



International Human Rights e-Brief

May 16, 2016 / Issue No. 616

With nearly 400,000 judges, lawyers and associate members across the globe, the American Bar Association (ABA) is the world's largest voluntary professional membership organization and speaks with a powerful voice for human rights and a just rule of law. The ABA's [Section of International Law](#), its [International Human Rights Committee](#), and the ABA [Center for Human Rights](#) monitor international covenants, advocate for human rights lawyers and advocates persecuted for their work, investigate human rights abuses, and provide education about human rights issues. For past issues, click [here](#). To subscribe to the ABA-SIL/CHR Human Rights E-Brief, click [here](#). Non-ABA members wishing to subscribe should email Russell Kerr, Editor, at russell@kerrlawfirm.com.

- [Bulletin Board](#)
- [Human Rights News](#)
- [Job, Fellowship, and Volunteer Postings](#)
- [Educational Courses & Conferences](#)
- [IHRC Website \(Official\)](#)
- [IHRC Blog](#)
- [IHRC Instagram](#)
- [IHRC Gmail](#)
- [IHRC Facebook](#)
- [IHRC LinkedIn](#)
- [IHRC Slideshare](#)
- [IHRC Twitter](#)

Bulletin Board

STUDENT ESSAY COMPETITION

Enter the AAAS Science & Human Rights Coalition

Undergraduate and graduate students are invited to participate in the AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition 2016 Student Essay Competition. This essay competition was created to inspire students to explore connections between human rights and science, engineering and the health professions. Students may write on any topic at the intersection of science and/or technology with human rights. Prizes will be awarded in the following categories: 1) Undergraduate student and 2) Graduate student.

[Read me first](#)

PODCAST: WOMEN CONFRONT 'HONOR KILLING' IN PAKISTAN

Each year, throughout the world, thousands are murdered in so-called "honor killings" for bringing perceived shame onto their families for anything from infidelity to refusing an arranged marriage — or even being raped. The victims of these killings are predominately female, and because of legal loopholes and entrenched ideas about a woman's role in the family, the practice is especially prevalent in Pakistan.

At this year's Academy Awards, Pakistani-born director Sharmeen Obaid-Chinoy won the Oscar for Best Documentary Short for her film *A Girl in the River: The Price of Forgiveness*, which looks into the practice of "honor killing" through the story of a young woman who survived one. In this episode of the Asia Society Podcast, we hear from Obaid-Chinoy about why the crime persists, and how things might be starting to change. [Listen to the podcast](#)

Human Rights News

NEW REPORT RAISES CHILLING POSSIBILITY THAT MYSTERY OF 43 MEXICAN STUDENTS' DISAPPEARANCE WILL NEVER BE SOLVED

In hundreds of riveting, scathing pages, a panel of international experts has recounted the chaos and horrors that engulfed 43 Mexican college students on a rainy night in September 2014.

The damning compilation of events in the panel's 605-page report, issued Sunday, shattered the official account given by the government of what happened — yet failed to answer the most pressing questions: Where are the 43 young men? How did their lives, presumably, end? And how high in the government should blame go?

Instead, they were intercepted by police who set up roadblocks and opened fire repeatedly on buses and other vehicles trying to escape. Six people were killed immediately, including a high school soccer player and a woman in a taxi; the wounded desperately sought aid in local clinics but were turned away. Finally, police rounded up the 43 students they could catch and took them away, never to be seen again.

The body of another student that went missing in the melee was so badly mutilated — it appeared the face had been skinned — that it could not be immediately identified.

"We would have liked to bring news of the whereabouts" of the 43 students, said panel member Carlos Beristain, a Spanish doctor who specializes in conflict trauma. "The investigation remains open."

Claudia Paz, another panelist and former attorney general in Guatemala, said that, despite the work, "we are unable to respond to the question that we asked ourselves every night for the last year and a month and that all of the fathers and mothers" continue to ask. [Read more](#)

PENTAGON: U.S. BOMBING OF AFGHANISTAN HOSPITAL NOT A 'WAR CRIME'

The Pentagon announced Friday that 16 military personnel will be disciplined for the deadly U.S. strike on a hospital in Kunduz, Afghanistan, in October, but maintained that it was not a war crime because it resulted from unintentional human error and equipment failure.

The military said some personnel involved "failed to comply with the rules of engagement and the law of armed conflict," and that a general officer was among those facing discipline for their roles in the bombing of the Doctors Without Borders hospital.

The punishments include suspension and removal from command, letters of reprimand, formal counseling and extensive retraining. These punishments would have adverse effects on promotion of the personnel involved, according to the U.S. military.

"The comprehensive investigation concluded that this tragic incident was caused by a combination of human errors, compounded by process and equipment failures," Votel said in explaining the decision not to regard the incident as a war crime. He also said that the aircrew were "unaware" that they were firing on a hospital.

The hospital was operated by the non-governmental organization Doctors without Borders, also known as Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), which was located approximately 400 meters from the intended target, a Taliban-controlled site, according to the report.

Doctors Without Borders says that more than 100 patients were admitted to the hospital when it was struck. [Read more](#)

INTERNATIONAL COURT URGES UGANDA TO ARREST SUDAN PRESIDENT BASHIR

Sudanese President Omar Hassan al-Bashir began a two-day state visit to Uganda on Thursday, in defiance of two international arrest warrants issued against the Sudanese leader by the International Criminal Court, or ICC.

Uganda is a member of the ICC, which means it is required to act on the arrest warrant.

Uganda is fully aware of this obligation, according to Fadi el-Abdallah, spokesman for the Hague-based court.

The ICC accuses Bashir of committing war crimes and crimes against humanity in the conflict in Sudan's western Darfur region, which has left more than 400,000 people dead and two million others displaced. The conflict continues to claim lives, according to Amnesty International.

But critics say Uganda is unlikely to arrest Bashir while the Sudanese leader is in the East African country. They contend Sudanese officials might have received assurances from the administration in Kampala that he will not be arrested, since it was Uganda that officially invited Bashir. [Read more](#)

TWO CHINESE ACTIVISTS SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR PEACEFUL RALLIES

Two Chinese activists have been convicted and sentenced to prison in Hubei Province on May 9, 2016. Yuan Bing received four years and Yuan Xiaohua received three years over peaceful rallies that they attended in 2013. The Chibi City People's Court convicted them on charges of "picking quarrels and provoking trouble" and "gathering a crowd to disrupt order of a public place," after they were put on trial on April 19. Both had spent nearly three years in pre-trial detention, an extreme case in a familiar pattern of persecution that activists and human rights lawyers have been subjected to in recent years. Yuan Xiaohua is expected to be released at the end of the month, but both have said they will appeal their convictions, describing the case against them as a "clear example of political persecution." [Read more](#)

NEWS FROM: War Crimes Prosecution Watch, Volume 11 - Issue 5 – May 16, 2016

War Crimes Prosecution Watch is a bi-weekly e-newsletter that compiles official documents and articles from major news sources detailing and analyzing salient issues pertaining to the investigation and prosecution of war crimes throughout the world. [Read the Newsletter](#)

Job, Fellowship, and Volunteer Postings

PROGRAM MANAGER

Posted: 4/25/16

Reports to: Site Manager
Division: Operations
Location: Pretoria, South Africa
Job Level: Level 2 Manager
Starting Salary: \$49,069 (per annum)
Status: Exempt

CWS RSC Africa

The Resettlement Support Center (CWS RSC Africa) operates a US refugee resettlement program in sub-Saharan Africa through a Cooperative Agreement with the Department of State/Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration. CWS RSC Africa is responsible for the preparation of refugee case files for adjudication by US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) officers, as well as the out-processing and cultural orientation of all approved cases. CWS RSC Africa is administered by the Church World Service Immigration Refugee Program (CWS/IRP) and is based in Pretoria, South Africa.

Benefits

CWS Global and RSC Africa offer a total compensation package. The total compensation package includes a housing stipend, company life insurance, comprehensive health insurance, vision coverage, a non-participatory 5% retirement contribution, 22 vacation days a year, 3 personal days per calendar year, 1 day of sick leave per month, AD&D insurance, Bereavement leave, Employee Assistance Program (EAP), and optional dental coverage. Due to the volume of applications that we receive, only those individuals shortlisted will be contacted. [For an Application and more info](#)

INTERNATIONAL JOBS

Head of Humanitarian Funding

ActionAid UK

Location: London, United Kingdom

Apply by: 16 May 2016

http://www.devnetjobs.org/jobdescription.aspx?job_id=74338

Communications Intern

International Crisis Group

Location: Brussels, Belgium

Apply by: 22 May 2016

http://www.devnetjobs.org/jobdescription.aspx?job_id=74363

Executive Directors

World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)

Location: Gland, Switzerland

Apply by: 22 May 2016

http://www.devnetjobs.org/jobdescription.aspx?job_id=74865

Gender Specialist

Cardno Emerging Markets

Location: Suva, Fiji

Apply by: 29 May 2016

http://www.devnetjobs.org/jobdescription.aspx?job_id=74976

Director - Child Abuse Programme

Oak Foundation

Location: Geneva, Switzerland

Apply by: 31 May 2016

http://www.devnetjobs.org/jobdescription.aspx?job_id=74471

SOURCE: See more jobs at: <http://www.DevNetJobs.org> or by sending a blank email to: developmentjobs-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES WITH UNHCR

UNHCR employs some 9,000 staff from all over the world, mostly working in field locations where refugees and internally displaced people need our help most. They have a wide range of skills. Our staff provides life-saving aid and protection every day for millions of uprooted and stateless people around the world. This is something that our staff takes great pride of, despite the many hardships they face while working in deep field operations, at times close to or within conflict areas. Our greatest reward is to know that our work has a major positive impact and brings hope to people uprooted by conflict and persecution. Join the organization and help make a difference at a time when more people than ever need our help. UNHCR offers opportunities in a wide range of functional areas where you can achieve your professional goal to be a humanitarian.

For more information visit the "Careers" page at the UNHCR website: <http://unhcr.org/careers>

For additional job listings visit the Business and Human Rights Resource Center at: http://www.business-humanrights.org/Categories/Miscellaneous/Jobpostings?sort_on=effective

Educational Courses & Conferences

ONLINE PROGRAM ADMISSIONS

The United Nations-mandated University for Peace (UPEACE) is happy to announce upcoming online courses. These courses can be taken for graduate level academic credits offered by UPEACE or for training. The courses can also be taken as part of the Online MA programme on [‘Sustainable Peace in the Contemporary World’](#) offered by UPEACE.

- [Human Rights Education](#) (6 June to 15 July 2016) Professor Gal Harmat
- [Security Sector Reforms](#) (6 June to 15 July 2016) Professor Manish Thapa
- [Gender Mainstreaming in Peacekeeping Operations and Humanitarian Assistance](#) (6 June to 15 July 2016) Professor Olivera Simic
- [International Law Dimensions of Peace and Conflicts](#) (6 June to 5 August 2016) Professor Mihir Kanade

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM INTERNSHIP - FREE THE SLAVES

Washington, DC

Posted: 4/19/16

Free the Slaves (FTS) liberates slaves and changes the social, economic and political conditions that allow slavery to persist. We support community-driven interventions in partnership with local groups that help people to sustainable freedom and dismantle a region’s system of slavery. We convince governments, international development organizations and businesses to implement key changes required for global eradication. We document and disseminate leading-edge practices to help the anti-slavery movement work more effectively. We raise awareness and promote action by opinion leaders, decision makers and the public. Free the Slaves is showing the world that ending slavery is possible.

Learn more: www.freetheslaves.net

Internship Program Description

The Free the Slaves internship program is a formal effort to develop and train future leaders of the anti-slavery movement. We seek to provide each participant with training and hands-on experience in various facets of anti-slavery work. The program operates out of the Washington, D.C. office of Free the Slaves on a semester system, with three sessions per year: spring (January to May), summer (June to August), and fall (September to December). Participants are expected to participate in an orientation session at the beginning of each semester.

Internships are unpaid but students are often able to arrange academic credit, as Free the Slaves internships often offer direct exposure to the workings of an international human rights organization, close supervision by FTS staff, interaction with other U.S. and international organizations and foreign and domestic government officials, and opportunities to attend lectures, trainings, and special events relating to federal and international anti-slavery advocacy. Students should check with their individual academic institutions for requirements.

Please apply immediately by submitting your application via this link: <http://smrtr.io/nI7evg> Applications will be considered on a rolling basis beginning several months before each new semester. Early applications are encouraged. [For more information](#)

GRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Job Type: Internship (Unpaid)

Location: Washington, DC

The Religious Freedom Center, a dynamic and growing department within the Newseum Institute, seeks highly intelligent, motivated, and collaborative students to join the next cohort of graduate research fellows.

Onsite research fellowships are available to graduate students who seek to receive credit from their college or university for conducting academic research at the Religious Freedom Center of the Newseum Institute in Washington, D.C. There are currently five fellowship tracks available to applicants:

1. Distance Education: For graduate students who want to conduct research on best practices for online education, including blended learning programs.
2. Higher Education Administration: For graduate students who want to conduct research on best practices in admissions, registration, finance, accreditation, and/or student development.
3. Law and Religion: For graduate students enrolled in law school or a legal studies program who want to conduct legal research on the historical developments of church/state relations in the United States or on contemporary legal issues concerning religion and American public life.
4. Religion and Human Rights: For graduate students enrolled in international affairs or political science programs who want to conduct legal research on the human right to freedom of religion or belief.
5. Religion and News Media: For graduate students enrolled in schools of journalism or communication who want to conduct research on best practices for reporting on religion in the United States and abroad.

[For more information](#)

APPLICATION DEADLINE

- For the Fall 2016 semester: **June 15, 2016**
- For the Spring 2017 semester: **December 15, 2016**

Please download and complete the internship application form at

<http://www.religiousfreedomcenter.org/contact/jobs/>.

Reminder

The materials and information included in this listserv are provided as a service to you and do not necessarily reflect endorsement by the American Bar Association or the Section of International Law. We encourage subscribers to pass the information along to colleagues and other interested parties and to contribute press releases, news items, event listings, job vacancies and other appropriate information. To post a message email INTHUMRIGHTS@mail.abanet.org. For questions, suggestions or problems, contact Russell Kerr, russell@kerrlawfirm.com.

Thank you again for your interest and participation!

FAIR USE NOTICE: This weekly digest contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available in our efforts to advance understanding of environmental, political, human rights, economic, democracy, scientific, and social justice issues, etc. We believe this constitutes a 'fair use' of any such copyrighted material as provided for in section 107 of the US Copyright Law. In accordance with Title 17 U.S.C. Section 107, the material in this digest is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving the included information for research and educational purposes. For more information go to:

<http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/17/107.shtml>.