



AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
WARRINGTON GROUP
NEWS SHEET FEBRUARY 2019

ACTION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

HOPE FOR HUMANITY

DATES

Thurs. 21st FEBRUARY 7.30 – 9.30 pm
 GROUP MEETING & AGM - Nora Street
 Community House, Howley. WA1 2JG
Friday March 8th
 International Women's Day

INDIVIDUAL @ RISK –
MEHMAN HUSEYNOV - AZERBAIJAN

Mehman Huseynov – Azerbaijani Journalist &
 Human Rights Defender



Mehman Huseynov is an Azerbaijani human rights defender and journalist who documents corrupt practices and violations of human rights in Azerbaijan.

He is the chairman of the Institute for Reporters' Freedom and Safety, campaigning for freedom of expression and freedom of information.

When Mehman was arrested in January 2017 he was dragged to an unmarked vehicle, his mouth was sealed with tape, a bag was put over his head and he was beaten and tasered. On 10 January he was tried in a closed hearing and found guilty of 'disobedience of a lawful order by police officers' on the basis of false charges. He was given a 2-year prison sentence. Just as this jail term was coming to an end on 26 Dec. 2018, new criminal charges of assault were brought against him which he denies. If found guilty he could serve another 7 years in prison.



Please send the attached letter to the London Embassy of Azerbaijan

NIGERIA

Abused by those that should have protected them; the Knifar women's movement are survivors who are campaigning for justice



In North East Nigeria, many civilians spent years under the brutal rule of the armed group Boko Haram only to face violence and abuse by the Nigerian military.

After a military operation to re-capture territory from the armed group, many of the survivors of Boko Haram fled or were sent to displaced persons camps. In these camps women have been subjected to sexual violence and rape – often through demands for sex for food. Many have died for lack of food, water or healthcare. Thousands of men of 'fighting age' suspected of being from Boko Haram have been taken away by the military breaking up families leaving women isolated and caring for families alone, and exacerbating the risk of abuse, hunger and even starvation.

The Knifar Movement are a group of survivors that have organised to demand justice and be re-united with their families. Around 2,000 women have collected lists of names of people from their villages who have experienced abuse by the military.

The Nigerian military are getting away with abuse etc. Please support the Knifar women's movement and add your name to an online petition calling on President Muhammadu Buhari and the state and federal governments to ensure that they can access sufficient food and reduce their risk of sexual exploitation.

Sign the online petition:

www.amnesty.org/en/get-involved/take-action/nigeria-knifar-women/

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El Salvador



Salvadoran court frees woman held under abortion laws.



Imelda Cortez, 20, has been found not guilty of attempted murder and has now been freed after 17 months in prison. She was arrested after giving birth in a latrine to a baby fathered by her abusive stepfather. The judge concluded that Imelda could not have been expected to act any differently, given the emotional, physical and psychological damage she had suffered as a result of sexual violence since childhood.

"It is encouraging to know that Imelda Cortez has finally received justice. El Salvador has taken a step in the right direction to protect the human rights of girls and women in what remains one of the most dangerous countries in the world for them. Amnesty welcomes Imelda's release but we must not forget the other girls and women who continue to face injustice in El Salvador just because they are women."

Suha Jabra - Social justice activist detained by the Palestinian Authority



The Palestinian authorities have transferred social justice activist Suha Jbara to a hospital in Jericho following a deterioration in her health condition. She has been on hunger strike since 22 November to protest her

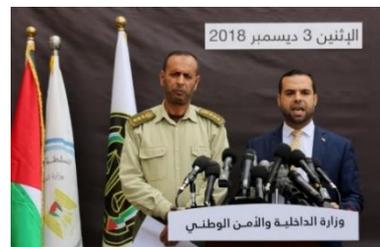
arbitrary detention. Her next court hearing was scheduled for 20 December.

Suha Jbara, 31, who is primary carer for three children, is a Palestinian, US, and Panamanian citizen. She is a social justice activist and is involved with Islamic charities. She also works to support the families of Palestinian prisoners in Israel. On 3 November 2018, she was arrested from her home in Turmusaya near Ramallah in the West Bank.

She is thought to have been held on the grounds of assisting the transfer of financial aid to the Gaza Strip for families of Palestinians killed or imprisoned by Israeli occupation forces after the PA suspended their salaries.

Amnesty International met with Suha Jbara in prison on 4th December and gained first-hand testimony detailing her brutal treatment from interrogators. Suha Jbara told Amnesty International that she was interrogated for three consecutive days during which she alleges she was tortured by several male interrogators.

Application of the death Penalty in Gaza



A spokesperson for Gaza's interior ministry announces the death sentences against six Palestinians convicted of collaboration by a military court on 3 December. A military court in Gaza this week sentenced six Palestinians, including a woman, to death and eight others to prison terms with hard labour for collaborating with Israel.

Friday March 8th – International Women's Day

Look out for profiles of Inspirational Women between 1st & 8th March on Twitter & Facebook to celebrate International Women's Day.

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." - Martin Luther King, Jr.