and Information Package on Migrants' Right to Health - A Resource Reader
- 2001 Baseline Research on FDHs in Hong Kong
- A Report on the 7th and 8th Regional Conference on Migration
- Building Alliances and Lobbying for Migrants' Human Rights
- Harnessing “Migrant Savings for Alternative Investments” (MSAI)
- Annotated Bibliography 2nd Edition: Migration in the Greater Mekong Subregion
- Migration, Health and Gender: Issues, Trends and Responses
- Underpayment

Other Information

The GMS project resulted in a loose network of migrant advocates, the Mekong Migration Network (MMN), which is perhaps the first broad, organic civil society-based action network on comprehensive migration issues in the GMS. The network strives to work together on four areas: research, advocacy, capacity building and networking.

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Asia Pacific Mission for Migrants (APMM)

Year Established: 1984

Short Historical Background

The Asia Pacific Mission for Migrants (APMM) is a cause-oriented regional center committed to support the migrants' movement through advocacy, organizing, and building linkages for the advancement of migrants' rights.

The name APMM was realized in March 2002 and originally came from the Asia Pacific Mission for Migrant Filipinos or APMMF which was established in 1984. APMM is working with different nationalities of migrants in the Asia Pacific and Middle East regions.

Objectives

APMM aims to help build a movement of migrants of different nationalities in the Asia-Pacific and the Middle East (APME) that actively defends the rights of migrants, advances solidarity with people's movements in the countries where they are working and links up with the people's movements in their home countries.

Programs

Advocacy and Organizing Program (AOP) - APMM undertakes activities to help develop a strong movement of migrant workers, especially in the countries of Asia-Pacific, the Middle East and of the Gulf regions. A comprehensive advocacy program in these areas is undertaken to help in the establishment and strengthening of migrant workers organizations, especially in APMM focus areas. Incorporated in this program are the mission of network-building and linking.

Education and Research Program (ERP) - APMM seeks to raise migrant workers' consciousness, encourages the growth of their own organizing, leadership development, social services skills like counseling and para-legal skills. Research serves as an important part in the overall education work.

APMM conducts research on the various dimensions of migration and the migrants' movement. Research serves an important part in the overall education for it provides relevant information to better understand migration.

Women's Program (WP) - APMM gives primary emphasis to this program because almost two-thirds of migrant workers are women and organizing work will have to be sensitized to women's concerns in conjunction with migrant workers' rights.

Activities

1. Advocacy and Campaigns - for the defense and protection of migrant workers' rights
2. Migrant Organizing and Linkaging - to strengthen the solidarity movement of migrants
3. Women's program - to orient and organize women migrants

4. Mission and Network building - for the enhancement of migrant workers upliftment and well-being
5. Education and Research - for advocacy, information sharing/networking and resource development.

Research projects

- Psychosocial Profile and Perspectives of Foreign Brides (2007)
- Attitude of the Local People to Foreign Brides
- Historical Development and Policies on Overseas Employment in Indonesia
- Deteriorating Conditions in the Japanese Economy and Its Impact on Migrant Labor
- SEGIEHWA ("Globalization") and Korea: Worsening Crisis in Society, Worsening Conditions for Migrant Workers
- The Role and Process of Remittances in the Labor Export Industry in the Philippines
- "Case Study on the Development of Filipino Migrants Movement in Some Selected Countries in the Asia Pacific & Middle East Regions"
- The Truth About Illegal Salary Deductions to Indonesian Migrant Workers in Hongkong.

Special Concerns

- Undocumented Migrants
- Immigrant Brides (Foreign Brides)
- Globalization and Migration
- Wages, Job security and Benefits

Publications

- APMM News and Digest
- Migrant Monitor (analysis on issues related to migration and globalization)

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Asia Pacific Mission for Migrants (APMM)

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The China Labour Bulletin (CLB)

Year Established: 1994

Short Historical Background

The China Labour Bulletin (CLB), founded in 1994 by labor activist Han Dongfang, seeks to uphold and defend the rights of workers across China. It supports the development of democratic trade unions, respect for and enforcement of the country's labor laws, and the full participation of workers in the creation of civil society. It also seeks the official recognition in China of international standards and conventions providing for workers' freedom of association and the right to free collective bargaining.

It is based in Hong Kong and has close links with trade unions and other non-governmental organizations (NGOs) around the world, as well as with numerous partner groups in mainland China. Over the last thirteen years, CLB has grown from a small monitoring and research group into a proactive outreach organization with a wide range of domestic and international programs and initiatives.

Objective

CLB aims to uphold and defend the rights of workers across China.

Programs

Research Program - production of in-depth reports on the labor rights situation in China, ranging from the country's appalling coal mine safety record, the silicosis epidemic among Guangdong's gemstone workers, and the abusive labor conditions endured by female migrant workers from the countryside.

Negotiations Program - promotion of factory-wide, collective labor contracts as an alternative to management-imposed corporate codes of conduct.

Labor Rights Litigation Program - includes the identification of cases of labor rights abuse, provision of legal advice and support to the Chinese workers concerned, and extending help to them and their families in seeking justice through court litigation. The program covers civil, criminal and administrative cases of laborers.

Campaign - calling for the release of detained workers and for the end to the heavy death toll of Chinese workers

Publications

English Language Reports

- Help or Hindrance to Workers: China's Institutions of Public Redress (2008)
- Bone and Blood: The Price of Coal in China (2008)
- Speaking Out: The Workers' Movement in China, 2005-2006 (2007)
- Breaking the Impasse: Promoting Worker Involvement in the Collective Bargaining and Contracts Process (2007)

- Small Hands: A Survey Report on Child Labour in China (2007)
- Public Interest Litigation in China: A New Force for Social Justice (2007)
- Falling Through the Floor: Migrant Women Workers' Quest for Decent Work in Dongguan, China (2006)
- Deadly Dust: The Silicosis Epidemic among Guangdong Jewellery Workers (2005)

Chinese Language Reports

- No Legal Recourse: Why collective labor protests lead to conflict with the law (2008)
- Help or Hindrance: An analysis of public protection procedures in three occupational injury cases (2007)
- Breaking the Impasse: Promoting Worker Involvement in the Collective Bargaining and Contracts Process (2007)
- Speaking Out: The Workers' Movement in China, 2005-2006 (2007)
- Putting People First? China's Coal Mine Accident Compensation System (2006)
- Bloody Coal: A Report on Coal Mine Safety in China (2006)
- Deadly Dust: The Silicosis Epidemic among Guangdong Jewellery Workers (2005)

China Labour Bulletin Weekly Roundup

CLB's online newsletters (also available in e-mails)

- E-Bulletins
- Action Updates
- NewsFlash

Other Information

CLB's Resource Centre provides an overview of important labor issues in China. It helps readers appreciate Chinese labor relations from a macroscopic perspective and gives them a better understanding of the historical and economic context of the key issues. The Resource Centre covers eight topics: 1) State owned Enterprises (SOE) reforms; 2) unemployment; 3) wages; 4) labor dispute resolution mechanisms and labor rights supervision; 5) social security; 6) work-related injuries; 7) migrant workers, and 8) laws and regulations.

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Documentation for Action Groups in Asia (DAGA)

Year Established: 1973

Short Historical Background

DAGA was formed by the Urban Rural Mission desk of the Christian Conference of Asia (CCA) to serve ecumenical action groups in the area of information solidarity - by collecting, analyzing and sharing information for action. Both the CCA and DAGA are gazetted as charitable institutions in Hong Kong. DAGA envisions a just world in which all peoples, especially the marginalized, participate in decision-making processes that affect their lives and livelihood. DAGA also envisions a world where peace is not the absence of war or violence but rather a product of a community living with justice. One major initiative working towards this vision is the Center for JustPeace in Asia.

DAGA is :

1. a venue to articulate the language of hope: sharing people's struggles, alternative paradigms, and where people can take control of their lives by bringing about changes even at the local level
2. a channel that links the stories of grassroots people with other action groups and the ecumenical movement
3. an infrastructure for information sharing, research and analysis on key issues, training and action, and
4. a network that mobilizes the resources, services and contribution of the people and action groups for communication and relevant publications.

Objectives

DAGA aims

1. To establish an effective, stable and accessible resource and information center for action groups in Asia
2. To promote electronically linked database as well as strengthening the other systems and information networks among regional and national groups for more efficient production and sharing of vital information among action groups in Asia
3. To conduct research and information campaigns on important and key issues such as the rural economy, Asian transnational corporations, indigenous peoples and minority groups, peacebuilding and conflict transformation
4. To provide training and support to activists and action groups committed to peacebuilding and conflict transformation in Asia
5. To facilitate the networking of action groups in Asia as well as provide vital information for the mission work of the churches and ecumenical partners in Asia and abroad.

Programs

The Center for JustPeace in Asia (CJPA) aims to connect grassroots peace activists from around Asia to enable a process of discussing, documenting and building indigenous experiences of local grassroots communities on

peacebuilding and conflict transformation in Asia. It also aims to seek ways to make use of this accumulated wisdom and experience to develop more effective and appropriate models for conflict transformation and peace-making at the local, national and global levels.

Publications

- Burmese Migrant Workers in Thailand (2005)
- U.S. Military Presence in Asia (2004)
- Maori and Pacific Island Stories of Peace and Justice (2003)
- Kashmir - Disputed Territory; Paradise Lost (2002)
- The War on Terror: Reordering the World (2002)
- Justice! Not Impunity. Stop US Military Crimes (2002)
- Military and Ethnic Conflicts in Burma (2001)
- China and the WTO (I & II) (2000 & 2002)
- Taming Global Financial Flows (2000)
- Hong Kong (series 1997 & 1999)
- A Citizen Guide to the Globalisation of Finance (1999)
- The 13th Lok Sabha: a test of diversity and dissent in India (1999)
- Timor Lorosae (1999)
- Challenging Globalisation: Solidarity and Search for Alternatives (1999)

Address

Documentation for Action Groups in Asia (DAGA)

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Hong Kong Human Rights Monitor

Year Established: 1995

Short Historical Background

Established in April 1995, the Hong Kong Human Rights Monitor is an independent, non-partisan organization rooted in the local community.

Objectives

WHKHRM aims to promote better human rights protection in Hong Kong, both in terms of law and of practical life, and to encourage greater human rights awareness through education.

Programs and Activities

1. *Advocacy* - monitoring laws, policies and actions of the authorities and campaigning on various issues on human rights and the rule of the law.
2. *Briefing* - briefing the press, the United Nations, Hong Kong and foreign governments and legislature on Hong Kong human rights issues verbally orally or in writing.
3. *Research* - researching on various important topics including the police, prisons, immigration law, constitutional issues, and freedoms of association, assembly and expression, etc.
4. *Education* - publishing human rights materials in Chinese and English (sometimes all and some in Tagalog) including a newsletter, teach-yourself human rights booklets, human rights materials.
5. *Case Work* - handling cases referred by other non-governmental organizations (NGOs) which have strong implications for legal or institutional reforms in certain areas and go beyond the interest of the individual client, especially on police and immigration issues.

Publications

- Anti-Small Circle Election pamphlet (PDF, Chinese)
- Anti-Functional Constituency pamphlet (PDF, Chinese)
- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- What are Human Rights
- Take Your Rights Seriously
- District Council Election Pamphlet
- 2004 People's Power calendar

Other Information

Structure

- a. Hong Kong Human Rights Monitor - a Hong Kong organization comprises of mainly Hong Kong Chinese with mandate on human rights and the rule of the laws issues in the territory
- b. Hong Kong Human Rights Monitor Education Charitable Trust - a human rights charitable fund in Hong Kong to promote awareness of human rights among the people of Hong Kong
- c. Digital Library- holds human rights treaties and related documents in electronic format

- d. Resource and Information Centre - collects and disseminates basic human rights information.

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www.hkhrm.org.hk

Asian Centre for Human Rights (ACHR)

Year Established: 2003

Short Historical Background

The Asian Centre for Human Rights, established in March 2003, is dedicated to the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the Asian region.

Objectives

ACHR aims

1. To provide accurate and timely information and complaints to the National Human Rights Institutions, the United Nations bodies and mechanisms as appropriate
2. To conduct investigation, research, campaigning and lobbying on country situations or individual cases
3. To increase the capacity of human rights defenders and civil society groups through relevant trainings on the use of national and international human rights procedures
4. To provide input into international standard-setting processes on human rights
5. To provide legal, political and practical advice according to the needs of human rights defenders and civil society groups
6. To secure the economic, social and cultural rights through rights-based approaches to development.

Activities

ACHR publishes reports, briefing papers, and a weekly review on a variety of human rights issues affecting many countries in Asia.

It also engages in campaigns (such as on refugee and custodial death issues), and issues articles on many human rights issues for media outlets within Asia and beyond.

Publications

Reports:

- Pakistan: The Land of Religious Apartheid and Jackboot Justice (2007)
- Need for a National Law for Prevention of Torture (2007)
- India Human Rights Report (annual)
- Naxal Conflict in 2006
- SAARC Human Rights Report (2006)
- The Adivasis of Chhattisgarh: Victims of the Naxalite Movement and Salwa Judum Campaign (2006)
- Nepal: One Year of Royal Anarchy (2006)
- Torture & Lawless Law Enforcement in Sri Lanka: A Shadow Report to the UNU Committee Against Torture (2005)
- Torture in Nepal: A Case for Investigation by CAT (2006)
- Lessons Not Learnt by Assam: Ethnic cleansing and internal displacement in Karbi Anglong and North

Cachar Hills (2005)

- The Chinese Chequer: Split Wide Open in Nepal (2005)
- The Bindunuwewa Massacre: A Cry for Justice (2005)
- The Banana Republic of Thailand: Rule of the Jungle in the Name of Emergency (2005)
- Beyond Gender: Illegal Laws, Ethnicity, Armed Conflicts and Trafficking (2005)
- UN Human Rights Council: Illusions, Realities and Kofi Annan's Search for Legacy (2005)
- Maldives: The Dark Side of Life (2005)

Briefing Papers:

- Unfair trial and continued imprisonment of former parliamentarian Sheikh Hasina (2007)
- Maldives : Judiciary under the President's Thumb (2007)
- Withdrawal of the Maoists' unilateral cease-fire: Where does Nepal go? (2006)
- Nepal: End of the anachronistic monarchy? (2005)
- Joint letter on new Code of Conduct for "Social Organizations" in Nepal (2005)
- The Chinese Chequer: Split Wide Open in Nepal (2005)
- 11th Briefing Papers on Nepal: The case for sanctions and extension of restrictive measures (2005)
- Who funds the acts of racism and racial discrimination in the Chittagong Hill Tracts? (2005)
- ACHR WEEKLY REVIEW- an online report that provides analysis of human rights issues.

All these publications are available in the ACHR website.

Address

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Centre for Development and Human Rights (CDHR)

Year Established: 2002

Short Historical Background

The Centre for Development and Human Rights (CDHR) is a research organization based at New Delhi, registered under the Societies Registration Act XXI, 1860 (Registration No. S.38721 of 2002). CDHR is dedicated to bringing theoretical clarity to the concept of Right to Development (RTD) by integrating the academic disciplines of law, economics, international co-operation and philosophy.

Objectives

The Centre aims to promote discussion and debate among academicians, scholars, policymakers and civil society and non-governmental organizations and bring about theoretical clarity to the issues of rights-based approaches to development and eradication of poverty and realization of related socio-economic rights such as the Right to Health, Right to Education and the Right to Food.

Activities

CDHR is involved in:

- Raising national and international awareness that the Right to Development is a human right
- Publishing a bi-monthly 'Rights and Development' Bulletin addressing contemporary human rights issues in India and South Asia
- Networking with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working on various aspects of development and human rights
- Examining implications of integrating a human rights perspective into existing development programs
- Undertaking research both independently and in collaboration with other institutions
- Publishing monographs, reports and papers on development, public policy and human rights
- Organizing seminars and workshops on aspects of development, public policy and human rights.

Research areas

1. *Basic Rights and Right to Development*
 - (i) Right to Food
 - (ii) Right to Health
 - (iii) Right to Education
2. *Poverty and Right to Development* - stresses the underlying principle of RTD in designing the implementation of poverty alleviation schemes. This involves a substantial rethinking of the existing methodologies for analysis of poverty by learning from the experiences of other countries and regions, and working with policymakers and civil society organizations for a dialogue on poverty alleviation from the RTD perspective.
3. *Theoretical Formulation of Right to Development* - although RTD has evolved substantially since the adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Right to Development, its nature, content and form remain a controversial issue till date. This activity aims to devel-

op a comprehensive notion of human rights that are justiciable and enforceable, and their level of achievement measurable in terms of indicators.

4. *International Legal Aspects of Right to Development* – aims to address the numerous questions about the enforcement of RTD by examining these legal problems, and documenting the evolution of RTD and its current status in international law.
5. *Development Co-operation and Right to Development* – examines within the RTD framework the concept of development co-operation that introduces certain distinct characteristics aimed at reducing the stigma attached to development aid, moving from a traditional recipient-donor relationship to a mutually beneficial partnership. Moreover, in contrast to a singular focus on aid flows, the RTD framework suggests a comprehensive package of development cooperation comprising other measures such as trade and investments.
6. *Trade and RTD* – examines the important question on the distribution of the benefits of the process of trade liberalization among the various economic agents. The policies and programs of national governments and international organizations are critical factors in this regard. The policies of the World Trade Organization (WTO) are the most crucial factor because these provisions are binding on all the members. The WTO agreements, particularly the Agreement of Agriculture and the Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights, have direct implications on the realization of the Right to Development in the developing countries.

Publications

- The Right to Development – A Prime
- Rights and Development – bi-monthly Bulletin. Available online at www.cdhr.org.in
- Reflections on the Right to Development

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Centre for Organisation, Research and Education (CORE)

Year Established: 1987

Short Historical Background

The Centre for Organisation Research & Education (CORE) was established on 24 March 1987 as an indigenous peoples' human rights and policy center for India's Eastern Himalayan Territories. It is a registered non-profit society under the Manipur Societies Registration Act of 1860, with FCRA certification and Income Tax exemption. Since 2004, it is in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations.

Objectives

CORE aims:

1. To contribute to socially equitable, economically efficient and environmentally sound development through the application of Science, Technology and Management to the rational utilization of resources and information for increased human well-being and the conservation of the natural environment
2. To achieve satisfaction of basic human needs through widespread diffusion of appropriate technology and establishment of equitable exchange systems
3. To enable the conservation and management of the natural and "built" environment through ecologically and economically sustainable and energy conserving extraction, production, distribution and service systems
4. To promote and establish effective education, training, skill upgrade, documentation and information processing and dissemination program and facilities for school and non-formal education and artisan and professional training drawing on local culture or sub-culture-specific tradition, information and database, media and modalities and evolution of appropriate interface with other cultural, traditional, or modern media, technologies, policies or information systems
5. To establish and support community development and legal aid programs for specific problems and issues as needed or desired by specific sections or communities such as indigenous peoples/tribal, women, children, the economically deprived or other disadvantaged groups
6. To establish facilities for dissemination of information, including the development of materials (in the form of film, television and radio programs, theater plays and art works), to the mass media and for the public on culture, arts and crafts, development, science, technology, the environment or other materials or issues of interest and the need for various audiences
7. To provide support services for the planning, development and management of local production, distribution, co-operative, government or voluntary institutions
8. To initiate the establishment of appropriate services for the specific health needs of youth, women and children who have survived torture in state detention and

interrogation centers, by supporting them to identify their psychological and emotional trauma

9. To rapidly develop a manual for the training of trainers for support to torture survivors, using local, regional and international experiences as input
10. To improve the capacity of CORE to develop and monitor a special program addressing the particular needs of torture survivors
11. To sensitize, and initiate a training program for, health workers in the private and public health services, modern and traditional, on the contextual and technical aspects of supporting torture survivors
12. To initiate the systematic documentation of torture as practiced in Manipur and the specifics of individual cases to make the information useful in their legal support, as well as sensitization and advocacy work.

Programs

Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms - CORE's human rights program attempts to comprehensively address all aspects, including support to communities and survivors, documentation and monitoring, advocacy, training and networking.

Documentation Research and Resource Centre - the documentation work of CORE is a systematic process of collecting information from newspapers and magazines, with follow-up research on selected issues or events using internet sources and field verification.

Indigenous Children and Youth - in addition to the range of activities on the ground, including peer counseling and support services for traumatized children. Children and young people who are active in the program have also taken up issues of rights violations of physically challenged children and youth as a special focus.

Women's Leadership and Governance - in the context of CORE's on-going and multi faceted erosion of indigenous women's rights in the region, CORE has taken a strong stand over the years in advocating the strengthening and revival of traditional indigenous community structures and institutions which acknowledge and affirm indigenous women's status and role in society.

Environment and sustainable development - CORE was the founder Secretariat till 2005 of the Citizens' Concern on Dams and Development (CCDD), formed in 1999 to work on the issue of Dams and Development in Manipur. CCDD has more than forty community organizations and leaders as members.

Health - CORE co-chairs the Committee on Indigenous Health, an international committee of indigenous peoples organizations working at United Nations forums and platforms to advocate for Indigenous Peoples' rights to health. The Committee researches, compiles and pres-

ents submissions at appropriate United Nations conferences, meetings and other platforms.

Activities

CORE's Community Program for Young Survivors of Torture has the following activities:

1. Training - consisting of documentation and record keeping, case record maintenance, referrals and support for accessing services, counseling and human rights.
2. Research - including surveys, assessments and studies of the impact of prevention Activities.
3. Documentation – consists of medical and legal documentation, library and information services, and monitoring of alleged and reported cases of torture.
4. Prevention – includes public sensitization and awareness training and campaigns, advocacy on the ratification by the Government of India of international

human rights instruments, media campaigns on the Convention against Torture, and advocacy with health professionals and security personnel. CORE also publishes training manuals and handbooks.

5. Information and advocacy - CORE publishes reports, liaises with the media, conducts campaigns, carries out fundraising activities and government lobbying and participates in international forums.

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The Centre for Feminist Legal Research

Year Established: 1995

Short Historical Background

The Centre for Feminist Legal Research (New Delhi) works on issues of feminist legal theory, postcolonial theory, human rights and law. Its work has focused on four broad categories of rights:

- Postcolonial Approaches to International and Human Rights Law
- The right to freedom of speech
- The right to freedom of religion/secularism
- The right to equality
- The right to sexual autonomy/bodily integrity.

Objectives

CFLR aims

1. To develop a critical understanding of the role of law in the lives of women and other disadvantaged groups through research and promoting critical scholarship
2. To develop a multidisciplinary approach to legal studies by exploring the intersections between law and other disciplines
3. To develop feminist critiques and analysis of the limitations and possibilities of law and culture in the struggle for empowerment of disadvantaged groups or communities
4. To publish and disseminate our research to a broad cross section of scholars and practitioners.

Programs

Research/Internship - the Centre invites persons interested in legal research, postcolonial theory, feminist theory and subaltern studies, to submit research proposals to the institution. The Centre has sponsored many researchers over the years both as interns and as visitors.

Library and Documentation.

Gender, Law and Sexuality Exchange - the Centre has an ongoing research exchange program on the area of gender, law and sexuality with the Keele Law School and Leeds University, U.K. The Indian researchers, selected by the Centre, spend four to six weeks at these British institutions in order to carry out research and participate in the intellectual life of the host institution.

Sexuality, Rights and Post-colonial Exchange - the Centre focuses on analyzing how the epidemic impacts the women's rights agenda, especially sexual speech and expression, as well as trying to influence the development of successful human rights intervention policies and programs in this area.

Activities

- Exploring the multiple ways in which law, legal discourse and legal institutions operate to reinforce women's oppression
- Developing a sophisticated understanding of the role

of law to improve the position of women rather than unproblematically pursuing strategies of law reform

- Developing a feminist analysis of law to formulate more critical ways of using practicing, addressing and writing about law as it relates to women's lives.

Special Concerns

CFLR works on issues of Feminist Legal Theory, Postcolonial theory, human rights and Law.

Publications

- Cross Border Movements and Human Rights
- Trafficking Reform : An analysis of the protection of the rights of positive people, children and sex workers
- A handbook on human rights and legislative practices to combat trafficking in persons
- Consultation on Gender, Migration and the Law: Focus on Bangladesh, India and Nepal

Other Information

CFLR encourages students, researchers and individuals to use its library facilities during the Centre's working hours.

Address

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Centre for Promotion of Human Rights Teaching and Research (HURITER)

Year Established: 2004

Short Historical Background

The Documentation-Information Centre for Human Rights Teaching & Research (HURITER) was set up on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights--10 December 1983-- as a part of the Program of Human Rights Teaching & Research of the School of International Studies at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU). HURITER has the support of the University Grants Commission and works within the framework of UNESCO Program for Promotion of Human Rights Education.

Objectives

HURITER aims to promote interdisciplinary research and teaching in the field of human rights at all levels of education and to that end:

1. Serve as a means of liaison and coordination between the teachers and institutions specializing in human rights education and contribute to all forms of research and reflections essential to the teaching of human rights
2. Make available the text of international instruments--declarations, conventions, treaties, etc.--adopted by the United Nations/UNESCO/ILO and other international organizations as also relevant documents, studies and reports prepared by these organizations
3. Collect and disseminate information on national and international human rights laws, as well as information, materials, syllabic and instructional guides for all levels of education and availability of materials towards setting of priorities for effective human rights research
4. Facilitate interaction among teachers, scholars and human rights activists primarily by means of seminars, meetings and conferences.

Programs and Activities

Teaching - HURITER introduced in 1984 an optional course entitled "Human Rights: Problems & Perspectives," and in 1991 an optional course entitled "Human Rights and World Order" for M.A. students.

Research - HURITER assists people in the formulation of human rights course curriculum, research proposals, dissertations, theses, etc. to help introduce human rights courses in several universities in India.

Documentation - HURITER has a collection of texts of the most important international laws on human rights, selected documents of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), International Labor Organization (ILO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), summary records of international bodies such as the Human Rights Committee (HRC) and the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD).

Dissemination of Information - one of the main purposes

of HURITER is to assist scholars and teachers in obtaining information and source material needed for their work.

Internships - HURITER offers internships to exceptionally brilliant students, research scholars, human rights activists, etc., who are interested in working on human rights issues. The facility is intended to increase human rights awareness and competence, particularly from the legal perspective to a broad spectrum of people.

Seminars/symposiums - HURITER organizes seminars/symposiums such as the

- National Summit on Disability, Human Rights Law and Policy, 1-4 December 2004, organised in collaboration with the Society for Disability and Rehabilitation Studies, New Delhi.
- National Seminar on "Human Rights and Social Justice in India" on the occasion of the 56th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on 10 December 2004 and in memory of late Professor K.P. Saksena (Founder Director - HURITER).
- National Seminar on "The Rights of Tribals" on the occasion of International Human Rights Day on 10 December 2005.

Publications

- Teaching about Human Rights at the Secondary School level (prepared for NCERT/UNESCO pilot project, 1982-83)
- Human Rights in Asia: Problems and Perspectives (summary of proceedings and text of working paper of the seminar held in December 1982)
- Human Rights Education (working papers and conclusions and recommendations of the seminar held in December 1984)
- The Teaching of Human Rights (Proceedings of the First National Symposium on Human Rights Teaching in India at the University (under-graduate) level, May 1985).

Address

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The Documentation, Research and Training Centre (DRTC)

Year Established: 1993

Short Historical Background

The Documentation, Research and Training Centre (DRTC) was inaugurated on 13 November 1993 by Cardinal Simon Pimenta in Mumbai city, India to aid the Justice and Peace Commission of the Archdiocese of Mumbai. On 14 December 1997, at a symposium held to commemorate the fiftieth year of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR, 1948), the Justice and Peace Commission of the Archdiocese of Mumbai mandated the DRTC to set up a watch cell. This Human Rights Watch Cell (HRWC) was set up on 1 January 1998.

Objectives

DRTC aims

1. To promote a human rights culture
2. To provide accurate and timely information about human rights violations in India
3. To promote public awareness about the nature and importance of human rights in India
4. To participate more actively in Indian and international human rights movements.

Programs

To realize its vision and objectives, DRTC implements the following programs:

Documentation and Publication - this program serves individuals, communities and organizations with timely relevant and useful information, thus providing the basis for people's empowerment. Its resources, activities and services focus on the following areas - ecology, communication, development, education, judiciary and law, health, society, politics, religion, culture, human rights, etc. The resources are in English and a few in Hindi, Marathi and Tamil. A facility is maintained offering multi-media resource materials such as books, magazines, audio-video cassettes, slides, posters, journals, documents, reports, etc., to social action groups for training programs, meetings, seminars, symposia, exhibitions, etc.

Human Rights Watch Cell - this program mobilizes victimized groups on a human rights issues and works towards appropriate changes in policymaking and the law. It also prepares documentation, and conducts training and research on human rights issues.

Legal Aid Cell - this aims to provide legal assistance to the poor, conduct paralegal courses to equip trainees with basic knowledge of law to handle simple matters, help promote and build legal cells in Mumbai, prepare documents, bulletins and information on legal issues, identify and conduct studies on important socio-legal issues affecting the marginalized communities, revitalize the concept of Lok Adalats, strengthen the government's legal aid program, and develop the concept of mobile courts and barefoot lawyers for speedy dispensation of justice.

Training - this aims to enhance the capacities of the trainees through information, skills and attitude building, strengthen the capacities of people's organizations, non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, institutions, professionals and social activists to understand and analyze social realities, micro/macro linkages, global trends, emerging market forces and help the development of just, equitable and sustainable alternatives, conduct different training programs either on the initiative of DRTC or upon request, and equip leaders/trainers to be resources for their local communities.

Activities

Human Rights Cell Watch

- Mobilization of victimized groups on human rights issues for appropriate changes in policy making and the law
- Monitoring and reporting appropriate responses when human rights violations occur
- Arbitration to reconcile differences between parties in cases brought to it
- Networking with like-minded groups
- Documentation, training and research on human rights issues
- Awareness-raising and education, preparing training modules on various human rights issues such as the rights of children, rights of women, right to the environment etc.

Legal Aid Cell - includes a legal service to the needy, paralegal courses, establishment of legal aid cells, training of law students, reparation of legal bulletins.

Training - training programs, seminars, workshops, symposiums related to organizing work in communities, law, human rights, documentation, research and other related topics in keeping with the aims of DRTC.

Publications

- Humanity Today (human rights magazine)
- Understanding Human Rights
- Preliminary Ideas in Human Rights
- Indian Constitution and Fundamental Rights (in Hindi)
- Hindu Laws (in Hindi)

Address

Documentation Research & Training Centre (DRTC)
Justice & Peace Commission
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<http://jpc-drtcmbai.org>

The Human Rights Law Network (HRLN)

Year Established: 1989

Short Historical Background

The Human Rights Law Network (HRLN) is a collection of lawyers and social activists dedicated to the use of the legal system to advance human rights, struggle against violations, and ensure access to justice for all. A non-profit, non-governmental organization, HRLN defines rights to include civil and political rights as well as economic, social, cultural and environmental rights. It believes that human rights are universal and indivisible, and their realization is an immediate goal.

Starting in 1989 as an informal group of lawyers and social activists, HRLN has evolved into a human rights organization with an active presence in many states of India.

Objectives

HRLN aims

1. To protect fundamental human rights, increase access to basic resources for marginalized communities, and eliminate discrimination
2. To create a justice delivery system that is accessible, accountable, transparent, efficient and affordable, and works for the underprivileged
3. To raise the level of pro bono legal expertise for the poor to make the work uniformly competent as well as compassionate
4. To equip through professional training a new generation of public interest lawyers and paralegals who are comfortable both in the world of law as well as in social movements, and who learn from the social movements to refine legal concepts and strategies.
5. To work towards an increased awareness of rights as universal and indivisible, and their realization as an immediate goal.

Programs and Activities

Legal Aid and Public Interest Litigation - quick response and pro bono expertise provided to those who have little or no access to the justice system.

Legal Education - continuous campaigns to broad constituencies for better understanding about the law and the judicial system through different channels in the variety of Indian languages, and through materials that are focused on target audiences.

Advocacy - in courts, in the media, and in various public and legislative forums, HRLN is a strong advocate for laws and policies that promote and defend human rights. An important part of HRLN's work involves advocacy against legislation and policies that undermine human rights. This includes working to increase public awareness through research and dissemination of accurate information on violations and anti-poor policies.

Communication and Publications - HRLN publishes 'know

your rights' material including books, reports and posters to simplify and make accessible important developments in human rights and law in India. Films on themes of importance are made to promote debate and discussion, and to mobilize opinion around the campaign for human rights. The posters compile legal information around an issue and present it in a comprehensive yet easy-to-understand style for a mass audience.

Publications

Magazine

- Combat Law

Books

- Can Society Escape the Noose...? The Death Penalty in India
- The Terror of POTA & Other Security Legislations
- Prisoners Rights Handbook
- Women & the Law - Vols. I & II
- Mahila Aivam Kanoon (Women and the Law)
- A Users Manual on Combating Sexual Harassment at the Workplace
- The Campaign against Sexual Harassment at the Workplace - A Training Manual
- Supreme Court on Rape Laws
- A Resource Book on Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Rights in India
- Dalits and the Law
- Refugee and the Law
- Right to Food
- Eviction Watch India

Films

- The Terror of POTA and Other Security Legislations
- Manipur In the Shadow of the AFSPA
- Ab Khamoshi Kyon? - sexual harassment at the workplace
- The Assassination – starvation and the struggle for the right to food

Address

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The Indian Institute of Dalit Studies (IIDS)

Year Established: 2002

Short Historical Background

The Indian Institute of Dalit Studies (IIDS) was established on the initiative of a network of Dalit non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and some academic activists in January 2002 with specific purpose: to fill the lacunae in the knowledge pertaining to issues of social exclusion and discrimination associated with caste, untouchability, ethnicity, religious status and other group identities with a focus on marginalized groups in the Indian society.

Since its inception, IIDS has engaged in research, development of a database, development of a Documentation Centre, dissemination of its research findings, providing support to civil society organizations and the government, and has conducted other related activities on its thrust areas.

Objectives

IIDS aims to undertake interdisciplinary and application-based research

1. To provide knowledge support to civil society organizations working for the marginalized sections
2. To enable and support the government and other organizations in developing appropriate policies for social inclusion, and
3. To serve as a Resource Centre for researchers, activists and others alike.

Programs and Activities

The primary focus of IIDS is research and generation of information on the issue of social exclusion and discrimination. The research priorities of the Institute, therefore, are as follows:

- Theoretical research on the concepts of social exclusion and discrimination in social, cultural, political and economic spheres, including theoretical research on the consequences of social exclusion, and remedies against various types of exclusions and developing methods for measuring social exclusion in multiple spheres
- Empirical research on measuring the forms, magnitude and nature of discrimination in social, cultural, political, economic and other spheres. Research on the consequences of social exclusion on inter-group inequality, poverty, human right violations, inter-group conflicts and on economic development of the marginalized communities in general
- Empirical research on the status of excluded and discriminated groups in the Indian society with respect to their social, cultural, political, and economic rights.
- Empirical research for developing policies for social inclusion and empowerment of the socially excluded groups in various spheres.

Publications

- Meri Katha - Dalit Yatna, Sangharsh and Bhavishya, Matin Macwan (New Delhi: Vani Prakashan)
- Dalit Leadership in Panchayats: A Comparative Study of Four States,
- Narendra Kumar and Manoj Rai (New Delhi and Jaipur: Indian Institute of Dalit Studies and Rawat Publications, 2006)
- Reservation and Private Sector – Quest for Equal Opportunity and Growth, Sukhadeo Thorat, Aryama and Prashant Negi) New Delhi and Jaipur: Indian Institute of Dalit Studies and Rawat Publications, 2005)
- Caste, Race and Discrimination – Discourses in International Context, Sukhadeo Thorat and Umakant (New Delhi and Jaipur: Indian Institute of Dalit Studies and Rawat Publications, 2004)

Under publication

- Ambedkar in Retrospect - Essays on Economics, Politics and Society, Sukhadeo Thorat and Aryama (New Delhi and Jaipur : Indian Institute of Dalit Studies and Rawat Publications)
- Dalits in India, Sukhadeo Thorat (assisted by Prashant Negi, Motilal Mahamallik and Chittaranjan Senapati) (New Delhi: Sage Publications)
- My Story - Dalit Atrocities, Struggles and Future, Martin Macwan (Translated and Edited by Prashant Negi) (New Delhi: Indian Institute of Dalit Studies and Rawat Publications)
- Bhartiya Dalit Sahitya ka Swar (in 12 Languages), Vimal Thorat and Suraj Kumar Bartiya, Volume I (New Delhi and Jaipur: Indian Institute of Dalit Studies and Rawat Publications)
- Reservation Policy for Private Sector – Why and How Sukhadeo Thorat, Sugava Prakashan (Pune, 2004)
- The Hindu Social System and Human Rights of Dalits, Sukhadeo Thorat (New Delhi: Critical Quest, 2004)

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Indian Social Institute – Bangalore

Year Established: 1963

Short Historical Background

The Indian Social Institute (ISI), Bangalore is a national center with special focus on the four states in South India, namely Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. The Institute is committed to work for the emergence of democratic, egalitarian, secular, cultural-pluralist society. Consequently, the Institute focuses its attention on socio-economic and politico-cultural issues related to the poor in general and the Dalits, tribals, women, unorganized workers and children in particular. It began as a sister organization of ISI-Delhi and, in 1993, it became an independent institution.

Objectives

ISI Bangalore aims

1. To support the people's movements and organizations by providing various training to its cadres
2. To increase the capacity of dalits, adivasis / tribals and women leadership
3. To train non-governmental organizations (NGOs), community-based organizations (CBOs), university teachers and students and people's organizations in rights-based intervention, gender mainstreaming, advocacy and lobbying
4. To promote and strengthen civil society activities in Bangalore
5. To promote and support campaigns on issues related to the discriminated and excluded
6. To publish resource materials for training
7. To engage in action research.

Programs

Training - one of the major activities of the Institute undertaken through various units, namely, Training and Human Rights, Women's and Outreach. Democratization of knowledge is the underlying principle of all our training programs, which are therefore designed to equip the participants with knowledge of socio-cultural realities, effective animation skills and proper value perspective.

Training & Human Rights – the Institute deals with a wide spectrum of human rights issues, viz., Dalit rights, tribal rights, minority rights, women's rights, child rights, etc., and has always responded to the violations of rights of these communities. Its fieldwork involves human rights trainings, seminars, education in schools and colleges, fact-finding missions, lobbying, advocacy and public protests.

Women's Unit – this unit aims at empowering women through training, capacity building, advocacy, etc.

Outreach - the Institute has four outreach units extending service to four southern states of India. Programs are organized for grassroots social activists and leaders of marginalized groups like dalits and tribals in collabora-

tion with people's organizations and movements and NGO networks.

Research - the Institute carries out action research to generate awareness among the general public and the decisionmakers and to come up with alternatives. ISI-Bangalore in collaboration with likeminded groups has so far conducted the following research studies in the recent past:

- Paradigm shift in development Co-operation
- Land to Dalits
- Rights to Tribal Girls Education
- Development - Induced Displacement Case of Kerala
- Impact of Globalization on the Tribals in Kerala

Activities

Though ISI-Bangalore pays special attention to the four southern states in India it has positively responded to international collaborations and initiatives such as:

- International conference on "Globalisation & the Political economy of Labour, Gender & Social Movements" in collaboration with ISS, The Hague in December 2002
- Participation in "World Conference Against Racism" held at Durban, South Africa in September 2001
- Nodal role in promoting National Campaign for Dalit Human Rights NCDHR in the wake of World Conference Against Racism
- Lecture on "Affirmative action" in collaboration with United States Consulate - Chennai in February 2001
- Training program on "Social, Economic and Cultural Rights of the Marginalised: Access, Violations & Atrocities" in collaboration with Centre for Dignity and Rights CEDAR, The Hague, Netherlands in June 2000.

Publications

ISI publishes on its own and also facilitates publication of resource materials which can be used by grassroots people and NGOs such as

- Development-Induced Displacement, Case of Kerala
- Land to the Dalits-Panchami Land Struggle in Tamil Nadu
- Paradigm Shifts in Development Cooperation – NGO Dilemmas and Options
- Globalisation and the Emerging Development Paradigm

Other Information

The Institute has a library with about 10,000 books on specialized themes, sixty-five journals, fifteen newspapers and four hundred documentary collections that are used by activists and academicians.

Address

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Indian Social Institute - Delhi

Year Established: 1951

Short Historical Background

The Indian Social Institute, New Delhi was established in 1951 in response to the challenges of nation-building and a new emerging social order in an independent India. In 1980, the Institute committed itself to the strengthening of people's movements particularly those of the scheduled castes/dalits, tribals/indigenous peoples and other marginalized communities, and joining them in their causes. The Institute operates in the context of huge and dramatic changes taking place in the country influenced by internal and external forces and factors, theories and practices, acts of commission and omission by the government, markets and civil society.

Objective

The Institute aims to advocate the cause of the poor, the marginalized, the exploited and the excluded at all levels through research, training and action for socio-economic development and human rights.

Programs

Action Research - this program brings activists and academics in a synergistic effort of researching on socio-economic development and human rights.

Trainings, Workshops and Seminars - these are important instruments of exchange and dissemination of knowledge and experience in the empowerment process of various communities and civil society at large.

Documentation - the Institute gathers and disseminates information and data through documentation pertaining especially to the priority communities.

Publication - information and knowledge are made available through publications in the form of journals and books at affordable cost especially for the non-profit sector and civil society organizations committed to human rights, socio-economic development, gender equality and environmental sustainability.

Networking - the Institute is a core member of many networks of civil society groups and organizations within and outside the country.

Advocacy - all efforts and activities of the Institute are influenced and shaped by the primary objective of advocating the cause of the poor, the marginalized, the exploited and the excluded at all levels.

Activities

The Women's unit works as a center for research, training and action for the socio-economic and cultural development of women of Indian society.

- The Rural Development unit studies the socio-economic problems of people living in rural areas, the

empowerment of the marginalized section including dalits, tribals, women, minorities and other classes.

- The Dalit and Tribal unit works on issues confronting the rights and well-being of dalits and tribal communities across the country. The research activities aim to give identity and self dignity to these groups and enable them to assert themselves and be proud of themselves and of their contribution to the process of nation-building.
- Human Rights and Law Department - Research Projects
 - a. City Slum and the Marginalized: Muslims and Dalits in Delhi Slums –
 - b. Legal and Rehabilitation Measures for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) in Chakwara Rajasthan
 - c. Monitoring Mechanism for Effective implementation of Supreme Court/High Courts' Decisions on Matters of Public Interest
 - d. Situational Analysis of Women Inmates in Custodial Establishments of Delhi and Haryana
 - e. Study on Human Trafficking in India - explores the theoretical underpinning and understanding of this serious human rights violation, and the means of addressing it.
 - f. Institutional and non-institutional forms of human rights violations in government schools in Delhi
 - g. Functioning of Human Rights Courts in India.

Publications

Annual Digest of Human Rights Judgments (series, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006), M.J. Antony

Regular publications

- SOCIAL ACTION - a quarterly review of social trends published continuously from 1951
- Women's Link - a quarterly Journal on the challenges women face today, and the problems the exploited women confront
- Legal News and Views - a monthly regular journal with more than 1,000 subscribers at present.
- Hindi monthly Hum Dalit (now Peediton Ki Awaz)
- Subaltern, the News Bulletin of the Institute, a quarterly publication.

Information on other publications of the Institute is available at www.isidelhi.org.in.

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Navsarjan

Year Established: 1988

Short Historical Background

Established in December 1988, Navsarjan started functioning as an organization in 1989. Its primary focus has always been Dalits, which largely includes people previously known as 'untouchables'—the most exploited class of Indian society. As time passes, however, and trust on Navsarjan grows, other communities and castes have also been approaching Navsarjan for legal assistance.

The organization has its roots in the 1970s when the founding member of Navsarjan, Martin Macwan, was involved in a sustained effort to establish a consciousness within the Dalit community to fight social and economic exploitation. The educational process led the community to assert their land rights and question their unequal and unjust social relationships.

Objective

Navsarjan aims to eliminate discrimination based on untouchability practices, ensure equality of status and opportunities for all regardless of caste, class or gender and ensure the rule of law.

Programs and Activities

Human Rights Value Education - Navsarjan works to restore the right of many Dalit children to education. As an agent of social mobility, education can lead to the emancipation of the Dalit masses. Today in India, however, the education system perpetuates caste discrimination, reproducing discriminatory practices at school, and effectively denying many Dalit children their basic right to education—and with it, the chance to break out of the cycle of caste-based occupations and menial labor.

Eradication of Manual Scavenging Campaign - Navsarjan has been working since 1996 to end this inhuman practice. The Valmiki (manual scavenger and sweeper caste)—most often women—who perform this work suffer from a variety of serious diseases and disorders at a much higher rate than the general population.

Community Video Unit - In July 2006, Navsarjan established a Community Video Unit (CVU) in collaboration with Drishti Media and Video Volunteers. The CVU produces monthly news magazines called "Aapna Malak Ma" (In Our Community), screening them in village centers. These videos focus on issues relevant to the residents of twenty-five villages in three talukas of Surendranagar District. The CVU is a tool for grassroots change, awareness, mobilization, information and advocacy. It promotes participation, dialogue and community responsibility in order to stimulate behavioral change and encourage a community call to action. The video producers are local community members trained in partnership with Drishti-Video volunteers. The video magazines focus on the entire village, not only on the Dalit locality.

Land Rights Campaign - since lack of land is a central reason for Dalit impoverishment, a campaign to enforce their land rights forms part of the backbone of Navsarjan's work.

Minimum Wage Implementation Campaign - this campaign tries to ensure that the agricultural laborers receive at least the minimum wage per day (equivalent to one US dollar and thirty cents).

Women's Rights Campaign - this campaign strives to give women a voice, and ensures that they are equally and effectively represented in the organization as well as in the movement, at all levels.

Digitization of Research and Documentation - Navsarjan's has a unique ability to systematically collect data concerning ground realities in more than 3,000 villages around Gujarat that it covers, analyze and utilize that data. The Digitization of Research and Documentation Program widens the scope and size of its data collection, and helps identify trends and changes, helps in filing class-action suits, organizes data based on taluka or district to effectively raise a particular issue, helps lobby at the international level, and provides a replicable model for other organizations around India.

Address

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The Nelson Mandela Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution

Year Established: 2004

Short Historical Background

The Nelson Mandela Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution was launched in 2004, and was one of the first centers for peace and conflict studies to be established at an Indian university. It aims to fill a strange gap in Indian academic life - the lack of serious and purposeful analysis of types and sources of conflict, and the methods of dealing with them that India has adopted, from constitutional to human rights and minority protections, at domestic, regional and international levels. There is a wealth of Indian literature on war-making and peace settlements through the ages that we aim to collate and analyze from a doctrinal point of view.

Objectives

The Center aims

1. To research and document Indian approaches to the promotion of peace, at home and abroad
2. To develop a curriculum of peace and conflict studies based on Indian domestic, regional and global requirements
3. To encourage capacity for conflict prevention and resolution in government and civil society agencies
4. To build a community of academic expertise in conflict prevention, management, and post-conflict peace-building.

Programs

1. M.A. in Conflict Analysis and Peace Building - a comprehensive course on the policies, practices and tools required to contain, manage or resolve contemporary conflicts and prevent them from recurring.
2. Ph. D. in Peace and Conflict Studies
3. Visiting Fellows Program - brings experts (academics, activists, journalists) to the Center who contribute to the designing and teaching of courses, write occasional papers, help organize conferences, and act as resource persons in conferences organized by the Center.

Activities

- *Organizing Seminars, Conferences, Workshops and Panel Discussions*
 1. Workshop Chhattisgarh: Development, the Naxalite Movement and Salwa Judum, 19-20 January 2007
 2. Workshop Manipur: Movements, Conflict and Possible Resolutions, 17-18 November 2006.
 3. South Asia Regional Expert Meeting on Human Rights, Freedom of Expression and Terrorism, 10-11 April 2006. Sponsored by the Centre for South Asian Studies (CSAS), Geneva.
 4. International Conference Kashmir after the Quake - Prospects for Peace and Reconstruction, 16-17 January 2006
 5. South Asia Workshop on Human Rights Education in Schools, 13-15 December 2005 (in collaboration with HURIGHTS OSAKA)

6. National Seminar Media Perspectives on Human Rights, 29-30 March 2005.

- *Student Internships* - the Center tries to arrange Internships for its students as part of the Post Graduate Diploma in Conflict Analysis and Peace Building.
- *Simulations* - series of student workshops on comparative peace processes jointly organized by the Center and the Center and the Delhi Policy Group's Peace Processes Program.

Special Concerns

Curriculum Development

- Workshop for a Foundation Course in Peace Studies and Conflict Resolution, which was held on February 22-24, 2005, in collaboration with United Nations University for Peace and Jawaharlal Nehru University
- Involvement with the Delhi Policy Group in curriculum development program (2005-2006) that produced a set of six simulations on negotiating peace in deeply divided societies.
- Special series of workshops (2006) that developed an MA course in Conflict Analysis and Peace-Building, which the Center introduced in 2007
- Plan to develop course materials on peacemaking in India and South Asia, which could be adapted for use from the high school to the post-graduate level.

Publications

- State Accountability for Crimes against Humanity and Genocide, Judge Navanethem Pillai (2007)
- Kashmir - Prospects for Peace (Conference Proceedings), Sanghamitra Misra (ed.) (with Poorvi Paliwal and Archita Jha) (2007)
- "The Life and Times of Walter Sisulu", Ahmad Kathrada (2007)
- Negotiating Peace in Deeply Divided Societies: A Set of Simulations, Radha Kumar (ed) (Sage, 2008).

For NMCPCR Faculty publications please see the Center's webpage on the Jamia website, www.jmi.nic.in

Address

Nelson Mandela Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution
Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi - 110025, India
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ph 91-11-26981717 ext. 4360
e-mail: centreforpeace@rediffmail.com
<http://jmi.nic.in/OtherInstitutes/CPCR.htm>

PRASHANT (A Centre for Human Rights Justice and Peace)

Year Established: 2001

Short Historical Background

“PRASHANT” (A Center for Human Rights, Justice and Peace) was founded as an initiative of the Gujarat Education Society (GES) on 2 October 2001 (the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi). GES is a Registered Trust and Society, which belongs to the Jesuits of Gujarat and caters to the all-round development and growth of marginalized communities specially the adivasis (indigenous people/tribals), the dalits (oppressed castes of India) and the minorities (like the Muslims, Christians).

“PRASHANT” was begun as a need to respond to the growing human rights violations in the State of Gujarat and in other parts of India, and the need to ensure that justice and peace are integral parts of civil society.

The realization of the vision of “PRASHANT” is sought to be achieved through

- promotion of Human Rights, Justice and Peace
- taking sides with the poor and other marginalized groups with a focus on tribals, dalits, minorities, women and children
- emphasizing an integral approach to social development.

Objective

“PRASHANT” aims to promote “HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL”

- with special reference to the poor and the vulnerable
- and a society where truth, justice, equity and peace flourish.

Programs and Activities

Training: Human Rights and Peace Education for children and teachers, training on Local Capacities for Peace, and trainings on various aspects of the Indian Constitution and Government policies like the Right to Information, Food security, National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, etc.

Advocacy: Taking up social concerns with the Indian government, international organizations, other governments, and the civil society at large.

Seminars, workshops, street-plays: regularly organized on topical issues, highlighting human rights violations which exist in society, in order to conscientize people.

Information dissemination: through posters, leaflets, the internet, booklets, public meetings, demonstrations, audio/video cassettes.

Documentation: “PRASHANT” maintains an elaborate Documentation Center with newspaper clippings from twenty-two major local and national dailies (in English and in the vernacular languages), and about three hundred magazines/periodicals received on a regular basis, photos, video-recordings, etc. that form part of the documentation.

Legal aid: A team of lawyers provide legal counsel to those whose rights are violated. Legal matters in the High Court / Supreme Court are taken up/supported.

Media advocacy: There is a consistent interaction with the media to highlight some of the major ills that plague society. This is done through regular press releases/conferences and also by providing the media with appropriate documentation/data for their stories/features.

Research: some research activities are also undertaken - the main one on the Social Science Textbooks published by the Gujarat State School Textbook Board that highlights the prejudicial nature in which education is imparted in Gujarat.

Special Concerns

Human rights, justice and peace.

Publications

- PRAJAL - newsletter (occasional/periodical)
- Regular pamphlets

Other Information

PRASHANT works in tandem with several other human rights activists/groups, locally, nationally and internationally.

Address

PRASHANT (A Centre for Human Rights Justice and Peace)

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Gujarat, India

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fax (9179) 27489018

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www.humanrightsindia.in

Postal address :

P B 4050, Navrangpura PO

Ahmedabad - 380 009

Gujarat, India

SAKSHI Human Rights Watch - AP

Year Established: 1999

Short Historical Background

Human Rights Watch - AP (SAKSHI) emerged from the process of interventions on the issues of the Dalits in Andhra Pradesh in India. A group of activists, academicians, and advocates involved in Dalits issues over the past two decades, who felt the need to be involved in human rights from a Dalit perspective, came together to form SAKSHI - Human Rights Watch A.P in 1999. SAKSHI is an attempt to profile and highlight Dalit issues as a fundamental issue of human rights that should be addressed.

Objective

SAKSHI aims to facilitate the creation of a society where Dalits Bahujan women, men, children and communities enjoy dignity, liberty, security and equal opportunities.

Programs and Activities

SAKSHI employs the following strategies:

1. Collaborate with and support existing Dalit Bahujan movements and initiatives, raising consciousness, monitoring Dalit Bahujan human rights violations, informing and sensitizing the civil society, and encouraging a supportive and pro-active environment for the affirmation and defense of Dalit Bahujan civil, political, social cultural and economic rights.
2. Pressure the state and other statutory bodies to take adequate organizational and institutional measures to bring Dalit Rights under the purview of human rights and to protect them.
3. Enhance the visibility of Dalit Bahujan human rights in all spheres.
4. Pro-active interventions within the Dalit Bahujan communities to promote gender equity, child rights and the recognition of equal rights among all caste identities.

SAKSHI engages in the following programs and activities:

1. Documentation
 - Collection of materials on identified areas, especially with regard to Dalits, and data on violations of Dalit Bahujan human rights in the State of Andhra Pradesh from various sources
 - Fact-finding reports to give feed back to the non-governmental organizations (NGOs), movements and groups through monthly newsletter and reports and to make submissions to various national and international
 - Publish periodic Fact Sheets for the purpose of advocacy and lobbying.
2. Monitoring
 - Visiting the places where violations have taken place by forming and facilitating fact-finding teams and collecting first-hand information and disseminating the facts gathered to the general public through the media

- Providing material support on legal aspects and following-up on the case by involving all concerned people and officials through lobbying
- Representing all statutory bodies such as National Human Rights Commission, Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribes National Commission, Women's Commission, etc.
- Reports on Dalit Bahujan human rights violations
- Judgments – analysis of court decisions that affect the human rights of Dalit Bahujan
- Analysis of the over-all human rights situation of the Dalit Bahujan.

3. Study & Advocacy

- Assessing new areas of Dalit Bahujan human rights violations in order to bring them to the awareness of NGOs, Dalit human rights activists and movements and enable them to make necessary interventions at policy level
- Studying the socio-economic, political and cultural dynamics of the society in general and of Dalits in particular in order to shape and influence grassroots movements.

4. Advocacy

- Interfacing with statutory and civil bodies at all levels for the defense and promotion of Dalit Bahujan human rights
- Facilitating and strengthening a collective of human rights organizations to lobby at national and international levels.

5. Training

- Conducting regional-level trainings on human rights skills such as monitoring, advocacy and intervention for human rights activists, advocates, NGOs, movements, etc.
- Preparing Training Modules and Training materials
- Conducting seminars and workshops in collaboration with universities and institutes to sensitize the academia, on Dalit Bahujan human rights issues.

Address

SAKSHI Human Rights Watch - AP
H. No 10-3-129, IInd floor
Dhana Laxmi General Store,
Teachers Colony
Street No – 4, Lane No-3
East Marredpally, Secundera - 500 026
Andhra Pradesh, India
ph (91-40)-55440969
fax (91-40) 27737086
e-mail : sakshi_ap@satyam.net.in
www.sakshiap.org

Shubhodaya Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Torture and Violence - SOSRAC (Society for Social Research, Art and Culture) (SCRVTV)

Year Established: 2000

Short Historical Background

Established in February 2000, the Center was initiated to help victims of torture and violence. This is the only Center in Delhi with the specific aim of helping and rehabilitating victims of torture and violence.

Objectives

The Center aims

1. To provide comprehensive rehabilitation to torture victims and secondary victims of torture
2. To provide psychological services for proper psychological rehabilitation
3. To provide physiotherapy and occupational therapy services for the proper physical rehabilitation of torture victims
4. To create awareness among people working for law enforcement agencies on human rights and sensitize them to the problems of detainees
5. To strengthen non-governmental organizations (NGOs) involved in the field of human rights by providing technical assistance against torture
6. To sensitize and create awareness among NGOs and the general public of the problems of victims of torture and violence
7. To enlighten society about torture, so as to reduce the incidence of torture
8. To help torture victims towards gainful employment in the community.

Programs and Activities

Treatment – provision to torture victims of multidisciplinary comprehensive medical assistance (medical, psychological, social and physiotherapeutic assistance).

Training - training for the staff and other professionals at the Indian Medical Association involved in the treatment of torture victims to improve their clinical skills. Doctors throughout India who had completed a correspondence course in counseling torture victims attend the seminar.

Research - studies the impact of torture and its consequences on refugees and the local population. These studies help the understanding of problems faced by the poor and underprivileged section of the community, and help the center staff organize health and other services for poor people. The studies include community survey about torture and post-traumatic stress disorders, which create awareness in the community, and identify torture victims who urgently needed the Center's help. Since the Center is able to establish very good contacts with the refugee population, it continues to focus on them, as this provide exposure for its team to the problems of torture victims, and also helps build its image.

Documentation - recording of reports of cases of torture published in newspapers.

Prevention - meetings, conferences and symposiums to create awareness among, and sensitization of, the general public and professionals. Human rights NGO workers as well as lawyers with a special interest in human rights, social activists, media persons and other professionals such as doctors, teachers and psychologists attend the activities.

Information and advocacy - activities include organizing public meetings to create awareness in the community, participating in the Annual Congress of the International Academy of Law and Mental Health, participating in the World Congress of Psychiatry, and participating in seminars organized by the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT) and other international meetings.

Networking - collaboration with the IRCT and its Asian members, UNFVTV, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), British Council, National Human Rights Commission of India, Indian National Commission for Women, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI), Indian Law Institute, Indian Medical Association, Indian Psychiatric Society and Delhi Psychiatric Society.

Publications

- A Study on Torture and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder among Myanmar Refugees In India
- A Study on Torture and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Among Refugees in New Delhi
- A Study on Victims of Torture in Refugee Community and Local Migrants In and Around Delhi (Noida)
- Annual Reports (since 2000)

Address

Shubhodaya Center for Rehabilitation of Victims of Torture and Violence - SOSRAC (Society for Social Research, Art and Culture) (SCRVTV)

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Shri Niwas Puri, New Delhi 110065 India

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www.sosrac.org

South Asia Human Rights Documentation Centre (SAHRDC)

Year Established: 1993

Short Historical Background

The South Asia Human Rights Documentation Centre (SAHRDC) is a network of individuals across the region. It seeks to investigate, document and disseminate information about human rights treaties and conventions, human rights education, refugees, media freedom, prison reforms, political imprisonment, torture, summary executions, disappearances and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. SAHRDC has Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

Objectives

SAHRDC aims to investigate, document and disseminate information about human rights treaties and conventions, human rights education, refugees, media freedom, prison reforms, political imprisonment, torture, summary executions, disappearances and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.

Programs

Collection of information on human rights - collects information on human rights, specifically on violations of civil and political rights. The subject areas of its holdings are: human rights education, arrest, detention and disappearances, refugees and asylum, torture, capital punishment and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, freedom of the media, custodial deaths, and extrajudicial killings. All our information is either in English or translated into English from other languages.

Publication - brings out an electronic feature service called Human Rights Features Service in cooperation with Human Rights Documentation Centre (HRDC). It also does regular backgrounders on subjects of immediate interest to subscribers and the media.

Campaign - sends out Action Alerts requesting the national and international human rights community to appeal to governments in South Asia to stop the violation of human rights in their countries.

Networking

Training - series of human rights training programs in the South and East Asian countries.

Internship - accepts interns from all over the world, who have a serious human rights commitment. Intending interns should be prepared and capable of hard and diligent research work. SAHRDC welcomes students, mid-term career professionals and lawyers looking for a sabbatical with good analytical and research aptitude.

Publications

- Human rights education series
- Human Rights and Humanitarian Law: Developments in Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (Oxford University Press, 2008)
- Handbook of Human Rights and Criminal Justice In India: The System and Procedure (Oxford University Press, 2006)
- Introducing Human Rights: An Overview Including Issues of Gender Justice, Environmental, and Consumer Law (Oxford University Press, 2006)
- A Step in the Rights Direction (Tata McGraw-Hill, 2000)

General

- Legitimising Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment: The Ignominy of the Law Commission of India's Report on Modes of Execution (2005)
- Three Steps Forward, Two Steps Back: The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 2004 (2005)
- National Human Rights Commission of Korea: Miles To Go (2004)
- National Human Rights Institutions in the Asia Pacific Region (2002)
- Knitting the Multi-Coloured Cloak of Asia: Recognizing and Eradicating Racism and Discrimination (2001)
- Prevention of Terrorism Ordinance 2001: Government Decide to Play Judge and Jury (2001)
- Judgment Reserved: The Case of the National Human Rights Commission of India (2001)
- Eliminating Sovereign and Official Immunity in Fundamental Human Rights Cases (2001)

Full list of publications at www.hrdc.net/sahrdc/Publications.htm

Address

South Asia Human Rights Documentation Center
B-6/6, Safdarjung Enclave Extension, New Delhi 110 029, India
ph (91 11) 19 2717, 619 2706, 619 1120
fax (91 11) 619 1120
e-mail: mairsahrdc@hotmail.com
www.hrdc.net/sahrdc

Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy (TCHRD)

Year Established: 1996

Short Historical Background

The Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy (TCHRD) is the first Tibetan non-governmental human rights organization to be established in exile in India. Founded in 1996, TCHRD is registered as a non-governmental organization (NGO) under Section 2 of the Indian Societies Registration Act, 1860 and is based in Dharamsala, North India.

Objectives

TCHRD aims

1. To promote and protect human rights of the Tibetan people in Tibet
2. To educate the exile Tibetan community on human rights principles and democratic concepts.

Programs and Activities

Investigations, Research, Publications - TCHRD conducts regular, systematic investigations of human rights situation in Tibet and monitors the human rights policies of the People's Republic of China (PRC). On issues of human rights concerns that confront Tibetans inside Tibet, TCHRD every year brings out an annual report, thematic reports, profiles of former political prisoners, monthly newsletters, and press releases and news briefs.

Workshops, Talk Series, Campaigns - TCHRD organizes workshops, talk series, public discussions and campaigns to engender a culture of human rights and democracy within the exile Tibetan community. Two workshops are held a year for college students and different target audience while TCHRD staff visits schools, institutions and settlements to give talks on human rights and democracy. TCHRD also launches various public campaign activities and also organizes in-depth awareness programs to broaden their awareness and support.

Diplomacy, Advocacy, Partnership - TCHRD regularly attends the United Nations (UN) Commission on Human Rights (replaced by the UN Human Rights Council) as well as other regional, national and international conferences. Such participation is aimed at highlighting the human rights situation in Tibet and to lobby and network on the promotion and protection of human rights in Tibet. TCHRD conducts campaigns of international scope such as letter writing and signature appeals, and submits memoranda to visiting delegations and media on actual human rights condition in Tibet.

Knowledge, Skills, Vigilance - the struggle to improve the human rights situation in Tibet can only be won if TCHRD develop those skills necessary to achieve its aims. Therefore, TCHRD staff are sent for international human rights training courses, educational seminars and conferences to educate and empower themselves.

Publications

- The Human Rights Update (monthly publication)
- Annual Report on the Human Rights Situation in Tibet
- Topical Reports

2006

- Prisoners of Tibet
- Railway and China's Development Strategy in Tibet: A Tale of Two Economies

2005

- KUXING: Torture in Tibet
- Death Penalty in China

2004

- Strike Hard Campaign: China's crackdown on political dissidence
- Education in Tibet: A human rights perspective
- Unjust Sentence - A Special Report on Trulku Tenzin Delek

2003

- Education in Tibet: A Briefing Paper for the Special Rapporteur
- Briefing Paper for Travellers to Tibet updated from 1999

2002

- Dispossessed: Land and Housing Rights in Tibet
- Destruction of Serthar Institute: A special report

2001

- Drapchi Prison: Tibet's most Dreaded Prison

2000

- Impoverishing Tibetans
- Racial Discrimination in Tibet
- TCHRD Review

1999

- A Guide to Human Rights
- A Guide to Democracy
- Briefing Paper for Travellers to Tibet
- Tales of Terror: Torture in Tibet

Information on other publications can be found at the TCHRD website.

Other Information

TCHRD is unique in the fact that it enjoys direct and immediate access to information from Tibetan refugees escaping via Nepal to Dharamsala. TCHRD has an all-Tibetan staff organization that recognizes the reality of the situation of living under occupation, of being born in exile and of having that access to provide accurate, up-to-date insights into life in occupied Tibet.

Address

Tibetan Centre for Human Rights and Democracy
Narthang Building, Gangchen Kyishong, Dharamsala
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www.tchrd.org

Association for Community and Ecologically Based Law Reform (HuMa)

Year Established: 2001

Short Historical Background

HuMa was founded in Gadag, West Java in February 2001 and formalized in Jakarta in October 2001. Since most of the founding members were with ELSAM for several years, they developed their ideas on HuMa's role based on that experience. HuMa has the vision of a community-based legal system governed by human rights values, justice, cultural diversity and ecosystem conservation in the Indonesian Archipelago.

Objectives

HuMa aims

1. To promote the realization of community- and ecology-based law reform on land and other natural resources
2. To develop alternative legal philosophy, theory, research methodology (critical-participatory methodology)
3. To develop information and media system of community legal resources concerning land and other natural resource issues for law reform
4. To develop the organizational capacity for facilitating the development of constituents' capacity and encouraging synergy among different components by acquiring social as well as financial accountability.

Activities

HuMa gives priority to activities dealing with capacity development, new discourse development, intervention on policies and laws at national level and its coordination.

Publications

- Seri Kajian Hukum (Legal Reviews)
- Seri Pengembangan Wacana (Alternative Concepts Development)
- Seri Cerita Bergambar Hukum dan Masyarakat (Series of Comics on Law and Society)
- Manual Pelatihan (Training Manual)
- Reference Books

Other Information

Since its establishment, HuMa has adopted "networking development" work method in implementing its programs. Accordingly, its staff members actively participate in various networks, ranging from non-governmental organizations networks to individual networks to multi-stakeholder forums.

Address

Association for Community and Ecologically Based Law Reform

(Perkumpulan Untuk Pembaharuan Hukum Berbasis Masyarakat dan Ekologis - HuMa)

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Center for Human Rights Studies (PSA-HAM UGTLO)

Gorontalo University

Year Established: 2002

Short Historical Background

The complexity of the human rights problems in Gorontalo Province made the Faculty of Law of Gorontalo University decide to establish the Center for Human Rights Studies Gorontalo University on 30 March 2002, along with the establishment of Legal Aid and Consultation Institution Gorontalo University, to perform dissemination of and advocacy on human rights as well as research and studies on human rights. The Center operates under the authority of the Faculty of Law Gorontalo University.

Objectives

The Center aims to become a platform for human rights promotion, protection and enforcement in Gorontalo province with the capacity to develop and socialize human rights ideas through profound and continuous academic studies that help promote the idea of human beings who uphold human rights, democracy and justice.

Activities

- Collaboration with the government as a member of the Gorontalo Provincial Committee on Human Rights Action Plan, Gorontalo Province Regional Office of the Department of Justice.
- Human rights advocacy through the workers and staffs of PT. Usaha Mina Gorontalo Province, and the members of the community.
- Human rights education - distribution of human rights materials in seminars and workshops.

Address

Center for Human Rights Studies Gorontalo University

Pusat Studi Hak Asasi Manusia

Universitas Gorontalo

Jl. Jend. Sudirman No. 247, Limboto,

Kab. Gorontalo, Indonesia

ph (62-435) 881 369

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Center for Human Rights Studies (PUSHAM Univ Andalas)

Andalas University of Padang (West Sumatra)

Year Established: 2004

Short Historical Background

Andalas University, as the oldest state university outside Java Island, acknowledges the importance of establishing a center for human rights studies, besides other centers of studies in the university. Human rights has become one of the main issues in the country beside democracy and environment issues. Traditional values collide with universal human rights standards. Local policies or legal programs lead to human rights violations. There is a collision between local and global perceptions. This situation therefore requires profound studies on these matters to gain harmony without reducing their meaning.

On the 56th International Human Rights Day celebration, 10 December 2004, several human rights and law lecturers declared the establishment of the Center for Human Rights Studies. On the same day, the Dean of the Faculty of Law, Prof. Dr. H. Takdir Rahmadi, S.H., LL.M signed the Dean's Mandate Letter number 246/Sp.X/ Fhuk/2004.

Objectives

The Center aims

1. To undertake research and studies on human rights and their relevance to actual or customary issues
2. To develop strategic programs in the form of tactical and strategic action agenda
3. To promote human rights, national, and international instruments relating to human rights
4. To hold human rights training for Andalas University students
5. To establish a communication forum for human rights centers throughout West Sumatra
6. To develop cooperation with human rights institutions (such as the National Commission on Human Rights, and others).

Activities

Human rights promotion

1. Participation in talk show/interactive dialogue on women's rights (in "Women and Law" Program SIPP Female Radio station, on the subject of Regulation number 23 year 2004 about Elimination of Domestic Violence, in cooperation with Student Advocacy and Public Knowledge Institution, 31 January 2005)
2. Submission of opinion articles on human rights to daily newspaper Padang Ekspres, entitled "Human Rights, Human Resources and Corruption Portrayals," 30 April 2005 and 2 May 2005)
3. Participation in public consultation and campaign on National Action Plan for Corruption Eradication 2004-2009, arranged by the Ministry of National Development in cooperation with the Faculty of Law, Andalas University in Padang (16 May 2005)
4. Publication of a human rights book entitled "Under Law Shelter, Human Rights: Notes of Activists"

5. Publication of Progresif bulletin (two editions), started in January 2005
6. Discussion on Conflict Potentials in Local Government Elections, May 2005
7. Seminar on Women's Rights in Regulation number 23 year 2004, June 2005
8. Human rights socialization for Student Board of Andalas University, July 2005
9. Preparation of human rights dialogue columns in the mass media
10. Discussion on Conflict Potentials in Local Government Election, May 2005.

Human rights curriculum development

- Development of Law and Human Rights Subject Curriculum in the university

Research

- Research on development rights in the village government at Minangkabau/West Sumatra

Legislative advocacy

1. Member of Local Legislation Program Team, West Sumatra - Local Office of Law and Human Rights Department, 2005
2. Participation in the Committee of National Human Rights Action Plan for West Sumatra 2004-2009.
3. Participation in the Human Rights Seminar arranged by the Center for Human Rights Studies, Islamic University of Indonesia Yogyakarta (PUSHAM UII), Yogyakarta (30 May - 2 June 2005)

Address

Center for Human Rights Studies
Andalas University of Padang (West Sumatra)
Pusat Studi Hak Asasi Manusia (Pusham Univ Andalas)
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ph (62-751) 729 85
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Center for Human Rights Studies (PUSHAM UNAIR)

Airlangga University

Year Established: 2000

Short Historical Background

The vision and mission of the Center for Human Rights Studies was defined during a workshop held at Airlangga University in November 2000 attended by representatives of the National Human Rights Commission (KOMNASHAM), Department of Justice and Human Rights Affairs, the Surabaya Legal Aid Institution and more than forty participants from East Java (representing universities, non-governmental organizations [NGOs] and community leaders). At the end of the workshop, the university vice-rector formally inaugurated the Center.

Objectives

The Center aims

1. To generate more sensitive public policies to the public sense of justice
2. To strengthen the consolidation and coordination processes for public and academic endeavors, which intensively concern human rights concepts and enforcement improvement
3. To cultivate and institutionalize legal and human rights awareness among members of the community, academe, state and private sectors.

Programs and Activities

The Center belongs to a network of NGOs, labor unions, media establishments (newspapers and television stations), media associations, universities, and business organizations. The Center utilizes the members of the network in holding its activities.

Following are some of the activities undertaken so far:

1. Seminar on the Analysis of 2001 Surabaya City Annual Budgets
2. Network Meetings on the Campaign for Transparency in the Surabaya City Annual Budget Preparation (2001 onward)
3. Join Statement for Parliament Resolution about Semanggi and Trisakti cases (2001)
4. Public Debate on Future Members of Indonesia National Commission of Human Rights from East Java Area (2001)
5. Workshop on Institutionalization of Empowerment Movement for Child Housemaid (2001) - this workshop led to the call for prohibition of employment of child housemaids (under fourteen years of age) as well as the protection of those who are already hired as such
6. Public Debate and Testimony of "Military-Police Clash and Security Assurance for Community", in cooperation with the Legal Aid Institution of Surabaya - and other NGOs (2001).
7. Workshop on Introduction of Child Rights and its Elements as Integral Part of Human Rights (2001)
8. Workshop on Research Methodology (2001)
9. Discussion on Problems in Surabaya (2001)

10. Movie Showing of "Burning Season" and Discussion (2001)
11. Human Rights Day Celebration (annual since 2001) - Photograph and Poster Exhibition, Movie Showing and Discussion, Public Dialogue, Stage Performance
12. Human Rights Year-End Assessment (2001)
13. Campaign on the 2002 annual budget preparation of Surabaya City and hearing (2001)
14. Interactive Dialogue at State Television Station (TVRI), and Kosmonita and SCFM Radio Stations (2002)
15. Public debate and awareness-raising on 2002 Surabaya City Annual Budget Draft (2002)
16. Public Dialogue on Alternative Solution for Five-feet Vendors Problem at Surabaya (2002) with members of the local parliament, representatives of the City Government, academicians, NGOs, Five-feet vendors at Tunjungan, Semarang Street, and Malang, and entrepreneurs.
17. Public Dialogue (in cooperation with the Political Science Laboratory of Airlangga University Faculty of Political and Social Sciences) (2002) on political party independence and participation revolution
18. Public Dialogue in cooperation with Surabaya Legal Aid Institution and Inspirasi (2002) on Draft Anti-Terrorism Regulation
19. Human Rights Seminar for High Schools Teachers (2002) on education on democracy and human rights discourse with gender perspective
20. Movie Showing and Discussion (2002)
21. Public Dialogue on "Violence in the Community" (2002)
22. Awareness-raising and Investigation on the Polling Results Performed by Public Voice Committee of Surabaya (2002)
23. Seminar on Advocacy and Consumer Empowerment (2002)
24. Public Debate on Anti-Terrorist Regulations (2002)
25. Workshop on Children House Maid Local Regulation Preparation (2003)
26. Community-oriented Policing, in cooperation with The Asia Foundation.

Address

Center for Human Rights Studies
(PUSHAM UNAIR)

Universitas Airlangga Surabaya

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Center of Development for Human Rights and Democracy (PP-HAM & Dem. FH UNIBRAW)

Brawijaya University

Year Established: 2000

Short Historical Background

The Brawijaya University is one of the Indonesian universities that have been fully concerned with human rights and national issues. Since 1994, human rights has been the main subject matter of lectures in the curriculum of the Faculty of Law of Brawijaya University. The lecturers and researchers of the Faculty of Law were committed to actively promoting and developing human rights understanding that develops in harmony with the political conditions and the public need for respect for the rights of people. This was proven by researches, seminars and workshops attended or arranged by enthusiastic lecturers on human rights issues.

With such enthusiastic lecturers and researchers, increasing consultations with the public and the local governments regarding human rights education and assistance to resolve human rights issues, media attention to human rights and democracy, and the development of the national plan for the establishment of university centers for human rights studies (Human Rights Action Plan, Activity Program 1998-2003, Dissemination and Education Activities), Brawijaya University established the Center for Human Rights and Democracy Development.

Objectives

The Center aims

1. To develop the conceptual thought on human rights and democracy in state and community life
2. To help socialize human rights understanding in the government, private sector, public organizations, political parties and other organizations.

Programs and Activities

Education and Training

1. Education about the realization of human rights in autonomous local government mechanisms
2. Human rights education for political party activists
3. Law reform based on human rights principles
4. Minimize allegation toward Local Government for insensitive policies they produce.
5. Education curriculum improvement, from basic to tertiary levels.

Research

1. Research on the level of human rights understanding among political party activists
2. Review of national/local regulations' adherence to international human rights standards
3. Study on various international human rights instruments that need to be ratified
4. Drafting of regulations in line with ratified international human rights instruments
5. Drafting of new regulations in line with international human rights instruments relevant to various sectors based on perceived needs.

Advocacy

This division operates whenever human rights cases arise.

Address

Center of Development for Human Rights and Democracy
Brawijaya University
Pusat Pengembangan HAM dan Demokrasi (PP-HAM & Dem. FH UNIBRAW)

Fakultas Hukum Universitas Brawijaya
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Center for Human Rights Advocacy and Studies (PSA-HAM UNHALU)

Haluoleo University

Year Established: 2000

Short Historical Background

The Center was established in Kendari based on Haluoleo University Rector Mandate Letter number 2363a/SK.J29/LL/2000 dated 2 December 2000, containing the agreement between Ministry of Human Rights Affairs and the Haluoleo University (MOU.014/MENEGHAM/08/2000 and number 1767/SKJ29/KS/2000 dated 19 August 2000).

The University Rector considered the necessity of human resources in human rights promotion, protection and realization for all members of the university community (students and lecturers) and for all members of Southeast Sulawesi community. Therefore, in the first period of its establishment, the Center expectedly developed as a human rights training center, providing human rights information, socialization, education and advocacy (non-litigation) service in pursuit of the University's public service mission.

Objectives

The Center aims

1. To socialize human rights values through education, enlightenment and training for lecturers/administration staffs, students and law enforcement officials, who provide public services
2. To undertake human rights studies and improve public awareness of their rights and obligations responsibility in daily life
3. To perform non-litigation advocacy activities for human rights violation victims, especially vulnerable groups

Activities

a. Education

1. Refugees and Human Rights Law Training for Police Officers in Southeast Sulawesi Local Police (2001 and 2002)
2. Law and Human Rights Enlightenment for members of the Air Force and their families (2001)
3. Law and Human Rights Enlightenment for Southeast Sulawesi Local Development Bank Employee's Wives (2001)
4. Awareness-raising on human rights protection and realization for sub-districts and village administration officials of Kendari City (2003)
5. Human rights training for internally-displaced people (IDPs) of Ambon/Maluku in Southeast Sulawesi (2005/2006)
6. Human rights training in education for lecturers (2004/2005)
7. Human rights training for freshmen of Haluoleo University (2004)
8. Training for drop-out students in Kendari City (2004/2005)
9. Human rights training for village leaders throughout Southeast Sulawesi (2005/2006)

10. Human rights training for IDPs of Ambon/Maluku in Southeast Sulawesi (2005/2006)

b. Law reform

1. Prepared and presented the "Integration of Civil and Political Rights in Local Regulations" on the request of the Southeast Sulawesi Regional Office of Department of Justice and Human Rights (2003)

Address

Center for Human Rights Advocacy and Studies
Pusat Studi dan Advokasi Hak Asasi Manusia Universitas Haluleo (PSA-HAM UNHALU)
Jl. H.E.A. Mokodompit Gedung Pendidikan IPS Lantai 2
FKIP Universitas Haluoleo, Kendari, Sulawesi Tenggara
(Southeast Sulawesi, Indonesia)
ph (62-401) 390006, 390607, 391038
fax (62-401) 390006

Center for Human Rights Research and Studies (PSP-HAM UNHAS)

Hasanuddin University

Year Established: 2000

Short Historical Background

Since the implementation of the Indonesian National Action Plan on Human Rights requires the active participation of all institutions in the country, the Hasanuddin University agreed to take part in the process through a cooperation agreement with the Ministry of Human Rights Affairs. To pursue this agreement, the Rector of Hasanuddin University issued Mandate Letter number 4297/JO4/KP.36/2000 on 17 April 2000 establishing the Center for Human Rights Research and Studies. The Center has a management team with members from various faculties in the university.

Objectives

The Center aims

1. To encourage the community to be more sensitive on human rights based on local cultural values
2. To promote and socialize human rights to the community and its institutions to improve human rights awareness
3. To assist the community and institutions to defend and protect human rights.

Programs

Human rights advocacy - include campaign on the universality of human rights, promotion of the notion that human rights originated from Allah Almighty and are inherent in all human beings.

Promotion and dissemination - aimed at the students of the university, it consists of development of programs with the cooperation of other institutions to build a network for the promotion and protection of human rights, particularly concerning human rights violations resolution.

Activities

The activities of the Center fulfill the aspiration of the members to consistently promote and protect human rights in the community; and are undertaken by individuals as well as by teams under the direct coordination of the Center. The activities, which members from various disciplines in the University undertake, are rooted in each discipline yet still related to human rights issues.

1. Advocacies and Monitoring

- Human rights socialization and enlightenment for fisherfolk community in Pangkep District of South Sulawesi (2002)
- Community awareness-raising on customary rights of Bulukumba District, South Sulawesi, with a presentation on human rights advocacy/protection to victims of P.T. Longsum case at Bulukumba District
- Human rights training for government officials, particularly those who are directly connected with the

criminal justice system, for them to perform their duties without violating human rights

- Human rights seminar for the communities in South Sulawesi areas, such as Sinjai, about the importance of human rights and how to assert them.
2. *Dissemination and Promotion* - participation in local, national and international human rights activities, such as:
 - Women's Conference in India (2004)
 - Database training for human rights violation victims arranged by South Sulawesi Regional Office of Department of Justice
 - Seminar and meeting on Technical Coordination of Human Rights Research and Development Body of South Sulawesi in Makassar
 - Socialization of laws on human rights and elimination of violence toward women in Makassar
 - Human rights and conflict resolution training in Sweden
 - Other activities, such as dialogue or discussion through the mass media including the state and private television and radio stations in Makassar.

3. *Education* - aimed at making the students understand the importance of human rights values in promoting, protecting and fulfilling human rights in community life. And to improve the quality and resources of all staffmembers of the Center, the University supports those who want to do postgraduate and doctoral study on human rights in national and international universities.

4. *Cooperation* - the Center cooperates with the Directorate General of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights and the police in arranging human rights training for South Sulawesi police officers. It also cooperates with the local government in preparing local policies (i.e. Local Development Body and Local Parliament) with human rights perspectives.

Address

Center for Human Rights Research and Studies

- Hasanuddin University

PUSHAM Universitas Hasanuddin Makassar

Kampus Baru Gedung Rektorat Lantai 7 UNHAS

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Makassar, Sulawesi Selatan, Indonesia

ph/fax (62-411) 587235

e-mail : arasal_rauf@yahoo.com

Center for Human Rights Studies (PUSHAM UII)

Islamic University of Indonesia

Year Established: 2000

Short Historical Background

The Indonesian Minister of Human Rights and the Rector of Islamic University of Indonesia signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the establishment of the Center for Human Rights Studies Islamic University of Indonesia (Letter of Agreement number MOU.01/meneg/HAM/04/2000 underline 381/B.1/IV/2000) on 7 April 2000. Subsequently, the Head of Endowment Board of Islamic University of Indonesia issued Mandate Letter number 9 of year 2000 (dated March 20, 2000) about the establishment of the Human Rights Studies Institution signed by Muhammad Djazman Alkindi and complemented with Rector Mandate Number 44/B.6/Rek/IV/2000 about Management Selection for Center for Human Rights Studies Islamic University of Indonesia signed by Prof. Zaini Dahlan, M.A.

PUSHAM UII is an autonomous institution of the Universitas Islam Indonesia (UII). Its activities are independently operated without any university intervention. Founded in 20 April 2000, it is an initiative of several law and human rights experts in UII, and with the support of the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights. The mission is to promote human rights values in the daily life of the Indonesian people. This mission is realized in each program of three fields, i.e. education, training and research.

Objectives

The Center aims

1. To promote human rights principles through dissemination and training for the community
2. To strengthen and enable the state and the community in fulfilling and protecting fundamental rights and freedom.

Programs and Activities

Year 2007

Education and Training

1. National Seminar and Workshop on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in Indonesia Phase I: Toward an Effective Monitoring and Enforcement of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in Indonesia
2. National Workshop on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Phase II: Enhancing Justiciability of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: Prospects and Challenges
3. Advanced Training on Indigenous Peoples' Rights
4. Human Rights Guidebook for Secondary School Teachers in Yogyakarta City
5. Seminar on Police Role in Social and Political Changes in Indonesia

Research

1. Research on the Human Rights Dimension of Judges' Verdicts in Five Locations (two series)
2. Guest Research at Norwegian Center for Human Rights, University of Oslo, Norway

Year 2008

Education

1. Workshop on Corporate Social Responsibility

Research

1. Research on Housing and Education Rights in Yogyakarta, Padang & NTT
2. Research on Indigenous Peoples' Rights in South Sulawesi, East Kalimantan and Lombok
3. Research on Unfair Judicial System

Others

1. Counter-terrorism Program
2. Community Policing Program

Special Concerns

Generally, but not limited to, economic, social and cultural rights.

Publications

- Mengurai Komplexitas Hak Asasi Manusia (Kajian Multi Perspektif)/Untangle Complexity of Human Rights (multi-perspective studies)

Address

Center for Human Rights Studies Islamic University of Indonesia

Gg. Bakung No. 517 A, Jeruklegi Rt. 13 Rw. 35,

Banguntapan, Bantul, Yogyakarta

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e-mails: pushamuii@yahoo.com

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www.pushamuii.org

Center for Human Rights Studies (PUSHAM UIR)

Islamic University of Riau

Year Established: 1999

Short Historical Background

After the 1998 reformasi movement succeeded, which aimed at the realization of human rights within the political, economic, social and cultural systems in Indonesia, several members of the faculty of the University of Riau established the Center for Human Rights Studies to concentrate on human rights studies and dissemination. In 1999, the Rector of the Islamic University of Riau, Prof. Dr. Ir. T. Dahril, M.Sc officially established the Center with the name: Center of Human Rights Studies.

Objectives

The Center aims to promote human rights studies and education.

Activities

Research

- Research on Public Customary Rights on Traditional Land in Bengkalis District, in cooperation with Bengkalis District Local Development Body (2001)
- Collection of newspaper clippings on human rights in Riau (2000-2003)

Advocacy

- Riau Province Tourism Local Regulation Draft Preparation, which provides protection of public rights in de-

veloping tourism, in cooperation with the Tourism, Art and Culture Department of Riau Province (2002)

Human rights education

- Regular weekly discussion of human rights through the mass media (Suara Kita Daily Newspaper, Riau Mandiri Daily Newspaper, 2000)
- Weekly discussion of law and human rights in electronic media (RTV - television station recorded in digital format - 2003-2004)
- Preparation of two scripts of Holy Friday Sermon for Muballigh/Moslem Preachers containing human rights values from Islamic point of view (2004)
- Participation in twelve sessions of a human rights training series within and outside Pekanbaru town (1999-2004).

Address

Pusat Studi Hak Asasi Manusia Universitas Islam Riau (PUSHAM UIR)
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Center for Human Rights Studies (PSHH & HAM FH USU Medan)

North Sumatra University

Year Established:

Short Historical Background

In view of the situation in Aceh, several faculty members teaching international human rights law in the Faculty of Law of North Sumatra University established the Center for Human Rights Studies. The center was formally recognized as an institution of the university.

Objectives

The Center aims

1. To provide human rights knowledge to lecturers and students
2. To promote human rights in the community
3. To respond/solve human rights problems
4. To assist the government in solving human rights cases in Indonesia.

Activities

- Assistance to the local government in the establishment of a Human Rights Court in Medan
- Lectures and seminars for the North Sumatra province on humanitarian issues, and refugees

- Development of human rights curriculum in the Faculty of Law (two subjects on human rights and humanitarian laws respectively), along with training for law lecturers on the curriculum.

Address

Center for Human Rights Studies
- North Sumatra University
Pusat Studi Hak Asasi Manusia Fakultas Hukum (PUSHAM FH USU)
Universitas Sumatera Utara
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ph/fax (82-61) 8213571
www.usu.ac.id

Center for Human Rights Studies and Advocacy (PSA-HAM UNDANA)

Nusa Cendana University

Year Established: 2000

Short Historical Background

Seeing the moral necessity of promoting and defending human rights in Indonesia, the Nusa Cendana University of Nusa Province established the Center for Human Rights Studies and Advocacy (University's Rector Mandate Letter number 49/2000 dated 5 April) under the Research Institutes of the University (and under the responsibility of the University Rector).

Address

Center for Human Rights Studies and Advocacy
- Nusa Cendana University
Pusat Studi dan Advokasi Hak Asasi Manusia (PSA-HAM UNDANA)
Universitas Cendana, Kupang
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Kupang 851560 Nusa Tenggara Timur, Indonesia
ph/fax (62-380) 881560

Objectives

The Center aims

1. To promote and protect human rights, as well as develop their concept
2. To research on attitude and behavior of people towards human rights
3. To provide service to whoever needs protection for their rights.

Activities

1. Training for lecturers in human rights advocacy through human rights values dissemination for all education staffs of the University
2. Education on human rights values for
 - first year university students
 - students participating in public service program
3. Education on human/child rights values for fourth year secondary students in Kupang City
4. Human rights education for village administrators and community leaders in four sub-districts in Kupang City
5. Training/seminar/discussion for the members of the Center's Taskforce
6. Discussion about Kupang City health service abuse victims
7. Government policy study based on human rights
8. Study of public health service in the province
9. Assistance to human rights violation victims.
10. Assistance in developing human-rights-based policies in local village administration and provincial government
11. Advocacy for the repeal of human-rights-violative government policies
12. Establishment of system for cooperation with the Center's stakeholders
13. Human rights education in government institutions and the general public through brochures and leaflets
14. Making of human rights profile of the Southeast region of Nusa Province
15. Participation in institutional meetings regarding cooperation with government institutions, universities and non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
16. Publication of a journal for dissemination in the province.

Center for Human Rights Studies (PUSHAM UNP)

Padang State University

Year Established: 1999

Short Historical Background

First founded as the Center for Human Rights Research (Mandate Letter from Faculty of Social Sciences Dean in 1999 Number: 2751/K12.1.6/PP/1999 dated 24 November 1999), the Center is a response to the encouragement that came from the human rights lecturers' team in the Civic Education Program. At that time, every subject matter was expected to have marketable values (according to Minister of Education and Culture Resolution number 056/U/1994), where corporate concept in universities took place in 1994 known as "Corporate Culture Development Program in Universities" with Corporate Base Syllabus as the basic thought.

With the support from the National Commission on Human Rights of Indonesian (KOMNASHAM), the Center helps students who take the human rights subject to have practical training in human rights institutions to complete their graduation requirements.

The Center adopted the name "Center for Human Rights Studies" in 2003 based on the members' suggestion (arrived at in a plenary meeting on 15 August 2003).

Objectives

The Center aims

1. To identify potential human rights violations and suggest measures for their prevention in West Sumatra region
2. To research and study various local regulations from a human rights perspective
3. To publish research and studies results
4. To discuss various problems concerning human rights protection, and realization
5. To cooperate with various studies, research institutions
6. To organize awareness-raising activities, dialogues, and seminars about human rights for the community and the government in order to improve their human rights awareness.
7. To seek peaceful alternatives for parties in dispute
8. To settle cases through various alternatives such as consultation, negotiation, and any other means.

Programs and Activities

I. Research on

- a. Synchronization of district/city regulations throughout the West Sumatra Province
- b. West Sumatra Provincial Regulations
- c. Village-level regulations throughout the districts and cities in West Sumatra.
- d. Other research projects on
 1. Socialization model of human rights laws (Law number 39/1999) in order to empower the local community of West Sumatra (2001/2003)
 2. Inter-religious community social conflicts at South Padang (2001)
 3. Village Community Empowerment at West Sumatra (2001)

tra (2001)

4. Civil-political-social-culture rights violations at Pasa-man, 50 Kota, Bukittinggi and Padang District (2003)

II. Joint research with students

- a. Employment Discharge (series)
- b. Territorial Dispute at Districts/Cities (series)
- c. Violence on Children (series)
- d. Environment Destruction (series)
- e. Investigation Process for Criminal Cases by Law Enforcement Officials (series)

III. Socialization, Seminar and Discussion

- a. Seminar on normative and practical aspects of human rights law with the law enforcement officials in West Sumatra Province
- b. Dialogue on normative and sociological analysis of human rights law, with community leaders of West Sumatra
- c. Training activities for the education team, Monitoring and Mediation Team for Human Rights Violations, Directive and Monitoring Team on Violence against and Trafficking of Women and Children for Provincial Government of West Sumatra (2001 – present), Independent Investigation Commission of West Sumatra on the case of Major/Parliament of Payakumbuh City (2001-2002)
- d. Support for
 1. Women empowerment and the establishment of Women Empowerment Body within the West Sumatra Local Government (dialogue with Ministry of Women Affairs Staff) (2000)
 2. Human rights enforcement and promotion by the government and the community, Workshop at Development-Community Protection Body of Padang City
 3. Seminar on techniques in applying human rights principles in village level regulations in Agam District, Sawahlunto Sijunjung District and Padang Pariaman District (2001-2003)
 4. Human Rights Enforcement and Promotion Efforts at West Sumatra, local government of various districts (2001)
 5. Student responsibility in human rights and democracy enforcement, democracy and human rights socialization for Padang State University freshmen (2001)

Address

Center for Human Rights Studies

Padang State University

Pusat Studi Hak Asasi Manusia (PUSHAM UNP)

Universitas Negeri Padang Kampus FIS UNP

Jl. Prof. Dr. Hamka Air Tawar Padang 25131, Sumatra Barat
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fax (62-751) 7055628, 445187

Center for Human Rights Studies and Advocacy (PSA HAM UNRI)

Riau University

Year Established:

Short Historical Background

Responding to the human rights violations situation in Riau province, the Riau University saw the need for participation in minimizing human rights violations and finding the means to solve them. This became the platform for the establishment of the Center for Human Rights Studies and Advocacy.

Objectives

The Center aims

1. To examine intensely the human rights situation in the province
2. To research on the symptoms of human rights violations in the community
3. To collect facts and other information that indicate human rights violations
4. To identify the types of human rights violations in Riau Province
5. To determine what laws and regulations relate to those human rights violations
6. To find appropriate solution to particular human rights violations
7. To improve public knowledge on human rights
8. To assist or shape a culture of openness among community members
9. To improve public participation in human rights enforcement
10. To educate the public on developing a legal culture according to their own culture.

Programs

Human Rights Studies - comprising of research activities such as an inventory of human rights information and their analysis/processing.

Human Rights Advocacy - provision of services to protect the community from human rights problems.

Human Rights Promotion - disseminating information and raising

awareness on human rights principles in the community.

Activities

1. Research on Rural Coastal Community of Batam Island, in cooperation with the local government of Batam City (2000)
2. Assistance to refugees in cooperation with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (2001)
3. Human rights education
 - a. Training of trainers (2002)
 - b. Human rights awareness-raising for the community, local bureaucrats, political parties and social-political organizations in Kuasing District (2001-2003)

- d. Human rights awareness-raising for Riau Provincial Officials in cooperation with Riau Department of Justice and Human Rights Affairs
- e. Provision of resource persons in interactive dialogue in State Radio of Pekanbaru as well as in various human rights meetings.

Address

Center for Human Rights Studies and Advocacy
PSA HAM Universitas Riau
(PSA-HAM UNRI)
Jl. Pattimura 9 Pekanbaru 2813 Indonesia
ph/fax (62-761) 40191

Center for Human Rights and Terrorism Studies (PK-HAM & Terorisme FH UNSRI)

Sriwijaya University

Year Established: 2002

Short Historical Background

The university, as an academic institution where an effective study on human rights is feasible, can become an effective socialization agency for public awareness on human rights. This was the justification for the establishment of the Center for Human Rights and Terrorism Studies at the Faculty of Law Sriwijaya University in 2002. The Center is expected to contribute to the realization of human rights in Indonesia, particularly in the South Sumatra Province.

Objectives

The Center aims to become a prime and active institution in human rights socialization and enforcement efforts and try to eradicate terrorism for a peaceful and humane community order.

Activities

- Human rights training
 - for high school teachers in Palembang City
 - for human rights lecturers at universities
- Monthly seminar about human rights (with invited local, national and international resource persons)

Address

Center for Human Rights and Terrorism Studies
Pusat Kajian HAM dan Terorisme Fakultas Hukum
Universitas Sriwijaya
(PK-HAM & Terorisme FH UNSRI)
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Center for Human Rights Studies (PP-HAM UNTAN)

Tanjungpura University

Year Established: 2000

Short Historical Background

Pontianak city, along with West Kalimantan and other districts, suffered from many problems ranging from ethnic conflicts, criminality (theft, assault, murder), and abuse of power by members of the police and the military. Many of these problems are human-rights-related. It is necessary to address these problems in order to prevent negative consequences to community life in terms of security, economy, political, social and cultural aspects. The Center was thus established in 2000 to help in the enforcement of law and the protection of human rights in West Kalimantan, particularly for vulnerable civilians.

Objectives

As a human rights information center for academicians and the public of West Kalimantan, the Center aims to promote the human rights concept through education, research, enlightenment, library improvement, socialization and other activities related to human rights.

Activities

Education

- Training of Trainers for the Police (on refugees and human rights law, and other issues)
- Human rights socialization for West Kalimantan Regional Office of Department of Justice and Human Rights

- Workshop on internally displaced people (IDPs)
- Empowering the institution in human rights socialization

Research on

- Human rights socialization
- Madura IDPs and their interactions with local neighborhood at Pontianak, West Kalimantan
- Fact-finding in Tanjungpura University concerning violent confrontation between police officers and Tanjungpura University students.
- Encouragement factors of violence toward women in West Kalimantan

Address

Center for Human Rights Studies Tanjungpura University
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Pontianak, 78124 West Kalimantan, Indonesia
ph (62-561) 767 945
fax (62-561) 5711325, 740187, 761252

Center for Human Rights Studies (PUSHAM UBAYA)

University of Surabaya

Year Established: 1995

Short Historical Background

Indonesia experienced significant events in 1993 including the popular call for democracy, the occurrence of human rights violations in several cities, and the strong call on the government to establish the National Commission on Human Rights. Based on these events and the development of studies on human rights, the Center for Human Rights Studies in the University of Surabaya was established on 18 August 1995.

During the 1995-2002 period, the Center implemented a program acquiring and managing human rights books as a collection with the support of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) through a cooperation program with Human Rights Research and Education Centre of Ottawa University and Raoul Wallenberg Institute. The program was implemented through the Human Rights Documentation Center (Documentation Center).

Objectives

The Center aims

1. To study and disseminate information on human rights situations especially regarding economic, social and cultural rights
2. To enhance ideas and initiate efforts at developing a system of governance and society that respects and protects human rights in order to gradually increase equal opportunity and participation in development among women, men, as well as vulnerable and marginal groups
3. To establish and maintain a cooperation network with all stakeholders interested in protecting and promoting human rights.

Programs

1. Research in the human rights field
2. Human Rights Dissemination and Education through seminars, focus group discussions, workshops, public dialogues, trainings, and campaigns
3. Documentation on Human Rights issues through the Human Rights Documentation Center (books, periodicals and films)
4. Publication on human rights issues.

Activities

1. Child-to-Child Training, in cooperation with UNICEF (2000)
2. Content Analysis on Women Reproduction and Sexual Rights in East Java Newspapers (2002)
3. Research on Human Rights Education with Gender Perspective to Empower Teachers and Students in Several Elementary Schools and Senior High Schools in Surabaya, in cooperation with AusAID (2003-2005)
4. Human Rights Training on Gender for Teachers on El-

ementary and Senior High Schools in Surabaya, in cooperation with AusAID (2004)

5. Human Rights Training for Government Officials in cooperation with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute (2004-2005)
6. Human Rights Training for Law Enforcement Officers in cooperation with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute (2004-2005)
7. National Seminar on the Implementation of Corporate Social Responsibility Based on Human Rights in cooperation with the Indonesian National Commission on Human Rights (2006)
8. Performance Evaluation of the Indonesian National Commission on Human Rights (2006-2007)
9. Human Rights Training with Gender Perspective to Combat Trafficking in Women and Children in cooperation with AusAID (2007)
10. Human Rights Mapping Research for Poverty Reduction Strategies in East Java, Indonesia in cooperation Raoul Wallenberg Institute (2007-2008)
11. Annual Activities:
 - a. Center's Anniversary: Seminar, Book Publication, and Film Show
 - b. Human Rights Day: Campaign, Photography Contest, Poster Contest and Seminar.

Publications

- "Satu Tahun Pusham" (First Anniversary of the Centre) (1996)
- Journal "Dinamika HAM" (periodical)
- "Toleransi dalam Keberagaman: Visi Abad ke-21: Kumpulan Esai Prof. Soetandyo Wignjosoebroto" (Tolerance in Diversity: 21st Century Vision: A Human Rights Essays of Prof. Soetandyo Wignjosoebroto) (2003)
- "Kompilasi Instrumen Hak Asasi Manusia dan Ratifikasinya dalam Perundang-undangan di Indonesia" (Compilation of International Human Rights Instruments and its Ratification into Indonesia Law and Regulations) (2003)
- "Suara HAM" (Voices of Human Rights) (2005)
- "Sekilas Fakta tentang Perdagangan Orang" (Highlight on Human Trafficking) (2007)

Address

Center for Human Rights Studies
University of Surabaya
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(PUSHAM UBAYA)
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Center for Human Rights Studies (PUSHAM UNSYIAH)

Syiah Kuala University

Year Established: 2000

Short Historical Background

In response to the human rights situation in Aceh, the Syiah Kuala University established the Center for Human Rights Studies in 2000. The Center has three divisions; i.e. 1) Research and Development Division, 2) Education, Discussion and Seminar Division and 3) Investigation and Advocacy Division.

Objectives

The Centers aims

1. To develop a network with national and international human rights education institutions and other institutions concerned in human rights, both government institutions as well as non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
2. To establish a human rights documentation center by compiling national and international information and literature on human rights
3. To make human rights education a single subject matter with two credits for all Syiah Kuala University students
4. To research on violations, realization, comprehension and awareness of human rights in Aceh Region
5. To arrange seminars, workshops, discussion activities about human rights, and cooperate with government and non-governmental institutions concerning human rights realizations
6. To arrange human rights training for government bureaucrats, teachers, NGO activists and public leaders in order to socialize human rights values
7. To arrange human rights enlightenment for the public in order to socialize human rights values
8. To do advocacy work and provide legal aid for human rights violations victims in cooperation with the Department of Justice and Human Rights Affairs, National Commission of Human Rights and NGOs working in human rights advocacy and realization in Aceh Region
9. To do comparative studies of other Centers of Human Rights Studies in Indonesia to obtain knowledge and experience about human rights studies and education as well as developments in the management of such centers.

Activities

1. Routine studies/discussions on various issues concerning human rights (2000-present)
2. Human Rights and Refugees Law Training for 4,200 members of the police in Aceh Region in cooperation with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Jakarta (2000- 2001)
3. Seminar on "Gender in Islam Perspective" (2002)
4. Workshop on "Judicial Body Coordination and Empowerment in order to enforce law and human rights," in cooperation with Partnership for Governance Reform

in Indonesia, Jakarta (2002)

5. Participation in the finalization of Aceh Police Qanun [Regulations], in cooperation with Partnership for Governance Reform in Indonesia
 - a. Preparing a draft Aceh Police Qanun (April-May 2003)
 - b. Expert Meeting to critique and improve the Draft Aceh Police Qanun (June 2003)
 - c. Public Review on Aceh Police Qanun (July 2003)
 - d. Socialization and public hearing on Aceh Police Qanun in State Television and State Radio Station and Newspapers (August 2003)
 - e. Finalization of the Aceh Police Qanun (September-October 2003)
 - f. Lobbying and presentation of the Aceh Police Qanun before Local Parliament and Government (November 2003)

Address

Center for Human Rights Studies

Pusat Studi Hak Asasi Manusia Universitas Syiah Kuala (PUSHAM UNSYIAH)

Jl. T. Nyak Arief No. 262 Darussalam

Banda Aceh, Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam (NAD) Indonesia
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Center for Law and Local Autonomy (PUSHOD UNTAD)

Faculty of Law, Tadulako University

Year Established: 2002

Short Historical Background

While law reform introduced the local autonomy system in Indonesia, the implementation of the decentralization program of the government had been meeting problems from the very beginning. The central government of Indonesia seemed to have a distorted view of decentralization. At the same time, local governments were not performing their functions well and failed to provide a favorable opportunity for local communities to politically and economically develop. Local government powers were mainly used to collect taxes, rather than allow local communities to gain more access to local governance. This situation led to the establishment of the Center for Law and Local Autonomy in the Faculty of Law of Tadulako University. The Center envisions a sustained democratic state governance, particularly local governance, on the basis of fair justice and benefit, that provides certainty by employing democratic principles, and attempts to achieve good governance.

Objectives

The Center aims

1. To actively participate in democracy and local autonomy studies and development, evaluate national and local governments and their impact on the social, economic and cultural values of community life
2. To realize the requirements of diversity, democratic values and good governance
3. To actively study and develop programs on community education and evaluation of responsive, accommodating and participative law and legal measures as well as law enforcement results
4. To actively perform arbitration to achieve synergy between community requirements and the broad government policies based on the law and democratic norms and values.

Programs and Activities

- a. Local Autonomy Research and Development Division
 - Undertakes legal research in governance law, administration law, particularly local government law as well as studies concerning the strengthening of good governance principles
 - Studies and evaluates local autonomy implementation and public policy on local interests
 - Assists national and local governments in developing democracy and local autonomy, including strengthening of democratic institutions in provincial, district and rural community levels.
- b. Local Regulations Drafts and Legal Studies Division
 - Systematizes and evaluates laws, regulations, regulatory directories
 - Arranges and facilitates education and training on draft regulations

- Encourages and stimulates legislators to use their legislative authority properly
- Undertakes studies on rulings issued by judicial bodies as well as executive and legislative institutions.

c. Local Regulation/Legal Socialization Division

- Performs socialization and enlightenment on law and regulations
- Disseminates studies and evaluation results on local legal measures to local government personnel and local community
- Monitors legal process and enforcement results.

d. Nautical Decentralization Studies Division

- Researches on local authority management of nautical and fishery resources
- Identifies and evaluates local legal measures related to nautical and fishery resources management
- Performs arbitration and facilitation on community interests (beach areas, fisherfolk and entrepreneurs) in nautical and fishery sectors
- Arranges seminars, symposiums, workshops, scientific discussion and other similar activities in nautical and fishery sectors.

Address

Center for Law and Local Autonomy
Faculty of Law, Tadulako University
Pusat Studi Hukum dan Otonomi
Daerah
Fakultas Hukum Universitas Tadulako
Kampus Bumi Tadulako Tondo
Sulawesi Tengah, Indonesia
ph/fax (62-451) 454 446

Center for Public Policy and Human Rights (SKKP & HAM UNILA)

Lampung University

Year Established:

Short Historical Background

The Center was established based on the grass-roots experience of several lecturers of the University. Lampung Province, at the same time, has been experiencing quite a high rate of human rights violations. And with the local government exercising autonomy, human rights violations under existing public policies become possible. Control in public policy decision-making process as well as advocacy for interest groups was required. Individual experience in performing advocacy with NGO put in the picture that the university has a strategic role to participate in defending public rights. Based on this consideration, the Center was founded, institutionalized under the Research Institute, Lampung University.

Objectives

The Center upholds the principles of being independent from any interest groups or individuals, of being objective in thinking and in undertaking activities on problem-analysis and problem-solving regarding public policy and human rights issues. This is for human rights enforcement and appreciation. It aims

1. To establish a central database on human rights violations information
2. To identify human rights information issues and proposals
3. To study human rights violations cases
4. To undertake studies on government policies
5. To disseminate the results of the studies
6. To undertake policy advocacy
7. To develop a network with similar institutions in universities and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

Programs and Activities

1. Facilitating dissemination activities by the local government, local office of the Department of Law and Human Rights, local police of Lampung and other institutions
2. Facilitating seminars and discussions about human rights.
3. Publishing a human rights education guidebook
4. Studying and advocating Local Budget of Lampung Province (2001, 2002, 2003, and 2004).
5. Study and prepare System and Procedure of Local Budget Arrangement of Lampung Province (2003).
6. Study and prepare a Model on Jarring Asmara in Local Budget Arrangement of Lampung Province (2003).
7. Become a partner for The Asia Foundation in Indonesia Rapid Decentralization Appraisal Program Phase 2 - 5 (IRDA) (2002-2004)
8. Several activities concerning local policy review:
 - a. Local productivity
 - b. Existed Local Policy Effect (content of analysis)
 - c. Synchronization toward Local Policy hierarchy

- d. Local Policy Making Procedure (public participation)
- e. Local Policy Categorization (concerning public service, civil service and security and order function)
- f. Optimize local authority and capacity in making local policy.

Address

Center for Public Policy and Human Rights
Lampung University
Sentra Kajian Kebijakan Publik dan HAM
Universitas Lampung
(SKKP & HAM UNILA)
Jl. Prof. Sumantri Brojonegoro
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fax (62-721) 773798
e-mail: tisnanta@plasa.com

Center for the Study of Law and Human Rights (PKH-HAM FH UNMUL)

Mularwarman University

Year Established: 2005

Short Historical Background

The respect, fulfillment and protection of human rights in accordance with the country's legal principles must be improved. And these tasks are part of the government's duties and responsibilities, but people's participation is absolutely needed. In the framework of participation, in order to support the aim of respecting, fulfilling and protecting human rights within the scope of Mulawarman University in particular and the society in East Kalimantan in general, the Center for Law and Human Rights was established in 2005 (based on SK UnMul Rector No. 107/HK/2005, 6th of April 2005).

Address

Center for the Study of Law and Human Rights
(PKH-HAM FH UNMUL)
Mulawarman University
Pusat Kajian Hukum dan Hak Asasi
Manusia (PKH-HAM FH UNMUL)
Fakultas Hukum Universitas Mulawarman Samarinda
Jl. Ki Hajar Dewantara,
Kampus Unmul Gunung Kelua,
Samarinda 75123 Kalimantan Timur, Indonesia
ph (62-541) 707 2549

Objectives

The Center aims to research/study and give scientific recommendations on human rights problems that appear in the scope of Mulawarman University as well as in the society.

Activities

The Center undertakes the following activities:

- Cooperation with other institutions on long-term, continuous and synergistic basis
- Development of the human rights knowledge and capacity for problem-solving regarding issues on law and human rights, as well as leadership and organizational management skills of the members
- Involvement/participation in the activities of RAN-HAM Provincial Organizing Committee and RAN-HAM Regency or City Organizing Committee in East Kalimantan
- Involvement/participation in the human rights course curriculum evaluation activities in cooperation with the Director General of Human Rights Protection in the Department of Justice and Human Rights
- Consultation service to the general public about human rights protection and information dissemination through the mass media
- Organization of regular discussion session once every two weeks in order to talk about current issues in Mulawarman University and in the society at large
- Training and awareness-raising activities on human rights for senior high school students and the people of East Kalimantan
- Holding of seminars, law discussions, training, workshops, refresher courses about respecting, fulfilling, and protecting human rights
- Provision of scientific recommendations about problems within the university and in the east Kalimantan society and regarding people with authority based on study and research results.
- Publication of study and research results in the mass media, especially in the Scientific Journal of Law Essays, Faculty of Law Mulawarman University, Samarinda.

Consultation Laboratory and Legal Service (LKPH FH UMM)

Faculty of Law Muhammadiyah University of Malang

Year Established: 2004

Short Historical Background

The Faculty of Law Muhammadiyah University of Malang established the unit for laboratory and legal service as an advocacy instrument and litigation service for the community. The Unit was meant to actualize the University's vision, especially in education and public service. It was established on 9 September 2004. From that time onward, it began to take an increasing number of cases relating to civil law, criminal law, administration and the Constitution.

Objectives

The Unit aims

1. To develop legal human resources through legal education and training based on competency (study subject)
2. To provide advocacy and litigation services to the community based on legal supremacy and justice principles.

Programs

- Regular training in Tax Law, Contract, Legal Audit, Legal Research, Lawyer and Legal Writing.
- Law Profession Internship Program for Students
- Routine twice a week discussion session
- Bulletin publication on law discourse
- Litigation service
- Petition for Judicial Review in the Constitution Court to have an Advocate Statute (April 2004)

Activities

To realize its vision and missions, the Unit performs the following strategic measures:

- legal education and training for law students
- consultation and litigation service for students
- regular legal and interdisciplinary studies and research
- cooperation with various law and non-law institutions, government agencies, private sectors at the local, national and international levels, which are committed to legal and justice development.

Address

Consultation Laboratory and Legal Service

- Faculty of Law Muhammadiyah University of Malang
Laboratorium Konsultasi dan Pelayanan Hukum (LKPH FH UMM)

Fakultas Hukum Universitas Muhammadiyah Malang

Jalan Raya Tlogomas No. 276,

Masjid AR. Facrudin Lt. 1 Kampus III UMM.

Malang, Jawa Timur (65152)

ph (62-341) 464 318, ext. 193, 466 412

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www.umm.ac.id

Institute for Policy Research and Advocacy (ELSAM)

Year Established: 1993

Short Historical Background

The Institute for Policy Research and Advocacy (ELSAM) was established in 1983 to encourage the development of a democratic political order by strengthening civil society through advocacy and promotion of human rights in Indonesia. With more than six years of work on promoting accountability mechanism for gross human rights violations (civil and political rights in particular), ELSAM initiated in 2002 the advocacy work for the development of accountability mechanism on economic, social and cultural rights violations. This decision was made pursuant to the principle of indivisibility and interdependence of the two categories of rights.

Objectives

ELSAM aims

1. To encourage and promote effective mechanisms of accountability of gross human rights violations of civil and political rights and economic, social and cultural rights
2. To promote responsibility for past human rights violations by revealing the truth, using sanctions, and seeking reparation
3. To establish knowledgeable, democratic and sustainable association.

Programs and Activities

Research and study of alternative policy development - this is designed to provide substantive analysis in the development of alternative policies. The activity covers three main areas: (1) study of policy or legal impacts on human rights, particularly the policy regarding the settlement of past human rights violations, and the policy that has legal impact on the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, (2) study of international human rights instruments and mechanisms, (3) study on accountability mechanism for gross violations of economic, social and cultural rights, (4) drafting of alternative legal policies.

Advocacy and Campaign - this is designed to gain and foster public opinion regarding current human rights issues through seminars, conferences, public debates, focused group discussion, and media activities.

Publication - this is designed to collect and process data related to human rights violations and to disseminate information to networks and the society at large including production of publications.

Workshop and training - this is designed to offer human rights education and training in the priority regions of the country and for sectoral networks of ELSAM. Besides human rights training, ELSAM also provides workshops on economic, social and cultural rights monitoring, hu-

man rights mechanism in general (for students), human rights defenders and lawyers.

Monitoring and investigation - this is designed to address the ongoing rapid changes in the political structure of the country and their implication on human rights violations. It also aims to gather the necessary data for the study and research on the development of alternative policy on preventing gross human rights violations.

Lobby - this is designed separately from advocacy and campaign activities in order to intensify its work on policy advocacy. This activity specifically addresses the importance of adopting policies that employ the human rights perspective and standards by lobbying the parliament and related government institutions.

Networking - ELSAM has been establishing or facilitating networks with human rights defenders, human rights lawyers associations, groups monitoring and promoting economic, social and cultural rights, organizations that work for the victims of past human rights violations, and organizations of human rights violations victims in different regions of the country. It networks with government institutions, members of parliament, and the national human rights institution (Komnas HAM). It also networks with human rights organizations in other countries.

Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation - this is designed to develop good planning, monitoring and evaluation system to support the implementation of overall programs of ELSAM. Internal evaluation of the implementation of each program is done once in a year, in addition to the overall evaluation every three years.

Publications

- 2003 Human Rights Report
 - The Decreasing Capacity in Upholding Human Rights: Debt, Poverty and Violence

Address

Institute for Policy Research and Advocacy (ELSAM)
Lembaga Studi dan Advokasi Masyarakat
Jl. Siaga II No 31, Pasar Minggu, Jakarta 12510
Indonesia
ph (62-21) 7972662, 79192564
fax 62-21) 79192519
e-mail: elsam@nusa.or.id or advokasi@indosat.net.id
www.elsam.or.id

The Habibie Center

Year Established: 1999

Short Historical Background

Bacharuddin Jusuf Habibie and family founded the Habibie Center on 10 November 1999 in Jakarta, Indonesia as an independent, non-governmental and non-profit organization. Its vision is to promote the modernization and democratization of Indonesian society based on the morality and integrity of sound cultural and religious values. It aims to serve as a platform for the strategic development of its agenda in democracy and human rights, human resources in science and technology, media and information, maritime resources, socialization and dissemination of technology, networking and cooperation.

Objectives

The Habibie Center aims

1. To establish a structurally and culturally democratic society that acknowledges, honors and promotes human rights, as well as to study and advocate issues in the development of democracy and human rights
2. To promote and advance effective human resources management and the socialization of technology.

Programs and Activities

Below are some of the activities under each program.

Weekly television talk show "Bincang-Bincang THC" aired on QTV and Swara TV stations and local television network stations

Research projects:

- Democracy and Local Political Culture: Continuity and Change, a study in West Sumatra, East Java, South Sulawesi and Bali (2007-2009)
- Regional Budget: Viewed from Political Economy Perspectives (The Case of Jakarta, 2002-2007 Period)

Symposiums:

- International Conference "Indonesia's Decade of Democratization: The Rise of Constitutional Democracy" (2008)
- Conference on "Indonesia's Reformasi: Reflections on the Habibie Era" (2007)

Young Leaders' Dialogue:

- Indonesia-Taiwan Young Leaders' Dialogue, "Indonesia-Taiwan Relationship within the Context of Asian Socio-Economic Challenges" (2007)
- Australia-Indonesia Young Leaders' Dialogue, "Indonesia-Australia Relations Post Tsunami" (2005)

Roundtable Discussions:

- Roundtable Expert Forum, "Questioning the Crucial Issues on Law in Politics," (2007)
- Experts' Discussion: "Civil Society and Transition Toward Democracy in Indonesia: the Role of Political Parties and Civil Society," (2007)

Workshops:

- Workshop on Result of Disseminations, project Asia-Link Programmed of the European Commission, "Upgrading Institutional Capacity of Industry Relation Offices" (2006)
- International Workshop "Comparing Access to Justice in Asian and European Transition Countries" (2005)

Reflection/Perspectives by THC senior fellows:

- Reflection on 2007 and Perspective on 2008: "The Prospect on Improving the Quality of Democracy" (2008)
- Reflection on 2006 and Perspective on 2007: "Level of Poverty and Unemployment is Worrisome" (2007)

Bureaucratic Reform Activities:

- Launching of website reformasibirokrasi.habibiecenter.or.id (2006)
- Discussion and Advocacy on Reform of Bureaucracy in Sulawesi (2007)
- "A21 Dialogue: Reinventing Accountability in Indonesian Public Service: Delivering Human Security" (2006)

International Executive Forums:

- "Enhancing Indonesia-Brazil Relations Series of Inter-history Figures Speak Out: "Arousing National Spirit with Chairil Anwar Poetries" (2008)
- Testimony of Rosihan Anwar: "Press Freedom in Indonesia before and after Independence" (2007)

Media Watch Discussions:

- "The Law on Freedom of Public Information and the Realization of a Corruption-free Indonesia" (2008)
- "Public Information Bill and Realization Prospect: Good Governance in Indonesia" (2007)

Institute of Democracy and Socialization of Technology:

- National Seminar, "Democracy 2.0: Enhancing Citizen Participation" (2007)

Launching and Exhibitions:

- B.J. Habibie's Book Launching "Decisive Moments: Indonesia's Long Road to Democracy" (2006)
- Discussion, "Democratic Turbulence in South East Asia: Political, Security and Diplomacy Aspects" & Dewi Fortuna Anwar's Book Launching "Indonesia at Large" (2006)

Publications

- Jurnal Demokrasi dan Hak-hak Asasi Manusia (Indonesian, twice a year)
- Journal of Democracy and Human Rights (English, once a year)
- Jurnal Media Watch (Indonesian, monthly)
- Annual Reports (English and Indonesian)
- Monthly Review PostScript (English)

- Research and Discussion Proceedings
- “An Indonesian Perspective on Security and Terrorism” by Prof. Dr. Hasjim Djalal (Indonesian and English)
- “Development, Migration and Security in East Asia” by Prof. Dr. Dewi Fortuna Anwar, 2006
- “Indonesia at Large” by Prof. Dr. Dewi Fortuna Anwar, 2006
- “Decisive Moments: Indonesia’s Long Road to Democracy” by Prof. Dr. B.J. Habibie, 2006

Address

The Habibie Center
Jl. Kemang Selatan No. 98
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fax (62-21) 781-7212
e-mail: thc@habibiecenter.or.id
www.habibiecenter.or.id

Human Rights Center (Sentra HAM UI)

Indonesia University

Year Established: 2000

Short Historical Background

While the Center was formally established in 2000 through the Mandate Letter of the Dean of the Faculty of Law dated 19 February 2000, the will and the urgency to establish an institution concentrated on studying human rights issues existed long before. The political change in Indonesia which necessitated government attention to human rights and the performance of its duties in partnership with other institutions, the call for foreign institutions to support the effort to protect and promote human rights, and the important role of intellectuals in this regard moved several lecturers in the Faculty of Law (led by Professor Harkristuti Harkrisnowo) to initiate establishing the Center.

Objective

The Center aims to help enliven an Indonesia that protects and promotes human rights according to its capability through planned research, education, socialization and advocacy programs as well as programs requested by other national and/or international institutions in pursuit of this objective.

Programs and Activities

The education program includes trainings, workshops and seminars. The Center had held the following training activities:

- a. Training for Timorese law graduates on the Indonesian legal system and the appropriate legal system to be implemented in the new country of Timor Leste, in cooperation with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
- b. Training for Jakarta Local Government Bureaucrats and Jakarta public officials. It included the research and preparation of a guidebook on human rights, with full funding support from the Jakarta Local Government.
- c. Training for the police about labor rights (both in labor relations and human rights contexts) in cooperation the International Labor Organization (ILO). A handbook for trainers was prepared for the training
- d. Awareness-raising on international human rights in-

struments through their translation into Bahasa Indonesia and the holding of workshops and seminars
e. Other seminars and workshops on human-rights-related issues such as the Indonesian criminal legal in comparison with systems in other countries.

The research program includes study on rehabilitation of victims of gross human rights violations, the access of people with disability, and access of defendants to legal aid. This program is being undertaken in cooperation with Center for Research and Human Rights Improvement, Department of Justice and Human Rights Affairs. The Center also organized several workshops and seminars on the drafting of the law on the establishment of a Human Rights Court, in cooperation with the Secretariat General of Indonesia Parliament (DPR). The Center has not yet undertaken activities regarding documentation of human rights violations at the regional/local and national levels.

Address

Human Rights Center
Indonesia University
Sentra Hak Asasi Manusia Universitas (Sentra HAM UI)
FH Universitas Indonesia Depok
ph (62-21) 7270003/7270201
fax (6221) 7270017/7270021
e-mail : <harkristuti_harkrisnowo@yahoo.com>

Human Rights Association Faculty of Law (PAHAM FH UNPAD)

Padjadjaran University

Objectives

The Association aims to provide education, illumination, research and dissemination of human rights:

1. To develop human rights awareness and traditions to be implemented in the community
2. To improve human rights promotion, protection and realization.

FH UNPAD)

Universitas Padjadjaran

Jl. Imam Bonjol No. 21 Bandung, Jawa Barat, Indonesia

ph (62-22) 2508514

fax (62-22) 2508514

Programs and Activities

Research

In cooperation with the Faculty of Law Padjadjaran University and Research and Development Body of Department of Justice and Human Rights, on

- Human Rights Protection of Indonesian Illegal Workers Expelled from Malaysia (2003)
- Public Participation in Legislation Process as the Exercise of Political Rights (2003).

Human rights education

- Syllabus reinstatement meeting and teaching technique improvement of human rights law as mandatory learning subject
- Stadium General on relations between Human Rights Law and Humanitarian Law (in cooperation with the Association and International Commission of Red Cross)
- Human rights training for political parties, public organizations, and non-governments organizations, phases I to III (2003), in cooperation with the Faculty of Law Padjadjaran University and the Welfare Development Community Protection Body of Local Government of West Java
- Stadium General and Advanced Short Course on Human Rights (2004), in cooperation with the Association, Raoul Wallenberg Institute, SIDA.

Other activities

- Qualitative Discussion on Discrimination in the Workplace, in cooperation with the Faculty of Law Padjadjaran University and Legal Reform Program (LRP)/AusAID and International Labor Organization (ILO)
- Initiation of proposal for the establishment of Centers for Human Rights Studies and Lecturers Association, in cooperation with the Center for Human Rights Studies Islamic University of Indonesia and Center for Human Rights Studies Surabaya University.

Publications

- Human Rights and Humanitarian Law Journal

Other Information

Special Library for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

Address

Human Rights Association Faculty of Law

Paguyuban Hak Asasi Manusia Fakultas Hukum (PAHAM

Human Rights Law Studies

Faculty of Law, Airlangga University

Year Established: 2006

Short historical Background

The Constitutional Law Department, Faculty of Law, Airlangga University established the Human Rights Law Studies Center in September 2006 to help strengthen higher education institutions and communities in improving awareness for human rights advancement toward critical legal education.

Dharmawangsa Dalam Selatan 4-6 Surabaya 60286 INDONESIA

ph (62 31) 5023252 Ext. 132

fax. (62 31) 5020454

e-mail: hrls@unair.ac.id; hrls@yahoo.com

Objectives

The Center aims

1. To promote human rights laws toward critical legal education
2. To empower human rights teaching methodologies and researches through participatory methods for changing political economy policy
3. To build strategic network for progressing human rights policy at local, national and international level

Programs and Activities

Education

- Human Rights: Critical Thought on Law for students and community (training program) - February 2008
- Roundtable Discussion on Human Rights - monthly
- Lecture on Human Rights: Gender Discrimination and Minorities in International & Comparative Human Rights Law (presented by Professor Robert Wintemute, LL.M., PhD, University of London) - September 2007
- Workshop on Human Rights Teaching Methodologies - December 2007

Research

- Truth and Reconciliation Commission - April-July 2007
- Fair Trial Perspective on Labor Courts in Indonesia - July-December 2007
- Freedom of Expression: Law and Practice in Indonesia's Post Constitutional Court Decisions - 2007-2008

Legal/policy reform advocacy

- Legal Opinion for Human Rights Cases (Lapindo Case, Land Rights in Mojokerto, and Alas Tlogo Case) - ongoing
- Alternative Policy or Report (Shadow Report on Elimination of Racial Discrimination) - July-August 2007

Publications

Human Rights Law Journal

Address

Human Rights Law Studies

Faculty of Law, Airlangga University

Constitutional Law Departement, Campus B

Imparsial, The Indonesian Human Rights Monitor

Year Established: 2002

Short Historical Background

IMPARSIAL, The Indonesian Human Rights Monitor, was established in June 2002 by seventeen of Indonesia's most prominent human rights advocates who shared the same concern: the increasing tendency of state power assertion to the detriment of civil society. The founders of IMPARSIAL are: T. Mulya Lubis, Karlina Leksono, M. Billah, Wardah Hafidz, Hendardi, Nursyahbani Katjasungkana, Binny Buchory, Kamala Chandrakirana, HS Dillon, Munir, Rachland Nashidik, Rusdi Marpaung, Otto Syamsuddin Ishak, Nezar Patria, Amiruddin, and Poengky Indarti.

Ironically, although the new era after the fall of the New Order regime of President Soeharto in 1998 has opened the way for greater public advocacy activities, the strength of human rights and other civil society groups decreased in recent years.

Objectives

IMPARSIAL aims

1. To formulate a standardized approach to reporting and documenting human rights protection matters
2. To prepare and campaign for an alternative human rights policy, and
3. To work as a partner of the National Commission on Human Rights (Komnas HAM).

Programs

Human Rights Defender: Imparsial advocates for the protection of human rights defenders, and support the proposed legal mechanism for their protection. It also monitors their situation and condition in Indonesia particularly in Papua, Poso and Aceh (areas that are in conflict and post-conflict situations respectively)

Security Sector Reform: Imparsial advocates for a change in the governance of the defence-security sector in accordance with human rights and democracy values, professionalism, and good governance principles. This includes reform in the defence-security institutions (intelligence, police and military forces).

Human Rights in General: Imparsial highlights some cases, such as those relating to death penalty, freedom of religion and belief, civil liberties (terrorism-related cases) and human rights violations done by the intelligence agency and police.

Alternative Human Rights Policy – Imparsial develops and campaigns for an alternative human rights policy as a measure to improve State policy (including change in government regulations) based on human rights principles. This initiative started with a study of state policies that resulted in a publication for policy lobby. The publication is also distributed to local, national and international network partners of Imparsial.

Activities

1. Public Discussion:
 - "Intelijen dan Pasal pengecualian dalam Rancangan Undang-undang Keterbukaan Informasi Publik"
 - Pluralis
2. Exhibition: "THE FACE OF 1000 WOMEN" Wajah Perempuan Perdamaian
3. National Human Rights Defenders Meeting
4. Human Rights Defenders Training
5. Crisis Center for Human Rights Defenders Formation
6. Security Sector Reform Training
7. Research and campaign about death penalty and civil liberties.

Special Concerns

- Human Rights Defenders
- Security Sector Reform

Publications

- Pluralisme Dalam Implementasi Hak Asasi Manusia (Pluralism in Implementing Human Rights) - Gufron Mabruri (2007)
- Who's afraid of independent candidates? - Bhatara Ibnu Reza and Al Araf (2007)
- Demokrasi yang Selektif terhadap Penegakan HAM - (Laporan Kondisi HAM Indonesia 2005)
- Buletin Huridocs Imparsial
- Book series: Alternative Policy
- Evaluasi Kinerja BIN di masa Transisi- Imparsial Team

Address

Imparsial, The Indonesian Human Rights Monitor
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ph (62 21) 391 3819
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e-mail: office@imparsial.org
www.imparsial.org

KALYANAMITRA - Women's Information and Communication Center

Year Established: 1985

Short Historical Background

On 28 March 1985, five women of different backgrounds who shared mutual concern on women-related issues founded Kalyanamitra in Jakarta. Kalyanamitra started as an independent women organization that initially brought up issues on women workers, by processing information into discussion materials for them. Kalyanamitra also take sides with oppressed women among farmers, fisherfolk, and informal sector workers by promoting awareness of women's rights. Therefore, Kalyanamitra collects data on any aspect of women and discuss them in seminars, trainings and public dialogues participated in by the common people.

The 1994 closure of Tempo Magazine by the government, the 1995 murder of Marsinah, and 1998 rape cases involving ethnic Chinese women led Kalyanamitra to develop a movement on anti-violence against women either as a result of gender inequality or state violence.

Objectives

Kalyanamitra envisions women to be free from any kinds of violence and adopts the following mission:

1. To increase knowledge and understanding about the different conditions of women and their positions in the community
2. To build its role in advocating pro-women policies on any kind of violence
3. To build a movement that raises women's rights in the community with other groups by disseminating relevant information
4. To improve the capacity of women's groups by enabling them to organize themselves and eradicate gender injustice in order to reach a more democratic and just society.

Programs and Activities

Facilitating the Community - Kalyanamitra prioritizes the increase in critical awareness and the use of local knowledge in the community or women groups. Community facilitation primarily aims at forming a civilian and human community system that upholds democratic values, transparency, economic welfare, and gender justice in politics and the economy. It holds activities to increase people's awareness such as seminars, public dialogue, discussions at grassroots communities, discussion with university students, training and education.

Policy Advocacy - while Kalyanamitra does not engage in litigation or other legal measures, it promotes feminist advocacy that stresses the important and determining role and position of women. This advocacy aims to facilitate the development of gender justice and the establishment of equality-based community system.

Kalyanamitra networks at the national level to advocate for pro-women policies by lobbying the parliament and

government institutions, and by mass action. Kalyanamitra initiates and leads the CEDAW Working Group Initiative (CWGI) that monitors the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in Indonesia, and makes non-governmental organization (NGO) shadow report for submission to the United Nations CEDAW Committee.

Knowledge, Information, and Documentation - Kalyanamitra manages information and makes documentation in a sustainable way to increase people's awareness on women's rights. As a resource center, Kalyanamitra has a women's library that contains two hundred thirty-two books, 168,226 working papers/newsletters, magazines, clippings on women articles from newspapers, and audio-visual collections. It publishes information (printed and digital) as books, fact sheets, comics on women's rights, bulletins, films, and website articles. It produces interesting campaign tools on various women issues such as stickers, posters, pins, t-shirts, bags, and mugs.

Special Concerns

Violence against women, the impact of pop culture on women subordination and stereotyping, and monitoring of the implementation of CEDAW in Indonesia.

Publications

Books

- Ibunda, Maxim Gorky
- Hak Reproduksi Antara Kontrol dan Perlawanan, Sita Aripurnami
- Bila Perkosaan Terjadi, Adrina Taslim, Henny Supolo Sitepu, Liza Hadiz, Sita Aripurnami
- Kaum Perempuan dan Strategi Ekonomi Internasional, Mariarosa & Giovanna F. Dalla Costa
- Gerakan Perempuan di Amerika Latin, Jane S. Jaquett (ed.)
- Reproduksi dan Perjuangan Feminis, Sylvia Frederici
- Kuntilanak Wangi, Saskia Wieringa

Films

- Ketika Mata Jiwa Bicara (Incest/Rape case)
- Menguak Kekerasan dalam Rumah Tangga (Domestic violence)

Address

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Kartini Network for Women's/Gender Studies in Asia

Year Established: 2003

Short Historical Background

The Kartini Network for Women's/Gender Studies in Asia was formally established in Manila in May 2003 after two years of preparation, during which time the network was called GINA, Gender Institutes Network in Asia. Kartini, named after the Indonesian pioneering feminist writer and activist, aims to create synergy between women's/gender studies and feminist activism in the region. Kartini members are women's/gender studies centers or institutes and feminist organizations in Asia and elsewhere.

The approach of Kartini research and activism is cross-cultural and comparative within the Asian context, incorporating both empirical work and theoretical reflection. Tailored advanced training courses will be organized both in research methodologies and in women's theories around particular themes identified by the network. Kartini has an open, dynamic and flexible structure. The participating institutes all have their own dynamics, interests, capacities and needs.

Objectives

The Kartini Network aims

1. To increase the knowledge base of participating members
2. To strengthen inter-disciplinary research skills
3. To contribute to the development of comparative and collaborative research programs that respond to the needs of women in the region, and
4. To create an open, flexible platform of exchange in the area of women's/gender studies between Asian scholars/activists working within academic institutes and in women's organizations through regular Kartini Network Asian Women's Studies conferences.

The network also aims to incorporate women's rights in cultural and religious institutions and movements.

Programs and Activities

Research

India-Indonesia Comparative Research on Non Normative Sexuality of three constituencies: sex worker, widow and young urban lesbian, supported by Ford Foundation, New York. The research has several objectives including the following:

- To gain a deeper understanding of issues related to sexual practices of women inside and outside the institution of heterosexual marriage
- To document sexual strategies that are empowering for women, the conditions under which they occur and the legal, political and religious context in which they take place
- To develop indicators of sexual empowerment
- To evolve a culturally sensitive sexual rights framework for advocacy and consciousness raising
- To elaborate on principles of feminist research methodology related to the issue of sexualities and the right to sexual expression and empowerment

Advocacy

This project is a sequel and runs parallel to a proposal funded by the Ford Foundation on Sexual Rights and Women's Empowerment. The Ford project entails comparative research in India and Indonesia. It coordinated by the Koalisi Perempuan Indonesia.

The Ford-funded project is primarily research-oriented and is undertaken from a human/women's rights perspective. The present project is advocacy-oriented and is likewise based on a women's rights perspective. It aims to disseminate the results of the research project among the wider public in India and Indonesia, stimulating a process of women's sexual empowerment in both countries.

The current project has several objectives including the following:

- To produce a manual guide book/hand book on women's sexual rights, in both English, Hindi and Indonesian, for use both by trainers on issues of sexuality and in the wider women's movement in India and Indonesia, as well as in the region
- To implement one research project on media analysis of sexuality
- To hold two dissemination workshops in which the results of the research component will be discussed with relevant policy makers such as officials in charge of curriculum development
- To hold two TOT workshops in which ten trainers each will be trained on women's sexual rights. These workshops will also be attended by scholars and activists

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www.kartini-asia.org

The Legal Aid Foundation (LBH)

Year Established: 1969

Short Historical Background

The Legal Aid Foundation (LBH) was established during the Third Congress of the Indonesian Advocates Association (Peradin) in 1969. The initiative was approved by the Peradin central management Board through Order No 001/Kep/10/1970 of 26 October 1970 which stipulated the establishment of the Legal Aid Foundation/General Advocate Institutions, and which was made effective on 28 October 1970. After ten years in operation, LBH's legal status was expanded to create the Indonesian Legal Aid Foundation (YLBHI) on 13 March 1980 with 28 October as its anniversary day. Initially, the Foundation was set up to provide legal assistance and protection to disempowered Indonesians including those living in poverty, victims of forced eviction, marginalized communities, victims of partial dismissal and victims of human rights violations.

Objectives

LBH aims

1. To establish, promote and disseminate the values of democratic and just legal-based state, and uphold human rights in all social segments without condition
2. To establish and promote independence and empower the marginalized people in such a way that enables them to formulate, articulate and struggle for and sustain their collective and individual interests
3. To develop systems, institutions and other supporting instruments to increase effectiveness of the efforts to

fulfill the rights of the marginalized people

4. To initiate, encourage, advocate and support law development programs, enforcement of legal justice and national legal reform in line with the viable Constitution and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
5. To promote and develop programs that contain dimension of justice in politics, socio-economic, culture and gender, particularly for the marginalized people.

Programs

1. Case advocacy (litigation and non litigation)
2. Education on and development of people's legal resources
3. Policy research/study (legal reform)
4. Network development (national and international)
5. Campaign and publication

Publications

- Jurnal Demokrasi dan Hak-hak Asasi Manusia HAM (Journal of Democracy and Human Rights)
- Journal Media Watch
- Annual Reports

Address

Yayasan Lembaga Bantuan Hukum Indonesia (YLBHI)
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www.ylbhi.or.id

Research Institute Jakarta State University (PPP SDM & HAM LP UNJ)

Year Established:

Short Historical Background

Starting as the Education Research Bureau, it was changed to the Research Institute of Jakarta State University in 1995. The Center for Human Resource and Human Rights Research and Development, which engages in human rights studies, is a part of the Research Institute.

Objectives

The Research Institute aims

1. To become a qualified research center in science, technology, education and art
2. To become a qualified scientific information center in science, technology, education and art
3. To produce fruitful researches and gain the capability to solve problems at the local, national and international levels.
4. To use and implement research results in science, technology, education and art academically, professionally and in a civilized manner
5. To cooperate with other university-based research institutions, other concerned institutions as well as national and international industries.

Activities

- Research on learning models for integrating human rights concepts into competency-based curriculum
- Development of human rights teaching materials for schools
- National seminars on teaching human rights concepts in schools

Publications

- Membangun Masa Depan Anak Jalanan/Developing Future of Street-Children" (about child's rights) (2000)
- Hak Asasi Manusia dalam Pembangunan Masyarakat Indonesia di Era Global/ Human Rights in Indonesia Community Development at Global Era (2000)

Address

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Center for Human Rights Studies (HRCUT)

University of Tehran Faculty of Law and Political Science

Year Established: 2000

Short Historical Background

In the context of thousands of charitable organizations across Iran providing humanitarian and other forms of assistance and protection to suffering people in support of the Islamic principle of upholding the inherent dignity of human beings, there is a lack of academic centers which foster and promote human rights-related debate, research and training.

Following the workshop on regional human rights arrangements for the Asia-Pacific, held in 1998 in Tehran, and in light of the need for technical assistance to countries in the region stressed in the final declaration of the workshop, the UNDP proposed to the Faculty of Law & Political Science of the University of Tehran the project called "Strengthening Capacities for Human Rights Training and Research". The project started in May 1999 under the auspices of Professor Nasrin Mosaffa, Associate Dean for Financial and Administration Affairs of the Faculty of Law & Political Science.

The Center for Human Rights studies was accordingly established under this project in January 2000, as a measure to institutionalize human rights research and training activities.

It began operating on 24 Mehr, 1378 (15 October 1999), on the fourth floor of Building No 2, Faculty of Law and Political Science, University of Tehran. Following the inauguration of the Center, the Information Department was moved to the new location on 26 October 2000.

Objective

The Center is a specialized institution for human rights documents and information to support interest in human rights of the students and researchers.

Activities

The Center undertakes the following activities:

1. Research, authoring and translation of materials in the following areas:
 - Theoretical foundations of human rights
 - Conceptual and historical evolution of human rights
 - Sources and principles of international humanitarian law
 - Human rights enforcement and monitoring mechanisms
 - Violations of human rights and compensatory mechanisms
 - International criminal tribunal mechanisms
 - Regional and international human rights agreements
 - International human rights non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
 - Promoting international cooperation in the field of human rights.

2. Cooperation with domestic and international academic and research centers in the above mentioned fields.
3. Special training courses
4. Academic conferences
5. Publication of studies and conference papers.

Research Studies

The Center conducts research in cooperation with other institutes in the university. It finished the following research projects:

- a. Freedom of Expression - in cooperation with the Institute of Comparative Law
- b. Justice, Equality and Equity in Human Rights - in cooperation with the Institute of Criminal Science and Criminology
- c. Strengthening International Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights - in cooperation with the Center for Graduate International Studies.

Publications

Several books, including the following, have been translated and printed by the Center:

- Les Droits de L'homme by Jacques Mourgeon, translated by Dr. Ahmad Naghibzadeh, Professor of Faculty of Law and Political Science (2002)
- Human Rights and Humanitarian Law by Daniel Warner (Martinus Nijoff, 1997), translated by Dr. Salaleh Habibi Amin, Researcher and translator in International Relations.

Other Information

The library of the Center collects the latest books and references on human rights-related topics. With the introduction of a Human Rights Masters degree program and a Doctoral course on human rights by the Faculty of Law and Political Science, the number of books for translation into Farsi has increased.

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UNESCO Chair for Human Rights, Peace and Democracy

Shahid Beheshti University

Year Established: 2001

Short Historical Background

The Faculty of Law of Shahid Beheshti University has worked since 1994 for the promotion of research and training in the field of human rights in Iran. It worked on

1. Incorporating human rights as a compulsory subject in the doctoral level course of international law
2. Incorporating the international regime of human rights as a compulsory subject in the masters level course of international law
3. Establishing a nationwide masters-level program in human rights and the start of such program in the university Faculty of Law
4. Communication with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to determine areas for the promotion of human rights education in the country
5. Establishment of the UNESCO Chair for Human Rights, Peace and Democracy in Shahid Beheshti University.

The UNESCO Chair for Human Rights, Peace and Democracy of Shahid Beheshti University was established in the spring of 2001 in the campus of Shahid Beheshti University following an agreement concluded in 2000 between the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and Shahid Beheshti University.

Objectives

To undertake research and training in the field of human rights, peace and democracy and promotion them through the

- Formal education on human rights (from the primary to tertiary levels)
- Informal education on human rights (through governmental and non-governmental organizations and institutions).

Programs

The programs include the following:

- Specialized library and human rights documents center
- Masters-level courses on human rights
- Short-term human rights courses at the national and regional levels
- Training courses for human rights educators
- Human rights education material development
- Translation of human rights texts and instruments
- Inter-disciplinary research center in the fields of human rights, peace and democracy
- Linkage with inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations in the field of human rights research and training.

Activities

The activities include the following:

- Translation of international and regional human rights instruments

- Translation of materials from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (Human Rights Fact Sheet numbers 2,4,10,17,22)
- Establishment of a specialized library and United Nations Depository Library
- Establishment of a computer site with unlimited daily access to the Internet
- Establishment of an audio-visual center
- Initiation of a masters level course on human rights law
- Holding of
 - workshops for governors and executives of the province of Tehran
 - short-term workshop for undergraduate students of law at Shahid Beheshti University
 - short-term workshop for students of law in Tehran
 - workshops for the network of women's human rights (non-governmental organizations) NGOs
- Participation of three of the Chair's members in the thirty-third study session of the International Institute of Human Rights in Strasbourg, France
- Establishment of links with different universities, institutions and entities active in the fields of human rights, peace and democracy
- Holding of a research project entitled "Control Mechanisms of the Rights of the Victims of Torture"
- Translation of the book *Identite Humaine* by Edgar Morin
- Sending professors, students and lawyers abroad for complementary courses in human rights, peace and democracy.
- Organizing of conferences
- Co-operation with civil institutions for the promotion of the culture to respect human rights
- Awarding of two prizes every year to the best Masters-level dissertations in the field of human rights.

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Center for Human Rights Studies

Mofid University

Year Established: 2003

Short Historical Background

The Center for Human Rights Studies at Mofid University was established in Spring 2003 to coordinate and organize the different academic activities of Mofid University in the field of human rights.

Mofid University started its major activities in the field of human rights studies by holding its first international conference on human rights. The secretariat of the conference was established in 1999 and the first conference entitled: "Human Rights and Dialogue among Civilizations" held in May 2001, the year which was named as the "Year of Dialogue Among Civilizations" by the United Nations (UN), in accordance with the proposal of Iranian President, Mohammad Khatami. Considering the significant achievements of that conference, the university decided to hold the same conference every two years each time on specific human rights topics. The secretariat of the conference became the permanent secretariat of the international conferences.

Objectives

The main mission of the Center is to conduct and commission research activities in human rights with an interdisciplinary approach, and also carry out comparative studies on human rights according to different religions and cultures.

Programs

Research programs

1. Participation in the preliminary discussions held by UNDP Iran to provide a five-year UNDP project on Good Governance (2004)
2. Designing a project on developing human rights book for training activities
3. Designing a proposal for the project on the Comprehensive System of Ethics and Biological Rights (2004).

Activities

1. Research
 - a. Research and education in the field of child rights in cooperation with UNICEF Iran (2006)
 - b. Agreement with the Center for the Study of Human Rights at New York Columbia University on academic cooperation in the field of human rights.
2. Lectures and Workshops
 - a. Child rights
 - Workshop on Teenagers' Trial for judges of Qom and Markazi provinces in cooperation with UNICEF Iran and Judicial Power's Deputy for Judicial Development (2007)
 - Course on child rights in Tehran in cooperation with UNICEF Iran (2007)
 - Course on child rights for the staff of governmental organizations engaged in children's affairs, in

cooperation with UNICEF Iran (2007)

- Course on child rights at Mofid University for the staff of governmental organizations engaged in children's affairs, in cooperation with UNICEF Iran (2006)
- b. Women's rights
 - Series of meetings entitled "Woman's Identity in Religions" in cooperation with Qom Provincial Government (2005)
 - Series of meetings entitled "Review of the Charter of Women's Rights and Responsibilities in the I.R. of Iran, ratified by the Supreme Council of the Cultural Revolution on 21 September 2004" at Mofid University (2005)
 - Series of meetings held in cooperation with Qom Provincial Government (2005).
 - c. On HIV/AIDS
 - Workshop in cooperation with UNICEF on reviewing a workbook for Muslim clergymen about HIV/AIDS (2006)
 - d. Other issues
 - Participation in the triple workshops on the relationship of UN with civil society held by UNDP (2004)
 - Workshop on Theoretical Approaches to Identity (2004)
 - Workshop on Islam and Human Rights with some students and representatives of NGOs from both inside and outside Iran (2004)
 - Workshop on Identity, Cultural Identity and Human Rights (2004)
 - e. International conferences - series of conferences on different themes
 - 4th conference (2007) - "Human Rights and Religion" in the framework of the Cluster Project on National Capacity Building for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights for Greater Access to Justice"
 - 3rd conference (2005) - "Identity, Difference and Human Rights" in Qom
 - 2nd conference (2003) - "Theoretical Foundations of Human Rights."

Publications

- Journal in the field of human rights (2006, 2007)
- Proceedings of 2nd International Conference on Human Rights "Theoretical Foundations of Human Rights" (May 2007) - Farsi and English versions

Address

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The Organization of Women's Freedom in Iraq (OWFI)

Year Established: 1998

Short historical background

The Organization of Women's Freedom in Iraq (OWFI) was founded in 1998 as the Defense of Iraqi Women's Rights (DIWR) in Toronto, Canada, by a group of Iraqi women which included Yanar Mohammed, the current director. The group changed its name in June 2003 to the Organization of Women's Freedom and relocated to Iraq. The OWFI works to protect women from discriminatory and dangerous laws and practices like honor killings. The members do so both practically by funding a women's shelter and working to find safe haven for women who need it, and politically by raising their voices in defense of women, and by working to ensure that women retain a role in the legislative process.

Objectives

Protection for Women - OWFI runs shelters for battered women in four Iraqi cities and an "underground railroad" to bring women at risk of violence, murder, and "honor killings", to safe havens.

Women's Rights Advocacy - OWFI has a long history of advocating for women's rights in Iraq. It is the only Iraqi's women organization which has publicly spoken out against the previous regime in Iraq and the US occupation for their unleashing of violent backlashes against Iraqi women.

Events Organizing - OWFI organizes press conferences, meetings, protests, and campaigns geared towards the advocacy of women's social, economic and political rights in Iraq.

Training - OWFI holds several women's rights training sessions for women in Iraq. It tries to reach out to various women in the Iraqi society. For example, in 2005, it held a training session for Kurdish women in the region. The sessions included information on the historical backgrounds of international and regional women's rights movements, the ideas and approaches of different women's rights activist groups and organizations, and the objectives and roles of OWFI in the Iraqi government and society.

Publications

BCHR mainly reports and publishes news articles. These documents can be accessed online: www.bahrainrights.org. Here are some documents published by BCHR:

- Media coverage of elections marred by self-censorship, political pressure, exclusion of voices and blocking of Internet (2008)
- The release of Arab detainees in Guantanamo: Successful model for the national, regional and international joint efforts (2008)

- Mounting Unrest and Violations in Bahrain (2008)
- Security forces assault journalists covering repression of protest (2007)
- Crackdown on Activists in Bahrain Continues (2007)

Publications

- Al Mousawat, periodical newsletter
- Killing Women, Destroying Iraq (2007)
- Islamic Sharia law: a constant threat against the rights and freedom of women in the Middle East (2007)
- It's not a matter of choice (2007)
- Stories from Baghdad, a weekly diary (2004)

Several of OWFI's publications are accessible in the organization's website: www.equalityiniraq.com

Address

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Adalah – The Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel

Year Established: 1996

Short Historical Background

Adalah is an independent human rights organization registered in Israel. It is a non-profit, non-governmental, and non-partisan legal center. Established in November 1996, it serves Arab citizens of Israel, numbering over one million people or close to 20% of the total population. Adalah ("Justice" in Arabic) works to protect human rights in general, and the rights of the Arab minority in particular.

Objectives

Adalah aims

1. To achieve equal individual and collective rights for the Arab minority in Israel in different fields, including land rights, civil and political rights, cultural, social, and economic rights, religious rights, women's rights, and prisoners' rights
2. To raise public awareness of the Arab minority rights in particular, and human rights in general
3. To train stagiaires (legal apprentices), law students, and new Arab lawyers in the field of human rights.

Programs and Activities

Legal Advocacy - advocating for legislations that will ensure equal individual and collective rights for the Arab minority. These rights include: land rights, civil and political rights, cultural, social, and economic rights, religious rights, women's rights, and prisoners' rights. Adalah's legal advocacy is done through: filing petitions to the Supreme Court of Israel, filing appeals and lawsuits to the District, Magistrate and Labor Courts, submitting pre-petitions to the Attorney General's Office, filing complaints with Mahash (the Ministry of Justice Police Investigation Unit) of police brutality, and sending letters to government ministries and agencies, detailing legal claims and demanding compliance with the law.

International Advocacy – appealing (through press releases, publishing and contributing to reports and notes, participating in international conferences, and other activities) to international institutions and forums in order to promote the rights of the Arab minority in particular, and human rights in general.

Legal Consultation - providing legal consultation to individuals, student committees, non-governmental organizations, and Arab institutions.

Special Reports - producing reports and petitions which deal with specific issues facing the Arab Minority in Israel such as issues concerning home demolitions, the Jewish National Fund Law, family unifications, Gaza fuel and electricity, and much more. A significant publication of Adalah is the "Democratic Constitution". Published in

2007, the tenth anniversary of Adalah's founding, the Democratic Constitution is a constitutional proposal for the state of Israel, based on the concept of a democratic, bilingual, multicultural state in order to respect the freedoms of the individual and the rights of all groups in equal measure, gives proper weight to the historical injustices committed against Arab citizens of Israel, and deals seriously with the social and economic rights of all.

Public Awareness - organizing study days, seminars, and workshops, and publishing reports and newsletters on legal issues concerning the rights of the Arab minority in particular, and human rights in general.

Legal Training - training stagiaires (legal apprentices), law students, and new Arab lawyers in the field of human rights. Internship programs are also offered.

Publications

Apart from regular Press Releases and contributions towards International Reports that advocate for the human rights of the Arabs in Israel, Adalah publishes newsletters, reviews, and reports (in English, Arabic, and Hebrew) such as the following:

- The Democratic Constitution (2007)
- Adalah's Review
 - Volume 4 - In the Name of Security (Spring 2004)
 - Volume 3- Law and Violence (Summer 2002)
- Adalah's Report
 - "The Accused" regarding criminal and public responsibility for the killing of Arab citizens in October 2000 (2006)
 - Institutionalized Discrimination (2001)
- Human Rights Guide for Palestinian Citizens of Israel (in Arabic)

Address

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The Arab Association for Human Rights (HRA)

Year Established: 1988

Short Historical Background

The Arab Association for Human Rights (HRA), founded in 1988 by lawyers and community activists, is an independent, grassroots, non-governmental organization (NGO) registered in Israel. HRA works to promote and protect the political, civil, economic, and cultural rights of the Palestinian Arab minority in Israel from an international human rights perspective.

HRA holds a unique position locally and worldwide as an indigenous organization that works at the community, national and international levels for equality and non-discrimination, and for the domestic implementation of international minority rights protection.

Objectives

HRA aims to promote and protect the political, civil, economic, and cultural rights of the Palestinian Arab minority in Israel from an international human rights perspective. HRA also aims to extend its advocacy for Palestinian Arab minority rights to the International Community.

Programs and Activities

Research and Reporting - the idea of establishing a Research and Reporting program in HRA was first developed in the aftermath of the events of October 2000, when thirteen Arab citizens of Israel were shot dead by the Israeli Police. Thus, in 2003, HRA expanded its activities, launching a new project to monitor human rights violations against the Palestinian minority in Israel. The methodology relies on field research – interviews with victims, collection of testimonies – and analysis of domestic and international law concerning human rights.

Human Rights Education and Community Outreach - HRA has two community outreach and human rights awareness-raising projects. The Human Rights and Civic Education Project (HRCE) targets Palestinian Arab school children in Israel. This project aims to educate individuals on international standards of human rights in order to enable them to evaluate their position as minority citizens and establish a civil society that deals with their situation within the framework of internationally acknowledged means. The second project discusses women's rights as an integral part of human rights. This project is not restricted to targeting girls and women only. Its awareness-raising and education efforts are also directed towards both male and female members of the Arab minority inside Israel. The specific activities of the two projects are the following: Facilitator Training, Semester-long Courses in High Schools, Teacher Training, Human/Women's Rights Days in Schools and Unrecognized Villages, Student Forum Haifa, High-School Student Forum, One-time Lectures, Lecture Series, and Workshops, Summer Camps for Children, Educational Tours to Unrecognized or Destroyed Villages, Expanding the Human-Rights Library, Establishing the Rights Theatre, Publishing Dalil,

the human-rights syllabus, Women's Rights Summer Sessions, Publications, Films, Theatre.

International Advocacy – this aims to put the human-rights issues related to the Arab minority inside Israel on the international agenda and to impact the international discourse towards a more rights-based approach concerning Israel. It both informs the international community and protects the local Arab community. Moreover, over the years, HRA has become a reliable resource for diplomats to assess the situation inside Israel regarding the Arab minority. HRA is in contact or tries to establish correspondence with national and international institutions related to human rights.

Publications

Some publications of HRA:

- Discrimination Diary Series (2008)
- On the Margins; Annual Review of Human Rights Violations of the Arab Palestinian Minority in Israel (2006)
- Suspected Citizens; Racial Profiling against Arab Passengers by Israeli Airports and Airlines (2006)
- Behind the Walls; Separation Walls between Arabs and Jews in Mixed Cities and Neighborhoods in Israel (2005)

Other details of these and other publications are available at: www.arabhra.org/hra/Pages/Index.aspx

Address

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The Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI)

Year Established: 1972

Short Historical Background

The Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI) is Israel's oldest and largest human rights organization and the only one that deals with the entire spectrum of human rights and civil liberties issues in Israel and the Occupied Territories. ACRI's work encompasses litigation and legal advocacy, education, and public outreach as the most effective way in which to build toward its long-term vision of a just and democratic society that respects the equal rights of all its members.

Objectives

ACRI aims

1. To bring precedent-setting litigation to the Supreme Court
2. To issue and disseminate high-profile reports on key human rights issues
3. To offer free legal information and advice through a public hotline
4. To run human rights education programs for school teachers
5. To provide expert opinions before the Knesset
6. To conduct human rights training workshops for security forces
7. To mount public outreach campaigns in order to place human rights concerns high on the public agenda.

Programs and Activities

Legal Program - ACRI's Legal Department takes on cases that have the potential to set precedents, raise issues of principle, and effect broad-based policy change. Every year, ACRI argues dozens of precedent-setting cases before the Supreme Court, and also seeks redress before district and labor courts, government ministries, and Knesset committees.

Public Outreach Program - publishes high-profile reports and information leaflets, organizes lectures, conferences, film screenings and other public and community events covering a wide range of human rights issues. Moreover, it runs a Public Hotline to assist people whose rights have been infringed. In addition, ACRI's Public Outreach staff conducts extensive media outreach work in Hebrew, Arabic, Russian, and other languages. The department also maintains Israel's largest collection of civil and human rights materials, much of which can be accessed through ACRI's website.

International Humanitarian Law (IHL) Project - ACRI aims to raise public awareness of the harsh implications of harming a civilian population in the course of armed combat, and of the military's obligation to prevent such injuries. In the framework of its project, ACRI offers educational workshops to social activists, students, educators, youth movement counselors, and students at pre-military academies.

Educational Program - ACRI's Education Department conducts human rights training programs for thousands of individuals across the country each year, produces high-quality educational curriculums in Hebrew and Arabic, and organizes conferences and lectures on human rights education. The Department believes that working with key agents of change - teachers in the Jewish and Arab school systems, students, security forces personnel, and social and community workers - is an effective method to influence attitudes and contribute toward building a more tolerant and just society. ACRI has an online forum for teachers and educators, which contains ideas and resources on how to integrate human rights values into the classroom through the discussion of current events. This site has become the preeminent resource for human rights education in Israel (Hebrew Website: <http://www.acri.org.il/portal.aspx?id=2>).

Publications

- State of Human Rights Reports (2006, 2007)
- ACRI's Annual Report (2005-2006, 2006-2007)
- ACRI's Position Paper - Democracy and Occupation (2007)
- ACRI and B'Tselem Joint Report: Ghost Town - Israel's Separation Policy and Forced Eviction of Palestinians from the Center of Hebron (2007)
- Violation of the Right to Family of Migrant Workers (2007)
- Workers' Rights Report (English summary) (2006)

ACRI publishes and distributes bimonthly e-newsletters in English, Hebrew, and Arabic.

Other Information

ACRI runs a wide database containing its research studies and documents (on various human rights issues) in the form of Fact Sheets, Position Papers, Press Releases, Publications and Articles. Its library contains a wide selection of books, reports, and other publications on human rights and law in Israel and abroad.

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B'TSELEM - The Israeli Information Center for Human Rights

Year Established: 1989

Short Historical Background

B'TSELEM - The Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories was established in 1989 by a group of prominent academics, attorneys, journalists, and Knesset members. B'Tselem combines research, advocacy and public education strategies in order to promote human rights in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

B'Tselem in Hebrew literally means "in the image of," and is also used as a synonym for human dignity. The word is taken from Genesis 1:27 "And God created humans in his image. In the image of God did He create him." It is in this spirit that the first sentence of Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights."

Objectives

B'Tselem's primary goals are to protect human rights in the Occupied Territories and to generate commitment among the Israeli public to human rights principles. The strategies to achieve these goals are the following:

- Providing information to the Israeli public and the international community about violations of human rights in the Occupied Territories
- Recommending and advocating for policy changes to ensure greater protection of human rights
- Fostering debate and discussion within the Israeli public in order to generate commitment to human rights principles and their application in the Occupied Territories.

Programs and Activities

Research and Publications - B'Tselem has published over a hundred reports, some comprehensive in scope, covering the full spectrum of human rights issues. The reports have dealt, for example, with torture, fatal shootings and accountability for military violence, restriction on movement, expropriation of land, house demolitions, discriminatory planning policies, administrative detention, and settler violence.

Resource and Information Center - B'Tselem compiles statistics on casualties and other human rights issues, issues a monthly electronic update and serves as a primary source of information for policymakers, researchers and various organizations. It works extensively with the Israeli and international media. It maintains an extensive website (in English, Hebrew, Arabic and Russian) that provides access to all of the organization's publications, maps, statistics and video, as well as providing updates on current events.

Advocacy and Public Education - B'Tselem conducts a range of activities to educate the Israeli public about human rights, and to advocate for specific policy change.

Public education and advocacy tools include advertising campaigns, "reality tours" of the West Bank, briefings for target audience, distribution of video clips and multimedia presentations, and organizing public events.

Video Advocacy - B'Tselem is now pioneering the use of video as a tool for human rights advocacy. Visual material gives a tangible, human face to human rights issues and has the potential to reach larger audiences with the human rights message. B'Tselem produces short video clips, maintains an extensive video archive and conducts a camera distribution project (entitled "Shooting Back") where Palestinians in high-conflict areas are given cameras to document their reality.

Publications

Below are some of the publications of B'TSELEM:

- 2007 Annual Report: Human Rights in the Occupied Territories
- Ground to a Halt: Denial of Palestinians' Freedom of Movement in the West Bank (2007)
- Ghost Town: Israel's Separation Policy and Forced Eviction of Palestinians from the Center of Hebron (2007)
- The Gaza Strip: One Big Prison (2007)
- Absolute Prohibition: The Torture and Ill-Treatment of Palestinian Detainees (2007)
- Crossing the Line: Violation of the Rights of Palestinians in Israel without a Permit (2007)

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The Minerva Center for Human Rights

Year Established: 1993

Short Historical Background

The Hebrew University Law Faculty and the Truman Institute for the Advancement of Peace established the Center for Human Rights in 1993, with the generous support of the Ford Foundation, as the first academic center of its type in Israel.

In January 1997, the Center became a Minerva Center, funded by the German Ministry for Education and Research through the Minerva Foundation. The primary goal of the Minerva Center is to promote awareness and to enhance research and academic interest in human rights. The Center's activities are geared to encourage research in this field among scholars and students, and to serve as a resource center for the human rights community and other groups in the Israeli society. The Center is currently housed at the Hebrew University Law Faculty and has a sister Center at Tel Aviv University.

Objectives

The Minerva Center aims

1. To support research by both students and senior academics on human rights
2. To provide information to the local and international human rights community by building a bibliographical database and documentation center, accessible via the internet, on local and regional human rights issues
3. To provide a forum for the exchange of ideas on human rights issues between students, scholars, human rights activists and policy-makers from Israel and abroad
4. To promote interest in human rights issues in the academic community and at large.

Programs and Activities

Promotion of Human Rights Research - The Minerva Center promotes inter-disciplinary research in human rights by awarding research grants and fellowships to scholars and students in the field. The recipients of grants and fellowships come from diverse disciplines at universities across Israel and from different sectors within the Israeli society. The Center also initiates research projects on cutting-edge academic issues. The research projects are often conducted as collaborative efforts between Israeli researchers and scholars from abroad. Some of these projects seek to advance laws and assist decision makers and public bodies in the realm of human rights. Other studies result in publications or international conferences.

Conferences and discussions - International and local conferences constitute a large part of the work of the Minerva Center for Human Rights. The Center organizes at least one international conference annually, along with several local conferences, colloquiums, panel discussions and lectures.

Public Education - The Minerva Center runs a wide range of public education programs, with an emphasis on courses. These activities are an effective tool for reaching out to diverse groups and sectors within Israeli society, offering professional enrichment and training in the area of human rights. Among these groups are students and lecturers, Israeli and Palestinian teachers, Jewish and Arab NGOs' staff and activists, as well as the legal community - judges, Civil Service attorneys and legal advisers.

Exchange of Scholars - As part of the efforts to place human rights on the public agenda and raise awareness on current issues in this field, the Minerva Center invites scholars from abroad to attend conferences, participate in seminars and workshops and lecture in diverse forums

Publications

The Minerva Center publishes research studies, conference proceedings, Human Rights Readers and other publications in human rights related issues.

Other Information

Resource Center: the Minerva Center has an on-line human rights library which serves as a resource for students, scholars, teachers, the legal community, NGOs activists and others. The library includes: historical documents, human rights instruments, select legislation, International and regional Courts as well as UN bodies, selected jurisprudence, reports, human rights organizations and a "rights index" offering links to local and international resources on specific human rights issues.

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Asia-Japan Women's Resource Center (AJWRC)

Year Established: 1995

Short Historical Background

The Asia-Japan Women's Resource Center was established in 1995 as an extension of the Asian Women's Association (AWA). The late Yayori Matsui, an internationally known feminist journalist, became its first Director. The Center has been making efforts to establish a linkage to, and exchange information with, women's non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and feminist activists worldwide.

Objectives

AJWRC aims

1. To abolish all the forms of violence against women by working on issues of armed conflicts, military bases, trafficking, prostitution, domestic violence, and gender-based suppression under nationalisms and religious fundamentalisms
2. To challenge the existing politico-economic institutions that lead to poverty and gender inequality, tackling issues such as free trade, development aid, environmental degradation, migration, restructuring and increasing instability of women labor, and social security systems
3. To achieve alternative political and judicial institutions based on human rights and gender equality, and
4. To empower women to play more active roles in all spheres of society by examining the issues of international politics, legal systems, Japan's war responsibilities, women's participation in politics, education, and information communication technologies.

Programs and Activities

1. Information Sharing & Networking Program
 - Publishing feminist journals
 - Production of other materials
 - Disseminating information through the internet
 - Women's information library
2. Gender Education & Training Program
 - Organizing seminars and workshops on various issues with feminist perspectives
 - Women's study tours to visit women's groups in other Asian countries to learn their issues and activities and to share information and experiences
 - Lecture and training for groups, schools and governments on request.
3. Campaigns, Advocacy and Researches
 - Monitoring cases and policies
 - Running ad-hoc and long-term campaigns
 - Participating in policy dialogues
 - Doing research and surveys for advocacy purposes

Publications

- Voices from Japan - bi-annual journal (English)

- Women's Asia 21 - quarterly (Japanese)
- Gender and Human Rights: A Workbook

Address

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Asia-Pacific Human Rights Information Center (HURIGHTS OSAKA)

Year Established: 1994

Short Historical Background

The late Yo Kubota, a human rights officer in the United Nations who made great achievements in enhancing human rights in the world and died while on an election mission in Namibia in 1989, made an appeal in 1983 to set up a Human Rights Information Center in Asia. This appeal was made in the context of the Asia-Pacific not having a regional human rights mechanism, and Japan simultaneously experiencing rapid internationalization. Yo Kubota proposed to set up the institution on the "... strengths of the people and the local governing bodies."

By mid-1994, the Foundation for the Asia-Pacific Human Rights Information Center was established with the joint support of the Osaka prefecture, Osaka city, several non-governmental organizations, and various other organizations and individuals. HURIGHTS OSAKA officially opened in Osaka city in December 1994.

Objectives

HURIGHTS OSAKA aims

1. To promote human rights in the Asia-Pacific region
2. To convey Asia-Pacific perspectives on human rights to the international community
3. To ensure the inclusion of human rights principles in Japanese international cooperation activities
4. To raise the human rights awareness among the people in Japan to meet the country's growing internationalization.

Programs and Activities

Information Handling - collection of basic international human rights documents, information on social, economic and cultural situations in the Asia-Pacific, and materials on human rights education.

Research - study in collaboration with experts in Japan and other countries in the region on a range of issues such as marginalization of indigenous peoples, minorities, refugees, migrant workers and other vulnerable groups, discrimination based on social status, and development and human rights.

Education and Training - set up a human rights education program for those concerned with human rights issues in the region. This includes education and training for citizens and private and public corporations in Japan.

Publication - production of materials either in English or Japanese, such as newsletters, booklets, journals, occasional papers, annual activity reports, audio-visuals, and other research materials.

Consultancy - provision of advisory services on human rights programs and research.

Special Concerns

HURIGHTS OSAKA has been focusing on human rights

education in the school system in most of its regional activities.

Publications

English publications

- Human Rights Education in Asian Schools - annual journal since 1998
- Educational Policies and Human Rights Awareness - Japan, the Philippines, India and Sri Lanka (2008)
- Human Rights Education in Indian Schools (2007)
- Human Rights Education in Philippine Schools (2006)
- Human Rights Lesson Plans for Southeast Asian Schools (2003) (English, Vietnamese, Khmer, Bahasa Melayu, Bahasa Indonesia)
- Schools, Human Rights and Society - Report of the 1998 Workshops on Human Rights Education in Schools (1999) (English and Japanese)
- Human Rights in Asian Cultures - Continuity and Change (1997)
- Development and Democracy: Philippines' Quest for the Next Century - occasional paper series (1998)
- FOCUS Asia-Pacific - quarterly newsletter

Japanese publications

- Asia-Pacific Human Rights Review - annual journal since 1997
- Human Rights Pamphlets - annual
- Human Rights in the Administration of Justice: A Manual on Human Rights for Judges, Lawyers and Prosecutors - United Nations publication translated into Japanese (2006)
- Human Rights Education (2004)
- National Human Rights Institutions (2001)
- Jinken Hiroba - bimonthly newsletter

Other Information

HURIGHTS OSAKA maintains a library with books, journals, magazines, and reports on human rights concepts, issues, practices, programs, institutions. Materials on related issues such as the history, political/social/economic/cultural systems of countries in the Asia-Pacific are also included in the collection. The materials are sourced from human rights organizations and centers, universities and commercial publishing companies. Information on the materials can be accessed through the HURIGHTS OSAKA website.

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The Buraku Liberation and Human Rights Research Institute (BLHRRRI)

Year Established: 1968

Short Historical Background

The Buraku Liberation Research Institute (BLRI) was established in 1968 in cooperation with the Buraku Liberation League (BLL) and with the administrative assistance of Osaka Prefecture and Osaka City. In July 1998, it changed its name to Buraku Liberation and Human Rights Research Institute (BLHRRRI).

Objective

BLHRRRI aims to eliminate all forms of discrimination including Buraku discrimination, and establish human rights in society.

Programs and Activities

Investigation and Research Division

1. *Research Committees* - twenty-seven Committees cover the following activities - awareness-raising, human rights, research/administration, education and community, and history and theory.
2. *Investigation and Research Projects* - thirteen projects covering discrimination based on work and descent, Reforms in Meiji Restoration and Buraku problem, urban lower class and Buraku problem, documents relating to Chōri during Edo period, Osaka Buraku history, history of the post-war Buraku liberation movement, protection of personal information of employees and corporate social responsibility, human rights community development, development of community education system, employment problem among the youth, career education and human rights, human rights awareness and the Buraku problem, and the Japanese Constitution.
3. Buraku Liberation and human rights education/awareness project
4. Editing Committee on Buraku History of Osaka

Education and Training Division

The Division regularly organizes the following human rights training programs to different sectors of society:

1. *Buraku Liberation and Human Rights Leadership Course* - launched in 1974, a twenty-nine-day course involving sixty-five trainees and offered three times a year. As of 2006, about 4,200 people have already completed the course.
2. *Buraku Liberation and Human Rights Summer Course at Mt. Koya* - since 1970, the summer course has been organized every August at Mt. Koya with about 2,000 participants for each course. As a beginner course, it offers two plenary sessions and five different thematic lecture courses for three days.
3. *Buraku Liberation Summer Course for Western Japan* - This is a course held every July in different parts of west Japan since 1976, and usually attended by four thousand people.
4. *Human Rights and Dowa Course for the Business Sector*

- this is a course for human rights trainers mainly in the business sector, and offered since 1980 in cooperation between state agencies, local governments and industrial organizations.

5. *Human Rights Training and Research Assembly* - this is a gathering of activists, educators and researchers from different parts of Japan to exchange human rights training experiences and develop research works. Organized every February in different parts of the country, it is attended by an average of three thousand people each year.
6. *Human Rights Training Tokyo Course* - since 1987, the Tokyo Course has been organized to train human rights training leaders in the business sector, local governments, religious organizations and mass-media.

Some of these programs are organized jointly with the business sector, local governments, religious sector and NGOs.

Publications

- Bulletin of Buraku Liberation - publishes the output of the research committee.
- Human Rights - monthly magazine
- Buraku Liberation Research - bimonthly bulletin
- Year Book on Human Rights - annual report on human rights developments in Japan
- Discriminatory Incidents that Occurred throughout the Country - annual, since 1981
- "Living together - We develop our own future" - a film describing unspoken thoughts and feeling of minority people including Buraku people, Korean people, migrant workers, sexual minorities, etc.
- Photo Document of the Post-war 60 Years
- Development of the Buraku Liberation Movement
- The Declaration and General Principles of the Suiheisha (Levelers Association)
- Reality of Buraku Discrimination in Japan - History, Situation and Challenges
- Discrimination in Japan from the Perspective of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- DOWA Education

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Centre for Human Rights Affairs

Year Established: 1987

Short Historical Background

The Center for Human Rights Affairs was founded in October 1987 as a Foundation under the auspices of the Management and Coordination Agency of the Japanese government. Since then it has undertaken activities as a central body for public information activities on the Dowa problem.

In response to a recommendation by the Consultative Council on Regional Improvement Measures in May 1996, the Cabinet of Japan made a decision on future measures for an early solution to the Dowa problem in July 1996. It also defined characteristics of CHRA, as a foundation that supports and promotes education and public information on human rights. At this point, the character of the Center was constructively revised, and the relevant ministries and agencies resolved to promote the reform.

As a result, in April 1997 the CHRA started life anew as a foundation under the joint auspices of the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Education, and the Management and Coordination Agency.

Objectives

CHRA aims to provide comprehensive education, public information, and public relations on human rights including the Dowa problem, while at the same time planning surveys and research, data collection and supply, and international collaboration with respect to education and public information on human rights, and finally giving advice on human rights, thus contributing to the protection of basic human rights.

Programs and Activities

Education and public information - among others, the Center prepares pamphlets, posters, etc. and produces public information films and videos as materials to support more effective education and public information activities on human rights. The Center also introduces new methods of public information, including workshops and festivals.

Surveys & research - along with expert surveys and research on human rights (e.g. investigating the state of implementation of human rights awareness surveys, the present situation and trends in human rights awareness, and so on), the Center also carries out research on workshops and other new methods of public information.

Data collection & supply - the Center gathers and organizes various information and materials such as laws and ordinances on human rights, trends and opinion reports by national councils, the state of implementation of various public information activities by the national government and local authorities, and public information materials such as pamphlets, posters, films and videos. It disseminates these information and materials via information

bulletins and various other media such as the Internet and computer networks.

Advice on human rights - the Center provides various advices to local authorities, private sector companies, and others seeking to implement education and public information on human rights.

International collaboration - as well as actively promoting efforts for the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education (1995-2004), the Center also collaborates with countries throughout the world to provide information on human rights in other countries.

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Center for Human Rights

Kinki University

Year Established: 1986

Short Historical Background

In 1979, the Kinki University established the Institute of Buraku Issues Studies based on a review of discriminatory practices at the university. The Institute was established in order to enforce a system of education and research on Buraku issues in the university. One of the most serious and extensive discriminatory practices at that time was the "Buraku Lists Scandal." The "Buraku Lists" were meant to identify the location of Buraku communities and to investigate personal backgrounds of individuals. The university was found to have bought a copy of the "Buraku List." On 1 April 1986, the Center for Human Rights was established to replace the Institute and started activities as an institution of education and research on human rights at Kinki University.

Objectives

The Center aims to contribute to the realization of human rights by carrying out research on discrimination at home and abroad, including Buraku discrimination, race/ethnicity, gender discrimination and disability discrimination.

Programs and Activities

The Center has been undertaking the following programs:

- Education and support for research on human rights issues
- Research and investigation on human rights issues
- Publication
- Study meetings and public lectures
- Collection of documents and information on human rights.

It holds the following annual activities:

- Courses
 - April to July: Classes on "Human rights and Society 1", "Human rights and Law" and "NPO/NGO theory" for students
 - September to January (in the following year): Classes on "Human rights and Society 2", "Human rights and Law", and "Community development theory" for students
- Special Lectures on human rights for one week for students, staff and teachers (June, October and December)
- Field trip to human rights museum (called "Liberty Osaka") with students and teachers (July)
- Meetings on human rights issues with representatives of all faculties and board members of university.

Publications

- "Research papers on Human rights" (Japanese)

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Center for Human Rights

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<http://ccpc01.cc.kindai.ac.jp/human/index.html#01>

(Japanese language)

Human Rights Now (HRN)

Year Established: 2006

Short Historical Background

Human Rights Now (HRN) was established in 2006 through which Japanese lawyers, academics, journalists, and activists have the opportunity to raise awareness, and pursue the implementation of international human rights standards inside and outside Japan with a special focus on Asian countries. HRN is also meant to engage in human rights advocacy in global forums such as the United Nations (UN).

HRN intends to contribute to the quest for "Human Security," specifically in the human rights field in Asia with the cooperation of other development, peace-building and human rights NGOs.

Objectives

HRN aims

1. To make an international contribution to address human rights violations by undertaking field investigations of massive human rights violations and publicizing the findings, and empowering and supporting the development of the legal system in the countries of focus
2. To take action through international institutions in order to contribute to the enforcement of human rights standards and norms through monitoring, lobbying, and providing recommendations to United Nations human rights bodies such as the Human Rights Council; and by providing input to ASEAN and similar institutions in Asia
3. To take domestic action to promote human rights by introducing relevant international standards in public debates over domestic human rights issues, advocating for the implementation of recommendations made by UN treaty bodies to the Japanese government, and calling for action by the Japanese government and corporations to redress massive human rights violations in other countries.

Activities

Taking Action on Ongoing Human Rights Violation - HRN conducts fact finding missions in places where people suffer from gross violations of human rights and humanitarian law. Specifically, HRN conducts field investigations, publicizes the reports and calls for international attention. It also conducts advocacy to end ongoing human rights violations.

Transitional Justice Project - although efforts toward transitional justice should not be enforced from the outside, HRN believes that international human rights organizations can play a meaningful role in enhancing a society's effort to overcome impunity and injustice. In this regard, HRN researches and monitors the process of transitional justice and makes recommendations after full consultation with the civil society of the country concerned.

Official Development Assistance (ODA) and Human Rights Diplomacy Project - in view of the criticism of Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) policy for not providing for adequate safeguards against resulting human rights violations or environmental deterioration in its projects, HRN lobbies the Japanese government to properly use its position and influence as representative of one of the largest donor countries for the promotion and protection of human rights in the countries getting assistance.

Stop Violence against Women (VAW) - HRN monitors the serious crimes regularly being committed against women and children in the Asian region. Many serious abuses against women have their roots in conflict situations. It partners with local NGOs and women's groups, forming an international lobby, to work to improve the situation.

Human Rights Education - HRN conducts human rights education at both domestic and international levels.

Publications

- Human Rights Now - a report on extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances in the Philippines, based on its fact finding mission in the country (2008)
- Claiming for Justice for the Victims of Extra-judicial Killings and Enforced Disappearances in the Philippines (Statement, 2007)
- Japanese lawyers and activists call for immediate release of Pakistan human rights defenders and return to rule of law (Statement, 2007)
- Burma : Open Letter to the President of Human Rights Council (Statement, 2007)
- Philippines : Press Statement (2007)
- Statement of support for Cambodian human rights defenders, Human Rights Now calls for an End to Impunity for Extrajudicial Killings in the Philippines (2006)
- FAFO survey questions and responses (Statement, 2006)
- Cambodia : Justice for Victims (Statement, 2006)

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Hyogo Buraku Liberation and Human Rights Research Institute

Year Established: 1988

Short Historical Background

Objectives

The Hyogo Buraku Liberation and Human Rights Research Institute (Institute) particularly aims to abolish discrimination against the Buraku community. It also aims to conduct research on issues facing this community, and at the same time, engage in research related to human rights and discrimination issues in Japan and abroad. Moreover, the Institute also conducts human rights education activities, which, along with its research projects, aim to achieve equality and liberation for the members of the Buraku community and other victims of discrimination.

Programs and Activities

Data, Material, and Information Collection – the Institute collects data, material, and information mainly on the history of the Buraku communities in Hyogo Prefecture, but also on the implementation of the Dowa Social Integration Education project in Hyogo Prefecture. Data, material, and information collection are eventually documented in a way that is accessible to the public.

Research and Study – one of the main outcomes of the Institute's research is the Seminar on Human Rights. Research and Study also contributes to the Institute's annual bulletin. In 2007, the Institute produced a report entitled "The Employment Conditions in the Buraku Community" which details and analyses the results of the surveys it held. The Institute is in the process of producing a report on the results of a human rights opinion survey carried out at Inagawachou town in Hyogo Prefecture in 2008.

Training – the Institute holds human rights training activities, such as the following: The Hyogo Buraku Liberation and Human Rights Research Institute annual open meeting, biannual lectures on human rights issues, and quadrennial seminars on human rights and civil liberties. Moreover, the Institute sends out lecturers on topics related to human rights issues on regular basis.

International Exchange Development

Special Concerns

Employment conditions in Buraku communities

Publications

- The Hyogo Buraku Liberation Movement Newsletter (quadrennial)
- Bulletin of the Hyogo Buraku Liberation Movement (annual)
- Documentation of Human Rights History in Hyogo Prefecture
- Employment Conditions in the Buraku Community (2007)

Other Information

Publications, research studies, events, and other information can be accessed at the Institute's website (www3.osk.3web.ne.jp/~blrhyg/)

Address

The Hyogo Buraku Liberation and Human Rights Research Institute

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email: blrhyg@osk3.3web.ne.jp

www3.osk.3web.ne.jp/~blrhyg

Institute for Human Rights Research and Education

Kwansei Gakuin University

Year Established: 1995

Objectives

The Institute aims

1. To undertake research on human rights issues
2. To establish and administer regular courses on human rights
3. To implement awareness-raising programs and produce human rights materials.

Programs and Activities

Research projects – The Institute undertakes a number of research projects such as the following:

- Discrimination and human rights in a borderless world – citizens' rights and the rights of ethnic groups
- Human rights education in Kwansei Gakuin – issues raised by the "U.N. Decade for Human Rights Education"
- Japan's modernization and the buraku problem – the diversification of types of discrimination and discrimination against burakumin, with particular reference to communication issues
- Globalization and human rights education – human rights and coexistence in the age of globalization.

Human rights course - The Institute runs a general course on human rights offered to all students in the University, as well as the course "Discrimination and Human Rights" in the Schools of Policy Studies and Science and Technology. Since the 2005 academic year, the Institute has been offering the course "Introduction to Human Rights" that helps students to understand the variety of human rights issues, and the course "Human rights and the problems of foreign residents in Japan" to raise awareness on the problems of foreign 'newcomers' to Japan, and the human rights issues they encounter.

The following are the main courses offered in all Schools in the University:

- The reality of the *Burakumin* communities and the task of liberation
- Human rights and coexistence, The diversity and true nature of human rights issues, Discrimination and human rights
- Toward a society respecting human rights – respect for diversity
- The history of Japan-Korea relations, Korean residents in Japan – legal status and education at the present time
- Japan and Asia, Work, Marriage and daily life in a male-dominated society
- Human rights in an increasingly multi-cultural Japan.

Lectures on Human Rights - The Institute offers lectures on human rights to students and members of the faculty and staff. With the availability of sign language interpre-

tation and computer note taking, the lectures guarantee full access to information to every participant.

Seminars - The Institute holds five to seven seminars each year, including Film Sessions that are open to the public.

Human Rights Training Program for Faculty and Staff – The Institute holds an annual training program for all newly-appointed members of the faculty and staff that includes lectures on human rights and academic harassment, and visits to relevant institutions such as the Osaka Human Rights Museum (LIBERTY OSAKA).

Publications

- International Encyclopedia of Human Rights - a Japanese translation of a major reference book on human rights by Robert L. Maddex
- Kwansei Gakuin University Journal of Human Rights Studies
- KG Human Rights Booklet (annual) - an awareness-raising publication containing reports of the Human Rights Lectures.
- Materials on Human Rights Issues (annual) - distributed to all new students.

Address

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The Institute of Human Rights Studies

Kansai University

Year Established: 1974

Short Historical Background

The Institute of Buraku Studies, established in March 1974, was subsequently reorganized and renamed the Institute of Human Rights Studies in June 1985. The current Institute conducts research on a variety of areas dealing with discrimination and human rights: Buraku, people with disabilities, and women.

Objectives

The Institute aims

1. To facilitate the fulfillment of human rights both within and outside the university
2. To contribute towards the human rights awareness of people at large
3. To help advance research in the realm of human rights.

Programs and Activities

Buraku Studies Research Group - a wide range of historical and theoretical research is undertaken in collaboration with people from various disciplines. The research consists of investigation of the origins of discrimination and suffering experienced by the poor and by the Buraku during the Middle Ages, the liberation movement, discrimination policies and the system for the poor during the Modern Ages, harmony in the workplace and the history of the liberation movement in present times, the actual conditions of Buraku from the city and countryside, the current state of Buraku industry and its problems, perceptions towards Buraku issues, the reexamination of educational freedom and enlightenment, and the mass media and race. The Institute puts multi-angled research into practice in order to firmly grasp the current situation of Buraku discrimination and suffering, as well as to take the necessary measures towards helping to overcome such discrimination.

Ethnicity and Race Research Group - this group focuses on the human rights issues regarding Korean residents, Ainu, Okinawans and foreign workers. It investigates the working and living environments of the increasing number of foreign workers in Japan in the face of an aging society and economic recession. It undertakes a comprehensive research on the problems encountered by the Indigenous Ainu race. This research is based on several field surveys conducted in designated regions in Hokkaido. It also draws on the problems of "New Ainu Law" and the action plan for Indigenous races created by the United Nations.

The group examines the problems faced by North and South Korean immigrants in Japan in light of the overall problems encountered by foreign workers and minority groups. Multi-angled research investigates the history of their groupings and current living conditions. It also examines the legal implications of gaining the

right to vote and the implicit cultural problems.

People with Disabilities Research Group - this group researches on the protection of the rights of people with mental and physical disabilities and their welfare. It examines the integration of people with disabilities into mainstream society in accordance with the law on protecting their welfare. Research is undertaken on a number of areas: housing design for disabled people (including the elderly), medical treatment of disabled children, education of children with disabilities and the education system itself, integration of the physically handicapped into society, perceptions towards students with mental disability by fellow students and the general public, and ways of developing physical education program that suits each type of disability.

Women Studies Research Group - this group researches on women and the work force, and the problems facing female students seeking employment. The research focuses on the discrimination faced by female workers: large gaps in salary and promotion between men and women, denial of maternity and menstrual leave, general restriction on female workers to exhibit their abilities, sexual harassment, the practice of forcing them to resign or change the type of work, and restricted opportunity to exhibit their abilities. The research aims to fully grasp the conditions of women in the Japanese business sector and, through the use of surveys, ascertain the extent of problems experienced by female students seeking employment.

Address

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Institute for the Study of Social Justice (ISSJ)

Sophia University

Year Established: 1981

Short Historical Background

The Institute for the Study of Social Justice (ISSJ, Sophia University) was founded in April 1981. The Sophia Relief Service was founded in the same year to pursue practical relief activities.

Objectives

ISSJ aims to raise the consciousness of students and the wider society regarding the promotion of social justice. The ISSJ has sought to apply interdisciplinary inquiries into issues of justice in today's changing world to both the education of Sophia students and its practical activities (primarily refugee assistance).

Programs and Activities

Annual international symposium - ever since its establishment, one of the ISSJ's primary research activities has been the organization of an annual international symposium. Every year, a pressing social problem of particular topical relevance to the day is selected as the theme, and symposium participants representing both Japanese and overseas universities, international organizations dealing with issues of human rights, refugees, or the environment (among others), and activists working in the field on a variety of issues gather to further interdisciplinary research exchange and, based in the Christian humanist approach, analyze issues from the viewpoint of humanity and human rights, and discuss how symposium findings can be directed to the promotion of social justice.

Course on "Refugees and Human Rights" - offered to all Sophia University students by ISSJ staff every other year (with an enrollment of approximately one hundred students), is among the educational activities organized by the ISSJ.

Open lectures - organized on a monthly basis, researchers or people working directly on a variety of social problems are invited as speakers.

Sophia Relief Service - is a nationwide fundraising campaign to provide emergency relief and promote the economic self-sufficiency of both refugees in African countries and within Japan. This was started ever since the inception of ISSJ.

Special Concerns

Refugee issues were a topic of particular concern for the entire university at the time of ISSJ's establishment, and it has consolidated a significant amount of information on refugee issues, both through its many years of on-site research activities concerning African refugees and its research into the problems surrounding Japan's policies concerning the acceptance of refugees.

In recent years, the ISSJ has explored more far-reach-

ing issues concerning the protection of human dignity in the contemporary world, such as globalization, poverty and social exclusion, and freedom. The December 2007 27th annual International Symposium, for instance, was organized around the theme of "Globalization, Poverty and Social Exclusion in Developed Countries: First-hand Perspectives on the Homeless, 'Freeters,' and Migrant Workers," in order to study the negative effects of neo-liberal globalization on even such developed countries as Japan, South Korea, and France.

Publications

Periodic publications

- Social Justice, a bulletin
- Sophia Relief Service newsletter - published twice yearly (in Japanese).

In addition, the Institute produces a number of books in Japanese.

Address

Institute for the Study of Social Justice
L-713, Main Library
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e-mail: m-shimok@sophia.ac.jp

Kyoto Human Rights Research Institute

Year Established: 1994

Short Historical Background

Kyoto, since the establishment of Heian Kyo in 794, has assimilated various foreign cultures and developed its own culture that has a markedly international character. It also has a long history of concern for human rights. Given the background of Kyoto and looking toward the 21st century, it is indeed timely to establish the Human Rights Research Institute, as part of the commemorative projects of the 1200th anniversary of the establishment of Heian Kyo.

The Kyoto Human Rights Research Institute is intended to become a center for research activities on human rights in Japan, and is expected to produce notable achievement in the study of this field.

Objectives

The Institute aims

1. To conduct research on human rights issues at the global as well as national levels,
2. To promote academic exchange with domestic and foreign research institutes in the field of human rights, and
3. To promote understanding of these issues at home and abroad.

Programs

1. *Research Program on International Human Rights Protection System* - this program focuses on the systematic study of the development of the international standards on human rights promoted by the United Nations as well as by the various treaty bodies. It also analyzes the latest status of international human rights law.
2. *Research Program on DOWA System* - this program aims to study the serious violation of fundamental human rights and various discrimination in occupation, marriage, education and housing targeted at descendants of people who were economically, socially and culturally accorded low rank in Japanese society throughout history. This social problem is defined as DOWA problem or BURAKU discrimination. The program studies this issue employing historical and social perspectives.
3. *Research Program on Human Rights of Foreign Residents in Japan* - while often described as a racially homogeneous nation, the island-country has developed its culture by accepting different races and different cultures since time immemorial. Today there are many foreign residents in Japan, such as Korean residents with the historical background of colonial domination by Japan, as well as increasing number of foreign workers from various Asian and Latin American countries. This research program studies the historical development of acceptance by Japan of these races and cultures so as to find a way to multi-racial coexistence.
4. *Program on Human Rights of Women* - this program

studies how the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women is implemented. It also examines the history of the differentiation of roles based on gender and the actual condition of the equality of sexes in the field of employment and public activities. In addition, it inquires into the human rights, development and education of women in Japan and Asia.

5. *Research Program on Human Rights Education* - this program aims to examine the achievements of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education (1995 – 2004) as well as the subsequent implementation of the World Programme for Human Rights Education (first phase plan of action [2005 – 2009] which focuses on human rights education in the primary and secondary school systems). It also studies the history and development of human rights education in Japan and other Asian countries.

Activities

The Institute undertakes the following activities:

1. Research and study concerning human rights problems as well as the promotion of international academic exchange
2. Collection and presentation of documents and publications concerning human rights
3. Publication of books and organizing of lectures to disseminate the results of human rights research
4. Other projects which are necessary to achieve the objectives of this Institute.

Publications

- Periodic publications
- Bulletin
- Annual Report
- GLOBE

Address

Kyoto Human Rights Research Institute
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e-mail: jinken@kyoto.email.ne.jp,
www.mmjp.or.jp/jinken/

Mekong Watch

Year Established: 1993

Short Historical Background

Mekong Watch was established in 1993 as a network of seven Japanese organizations that were concerned about the role of Japan in the development of the Mekong Region. Plans for several hydropower projects in Lao PDR, a controversial export of agricultural chemicals to Cambodia from Japan, and various initiatives in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) framework of the Asian Development Bank were causes for concern. In 1998, Mekong Watch became an independent non-governmental organization (NGO) with its own membership and institutional structure. Its activities include research, information production and distribution, and advocacy.

Objective

Mekong Watch aims to create a framework that ensures that the views and opinions of affected communities are respected and lessons learned from past projects are reflected at every stage of development in the Mekong Region.

Programs and Activities

Mekong Watch's activities are largely divided into three categories:

1. Research - this includes investigative research regarding specific development projects being monitored, field research, and research on various government policies. Project-specific research usually involves interviews and networking with local communities affected by the development projects to document precisely what kinds of impacts they will (or are already) facing. For example, Mekong Watch did a survey of refugees from Burma who were familiar with the human rights situation around a hydropower plant to be repaired with Japanese development aid. It also worked with Thai NGOs and local community leaders to collect information about the impacts of the Samut Wastewater Treatment plant, which is being built with Japanese and Asian Development Bank (ADB) financing.

Field research has included a study of ichthyic biodiversity in the Mekong River, a study of inland fisheries and livelihoods on the Ing River in Thailand, and community forestry and participatory forest management in Laos. Policy-related research has focused on the inspection functions of multilateral development banks, environmental guidelines (particularly relating to the Japan Bank for International Cooperation), and the new information-disclosure policy that went into effect in Japan in April 2001.

2. Resource Development and Outreach - this aims to disseminate the outcomes of the research and monitoring activities, and to promote information exchange among key stakeholders. It also aims at drawing the media's attention to problematic development projects and the need for policy reform in the Japanese government, particularly in relation to development

initiatives in the Mekong Region. Mekong Watch publishes a quarterly journal, hold public seminars, international symposiums, and coordinate study tours to Thailand.

Mekong Watch has Mekong Library, with books, papers, magazines, and other printed materials on issues related to development in the Mekong Region. Its expanding network with academics and students in Japan is also a resource to be drawn upon when academic expertise is required.

3. Advocacy - this has two main purposes. One is to bring the voices of people affected by Japanese-financed development projects in the Mekong Region to relevant decision-makers in Japan. The other is to facilitate policy and institutional reform. Information from the research and networking of Mekong Watch back up its policy proposals. Mekong Watch believes that it is necessary to create a decision-making system for development planning that includes the local people from the earliest stages. Its advocacy work strives to reform the current decision-making patterns so that the needs of communities are accurately reflected and respected in final decisions.

Mekong Watch has country projects including Burma, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam, and China (Yunnan).

Publications

In English:

- MeREM Project Report (III): Transboundary Environmental Issues in the Mekong River Basin: Perspectives from Civil Society & Recommendations for MeREM (2005)
- Protect Yourself from Destructive Development: Handbook on JBIC's New Environmental and Social Guidelines (2004)
- Lancang-Mekong: A River of Controversy (2003)
- Development, Environment and Human Rights in Burma/Myanmar: Examining the Impacts of ODA and Investment (2001)

Address

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Research-Action Institute for the Koreans in Japan (RAIK)

Year Established: 1974

Short Historical Background and Objectives

The Research-Action Institute for the Koreans in Japan (RAIK) was established in February 1974 as an affiliate of the Korean Christian Church in Japan (KCCJ). The Institute undertook research and action mainly in relation to the protection of human rights and civil liberties of resident Koreans in Japan. But it has expanded its work to include the rights of foreign migrant workers and other foreign residents in Japan. The Institute is supported by donations from the Korean Christian churches and schools.

Program and Activities

- Collection of documents and other materials on the human rights and civil liberties of resident Koreans and other foreigners in Japan and provision of such information to Christian organizations, researchers, lawyers and civil society groups
- Research on human rights situation of ethnic minorities in Japan
- Organization of annual seminars and lectures to promote human rights education in schools, based on Christian principles.

RAIK manages the secretariat for several citizens' groups working for the revision of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, the provision of support for the residential areas of foreigners, the petition to the Japanese government for a policy supporting foreign schools, and implementation of the international human rights standards in Japanese society.

Publications

RAIK Bulletin (bi-monthly)

Address

The Research-Action Institute for the Koreans in Japan
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Japan
ph (813) 3203-7575

Research Center for Human Rights (RCHR)

Osaka City University

Year Established: 1972

Short Historical Background

The Research Center for Human Rights (RCHR) is the former Dowa Mondai Research Institute of the Osaka City University, the first academic research facility for minority issues in Japan. The Institute was established in 1972 to focus on the rights of discriminated Japanese, the so-called Burakumin. It was renamed the Research Center for Human Rights to research on broader human rights issues. RCHR now covers, in addition to the issue of Burakumin discrimination, gender, ethnic, disability and other minority/human rights issues.

Dowa Mondai (or Buraku Mondai) signifies the issues concerning a minority group unique to Japanese society. Burakumin are the people whose ancestors were relegated to an outcast status in the pre-modern era. Having no distinguishing physical or cultural traits, today Burakumin are distinguished by their residence in communities called Buraku (or Dowa districts) that were segregated in the pre-modern era, or by their ancestral background that is recorded in family registers. Burakumin continue to face discrimination and suffer from low socio-economic status.

Objective

RCHR aims to undertake research on a broad range of issues affecting Japanese society at present, namely, Burakumin discrimination, gender, ethnic, disability and other minority/human rights issues.

Programs and Activities

Following the research approach of the Institute since 1972, RCHR has been employing quantitative and qualitative research methods in its numerous surveys concerning minority populations, such as social changes in minority communities and social consciousness of minority/human rights issues.

It also collects survey reports, books, materials, and other kinds of information on gender/minority/human rights issues - in both Japanese and English.

Researchers and students seeking information on gender/minority/human rights issues in Japan are welcome to visit RCHR.

Special Concerns

- Gender/Minority/Human Rights Issues in Japan
- Gender, Minorities and Group Relations in Japan
- Discrimination/Prejudice against Minorities
- Socio-economic Status of Minorities
- Educational Attainment of Minorities
- Social changes in Minority communities
- Government Policies on Human Rights and Minority Issues

Publications

The Journal of Human Rights (annual) - Japanese language

Address

Research Center for Human Rights (RCHR)

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Shimin Gaikou Centre (Citizens' Centre for Diplomacy)

Year Established:1982

Short Historical Background

The Shimin Gaikou Centre (Citizens' Diplomatic Centre for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples) is a grassroots human rights non-governmental organization (NGO) founded in March 1982 by a group of citizens and students who participated in a big wave of support for the 2nd United Nations (UN) Special Session for Disarmament held in New York. Since 1987, the Centre has been sending delegations to the UN Working Group on Indigenous Populations in Geneva along with the Ainu delegations. In 1996, it began supporting the participation of the Okinawa/Ryukyu people in the Working Group. As a result of these activities, in 1999, the Centre became the first Japanese grassroots NGO to be given special consultative status by the UN Economic and Social Council.

Objectives

The Centre focuses on peace, human rights, environment and development issues internationally. From the beginning, it supported indigenous peoples and their human rights that had long been ignored in Japanese society, in cooperation with indigenous peoples' organizations and other support NGOs.

Programs and Activities

- a. *Peace Scholarship for Indigenous South Pacific Islanders* – to support the people in the small-island countries of the South Pacific in their quest for a nuclear-free zone, their demand for the conservation of the environment, and their policy on sustainable development through the traditional way, the Centre established the Peace Scholarship for their secondary school students.
- b. *Support for Indigenous Peoples' Participation in United Nations (UN) Human Rights Programs* – aims to financially and technically support the participation of indigenous peoples in the meetings of the United Nations human rights organs, including the Working Groups on Indigenous Populations, Human Rights Committee, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, and newly-established Human Rights Council, and to monitor the promotion of human rights of indigenous peoples.
- c. *Assistance for the Dissemination of Human Rights Ideas and Indigenous Cultures* - in support of the UN Decade of Human Rights Education (1995 - 2004) and the World Programme for Human Rights Education, the Centre provides financial assistance in the translation of international human rights documents into the languages of the indigenous peoples in Latin America and Asia.
- d. *Networking among related NGOs* - in addition to close cooperation with NGOs which deal with the issues related to indigenous peoples and human rights, the Centre has actively been involved in establishing and keeping NGO networks or coalitions in Japan. It is the core founding member of the International Human

Rights NGO Network, the Japan Citizens' Coalition for the UN International Decade of the World Indigenous Peoples, and the Japan NGO Network on UN Reform. It also worked as a core NGO in the Japanese NGO Coalition Durban 2001 at the UN World Conference against Racism held in South Africa in 2001.

- e. *Workshops and Public Meetings to Report the Results of UN Meetings* - the Centre holds workshops and public meetings in Hokkaido, Tokyo and Okinawa to report the results of UN meetings and international conventions on indigenous peoples' rights.

Special Concern

In 2007, the United Nations (UN) Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was successfully adopted at the UN General Assembly. The Centre has been making maximum effort to disseminate the existence and the meaning of the Declaration in Japan and Asia and to promote the implementation of stipulated rights in the Declaration for the Ainu people and the Okinawa/Ryukyu people. Furthermore, the Centre has been active as a member of Peace & Human Rights Unit of the 2008 G8 Summit NGO Forum since 2007 to pressure the G8 countries and the 2008 Toyako summit on a number of human rights issues from the viewpoint of indigenous peoples.

Publications

- Annual Report (once a year, Japanese)
- Japanese translations of UN materials about the rights of indigenous peoples (booklets and CDs)

Address

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Tokyo Metropolitan Human Rights Promotion Center (TMHRPC)

Year Established: 1998

Short Historical Background

The Tokyo Metropolitan Human Rights Promotion Center (TMHRPC) was established on 16 July 1998 as a foundation to enhance Tokyo citizens' awareness of human rights through the implementation of various activities such as education, promotion, and the protection of human rights, with the overall objective of solving human rights problems as represented by the Dowa problem (discrimination against a section of Japanese population).

The Tokyo Metropolitan Dowa Work Promotion Society (TMDWPS), the forerunner to the Center, was established in April 1971 as an affiliated organization of the Tokyo Metropolitan Government (TMG) to solve the Dowa problem, a national problem concerning fundamental human rights, in accordance with the promulgation of the Special Law on Dowa Work (effective 10 July 1969). TMDWPS played an important role in education and promotional activities, and took a complementary role to that of TMG in promoting Dowa work (anti-discrimination work).

At the same time, at present, various kinds of human rights problems such as discrimination based on sex, ethnicity or race, violations of children's rights, and discrimination against the disabled, set an important task to the whole society.

With this change in the social environment, TMG formally decided in December 1997 to merge the Tokyo Metropolitan Industry and Labor Hall (TMILH), that was directly managed by TMG to promote Dowa work, and the Tokyo Metropolitan Dowa Work Promotion Society (TMDWPS) to form the Tokyo Metropolitan Human Rights Promotion Center. This was in response to the direction being taken by the central government as shown in the Recommendation by the Consultative Council on Regional Improvement Measures (May 1996) and Domestic Action Plan Concerning the UN Decade of Human Rights Education (July 1997).

Objectives

Commencing with the Dowa problem, TMHRPC aims to actively develop educational, promotional and consultation activities related to the realization of human rights.

Programs and Activities

TMHRPC is actively promoting education, understanding, and holding consultations with the aim of solving problems concerning human rights including the Dowa problem.

Promotional Activities

1. Provides year-round radio programs and special radio spot broadcasts during Human Rights Week
2. Creates and posts Human Rights Awareness posters, distributes book covers to bookstores, makes and distributes postcards and other promotional goods. All goods are printed with human rights slogans on them

3. Participates in national human rights festivals, and supports lecture meetings, movie-screenings and panel displays during Human Rights Week.

Education and Consultation

1. Introduces human rights education lecturers to private organizations that hold human rights education classes
2. Gives general consultation and judicial consultation, the latter being executed by experts
3. Holds lecture courses for Tokyo citizens and office workers, given by experts.

Information Gathering, Sharing and Publishing

1. Lends books, videos and 16mm films on human rights
2. Publishes video, pamphlets, magazine
3. Lends out rooms for courses and lecture meetings for a fee.

Publications

- TOKYO JINKEN (human rights) magazine –quarterly
- Animation video and pamphlet on the Dowa Problem

Address

Tokyo Metropolitan Human Rights Promotion Center
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Tottori Prefectural Center for Universal Culture of Human Rights

Year Established: 1997

Short Historical Background

The Tottori Prefectural Ordinance to Create a Pro-Human Rights Society enacted in 1996 was the driving force in promoting human rights and civil liberties in Tottori Prefecture. Since then, the prefecture launched several human rights initiatives regarding the Buraku issue, women's rights, rights of people with disabilities, child rights, rights of the elderly, migrant rights, and other issues. One of the outcomes of these efforts, thanks to the inter-prefectural and NGO collaborations, was the establishment of the Tottori Prefectural Center for Universal Culture of Human Rights in 1997. The Ministry of Justice registered the Center in 1999.

Objectives

The Center aims to implement the objectives of the Tottori Prefectural Ordinance for Creating a Pro-Human Rights Society and the subsequent Tottori Prefectural Policies on Human Rights in creating a society where human rights and civil liberties are respected. The Center's objectives are reflected in its activities under the Human Rights Development, Consultation Services, Leadership Training and Development, Research and Study, Dissemination of Information, and Networking programs.

Programs and Activities

Research and Study – consists of data collection and analysis on particular themes. Information is then disseminated through the Center's reports, proposals, and publications.

Training - aims to promote awareness of human rights, develop human rights and civil liberties programs and activities, and provides training for lecturers and teachers on human rights education.

Promoting Human Rights Awareness - aims to promote human rights awareness through the Center's bulletins, webpage, human rights space (Hiroba 21 Furatto), teaching materials and booklets, lectures, panel exhibitions, and other events featuring lecturers and specialists on human rights.

Networking - the Center co-organizes and participates in meetings and events throughout the prefecture that emphasize communication and exchange of ideas and information between different groups and individuals concerned with human rights and civil liberties.

Consultation Services - the Center carries out consultation services and meetings with the help of human rights specialists. Consultation Service by telephone is also provided. Moreover, there is a monthly, free legal consultation with lawyers who are affiliated with the Center.

ratto) - the Center manages a facility (called Hiroba 21) which accommodates a human rights library and areas that are often rented as space for meetings, discussion panels, exhibitions, lectures, and study sessions.

Publications

- Tottori Prefectural Center for Universal Culture of Human Rights' Bulletin (three times a year)
- Human Rights Development Booklet (12 issues as of June 2008)
- A collection of documented personal accounts on experiences related to human rights and civil liberties
- Privacy and Our Lives (Puraibashi to watashitachi no kurashi) (2007)

Address

Tottori Prefectural Human Rights Space -
Hiroba 21 Furatto

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Tottori Prefectural Human Rights Space (Hiroba 21 Fu-

Al-Urdun Al-Jadid Research Center (UJRC)

Year Established: 1990

Short Historical Background

The Center was established in 1990 as an extension to the quarterly Al-Urdun Al-Jadid magazine (1984-1990). UJRC began working in 1993 with a license from the Department of Press and Publication (Ministry of Information) in conformity with Law Number 10 issued in 1993.

The Center is a founding member of, and a participant in, a number of regional networks and umbrella groups, such as the Arab Social Sciences Research (ASSR) and the Arab Institute for Studies and Communication (AISC). It heads the Arab Network for Democratic Development (ANDD) and is also a member in the European-Mediterranean Network for Human Rights (EMHRN), and the World Movement for Democracy. The Center contributes to government and municipal projects and is a member of many governmental and non-governmental committees, such as the Jordan Scenarios 2020 project.

Objectives

The Center aims

1. To help achieve sustainable democracy
2. To operate as a national think-tank
3. To prepare and publish scientific research papers
4. To provide a forum for dialogue
5. To build databases
6. To provide opportunities for training, rehabilitation, and the exchange of expertise and experience.

Programs

The *Human Rights Program* aims at fulfilling the as-yet-unrealized requirements of the human rights movement in Jordan, and spreading the principles of mental and physical freedom, democracy and human rights, both in Jordan and in the Arab world.

The *Women's Studies Program* focuses special attention on women's movements and organizations, considering them as one of the essential elements of Jordanian civil society.

The *Youth Program* aims to develop a democratic and civil culture among the youth, to provide them with the necessary skills to identify with their problems, to encourage interaction between the youth to successfully solve their problems, and to emphasize the skills needed by today's youth to contribute towards the region's development.

The *Electoral and Parliamentary Studies Program (EPS)* focuses on comparative study of parliamentary elections in Jordan, Arab countries and other countries.

Activities

The Center engages in the following activities:

- Research
- Roundtable discussions, forums

- Training workshops.

Publications

- Human Rights Report in Jordan - annual
It includes three main sections: the status of economic, social and cultural rights, the status of civil and political rights, and finally, a brief section on the human rights status in Jordan.
- Human Rights Dialogue Newsletters
The newsletter aims to introduce a subject for discussion and then convey its results and recommendations to the largest possible number of people and decision makers. The series also contain translations and researches that fall under the aims and interests of the human rights program. The published newsletters covered the following areas:
 - The role of the Department of Family Protection against family violence
 - Needs of the elderly in Jordan
 - The right to health services in national laws and international treaties
 - Temporary law on Public Meetings.
- Jordanian Women's Conditions in 1997, Waleed Hamad (1999) (Arabic and English)
- Jordanian Women Organizations and their Role in Sustainable Development, Waleed Hammad (1999) (Arabic and English)
- Jordanian Women and the Electoral Law - Seminar Proceedings (1997)
- Jordanian Women and Political Action - Seminar Proceedings (1996)
- Jordanian Democratic Process (English Version) (1996)
- The City of Amman: Realities and Prospects (1996)
- Contemporary Electoral Systems (1995)
- Electoral Legislations as the Cornerstone of the Democratic System (1995)
- Who's Who in the Jordanian Parliament
- Studies in Jordan's Parliamentary Elections of 1997, Collective Work (2002)
- Reading through Jordan's Parliamentary Elections of 1997, Hani Hourani (2000)
- The Jordanian Legislative Elections 1997, Hani Hourani (2000)
- Parliamentary Performance... Reality and Prospective - Seminar Proceedings (1996)
- Contemporary Electoral Systems - Seminar Proceedings, Hussein Abu Rumman (editor) (1995)

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Amman Center for Human Rights Studies

Year Established: 1999

Short Historical Background

The Amman Center for Human Rights Studies (ACHRS) is an independent, regional, and scientific advocacy center for studies, research and training on issues of human rights and democracy.

To contribute to the dissemination of a culture of human rights, the work and activities of ACHRS aim at strengthening civil society in Jordan and in the Arab World, and at inducing a change to the general level of awareness and sensibility towards human rights and democracy.

The projects carried out by ACHRS mainly concentrate on training for democracy and human rights as they are closely related and highly complementary. Conducting studies and research to serve as an informational basis is a further means to achieve our aims.

Objectives

ACHRS aims

1. To disseminate a culture of human rights, and to spread knowledge on International Humanitarian Law in Jordan and the Arab world
2. To contribute to the process of changing society towards a more democratic and social upbringing, and to be conducive to the enhancement of rule of Law and respect for human rights
3. To provide a free democratic platform for dialogue and for the coordination of the efforts undertaken by governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) active in the field of human rights
4. To aid governmental organizations and NGOs in monitoring, documenting, and following up on the situation of human rights, as a step towards enforcing these rights at all legislative and executive levels
5. To participate in revising local laws and regulations to support effective justice reform based on the rule of law
6. To support the enforcement and protection of women's rights to strengthen their position in society
7. To dedicate special attention to those segments of society in need of special protection such as children and people with disability
8. To protect and to encourage human rights activists, and to support them in developing their skills
9. To provide a scientifically-founded statistical and informational data base on relevant local, regional and international human rights declarations, covenants, and conventions.

Programs

- Capacity-building through training courses and workshops.
- Dissemination of information and facilitating exchange of experiences between different sectors of society and between NGOs and organizations of civil society. This includes convening conferences, round tables, seminars and discussion rounds.

Activities

Training courses – focusing on human rights and civic participation, women's rights, children's rights, rights of minorities, cultural rights, democracy, constitution, election monitoring, International Humanitarian Law, transitional justice, international standards of fair trials, and workers' education. The courses cover participants from seventeen Arab countries (sixty-five percent of which are women).

Publications

- Juvenile Justice: The Arab Experience
- The Right to a Fair Trial
- Electoral Systems in the World
- Jordan Studies on Human Rights Issues
- Guide on the Right of Citizens
- The International Humanitarian Law
- Question of Tolerance - A study session and dialogue
- Human Rights between Theory and Implementation, Dr. Abd Al-Hussain Sha'ban
- Lectures on Human Rights Policies
- Dialogues on Globalization, Islam, Terrorism, and Identity
- Studies on Human Rights Issues
- Human Rights and the US Foreign Policy towards the Arab World
- Handbook for Domestic Election Observers in Iraq

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Kazakhstan International Bureau for Human Rights and Rule of Law

Year Established: 1995

Short Historical Background

Kazakhstan International Bureau for Human Rights and Rule of Law (KIBHR) was registered on 8 February 1995 by the Ministry of Justices of the Republic of Kazakhstan, re-registered on 4 March 1997 by the Ministry of Justice as a legal entity in the organizational-legal form of a public institution and re-registered once again in 2002 in the form of a public association.

It has eight branches in the main regions of the country (Aktau, Astana, Karaganda, Pavlodar, Uralsk, Shymkent, Ust-Kamenogorsk and Kostanai) and four representatives (Taldykorgan (Almaty Oblast), Taraz (Zhambyl Oblast), Aktobe (Aktobe Oblast) and in Kokshetau (Ak-mola Oblast)).

Objectives

KIBHR aims

1. To study reforms of mechanisms for the exercise and protection of inalienable human rights and freedoms
2. To develop an information network of non-governmental organizations' (NGOs) human rights defenders, press monitoring and reporting in the region to alert the international, local and foreign NGOs, and State officials about the political, social, economic and inter-ethnic situation in the country and the implementation of international obligations by Kazakhstan in the field of human rights
3. To promote the development of large-scale international support for the democratic reforms in Kazakhstan
4. To render assistance in the preparation of draft laws, associated with human rights, analyze existing legislations, and promote reforms of the judicial and penitentiary systems
5. To promote the stabilization of the political, economic and social situation in the country and the success of democratic forces
6. To interact with the executive authorities and provide public support to their decisions, if these decisions implement and protect the inalienable human rights and freedoms
7. To prepare and disseminate information and materials, including those from abroad, to propagate and support human rights
8. To monitor the human rights situation and promote their full protection
9. To assist in protecting the rights of individuals and groups
10. To enlighten, educate and develop human rights training programs
11. To promote the development of a democratic legal state and open civil society in Kazakhstan and other States.

Programs

1. Human Rights Network – monitoring and raising public awareness on the human rights situation in the country
2. Education and Dissemination of Information on International Standards, Mechanisms and Procedures on Human Rights - raising public awareness on human rights protection
3. Influencing Law-Making Process and Law Enforcement Practices – promoting effective dialogue between human rights NGOs and state bodies, assisting in legal training of the law enforcement personnel
4. Free Access To Justice and Human Rights Advocacy.

Activities

1. Monitoring the human rights situation in Kazakhstan and disseminating information
2. Enlightenment, education and dissemination of information on international human rights standards, mechanisms and procedures to ensure and increase society's awareness
3. Dialogue with the authorities to influence the process of lawmaking, assist in making Kazakhstani legislations adhere to the international human rights standards
4. Defense of the rights of individuals and groups.

Publications

Manuals (2003-2006) on

- Migrants
- Rights of imprisoned juveniles
- How to appeal the court decision on juveniles cases
- Women-prisoners
- Problems of torture in Kazakhstan
- Rights of migrants and asylum-seekers
- Rights of the child (for use by children and their parents)
- Rights and duties of persons sentenced to long periods and life imprisonment.

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Citizens' Coalition for Economic Justice (CCEJ)

Year Established: 1989

Short Historical Background

The Citizens' Coalition for Economic Justice (CCEJ) was founded in 1989 by some five hundred people representing various walks of life: economics professors and other specialists, lawyers, housewives, students, young adults and business people. Their slogan, "Let's achieve economic justice through citizens' power," reflected their belief that deep-rooted economic injustices could not be cured by the government alone, but ultimately must be solved by the organized power of citizens. They believed that the fruits of economic development should be shared by all common people, not just the small group of "haves". They proposed a new methodology to gradually but thoroughly reform the economic system. They founded CCEJ as a movement that would 1) be led by ordinary citizens, 2) use legal and nonviolent methods, 3) seek workable alternatives, 4) speak for the interests of all people, regardless of economic standing, and 5) work to overcome greed and egoism in order to build a sharing society.

Objective

Within the framework of the general objectives of CCEJ, its Policy Research Committee aims to develop alternative policies through a process of research and public education in the form of open hearings, discussions and monthly policy seminars.

Programs and Activities

Policy Research Committee - develops alternative policies through a process of research and public education in the form of open hearings, discussions and monthly policy seminars. Its 17 divisions are: Local Autonomy, Banking, Finance & Taxation, Land, Trade, Science & Technology, Education, Chaebol (giant business groups), Small/Medium Industry, Social Welfare, Housing, Transportation, Labor, Agriculture, Health and Medical Care, National Development, Politics & Administration.

Korea Economic Justice Institute - seeks new visions for the development of Korea and engages in research on economic problems. It promotes economic justice through projects such as the Korea Economic Justice Award (given to companies that contribute greatly to social development) and critical evaluation of the 30 biggest Korean business groups.

Korea Reunification Society - promotes citizens' movement, policy research, civilian exchange projects and other activities, with the goal of constructing a reunified Korean nation where economic justice will prevail.

Urban Reform Center - based on a philosophy of sustainable development and quality life for the citizens, the Center for Urban Reform was established in order

to make cities healthy and good places to live. Its main activities are to present alternatives and initiate actions for the reform of policies and systems related to housing, safety, transportation, culture and revitalization of the urban areas. In support of this work, the Center organizes discussion meetings and campaigns, promotes solidarity among NGOs in Korean cities, and encourages citizens' interest and participation.

Anti-Corruption Center - carries out research for the reform of laws and systems, monitors government and business activities through a corruption-reporting desk, and engages in movement for citizens' participation and awareness-building.

Publications

- Civil Society Magazine

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Database Center for North Korean Human Rights (NKDB Center)

Year Established: 2002

Short Historical Background

The Database Center for North Korean Human Rights (NKDB) was established in January 2002 in South Korea to present unbiased information on human rights violations in North Korea, and ultimately improve the human rights conditions there. NKDB was formally registered in March 2004. It established a counseling service in 2005 for people from North Korea who, after being interviewed, were found to be suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). In 2007, NKDB developed the NKDB Central Database program to document cases of human rights violations in North Korea. Based on the information available in the NKDB Database, NKDB publishes annual and special reports on human rights violations in North Korea. In addition, the NKDB also operates the NKHRA (North Korean Human rights Archives) to systematically maintain and manage the records and evidence on human rights violations in North Korea, inspired by the Central Registry of State Judicial Administrations in Germany.

Objectives

NKDB aims to improve the general human rights situation in North Korea by examining, analyzing and compiling cases of human rights abuses, collecting the evidence needed to verify cases of human rights violations, publishing reports, and supporting the North Korean victims of human rights violations to facilitate their adaptation to their new environment in South Korea.

Programs and Activities

- a. Collection of cases and evidence of human rights violations in North Korea
- b. Research, analysis and documentation of cases of human rights violations in North Korea
- c. Making compiled data on human rights violations in North Korea available to organizations or individuals who meet the criteria for accessing the data
- e. Publication of annual white paper and other reports
- f. Research and publication on government policy and actual conditions in North Korea
- g. Operation of North Korean Human Rights Archives (regularly updated database on cases of human rights violations and the evidence supporting the cases)
- h. Development of a team of experts in NKDB on the human rights situation in North Korea
- i. Supporting and counseling human rights violations victims from North Korea on their adaptation to a new environment in South Korea.

Publications

NKDB releases white papers and intermittent reports such as the following:

- Are they telling us the truth? (2004)
- The Economic Activity Status of North Korean Defectors 2006

- White Paper on North Korean Human rights Statistics 2007 (English/Korean)
- The Economic Activity Status of North Korean Defectors 2007
- Escape to outside world from total control prison camp No. 14 (2007)
- White Paper on Religious Freedom in North Korea 2008
- The Central Registry of State Judicial Administration in Salzgitter (2008)
- Analysis on trend of publication on North Korean Human Rights (2008)
- Report on South Korean POWs (2008)

Other Information

- Restricted data are available at the NKHRA for viewing only with permission
- Information open to the public are available at the NKDB website (<http://www.nkdb.org>)
- A membership system is in place to safeguard the release of data, to protect the privacy of the people involved and to facilitate requests for information.

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Korea Legal Aid Center for Family Relations

Year Established: 1956

Short Historical Background

The Korea Legal Aid Center for Family Relations is a non-governmental, non-profit legal service provider established in Seoul in 1956. It is the first and only such family relations legal aid organization in Korean. In 1988, it became the first non-governmental organization (NGO) to be registered under the country's new legal aid law.

It was established by Dr. Tai-Young Lee to provide protection of the human rights of the poor and the uneducated through fee legal aid and counseling, based on a belief in the dignity of all human beings and the equality of all before the law. It has been primarily focused on family law cases in the belief that peace in the family means peace in the world. As for short-term objectives, it has provided legal, education services, and as for long-term objectives, has contributed to abolishing gender discrimination and spousal discrimination in family law through relentless legislative efforts. For the past fifty years, it has served about 2,354,000 clients.

Objectives

The Center's mission is to promote and protect democratization and human rights in family life through legislation, legal services, counseling, publication and education.

Programs and Activities

Counseling - daily, free legal counseling services provided in person, by mail, phone, email and through the Center's website, and also circuit and onsite counseling services for people who have difficulty in accessing one of its offices.

Legal representation - the One Hundred Lawyer Community consists of around five hundred pro bono attorneys who provide legal counseling and help low-income clients in court.

Education - The Center provides a variety of educational programs to promote a safe, healthy and happy family life, such as Law Lecture Series for Everyday Life, Single Parents' School, Fathers' School, etc.

Prevention and Rehabilitation of Domestic Violence - upon the request of courts and the prosecution, the Center provides counseling and education to domestic violence perpetrators. It operates a 24-hour Women's Hotline 1366 for victims of domestic violence, on behalf of the City of Seoul.

Clinical Programs - as an effort to raise future legal leaders, the Center provides clinical programs in cooperation with Ewha Woman's University and other colleges.

Movement Toward Amendments to the Family Law - the Center lobbies for the abolition of discriminatory clauses

in the family law of Korea to promote and ensure gender equality in familial and marital relationships (such as the revisions of the family laws).

Research and Publication - the Center serves governmental entities, educational institutions, other organizations and individuals in family law issues through a variety of research and publication activities.

The Center often organizes conferences and seminars on family-related issues and publishes, on a regular basis, monthly newsletters, articles, research reports, books and pamphlets. Its library has 16,000 books and periodicals relating to family, children and human rights issues.

Publications

Some of the Center's publications are the following:

- What Can I do?: Legal Counseling for Family Relationships (6th ed. 2008)
- The Registration of Family Relations Act (2008)
- True and False on Drinking (2008)
- Legal Protection of Common Law Marriages (2007)
- Introduction of Conservatorship (2007)
- A Manual for Counselors for Victims and Perpetrators of Domestic Violence (2007)
- A Research Paper on Views on Martial Property (2005)
- Never Strike Even Either With a Petal or With a Leaf (2003)
- Research on Divorce Rates in Korea III (1987)

Films

- We Can Restart: A World Without Domestic Violence (2006)
- Reconsidering a Divorce, the Present and the Future (2005)
- Running Away (2003)
- Fruits of a 50-year Movement to Revise Family Law: A Documentary on the Abolishment of the Head of the Household System (2002)
- Dr. Tai-Young Lee, A Great Teacher of Our Time (1999)

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MINBYUN-Lawyers for a Democratic Society

Year Established: 1988

Short Historical Background

Thirty Korean lawyers who actively defended prisoners of conscience and offered support for the democratization movement and who were involved in the "Guro solidarity strikes" established 'Jeongbeophoe (Lawyers for Legal Justice)' in 1986.

In response to the socio-political changes and the growing participation of younger lawyers in the democratization movement, 'Jeongbeophoe' was dismantled and a more cohesive group, 'MINBYUN-Lawyers for a Democratic Society' (MINBYUN) was established on 28 May 1988. In May 2001, MINBYUN obtained the Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

Objective

MINBYUN aims to develop a systematic organizational structure that responds to human rights violations with the goal of becoming a valuable participant in the entire democratization movement in South Korea. In addition, MINBYUN provides legal advice and cooperation to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working for social progress.

Programs and Activities

Research and On-site Investigations - to further advance democracy in South Korea and gain the required expertise, MINBYUN takes on research and analysis of various laws and legal structures, which impede the advancement of human rights. MINBYUN also offers legal proposals regarding human rights that subsequently became the bases of the National Assembly in amending various laws.

In cases involving serious human rights violations, MINBYUN lawyers conduct on-site investigations and submit reports to relevant authorities. Whenever necessary, it sends letters of protest and files lawsuits to remedy the wrong.

Legal Representation - since the National Security Law and other related laws are misused to suppress human rights and persecute individuals who exercise their constitutionally-guaranteed rights, MINBYUN lawyers not only represent defendants in criminal proceedings, but also monitor the authorities for any unlawful conduct such as obtaining confession using torture. MINBYUN also offers legal support on labor rights issues along with other issues of public interest such as compensation for flood victims, damage compensation of abusive police interrogation, unconstitutionality of the Hoju-Je (Family Head System), compensation for noise pollution around Kimpo Airport, and support for asylum seekers.

Opinion Making - MINBYUN influences public opinion on human rights issues through the circulation of publications (pamphlets, books, printed materials and findings

of petition drives), and the holding of public forums, debates, and symposiums to present human rights issues and demand the development of alternative policies and reform of the legal system.

Inter-Organization Cooperation - MINBYUN works closely with other Korean NGOs and participates in international activities, seeking to raise the domestic level of protection of human rights on par with international standards. It submits reports to the United Nations human rights bodies, and assists other overseas human rights organizations to prevent human rights violations and sends abroad their relevant appeals.

Publications

Some of the publications of MINBYUN are the following:

Periodicals (in Korean)

- Legal Defense for Democratic Society (bimonthly, since 1993)
- Critiques of Labor Judicial Cases (annual, since 1996)
- Report on the National Security Law (annual, since 199)

Publications (in Korean)

- Lawyers' Interpretation of Labor Law (2nd ed., 2002)
- Lawyers' Interpretation of Labor Law II. Law on Trade Unions and Labor Relations Adjustments (2nd ed., 2003)
- Expounder for Abolition of National Security Law (2004)
- Guidebook on Laws Related to Sex Trafficking (2004)

Reports/Materials (in English)

- Supplementary Report to the Periodic Report submitted by the Republic of Korea in regards to the Convention of the Rights of the Child (CRC) (1997)
- Human Rights in South Korea - Counter-report to the 2nd Periodic Report submitted by the Republic of Korea in regards to the ICCPR (1999)
- Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in South Korea - Alternative Report to the 2nd Periodic Report submitted by the Republic of Korea in regards to the ICESCR (2001)

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People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy (PSPD)

Year Established: 1994

Short Historical Background

Founded in 1994 by more than two hundred members, the People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy (PSPD) is a civil organization dedicated to promoting justice and human rights in Korean society through the participation of the people.

Following the demise of the succession of authoritarian regimes that had ruled Korea for over thirty years, the first civil government was elected to power in 1993. The citizens who wanted reform and democracy felt a strong need for a way or means by which they could participate to keep an eye on government authorities and to bring about legal and policy reforms. PSPD obtained a special consultative status with the ECOSOC of the United Nations in 2004.

Objectives

PSPD aims

1. To prevent the abuse of power by the government, the judiciary, and businesses by advocating social justice, and presenting alternative policies
2. To encourage social participation of the people.

Programs and Activities

PSPD implements a number of programs, some of which are the following:

Center for Judiciary Watch - monitors abuse of power in the judiciary and proposes reform plans. The center publishes a monitoring magazine and operates an archive on court rulings.

Center for National Assembly Watch - contributes to participatory democracy through continuous watch of, and civil participation, in national politics. It watches the activities of the National Assembly and its members, and operates an on-line archive. The center monitors the flow of political funds and government subsidies for political parties.

Center for Peace and Disarmament - seeks ways to overcome the remnants of the Cold War ideology and to bring peace in the Korean Peninsula. Its activities include evaluating policies concerning peace in Korea and East Asia, monitoring military defense policies, proposing alternatives, and education.

Transparent Society Campaign - deals with corruption by lobbying for anti-corruption laws, supporting those who provide information on corrupt activities, researching anti-corruption policy, using the Freedom of Information Act to access state documents, and submitting its own evaluation on the qualification of candidates for cabinet posts.

Social Welfare Committee - strives to reform the social

welfare system and to protect and improve the social rights of the underprivileged. It tackles such issues as the national pension and contingent workers' rights, and campaigns for the guarantee of budget for social security.

International Solidarity Committee - monitors government activities in the international arena and promotes international networking for human rights and democracy, especially among Asia-Pacific countries.

Participatory Social Academy - a citizens educational institution that provides dynamic education programs on learning role models that improve democratic thinking and enjoyment of the rights for citizens.

The Institute for Participatory Society - provides a direction and a role model for practical politics and participatory society.

The Public Interest Law Center - encourages active public interest law movements in Korea by developing and providing assorted educational and practical training programs.

Special Concern

Corruption and human rights

Publications

- Asian Solidarity (quarterly)
- Yondae (bi-annual news magazine)

Address

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Sarangbang Center for Human Rights

Year Established: 1993

Short Historical Background

Starting through study sessions of a group of human rights activists in 1992, the members decided in 1993 to form an organization called 'Sarangbang' (meeting room). It started publishing Human Rights Daily, the first newspaper specialized in human rights in Korea. The following year it established the Human Rights Information and Resources Library and, in 1997, created the Human Rights Resources Database .

Objectives

Sarangbang aims

1. To expand the base of human rights advocacy
2. To spread human rights viewpoints to every corner of society
3. To popularize and internationalize human rights advocacy
4. To build a progressive human rights movement.

Programs and Activities

Human Rights Daily - a two-to-three-page newsletter published five days a week and delivered by fax, post, e-mail and internet service. It focuses on human rights issues that the mainstream media ignore. Human Rights Daily fulfills the role of grassroots media.

Human Rights Education - includes summer human rights camps for the youth and children, summer and winter human rights workshops for college students, workshops for school teachers and NGOs activists, internships for Social Welfare majors, campaigns for the Rights of the Child, monitors the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, develops and creates human rights education program and materials.

Human Rights Information and Resources Library - contains thousands of books, documents, reports and video tapes on human rights, and is open to the general public.

Civil and Political Rights Watch - consists of campaigns against police brutality, electric identity cards, compulsory fingerprinting, censorship, and the National Security Law; fact-finding and reporting on human rights abuses; monitoring prison conditions.

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Watch - consists of fact-finding and reporting on the situation of irregular workers, study groups on the ICESCR, monitoring of the implementation of the ICESCR.

Seoul Human Rights Film Festival(SHURIFF) - held annually since 1996 as a form of human rights education and advocacy for the freedom of expression. All films are shown free of charge to the public. SHURIFF rejects any censorship, and shows excellent films in all genres related to

human rights, both domestic and foreign. It also gives awards to the most outstanding human rights film of the year by judging films from the perspective of human rights.

The Institute for Human Rights Movement - an attached organization that holds daily seminar (6 days a week) on different subjects, such as history, law, human rights instruments, human rights news, etc.

Publications

- Combined volumes of Korea Human Rights Daily (vols. 1-15, 1993 to present)
- Children's rights, the Promise of the World (1997)
- The Condition of Prisons in Korea (1998)
- The National Security Law Report 1997 (1998)
- Pathfinder for Human Rights Education (1999)
- The National Security Law Report under Kim Dae-jung regime (1999)
- The Rights to live in dignity (1999)
- Get Up, Stand Up for Your Rights (2000)
- The National Security Law Report 2000 (2001)
- Human Rights Daily

Other Information

Awards:

- special award of the 6th Democratic Media Awards by the Korean Federation of Press Unions, 1996
- People's Artist Award by the Korean People's Artists Federation, 1997
- Human Rights Award by the Korean National Council of Churches(KNCC), 1997
- Grand Prize by Cine 21, a weekly film magazine, 1998
- 7th Good Education Award by the National Teachers Union, 1998
- 4E19 People's Revolution Award by the 4E19 Memorial Foundation, 1998
- Hellman-Hammett Award by Human Rights Watch, 1998
- a prize on Human Rights Essay Contest sponsored by Lawyers for Democracy, 1998
- 2nd Democratic Media Award by the Civil Coalition for Democratic Media, 2000.

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The Institute for Human Rights (Beirut Bar Association)

Year Established:

Short Historical Background

The Institute for Human Rights is a specialized body within the Beirut Bar Association. Headed by the President of the Bar Association, the Institute is run by a member of the Bar Association known for his competence and experience in the field of human rights. The director is appointed for a period of three years by the executive board of the Bar Association.

Objectives

The Institute aims at promoting universal values stated in the Lebanese Constitution and in the United Nations human rights treaties. The Institute strives to distribute the texts of these conventions, monitor their implementation in Lebanon by publishing special reports, as well as prepare draft laws designed to harmonize the domestic legislations with the international human rights standards. It also seeks to establish a series of precedents and special legal opinions which, in due time, will lead to the integration of the principles of the treaties in local legislations.

Programs and Activities

Training - the Institute offers, in cooperation with international organizations and institutes specialized in human rights, training sessions on human rights to all members of the legal, administrative and judicial professions. These sessions include practical training on the implementation of the principles of human rights treaties in the internal judicial system, training to study, in a comparative perspective, the judicial practices in other countries, and training sessions to understand the monitoring mechanisms and regulations adopted by human rights treaties in order to promote their implementation.

Seminar and Conference Organizing – since its establishment, the Institute has held periodic seminars and conferences on various human rights issues particular to Lebanon, and human rights in general. These events are held in Arabic, English, and French, and are attended by participants from Lebanon and abroad.

Research and Publication - the Institute distributes a series of publications including conference proceedings and various human rights materials. These materials range from books to newsletters and are available in Arabic, English, and French. Some of the institute's works are accessible on its website (<http://www.humanrightslbanon.org/index.html>).

Publications

- Qadaya – periodic newsletter (Arabic)
- Combating Torture: A Compilation of International Instruments on the Elimination of Torture (2002)
- Introduction to the Lebanese Criminal Code (2001)

- Making Standards Work: an International Handbook on Good Prison Practice (1997)

Other Information

The Bar Association has a library located at the Court-house in Beirut that offers various books and other publications on human rights in Arabic, English, and French languages.

Address

Institute for Human Rights
- Beirut Bar Association
Court House Beirut - Lebanon
ph (961) 01- 422204 /01-422205 ext. 220 or 222 /01-423943
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e-mail: indh@inco.com.lb
www.humanrightslbanon.org/index.html

The Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World (IWSAW)

Year Established: 1973

Short Historical Background

The Lebanese American University founded the Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World (IWSAW) in 1973. The history of the Institute is closely linked to that of the first women's college in the Middle East, the America Junior College for Women, which was established in 1924 by the Presbyterian Mission. The College, which educated Middle Eastern women for half a century, became co-educational in 1973. In order to honor the college's unique heritage as the first educational institution for women in the region, the Institute for Women's Studies in the Arab World was established that same year.

Objectives

IWSAW aims

1. To serve as a catalyst for policy changes regarding the rights of women in the Arab world
2. To engage in academic research on women in the Arab world
3. To empower women in the Arab world through development programs and education
4. To facilitate networking and communication among individuals, groups and institutions concerned with women in the Arab world.

Programs

IWSAW mainly designs and implements development programs aimed at promoting literacy and enhancing social and political awareness. Here are some examples of IWSAW's development programs:

Basic Living Skills Program - a non-formal integrated educational kit in Arabic geared towards illiterate and semi-literate women in the Arab world, available in both hard and digitized form. Its users are social workers and educators affiliated to non-governmental organizations, governmental institutions and international organizations involved in community development programs.

Empowering Arab Women Through Literacy, 2005 - a series of twelve second-level literacy booklets based on IWSAW's Basic Living Skills Program. Through short stories, it addresses issues such as civic education and conflict control, women's empowerment, violence against women, health, and the environment.

Rehabilitation and Vocational Training Program for Women in Lebanese Prisons - in view of the precarious living conditions of incarcerated women in Lebanon and the overwhelming needs observed and expressed by these women, IWSAW initiated rehabilitation and intensive vocational training programs in the Lebanese women's prisons. Lebanese and non-Lebanese incarcerated women benefited from the program, namely in Tripoli.

Activities

Training - the IWSAW conducts training sessions on the use and implementation of the Basic Living Skills Program. Moreover, IWSAW offers training on the new literacy program throughout Lebanon.

Academic Activities - a variety of women's studies courses are offered at the Lebanese American University through IWSAW. It also sponsors research in women related issues.

Event Organizing - IWSAW hosts national, regional, and international conferences, in addition to seminars and workshops related to women's issues. Moreover, it hosts special events such as an annual Film Festival (since 2000) and the International Women's Day (since 1998).

Research - IWSAW undertakes research on various issues such as the following:

- Women and the Environment
- Women and Education
- Women in Literature
- Women and Economic Development
- Women in Management
- Women in the Media
- Women in History
- Women and Politics.

Publications

- Al-Jinsaniya Mouhemma (Arabic version of IDS Bulletin titled Sexuality Matters) (2008)
- Al-Raida - quarterly journal (Arabic and English)
- Women, media, and sustainable development (1996)
- Women and work in Lebanon (1985)
- Women in Islam (Arabic) (1990)
- Contemporary women's movement (Arabic) (1988)
- Women in time: Profiles of activists in the Lebanese women's movement up to 1975 (Documentary)

These documents are accessible online at <http://www.lau.edu.lb/centers-institutes/iwsaw/books.html>

Address

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<http://iwsaw.lau.edu.lb>

The Lebanese Non-Governmental Organization Forum (LNF)

Year Established: 1991

Short Historical Background

The Lebanese Non-Governmental Organization Forum (LNF) was established in July 1991 to coordinate the activities of Lebanese non-governmental organizations (NGOs) concerned primarily with relief and development (social, health, and educational) issues. The decision to establish the LNF was taken in 1988, in the midst of the Lebanese war, when several NGOs from different communities, religious and secular, agreed that a framework was required to bridge the gap between communities and citizens separated by war.

Objectives

The LNF primarily aims to promote specific programs that help consolidate social cohesion and integration in Lebanon.

Programs and Activities

The LNF has the following program and projects:

1. *The Rights Program*

This provides services to, and information on, vulnerable social groups, including the displaced, refugees, migrant workers, stateless and undocumented persons and, especially, women and children. It includes

- a. Free legal aid services in close cooperation with the Legal Aid Commission of the Beirut Bar Association
- b. Popular Legal Education project for the displaced persons (1997-1998)
- c. Gathering of human rights information & documentations
- d. Monitoring of legal instruments pertaining to human rights and prepare updated reports on the web for each of these instruments
- e. Training of NGO workers on monitoring and reporting
- f. Regional networking for the advancement of human rights in the Middle East
- g. Organizing seminars on international human rights treaties affecting vulnerable social groups, and examining their implementation in Lebanon
- h. Participating, on an annual basis, in United Nations working committees, to present relevant information as well as recommendations
- i. Working to improve the condition of prisoners in the context of the Committee for Coordination and Action for Prisoners (CAP).

2. *Women's Rights Monitor and Child Rights Monitor*

Both projects aim to help NGOs monitor women's rights and child rights respectively and implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in Lebanon. They both include:

- a. Provision of information about the CEDAW and the United Nations CEDAW Committee, and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the United

- Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child
- b. Provision of guidelines to help NGOs write their report to these UN bodies
- c. Developing baseline data regarding women's rights and child rights in Lebanon in accordance with the guidelines of the CEDAW and the CRC respectively
- d. Preparation of reports on women's and children's situation in Lebanon respectively
- e. Creating a bibliography on women's rights and child rights and facilitate the exchange of information and documentation
- f. Creating a mailing list of participating NGOs.

3. *Migration Network*

This project aims to come out with studies and reports, training, legal assistance and monitoring system on the situation of the foreign migrant workers.

Publications

The Rights Program

- Ebb ~ Flow - a quarterly Bulletin on refugees, displaced persons, stateless and "undocumented" persons in Lebanon
- A manual entitled: "The Rights of People in their Own Language"

Women's Rights Monitor

- Reports on the Convention on The Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) (2000)
- Brief reports on the situation of women in Lebanon

Child Rights Monitor

- Reports on the Convention on the Rights of the Child (2000)
- Report on the implementation of the CRC in Lebanon (online - www.lnf.org.lb/child/report.html)

Migrant Workers Network

- Migrant Workers in Lebanon, Michael Young (2000)
- Foreign Female Domestic Maids in Lebanon, Ray Jureidini & Nayla Moukarbel (2000)

Other Information

The LNF has recently added the Prisoner's Rights Monitor. Information (in French language) on this new project is available at the LNF website: www.lnf.org.lb

Address

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fax (961 1) 37 40 50

e-mail: lnf@lnf.org.lb

www.lnf.org.lb

Aliran Kesedaran Negara (Aliran)

Year Established: 1977

Short Historical Background

Aliran Kesedaran Negara (Malay for National Consciousness Movement) or Aliran was launched in Penang on 12 August 1977 by seven concerned Malaysians from different ethnic backgrounds. Today, it is a national reform movement with members, friends and supporters from different parts of the country. It is Malaysia's first multi-ethnic reform movement dedicated to justice, freedom and solidarity. Listed on the Roster of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations since 1987, Aliran has a consistent record of championing democratic reforms.

Guided by universal spiritual values, its struggle focuses on building genuine unity by upholding human dignity and promoting social justice for all Malaysians.

Since 1977, it has been planting the seeds of public awareness of critical political, economic and social issues. Over the years, it has lobbied hard for wide-ranging reforms in all aspects of public life. Today, the stirring cries of "Reformasi!" ring out for all to hear.

Objectives

Aliran is a social movement. Its aim is to raise social consciousness and encourage social action that will lead to social justice.

Social justice is only possible if the social order enables every human being to live like a human being. Living like a human being means bringing forth the humanity in each person.

Humanity is the total expression of all the eternal, universal values such as truth, justice, freedom equality, love, compassion, moderation, tolerance and restraint which lie at the heart of the great spiritual traditions. This is why realizing everyone's humanity is discovering the divine essence in them. Only by manifesting this humanity that people will be able to establish their loyalty to God.

Activities

Aliran's main activity is publishing Aliran Monthly to raise public awareness on important issues affecting Malaysians. Aliran also issues media releases, which analyze various issues related to its quest for an alternative order, and responds to both local and international human rights appeals.

Occasionally, Aliran organizes talks for the public or sends its officials as speakers or participants to forums organized by other groups. It also serves as a co-ordinating body or secretariat for appeals and campaigns on specific social and human rights issues.

Aliran is an important source of independent information on Malaysia for political analysts, academics and others interested in what is really happening in the country.

Publications

- Aliran Monthly – in print and website

Address

ALIRAN

103 Medan Penaga, 11600 Jelutong, Penang, Malaysia

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fax (60 4) 6585197

e-mail (general): alirankn@hotmail.com

www.aliran.com

Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women (ARROW)

Year Established: 1993

Short Historical Background

The Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women (ARROW) was formally established in 1993 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, as a regional non-profit and non-governmental organization (NGO) concerned with ensuring that development policies and plans influencing women's health status included women's and gender perspectives. Co-founded by Rita Raj and Rashidah Abdullah, ARROW's vision is for women in Asia and the Pacific to be better able to define and control their lives, particularly in the area of women's health and rights. Since 1993, ARROW has been able to make significant progress towards this vision.

Objectives

ARROW aims

1. To make health, reproductive health and population policies and programs re-oriented to become more accessible, affordable, comprehensive, and include a gender and rights approach
2. To make the women's movement and civil society become stronger and more effective in holding governments accountable to international commitments, influencing policy agendas on women's health and rights, and gaining sustained representation on decision-making structures
3. To make women's health outcomes and women's lives improve, particularly in the area of sexual and reproductive health and rights, including violence against women, especially for poor and marginalized women and girls.

Programs and Activities

(October 2006 – September 2011)

Objective 1 – To create and implement a comprehensive information and communications strategy for ARROW, providing a strategic framework for the sharing of conceptual, practical and innovative information materials and tools, a system for the participatory monitoring and evaluation of the impact of this strategy, the increased utilization of new technologies towards enhancing outreach, and the collection, production, dissemination, translation, and promotion of such information materials and tools such that key NGOs, governments, the United Nations (UN), and other stakeholders are influenced towards improving health and population policies and programs, specifically on critical women's health and rights issues.

Objective 2 – To create a systematic evidence-based research and monitoring system which charts national and regional progress towards Cairo, Beijing and other international commitments pertaining to women's health and rights

Objective 3 – To carry out national, regional and inter-

national capacity building for strategic policy advocacy that strengthens feminist, rights-based, gender-sensitive, and women-centered approaches of national and regional NGOs, as well as other related agencies. All this will be done in order for marginalized women to be able to increasingly obtain accessible, affordable, comprehensive, gender-sensitive, and rights-based sexual and reproductive health care services.

Objective 4 – To expand the Women's Health and Rights Advocacy Partnership (WHRAP) to all thirteen priority countries of ARROW and convene WHRAP Asia-Pacific as a regional forum of capacity-building for evidence-based policy advocacy at local, national and regional levels.

Objective 5 – To strengthen the documentation of good organizational practices of both ARROW and partner organizations with the aim of enhancing feminist leadership within the women's health and rights movement, as well as the women's movement in general.

Publications

- Rights and Realities: Monitoring Reports on the Status of Indonesian Women's Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
- Monitoring Ten Years Of ICPD Implementation, The Way Forward To 2015, Asian Country Reports
- Women's Health Needs and Rights in Southeast Asia – A Beijing Monitoring Report (2001)
- Taking Up the Cairo Challenge: Country Studies in Asia Pacific
- Access to Quality Gender-Sensitive Health Services: Women-Centred Action Research (2003)
- ARROWs for Change - bulletin
- Women-Centred and Gender-Sensitive Experiences: Changing our Perspectives, Policies & Programmes on Women's Health in Asia and the Pacific—A Resource Kit
- A Framework of Indicators for Action on Women's Health Needs & Rights After Beijing (2000)
- In Dialogue for Women's Health Rights: Report of the South East Asian Regional GO-NGO Policy Dialogue on Monitoring & Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action (2000)

Address

Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women
No. 80 & 82, 3rd Floor, Jalan Tun Sambanthan
Brickfields, 50470 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
ph (603) 2273 9913 / 2273 9914 / 2273 9915
fax (603) 2273 9916
e-mail: arrow@arrow.po.my
www.arrow.org.my

Center for Orang Asli Concerns (COAC)

Year Established: 1989

Short Historical Background

The Center for Orang Asli Concerns (COAC) was established in 1989 to advance the cause of the Orang Asli—whether via the greater dissemination of Orang Asli news and views, assisting in court cases involving Orang Asli rights, or in developing arguments for lobbying and advocacy work.

The focus is on Orang Asli communities who still want to exercise autonomy and control over their social institutions, their traditional territories and their future, but are unable to do so fully because of factors outside their control.

Objective

COAC aims to facilitate Orang Asli initiatives at self-development and in defense of their rights, and to support those who want to promote such initiatives.

Publications

- Indigenous Peoples and Local Government: Experiences from Malaysia and the Philippines, CPA / PACOS TRUST / COAC / ANTHROWATCH (IWGIA 2005)
- Orang Asli Women of Malaysia: Perceptions, Situations & Aspirations, Adela Baer, Karen Endicott, Rosemary Gianno, Signe Howell, Barbara S. Nowak, Cornelia van der Sluys (2006)
- Chita' Hae: Culture, Crafts and Customs of the Hma' Meri in Kampung Sungai Bumbon, Pulau Carey, Reita Rahim (editor) (2007)
- International Indigenous Rights: Evolution, Progress & Regress, Yogeswaran Subramaniam (2007)
- Biodiversity and Indigenous Knowledge Systems in Malaysia, Colin Nicholas & Jannie Lasimbang (eds) (2004)
- Flowed Over: The Babagon Dam and the Resettlement of the Kadazandusun in Sabah, Carol Yong Ooi Lin (2003)
- Orang Asli Women and the Forest: The Impact of Resource Depletion on Gender Relations among the Semai, Colin Nicholas, Tijah Yok Chopil, Tiah Sabak (2003)
- Semelai Communities at Tasek Bera: A Study of the Structure of an Orang Asli Community, Hoe Ban Seng (2001)
- The Orang Hulu: A Report on Malaysian Orang Asli in the 1960s, Narifumi Maeda Tachimoto (2001)
- The Orang Asli and the Contest for Resources: Indigenous Politics, Development and Identity in Peninsular Malaysia, Colin Nicholas (2000)
- Health, Disease, And Survival: A Biomedical and Genetic Analysis of the Orang Asli of Malaysia, A. Baer (1999)

Address

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23 Jalan SS 25/29, 47301 Petaling Jaya,

Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia

P.O. Box 3052

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ph/fax (603) 734-09-88

e-mail: coac@tm.net.my; coac@streamyx.com

www.coac.org.my

Education and Research Association for Consumers (ERA Consumer)

Year Established: 1985

Short Historical Background

The Education and Research Association for Consumers, Malaysia (ERA Consumer Malaysia) is a voluntary, non-profit and non-political civil society organization. It was founded in the state of Perak in 1985 and subsequently expanded into a national organization, now based in Kuala Lumpur. ERA Consumer Malaysia is a registered membership organization under The Malaysian Societies Act of 1966.

Objective

As a research, education and advocacy group, ERA Consumer Malaysia aims to strengthen the capacity of community-based organizations and grassroots communities and empower them to participate through initiatives in socio-economic, accountable governance, sustainable agriculture and ecological endeavors.

Programs

- *Research* – ERA Consumer is a community-based think tank that generates knowledge, information and innovation to support consumer information, education, protection and sustainable people-centered development process.
- *Advocacy* – it campaigns through policy inputs, seminars and media dissemination for consumer protection legislation, strengthening the position of women and children and sustaining the environment.
- *Empowerment* – it develops projects in partnership with vulnerable communities such as workers, farmers, indigenous peoples, children and women. Its current empowerment agenda focuses on The Self Reliant Community Project for rural poor farmers, consumers, and indigenous communities on sustainable livelihood and consumption with equitable access to basic needs through health, consumer education programs.
- *Networking* – it networks with a wide range of organizations at the local, national, regional and international levels to build and enhance solidarity in the social development arena.
- *Documentation* – it publishes books, reports and articles relating to Consumer Laws, Trade, Food Security, Accountable Governance and Human Rights to be used as reference and lobbying tools.
- *Sustainable Practices* – it promotes sustainable lifestyles through sustainable livelihood and consumption of rural and vulnerable communities to strengthen access to credit, adequate, safe and nutritious food and able to manage natural resources in a sustainable manner.

Activities

Human Rights

- *Human Rights Training Program for political party members, teachers, union members, women, youth, marginalized and vulnerable communities* - aims to raise aware-

ness, inform and educate them about their human rights and basic legal rights.

- *Monitoring the National Human Rights Commission* - review of the Commission's activities annually and publishing the finding as an alternative report to its annual report.
- *Legal literacy program* - training for community leaders to raise their awareness and educate them about the country's legal framework and mechanism through its paralegal training program.
- *Human Rights Seminars* - one-day seminars on various issues of human rights particularly Human Rights and Islam and on promoting moderation.

Community Empowerment Project

Currently, ERA Consumer has seven community centers around the country providing free and voluntary services for the poor and vulnerable communities.

Publications

Some publications in English

- Understanding Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- Proceedings of the public consultation on violence against women
- Seminar on understanding Human Rights & Islam: Motivation, Ideology and Relevance in a contemporary society
- Proceedings of forum on understanding the Human Rights Commission Act 1999
- Proceedings of Human Rights & Islam: An Islamic on the impacts and challenges to women in the 21st century
- The Vital Role of Malaysia Parliamentarians in Strengthening Human Rights and Democracy in Malaysia
- Initiative for the Establishment of an ASEAN Human Rights Mechanism
- Community Centres for Empowerment of Indian Women in Malaysia
- Proceedings of Forum on Understanding the Human Rights Commission Act 1999
- National Consultation on Food Security in Malaysia
- Proceedings of National Consultation on the Malaysian Human Rights Commission (SUHAKAM) - Years 1 to 6

Address

Education and Research Association for Consumers Malaysia

(ERA CONSUMER MALAYSIA)

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Centre for Human Rights and Development

Year Established: 1998

Short Historical Background

CHRD was established in 1998 by a group of human rights activists and lawyers. It is an independent non-governmental, non-partisan and non-profit organization registered under the Mongolian law on non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

Objectives

CHRD aims to contribute to the promotion and protection of human rights and social justice in Mongolia. CHRD envisions a society where all individuals and groups have the capacity to claim and enjoy their human rights and fundamental freedoms contributing to the creation of a just and humane society through active, free and meaningful participation in development.

Programs

CHRD has programs on combating human trafficking, conducting and supporting effective human rights advocacy with a focus on environmental rights using public interest strategic litigation and international human rights advocacy, and promoting economic, social and cultural rights with a focus on the right to food and adequate housing standards through the community development approach.

Activities

CHRD contributes to the promotion and protection of human rights throughout Mongolia by:

1. Conducting legislative and policy advocacy to build an improved and enabling environment for human rights protection
2. Conducting research on, and monitoring of, human rights issues, and providing accurate and timely information about the human rights situation in Mongolia
3. Supporting human rights advocacy of local civil society organizations
4. Facilitating the participation of local citizens in community development
5. Increasing public awareness on human rights issues
6. Participating in regional and international human rights movements.

Publications

- Annual Report 2001, Mongolia
- National Human Rights Record 2001, Mongolia
- Proceedings of "National Workshop on Human Rights and International Criminal Court" (2002)
- Introduction to International Criminal Court (2002)
- Primer on International Criminal Court (2002)
- Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (2002)
- Methods of Qualitative Research (2002)
- Police and Human Rights Handbook (2002)
- Developing Gender Study: Needs, Interests and Re-

sources (2001)

- Violence Against Women and the Legal Environment, Mongolia (2001)
- Current Situation of Trafficking and Related Issues in Mongolia (2001)
- National Human Rights Record of Mongolia (2000)
- The Crime of Trafficking of Women and Children in Mongolia: The Current Situation
- AIDS/STD Privacy Issues and Human rights
- Research report on human rights issues of vulnerable groups (2002)
- Research report on housing rights implementation in Mongolia (2003)
- Research report on participatory poverty assessment in Ulaanbaatar (2005)
- Human trafficking in Mongolia (2004)
- Your Rights, Manual for Citizens (2005)
- Combating Human Trafficking: Issues and Solutions (2005)
- Human Rights and Mining, Discussion paper (2006)
- Do You Know Your Rights, Manual for Citizens (2006)
- Manual on Savings Groups (2007)

Address

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Ulaanbaatar 13, Mongolia

Center for Human Rights and Democratic Studies (CEHURDES)

Year Established: 1999

Short Historical Background

The Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Studies (CEHURDES) is a non-profit, non-partisan non-governmental organization (NGO) working for the protection and promotion of press freedom and freedom of expression in Nepal since its establishment in 1999.

Besides publishing annual reports on the status of Freedom of Expression and Press Freedom in the country, CEHURDES organizes training and workshops for journalists and opinion leaders on various issues of freedom of expression, undertakes research and publishes relevant materials to promote the cause.

As the first member of IFEX (International Freedom of Expression Exchange, www.ifex.org) – the Toronto-based network of organizations working in the area of freedom of expression around the world— in Nepal, CEHURDES has been actively monitoring the situation of press freedom and freedom of expression in the country and is engaged in lobbying and advocacy works. CEHURDES has worked with the Federation of Nepalese Journalists (FNJ)—another IFEX member in Nepal—and other like-minded organizations for upholding press freedom during the royal rule and continues to liaise and work actively to highlight new threats facing the Nepalese media community and to ensure a safe work environment for media personnel and the free expression of activists.

Objectives

CEHURDES aims:

1. To work for the protection and promotion of human rights under the policies and guidelines adopted by the United Nations
2. To carry out human rights awareness activities in order to raise the level of consciousness of people toward materializing the theme “all human rights for all”
3. To conduct human rights education programs at the grassroots level in both formal and informal education sectors
4. To ensure press freedom and freedom of expression, including the rights of media workers and journalists as guaranteed by the country’s Constitution and international human rights instruments
5. To conduct research, study, interaction programs, etc. in the areas of human rights, press freedom and freedom of expression, democracy and peace in Nepal in the context of regional experience
6. To advocate for the protection of the rights of women, children, disabled people, disadvantaged communities, refugees and victims of torture
7. To coordinate and monitor the implementation of the international human rights instruments adopted by the United Nations and ratified by Nepal.

making process to guarantee fundamental human rights and freedom of expression in particular

2. Mobilizing the media for the education of the people on press freedom and freedom of expression
3. Training program for journalists on human rights reporting and mainstreaming the issues of marginalized communities
4. Interaction program with civil society activists.

Activities

- Regular monitoring of the status of press freedom and freedom of expression, issuing statements on acute concerns towards protection and safeguarding fundamental human rights
- Campaigns at local and international levels
- Provision of legal support to victim-journalists and activists
- Production of radio programs and airing those in a number of FM radio stations
- Publication and distribution of education materials like posters in various local dialects and others to educate and sensitize people of different communities on various rights issues
- Training journalists and interacting with civil society.

Special Concerns

The protection and promotion of human rights, support for the institutionalization of democratic exercise, enhancement of press freedom and freedom of expression

Publications

- Annual Reports “Status of Press Freedom and Freedom of Expression in Nepal”
- Training Manual for journalists on Human Rights Reporting
- Practical Handbook for Journalists
- Right to Information
- “Free Expression” Periodical (Nepali and English)

Address

Center for Human Rights and Democratic Studies (CEHURDES)
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www.cehurdes.org.np
www.ifex.org/members/cehurdes

Programs

1. Enhancing people’s participation in the constitution-

Center for Legal Research and Resource Development (CeLRRd)

Year Established: 1998

Short Historical Background

The Center for Legal Research and Resource Development (CeLRRd) is a non-governmental organization, founded in its present form in 1998. Its fundamental goal is to accelerate the process of systemic change in society by fostering widespread understanding of the Rule of Law and unrestricted access to free and fair Justice.

Objectives

CeLRRd aims

1. To promote access to justice for all irrespective of the social, ethnic, religious, and gender-based cleavages
2. To safeguard the rights and interests of disadvantaged segments of Nepalese society
3. To conduct research activities on socio-legal issues that have a direct impact on the lives of Nepalese people
4. To foster legal professionalism with an emphasis on "alternative lawyering"
5. To conduct extensive paralegal and general legal awareness programs for the benefit of the grassroots community
6. To provide extended and institutionalized legal aid services to the victims of injustice and human rights violations
7. To lobby for essential and appropriate legislation, providing professional assistance in the drafting process
8. To foster a culture of peace and reconciliation in communities
9. To lobby for the reform of existing legislation with the norms of human rights and fair trial.

Programs and Activities

- Support to Justice Sector Initiatives (Human Rights Orientation for the staffs of Judicial and Quasi-judicial bodies on the basis of the Human Rights Manual developed by CeLRRd)
- Free Legal Aid to Prisoners
- Strengthening the Fair Trial Situation
- Combating trafficking of women and children through Community Surveillance System Against Trafficking (CSSAT)
- Community Mediation Program in six districts
- Community Peace Building Program
- Developing Rights-based approach for Anti-trafficking actions in South Asia
- Strengthening the Juvenile Justice System
- Coalition for Constituent Assembly Support (CoCAS)
- Victims Legal Aid
- Development and conduct of Orientation on Criminal Procedural Guidelines to Judges, Government Attorney, Police and Bar-members

Special Concerns

Promotion of Rule of Law, Good Governance, and Human Rights in the nation, in particular in the Judiciary.

Publications

- Human Rights Manual (2004)
- Gender Equality Report (2006)
- Crime (of trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation) Investigation Manual (2002)
- Manual on Prosecution and Legal procedures/Action (2002)
- Nepalese Laws Incompatible with Fair Trial Standard (2005)
- Prisoners Legal Aid Manual (2006)
- Criminal Procedure Guidelines
- Report on Nepalese Trial Court Research (2002)
- District Court Manual (2003)
- Analysis and Reform of Nepalese Criminal Justice System
- Community Mediation Manual & Work Book (2005)
- A Compilation of Discourse Materials for Conflict Transformation and Peace Building
- Manual on Fair Trial Standards (2005)
- Baseline Survey on Criminal Justice System of Nepal
- Analysis of Laws and Policies on Labour Migration & Trafficking (2002)
- Study on Counter Corruption Legal Framework (2000)
- National Conference on Community Mediation (2005)
- Report of Support to Justice Initiative Programs (2005)
- Social Responsive Human Rights Legal Education
- Impact of Corruption in Criminal Justice System on Women (Condemned to Exploitation) (2000)

It also produces a bi-monthly e-bulletin along with the Kathmandu School of Law.

Address

Center for Legal Research and Resource Development (CeLRRd)

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e-mail : celrrd@wlink.com.np

www.ksl.edu.np

Child Rights Research and Resource Center at KSL

Year Established: 2007

Short Historical Background

In December 2007, the Kathmandu School of Law (KSL) established the Child Rights Research and Resource Center (KSL Child Rights Center) in order to strengthen research and the sharing of information on the issues of child rights at the national as well as regional levels. The primary objective of the Center is to build a competent rights regime in Nepal (and in the South Asian region) by establishing a capable institution that generates human and intellectual resources pertaining to child rights, development and psychology.

The Center is the outcome of the commitment of different like-minded institutions to work as a joint venture to protect and promote child rights and access to justice. Save the Children Norway, Save the Children Sweden, UNICEF, Tdh Nepal, Center for Legal Research and Resource Development (CeLRRd) deserve credit in initiating this important mission. Their moral, financial and logistic support boosts KSL's strength in initiating this challenging yet benign mission.

Objectives

The Center aims

1. To conduct continuous research and impact analysis/study of programs being implemented by various agencies in relation to child rights, development and psychology
2. To review the child rights enforcement situation in Nepal and other countries
3. To serve as an information clearing house by disseminating periodical and annual information on child rights issues
4. To initiate activities to promote and protect child's rights and access to justice
5. To coordinate with agencies engaged in the protection and promotion of child rights, child development and various types of welfare services
6. To conduct interactive seminars, symposiums and conferences, and academic diploma courses on child rights, development and psychology.

Programs and Activities

1. *Documentation and information section* – the Center has a documentation and information section at KSL. Reading resources and publications are being collected and documented (including Supreme Court decisions related to child rights).
2. *Youth Sensitization Program* - the Center is organizing a youth sensitization program on the different issues of child rights such as an interaction program among youths, documentary presentation on the issues of child rights, to name a few of the major issues.

The Center shows documentaries on the child rights issue (and also child psychology and child development issues) every Monday at 2:00 pm at the documentation and information section to the students

and faculty of the school and researchers of related areas. In February 2008, Children's Voices Against Violence Against Girls and Boys and Anuttarit Prasna (Unanswered Question) were shown. The first documentary focused on discrimination between girls and boys in school, family and in the law itself. The documentary shows the psychological and physical effects on the children of such discrimination and violence. The second documentary deals with the situation and status of juvenile delinquency in Nepal.

The Center has an interaction program on child rights issues for the secondary and senior secondary school students once a week.

3. *Law school course on child rights* - the Center has started reviewing the curriculum of law schools and other organizations on child rights. Students of LL.B. have been working as interns in the Center.
4. The Center established the "CRC-information board" which displays national and international news on child rights every month.

Future Work Plan:

The KSL Child Rights Center plans to undertake the following:

- Establishment of Institutional Framework of Child Rights Research and Resource Center
- Launching Research and Academic Activities
- Holding Seminars, Interactions and Research at national and regional levels
- Establishment of Legal Aid Support to Children
- Launching Short Term Diploma and Post Graduate Degree Course on Child Rights
- Launching Advocacy and Awareness Programs.

Address

Child Rights Research and Resource Center at KSL
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Fax (977-1) 6634801
e-mail: childrights@ksl.edu.np
www.ksl.edu.np

Informal Sector Service Center (INSEC)

Year Established: 1989

Short Historical Background

INSEC has been ardently involved in the protection and promotion of human rights for more than one and a half decades. Founded by inexorable human rights defender, the late Prakash Kaphley, and prominent human rights activist, Sushil Pyakurel, INSEC significantly contributed in institutionalizing the democratic polity in the nation using the rights-based approach, both at the policy and grassroots levels, especially after the restoration of democracy in 1990/1991 period.

Objectives

INSEC aims

1. To make the people, government, law enforcing and other concerned agencies become aware of the issues and incidences of human right violations and act accordingly
2. To make the government promulgate and refine its policies and laws to protect and promote the human rights of its people as per international treaties and conventions
3. To make the people, their representatives, the law enforcing agencies and other key stakeholders educated and trained in human rights and take action to protect and promote human rights in the country
4. To create a vibrant network for peace building in place for advocacy and conflict mitigation
5. To make national laws and relative rules and regulations reinforced against social discriminations
6. To protect people and communities against human rights violations and give support for rescue and relief
7. To enhance the institutional competence of community-based organizations (CBOs) and other like-minded organizations to work together on human rights, peace building and policy advocacy
8. To be recognized as an effective organization in human rights for its effective and transparent management practices.

Programs

- *Human Rights Education* – primarily aims to make the local people become aware of the need for human rights education, strengthen and mobilize district-based human rights non-governmental organizations (NGOs), community-based organizations/civil society organizations (CBOs/CSOs), and to sensitize concerned government authorities like bureaucrats, policymakers and members of political parties on human rights issues specially focused at the district level.
- *Human Rights Advocacy* – aims to pressure the government to fulfill its obligations under international human rights and humanitarian laws and address major human rights issues through human-rights-based policy formulation, and to ensure that the human rights of disadvantaged people are protected and the prevailing discrimination based on caste, gender and ethnicity effectively addressed.

- *Policy Advocacy* - aims to pressure the government to ratify major international human rights and humanitarian treaties as well as make sure that there are mechanisms at the national and international levels that are easily accessible to people seeking justice. The campaign also puts pressure upon the government for the immediate implementation of declarations issued by the legislature and the recommendations made by the international community including the United Nations.
- *Victim Assistance* - aims to assist victims of human rights violations who need immediate support.
- *Institutional Development of INSEC Partner Organizations* - aims to help the partners become competent in meaningfully contributing to the human rights movement in the country and to be able to work towards this end independently.

Activities

INSEC undertakes the following activities:

- Literacy/awareness class, human rights education through radio, training, Human Rights Day celebration
- Collection/documentation/dissemination of information on human rights violation cases, fact-finding missions, assessment and monitoring of the status of implementation of international treaties and conventions
- Lobbying and advocacy on human rights issues at local, national and international levels, campaigns on human rights issues, urgent action, press statement against human rights violation, and public hearings
- Trauma counselling for human rights victims, emergency rescue and relief to human rights victims, litigation for human rights protection
- INSECOnline - a web-based news portal that provides quality information, and ultimately contributes to the broader human rights movement of the country.

Publications

Periodicals

- Prachi (Nepali, bi-monthly)
- Informal (English, quarterly)
- Insec Abhiyan (Nepali, monthly)
- Nepal Human Rights Yearbook (English/Nepali, annual)
- Sthiti Suchak (online) (Nepali, quarterly)

Some other publications

- A Decade of Human Rights Movement in Nepal
- Bal Adhikar Sambandhi Sachitra Pustak (pictorial book on the rights of the child)
- Bonded Labour in Nepal: Under Kamaiya System

Address

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www.inseconline.org

South Asia Forum for Human Rights (SAFHR)

Year Established: 1990

Short Historical Background

Established in 1990, SAFHR is a regional public forum for the promotion of respect for universal values of human rights, the interdependence of rights, and the indivisibility of rights.

In the strife torn region of South Asia, SAFHR is committed to the promotion of the interlinkages between human rights, peace and substantive democracy. SAFHR is a human rights organization with 'peace as value' as its cornerstone. Peace is understood as a space for the enjoyment of the rights of all peoples. It is not simply the absence of war or the management of crisis but a fundamental value to be integrated in all programs for realizing peoples' security - that is, security of food, shelter, health and livelihood in a non-hegemonic democratic regional order. It is this perspective which animates SAFHR's flagship program - Human Rights and Peace Studies Orientation Course.

Objectives

SAFHR aims

1. To promote respect for universal standards of human rights with emphasis on universality and interdependence of rights
2. To provide a public regional forum for the exchange of ideas and concerns on human rights, peace and substantive democracy
3. To expose human rights abuses in the region
4. To build a communication network of regional human rights and peace activists and NGOs and develop a publications program on peace and human rights issues
5. To undertake programs and campaigns to generate awareness for the rights of minorities, displaced persons and refugees and work for the reduction of statelessness
6. Through such mechanisms as people-to-people dialogue, to strive to create inter-state and regional-level peoples' forums for intervention in situations of intra- and inter-state conflicts, lobby with governments and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) for the creation of regional conventions and mechanisms to improve the quality and standards of human rights all over the region of South Asia
7. To develop an experimental model of peace education for the region founded on the bedrock of 'peace as value' and the interlinkages between human rights, peace and democracy through its Peace Studies and Human Rights Courses
8. To focus on strengthening the peace-building capacities of two particular constituencies - women and the media.

Programs and Activities

South Asian Orientation Course in Human Rights and Peace Studies - this annual, three-month course combines dis-

tance education and a direct orientation course.

Peace Audit Exercise - deals with what is conventionally known as "internal conflicts" involving the State and the rebels, though external factors are also discussed in adequate measure wherever they are relevant. In a way, these conflicts can be again designated conventionally as "ethnic conflicts."

Women, Conflict & Peace - seeks to make women's gender a differentiated experience of conflict visible and to demonstrate that women's experience is a valuable resource in managing community survival, conflict mitigation and building peace.

Refugees & Internally Displaced People - campaigns, publications, workshops and training programs.

Media and Conflict - seeks to develop a critical dialogue from within the media about the media as a political actor in shaping and regulating social and political conflicts and affirms its responsibility to expose abuse of authority and violations of human rights and democracy.

Minority Rights - a special area of focus, including a series of workshops and training programs for activists belonging to different religious, ethnic and linguistic minorities and indigenous peoples of South Asian countries.

Publications

Some of the SAFHR publications are the following:

- No Nonsense Guide to Minority Rights. Edited by Rita Manchanda. New Delhi: Impulsive Creations (2006)
- Critical Readings in Human Rights and Peace - Ram Narayan Kumar and Sonia Muller Rappard. New Delhi - Shipra Publications (2006)
- A Pilot Survey on Internally Displaced Persons in Kathmandu and Birendranagar - Deep Ranjani Rai (2005)
- Women in the Naga Peace Process; A Case Study, in collaboration with Women Waging Peace - Hunt Alternatives Policy Commission
- We Do More Because We Can: Naga Women in the Peace Process, Rita Manchanda (2004)
- Media Crossing Border, Rita Manchanda (ed.) (2004)

Address

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Human Rights Foundation of Aotearoa/New Zealand

Year Established: 2001

Short Historical Background

In August 1999, a small group met for the first time at Vaughan Park in Auckland, to discuss the formation of an independent institution to progress human rights issues in Aotearoa/New Zealand. The meeting crystallized on-going discussions over a number of years. Two more meetings were later held in Auckland and one in Wellington which identified a high level of interest and enthusiasm from academics and practitioners across a wide range of disciplines concerned with human rights and social justice. The Foundation was formally established in December 2001.

The Human Rights Foundation is an independent Foundation for research-based promotion and advocacy of human rights from an Aotearoa/New Zealand - South Pacific perspective. It is a hub for independent human rights practitioners to exchange ideas, process research and train contacts to provide a needed focus for supporting less popular initiatives (such as advocacy for refugees) and for broader education and debate on human rights issues.

Objectives

The Foundation aims

1. To initiate and conduct research in the field of human rights
2. To publish the results of such research
3. To provide educational opportunities in the field of human rights
4. To advocate for policies which conform to human rights principles
5. To establish and maintain close links with other groups working to promote respect for and observance of human rights
6. To incorporate a Treaty perspective in all the objectives and work of the Foundation.

Programs and Activities

1. Research
 - Survey the current state of human rights research in New Zealand
 - Identify gaps in the knowledge revealed by that survey
 - Raise awareness of the need for research
 - Tender to carry out research work for the public and private sectors
 - Assemble a list of associates capable of undertaking research work
 - Arrange for senior students to undertake research
2. Publication
 - Publish occasional papers on-line and possibly in journal form
 - Arrange public lectures, seminars and workshops

- Arrange publication of feature articles in the media
 - Establish web pages
3. Education and training
 - Establish a comprehensive website
 - Tender for human rights modules in secondary and tertiary institutions
 - Undertake human rights training and other development activities in the human rights field
 - Provide training courses for human rights advocates
 - Provide knowledgeable speakers
 - Involve young people in the Foundation's work
 - Initiate public discussion
 - Involve community television
 - Initiate videos and documentaries with human interest appeal
 4. Advocacy
 - Organize briefings for Members of Parliament, local government representatives, business leaders and other special interest groups
 - Initiate and contribute to legislative and policy development
 - Conduct human rights campaigns
 5. Linkages
 - Conduct joint forums
 - Tender jointly for research projects where appropriate
 - Establish user-friendly website linkages
 - Establish and maintain links with national and international bodies (both governmental and non-governmental) and with similar institutions in other jurisdictions

Publications

- Immigration Bill 2007
- Terrorism Suppression Amendment Bill - May 2007
- Social Security Amendment Bill - March 2007
- Submission on the Composition of the Annual Refugee Quota (1/06/07 - 30/06/08) - Nov 2006
- Corrections (Mothers with babies) amendment bill - September 2006
- Human Rights (Women in Armed Forces) Amendment Bill - October 2006
- Maori Purposes Bill - September 2006
- Submission on the Government's housing strategy paper Building the Future
- Freedom's Ramparts on the Sea
- Newsletters

Address

Human Rights Foundation Aotearoa/New Zealand
PO Box 106343 Auckland City
www.humanrights.co.nz

Human Rights Commission of Pakistan

Year Established: 1986

Short Historical Background

Since 1986, the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP) has developed to become a broad-spectrum, countrywide human rights body. Nationally, the HRCP has established a leading role in providing a highly informed and independent voice in the struggle for human rights and democratic development in Pakistan - a role increasingly recognized internationally. It is an independent, voluntary, non-political, non-profit making, non-governmental organization, registered under the Societies Registration Act (XXI of 1860).

Objectives

HRCP aims

1. To work for the ratification and/or implementation by Pakistan of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other related human rights charters, covenants, protocols, resolutions, recommendations and internationally adopted norms
2. To promote studies in the field of human rights and mobilize public opinion in favor of accepted norms through all available media and forums, and to carry out every category of activity to further the cause
3. To cooperate with and aid national and international groups, organizations and individuals engaged in the promotion of human rights and to participate in meetings and congresses on human rights at home and abroad
4. To take appropriate action to prevent violations of human rights and to provide legal aid and other assistance to victims of those violations and to individuals and groups striving to protect human rights
5. To take note of and investigate by appropriate means, allegations of human rights violations, hold inquiries, recommend appropriate authority actions for redress, and to publish reports and recommendations.

Programs and Activities

- Fact-finding - an independent, objective inquiry into an event or development of concern and to build appropriate pressure for action
- Seminars on human right issues or human rights aspect of issues to create awareness or/and to influence and mobilize public opinion
- Workshops for motivators, activists and others to develop insight/skill/know-how in respect to chosen activity
- Surveys and studies in areas of concern where new formulations or findings are needed
- Publications to disseminate new information, to focus public attention or advance a point of view on issues of current concern, or as tools to coordinate activity
- Public demonstrations as a way to both mobilize people and seek to influence decision-makers
- Lobbying public representatives in the direction of the

public action being canvassed

- Legal assistance in individual cases of particular need, and court intervention on issues of general concern to HRCP
- Networking with like-minded organizations within the country and abroad (mostly with human rights bodies and in relation to human rights concerns) to exchange views and information and develop a solidarity of concern and action.

Special Concerns

Democracy, constitution, judiciary, legal profession, rights of women, children, and labor, minorities, ethnic groups, tribal people

Publications

Some of the publications of HRCP:

State of Human Rights (annual, since 1990)

Women

- Profiles of Vulnerability Female Under-trial Prisoners in Punjab (1999)
- Blood, tears and lives to live - Women in the cross fire
- Women in the Labour Force (1990)

Children

- Rights of Pakistan Children (The task ahead) (2004)
- Law on Bail for Juveniles: The need for reform (2000)

Education

- Education Budget in Pakistan (2005)
- The Primary Education and Funding in Pakistan (2004)
- Status of Primary Education after Devolution (2004)

Prison

- Law on Bail for Juveniles: The need for reform (Pakistan) (2003)
- Resource Handbook for Pakistan Prison-Based Training (2001)

Other reports

- State of Human Rights in Azad Jammu & Kashmir (2004)
- Human Rights in Balochistan & Balochistan's Rights (2004)
- Sectarian Violence in Karachi 1994-2002 (2003)
- Abolition of bonded labour in Pakistan (2003)

Address

Human Rights Commission of Pakistan
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ph (92-42) 583-8131, 586-4994
fax (92-42) 588-3582
e-mail: iar@hrpc.cjb.net; hrpc@hrpc-web.org
www.hrcp-web.org

Pakistan Institute of Human Rights (PIHR)

Year Established: 1998

Short Historical Background

The Pakistan Institute of Human Rights (PIHR) was founded on 10 December 1998, the 50th anniversary of Universal Declaration of Human Rights, by human rights advocates. It is primarily a research-based academic institution which serves as a think tank for the promotion of the universal human rights concept including all parallel human rights concepts present anywhere in the world. PIHR is a non-profit and non-political institute and is duly registered under the law of Pakistan. PIHR is committed to promoting human rights values in Pakistan, and to strengthening democratic values, justice, equality, peace, security and tolerance in Pakistani society.

Objectives

PIHR aims

1. To introduce human rights as a discipline in the universities and colleges and other academic institutions including religious madrassas with the comparative study of local values system
2. To develop a comprehensive database/library of articles, newspapers, reports, books and other accounts written or published electronically or otherwise on the topic of human rights and other related topics like politics, and policies and governance, and make them easily accessible to the members of PIHR and other researchers
3. To develop an interactive web site of "PIHR"/web portal, to publicize its philosophy and goals, to provide an online space for dialogue and sharing of views among like-minded scholars
4. To establish an e-journal, bi-lingually if possible, to provide a place for the exchange of ideas and to put forward the case of human rights in its true sense along with comparative studies of all the parallel value systems
5. To develop a comprehensive annotated bibliography that lists articles, journals, books on human rights and related topics published in any language especially in Urdu, Arabic, Persian and English with special emphasis on the topic of comparative human rights
6. To monitor the media, including newspapers, for relevant developments on human rights concept in the West
7. To develop relation/liaison and coordination with the like-minded scholars/jurists all over the country to encourage them and their work
8. To objectively analyze politically-motivated human rights reports to ascertain the exact and true human rights situation of the country or territory
9. To convene conferences, symposiums, seminars at national and international levels to highlight PIHR's point of view
12. To create liaison with the Bar Associations of the country
13. To collaborate with all the national and international

organizations involved in the promotion of human rights directly or indirectly.

Programs

1. *Human Rights Education Program* - this program aims to promote education in remote areas of Pakistan with the primary focus on the religious seminaries (Madrassas) and also to introduce human rights as a subject in academic institutions, including primary, secondary and higher education institutions.
2. *Human Rights Research and Development Program* - this program aims to promote human rights research among the research fellows in Pakistan and coordinate on-going research projects. Apart from the promotion of academic research PIHR convenes and facilitates conferences, symposiums, seminars and workshops, etc. in the field of human rights. Under this program PIHR is running a project called "Transparency Pakistan" which compiles documents and information relating to Pakistan in the areas of politics, policies, governance, law, history and international relations, etc. in order to provide the best research tool for human rights activists, politicians, policy makers and academicians alike.
3. *ESC Rights Promotion Program* - this program aims to promote all kinds of economic, social and cultural (ESC) rights with preference over civil and political rights.
4. *Civil and Political Rights Promotion* - this program promotes civil and political rights using the comparative perspectives of developing and developed nations.

Activities

PIHR biannually conducts courses on human rights education for professionals and university students at its main office or at the university auditorium.

Address

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e-mail: director@pihr.org.pk, programcoordinator@pihr.org.pk
www.pihr.org.pk

Shirkat Gah - Women's Resource Center

Year Established: 1975

Short Historical Background

Shirkat Gah - Women's Resource Center was formed in 1975, as a Collective to integrate consciousness-raising with a development perspective, and to initiate projects translating advocacy into action.

Shirkat Gah, meaning 'place of participation,' has for over the last thirty years empowered women by increasing their access to information, resources, skills and decisionmaking. In this process Shirkat Gah has brought positive change to policies, laws, and practices. Shirkat Gah has a consultative status at the ECOSOC of the United Nations.

Objectives

Shirkat Gah aims

1. To hold the state accountable and to develop a culture of peace that ensures the sustainable and equitable use of resources and the full inclusion of the rights of all people
2. To advocate and mobilize for positive changes in policies and practices from the community to the national and international levels
3. To build capacity, provide support and solidarity that enable women and their communities to make informed decisions and create new choices.

Programs

Women Law and Status (WLS) - addresses the obstacles to women's rights in Pakistan and internationally. Domestically, WLS addresses women's strategic needs by engaging with decision-makers at the provincial and national levels to bring about better laws and policies and to improve the implementation of existing rights and programs. It addresses women's practical needs by: informing women (and men) about existing rights, building local capacity and resource institutions to access rights, linking individuals and groups with support institutions and with each other, and providing legal assistance and solidarity interventions in a limited number of cases.

Women and Sustainable Development (WSD) - initiated in 1992, the program was the logical extension of Shirkat Gah's close involvement in the National Conservation Strategy (NCS) development process. Over the years the program has developed with strong advocacy, networking and publication components and Shirkat Gah is perceived as a resource center on women and environment issues.

Reproductive Health and Reproductive Rights (RH/RR) - aims to empower women to decide and act for themselves, make choices, and create options in Reproductive Health at all levels (household, community and national) by strengthening Shirkat Gah's capacity for providing relevant information, building capacity and expanding support to community-based organizations (CBOs), non-

governmental organizations (NGOs) and community groups, especially women in rural and peri-urban areas.

Publications

- Talibanisation & Poor Governance: Undermining CEDAW in Pakistan - Second Shadow Report
- Rising from the rubble: Special bulletin on the 2005 earthquake in Pakistan
- Great Ancestors: Women Asserting Rights in Muslim Context - Information & Training Kit
- Why The Hudood Ordinances must be Repealed
- Reading the Constitution: In search of Rights
- Women, Law and Society: An Action Manual for NGO's
- Women's Rights in Muslim Family Law in Pakistan: 45 Years of Recommendations vs. the FSC Judgment January 2000
- Shaping Women's Lives: Laws, Practices & Strategies in Pakistan
- From a Grain to a Pearl: True Stories from the Field
- Information Kit: Women in the Quran
- Masavi Haqooq Ki Jadujehad: Khawateen Tehreekon Ka Kirdar
- Time to Speak Out: Illegal Abortion and Women's Health in Pakistan
- Women Laws Initiatives in the Muslim World
- The Woman not the Womb: Population Control vs. Women's Reproductive Rights

Other Information

Shirkat Gah has specialized documentation centers at Karachi, Lahore and Peshawar. The Lahore Centre represents one of the most comprehensive collections of published and unpublished reading materials related to women issues. Through its precious collection the centre aims to provide a comprehensive perspective regarding women struggles for empowerment and development programs and plans. It caters the information needs of its internal and external users.

Address

Shirkat Gah - Women's Resource Centre

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www.shirkatgah.org

Simorgh Women's Resource and Publication Centre

Year Established: 1985

Short Historical Background

Simorgh is a non-government, non-profit, secular, feminist/activist organization. Its main focus is action research and the production and dissemination of information that will enable women and men to challenge the dominance of ideas that support social and economic divisions on the basis of gender, class, religion, race and nationality.

Simorgh was formed in February 1985 in response to the then military government's use of religion as a power strategy and the subsequent rise of religious extremism, the imposition of retrogressive and discriminatory legislation leading specifically to the erasure of the rights of women and religious minorities and more generally of the democratic right to the freedoms of thought, speech and expression at multiple levels.

Objectives

Believing that a more humane and equitable society that ensures women and marginalized groups a meaningful access to resources and decision making will not only help to improve their status and position in society but is also fundamental to the growth and development of democratic norms and institutions.

Programs

Simorgh places special emphasis on activities and programs that will both enable women and marginalized groups to challenge and reshape ideas and also facilitate their entry into the cultural and political mainstream. Keeping this in mind, Simorgh's work ambit includes, but is not limited to: (i) women's rights as human rights, (ii) violence against women, children and marginalized groups, (iii) education and knowledge systems, (iv) representation of women in the media, law, religion and literature etc., (v) globalization, religious extremism and women's oppression, (vi) family ideologies, (vii) women's oral histories, (viii) women's literature and women in literature, (ix) women and law.

Activities

In addition to doing a variety of publishing, Simorgh conducts seminars, conferences, income generation projects and gender awareness workshops. They have also made some important documentary films based on women's lives and struggles in Pakistan.

Simorgh's work in the past and its program for 2007-2012 includes:

- Violence Against Women
- Representation of Women in the Media
- Fundamentalism and Women's Oppression
- Women's History and Women in History
- Women's Literature
- Community mobilization: awareness raising activities with women's groups, students etc. through discussions, lectures, skill development activities

- Advocacy on women's rights with senior judges
- Human rights education and alternative history texts for young readers.

Publications

- Colonial Roots and Post-Colonial Realities, Samina Choonara and Neelam Hussain (eds) (2007)
- The Politics of Language, Samina Choonara, Samiya Mumtaz and Neelam Hussain (eds). (2005)
- Haddood Shikni ke Khwab - the Urdu translation of Fatima Mernissi's well known book, "Dreams of Trespass" translated by Yasmin Hosain (2001)
- Inner Courtyard, Khadija Mastur, translated from Urdu by Neelam Hussain (2000)
- Violence Against Women and Their Quest for Justice, Shahla Zia (1999)
- Engendering the Nation State, vols. 1 and 2, Rubina Saigol, Neelam Hussain and Samiya Mumtaz (editors) (1997 and 2008, revised English edition)

Education

- Planting the Seeds of Change - the Human Rights School Texts (1995)
"Kaleidoscope" Primers 1-5 introduce the idea of fundamental rights, tolerance and cultural diversity to readers through stories, writing exercises and activities.

The Kaleidoscope Primers were awarded the 2005 HURIGHTS OSAKA Award for human rights educational material for children. These primers are in use in over twenty-five schools in the major cities of Pakistan.

"Phuljhari" Urdu primers 1 and 2 are in print and beginning to find a market. Primers 3-5.

Primers 6-10 are planned but project completion has been deferred due to lack of financial support.

Law

- Bayan - a bi-annual socio-legal regional journal

Address

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website: www.simorghpk.org

ADDAMEER - Prisoners Support and Human Rights Association

Year Established: 1992

Short Historical Background

ADDAMEER (Arabic for conscience) Prisoners Support and Human Rights Association is a Palestinian non-governmental, civil institution, which focuses on human rights issues. Established in 1992 by a group of activists interested in human rights, the center's activities focus on offering support for Palestinian prisoners, advocating the rights of political prisoners, and working to end torture through monitoring, legal procedures and solidarity campaigns.

Objectives

Addameer aims

1. To oppose torture as well as other instances of brutality, inhumanity, and degrading inflicted upon Palestinian prisoners
2. To abolish the death penalty
3. To oppose arbitrary arrest and guarantee fair and just trials
4. To support and endorse prisoners of conscience through supporting the efforts of political prisoners and providing them with psychological, legal and media support
5. To support families of Palestinian detainees and the community at large in addressing issues of human rights violations
6. To contribute in lobbying towards the issuing of laws which guarantee human rights principles and basic freedom, as well as ensuring their implementation on the ground
7. To participate in raising awareness locally and internationally regarding the issues of human rights, democracy and the rule of law in order to promote greater community participation in securing human rights.

Programs and Activities

Legal Aid Program - since its founding, the backbone of the organization's work has been legal aid for Palestinian detainees. The Legal Aid Program of Addameer has provided legal advice and representation to hundreds of Palestinian detainees by providing free legal services to prisoners, legal consultations for them and their families, and working on cases on the issue of torture and fair trials.

Regular Prison Visits and Social Counseling - Addameer conducts regular visits to Palestinian and Arab prisoners in order to ensure that basic living conditions and situations are adequate. It also offers legal counseling to detainees and their families in order to ensure that they understand their rights and are able to address violations.

Documentation of Palestinian Detainee Rights - Addameer documents statistics concerning the numbers of detainees, the date and place of arrest, and any violations suffered by detainees.

Media Coverage and Outreach - Addameer regularly issues press releases and action alerts detailing the status of detainee rights and makes the wealth of information in its website on the issue of detainees' rights and the conditions in which they live accessible to the local and international communities. In particular, at the beginning of October 2000, Addameer launched a three-month project called the September 2000 Clashes Information Center that was considered the primary source of information regarding the situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Advocacy - through campaigning and advocacy work, Addameer works towards building local, Arab and international solidarity campaigns to oppose torture and arbitrary detention and to support and defend Palestinian prisoners.

Publications

- Status of Palestinian Political Prisoners In Israeli Prisons, Detention and Interrogation Centers
- Torture of Palestinian Political Prisoners in Israeli Prisons
- ADDAMEER Primer 2003 - Background Information on Political Detention
- ADDAMEER Fact Sheet: Palestinians detained by Israel
- Family Visits to Prisons
- Summary of Israeli Public Defenders Office Report

Address

ADDAMEER - Prisoners Support and Human Rights Association

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Occupied Palestinian Territories

Al Mezan Center for Human Rights

Year Established:

Short Historical Background

Al Mezan Center for Human Rights is a Palestinian non-governmental, non-partisan organization based in the refugee camp of Jabalia in the Gaza Strip. Al Mezan's mandate is "to promote, protect and prevent violations of human rights in general and economic, social and cultural (ESC) rights in particular, to provide effective aid to victims of such violations, and to enhance the quality of life of the community in marginalized sectors of the Gaza Strip."

Objectives

The Center aims

1. To provide a secure and long-lasting foundation for the enjoyment of human rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT)
2. To encourage the realization and development of economic, social, and cultural rights through monitoring and documenting violations of basic rights
3. To provide legal aid and advocacy and build capacity and raise awareness of the local community on such fundamental issues such as basic human rights, democracy, and international humanitarianism.

Programs and Activities

Monitoring and documentation of human rights violations - monitors and documents the human rights situation and gathers necessary information about human rights violations in the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT) perpetrated by the Israeli occupation on one side and by the responsible Palestinian entities on the other. The work focuses particularly on economic, social and cultural rights.

Awareness and capacity building - includes various activities such as:

- Training courses for a variety of groups
- "Face the Public" program - consists of meetings involving representatives of Palestinian Authority, Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC), local government, United Nations bodies or non-governmental organizations
- "Pass the Word" program - human rights consciousness-raising among university students in the Gaza Strip
- Workshops and lectures
- Annual Conference on the PNA Budget to pave the way and create a process for a more transparent and accessible budgetary process.

Legal Aid and Representation - includes the representation of prisoners of Israeli and Palestinian authorities, victims of land confiscation, home demolition, people prevented from traveling, labor and other cases and complaints in relation to violations of economic and social rights.

Legal Review - reviews draft or enacted laws in the OPT in coordination with the different actors of the civil society to meet international human rights standards.

Research and Analysis - produces analytical research reports on the situation relating to economic, social and cultural rights in the Gaza Strip and of the PNA's annual budget to make recommendations to the appropriate decision-making bodies at the local level.

Reporting and Publications - includes joint statements; monitoring reports; special incident reports; press releases; legal publications within the "Legal Guide Series" (a series of simplified studies of national laws aiming at providing ordinary people with simple, palatable and direct information on the rights included in these laws).

Resource Library - Al Mezan has developed a human rights library in the refugee camp of Jabalia that will be used as an information center for Al Mezan staff, researchers, students, and the public.

Publications

- Field Report: Violations Against Civil Society Organizations and Trade and Popular Unions Between 11 and 20 June 2007 in the Gaza Strip and West Bank- jointly submitted by Al-Mezan Center for Human Rights and Al-Haq
- Joint statement: Letter by Palestinian Human Rights Organizations submitted to Member States and Observers of the UN Human Rights Council
- Report on Infringements upon the Law and the State of Insecurity in the Gaza Strip. Gaza (2007)
- Cut-Flowers in Gaza: A Special Report on the Impacts of Israeli Rights Violations on Gaza's Cut-Flower Business
- A Manual on Priorities for Action on Issues of Child Rights

Address

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www.mezan.org

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Gaza Strip
Palestine

Mandela Institute for Human Rights

Year Established: 1990

Short Historical Background

Mandela Institute, formed January 1990, is a Palestinian human rights organization focusing its efforts on the plight of political prisoners. It is a non-profit, non-partisan organization seeking to minister to the prisoners and their families in a holistic manner, looking at the range of medical, physical, psychological, social, spiritual and educational needs.

Objectives

Mandela Institute aims to respond in a comprehensive manner to the needs of the Palestinian detainees, which is in effect the need of the whole community.

Programs

- Legal and Medical Aid to Arab & Palestinian Prisoners held in Israeli Detention Facilities
- Female Detainees in Israeli Detention facilities
- Internship Program
- Human Rights Training for Palestinian Law Enforcement Official
- "Coalition Against Torture - Preventing Torture in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories"

Activities

- Research on conditions in the Israeli prison system
- Assistance in providing doctors and medical supplies to prisoners
- Bringing books and other educational material into prisons
- Presenting to the Israeli High Court cases involving prisoners, e.g. distribution of gas masks and execution of protective measures towards prisoners in time of war
- Providing canteen supplies for indigent prisoners
- Human rights advocacy for prisoners' rights
- Monitoring conditions in solitary confinement
- Negotiating for better prison conditions

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www.mandela-palestine.org

The Palestinian Centre for Human Rights

Year Established: 1995

Short Historical Background

The Centre was established in 1995 by a group of Palestinian lawyers and human rights activists. It is an independent Palestinian human rights organization based in Gaza City. The Centre enjoys Consultative Status with the ECOSOC of the United Nations. It is an affiliate of the International Commission of Jurists-Geneva, the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) - Paris, Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network - Copenhagen, Arab Organization for Human Rights - Cairo, and International Legal Assistance Consortium (ILAC) Stockholm. It is a recipient of the 1996 French Republic Award on Human Rights and the 2002 Bruno Kreisky Award for Outstanding Achievements in the Area of Human Rights.

Objectives

The Center aims

1. To protect human rights and promote the rule of law in accordance with international standards.
2. To create and develop democratic institutions and an active civil society, while promoting democratic culture within Palestinian society.
3. To support all efforts aimed at enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their inalienable rights in regard to self-determination and independence in accordance with international Law and UN resolutions.

Programs and Activities

Documentation - gathering of accurate and documented information on human rights violations in the Gaza Strip from victims and witnesses of human rights violations through close cooperation with communities.

Legal assistance - provision of free legal aid and counseling to individuals and groups, especially Palestinian prisoners in Israeli or PNA custody, and legal intervention with concerned bodies and courts in cases that involve broad principles of human rights that affect not just the individual before the court but the community as a whole.

Democratic Development - promotion of democracy, civil society and the rule of law through research, organization of workshops and seminars to discuss issues relating to human rights and democracy.

Economic and Social Rights - promotion of the importance of economic and social rights through research, studies, workshops, and seminars focusing on economic and social rights in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Women's program - provides legal aid for women and women's organizations and acts on behalf of women in

Sharia' and civil courts, educates women on their rights enshrined in international human rights treaties and under local law, and carries out studies on Palestinian women and the law, while supporting the amendment of local laws inconsistent with women's rights. There is also an increasing focus on the rights of children and the effects of human rights violations on children.

Training - educates the general public about democracy and human rights issues and provides specialized training in these areas to enable them to put greater pressure on government officials to guarantee that their rights are not violated, and to strengthen democracy and the rule of law in Palestinian society.

Publications

a. Reports

- Weekly Reports on Israeli Human Rights Violations in the Occupied Palestinian Territories
- Annual Reports
- Issue-based reports (Closure Reports, Election Reports, Demolition & Land Sweeping Reports, Silencing the Press, Assassinations, Palestinian Medical Personnel: Between Fire and Their Work)
- Special Reports (Black Days in the Absence of Justice: Report on Bloody Fighting in the Gaza Strip from 7 to 14 June 2007, Poverty in the Gaza Strip, Deprived of Freedom, Reprisals against Civilians, Front Line Palestine: Killings, Arbitrary Detention, Restrictions on Movement, Threats)
- Al-Mentar - monthly magazine (Arabic)

b. Studies

- Confirm the kill: IOF Killings of Children during the al Aqsa Intifada (2006)
- Suffering in Isolation: A report on life under occupation in the Mawasi areas in the Gaza Strip (2003)
- Palestinian Legislative Council: Performance Evaluation (1999-2000, 2000-2001)
- The Right to Free Expression and the Right to Peaceful Assembly: The Case of the West Bank and Gaza Strip (1999, 2000)

Address

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www.pchrgaza.org

Palestinian Human Rights Monitoring Group (PHRMG)

Year Established: 1996

Short Historical Background

The Palestinian Human Rights Monitoring Group (PHRMG) was founded in December 1996 in response to the deteriorating state of democracy and human rights under the newly-established Palestinian Authority. The group was founded by a diverse group of well-established Palestinians, including Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) members, newspaper editors, journalists, a union leader, veteran human rights activists and religious leaders. The political composition of its founders is diverse - including members of many Palestinian organizations and institutions - thereby ensuring the non-partisan character of the organization.

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East Jerusalem
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fax (972-2) 5837197
e-mail: admin@phrmg.org
www.phrmg.org

Objective

The PHRMG aims to document human rights violations committed against Palestinians in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem, regardless of who is responsible. In effect, the PHRMG has dedicated much of its work to the monitoring of human rights violations committed by the Palestinian Authority.

Programs and Activities

Monitoring program - provides updates on local developments, pursues long-term monitoring tasks, and responds to urgent human rights situations in order to record the eyewitness testimonies of victims, witnesses and other actors.

Outreach program - publishes a bi-monthly report (the Palestinian Human Rights Monitor) that focuses on particular issues (torture and illegal detention, freedom of expression and the censorship of the Palestinian press, or the right to education of Palestinian children in East Jerusalem) to educate the Palestinian public on human rights and to strengthen democracy and the role of civil society.

Other Outreach activities include facilitating local and international media access to human rights issues in Palestine, initiating dialogue activities with institutions responsible for human rights violations, and implementing special projects.

The PHRMG also maintains an extensive website - both in Arabic and in English - to grant wide access to all the publications of the Monitor, unpublished reports, and additional data and statistics collected by the organization.

Publications

- The Palestinian Human Rights Monitor (bi-monthly magazine)

Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy (MIFTAH)

Year Established: 1998

Short Historical Background

MIFTAH is a non-governmental, non-partisan Jerusalem-based institution dedicated to fostering democracy and good governance within Palestinian society by promoting public accountability, transparency, the free flow of information and ideas, and challenging stereotyping at home and abroad.

Objectives

MIFTAH aims

1. To reinforce the Palestinian state-building process by ensuring democratic practices, the rule of law, and respect for human rights
2. To promote free access and flow of information
3. To empower Palestinian women and youth leaders in different fields and promote the rights and responsibilities of citizenship
4. To provide a forum for innovative public discourse and free debate on issues of Palestinian concern, bringing together decision-makers and members of civil society
5. To increase global awareness and knowledge of Palestinian realities by providing reliable, accurate and comprehensive information, policy analysis, strategic briefings and position papers.
6. To complement and solidify international efforts pertaining to cooperation and conflict-resolution based on genuine understanding of the facts, the issues at stake, and the implications of foreign policy decisions on national, regional and global realities.

Programs

- a. *Democracy and Good Governance Program* - aims at strengthening governance and the rule of law, establishing efficient and transparent systems of accountability, promoting political pluralism and participatory governance, and supporting leadership among women and youth.
- b. *Media and Information* - aims at an accurate presentation of Palestinian social, economic and political realities for the region and internationally.
- c. *External Relations* - focuses on Palestinian-US and Palestinian-European relations with a view to promoting MIFTAH's guiding principles of democracy, human rights, gender equity and participatory governance in Palestine.

Publications

- Fact Sheets
 - Youth & Politics in Palestine
 - The National Budget Cycle: Palestine
 - Engendering the National Budget
- Reports
 - Palestine in Crisis: Policy Papers (series)
- The Relation Between the Financial Dependency of

the Judiciary & Legislative Systems on the Executive and its Ramification on the Performance of the Three Bodies

- Glossary of Concepts & Definitions on Reproductive Rights
- Glossary of Concepts & Definitions on Gender

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Ramallah Center for Human Rights Studies (RCHRS)

Year Established: 1998

Short Historical Background

The Ramallah Center for Human Rights Studies (RCHRS) was established in Ramallah in 1998 by a group of academics, human rights activists and university professors who felt the need for promoting awareness and advocating the values of human rights, democracy and tolerance among the Palestinian people. Over the past decade, RCHRS articulated its mission and vision to include the valorization of tolerance and human rights, particularly educational rights and freedom of expression. RCHRS expanded its events and activities to the most remote areas of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and included in its projects and publications an ever-increasing number of university students, intellectuals, and other members of Palestinian society. It has also been releasing a growing number of periodical publications and books, and is now taking its values and successes beyond Palestine, and onto the regional and international scenes.

Objectives

RCHRS aims

1. To raise the awareness on human rights violations in Palestine, and on the need to safeguard the fundamental freedoms of all Palestinians and to ensure justice in all aspects of their life
2. To promote tolerance and to create a discrimination-free society in which pluralism is encouraged and diversity appreciated
3. To advocate freedom of opinion and expression, including intellectual freedom, and to call for democratization and not politicization of education and the independence of security forces and the national army from political parties.

Programs and Activities

Tolerance "Tasamuh" Program - Tolerance has become one of the major components of the RCHRS's identity and RCHRS has become a name synonymous with tolerance. In Palestine, RCHRS arranges a number of activities and actions in order to enhance the culture of tolerance in targeted communities.

Educational Rights Advocacy Program - this program is based on the RCHRS's conviction that education is a fundamental factor to the development of the Palestinian economy. The program includes a series of activities, which focus on ensuring legal prosecution of violations perpetuated in the educational sector.

Freedom of Thought and Expression Program - promoting and safeguarding the freedom of expression and media pluralism is one of RCHRS core activities since its inception. It is worth mentioning that RCHRS bases all its actions related to freedom of thought and expression on article 19 of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.

Democratization and Good Governance - this program is a response to the need for change in a variety of socio-political components of Palestinian life, including elections, leadership, and governance. The program aims at promoting the values of democracy, tolerance, and the rights of minorities and marginalized communities.

Publications

- Tolerance in Edward Said's Thought (2007)
- Religion and State in Palestine (2007)
- Arabs and Secularism (2006)
- Islamic Issues – Topics in Reform and Renovation (2006)
- On Religious Higher Education and Human Rights (2003)
- Freedom of Opinion and Expression: the Palestinian Experience (2003)

Tasamuh (Tolerance) and Free Education - periodical publications - collection of scholarly articles on selected themes of topical interest and a newsletter entirely run by university students, focusing on their own interpretation and criticisms of educational rights.

Other information

RCHRS is an active member of the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH). It also holds the following positions in national and international networks: the Federation of Human Rights Centers in Arab Countries (NAS, Vice President), The Arab Network for Tolerance (Coordinating Organization), Takamul Network (Member of the Executive Board and Palestine Coordinator). Finally, RCHRS is also member of the Arab Covenant for Democracy, and Middle East North Africa Action Network on Small Arms (MENAANSA).

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Palestine

Ateneo Human Rights Center (AHRC)

Ateneo de Manila University

Year Established: 1986

Short Historical Background

February 25, 1986 was the historic climax of the EDSA Revolution, otherwise known as People Power I, which toppled a government infamous for human rights violations. It became obvious immediately thereafter that much work still had to be done in the field of human rights. It was in this context that the Ateneo Human Rights Center (AHRC) was established in July of that same year by Dean Eduardo de los Angeles of the School of Law of the Ateneo de Manila University and Atty. Abelardo Aportadera.

AHRC's initial program was the Summer Internship Program, which was designed to provide law students with exposure to human rights work and advocacy and produced its first crop of interns in the summer of 1987. Since then, the Internship Program was expanded to include many other activities.

Objectives

AHRC aims

1. To form and sustain human rights lawyers and advocates in the Philippines
2. To make justice accessible to victims of human rights violations
3. To monitor and advocate for government compliance with human rights laws and instruments
4. To empower civil society towards peace, democracy, and in the pursuit of good governance and the rule of law.

Programs

The Internship Program - aims to introduce students of both Ateneo Law School and other partner law schools nationwide to grassroots life and to human rights advocacy in the Philippines.

Child Rights Desk - aims to promote and advance the rights of all children and to protect them from all forms of abuse, neglect, exploitation and discrimination through its programs and activities.

Katutubo (Indigenous Peoples Desk) - serves as the implementing arm of Free the Indigenous Peoples Legal Assistance Program of the Assisi Development Foundation, which is one component of the Human Security Framework for indigenous peoples (IPs) empowerment. It aims to address the problem of hundreds of IPs suffering in detention nationwide, possibly on false charges, by making quality legal assistance available to persons belonging to indigenous tribes.

Urduja (Women) and Migrant Workers Desks - primarily focuses in organizing and participating in regional and

national conferences on women and migrant workers. Both desks monitor the situation of the Filipino women and migrant workers and research on their issues and the possible law and policy reforms affecting them.

The Litigation Unit involves the lawyers and law students in handling human rights cases. Student volunteers, with the supervision of AHRC lawyers, interview clients, gather information, and document assigned cases.

Training and Education - AHRC conducts education and training seminars for the enhancement of human rights advocacy in the country. The topics and focus of the seminars range from lectures on national and international laws on human rights to skills development.

Law & Policy-Reform Advocacy - AHRC participates in various law and policy reform initiatives in the country to ensure that human rights instruments and standards are implemented and complied with through the various programs of government.

Publications

- Conference Proceedings on Structural Adjustment Program: Its Impact on Human Rights and Democracy (1994)
- In the Custody of the Law (1994)
- OCWs in Crisis: Protecting Filipino Migrant Workers (1995)
- Human Rights Treatise on Ancestral Domains (1996)
- Human Rights Treatise on Constitutional Law (1997)
- The Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Philippine Legal System (1997)
- Maid from the Philippines (1998)
- Legal Protection for Asian Migrant Workers (1998)
- Human Rights Treatise on Children (1999)
- Filipino Migrant Workers in Singapore, Malaysia and Brunei: What they need to know... (and What they have to tell) (1999)
- Philippine-Belgian Pilot Project Against Trafficking in Women (1999)

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Center for Asia-Pacific Women in Politics (CAPWIP)

Year Established: 1992

Short Historical Background

The Center for Asia-Pacific Women in Politics (CAPWIP) is a non-partisan, non-profit and non-governmental regional organization (NGO) dedicated to promoting equal participation of women in politics and decision-making. CAPWIP was established in 1992 by a group of women from the Asia-Pacific region who shared a vision of governance that affirms gender equality, integrity and accountability, excellence, sustainable development and peace.

CAPWIP envisions its role as a regional training center for trainers as well as a think-tank that supports the documentation, analysis and dissemination of the experiences of its national and sub-regional affiliates. By providing teams of technical experts who have the appropriate language skills and institutional experience, CAPWIP also assists its affiliates in developing total strategies to promote Women in Politics (WIP). From its inception, CAPWIP focused on the development of networking strategies that would be sustainable in the long run.

Objectives

CAPWIP aims

1. To create a critical mass of competent, committed and effective women politicians in elective and appointed positions in the government
2. To develop a responsible female citizenry
3. To influence female politicians and electorate to work together to transform politics and governance for the common good.

Programs

Organizing and Networking

- Promotes the establishment of a broad network of sub-regional and national affiliates of women in politics in the Asia-Pacific region, including support structures such as a regional network of training and research institutes
- Collaborates with women leaders, women's organizations and existing political institutes in promoting transformative politics and women's political empowerment
- Utilizes various forms of mass media as a means to enhance public awareness of the need for women's equal representation in decision-making and politics
- Organizes congresses that serve as a venue for women all over the Asia-Pacific region to share their experiences, discuss issues and articulate priority areas for action.

Training

- Develops modules and training programs for women's leadership and responsible citizenship based on the framework of transformative politics
- Conducts trainers' training for women's political em-

powerment and transformative politics.

Research and Information Sharing

- Undertakes policy analysis and various types of research on women in politics including needs assessment impact studies, documentation and analysis of best practices in politics
- Establishes data banks on women's political participation and resources on women's political empowerment and transformative politics
- Manages an interactive web network that encompasses the central office, five sub-regional focal points and national focal points
- Produces publications on women's political empowerment and transformative politics.

Activities

Advocacy and Networking

- Asia-Pacific Congress and Training of Women and Men in Media, and Women in Politics, Governance, and Decision-making on Transformative Leadership, with the theme Media and Transformative Leadership. (Makati City, the Philippines, 8-10 November 2001)
- Asia-Pacific Congresses of Women in Politics (1994 to 1998- annually, 2006)

Training

- Empowering Women for Transformative Leadership and Citizenship
- Asian-Pacific Leadership Training Institute

Research and Information Sharing

- Issues in Women's Political Empowerment in the Asia-Pacific Region
- South East Asian Country Situationers on Women in Politics
- Learning in Politics: Case Study of Women in Pursuit of Political Office in the May 1998 Philippine Elections
- Platform for Action to Promote Women's Equal Access to Power in the Asia-Pacific Region

Sub-Regional Activities

- Advocacy and Networking
- Training
- Research and Information Sharing

Publications

- Women's Political Empowerment: A Resource Book on Practices (2000)
- Transforming Politics, Women's Experiences from the Asia-Pacific Region (1998)

Other Information

CAPWIP maintains the onlinewomeninpolitics.org that provides data, information and other resources about

women in the region involved in politics, governance and decision-making. It is a digital working space for Asian and Pacific women leaders to share and exchange knowledge and information.

Address

Center for Asia-Pacific Women in Politics (CAPWIP)

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Center for Trade Union and Human Rights (CTUHR)

Year Established: 1984

Short Historical Background

In the spirit of solidarity to fight state repression and to restore workers' inherent right to life and dignity, the Center for Trade Union and Human Rights (CTUHR) was conceived by a group of religious people, labor rights advocates and trade unionists in 1984.

Its purpose is to confront state and capitalist's human rights violations not with an equally evil force but with an awareness that strength and emancipation lies in the hands of the workers themselves and in solidarity with the poor and the oppressed.

It is committed to the cause of advancing genuine, democratic, nationalist and militant trade unionism. It is against all forms of deception and coercion that seeks to derail this cause. CTUHR believes that repression can and has taken on different and subtle forms like labor legislations, and flexible employment schemes, among others, and therefore devotes herself to exposing these devious moves.

Objectives

CTUHR aims

1. To oppose and expose the repression of workers in particular and the trade union movement in general
2. To advocate against a system that violates human rights and perpetuates repression and oppression of workers
3. To establish programs to promote and to strengthen the basic workers' organizations and genuine trade unionism
4. To offer social and educational services, and paralegal assistance to workers and the victims of trade union repression and provide moral support to the dependents and relatives of disadvantaged workers
5. To build up a network with labor organizations at the local, regional and national levels in aid of forming Human Rights Committees, train and develop Human Rights Correspondents and Paralegal volunteers, and help strengthen the National Coalition for the Protection of Workers Rights (NCPWR) which it helped established in 2000
6. To establish network at the international level in pursuit of broader promotion and protection of workers' trade union and human rights.

Programs and Activities

1. *Research* - conducts in-depth investigation and research on specific issues, and economic policies and practices that directly affect workers and the exercise of their basic rights.
2. *Women empowerment* - conducts education, campaigns and advocacy on rights of women workers in industrial belts and Free Trade Zones (FTZ) toward raising their awareness, increasing their community and social participation and assisting them to organize themselves into mutual help associations or trade

unions.

3. *Public information* - informs the public on the plight of the workers, and exposes the injustices that they suffer. It conducts media work to air the side and grievances of workers to the public.
4. *Education and training* - focuses on equipping workers, semi-workers and others in the labor sector with basic knowledge on their legal and trade union rights in order to protect themselves from exploitative and repressive social and economic institutions.
5. *Network and advocacy* - builds a network with labor organizations at the local, regional, national and international levels in aid of forming Human Rights Committees and helps strengthen the National Coalition for the Protection of Workers Rights, an alliance of artists, religious, academics and other people concerned with upholding the rights of workers.

Publications

Available as downloads at the CTUHR website:

- Victims of Trade Union Killings and Massacre (January 2001-March 2008)
- Nakaliligalig na Kapayapaang Industriyal (Ulat sa Lagay ng Karapatang Pang-Manggagawa at Pantao)
- Treacherous and Disquieting Industrial Peace (Trade Union and Human Rights Report 2007)
- Trade Unions Under Siege: Workers' Rights Report 2006
- Labor Flexibilization: Dagger in the Hearts of Filipino Workers
- The Year of Living Dangerously: Workers' Rights Review 2005
- Battered Bodies and Crushed Rights: State of Filipino Workers Trade Union and Human Rights under Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's five-year administration
- Tighter Belts and Bloodied Year: Workers' Rights Review in 2004

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Coalition Against Trafficking in Women - Asia Pacific

Year Established: 1993

Short Historical Background

The Coalition Against Trafficking in Women - Asia Pacific (CATW-AP) is part of CATW International, an international network of feminist groups, organizations and individuals fighting the sexual exploitation of women globally.

In April 1993, the "Conference on Women Empowering Women: A Human Rights Conference on Trafficking in Asian Women" held in Manila, Philippines gave birth to the CATW - Asia Pacific.

CATW-AP, in partnership with its networks, initiated programs to promote women's human rights and assist victims of trafficking, prostitution, and other forms of sexual violence against women in the Asia-Pacific region.

Recently, CATW-AP successfully lobbied for a definition of trafficking that ensures the protection of victims and encourages states to address the demand side of trafficking in the Optional Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, supplementing the United Nations (UN) Convention Against Trans-national Organized Crime.

Objectives

CATW-AP aims

1. To promote awareness on women's human rights and initiate action against global sexual exploitation and violence against women, particularly prostitution and trafficking
2. To lobby against sexual exploitation in all its forms in appropriate UN bodies and other international forums, as well as in regional levels
3. To promote research on the causes, patterns and impact of prostitution and trafficking women
4. To help promote international solidarity and cooperation to combat sexual exploitation
5. To support survivors of trafficking, prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation.

Programs

Policy Advocacy:

1. At the UN level, advocacy for the development of national, regional and international instruments addressing the issues of prostitution, trafficking and all forms of sexual exploitation
2. Campaign for the ratification of the UN Optional Protocol on Trafficking of Persons Especially Women and Children, the Optional Protocol of the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the UN Convention for the Protection of Migrant Workers and their Families
3. Active participation in critical UN International Conferences such as the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights, 1994 International Conference on Population and Development, 1995 World Conference on Women, and the 2001 World Conference Against Racism

4. Campaign in support of victim and survivors of trafficking and sexual exploitation
5. Support for the Women's International War Crimes Tribunal towards a just resolution for the victims of Japanese Military Sexual Slavery.

Education, Training and Organizational Development:

1. Preventive Education Program on Women, Migration and Trafficking in high-risk communities, as well as among NGOs and concerned government agencies
2. Initiation of Community-Based Trafficker-Watch (Bantay-Bugaw) projects where local police, prosecutors and judges, village official and local leaders are oriented to prevent trafficking using local laws.

Research, documentation & publications:

1. Development, promotion and application of gender-sensitive documentation system on violence against women based on the Human Rights Documentation System (HURIDOCs)
2. Country-specific studies and analysis of patterns and trends of trafficking and prostitution, their health impacts on women, and studies on the demand side of prostitution, pornography and mail order bride industries.

Empowerment of Survivors:

1. Crisis intervention in trafficking, prostitution and other sexual exploitation cases
2. Development of counseling module for survivors
3. Referral of cases of member- and partner-organizations for legal, psycho-social and other support services
4. Support to healing, livelihood, organizing and mass movement work of survivor groups.

Video and Publications

- Shifting the Blame: A Primer on the Philippine Anti-Prostitution Bill (2007)
- Let's Get to Know R.A. 9208: The Anti-Trafficking Law (2007)
- Women in the International Migration Process (2002)
- "First Time: a digital PSA" (1998)
- Trafficking in Women and Prostitution in the Asia Pacific (1996)
- Proceedings of the Human Rights Documentation Training for Asian Women's NGO's Concerned with Violence Against Women (1996)

Address

Coalition Against Trafficking in Women - Asia Pacific (CATW-AP)

Room 308 Sterten Place, 116 Maginhawa St.

Teacher's Village, Quezon City, Metro Manila, Philippines
ph (63 2) 4269873 or 4342149

e-mail: catwap@skynet.net, catw-ap@catw-ap.org

www.catw-ap.org

DINTEG - Cordillera Indigenous Peoples' Legal Center

Year Established: 1994

Short Historical Background

DINTEG is a legal center advocating and working for the defense of Indigenous Peoples' (IPs) rights, human rights and fundamental freedoms. It was established on 10 December 1994 at the ebb of the Oplan Lambat Bitag 2 under Corazon Aquino's Administration that resulted in countless human rights violations.

On 10 December 1999, DINTEG facilitated the launching of the Cordillera Human Rights Organization (CHRO). Since then, CHRO spearheads capacity building and campaigns while DINTEG focuses on developmental legal aid.

DINTEG locates its niche in its advocacy work on indigenous socio-political systems as an integral part of the movement for the respect for the right to self-determination. DINTEG envisions a society where Indigenous Peoples enjoy the right to self-determination, and where human rights and fundamental freedoms are enjoyed fully and equally by every member of society.

DINTEG is an indigenous term for law and justice. It refers to what is just and righteous for each member of the community, and for the society in general.

It is duly registered as a non-stock and non-profit institution with the Securities and Exchange Commission of the Philippines.

Objectives

DINTEG aims

1. To contribute to the Indigenous Peoples' movement for the promotion, assertion and defense of their rights and fundamental freedoms
2. To contribute in strengthening the capacity of people's organizations and members of the community in exercising their rights
3. To promote and facilitate developmental legal aid among paralegals, lawyers and the various sectors of society.

Programs and Activities

Capacity Building - focuses on holding education and trainings for the

- Promotion of human and Indigenous Peoples' rights
- Monitoring of human rights abuses
- Formation of quick reaction teams
- Establishment of human rights networks and advocates from all sectors of society, and
- Enhancement of the role of elders in the promotion and assertion of the indigenous justice system.

Legal Services - works for the maintenance of a legal defense fund to sustain its counseling and litigation services extended to victims of violations of human and Indigenous Peoples' rights.

Campaigns - conducts various campaigns on human

rights. It spearheads activities of international and national significance for the defense, recognition and promotion of basic human rights. It continues to push for genuine peace negotiations between the Philippine Government and the National Democratic Front of the Philippines and Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

Networking and Advocacy - focuses on organizing and training lawyers, law students and paralegals in support of its legal and other services. In order to provide better service to attain its vision, DINTEG works closely with religious people and church institutions, health professionals; coordinates with local government units, military and police forces; and cooperates with international and national bodies involved with human rights concerns.

Research and Lobbying - undertakes research on the indigenous justice system and conflict management. It monitors the implementation of national laws and policies related to human rights and Indigenous Peoples including lobbying and influencing law and policy formulations.

Address

DINTEG - Cordillera Indigenous Peoples' Legal Center
#10 Rimando Rd.,
Baguio City 2600 Philippines
ph/fax: (63 74) 445-2586, 300-3489
e-mail: dinteg1@yahoo.com, char@cpaphils.org

Human Rights Seedbed

Year Established: 2007

Short Historical Background

Human Rights Seedbed was formally organized in 2007. It is a very young organization serving as the main extension program of Colegio de San Lorenzo, because the College believes that to truly achieve its mission as an educational institution it must teach the importance and ways to justice and peace through the achievement of human rights.

Address

Human Rights Seedbed
Colegio de San Lorenzo Campus
Congressional Avenue corner Jupiter Street
Quezon City, Metro Manila 1106 Philippines
ph (632) 928-0116; 920.2656
fax (632) 928-0116 local 120
e-mail: info@humanrightsseedbed.org
www.humanrightsseedbed.org

Objectives

Human Rights Seedbed promotes and protects human rights through archiving and documentation, teaching and learning, dialogue with other human rights organizations, and research and study.

Programs

Archive - HRS collects human rights documents (books, journals, newspaper clippings, convention papers, pictures, movies, linked websites) for use by human rights researchers and the general public.

Dialogue – recognizing the many similarly oriented organizations in the world, HRS offers a venue for dialogue with these organizations for a more effective achievement of common goals.

Teach & Research – it is based in an educational institution and uses this advantage to promote and protect human rights through teaching and learning programs. The educational setting also allows it to more effectively conduct human rights studies and research.

Activities

- Annual convention of human rights organizations of the Philippines
- Referral of human rights cases to organizations that are able to respond
- Quarterly teachers training seminars
- Quarterly publication and distribution of Human Rights Seedbed (The Official Journal of HRS)
- Quarterly distribution of human rights posters to various schools, universities and colleges in the Philippines
- Research initiative meetings with interested faculty members of Schools, Universities and Colleges in the Philippines
- Open invitation to interested human rights scholars to use the services of the HRS Library

Special Concerns

Education

Women and Gender

Publications

- Human Rights Seedbed - the official journal of HRS

Institute of Human Rights (IHR)

University of the Philippines

Year Established: 1989

Short Historical Background

The Institute of Human Rights (IHR) focuses on the protection and promotion of human rights, including the political, civil, economic, social and cultural rights of the people, especially those of the indigenous peoples, the urban poor, the working class and the peasantry.

The Institute is part of the University of the Philippines Law Complex, an integrated system of national legal institutions within the University whose concerns extend not only to the teaching of law but also to the provision of services responsive to current social challenges and relevant to the changing legal and law-related needs of Filipinos. Fulfilling the mandate of the Law Complex along with the IHR are the Institute of Government and Law Reform, Institute of Judicial Administration, and the Institute of International Legal Studies.

Objectives

IHR aims

1. To stimulate research and publication in specialized fields of human rights;
2. To play a key role in the development of a comprehensive human rights policy in the Philippines that will address the exigencies of human rights protection and promotion;
3. To expand the U.P. Law Complex's database on human rights through its computerization and acquisition of various materials on human rights;
4. To play a significant role in the development, promotion and protection of human rights in the Southeast Asian region
5. To take an active part in international networking for the promotion of human rights; and
6. To institutionalize student participation in the programs of the Institute, as a means of enhancing their skills and instilling in them the value of promoting the public interest.

Programs and Activities

- *Research* – the Institute focuses on selected human rights issues. The Institute has five research modules established for this purpose, working simultaneously but separately under the supervision of the Institute Director. The outputs of each module, in the form of scholarly papers or studies, are presented to the public through symposiums and the Institute's publications.
- *Training* - the Institute in cooperation with other human rights organizations sponsors specialized training courses on human rights.
- *Extension Services* - the Institute renders opinions to government agencies regarding policy and legal questions on human rights. In addition, the Institute organizes seminars, symposia, workshops, and other forums on human rights issues.

Publications

- Human Rights Agenda, Vols. 1-12, Issues # 1-6 (1996-2007)
- Manual on International Human Rights Treaties and Mechanisms
- Philippine Law and Jurisprudence on Human Rights
- Beyond Qualified Reclusion Perpetua: *Restorative Justice and Alternative to the Death Penalty*
- Towards a Gender Responsive Legislation: *Focus on the Reproductive Health Care Act*
- Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Farmers' Rights as Human Rights, Human Rights as Farmers' Rights
- The rights of Refugees and Asylum Seekers: Focus on the Philippines (*Proceedings of a Forum on Refugee Issues and Concerns*)

Other information

The research interests of the Institute encompass the entire spectrum of civil and political rights, economic, social, and cultural rights, as well as emerging human rights discourses in non-traditional areas like indigenous cultural communities, political litigation, climate change, and transitional justice. The Institute has also forged institutional partnerships with grassroots- and community-based non-governmental organizations for the purpose of conducting continuing training and capacity-building measures for advocates of urban poor and housing rights. As a pioneer human rights research institution in the country, the Institute has been successful in providing a neutral and productive venue for dialogues between the government and civil society on such issues as The Human Security Act, The Writ of Amparo, and The Memorandum of Agreement on Ancestral Domain between the Government and Moro Islamic Liberation Front peace panels. Finally, the Institute remains true to its mission of helping shape Human Rights Policy in the country by providing key policy-makers and stakeholders with scholarly studies and research outputs aimed at enabling them to craft legislations and other issuances that promote and protect human rights.

Address

Institute of Human Rights
UP Law Center
Room 105, Bocobo Hall
University of the Philippines Campus,
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fax (632) 925-5854
e-mail: ihr.claw@up.edu.ph

Karapatan (Alliance for the Advancement of People's Rights)

Year Established: 1995

Short Historical Background

KARAPATAN (Alliance for the Advancement of People's Rights) was born out of the struggles in the various human rights organizations and basic mass organizations since 1992. KARAPATAN has distinguished itself as the genuine alliance for the advocacy of the full range of human rights (civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights) along the national democratic line.

It firmly rejects the idea of 'neutrality' in the human rights movement, and wholeheartedly declares its bias for the interests of the broad masses of the people.

It was formally established during its First National Congress on 17-19 August 1995. At present, Karapatan relies on the strength of its forty component organizations, which are spearheaded by the five national human rights organizations: Task Force Detainees of the Philippines, KAPATID-Karapatan, SELDA, DESAPARECIDOS and Ecumenical Movement for Justice and Peace.

It acts as the center of the militant human rights movement and provides the proper direction to the various organizations within it. It works with broad alliances such as Bagong Alyansang Makabayan, Kilusang Mayo Uno, Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas, League of Filipino Students, and GABRIELA.

Objectives

KARAPATAN aims

1. To support the peasant struggle for land and genuine agrarian reform
2. To uphold the workers' aspiration for nationalist industrialization and genuine trade unionism
3. To support the women's struggle for gender equality and total liberation
4. To uphold the right to self-determination of the peoples of the Bangsa Moro, the Cordilleras and other indigenous peoples
5. To support the urban poor's demands for land and basic social services
6. To uphold the rights of children and the youth for social and cultural well-being and for a free, scientific and mass-based education
7. To demand observation and protection of the rights of Filipino migrant workers abroad
8. To uphold the right of the people to a clean, safe and ecologically-sound environment
9. To uphold the right of the people to fight against a tyrannical, unjust and repressive system.

Programs

Education and Training - aims to raise the people's awareness on their rights; help develop their capacity to fight for and defend their rights; and enjoin them to participate in human rights campaign and advocacy activities.

Campaign and Advocacy - aims to develop a strong public opinion and support for human rights issues and con-

cerns. It involves campaign and information dissemination activities. It also includes lobbying efforts for the defense and promotion of human rights.

Services - aims to mobilize resources for the welfare needs and legal requirements of political prisoners, torture victims, relatives of the disappeared and victims of killings, displaced families, and communities, and others. The formation of Quick Reaction Teams, which respond immediately to cases of human rights violations such as arrests, abductions, displacements, demolitions, picketline violence and others, is an integral part of the program.

Documentation and Research - aims to gather information on particular cases of human rights violations and on the general state of the human rights situation in the whole country. It sends urgent action alerts and comes out with regular analysis of the human rights situation prevailing in the country.

Network Building and Alliance Work - aims to motivate organizations, groups, and individuals to get involved in cases of human rights violations and in the activities and programs of KARAPATAN. It also establishes partnerships with genuine multisectoral alliances in the country.

Publications

- For Human Rights
- KARAPATAN Monitor - quarterly update of facts and figures covering human rights violations
- Report ng Special Rapporteur sa mga pagpaslang na extrahudisyal, biglaan o walang dahilan, Philip Alston - Misyon sa Pilipinas
- The 2007 Year-End Report on the Human Rights Situation in the Philippines
- Karapatan 2005 Human Rights Report

Address

KARAPATAN

(Alliance for the Advancement of People's Rights)

- National Office

2F, Erynthrina Bldg., #1 Maaralin St. corner Matatag St.,

Central District, Quezon City 1100 Philippines

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www.karapatan.org

The Legal Rights and Natural Resources Center Kasama sa Kalikasan/Friends of the Earth Philippines

Year Established: 1987

Short Historical Background

The Legal Rights and Natural Resources Center-Kasama sa Kalikasan (LRC-KsK) was founded on 7 December 1987 by activist lawyers who wanted to use the law to rectify injustices and empower marginalized sectors, specifically indigenous peoples and upland rural poor communities. The prevailing injustice and repression during President Ferdinand Marcos' Martial Law regime and even under successive governments in its aftermath reflect the lamentable fact that the legal system has not been serving its proper purpose as an instrument by the people to seek redress.

LRC-KsK envisions a society where the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities are respected, recognized and upheld. It aspires to have a society for all women and men where the ownership, use, management, conservation of natural resources are carried out in a democratic, ecologically sustainable, culturally appropriate, economically viable, gender just and equitable manner.

It is a policy and legal research and advocacy institution. It is organized as a non-stock, non-profit, non-partisan, cultural, and scientific and research foundation duly registered with the Philippine Securities and Exchange Commission. The organization is also the official Philippine affiliate of Friends of the Earth International.

Objective

LRC-KsK's overall mission is to work for the empowerment of marginalized peoples directly dependent on natural resources through a dynamic, cohesive and independent organization of dedicated, committed and fulfilled women and men working with communities of direct users of natural resources.

Programs and Activities

Policy Research - LRC-KsK develops policy recommendations, legal researches and critiques that are relevant to the needs of communities. In developing policy options, LRC-KsK suggests culturally appropriate, ecologically sound, gender-just and sustainable legal policy options derived from the experiences of the affected sectors together with relevant scientific researches. It engages legislative and executive forums and other venues to assert and advocate the communities' issues and concerns.

Legal Service - LRC-KsK provides relevant and quality legal assistance to marginalized indigenous peoples and rural communities. It assists partner communities, people's organizations, non-governmental organizations, federations and alliances in analyzing laws and providing information and legal options on specific areas within its mandate. Policy briefings and paralegal trainings are held to strengthen the communities' understanding of laws and policies affecting indigenous peoples and natu-

ral resources. Cases are filed in courts whenever deemed fit by the communities in the context of their own campaigns and struggles.

Campaign and Networking - LRC-KsK links up with various organizations in the local, national and international communities and support groups on issues crucial to its advocacies. It offers support to community initiatives and local actions by carrying out campaigns and projecting their issues at the local, national and international levels. Its active engagement of the media aims to bring communities' issues and concerns to the general public.

Special Concerns

LRC-KsK has developed expertise on the issues of indigenous peoples' rights, resource tenure, natural resource management, forestry, mining, energy, and local community actions.

Publications

- *Philippine Natural Resources Law (Philnajor)* - a regular publication of LRC-KsK which aims to deepen the consciousness of community organizations and public and private institutions on the equitable allocation and use of natural resources.
- *The Tan-Awan* - a regular LRC-KsK magazine that tackles various up-to-date issues concerning its main advocacies. Each issue uses a multi-lingual approach in presenting fast facts of featured communities, community updates, media statements, and analysis of socio-political contexts in which indigenous peoples and rural upland communities live.
- *Issue Papers*: present analysis of policies and recommendations for policy change.

LRC-KsK has also published books and materials on trade, indigenous peoples, natural resources, special laws, etc.

Address

Legal Rights and Natural Resources Center-Friends of the Earth (Philippines)
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fax (632) 920 7172
e-mail: lrcksk@lrcksk.org
www.lrcksk.org

Moro Human Rights Center

Year Established: 1987

Short Historical Background

The Moro Human Rights Center (MHRC) is a non-governmental organization that pioneers human rights work for the Moro people. It was established on 20 November 1987. Through its programs, the MHRC plays its role in the protection and promotion of the Moro people's human rights.

Objectives

MHRC aims

1. To facilitate in the development of a progressive human rights movement that will promote the Moro people's human rights
2. To lobby for policy proposal on the ancestral land claim of the Moro people
3. To work for the realization of a Moro people's declaration of human rights
4. To respond to the needs of all Moro victims of human rights violation and continuously monitor the Moro human rights situation
5. To establish and strengthen a distinct center that is truly sensitive and responsive to the human rights concerns of the Moro people
6. To establish and strengthen concrete project on Moro women and children internal refugees as direct and immediate beneficiary-partners and eventually work for the establishment of a separate program for them.

Programs

- Research and Documentation
- Advocacy and Campaigns
- Relief and Rehabilitation
- Trainings, Education and Organizing

Address

Moro Human Rights Center (MHRC)

27-D Matapat Street,

Barangay Pinyahan

Quezon City, Metro Manila

Philippines

ph (632) 433-6816

e-mail: morohumanrights@yahoo.com; mhrc@edsamail.com.ph

<http://kalilintad.tripod.com>

National Institute for Policy Studies (NIPS)

Year Established: 1989

Short Historical Background

Since its inception in 1989, the National Institute for Policy Studies (NIPS) remains to be the principal political institute that undertakes programs for the promotion of liberalism and democracy in the Philippines. As an Institute committed to liberal politics, it necessarily works closely with the Liberal Party and other liberal groups and organizations. However, it is registered under Philippine laws as an independent, non-profit organization with a separate legal personality from other organizations and parties. It is governed by a Board of Trustees composed of persons of known independence, integrity and respectability and is administered by an Executive Director. A majority of the members of the board are either active members or officers of the Liberal Party in the Philippines or are otherwise its supporters in some other way.

Objectives

NIPS aims

1. To heighten the people's level of awareness of their civil, political and human rights, of political, economic and socio-cultural institutions and processes, and of structures of power
2. To equip the people with the necessary orientation and skills to enable them to participate actively and substantially in political, economic and socio-cultural affairs
3. To support the formation of independent viable and strong self-help, community and sectoral organizations as vehicles for the people's effective intervention in local and national policy-making
4. To facilitate exchange of views and consensus-building on key policies and programs that address critical local, national and regional issues
5. To promote solidarity and partnership with similarly inclined individuals and institutions on both regional and international basis.

Programs

Public Dialogues and Education - a continuing activity of seminars, conferences, workshops, dialogues and consultations among leaders of the civil society, youth organizations, professional groups, basic sectors and various democratic interest groups nationwide.

Research and Publication - a continuing activity which aims to:

- Gather data and undertake surveys and studies to be used as bases for analyzing political and civic development and trend
- Draw up policy papers proposing policy recommendations and action programs on key political and social issue
- Publish an official newsletter to update members as well as individuals and institutional friends on the program and activities of the Institute and serve as

a regular forum for exchange and dissemination of ideas

- Develop education materials for use in the different levels of political and civic education and training
- Publish proceedings of conferences, seminars and workshops.

Activities

- Continuing political and civic dialogues and education. This has three basic publics
 - Liberal Party leaders through caucuses on issues of national significance and strategic importance (policy), series of lectures on basic liberalism and its relevance and application in the Philippines (ideological), local development governance (post-victory governance), political campaign management (electoral)
 - Liberals Party members through basic orientation on liberalism and democracy, institutional- and capability-building and organizational development, seminars on urgent issues of politics, economics and society
 - Allied and likeminded civil society groups, sectoral organizations and individual friends and colleagues through forums on burning issues of the day
- Policy caucus series - intended to generate policy statements and papers for the executive and legislative agenda and program of the Liberal Party, e.g., extension of agrarian reform's full implementation
- Continuing support to allied organizations through institution- and capability-building workshops, seminars and meetings in the areas of strategic planning, organizational and programs development.

Special Concerns

Liberalism and democracy in the Philippines

Publications

- The Steadfast Keepers: Keeping Alive the Vision of Liberal Democracy in the Philippines, Raul A. Daza, Florencio B. Abad, J.I. Angeles (2006)
- Electoral Campaign Management: A Manual on Vote-Getting and Vote-Protection Strategies (2004)
- Liberal Views on Constitutional Reform. Series on Freedom and Democracy, Antonio Eduardo B. Nachura, Jonathan E. Malaya (eds.) (2003)

Address

National Institute for Policy Studies (NIPS)
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Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
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www.nips.org.ph

Philippine Human Rights Information Center (PhilRights)

Year Established: 1991

Short Historical Background

PhilRights is the research and information center of the Philippine Alliance of Human Rights Advocates (PAHRA), one of the biggest human rights coalitions in the country. Established in 1991, PhilRights seeks to meet and service the research and information needs of PAHRA member-organizations and the general public.

Objectives

PhilRights aims

1. To deepen awareness, knowledge and understanding of PAHRA member organizations and the general public about human rights conditions, issues and mechanisms
2. To work for a dynamic human rights movement that is able to mobilize sectors and groups for timely and effective intervention in the promotion and defense of human rights by making available human rights information and tools in information handling and dissemination
3. To help ensure state compliance with its human rights obligations through active monitoring and engagement
4. To strengthen cooperation and partnership with local and international networks in the conduct of human rights activities through lively exchange and sharing of information
5. To enhance the capability of human rights organizations in the promotion and defense of human rights through education and training on research, advocacy and information handling and dissemination.

Programs

1. *Human Rights Research Program* – aims to develop an institutional research agenda responsive to the needs/concerns of the human rights community/movement and those of its member organizations
2. *Human Rights Education and Training Program* – directed at raising understanding on human rights concepts, principles and approaches; expanding people's understanding and appreciation of various human rights issues/concerns; sharpening the analysis on human rights issues/problems, of PAHRA member-organizations, grassroots' communities, schools and basic sectors.
3. *Human Rights Information Program* – focuses on the popularization and dissemination of human rights and their approaches, and includes
 - Online resource center – human rights data/statistics, materials, situationers, analyses
 - Library – human rights materials, documents, books, publications, photos, video documentaries, modules on various human rights issues/concerns
 - Regular Publications
 - IEC Materials – posters, primers, stickers, comics, video documentaries etc.
 - Information dissemination – forums, workshops, dialogues, conferences, etc.

4. *Human Rights Monitoring and Documentation Program* – aims at scrutinizing and documenting compliance of the major branches of government (i.e. executive, legislative, judiciary) with their human rights obligations, including the State's submission of timely reports to treaty monitoring bodies.

Activities

1. *Human rights research* – covers several issues such as the mining situation in the Philippines, death penalty and women, Moro and Indigenous Peoples, child soldiers, economic, social and cultural rights indicators, legislature and human rights
2. *Human rights education and training* – includes the following activities: Basic Human Rights Orientation, Human Rights and Mining, Rights-Based Approach (RBA) & Mining, Human Rights Monitoring and Documentation, CRC and Child Rights' Programming
3. *Human rights publication.*

Publications

- Human Rights Forum (HRF) – a quarterly magazine
- In Focus: A Semestral Human Rights Situationer – bi-annual
- The Situation of Women on Death Row in the Philippines (2006)
- Elements of Restorative Justice Among the Moro and Indigenous Peoples' Justice System (2006)
- The Phenomenon of Child Soldiers in the Philippines (2005)
- Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Indicators from a Grassroots View (2004)
- Monitoring Economic, Social & Cultural Rights: The Philippine Experience (1997)
- Inside the Chambers: The Performance of the Ninth Congress on Human Rights (1996)

Video documentaries produced:

- The Killing of Juan dela Cruz (The Death Penalty in the Philippines) (2005)
- Moving Mountains (Mining in the Philippines) (2004)
- Bangsamoro: Isang Sulyap sa Kanilang Pakikibaka – a video documentary on the continuing struggle of the Bangsamoro people in the Southern Philippines towards self-determination
- The Headhunters' Shadow – a video about the Cascanan Dam project in Nueva Vizcaya and its effects on the Bugkalot people.

Address

Philippine Human Rights Information Center (PhilRights)
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www.philrights.org

Psychosocial Support and Children's Rights Resource Center (PST CRRC)

Year Established: 1993

Short Historical Background

The Psychosocial Support and Children's Rights Resource Center (PST CRRC) began in 1993 as a special program under the Peace, Conflict Resolution, and Human Rights Program of the Center for Integrative and Development Studies of the University of the Philippines (UP CIDS PST). Its creation allowed for the mainstreaming and institutionalization of psychosocial trauma and human rights concerns in the academe. In 2006, the UP CIDS PST took the bold step of becoming a non-stock, non-governmental organization.

Now known as the Psychosocial Support and Children's Rights Resource Center (PST CRRC), it continues to engage in research, training, advocacy, networking, and providing up-to-date and relevant materials and resources on psychosocial support and childhood and children's rights.

Objectives

PST CRRC aims to:

1. Undertake research on psychosocial support and children's and childhood issues that are relevant to policy and program development and implementation
2. Apply research-derived theories and methodologies in training, program development, advocacy, evaluation, and further research
3. Explore, identify, assess, utilize, and disseminate alternative forms of intervention to caregivers, communities, children, and survivors of natural disasters, violence, armed conflict, and other similar events
4. Publish and disseminate its research and findings to the public
5. Organize conferences, workshops, trainings, or seminars to discuss issues on and formulate policies in providing psychosocial support and children's rights
6. Provide information, materials, and resources on psychosocial support and children's rights to direct service providers, academics, students, and the general public.

Programs and Activities

Research - covers a wide range of children's issues such as sexual abuse, violence against children, child domestic workers, trafficking, children in conflict with the law, child pornography and other issues that impact on the lives of children. It is meant to contribute to the formulation of policies and programs that have made positive impacts on the lives of children and the protection of their rights as mandated by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

Capacity-building - with the involvement of parents, social workers, teachers, non-governmental organization (NGO) practitioners, members of the police, researchers, and other similar key stakeholders, the activities are meant to make the children become more aware of their rights and capacitated to demand them.

Disaster response - the activities develop the capacities of people who respond to emergencies, enable them to face disasters through a psychosocial approach that recognizes and strengthens the resilience and capacities of adults and children in communities.

Monitoring and evaluation - aims to assess the soundness and appropriateness of the practices of various children-oriented organizations in caring for the welfare of children and upholding their rights.

Advocacy - aims to create political processes and social relations that ensure the protection of the rights of children as children and as human beings. Another goal is to enable children to participate in all arenas of society.

Resource Center - it has over 15,000 books, articles, audiovisual materials, and various resource materials and documents on childhood, children's rights and issues, psychosocial support, and human rights. It has online database accessible through the following websites: www.psychosocialnetwork.org/resources.htm and www.child-protection.org.ph/databases/db3index.ad

Publications

Below are some of the publications produced in the past several years:

- Behind the Mask: Experiences of Children in Conflict with the Law from Rural and Non-Major Urban Areas, Arnie C. Trinidad, Anne Adelaine Manzano, and Marco Paa Puzon (Manila: Plan Philippines, 2006)
- Field Action Guide for Psychosocial Assessment of Children and Communities in Emergencies (REPSN, UNICEF-EAPRO, 2006)
- Child Pornography in the Philippines, Arnie C. Trinidad (Manila: UNICEF-Manila and PST UP CIDS, 2005)
- Raising One Voice: A Training Manual for Advocates on the Rights of Child Domestic Workers, Agnes Zenaida V. Camacho, Faye G. Balanon, and Arnie C. Trinidad (Bangkok: Child Workers in Asia, 2005)

Address

Psychosocial Support and Children's Rights Resource Center (PST CRRC)

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Salonga Center for Law and Development (Salonga Center)

Year Established: 2006

Short Historical Background

The Salonga Center for Law and Development (Salonga Center) was formally launched by Jovito R. Salonga, PhD on 26 August 2006 at the College of Law, Silliman University (Dumaguete city, Negros Oriental, Philippines). The Salonga Center deals with a range of issues affecting today's society such as environmental degradation, crime, poverty, the violation of human rights, labor and agrarian issues, and the effect of globalization on local development. The Salonga Center believes that pursuing and promoting equitable solutions to the challenges posed by these issues is the key to directing the social, political, and economic forces that influence Philippine development in the new millennium.

Salonga Center pioneers what it calls Transformative Law – the study and application of law to transform society, shape policies through advocacy, legal education, research, training, and service learning. Transformative law brings the law beyond the courts and the classrooms and to the barrios, barangays, the local government units, the policy makers, and national and local legislators.

Objective

The Silliman University College of Law aims to teach law with a conscience - that kind of law which, to paraphrase our Lord and Savior, brings good news to the poor, liberates the captives, gives hope to the blind, and sets at liberty those who are oppressed. This is the kind of law that will eventually transform our society into a just, compassionate, and prosperous society.

Programs and Activities

In pursuit of this goal, the College of Law has embarked on strengthening and expanding its current programs, namely the Free Legal Counseling Program, the Legal Environmental Advocacy Program (LEAP), and its field exposure programs, through the Salonga Center. Three core elements guide the Salonga Center in its programs and operations: Legal Education & Training, Legal Advocacy, and Research.

Salonga Center's research program aims to provide independent statistics on various issues such as population, health, economic growth, and political participation, and to critically analyze Philippine and international laws. Opinions and analyses will then be incorporated in a publication which will be made available to government offices, academic institutions, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

Activities

PAHINUNGOD – community-based activities that provide information and assistance on legal matters to various barangays (communities) within and outside the province of Negros Oriental.

Salonga Center on Air – a one-hour radio program (at

DYEM 96.7 Energy FM) discussing local legal issues

Workshop – aimed at increasing the awareness of various sectors of society (students, teachers, barangay leaders, government officials) on laws and legal mechanisms relating to significant issues such as elections, and government system.

University Convocation – lecture on issues of national significance by well-known personalities in the fields of law and politics.

Thursday Forum - an avenue for the different sectors of the community to discuss and analyze different societal issues, to educate and inform the public about them, and to come up with possible solutions.

Other Information

Some of the specific research interests of the Salonga Center:

1. Creation of special courts to handle violations of traffic rules, ordinances and other small claims
2. Revisiting the developmental programs of the government, such as agrarian reform, Filipinization program, etc. to determine if they have promoted economic and social development. The research will utilize comparative research to study similar issues and programs in other countries, and use the research results to enhance Philippine development
3. "Shepardize" Philippine law and jurisprudence. Considering the magnitude of the undertaking, this remains just a dream project.

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Scalabrini Migration Center

Year Established: 1987

Short Historical Background

The Scalabrini Migration Center (SMC) is a non-profit research institute established in 1987 and based in Manila, Philippines.

SMC is dedicated to encouraging and facilitating the study of socio-demographic, economic, political, psychological, historical, legislative and religious aspects of human migration and refugee movements from and within Asia.

SMC is a member of the Federation of Centers for Migration Studies (FCMS) "G.B. Scalabrini," which is responsible for the publication of some of the major journals on migration studies. SMC is also an associate member of the UNESCO-MOST, Asia-Pacific Migration Research Network (APMRN) and of the Philippine Migration Research Network (PMRN), and the Philippine Migrants Rights Watch.

Objectives

SMC aims

1. To encourage the interdisciplinary study of migration in Asia-Pacific
2. To contribute to the development of informed policies that will ensure respect for the rights and dignity of migrants
3. To promote greater solidarity with migrants and with institutions and individuals working for migrants welfare.

Programs and Activities

Research - aims to shed light on the many facets and dimensions of migration in the Philippines and in the region.

Among the researches SMC has conducted are: the impacts of migration on the children and families left behind, solo-parenting, female migration, international marriages between Filipino women and foreign men, migration and entrepreneurship, evaluation of the Pre-Departure Orientation Seminars (PDOS), assessment of pre-departure information programs, Filipino migration to Peninsular Malaysia and Sabah, assessment of HIV vulnerability in migration in the BIMP-EAGA region, the return and reintegration of Filipino women migrants, unauthorized migration in Southeast Asia and migration information system in Asia.

SMC periodically organizes international conferences on migration, such as the following:

- Human Rights of Migrant Workers: Agenda for NGOs, 1992
- Migration and Trade: Implications for the Philippines, 1995
- Asian Women in Migration, 1995
- The Impact of the Crisis on Migration in Asia, 1998
- Migrations in Asia and Europe in Contemporary Times: Exploring Transnationalism, Multiple Linkages and De-

velopment, 2005

- Faith on the Move. Towards a Theology of Migration in Asia, 2006
- Turning Transnational? International Migration and Development Prospects in the Philippines, 2007

Publications

- Orgoglio e Pregiudizio (2005)
- Preparing to Work Abroad - Filipino Migrants' Experiences Prior to Deployment (2004)
- Hearts Apart - Migration in the Eyes of Filipino Children (2003)
- Exodus Series, A Resource Guide for the Migrant Ministry in Asia
- Unauthorized Migration (2003)
- Asia-Pacific Migration Journal (APMJ)
- Asian Women in Migration, Graziano Battistella and Anthony Paganoni (eds.) (1996)
- Migration from the Philippines, 1975-1995. An Annotated Bibliography, Joyce Yukawa (1996)
- Directory of NGOs for Migrants in Asia (second edition) (1997)
- Human Rights of Migrant Workers: Agenda for NGOs, Graziano Battistella (ed.) (1993)
- Inter marriages in International Contexts: A Study of Filipino women married to Australian, Japanese and Swiss men, Desmond Cahill (1990)
- Philippine Labor Migration: Impact and Policy, Graziano Battistella and Anthony Paganoni (eds.) (1992)

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Women and Gender Institute (WAGI)

Miriam College

Year Established: 1999

Short Historical Background

Maryknoll College (now Miriam College) was one of the pioneers in introducing women's studies in the Philippines during the 1970s. In 1987, the Women's Resource and Research Center (WRRRC) was established on campus to address the "integrative needs of women's research, action and scholarship towards social transformation based on truth, justice, and peace."

Currently, the Women and Gender Institute (WAGI) continues the pioneering efforts of the WRRRC with its renewed efforts in charting new directions for the school's women and gender programs through initiatives in gender-fair education, feminist research and advocacy on women's rights. It offers a cross-discipline perspective on women's empowerment that is interlinked with democracy, human rights, social justice and value formation. WAGI became operational in the Second Semester of School Year 1999-2000, under the presidency of Dr. Patricia B. Licuanan.

Objectives

WAGI aims to provide services in gender-fair education, young women's leadership formation, feminist scholarship, and gender mainstreaming in public policy, to academic and non-academic organizations and institutions in the Philippines and in the Asia Pacific region.

Programs

Gender Fair Education Program - mainstreams the perspectives, values and strategies related to the integration of women's rights and gender equality and equity in the curriculums, teaching, student development and administration at Miriam College.

International Human Rights & Governance Program - undertakes consultancy work, research and trainings on women's human rights and empowerment. It aims to popularize the United Nations instruments and other international agreements on women's rights through education, training, and advocacy.

Young Women Leadership Program - supports leadership formation of Miriam College students through collaborations with various academic units, service offices and student organizations on campus. WAGI also reaches out to student and youth formations on other campuses, particularly the member-schools of the Consortium of Women's Colleges (CWC).

Gender, Development & Economic Globalization Program - generates information and analyses based on critical feminist perspectives on aid, development, trade and economic globalization in support of people's advocacy and social movement building. It is the base for regional coordination of two international knowledge, research

and advocacy networks, namely Development Alternatives with Women for A New Era (DAWN) – Southeast Asia and International Gender and Trade Network-Asia.

Gender Peace and Security Program - through research, education, exchanges and advocacy, the program seeks to highlight the gender dimensions of war and militarism, respond to the needs and issues of women in conflict and post-conflict situations, and facilitate the articulation of an alternative security paradigm that placed gender justice at the center.

Migration Studies and Research Program - this is an interdisciplinary program committed to the critical study and analysis of contemporary migration in the context of globalization and transnational processes. The program aims to generate knowledge and competencies in order to contribute to an informed and critical discourse on migration issues.

Publications

- "Third Report on the Advancement of Women in ASEAN: Gender Dimensions of Globalisation and Regional Integration." Francisco Josefa (Project Director). Indonesia: The ASEAN Secretariat (2007)
- How to do Things with Fear: Language and the Production of Christian Pride and Muslim Prejudice, Israel, Lorna (2005)
- "Negotiation Kit for Beijing + 10: Little Purple Book". The proceedings of the Asia Pacific NGO Forum on Beijing + 10 held on 30 June to 3 July 2004 at Mahidol University. Quezon City: WAGI (2005)
- From De Jure to De Facto Rights: Towards a Framework of Strengthening Implementation of CEDAW in the Philippines, Eleanor Conda, et al. with funding support from UNIFEM (2005)
- "Voices 2005 and Beyond". Proceedings of the Asia Pacific NGO Forum on Beijing + 10 "Celebrating Gains... Confronting Emerging Issues" (30 June – 3 July 2004)

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Womenlead

Year Established: 2000

Short Historical Background

Women's Legal Education, Advocacy and Defense (WOMENLEAD) Foundation, Inc., established in June 2000, envisions itself as a nationally recognized non-governmental organization (NGO) of feminist legal advocates and activists that contributes to the development of communities where women's human rights are recognized, respected, protected and realized. It provides strategic feminist legal interventions for the promotion of human rights and sexual and reproductive empowerment of women and girls.

Objectives

Womenlead aims

1. To create a policy environment conducive to advocacy for changes in the legal system towards addressing the needs of women and girl-children
2. To raise the consciousness of the general public on women's and girl-children human rights and sexual reproductive (SR) rights
3. To build the capacity of stakeholders for the empowerment of women and girl-children
4. To provide feminist strategic legal intervention that is affordable, appropriate, empowering and responsive to the needs of women and girl-children
5. To develop strong partnerships with various stakeholders towards a more effective advocacy and service delivery.

Programs and Activities

1. *Legal Services Program (LSP)* - provides legal services to female survivors of rape, sexual harassment, trafficking in persons, intimate partner abuse and other forms of violence against women (VAW) and discrimination.
2. *Legal Education and Training Program (LET)* - includes implementation of training programs, designs and modules for a wide range of audience on various issues of women's human rights. The Comprehensive Paralegal Training Program (CPTP) was among the first implemented by Womenlead for its partner-NGOs working on VAW.
3. *Public Policy Advocacy (PPA) Program* - Womenlead links with other NGOs and people's organizations (POs) in policy and legal advocacy and campaigns.

Womenlead has been actively involved in the legislative advocacy for the passage of the Anti-Trafficking Law of 2003 (RA 9208) and the Anti-Violence

Against Women and Their Children Act of 2004 (RA 9262), currently advocating for the passage of the Reproductive Health Bill as well as opposing bills filed by conservative members of the House of Representatives calling for the ban on contraceptives, granting health workers the right to refuse to give reproductive health services on religious grounds, and widening the scope of abortion which is a criminal act under the present law.

The PPA program also covers media and public advocacy. Womenlead releases public statements, position papers and press releases on various issues on women's human rights through print, radio and television media.

4. *Research and Documentation (RD) Program* - Womenlead produces a number of materials including journal, monograph, primer, book, magazine, and other unpublished materials.

Publications

- Women's Journal on Law and Culture, two volumes (2001, 2005)
- Womenlead Monograph Series 2005 (several issues)
- Primers
 - RH is HR: A Primer on Reproductive Rights, Venus B. Cruz (2007)
 - Girls in Law: Laws Affecting Young Women, Carolina S. Ruiz-Austria and Venus Cruz (2005)
 - When Breaking Up is Hard Not to Do: A Primer on the Laws Affecting Marriage, Minerva Quintela and Carolina S. Ruiz-Austria (2005)
 - Justice Beyond Bars: A Guide to Civil Cases for Women, Mae Nina Reyes-Gallos (2005)
 - A Guide to the Violence Against Women and Their Children Act of 2000, Claire Angeline P. Luczon (2005)
 - How To Handle Searches and Seizures: Primer for Reproductive Health Service Providers, Mae Nina Reyes-Gallos (2004)
- Book
 - Heresy, Carolina S. Ruiz-Austria (ed.) (2005)
- Magazine
 - Ripples - supplementary magazine for Women's Journal on Law and Culture, Reshaping the World (2003).

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Association of Women for Action and Research (AWARE)

Year Established: 1985

Short Historical Background

Inspired by the 1984 seminar "Women's Choices, Women's Lives" where a panel of women spoke to an audience of about fifty people, a few good women got together and started AWARE. Thanks to the solid, consistent pursuit of AWARE's vision for gender equality and to the unswerving dedication of its members and volunteers, the organization has grown to become a significant contributor to Singaporean society and is recognized from grassroots up to government levels.

Objective

AWARE seeks to identify areas for improvement in gender equality, encourage positive change, and support women in realizing their highest potential. It believes that gains made by women are not gains made at the expense of men. Rather, they are gains that benefit families and society as a whole.

Programs

Over the years AWARE has focused on Research & Advocacy aimed at identifying and researching areas for improvement in gender equality. The AWARE office also features a comprehensive library of resources dealing with women's issues that is open to members and researchers by appointment.

Through Public Education, AWARE aims to support women to reach their highest potential. AWARE's public education addresses issues such as body image, gender stereotypes, and violence against women. Current programs include Comprehensive Sexuality Education and Financial Intelligence Training, as well as ongoing lectures at educational institutions.

AWARE offers Direct Services to Singaporean women in need, which include the Helpline, Befrienders Program, Legal Clinic, and Counseling Services. AWARE has helped an average of two hundred women per month with these services.

Activities

1. Research & Advocacy

- Sexual Harassment in the Workplace – studies awareness, opinions and attitudes of sexual harassment in the Singapore workplace
- Body Image - looks at health issues arising from obsessions of the body and the struggles young women have with self-esteem, self-confidence and well-being
- Consumer Watch - looks into enabling women to make informed purchasing decisions
- Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) – continues research on women in Singapore for the United Nations and educates Singaporeans on its research

- GEMS (Gender Equality Men of Singapore) – discusses the experience of being a man, by men

2. Public Education

- Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) - workshops aimed at providing young women with comprehensive information about their sexual health
- Self-Defense Workshops – short classes to educate women on how to protect themselves from an attack
- Lecture Series – one-hour talks to educate students on current issues affecting women
- Body Image Campaign – programs coordinated with local students to promote healthy lifestyles and positive image
- The Think Box, by AWARE - public forum to discuss topics in society, work and life
- AWARE on Facebook – a group on the popular networking website where members can write issues that interest them

3. Direct Services

- Helpline – attends to callers in need of counseling and provides referral services
- Legal Clinic – provides women with free legal information and advice at a monthly clinic
- Befrienders – provides on-site support to women in need by accompanying them to police stations, family courts, hospitals, and other help centers
- Counsellors – assists women by providing individualized and group counseling, self-development workshops, and group therapy

Publications

- Books
 - Small Steps, Giant Leaps: A History of AWARE and the Women's Movement in Singapore (2007)
 - Rape: Weapon of Terror (2000)
- Reports
 - CEDAW Shadow Report (2007)
 - Foreign Bride Report: Beyond Happily Ever After (2006)
 - Beyond Borders: Sex with Children - Implementing Extra-territorial Legislation for Singaporeans (2006)
- Awareness Annual Journal (Collection of Essays, Poetry and Interviews) (1995-2007)

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Think Centre - Singapore

Year Established: 1999

Short Historical Background

Think Centre is an independent non-governmental organization (NGO) in Singapore. First registered as a business (RCB) on 16 July 1999 and today as a society (under ROS) on 20 October 2001.

Objectives

The Centre aims to critically examine issues related to political development, democracy, rule of law, human rights and civil society in Singapore. It aims more specifically

1. To facilitate communication within the civil society platform that will include individuals, non-governmental organizations and others with similar objectives
2. To cultivate awareness, appreciation and understanding of civil, socio-economic and political perspectives, realities and alternatives
3. To foster a sense of duty to participate in the nation's political process and civil society.

Programs

- Human Rights Watch
- Labour Watch
- Policy Watch
- Media Watch
- Election Watch
- Community Relations
- Publications
- Networking

Activities

Think Centre's activities include research, publication, organizing of events and networking. It has undertaken the following activities:

1. Politics 21
 - From Student Politics to Real Politics: Youth, Politics & Civil Society
 - Active Citizenship & Politics in Singapore: Exploring Political Expression & Action
 - Non-Partisanship: Politics without Punishment
 - Human Rights: Every Singaporean Matters
2. Forums
 - Political Society in Singapore (Gomez vs JBJ Debate)
 - Human Rights vs Human Security
 - Citizenship Education: You Have the Right!
3. Speakers' Corner opening launch - Speakers' Fest
 - International Human Rights Day (IHRD) 2000
 - First Anniversary

Publications

- Self-censorship: Singapore's Shame
- SHAME - Singapore's first internet political magazine
- Young Vietnam: Doi Moi's Children
- Internet Politics: Surveillance & Intimidation in Singapore

Other Information

ThinkCentre.org - internet portal of Think Centre

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Centre for Policy Alternatives (CPA)

Year Established: 1996

Short Historical Background

The Centre for Policy Alternatives (CPA) was formed in 1996 in the firm belief that the vital contribution of civil society to the public policy debate is in need of strengthening. Focusing primarily on issues of governance and conflict resolution, CPA is committed to programs of research and advocacy through which public policy is critiqued, alternatives identified and disseminated. CPA is an independent, non-partisan organization that receives funds from international and bilateral funding agencies and foundations.

Objectives

CPA aims

1. To contribute to public accountability in governance through the strengthening of the awareness in society of all aspects of public policy and policy implementation
2. To make inputs into the public policy-making and implementation process in the constitutional, legislative and administrative spheres to ensure responsible and good governance
3. To propose to the government and parliament and all other policy-making bodies and institutions, constructive policy alternatives aimed at strengthening and safeguarding democracy, pluralism, the Rule of Law, human rights and social justice
4. To focus attention on the social and political consequences of development
5. To contribute towards the conflict resolution process in Sri Lanka and the South Asian region, so as to strengthen institution and capacity-building for democratic governance in multi-ethnic and pluralist societies.

Programs and Activities

Legal and Constitutional Unit - undertakes research and advocacy on issues of Constitutional Reform and Conflict Transformation, Law Reform, Electoral Reform and Human Rights through the following activities:

- Public Interest Litigation
- Seminars, Workshops and Public Lectures
- Projects (Freedom of Information, Child Labor & Child Trafficking, Labor, HIV/AIDS, Internally Displaced Persons, etc).
- Publications
- Sri Lanka Broadcast Media Report- "An Investigation into the Closure of CBNSat and Implications for Sri Lankan Broadcast Media" by Ms. Ruha Devanesan (June-August 2006).

Conflict & Peace Analysis Unit - focuses on the protracted ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka: its genesis, manifestations, present trends and tendencies and future trajectory. The unit also seeks to intervene in processes relating to na-

tional reconciliation, national reconstruction and the restitution of peace with justice in Sri Lanka. The activities of the unit are the following:

- Conducting seminars and symposiums related to multi-level and multi-track peace processes, and current and comparative situations on conflict and peace
- Peace advocacy and outreach activities with media, local civic organizations and institutions
- Liaising with national and international organizations engaged in facilitating/mediating a negotiated settlement to the ethnic conflict.
- Conducting research on peace-related issues with a view to informing policymakers and the general public in order to increase public debate.

Media Unit - supports the CPA's goal of formulating policy options to inform and shape the practice and culture of governance in Sri Lanka by engendering a socially responsible media through the examination of the content and form of media coverage, and by publishing 'Media Monitor', a journal highlighting problems with media reportage in Sri Lanka. It engages in the following activities:

- Formulation of Proposed National Media Policy of Sri Lanka
- Promoting Voices of Reconciliation Program (Media Charter)
- Access to a Voice: Communications Planning for non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, and community-based organizations.

Publications

Some of the CPA publications are the following:

- Media Monitor (series, Sinhala)
 - Fiscal And Financial Arrangements In A Federal Sri Lanka - Some Issues For Discussion (English and Sinhala)
 - Land and Property Rights of Internally Displaced Persons (English and Sinhala)
 - Moot Point Legal Review (annual since 1997)
- The Right to Vote and the Law Relating To Election Petitions
- Role of the Ombudsman (English, Sinhala And Tamil)
- Law, Human Rights And HIV/AIDS, A Guide (English, Sinhala and Tamil)
- Peace Analysis (Sinhala)

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Centre for the Study of Human Rights (CSHR)

Year Established: 1991

Short Historical Background

The Centre for the Study of Human Rights (CSHR) is a university-based organization located in the Faculty of Law, University of Colombo. Its mandate is education and research in human rights. The CSHR enjoys its status within the University system, while maintaining considerable autonomy.

For the past sixteen years, the CSHR has been a key player in building up a human rights culture in Sri Lanka. It has been responsible for the successful introduction of Human Rights Education to various social and professional groups in the country at different levels, expanding its reach geographically. While continuing its work in the conflict-free areas of Sri Lanka, it gradually strengthened its network in the conflict-affected areas as well.

Objectives

CSHR aims

1. To provide its target groups with not only an understanding of their rights, but also the rights of all peoples, their duties, obligations and violations of rights
2. To educate and sensitize persons to their rights and obligations
3. To research and add to the sum total of knowledge in human rights
4. To gather and disseminate information for the use of students or activists in the field of human rights.

Programs and Activities

- a. Outreach education program
 - Human Rights Education Program for Schools
 - Human Rights Education Program for the Community
 - Human Rights Broadcasting Program
 - Good Governance Program
 - Human Rights Education for the Armed Forces
 - Human Rights Education for the Police
 - Incorporating Human Rights into Secondary School Curricula
 - Human Rights Education for Pre-Service Teachers
 - Human Rights Education for Prison Officers and Inmates
 - Project on the Rights of Differently Abled Persons
 - Human Rights Programs for the Plantation Sector
- b. University courses/training
 - Human Rights Practical Training Program for Young Lawyers
 - Human Rights Internship Program
 - Human Rights Awareness for University Students
 - Human Rights Awareness for Academic and Non-academic Staff
 - Distance Learning Diploma in Human Rights and Peace Studies
- c. Seminars and workshops
 - Workshop for Media Personnel
 - Human Rights Day Program
- d. Research
- e. Information Dissemination

- Information Unit

Special Concerns

CSHR's programs cater to the following groups:

- Primary and secondary school children
- University students
- Pre-service teachers
- Academic and non-academic staff of universities
- Community groups
- Members of the Army, Navy and Air Force
- Members of the Police
- Plantation sector
- Prisoners and prison staff
- Differently-abled persons
- Various professional groups, i.e., doctors, lawyers
- Local government officers at various levels
- Media personnel.

Publications

Some of the publications of CSHR are the following:

- CSHR Newsletter
- Other publications
 - Protecting Freedom of and From Religion: questioning the Law's Ability to Protect Against Unethical Conversions in Sri Lanka by Alexandra Owens
 - Non Violent Conflict Resolution: a Handbook for Trainers (Sinhala)
 - Non Violent Conflict Resolution: a Handbook for Trainers (Tamil)
 - Catching the Big Fish: The Introduction of the Doctrine of Command Responsibility in Sri Lankan Legislation by Nehama Jayewardene
 - Parental and State Responsibility for Children: the Development of South African and Sri Lankan Laws by Prof. Sharya Scharenguivel
 - CSHR Human Rights Journal, vol. 1 Issues 1 and 2 (2005, 2006, 2007)
 - Sambashanai, vol. 1 (2007)
 - Sri Lanka: HIV/AIDS
 - Human Rights and the Unconvicted Prisoner: A Study on Welikada Remand Prison

Other Information

CSHR's Information Unit has relevant and diverse sources of information on human rights and services for staff and students of the Faculties of Law and Arts and the general public. Foreign visitors also continue to use the Information Unit, particularly those visiting Sri Lanka temporarily.

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Law & Society Trust - Sri Lanka

Year Established: 1982

Short Historical Background

The Law & Society Trust (LST) was established in Colombo in 1982 to initiate studies and activities on law, its processes and institutions. It was subsequently incorporated in 1992 under the Companies Act No. 17 of 1982.

LST designs activities and programs, and commissions studies and publications, which have attempted to make the law play a more meaningful role within society. It also utilizes law as a resource in the battle against underdevelopment and poverty, and is involved in the organization of a series of programs to improve access to the mechanisms of justice, as well as programs aimed at members of the legal community, to use law as a tool for social change.

Objectives

LST aims

1. To promote co-operation between government and society within South Asia on questions relating to human rights, democracy and minority protection
2. To participate in initiatives to develop a global intellectual and policy agenda for the nineties.

Programs

Civil & Political Rights Program – research on human rights activism and training programs on human rights standards, law, evidentiary and procedural issues.

Economic, Social & Cultural Rights Program – research on a variety of social and economic rights, high level meetings of key national and international decision-makers, and publication.

Human Rights in Conflict Program - a combination of information dissemination, research and working with other groups in order to attempt to influence decision-makers.

Internship Program - for all students interested in gaining experience in the field of human rights and law.

Activities

Law, Human Rights & Good Governance Study Project - aims to improve legal literacy by providing additional training workshops for local government officials and holding training of trainers on legal literacy, in order to spread legal literacy more widely and increase its impact on the community.

Appellate Law Recorder - a quarterly publication on relevant judgments of the Sri Lankan courts in public, civil, criminal and constitutional laws.

Right to Health – in collaboration with the People's Movement for Rights of Patients (PMRP), works on the drafting of a constitutional provision on the Right to Health, a

Charter on the Right to Health and a Charter on Patient's Rights and Responsibilities.

Farmers' Rights to Livelihood Project - focuses on the mountain areas of the five South Asian countries and the farmers living there.

Trade, Development and Poverty – LST acts as one of the partners in Sri Lanka on the "Linkages between Trade Development and Poverty Reduction" project of the Centre for International Trade, Economics & Environment (CUTS-CITEE).

Economic Social and Cultural Rights Project – aims to have an effective monitoring and implementation of a selected right guaranteed under international covenants and thereby ensuring better realization of social and economic rights in Sri Lanka.

Rights of Children in Armed Conflict and its Aftermath – designed to co-ordinate and strengthen efforts by local and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and government officials to protect the rights of former child soldiers.

Access to Justice Project - aims to address the legacy of "involuntary disappearances" throughout the island, and designed both to make sure that issues of disappearances and accountability are made a central part of the peace process, to inform surviving families about how best to vindicate their rights to compensation, and to train grassroots lawyers throughout the island on legal and organizing strategies to challenge and prevent disappearances and related human rights violations.

Publications

Some of the LST publications are the following:

- LST Review (monthly)
- Sri Lanka: State of Human Rights (annual, since 1997)
- Appellate Law Recorder (quarterly)
- Statutory Powers and Duties of Grama Niladharis
- An Activist's Manual on the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- Fundamental Rights and the Constitution II - A Casebook
- Are Environmental Rights Human Rights?

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Al-Marsad - The Arab Center for Human Rights in the Golan Heights

Year Established: 2003

Short Historical Background

Al-Marsad, The Arab Center for Human Rights in the Golan Heights is an independent non-profit legal human rights organization, located in Majdal Shams, in the Occupied Syrian Golan Heights. Al-Marsad was founded in October 2003 by a group of lawyers and professionals in the fields of health, education, journalism and engineering (mostly town-planners) as well as human rights defenders and other interested community members.

Objectives

Al-Marsad aims

1. To monitor and document the human rights violations committed against the Syrian Arabs in the Golan Heights, both past and present, by the Israeli government
2. To monitor and document Israel's grave violations of the International Humanitarian Law.

Programs and Activities

Research and Publication – Al Marsad produces reports and studies regarding the occupation of the Golan Heights on the basis of International Humanitarian and Human Rights Law. Since its inauguration, Al-Marsad has been producing a newsletter regarding issues of utmost concern in the Occupied Golan Heights, such as the planning policy of Israel in the area; the situation of separated families; and the landmine issue, etc. Al Marsad has also produced a number of reports submitted to various international organizations such as the United Nations (UN) human rights bodies including the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, and the International Committee for the Red Cross in Geneva.

Promotion of the Rights of the Arab Population in the Occupied Golan Heights – Al Marsad appeals to the international community in order to promote the rights of the Arab population in the Occupied Golan Heights in particular, and human rights in general. This is done through its participation in international conferences and human rights training courses and submission of regular reports to various international organizations.

Awareness-raising within the community about human rights issues – Al Marsad offers lectures, workshops and training courses to the members of the Palestinian community to raise their awareness on human rights. It organizes human rights training courses in cooperation with the International Service for Human Rights (ISHR) to local community groups such as the Arab Development Organization and Women Organization of the Golan Heights.

Legal services to the Syrian Arab inhabitants of the Golan Heights - Al Marsad provides free legal service to the members of the Arab local community of the Syrian Go-

lan Heights who suffer from violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law by the Israeli government.

Internship Program – this provides recently graduated students a great opportunity to learn both about the situation of the Golan Heights in general and about the international humanitarian law and human rights law violations occurring in the Golan Heights under the illegal occupation of Israel.

Organizing Campaigns – Al Marsad organizes campaigns in order to educate the local and international communities about the human rights situation in the Occupied Golan Heights. On 19 April 2008, Al Marsad celebrated the global day of action to ban cluster bombs in Majdal Shams, a town in the Occupied Syrian Golan. Al Marsad opened a petition book for signing to the public. This coincided with the establishment of a commission against landmines and cluster munitions in the Occupied Golan Heights under the guidance of Al Marsad, whose committee members are made up of different individuals including landmine survivors.

Publications

Some publications of Al Marsad:

- The Occupied Syrian Golan: Background (2005)
- Al Marsad's Report to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (2007)
- Al Marsad's Strategic Plan for 2008-2009 (2007)
- Al Marsad's Narrative Report of Main Fields of Activities (2005-2006)

Press releases, copies of reports submitted to international organizations, and other reports detailing Al Marsad's programs and activities are available online, visit <http://www.golan-marsad.org/>

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The Syrian Human Rights Committee (SHRC)

Year Established: 1997

Short Historical Background

The Syrian Human Rights Committee (SHRC) is an independent and neutral human rights organization fundamentally concerned with defending general liberties and human rights of the Syrian people. Until SHRC is permitted to open a head office in Damascus and branches in the Syrian provinces, SHRC will be temporarily based in London.

Objectives

SHRC aims

1. To expose the violations, assaults and aggressions against human rights and fundamental liberties of the Syrian citizens, publish them to the international media, address the issues to the authorities, and follow-up on such reported incidents with all concerned entities
2. To conduct research and publish books and studies related to fundamental liberties and human rights in Syria utilizing scientific research methodologies and investigative verification
3. To issue various reports, initiate humane campaigns and conduct seminars and interviews to highlight the human right issues in Syria
4. To raise awareness and promote the culture of human rights in the Syrian society and encourage members of the society to continuously demand for their human rights and general liberties through peaceful means
5. To adhere to the principle of cooperation with organizations, entities, centers, and non-governmental associations specializing in active defense and advocacy of human rights, while preserving the independent nature of the committee's work agenda.

Programs and Activities

Research and Publication – SHRC gathers information on various issues concerning human rights violations (especially random and arbitrary detentions) in Syria. It publishes regular and annual reports, press releases, and lists of detainees of Syrian Prisons.

Campaign and Appeal - SHRC releases campaigns and appeals on human rights violations in Syria.

Special Concerns

SRCH is specifically concerned with protecting the rights of arbitrarily detained individuals. Name Lists, Reports, and Appeals concerning detainees are all accessible at the SRCH website <http://www.shrc.org>

Publications

- Report on the Human Rights Situation in Syria Over a 20-year Period (2001)
- Justice Journal (quarterly) - fundamentally concerned with defending general liberties and human rights of the Syrian people

- Featured Books (available online):

- Just Five Minutes: Nine Years in the Prisons of Syria, Hiba Dabbagh (2007)
- Tadmur: a Witness and a Witnessed (in Arabic), Mohammed Saleem Hammad (1998)
- Reports, Press Releases, Books and the Justice Journal are all accessible on the SRCH website (<http://www.shrc.org>)

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Chang Fo-Chuan Center for the Study of Human Rights

Soochow University

Year Established: 2000

Short Historical Background

Beginning in 1995, several faculty members of the Political Science Department at Soochow University, including Professor Mab Huang, offered courses in the human rights field, both at the undergraduate and graduate levels. They also collaborated with colleagues in Yang-ming Medical College (now National Yang-ming University) and the Taipei Municipal Teacher's College (now Taipei Municipal University of Education) in training teachers and compiling teaching materials for primary and secondary schools. In 1998, an International Conference on Human Rights Education was held in Taipei, and scholars and experts from the US, Europe and Japan discussed the strengthening of human rights education in Taiwan.

In 2000, the Chang Fo-Chuan Center for the Study of Human Rights was founded at Soochow University, Taipei. It is dedicated to research and education in the human rights field, including the promotion of human rights education in primary and secondary schools. Four years later, an undergraduate human rights program was launched. In the fall of 2008, the Center will inaugurate the human rights MA program.

Objectives

The Center seeks to encourage research in the human rights field and to help facilitate human rights education, thus contributing to the development of a human rights culture in Taiwan.

Programs

1. *Advancing Human Rights Research in Taiwan* – the Center aims to advance human rights research, which has long been neglected in universities and research institutes in Taiwan
2. *Promoting Human Rights Education* – the Center aims to meet the needs of human rights education in Taiwan, which was a taboo during the period of authoritarian rule
3. *Training Local Human Rights Workers* – the Center aims to provide training in both theory and practice to members of non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
4. *Deepening International Exchanges* – the Center aims to intensify international exchanges and enable Taiwan to be part of the international human rights movement.

Its human rights MA program is designed to integrate theory and practice, emphasizing inter-discipline approach and international liaison. The Center aims to recruit students from university and college graduates, government officials related to human rights work, primary and secondary school teachers and administrators as well as NGO staff.

In contrast to the MA in Human Rights, the undergraduate human rights program aims to inculcate the ideas of human rights, drawing students from different disciplines.

Activities

In addition to the undergraduate Human Rights Program and MA in Human Rights Program described above, through the years, the Center has also engaged in the following activities:

1. Sponsoring international conferences, such as the International Conference on Indigenous Peoples' Rights (2003), the International Conference on Human Rights Education in Taiwan (2004), and the International Conference on Human Rights Education in a Diverse and Changing Asia (2006)
2. Sponsoring lecture series by internationally well-known experts and scholars, including Dr. Heinrich Klebes, Honorary Secretary-General of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (2001), Judge Georg Ress of the European Court of Human Rights (2001), Professor Theodore van Boven of the Universiteit Maastricht (2006), and Professor Ian Neary of Oxford University (2008)
3. Sponsoring book readings and holding workshops. For example, for 2006, the reading was primarily concerned with Radical Evil, and from August 2007 to July 2008 it was concentrated on Globalization, Development and the Rights of the Disadvantaged Groups
4. Encouraging the participation of students in international conferences and community action activities, such as defending patient's rights of the historic Lo-sheng Sanatorium.

Publications

- The Directory of MA Human Rights Programs (primarily in the United States and Europe), Tong Jo-chu (ed.) (2006)
- The Directory of NGOs, Tong Jo-Chu (ed.) (2006)
- Human Rights Dictionary: International, Mainland China, Hong Kong and Taiwan (Bilingual), Mab Huang (editor-in-chief) (2007).

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John Paul II Institute for Research into Dialogue for Peace

Fujen Catholic University

Year Established: 1997

Short Historical Background

The Fujen University John Paul II Institute for Research into Dialogue for Peace was founded in August 1997 as an integral part of Fujen Catholic University. The Institute intends to sponsor the study of peace from a Chinese and Catholic perspective. An Annual Lecture on these themes is held in the first term.

The Institute's Library is integrated into the University's Social Science Library, situated in the premises of the School of Law and Business. The Institute has its own annotated bibliography of all works relating to Peace held in the University Library.

Objectives

The Institute aims

1. To study issues of peace from a Chinese and Catholic viewpoint
2. To study, in a systemic manner, the methods and purpose of dialogue for peace with the intention of promoting, especially in the Asian context, genuine dialogue between individuals, groups, nations and between different religious and cultural traditions
3. To establish contacts and academic cooperation with similar centers or institutions in Asia, the world and with relevant Vatican Congregations
4. To gather materials sufficient to enable the Institute to function as a research center; collecting relevant data about persons, publications, centers and institutes working in the field of peace studies
5. To encourage some preliminary research in the field, including: Papal pronouncement on Peace, Peace Studies at University level, Peace movements at home and abroad; and Conflict Resolution.

Programs and Activities

Peace research –Institute promotes the application of Chinese philosophy to peace issues and the presentation (in Chinese language) of important peace-related materials. The Institute has worked with the Taiwan Peacetime Foundation since its foundation on 25 August 2000 and the Chang Fo-chuan Human Rights Institute to promote peace studies in Taiwan.

Annual peace lectures and conferences – the Institute holds lectures and conferences on various themes: peace studies, human rights and peace, civilian-based defence, peace education, engendering security, etc.

Human rights research - from its inauguration the Institute has been engaged in the research and promotion of human rights. Four major conferences have been held as well as a number of shorter talks. The major research topic has been that of the initial reception of human rights into China. A subsidiary topic has been the field of indigenous persons' rights.

Conferences on human rights – the Institute has been holding conferences on human rights issues such as human rights and values in Asia, human rights education, the abolition of the death penalty, indigenous peoples, human rights in the Pacific rim, among others.

Publications

- The Former Generation Discusses Human Rights: An Anthology of Chinese Texts on Human Rights (in 4 volumes) (Chinese)
 - Volume 1 - The Emergence of Human Rights
 - Volume 2 - Women and Rights
 - Volume 3 - Liberty and Equality
 - Volume 4 - Human Rights and the Law
- Human Rights and Values in East Asia (in English & Chinese)
- Proceedings of the Fujen International Conference on Human Rights and Values in East Asia 21-23 June 1998, (in Chinese & English)
- The Human Person as the Foundation of Human Rights
 - Proceedings of the East Asian Regional Seminar of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace (English & Chinese)
- Taiwan Opposes the Death Penalty - Proceedings of the Fujen University International Conference on Abolition of the Death Penalty in 2001, Fujen University (English)

Other Information

The Institute's library has special sections on human rights, indigenous rights, United Nations publications, Catholic Peace and Justice and Vatican documents.

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Taiwan Association for Human Rights (TAHR)

Year Established: 1984

Short Historical Background

Established on International Human Rights Day, 10 December 1984, the Taiwan Association for Human Rights (TAHR) is the oldest independent human rights organization in Taiwan. In its early years, TAHR operated under a repressive political regime as an underground organization. Authoritarian General Chiang Kai-shek from China imposed martial law on Taiwan in 1949 (and lasted for thirty-nine years), suspending the Constitution and subjecting thousands of individuals to illegal arrests, torture, imprisonment, and extrajudicial executions. In the years prior to TAHR's formation, Taiwanese people witnessed a series of major governmental crackdowns on oppositional voices, such as the Formosa Incident (1979), the Lin family murders (1980), and the murder of Chen Wen-cheng (1981). Despite the horror and grief, these tragedies only strengthened the Taiwanese people's determination to speak out for human rights, rule of law, and democracy. Since the establishment, TAHR fought for basic civil and political rights together with the growing social and political opposition movements. Main work included: campaigns to free political prisoners; ending the practice of blacklisting; and demanding freedoms of speech, association, and assembly.

The late martial law era into the 1990s was a transitional period for Taiwan. Riding on a growing democracy and public demand, the first genuine opposition party (DPP) was established in 1986 and martial law was lifted in 1987. The government also demonstrated a gradual openness to public elections, rights to free expression, and freedom to assemble and to form civil society organizations. During this transitional period, TAHR entered into its second phase of work and focused its campaign on repealing and revising the remaining undemocratic laws and regulations, including the National Security Law, the Parade and Assembly Law, the Civic Organizations Law, to name a few, as well as restrictions on radio broadcasting—all of which continued to arbitrarily deprive people of basic civil rights.

Today, Taiwan no longer holds political prisoners. Nevertheless, the legacy of authoritarian rule still remains. The rule of law, independence of the judiciary, and accountability of the police and military authorities remain elusive and many forms of discrimination are still common. Furthermore, public awareness about human rights, particularly about international human rights norms and mechanisms, is far from adequate. Taiwan's involuntary diplomatic isolation represents continuous challenges in the promotion of human rights and isolates the government from the necessary participation, interaction, and obligation to the international human rights community.

Objectives

TAHR is an independent civil society organization committed to securing and protecting human rights from all

forms of violation. It believes that human rights, rule of law, and democracy are indivisible and interdependent. Without human rights, rule of law can easily degrade into rule by law, and democracy into a winner-take-all struggle.

Programs

TAHR focuses mainly on safeguarding due process of law, eliminating different forms of human rights violation and discrimination, promoting human rights education, as well as expanding the human rights discourse to meet the needs of contemporary society.

Activities

TAHR conducts awareness campaigns that aim to stimulate grassroots support and policy-advocacy. Its main activities include investigating individual human rights cases and assisting victims, monitoring state policies and advocating legal and constitutional amendments to meet international human rights standards, and conducting human rights education to promote a deeper understanding of human rights. TAHR also participates actively at international human rights forums. It aims to build a solid network that will strengthen the work of human rights defenders through active interaction and collaboration with international NGOs.

Special Concerns

Human rights, democracy, rule of law

Publications

- Taiwan Human Rights Report (annually)
- TAHR e-newsletter
- Human Rights Quarterly

Other Information

TAHR is a member of Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (regional) and International Federation of Human Rights (international).

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Alternative Asean Network On Burma (Altsean-Burma)

Year Established: 1996

Short Historical Background

The Alternative ASEAN Network on Burma (Altsean-Burma) is a network of organizations and individuals based in ASEAN member-states working to support the movement for human rights and democracy in Burma. The network is comprised of human rights and social justice civil society organizations (CSOs), political parties, think tanks, academics, journalists and student activists.

It was formed at the conclusion of the Alternative ASEAN Meeting on Burma held at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, in October 1996.

It also works in coordination and cooperation with key groups outside the ASEAN region.

Objectives

Altsean-Burma aims to support the movement for human rights and democracy in Burma within the context of ASEAN. In doing so, it also works with CSOs to strengthen the human rights and democratization agenda in ASEAN. While its focus has been on Burma, it works with partners to support human rights causes within the region. It regards the political participation of women as an essential element of democracy and therefore incorporates this approach into its work.

Programs and Activities

1. *Advocacy and Campaigns* - Altsean-Burma develops and implements a range of regionally-based advocacy activities in active partnership with strategic organizations, networks and individuals concerned with human rights and democracy in Burma and in ASEAN
2. *Research, publications and campaign resources* - Altsean-Burma produces various resources that are used as tools for advocacy and campaign work by legislators, activists, journalists, researchers, diplomats and other decision-makers
3. *Women Internships & Alumni Program - Barman & Ethnic* - this program is geared to developing the understanding by the women of Burma of various aspects of human rights and democracy, with an emphasis on valuing diversity. The program is focused on developing skills in problem-solving, negotiation, risk assessment and management, project management, networking, advocacy, leadership and other organizational skills.
4. *Women of Burma Program* - this program bridges the internship, capacity building, women's solidarity, and resources production programs. Its key aim is to promote the role of women in the struggle and generate greater solidarity among women of Burma and support from non-Burmese women's movements.
5. *Women of Burma Day campaign* - June 19 (Aung San Suu Kyi's birthday) has been dedicated as Women of Burma Day groups around the world and is used as the day for focusing attention on the struggle of women against Burma's military dictatorship.

6. *Burma Women Writers' Program* - this program aims, among others, to assist the women of Burma to develop creative writing skills and gain the confidence to express themselves and their opinions through writing short stories, letters, articles and poems.

7. Capacity-building (trainings)

- a. *Advocacy Capacity Building* - Altsean-Burma provides a range of strategic capacity building initiatives for people of Burma involved in the pro-democracy movement, with an emphasis on encouraging the participation of women, youth and diverse ethnic groups.
- b. *Economic Literacy Training for Burma Activists Program* - this is a multi-stage series aimed at developing the skills of Burma activists to use economic issues for human rights advocacy, and to increase their ability to engage in economic policy development debates, both now and in a future transition period.
- c. *Security Analysis & Policy Program* - this training explores both traditional approaches to 'security' and non-traditional approaches which are particularly relevant to Burma and Burma advocacy.

Publications

- Burma Bulletin (monthly)
- Burma Issues and Concerns
- Briefing notes
- Special reports:
 - A Piece of Pie? Burma's Humanitarian Aid Debate (2002)
 - Ready, Aim, Sanction! Non-military options to Support Burma Democratization (2003)
 - On the Road to Democracy? (2004)
 - A Failing Grade - Burma's Drug Eradication Efforts (2004)
- Campaign resources: t-shirts, posters, postcards, stickers, calendars, video

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Asian Coalition for Housing Rights (ACHR)

Year Established: 1988

Short Historical Background

In June 1988 a group of professionals and social activists involved with urban poor development activities in various Asian countries established the Asian Coalition for Housing Rights (ACHR). The first activity the group implemented was a regional campaign against evictions in Korea. This led to a number of new regional activities with a larger number and broader range of contact groups. ACHR evolved into a regional network and representative for Habitat International Coalition, for Asia. It has also become the main regional network on human settlements and urban issues consulted by many United Nations agencies such as UNCHS, UNDP and ESCAP.

Objectives

ACHR aims

1. To act as a pressure group and for crisis intervention in specific problems (including fact-finding missions and regional campaigns) of the urban poor
2. To disseminate information on issues of the urban poor
3. To provide opportunities for community organizations to facilitate sharing of experiences at the community level and for international members to deepen their understanding of the major forces affecting the urban poor
4. To facilitate experience sharing and exchange among groups, especially among the grassroots groups and non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
5. To provide professional consultation based on needs for groups working on urban poor issues
6. To coordinate with related international and local agencies, especially with regard to regional activities
7. To support the empowerment of local urban poor organizations and strengthen their links among each other
8. To support the grassroots struggle for housing with an aim to develop the process that enables people to strengthen their own capabilities
9. To research key issues on urban poor and innovative initiatives in the region
10. To advocate the right to housing at international, national and local levels
11. To create space for change and facilitating dialogue on local situations by organizing activities with local groups
12. To support and encourage young professionals to get involved in community development work and deepen their understanding of the people's process.

Programs and Activities

Training & Advisory Program (TAP) – a system of mutual learning and support based on Asian experiences and processes for Asian grassroots community organizations, NGOs and urban poor development professionals.

Eviction Watch & Housing Rights - aims to document and reduce the number of forced evictions throughout Asian cities as well as introduce alternative methods for solving housing-related problems in Asian cities.

Community Environmental Improvement Facility – aims to improve local governance through the creation of community-led environment development planning, budgeting and implementation processes centered around the concern for improving the local environment.

Young Professionals - aims to influence the decision-makers of the future by providing opportunities for young graduates to work with and for urban poor communities, and to influence learning institutions concerned with city development and planning.

Advocacy - highlights the views of senior ACHR members in Asia as advocates on behalf of the region's urban poor at the local, national, regional and international levels to promote solutions to city problems.

Country Projects – in countries in Asia where community-based development is either non-existent or weaker than in other Asian cities. ACHR has established country-level programs to catalyze and then strengthen local grassroots organizations of the urban poor.

Publications

- Housing by People In Asia (bi-annual newsletter)
- News on TAP (bi-annual newsletter)
- Young Professionals Newsletter
- Evictions/Housing Rights Abuses in Asia, Denis Murphy and Minar Pimple, editors (compiled from "Eviction Watch monitoring reports), 1995
- Housing Finance for the Poor, a joint publication of HIC/ACHR /IIED/UNDP, 1994
- Housing The Poor: Asian Experiences, Fr. Jorge Anzorena, 1994
- Housing Crisis in Central Asia, Arif Hasan
- How Communities Organize Themselves, Kenneth Fernandes
- Working with Government, Arif Hasan.

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Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA)

Year Established: 1991

Short Historical Background

The Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA) is a membership-based regional human rights organization working to promote and protect all human rights, including the right to development through collaboration and cooperation among human rights organizations and defenders in Asia.

FORUM-ASIA was founded following a consultation among human rights and development non-governmental organizations in Asia held in Manila on 17 December 1991. Its regional Secretariat has been located in Bangkok, Thailand since 1994. It has NGO Consultative Status with the United Nations (UN). It presently has forty member-organizations in fifteen countries in South, Southeast and Northeast Asia.

Objective

FORUM-ASIA aims to strengthen its leading and coordinating role in building a regional human rights movement through effective engagement with states and other stakeholders in Asia.

Programs

The Country Program Branch works closely with member-organizations that primarily deal with human rights issues on the ground and organize international campaigns jointly with members and partners by providing necessary support and assistance when needed. Under this program, there are two sub-regional programs, namely the South Asia (SA) Program and East Asia (EA) Program.

The Advocacy Program Branch promotes effective engagement with the state and other stakeholders for human rights accountability, as well as the rule of law through effective advocacy at inter-governmental bodies and processes. Under the Advocacy Program Branch, there are two programs, namely the UN Advocacy (UNA) Program and the Human Rights Defenders (HRD) Program. The UNA Program aims to enhance the impact and effectiveness of advocacy at UN human rights bodies and processes. It covers the UN Human Rights Council and UN human rights treaty-monitoring bodies. The HRD Program aims to strengthen protection and assistance for HRDs and activists and to promote the role of HRDs in accordance with internationally recognized human rights norms and standards. The HRD Program covers the promotion of the 1998 UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders, training and networking among HRDs and National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs).

Activities

1. *Advocacy:* strengthening advocacy campaigning as well as solidarity actions at the national and international levels
2. *Building Capacity:* strengthening the capacity of hu-

man rights defenders and organizations in advocacy, campaigning and networking

3. *Coalition-Building:* promoting coalition-building and networking among human rights organizations and other stakeholders at national and international levels
4. *Developing Organization:* enhancing the effectiveness and sustainability of organizational management and development, including information and communications strategy.

Special Concern

Human rights defenders, establishment of the rule of law and combating impunity, abolition of the death penalty, human rights education and learning, advocacy at the regional and international levels and intergovernmental bodies.

Publications

- Asian Human Rights Defender (AHRD)
- 2nd Asian Regional Human Rights Defenders' Forum: Reference Materials
- Compilation of E-Newsletters No. 1-26 (2006)
- International Human Rights Law: A Compilation of Human Rights Treaties and Other Instruments
- Compilation of Legal Frameworks for National Human Rights Institutions in Asia
- United Nations Reform Initiatives (1993-2003 and 2004-2005)
- Background Document on Peace and Democracy in Nepal
- Key Documents Related to Human Rights Defenders (Volumes 1 and 2)
- Selected Documents on Millennium Declaration + 5
- Asian Highlight - Issue One: Presentation of Special Procedures Reports
- Report: Presentation of Special Procedures Reports at the Council's Fourth and Fifth Regular Session
- Human Rights Council Session IV - High Level Segment Report
- Performance of National Human Rights Institutions in Asia 2006
- Freedom of Expression and the Media in Thailand
- Talking About Taboos: Asia Pacific women reflect on issues of sexuality
- Neither Wolf, nor Lamb: Embracing Civil Society in the Aceh Conflict

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Asian Research Center for Migration (ARCM)

Chulalongkorn University

Year Established: 1987

Short Historical Background

The Indochinese Refugee Information Center (IRIC), a unit of the Institute of Asian Studies, Chulalongkorn University, was established in 1987 to observe and study refugees and displaced persons from Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam and, later, Myanmar/Burma, who were seeking asylum in Thailand. Due to resettlement abroad and repatriation, few Indochinese asylum seekers remain in Thailand and other Asian nations. Yet starting around the same period, major concerns emerged with respect to regional migration (both legal and illegal), the magnitude of this migration and the lack of in-depth knowledge about it throughout Southeast Asia. In late 1994, in consultation with, and with the encouragement of national and international institutions, the Institute of Asian Studies decided to broaden IRIC's terms of reference with the aim of establishing a regional center focusing on migration from a global perspective and providing services to both public and private sectors. On 1 January 1995, IRIC was renamed the Asian Research Center for Migration (ARCM).

Objectives

The ARCM aims

1. To act as a centralized source of migration-related information for the Southeast Asia region, by researching and documenting regional migratory movements and the impacts of such movements
2. To conduct research on key migration topics, including migrant workers, refugees and other transborder movements of people
3. To strengthen links with other academic institutions, governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and international organizations
4. To build a significant resource and information base, and disseminate information in relevant formats
5. To organize lectures, seminars, training and consultancies for individuals and organizations in the region.

Programs and Activities

Academic Activities

- Management of a computerized, easily searchable catalog of books, journals, papers, video tapes, maps, and other such materials available at ARCM
- Collection and dissemination of information on cross-border migratory movements and the impacts such movements have in the realms of politics, social environment, health, economy, labor, and law
- Strengthening of links with other people and organizations interested in cross-border migration, both within and outside of Southeast Asia
- Establishment of ARCM as a centralized source of migration-related information for Thailand and to a lesser degree, other parts of mainland Southeast Asia.

Service

- Making ARCM's catalog available to public and private parties, including Internet access
- Undertaking surveys, studies and analyses upon request on specific subjects related to migration
- Devising recommendations on problems and policies related to migration.

Publications

Some of the ARCM publications are the following:

- Children Caught in Conflicts: The Impact of Armed Conflict on Children in Southeast Asia
- Research report: Lack of Laborers in Thailand, 2000 (in Thai)
- Research Project: Follow the Result of Registration for Immigrant Worker: Process and Problems, 2001 (in Thai)
- Immigrant Workers Policies, short and long term solutions to problems, 2001 (in Thai)
- Thai Migrant Workers in East and Southeast Asia: The Prospects of Thailand's Migration Policy in the Light of the Regional Economic Recession (Returnees to Thailand)
- Research Report on Migration and Deception of Migrant Workers in Thailand
- Academic Conference Report: Dimension of Thailand Research for International Migration in Globalization (in Thai)
- Mobility and HIV/AIDS in the Greater Mekong Subregion
- Thailand-Lao People's Democratic Republic and Thailand - Myanmar Border Areas (Trafficking in Children into the Worst Forms of Child Labour: A Rapid Assessment)
- Thailand: Improving the Management of Foreign Workers (in Thai)
- Module and Handbook of Awareness-Raising Workshop on Migrant Welfare and Obligations (in Thai)
- Thailand Policies Towards Migrant Workers from Myanmar
- Assessing the Situation of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Samutsakhon (in Thai/Eng)

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Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD)

Year Established: 1986

Short Historical Background

In December 1986, women-delegates from across Asia met in Tagaytay, Philippines to discuss the most pressing socio-legal issues facing women and to explore possible areas of collaborative action. The outcome of this meeting was the formation of the Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD), the first regional response to the challenges of Nairobi. In 1986, women-lawyers and other activists in the region formally launched APWLD and set up a secretariat in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Secretariat relocated to Chiangmai, Thailand in October 1997.

Objectives

APWLD aims

1. To enable women in the region to use the law as an instrument of change for the empowerment of women in their struggle for justice, peace, equality and development
2. To promote basic concepts of human rights in the region as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discriminations Against Women (CEDAW) and other relevant international human rights instruments.

Programs

Rural and Indigenous Women (RIW) Program - strengthens the capacity of RIW to address issues of globalization and influences the agenda of peoples and social movements on the impacts of globalization on rural and indigenous women from a feminist perspective.

Violence Against Women (VAW) Program - strengthens the effectiveness of human rights mechanisms, specifically the UN Special Rapporteur mechanism, to address violence against women, builds capacities of women's groups to advocate for the elimination of existing and emerging forms of VAW in the Asia Pacific, and enhances conceptual clarity among women's organizations working on VAW, its causes and consequences.

Women's Human Rights Working Group (WHR-WG) - promotes integration of the women's human rights framework in APWLD's programs and activities, identifies and undertakes actions on critical issues related to women's human rights particularly in Asia Pacific, and enhances the understanding of emerging issues of women's rights in the programs of APWLD and among members.

Women's Participation in Political Processes (WPPP) Program - focuses on advocacy and capacity building strategies centered on promoting women's agenda within political processes and increasing the representation of women in leadership positions.

Women and Environment (WEN) Program - addresses issues of environmental destruction and degradation and the displacement of women and men due to mal-development projects.

Activities

International, regional and national activities in each program are conducted such as:

- Trainings (Feminist Legal Theory and Practice Training, Regional and National Gender and Politics Training Workshop)
- Research (Special Economic Zones, Collation of Laws on Women's Political Participation, Women's Strategies in Electoral Processes)
- Advocacy (Commission on Status of Women, UN Commission on Human Rights, building of marginalized women's movement in the Asia Pacific)
- Fact Finding Missions (Women and Environment Program)
- Consultations, Seminars, Conferences (Women's Strategies in Electoral Processes, Asia Pacific Regional Consultations with the UN Special Rapporteur on VAW)
- Monitoring of UN and International/Regional Strategic Forums
- Campaigns (VAW and Access to Justice, Recognition of Domestic Work as Work, Rights of Migrant Domestic Workers, International Campaign on Food Sovereignty)
- Publications

Publications

Some of the publications of APWLD are the following:

- Women Workers Labour Conditions and Disputes in South Korea Free Trade Zones
- Claiming Rights, Claiming Justice: A Guidebook on Women Human Rights Defenders
- Series of publications on the impact of tsunami on the rights of women (India, Thailand, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, and Pakistan)
- Guidelines for Gender Sensitive Disaster Management
- Negotiating Culture: Intersections of Culture and Violence Against Women in Asia Pacific
- Why are women more vulnerable during disasters?
- Interlinkages between Violence against Women and Women's Human Right to Adequate Housing (2004)
- FORUM NEWS - newsletter

Address

Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD)

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www.apwld.org

Asia-Pacific Network of People with HIV/AIDS (APN+)

Year Established: 1994

Short historical background

APN+ is the network of PLHIV living in the Asia Pacific region. It was established in 1994 at a meeting in Kuala Lumpur by forty-two PLHIV from eight countries. It was established in response to the need for a collective voice for PLHIV in the region, to better link regional PLHIV with the Global Network of PLHIV (GNP+) and positive networks throughout the world, and to support regional responses to widespread stigma and discrimination and better access to treatment and care.

Objectives

APN+ aims

1. To provide leadership by actively advocating from the regional level for the equal rights of all PLHIV as well as ensuring full participation and representation in the response to HIV and AIDS
2. To further develop the capacity of APN+ networks in the areas of skills, knowledge and attitudes, responding to identified needs and using a range of internal and external resources that allow organizations and individuals to grow and sustain their networks
3. To strengthen the exchange of knowledge and information among PLHIV, their networks and other key stakeholders through undertaking research, developing publications, providing training and securing adequate resources for the purpose of responding effectively to the needs of PLHIV in the region
4. To build and strengthen the network of all PLHIV organizations at regional, sub-regional and national levels in a meaningful partnership with governments, donors and civil society as a way of advancing the APN+ agenda
5. To develop the capacity of the APN+ secretariat and steering committee in core leadership and management areas in ways designed to efficiently and effectively support network members in achieving their own country missions and objectives.

Programs and Activities

Women of APN+ (WAPN+) - this is a newly-formed women's working group of APN+ whose vision is the "empowerment of women living with HIV and AIDS in the Asia-Pacific region to provide a united voice, improve the quality of our lives and ensure our leaders protect our rights." WAPN+ aims to:

1. Share information on a range of issues to HIV-positive women throughout the region
2. Increase the capacity of HIV-positive women to take on leadership roles
3. Strengthen and help establish national networks of women living with HIV.

APN+ MSM Working Group – this was launched at the beginning of 2007. As of September 2007 the APN+ MSM Working Group has twenty-four members from thirteen

countries. The MSM Working Group undertook the following activities for 2007:

1. Advocacy and collaborations: such as with Purple Sky (Mekong) Network, APCOM and AP Rainbow
2. Research: positive MSM focus groups in four countries
3. Capacity building for positive MSM: skills training for our members
4. Communications: e-group for members
5. Resource development: positive MSM information resources
6. Positive MSM activities at ICAAP8 (Sri Lanka August 2007): presentation, skills building workshop and satellite meeting.

Publications

- APN - who we are
- Asia Pacific Participant's Manual and Training Resource on Basic HIV Counselling Skills
- Baseline Survey of GIPA and stigma and discrimination in Greater Mekong Region
- Lifting the Burden of Secrecy (A Manual for HIV Positive People Who Want to Speak Out in Public)
- Lifting the Burden of Secrecy (A Training Module for HIV positive speakers)
- Valued Voices APN+ GIPA Toolkit
- We Have Rights (Rights Advocacy Tool)
- AIDS Discrimination in Asia
- Project Report May 07
- APN+ Tsunami Report
- International Treatment Preparedness Coalition (ITPC) Newsletter

Address

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www.apnplus.org

Burma Issues

Year Established: 1990

Short Historical Background

Burma Issues (BI) is a non-profit organization, made up of young ethnic people from Eastern Burma who now dedicate their lives to educating and empowering the grassroots communities in Eastern Burma, documenting human rights abuses and acting as a bridge between the grassroots communities and the international community. Initially founded in 1990, BI acts as a private, non-profit organization devoted to a peaceful resolution to Burma's struggle for human rights and democratic rule. It is non-partisan and does not advocate, campaign for or represent any leaders, political parties or ideologies as solutions to Burma's civil strife.

BI operates as a project under the Peaceway Foundation, a registered entity with the Thai government. The Peaceway Foundation aims to expand its work and ideology into other areas and countries, without becoming secular in its work, and striving to help build a global grassroots movement.

Objectives

BI aims

1. To systematically document the events of the past and present them through a documentation center in order to do effective analysis and to create strategies for building a better future
2. To build up grassroots activists who have a vision for true change in Burma, are responsible and disciplined, and are clear in the nature of their commitment to the long-term struggle
3. To encourage the grassroots people to lead the struggle for social, economic and political change in Burma
4. To build up international awareness and support for the struggle in Burma by acting as a bridge between the grassroots people and the international support community in such a way that the grassroots people help international support groups focus actions on the most critical issues which prolong the cycle of war in the country.

Programs

1. Grassroots empowerment: educating and empowering communities in Burma's civil war zones. It includes education to both adults and children in concepts of civil participation, leadership, critical thinking, and cultural pride
2. Information for action: documenting the human rights abuses through interviews, videos and photography
3. Campaigns for peace: raising awareness among the international community about the situation.

Activities

1. *Information for Action* - aims to systematically document past and present events for analysis in order to

plan for a better future. This focuses on information for the internal movement and for external supportive campaigns.

The Documentation Centre provides a base for information for and from the other projects. The Video Project aims to raise awareness of the situation in Burma. The Kwe Ka Lu Newspaper, a Karen-language monthly newspaper, aims to be a tool for empowerment among grassroots Karen villagers by developing their awareness of local, regional and global issues and by encouraging them to express their views on issues that affect their lives. The Burma Issues Newsletter, produced by the Research and Publications project, is an eight-paged, monthly, issue-oriented news bulletin, which analyses information on Burma for an international audience. The Human Rights Documentation project trains documentalists to go inside Burma to collect information on human rights abuses, as well as train village-level documentalists so that villagers can do the work themselves.

2. *Grassroots/Community Organizing* - gives the tools and support to the grassroots people to lead the struggle for social, economic and political change in Burma, helps distribute publications relating to the situation in Burma to the grassroots and collects information from refugees, works to empower children through two projects, Children's Education and Children's Story Book.
3. *International Peace Campaign* - aims to build up international awareness and support for the struggle in Burma by acting as a bridge between the grassroots people of Burma and international community in such a way that the grassroots people help international support groups focus actions on the most critical issues which prolong the country's cycle of war.

Publications

- Burma Issues Weekly
- Burma Issues Newsletter
- Living Ghosts - The spiraling repression of the Karen population by the Burmese military junta (March 2008)

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Child Workers in Asia Foundation (CWA)

Year Established: 1985

Short Historical Background

Child Workers in Asia Foundation (CWA) was established in 1985 as a support group for child workers in Asia and the non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working with them. From a small group of five organizations, it now brings together over seventy-eight member-organizations working on child labor in eleven countries. It facilitates sharing of expertise and experiences between NGOs and strengthens their collaboration to jointly respond to the exploitation of working children in the region.

For the last twenty-two years, CWA has been a venue for interaction between big and small NGOs. The network has strived to contribute to the development of the understanding of the situation of children who work and are exploited. It has tried its best to support the emergence of local actions for working children and for the promotion of children's rights.

Objectives

CWA aims

1. To become one of the leading knowledge-based network organization within Asia in the field of child labor
2. To focus on institutional development by strengthening the CWA as an information, a coordination and an action network on the issue of child labor
3. To strengthen collaboration and capacities of CWA network partners to advocate policy against the worst forms of child labor.

Programs and Activities

Capacity Building - holding of activities such as the Children's Forum & Bangkok Regional Consultation Against the Most Intolerable Forms of Child Labour, Roundtable against Trafficking of Women and Children in South Asia, Workshop with ASIANET for Mekong countries on Child Trafficking.

Research on Khmer Migrant Children - CWA took part in a survey research on Khmer migrant children in Thailand in cooperation with Redd Barna Child Labor Project. The objectives of the research are to study the situation and factors involved in child labor cross-border and to present the research findings, alternatives and possible solutions to the concerned agencies, at both national and regional levels.

Exchange Programs - for NGO field workers from different countries to visit other countries in order to strengthen NGO coordination and partnerships between the participating countries, to share and document child labor situations at the state and national levels, and to draw lessons and methodologies on how to contact and assist child workers.

Resource Center - publications and audio-visual production - seeks to highlight the diverse contexts and conditions in which children work in selected countries in the Asia-Pacific region, as well as to analyze some of the key factors contributing to child labor and the main challenges to be addressed at the local and national levels in tackling the most intolerable forms of work that children do.

Publications

- CWA Newsletter – quarterly
- The World of Working Children (magazine)
- Books
 - Behind Closed Doors
 - Invisible Children (Save the Children Alliance & CWA) Training Materials
 - Working Together: A Guidebook for Training of Trainers on Mainstreaming Children's Participation
 - Raising One Voice: A Training Manual for Advocates on the Rights of Child Domestic Workers
- Comic books
 - The Working Children of Kathmandu, Nepal: Survivors
 - Child Workers in Nepal and CWA
 - Mina: Buruh Anak-Anak Di Perkebunan Malaysia (Child Workers in Asia, INSAN & SAMIN)

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Committee for Asian Women (CAW)

Year Established: 1987

Short Historical Background

The Committee for Asian Women (CAW) was founded as a church-affiliated organization based in Hong Kong, when women workers in the region had neither a voice nor a space to struggle for their rights. In the eighties, CAW was successful in facilitating the emergence of women workers organizations, as well as the empowerment of women leaders, the gender sensitization of trade unions and the labor sensitization of women's movements. CAW's specificity has from the very beginning until now intertwined labor and women's concerns and linked up women's organizations and trade unionism. This integration of issues is CAW's exceptional achievement and constitutes its organizational profile.

CAW is a regional network of forty-three women workers groups in fourteen Asian countries with the goal of empowering women workers to protect, advocate, and advance their rights. Since its birth more than thirty years ago, it has been doing pioneering work to build solidarity among women workers in various countries in Asia.

Objectives

The mission of CAW is to support the self-empowerment of Asian women workers and the formation of their movements to struggle against global capitalism and patriarchy, and to advance their rights. Essential to all this is the ongoing challenge of redefining work to encompass reproductive and domestic labor, and work in the informal economy, in addition to paid work.

CAW therefore aims

1. To raise the consciousness of women workers in Asia on their right to realize their common situations and problems, and to work for organized responses to these problems
2. To support organizing efforts of the women workers to affect favorable changes in their lives
3. To be a regional platform for women workers in Asia to facilitate and represent the voice of women workers in Asia
4. To promote improvement in the lives of women workers in Asia
5. To support women workers in their efforts to create alternative systems, both at home and in the workplace
6. To create organizing spaces for women workers.

Programs and Activities

CAW works for the improvement in the lives of women workers especially where they are most vulnerable and least organized. The programs CAW adopted toward this end consist of the following:

1. *Formal economy/Informalization of work* - focuses on trade agreements and their implication on local industries that employ women workers
2. *Informal Economy* - supports empowerment of women

workers towards legislative and policy protection for domestic workers, waste collectors and agricultural workers

3. *Women Workers Rights in Conflict and Suppression* - builds solidarity among women workers in areas of conflict and political suppression towards peace, democracy and decent work for women
4. *Information, Communication and Media* - disseminates information on women workers' issues through the Asian Women Workers Newsletter, CAW researches and reports, website and mass media
5. *Asian Labor Solidarity Movement Building* - builds linkages with other peoples' movements to enhance women workers' movements toward regional and global labor consciousness.
6. *Women Workers' Leadership Training and Education Program* - builds women workers' leadership capacity on national, regional and global issues towards the strengthening of women workers' movements in Asia.

Publications

CAW's most recent publications:

- Asian Women Workers Newsletter (Quarterly every year)
- CAW Forum on Women Workers in Areas of Armed Conflict and under Politically Suppressive Regimes (2006)
- Impact of Globalisation: Uniting Women Workers of Asia in Action (2006)
- Bridging the Gap: Women Workers & Media (2007)
- Women Migrant Workers under the Chinese Social Apartheid (2007)
- Disrobing NAMA (2007)

Other Information

The documentation center of CAW acts as a resource center for many activists and students working in the area of women and women workers. CAW has an extensive collection of books, newsletters and journals spanning three decades.

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Karen Human Rights Group (KHRG)

Year Established: 1992

Short Historical Background

The Karen Human Rights Group (KHRG) was established in 1992 and now consists of a small group of Karen office and management staff and foreign volunteers, supported by an extensive network of approximately thirty researchers based inside Burma. It documents the situation in any and all parts of Burma whenever firsthand information is available, though its background and limited resources lead it to focus most of its activities in southeastern Burma, particularly Karen areas. Though KHRG often operates in or through areas controlled by the Karen National Union (KNU), it is independent and unaffiliated with any other group. Its actions and reports are in no way controlled, restricted, or censored by the KNU or any other group or organization. Its commitment is not to any organization, but to the villagers whose voices are far too often ignored. To this end, its reporting follows their perspective on human rights - a more holistic view requiring an understanding of how different factors and abuses combined, rather than the incident-based legal perspective favored internationally. It also focuses on the strengths of local people in responding to their human rights situation rather than presenting them as helpless victims.

Objective

KHRG aims to help villagers in rural Burma to get their story to the outside world by translating their stories and testimonies for worldwide distribution, accompanied by supporting photos and documentary evidence of the human rights situation in rural areas.

Programs and Activities

Documentation of human rights situation – this program uses the media of written reports, audio cassettes, photos and occasional videos for the documentation of the human rights situation. The materials are distributed internationally to human rights organizations, Burma activist groups and opposition groups, the United Nations, including its Human Rights Council and Thematic and Special Rapporteurs as appropriate, various governments, relief organizations, academics, journalists and others worldwide.

The reports and photos are also circulated via the web site (www.khrg.org) and to a subscription email list.

The documentation is often presented in raw form straight from the field, consisting of the recorded, transcribed and translated testimonies of villagers and refugees who have suffered and/or witnessed human rights abuses, accompanied by written analysis of the context of those abuses. KHRG operates on the principle that it is the villagers themselves who can best express their situation, so their testimony forms the core of our reporting.

Empowerment of the villagers – KHRG works directly with villagers to help them overcome outside perceptions of

them as 'helpless victims' by focusing on their strengths and the strategies they already use successfully to resist human rights abuses and retain control over their own lives, land and livelihoods. Through this work, it hopes to catalyze discussions and other processes among villagers themselves that can enhance these strategies and strengthen their position relative to armed and powerful groups.

Special Concerns

Rural villagers in Burma who are suffering abuses such as forced labor, systematic destruction of villages and crops, forced relocation, extortion, looting, arbitrary detention, torture, sexual assault and summary executions.

Publications

- Regional and thematic reports - based primarily on detailed testimony by local people, supported by photographic and other evidence
- Field Reports - drawn from situation summaries submitted by KHRG researchers in the field, with supporting testimony from villagers and documentary evidence when available
- News Bulletins - regularly produced by KHRG to provide timely reporting on particular events in Karen and other areas of Burma, particularly when urgent action may be required
- "KHRG Commentary" – issued every few months to provide a summary of trends and some analysis and commentary relating the incidents being documented to the overall situation in Burma and internationally.

Address

Karen Human Rights Group (KHRG)

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www.khrg.org

Mekong Region Law Center

Year Established: 1994

Short Historical Background

The concept of the Center was formed during the first conference on Law and Legal Development in the Mekong Region held in Chiang Mai in September 1992. After eighteen months of development work by an international committee made up of legal experts from Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam, the MRLC was formally established at the inaugural conference of the Mekong Region Law Center in Phnom Penh, held in June 1994. The forming instrument was the MRLC Charter, which was signed by delegates from the member-countries and adopted at the inaugural conference.

MRLC is a member of the Thai Sub-Committee on Combating Transnational Trafficking in Children and Women, and is a member of the United Nations Working Group on Trafficking in Women and Children in the Mekong Sub-region. This working group helps provide technical support and advice in the management of the U.N. Inter-Agency Project on 'Trafficking in Women and Children in the Mekong Sub-region'.

In 1995, The Mekong Region Law Center Foundation was registered under the law of Thailand - Reg. No. Gor Tor 438.

Objectives

MRLC aims

1. To promote public consciousness of legal rights and responsibilities and to encourage respect at all levels of society for the rule of law
2. To foster prosperity and economic growth within the Region and attract investment into the Region, and
3. To assist and contribute to the process of legal development within the countries of the Region.

Programs

MRLC has programs in four legal fields:

1. Business and International Trade Law
2. Environmental and Resource Management Law
3. International Law [Public and Private]
4. Human Rights and Administration of Justice.

Activities

1. Training - training workshops on various issues (such as trafficking of women and children) at national and Mekong levels
2. Conferences/workshops
3. Internship
4. Legal databases (through publications and web-site)
5. Research

Publications

- Regional Conference on Trafficking in Women and Children, Mekong Region Law Center, Thailand. National Commission on Women's Affairs, Southeast Asia Fund for Institution and Legal Development, UNICEF (1997)

- Proceedings of the 1997 Regional Conference on 'Illegal Labor Movements: The Case of Trafficking in Women and Children', (in English) (1999)
- The Proceedings of the June 1999 Cambodian National Workshop on Trafficking in Women and Children, (prepared and produced by the Cambodian Ministry of Justice in Khmer and English) (1999)
- The Proceedings of the December 1999 Vietnamese National Workshop on 'Elimination of All Forms of Trafficking in Women and Children' (prepared and reproduced by Vietnam Lawyers' Association), (in English and Vietnamese) (2000)
- Proceedings of the November 2000 Thai National Workshop on 'Trafficking in Women and Children', (the main part is in the Thai language) (2001)
- The Thai criminal justice system and human trafficking : a report on the study / Mekong Region Law Center (translated by Pisawat Sukonthapan & Achariya Indrasen) (2006)

Address

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www.mekonglawcenter.org/index-current.htm

Office of Human Rights Studies and Social Development (OHRSD)

Mahidol University

Year Established: 1996

Short Historical Background

The OHRSD was established in 1996 by Mahidol University with the aim of providing education and research opportunities in the area of human rights. The OHRSD runs an international Graduate Program in Human Rights, leading to a Masters of Human Rights, and a number of research projects and other activities. It also offers an International PhD course in Human Rights and Peace Studies, and a Masters of Human Rights and Development in Thai language.

The Masters of Human Rights is the only Masters human rights program offered in the Southeast Asian region. It attracts students from around the world, and students from about twenty countries have graduated or are completing their research.

Objective

The OHRSD aims to develop the ways and means by which human rights are transformed into social and political realities at the community, national and international levels. It does so primarily through educating human rights practitioners, but also through outreach programs to community and international organizations, and by conducting cutting edge research on issues of crucial importance to human rights.

Programs and Activities

1. *Study Program* - OHRSD is currently running three graduate study programs
 - MA in Human Rights (International Program)
 - PhD in Human Rights and Peace Studies (International Program)
 - MA in Human Rights and Development (in Thai language)
2. *Training Program* - OHRSD runs human rights training upon request to enhance academic human rights knowledge for practitioners in the region. From 2002-2006, it also ran annual Southeast Asian Advanced Program on Human Rights and Asian Thematic Training on Human Rights with the support from the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, Lund University, Sweden.
3. *Research* - OHRSD supports research that contributes to the greater understanding and increasing reach of human rights to all levels and groups in society. Research supported by the program aims to both develop academic knowledge of critical concern to human rights, and provide practical applications of human rights activities in a wide diversity of fields.
4. *Networking* - OHRSD is an active component of the human rights network of organizations from the grassroots level, to the national and international levels. The OHRSD works with non-governmental organizations, government offices, and regional groups who are active in the field of human rights.

Publications

- A Critical Analysis of the United State's Treatment of Detainees at Guantanamo Bay Naval Base in the Context of International Law, Maria Therese Godskesen
- Capital Expansion and Migrant Workers: Flexible Labor in the Thai - Burma Border Economy, Dennis Arnold
- Good Governance and Legal Reform in Indonesia, R.Herlambang Perdana Wiratraman
- The Impact of TRIPS on Thailand's HIV/AIDS Drug Policies: Human Rights Concerns in the Context of Global Trade, Mukdawan Sakboon
- Non-Formal Primary Education in Bangladesh: An Examination of its Compliance with the Right to Education - Shihab Uddin Ahamad
- Communication and Human Rights, Mike Hayes (editor)

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Judicial System Monitoring Programme (JSMP)

Year Established: 2001

Short Historical Background

JSMP was established in April 2001 to monitor the processes of the Ad Hoc Human Rights Tribunal in Indonesia and the Special Panels for Serious Crimes in Timor Leste. JSMP very quickly extended court monitoring and judicial system analysis to include the operations of Timor Leste's District Courts. JSMP also undertakes legislative analysis.

JSMP created the Women's Justice Unit to focus on cases involving women victims of domestic violence in 2004, Victim's Support Service, a legal referral and legal aid service for women in 2005.

Objectives

JSMP aims to be the foremost independent organization in Timor Leste that contributes to the development and improvement of the justice and legislative system through objective monitoring, analysis, advocacy and training in order to:

1. Support and advance the rule of law and human rights
2. Advance the independence of the judiciary and the legal profession and the administration of justice in full compliance with standards of international law
3. Promote the adoption and implementation of international human rights standards and other legal rules and principles that advance human rights and the rule of law
4. Promote the establishment and enforcement of a legal system that protects individuals and groups against violations of their human rights
5. Promote understanding of and compliance with the rule of law and human rights and provide assistance to those to whom the rule of law and human rights are denied
6. Promote equality and the right of everyone to receive equal and fair access to justice and treatment under the law.

Programs and Activities

1. *Legal Research* - involves 1) trial observation, 2) judicial system analysis, 3) analysis of pending bills in the National Parliament and those submitted by the government, 4) lobby and advocacy work with the parliament, government, those involved in the judicial system, and the United Nations.
2. *Women's Justice*
 - Monitoring and Reports – JSMP monitors the progress of women-related cases at the District Courts and generates reports on issues found significant. It also monitors and reports on actions of all justice sector actors regarding sexual assault and domestic violence cases.
 - Training - JSMP provides training on domestic violence guidelines for prosecutors, and on formal

justice system and domestic violence and sexual assault for members of the police, local government leaders and women's groups at the districts level.

- Public Education Materials – JSMP produces and distributes education materials (including posters, brochures, a radio program and a TV Show) on bringing gender-based violence cases to the formal justice system.
3. *Victim Support Service (VSS)* - provides information, advice and support to women victims for their empowerment and the improvement of their ability to access the formal justice sector. The VSS hopes to assist in the successful prosecution of cases involving sexual assault and domestic violence and improve the efficiency of the formal justice sector.
 4. *Outreach Unit* - disseminates information to the general public, provides the media with information on human rights and legal issues, and provides training on human rights and the judicial system to members of the Suco Council (village council).

Publications

Thematic Reports

2007

- Digest of the Jurisprudence of Special Panels for Serious Crimes (English,
- Torture Survivors: Their Experiences of Violation, Truth and Justice (English, Indonesia)

2006

- Progress to Date in the Cases of Rogerio Lobato and Mari Alkatiri (Indonesia English, Tetum)
- Victim Support Service Mid-Year Report (English, Indonesia, Portuguese)

Judicial Monitoring Updates

2007

- The Right to Vote (Indonesian, Português, English)
- Restrictive Measure, Pre-Trial Detention, Parole and Suspension of the Execution of a Prison Sentence (Indonesian, Português, English)
- The Court Needs Witness Testimony to Establish The Material Facts (Indonesian, Tetum, English)

Information on other publications available at www.jsmp.minihub.org/Language_English/reports_english.htm

Address

Judicial System Monitoring Programme
Rua Setubal, Kolmera, Dili, Timor-Leste
Postal Address: PO Box 275, Dili, Timor-Leste VIA DARWIN
ph/fax: (670) 3323 883
e-mail: info@jsmp.minihub.org
www.jsmp.minihub.org

La'o Hamutuk (Instituto ba Analiza no Monitor Desenvolvimento iha Timor-Leste /Timor-Leste Institute for Development Monitoring and Analysis)

Year Established: 2000

Short Historical Background

La'o Hamutuk (LH) was founded in 2000 in Timor-Leste at the start of its transition to independence after the 24-year Indonesian occupation. LH started as a joint initiative of Timorese civil society leaders and international solidarity activists to address the major influence of international organizations (the United Nations, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Asian Development Bank), aid agencies, multinational oil companies, global commodity trade groups, etc. on the new nation.

Today, LH is a Timor-Leste organization with international participation that monitors and reports on the activities of international institutions in Timor-Leste as they relate to the physical, economic and social reconstruction and development of the country. LH believes that the people of Timor-Leste must be the ultimate decision-makers in the development process, and that the process should be as democratic and transparent as possible. In this regard, LH provides non-partisan analysis of international activities in Timor-Leste with the goal of facilitating greater levels of effective Timorese knowledge about and participation in the reconstruction and development of their country.

Objectives

LH aims

1. To monitor, analyze and provide information on the development of Timor-Leste, and to help make that process more just and responsive to Timor-Leste needs and desires
2. To empower the people of Timor-Leste, especially women, to participate more effectively in the development process
3. To facilitate relationships between the people of Timor-Leste and international solidarity networks, providing information on alternative development models
4. To increase communication and understanding between the people of Timor-Leste and international institutions and donors
5. To advocate for improvements in transparency, economic and social justice, human rights and democracy
6. To help Timor-Leste learn about and avoid the pitfalls of globalization, petroleum dependency and export-oriented "free market" economic policies.

Programs

LH researches and investigates several broad issues such as the following:

1. Natural resources, especially oil and gas. This includes petroleum dependency, revenue management, regulation of oil companies, environment, transparency, accountability, sustainability and human and community rights
2. Agriculture and food security, including agriculture

policy, land rights, markets, irrigation, farm-to-market transport and other aspects of life in rural areas

3. Governance, including justice, security, rule of law, human rights, civic education, elections, legislation, state institutions, decentralization and government administration
4. Economic development, including foreign investment, privatization, globalization and trade, especially in sectors other than petroleum and agriculture
5. Social services, including health, education, communications, water, electricity and infrastructure.

Activities

1. Research - through analysis of documents, interview with policy-makers and intended beneficiaries, and consultation with experts from around the world
2. Publishing Bulletin every few months, with reports based on LH's research and other information
3. Maintenance of website and email list
4. Broadcasting weekly radio program "Igualidade"
5. Holding public meetings that bring together panels of decision-makers and civil society
6. Maintenance of a resource center (library) with books, electronic and audio-visual materials
7. Advocacy through the media, organizing coalitions, and direct personal contact
8. Information dissemination to the international and local media.

Publications

- La'o Hamutuk Bulletin (English and Bahasa Indonesia)
- Annual and other special reports
- Books
 - Sunrise LNG in Timor-Leste: Dreams, Realities and Challenges (English and Indonesian, 2008),
 - Tansa Mak Tenke Kuba (Tetum, 2005)
 - Kekuasaan, Gender dan Perubahan Sosial: Memoria Intercambio Nicaragua-Timor Lorosa'e (Indonesian, 2003)

Address

La'o Hamutuk

(Instituto ba Analiza no Monitor Desenvolvimento iha Timor-Leste /Timor-Leste Institute for Development Monitoring and Analysis)

1/1a Rua Mozambique, Farol, Dili, Timor-Leste

P.O. Box 340, Dili, Timor-Leste

Mobile: (670-\) 7234330

ph (670) 3325-013

e-mail: info@laohamutuk.org

www.laohamutuk.org

Institute for Family and Gender Studies (IFGS)

Year Established: 1987

Short Historical Background

In 1987, the Vietnamese government established the Center for Women Studies, one of the research institutes of the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences (VASS). During the International Year of the Family in 1994, the Vietnamese Government assigned to the Center an additional responsibility of taking on family studies. As a result, the Center was renamed the Center for Family and Women Studies. In February 2004, the Vietnamese government again renamed the Center into the Institute for Family and Gender Studies (IFGS). The Institute is the first and leading research institution of the Vietnamese government on women, family and gender issues.

Objective

The Institute aims to undertake theoretical and practical research to provide Vietnam's leaders, policy makers and planners at all levels with scientific arguments in the development of laws and policies on the family, women and gender equality. The Institute is also a reliable consultant for organizations and bodies in and related to family, women, and gender studies.

Programs

Research on various issues on women and the family such as the following:

Women Studies

- Women and rural economic development: household economic development, women's roles in rural economic development, and non-agricultural industry development
- Women, education, culture, and social affairs: the impacts of education policies, law education in families for family members, especially women, and the content and methods of education in families; prostitution and trafficking in women in Vietnam

Family studies

- The structure and function of Vietnamese families' transformation from traditional life to modern circumstances
- Family conflict and domestic violence

Gender equality studies

- Theoretical and practical foundations for implementing gender equality in Vietnam during the Doi Moi transition and for implementing socio-economic development policies as Vietnam pursues a socialist-oriented market economy
- Gender issues in education-vocational training system, influential factors and measures to improve gender inequality

Studies on children

- The roles of the family in the formation and development of a child's personality
- Child labor in the period of economic transition
- Violence against children

Policy-responsive studies

- Improvement of working conditions for women in some areas
- Employment and equality for women
- Social policies towards women and family
- Women and social non-conformity: prostitution, violence against women, homeless children and women

Activities

1. Designing and implementing theoretical and empirical studies in the fields of family, women and gender, independently or in cooperation with other research organizations, institutes, and universities at home and abroad
2. Delivering lectures at universities at home and abroad on family, women and gender issues
3. Disseminating scientific knowledge of family, women and gender through publications and other information channels
4. Building a network of information, documentation, library and necessary technical infrastructure for its studies on family, women and gender as a leading research center in the country in the fields of family, women and gender studies.
5. Providing consultation for organizations and bodies interested in and related to family, women and gender issues.
6. Providing active and effective support for the development of women through advocacy activities.

Publications

Periodicals

- Journal of Family and Gender Studies, Bimonthly in Vietnamese language
- Vietnam Journal of Family and Gender Studies, Bimonthly in English language

Books

- Gender equality in Vietnam (2008)
- Evolving process of domestic violence in Vietnam: Detection from a qualitative research (2008) (Forthcoming)
- Family Research: Feminist Theories and Gender Perspective (2006)
- Life and Change of Marriage and the Family in Vietnam Today (2006)
- Single Women in Vietnam (2005)
- Family and Women with Population, Culture and Sustainable Development in Vietnam (2004)
- Marriage and Family: Question and Answers (2004)
- Studies on Women, Gender and Family (2003)

Address

Institute for Family and Gender Studies (IFGS)
6 Dinh Cong Trang street, Hoan Kiem district
Hanoi, Vietnam

ph (844) 933-0435

fax (844) 933-2890

e-mail: ifgs@hn.vnn.vn; minhnguyen.ifgs@gmail.com

www.ifgs.org.vn

Research Center for Human and Citizen's Rights

Law Faculty of Vietnam National University (VNU - Hanoi)

Year Established: 2007

Short Historical Background

The Law Faculty of the Vietnam National University (VNU – Hanoi), founded in 1976, established the Research Center for Human and Citizen's Rights in 2007. The Dean of the Faculty decided to found the Center in order to focus on human rights research and education.

Objectives

The Center aims to popularize legal norms on rights and enhance the knowledge of students and members of the community on human and citizens' rights.

Programs

1. *Legal Information* – collection of legal data (in Vietnamese and English), maintenance of a law library and an online legal resource, and provision of legal counsel on rights-related issues
2. *Research* – research on human and citizens' rights, and capacity-building on rights-related issues for scholars and lawyers
3. *Education* - drafting curriculums and teaching of human rights in universities (graduate and post-graduate levels); popularizing legal norms on rights and enhancing the knowledge on human and citizens' rights of the students and members of the community
4. *Cooperation* - liaising between national and international researchers, educators, researchers, educational institutions and universities on human rights study.

Special Concerns

Human rights education and research

Publications

- Human Rights Law and Theories textbook (under preparation)

Address

Research Center for Human & Citizen's Rights (CHR)
Law Faculty of Vietnam National University
(VNU - Hanoi)
ph (844) 7547913
fax (844) 7547913
e-mail: ttquyenconnguoioi@gmail.com

Vietnamese Research Centre for Human Rights (VRC)

Year Established: 1994

Short Historical Background

In Vietnam, the awareness of human rights has existed for a long time. During the renovation process (Doi Moi), Vietnam has shown an interest in human rights research as an independent scientific subject. As a result, the Vietnamese Research Centre for Human Rights (VRCHR) was established under the Hochiminh National Political Academy, which has the status of a ministry, in 1994. The Hochiminh National Political Academy is the most influential Communist Party think-tank and a pre-eminent center for political scientific education. Since then, VRCHR became a unique and key scientific institution in promoting human rights awareness in Vietnam.

- Training Manual on Children's Rights
- Pictures on Children's Rights

Address

Ho Chi Minh National Political Academy
HVCTQG Hochiminh - Nguyen Phong Sac Street
Nghia Tan - Cau Giay - Ha Noi - Viet Nam
ph (844) 836-2468
fax (844) 756-5126 ; 8361-194
e-mail: vrchr@fpt.vn; vchumanrights@fpt.vn

Objectives

VRCHR aims

1. To conduct basic research on the history and theory of human rights, as well as systematic research on the situation of the actual implementation of human rights in Vietnam and around the world
2. To teach human rights to Vietnamese public servants, to educate and strengthen the awareness of human rights at all levels of society
3. To develop and disseminate human rights documents to the society
4. To strengthen the scientific base and contribute to policy and lawmaking related to human rights
5. To enhance the international relations and cooperation concerning human rights research with human rights institutions in other countries and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working in Vietnam.

Programs

- Research on various themes
- Teaching/education for different target groups
- Convening national workshops and conferences
- Preparation of human rights documents
- Publication of books and monthly fact-sheets on human rights
- Building up good relations and cooperation with human rights institutions around the world.

Activities

- Research, publication and education

Publications

- Information of Human Rights, newsletter
- Pocketbook on the International Bill of Human Rights
- Pocketbook on Women and Children's Rights
- Traditional Practices and Guarantee of Equality Rights for Women and Children in Vietnam
- Human Rights : Major International Instruments
- Human Rights : Some Major International Instruments
- Introduction to the International Bill of Human Rights
- For Children's Rights and Equality for Women

The following institutions have been identified as human rights centers but have no profile in this Directory due to incomplete information. Several other institutions were recommended for inclusion in the Directory but their formal name, address, and profile information were not yet available at the time of printing.

Bangladesh

LAW WATCH - A Centre for Studies on Human Rights Law

House E-13, 2nd Floor, Pallabi Extension, Mirpur
Dhaka-1221 Bangladesh
ph (882) 8020628 / 018229212
fax (882) 812 5155

India

Centre for Human Rights and Citizenship Studies

West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences
Dr. Ambedkar Bhavan
12, LB Block, Sector III, Salt Lake City
Kolkata 700098 India
ph (91-33) 2335-0534/73799/0765/2806
fax (9133) 2335-7422

Human Rights Advocacy and Research Foundation (HRARF)

No.10, Thomas Nagar, Little Mount, Saidapet
Chennai 600015 India
ph (91-44) 2353503
fax (91-44) 2355905

Human Rights Institute Lucknow

C-2/5 River Bank Colony
Lucknow 22601 India

Centre for Human Rights Pondicherry University

R.V Nagar, Kalapet
Puducherry 605 014
ph (91-413) 2655991 to 2655998, local 451
www.pondiuni.org/scho.html

Indian Institute of Human Rights

A-16, Paryavaran Complex, (E), Saket-Maidangarhi Marg
New Delhi-110030 India

Indonesia

Sentra Kajian Kebijakan Publik dan Hak Asasi Manusia, Universitas Lampung (SKKP & HAM UNILA)

Jl. Prof. Sumantri Brojonegoro, Bandar Lampung
ph (62721) 705173
fax (62721) 773798

Pusat Studi Hak Asasi Manusia (PUSHAM UNP)

Universitas Negeri Padang
Jl. Prof. Dr. Hamka Air Tawar Padang 25131, Indonesia
ph (62751) 445 187/445 128

Pusat Kajian HAM UNM (PK-HAM UNM)

Universitas Negeri Makassar (UNM)
Gedung Rektorat Lama Lt. III Kamar BA. 312,
Kampus Gunungsari Baru,
Jl. A.P. Pettarani, Makassar, 90222 Indonesia
ph (62-411) 884534, 587219
fax (62-411) 868794

PSA HAM Universitas Riau (PSA-HAM UNRI)

Jl. Pattimura 9 Pekanbaru 2813 Indonesia
ph/fax (62-761) 40191

Pusat Studi dan Advokasi Hak Asasi Manusia (PSA-HAM UNDANA)

Universitas Cendana, Kupang
Jl. Adisucipto Penfui, Kotak Pos 1212
Kupang 851560 Indonesia
ph (62-380) 881560
fax (62-380) 881560

PUSHAM Universitas Pattimura

Jl. Batu Gantung Dalam No. 52 RT 01/004 Ambon
Jl. WR. Supratman SK 3-34/35, Lorong Kedondong
Tanah Tinggi, Ambon, Indonesia
ph (62911) 353974
fax (62911) 353974

Human Rights Study Centre

Faculty of Law
Mataram State University
Lombok, West Nusa Tenggara
Indonesia

Pusat Studi Hak Asasi Manusia

PUSHAM Universitas Bung Hatta Padang, Sumatra Barat
Fakultas Hukum Universitas Bung Hatta
Jl. Sumatera Ulak Karang Padang
ph/fax (62751) 444 177

PUSHAM FH Unsoed

Kampus Grendeng Purwokerto
ph (6281) 638339

PK HAM dan Hukum Humaniter FH Unisba

FH Unisba, Jl. Tamansari No. 1 Bandung 40116
ph (6222) 4203368 ext. 127, 129
fax (6222) 4264066

PUSHAM UIN Syarif Hidayatullah JKT

Jl. Ir. H. Juanda 95 Ciputat 15412
ph/fax (6221) – 7493367

Pusat Studi Hukum Humaniter dan HAM (terAs)

FH Universitas Trisakti Jakarta
Jl. Kyai Tapa No. 1
Kampus A Grogol Jakarta 11440 Indonesia
ph/fax (6221) 5637747

PUSHAM Universitas Panca Marga Probolinggo

Jl. Yos Sudarso Dringu Kab. Probolinggo
Jawa Timur 67271 Indonesia
ph (62335) 422715

Pusat Kajian HAM Universitas Diponegoro

Jl. Imam Bardjo, S.H., No. 1-3 Semarang
ph (6224) 831 7870
fax (6224) 884 9873 / 831 6870

Japan**Hiroshima Shudo University Human Rights Research Center**

1-1-1, Ozukahigashi, Asaminami-ku, Hiroshima, 731-3195, Japan
ph (81-82) 830-110300
fax (8182) 830-1303

Kanagawa Human Rights Center

1-1-28 Nakahara, Isogo-ku, Yokohama city
Kanagawa, Japan
ph (8145) 773-2250
www.bekkoame.ne.jp/ro/jinken/index.html

Yokohama International Human Rights Center

Nagashima Bldg, 3-97, Hanasaki-cho, Nakaku
Yokohama, 231 Japan
ph (81-45) 261-3855
fax (81-45) 243-4030

Korea (south)**Dasan Human Rights Center**

313 Beobjeon Bldg., Wonchon-dong, Paldal-gu, Suwon
Kyunggi-do, South Korea
ph 82-31-213 2105
fax 82-31-215 4395
e-mail: humandasan@hanmail.net
www.rights.or.kr

Mongolia**Mongolian Human Rights Center**

Baga Toiruu-49; Ulaanbaatar-46,
P.O. Box-374, Mongolia
ph (976-11)318041, 322842
fax (976-11) 318041

People's Republic of China

Human Rights Teaching and Research Centre
Beijing Normal University

Human Rights Research Department

Capital Normal University
www.cnu.edu.cn/index.asp

Child Rights Centre

East China University of Politics and Law,
1575 Wan Hang Du Road
Shanghai 200042 China

Centre for Human Rights Studies

Fudan University
220, Han Dan Road
Shanghai, 200433 China
ph(8621) 65642590
fax (8621) 65119567

Research Center for Human Rights

Guangzhou University
Guangzhou, China
ph (86 139) 2502-7359
fax (86139) 208655 0229

Human Rights Research Center

Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences
7/622 Huaihai Zhonglu
Shanghai 200020 China
ph (8621) 53820569
fax: (8621) 53820569
<http://english.sass.org.cn>

Human Rights Study Centre

Zhongnan University of Economics and Law
Wuhan, China

Philippines**Center for Peace, Gender and Human Rights Education**

Philippine Normal University
Taft Avenue, Manila, Philippines 1000
ph (632) 527-03-66
fax (632) 527-03-66

Moro Human Rights Center (MHRC)

27-D Matapat Street,
Barangay Pinahan
Quezon City, Philippines
ph (632) 433-6816

Sri Lanka**Sri Lanka Foundation**

27, Independence Avenue
Colombo 7, Sri Lanka
ph (941) 69-88-14

Thailand**Institute of Community Rights**

3 Soi 1, Wualai Road, Haiya Muang
Chiangmai 50100 Thailand
ph/fax (6653) 201796

HURIGHTS OSAKA, inspired by the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, formally opened in December 1994. It has the following goals: 1) to promote human rights in the Asia-Pacific region; 2) to convey Asia-Pacific perspectives on human rights to the international community; 3) to ensure inclusion of human rights principles in Japanese international cooperation activities; 4) to raise human rights awareness among the people in Japan to meet its growing internationalization. In order to achieve these goals, HURIGHTS OSAKA has the following activities: information handling, research and study, education and training, publications, and consultancy services.

HURIGHTS OSAKA

(Asia-Pacific Human Rights Information Center)

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phone (816) 6577-3578

fax (816) 6577-3583

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www.hurights.or.jp