



## PRESS RELEASE

### *Victims' families move to Appellate Courts seeking investigation...*

Advocacy Forum (AF) has sought the interventions of the appellate courts in Nepal today in relation to 28 cases of grave human rights violations in a total of 12 districts. The organization assisted 24 families to file petitions of Mandamus requesting court orders for police to promptly investigate First Information Reports (FIRs) concerning extrajudicial executions and enforced disappearances that occurred during the armed conflict, and 4 other families to file petitions of Mandamus seeking court orders for the police to formally register the FIRs – something the police have refused to do for months.

Despite the legal duty of the police to initiate investigations after FIRs are filed; to submit reports to the public prosecutor who then brings charges against those responsible, the police in all these FIRs has so far failed to proceed with effective investigations. The Nepali criminal justice system has failed to effectively respond to these complaints and not a single perpetrator in these or any other cases has been brought to justice before a civilian court yet.

The 24 FIRs were registered as far back as October 2006; and October 2008 in the most recent case; the police failures to register the 4 FIRs date back to September 2006 to February 2009. The petitioners have claimed that the delays in police investigations have not only delayed justice to victims but that the police inaction has also contributed to ongoing impunity. As the police have failed to investigate the FIRs for a long time, the petitioners have asked the court to order the police to complete its investigations within three months.

Despite the commitments made by previous governments time and again, all of them have failed to provide justice to the victims of human rights violations. AF calls upon the present government to give top priority to investigate and prosecute the most serious crimes of the conflict and ensure victims' rights to truth, justice and reparation.

AF, a national human rights NGO, stands with the victims and their families and demands that the investigation in the FIRs are carried out without any delay and that perpetrators are brought to book in fair trials.

AF has provided legal aid to file petitions of mandamus in the following cases. (More details of the cases can be found in a joint AF – Human Rights Watch report: “*Waiting for Justice*”, published in September 2008 (<http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2008/09/11/waiting-justice-0>):



**वकालत मञ्च-नेपाल**  
**ADVOCACY FORUM- NEPAL**  
*Lawyers forum for human rights and rule of law*

S.N.	Name of the victim	FIR Registered Date	Incident Date	Address
1.	Pahalbir B.K.	15 February, 2007	July 11, 2004	Baglung district
2.	Raju B.K.	March 18, 2007	March 1, 2002	Baglung district
3.	Ganga Gauchan	15 February, 2007	July 11, 2004	Baglung district
4.	Chandra Bahadur B.K.	April 12, 2007	January 3, 2003	Myagdi district
5.	Khagendra Budhathoki	April 12, 2007	January 6, 2002	Myagdi district
6.	Dhan Bahadur Tamang	October 15, 2009	Sept. 27, 2004	Morang district
7.	Purna Shrestha	October 15, 2009	Oct. 15, 2005	Morang district
8.	Madhu Ram Gautam	October 15, 2009	Dec. 18, 2004	Morang district
9.	Rupa Tharu	Nov. 15, 2007	July 21, 2002	Bardia district
10.	Bhauna Tharu	July 24, 2006	May 30, 2002	Bardia district
11.	Keshar Bahadur Basnet	Feb. 14, 2007	March 11, 2002	Bardia district
12.	Manoj Kumar Datta	October 19, 2006	Oct. 12, 2003	Dhanusha district
13.	Ram Chandra Lal Karna	Oct. 19, 2006	Oct. 12, 2003	Dhanusha district
14.	Narayan Prasad Kanaje	Dec. 31, 2006	March 22, 2005	Palpa district
15.	Tek Bahadur Gaha	Dec. 31, 2006	March 22, 2005	Palpa district
16.	Dal Bahadur Darlami	Dec. 31, 2006	March 22, 2005	Palpa District
17.	Chot Nath Ghimire	Nov. 19, 2006	Feb 2, 2002	Lamjung District
18.	Shekhar Nath Ghimire	Nov. 19, 2006	Feb. 7, 2002	Lamjung District
19.	Ganga Bahadur Nepali	April 6, 2007	April 29, 2002	Tanahun District
20.	Shyam Sundar Kaini	April 6, 2007	April 29, 2002	Tanahun District
21.	Parbati Thapa and Dal Bahadur Thapa	July 15, 2007	Sept. 10, 2002	Banke District
22.	Dhani Ram Chaudhari	Oct. 29, 2007	Sept. 29, 2004	Banke District
23.	Kamal Dahal	May 4, 2008	Jan. 1, 2002	Banke District
24.	Jaya Lal Dhami	Sept. 10, 2007	Feb. 12, 2005	Dadeldhura District
25.	Bishal Nemwang	FIR not registered	July 9, 2008	Jhapa District
26.	Rama Devi Adhikari	FIR not registered	July 3, 2005	Jhapa District
27.	Binod Pokharel	FIR not registered	May 18, 2002	Udayapur District
28.	Deshraj Rai	FIR not registered	Nov. 6, 2003	Udayapur District

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