

ZIMBABWE HUMAN RIGHTS NGO FORUM

**POLITICAL VIOLENCE REPORT:
CONSOLIDATED REPORT FOR
25-31 MARCH 2002**

10 April 2002

A report by the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum

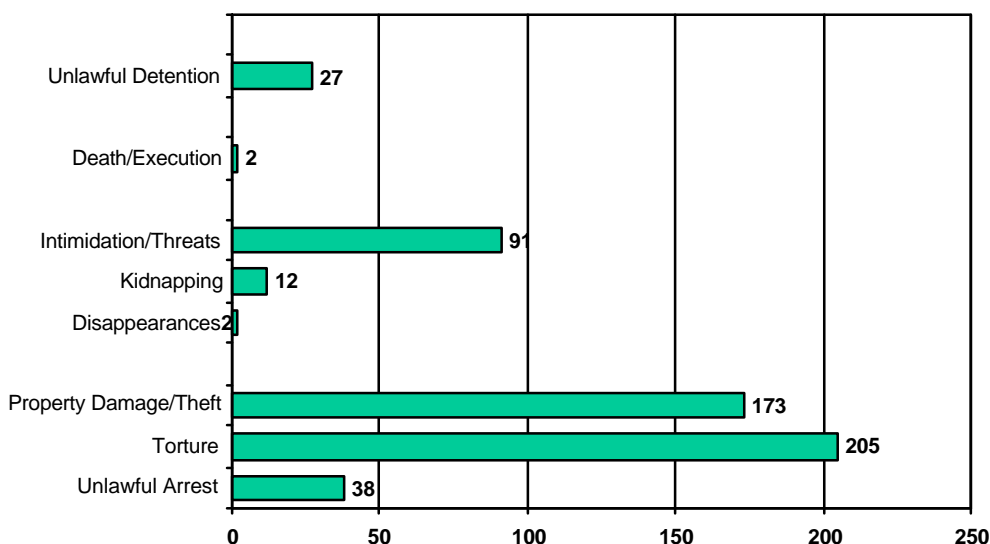
Overview

This is the second report issued by the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum after the Presidential elections of the 9th and 10th March 2002. It is thoroughly regrettable that the abuses and political violence which started as far back as just before the Constitutional Referendum in February 2000 are still continuing. This is despite the politicking call by the President for ‘all’ to work together.

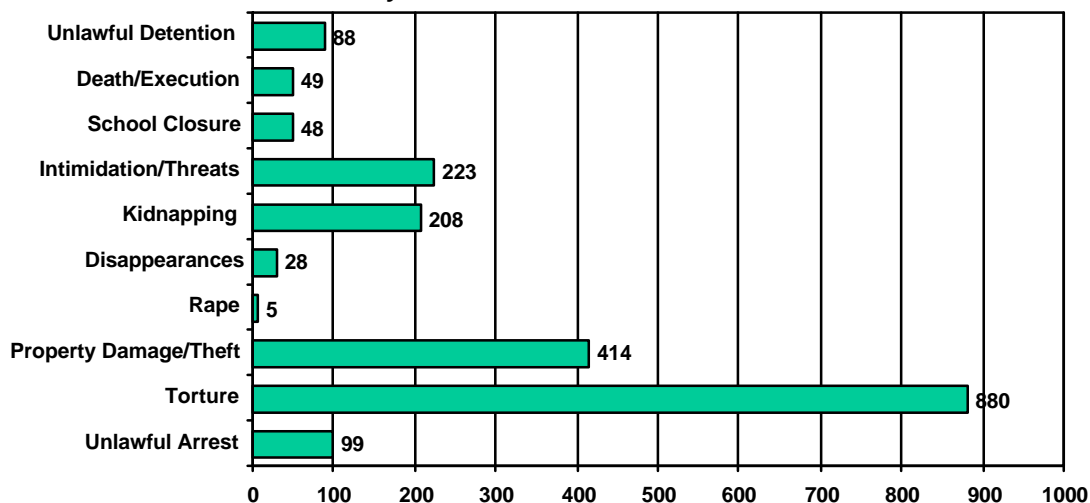
As will be evident from the bar graph below. The cumulative total cases of torture are alarming. There is evidence that after the elections ZANU PF supporters started a campaign of violence against supporters of the opposition with impunity. Notably in rural areas and commercial farms this is accompanied by destruction of property and cases of theft so as to force the owners of the land to flee. Torture bases used before the elections are still operational and there is no evidence of them being dismantled in the near future. Despite most of the cases being reported to the law enforcement agencies, very few have resulted in proper investigations and prosecutions as the war veterans are behaving like a law unto themselves.

It will be revealed that in most rural areas, a lot of supporters of the opposition are being forcibly displaced. During such incidents the abuse and violation of human rights is being carried out with unspeakable magnitude. It is really unfortunate that the ordinary people are the ones who are suffering yet those who have sought political offices are unaffected.

Totals 25 to 31 March 2002



Cumulative Totals 1 January 2002 – 25 March 2002



Sources: HR Forum legal statements, CFU reports and newspaper reports, Amani Trust medical assessments

❖ **Note on torture**

Torture:

All cases under torture fall under the definition of torture according to the general definition of torture given in the United Nations Convention Against Torture and Other Forms of Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment and Punishment.

The four elements of torture are:

1. Severe **pain** and **suffering**, whether physical or mental
2. **Intentionally** inflicted
3. With a purpose
4. By a state official or another individual acting with the **acquiescence** of the State.

Key Abbreviations

- CIO**- Central Intelligence Organisation
- DDF**- District Development Fund
- HCC**- Harare City Council
- MDC**- Movement for Democratic Change
- MP**- Member of Parliament
- NCA**- National Constitutional Assembly
- PG**- Provincial Governor
- POSA**- Public Order and Security Act
- UMP**- Uzumba Maramba Pfungwe
- ZCTU**- Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions
- ZNLWVA**- Zimbabwe National Liberation War Veterans Association
- ZNA**- Zimbabwe National Army
- ZRP**- Zimbabwe Republic Police
- Zanu-PF**- Zimbabwe African National Union – Patriotic Front

Beitbridge

14 March 2002

- GM went to Harare to vote, when she returned twenty-two Zanu pf supporters approached her. The group had a list of suspected MDC supporters and those who were absent during the voting period. GM and three others were told to go to Tsvangarai's country and the group started to assault them. They had to hitch hike into Bulawayo since they had been banished from the area. GM left her niece of whom she was in charge of. She sustained injuries on her shoulders, chest and had internal side injuries. She experiences pain when breathing and cannot sit for extended periods.

Bindura

12 March 2002

- Elliot Motsi (MDC) was kidnapped from his home and taken to an unidentified torture base by Zanu pf supporters. Police officers at Nyava tried to arrest Makundwa Muzavazi when he reported the abduction.

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24 March 2002

- Wellington Kapfumbal (MDC, ward 15) was severely assaulted with sticks because his children support MDC. He was bundled into a car bleeding from the mouth and calling out that he had been stabbed. He was driven to the home of Zanu-pf's political commissar Clever Masawi (Chifamba village), then to Nyava / Manhenga. He was still missing 5 days later and is feared dead.

Budiriro

2 March 2002

- Unknown assailants assaulted Chimwe Kotswa (MDC) on the day in question.

5 March 2002

- Endy Mhlanga (ZNLWVA sec-general) was severely assaulted with stones, machetes and metal objects and 'left for dead'. He was found by the police and taken to an unnamed private clinic. He lost shoes, cash, cell phone and his car was also damaged in the attack. It is unknown which institution his attackers belong to. It is

suspected that it could be either of three institutions, that is, Zanu PF, ZNLWVA or MDC. Mhlanga was investigating the abduction of 3 children of his late ZNLWVA colleague, Shadreck Murapa in 'unclear circumstances'. He was assaulted by men in Zanu-pf T-shirts who did not respond to his slogans and told him to stop campaigning for Zanu-PF. Word has it that this was an internal dispute between different factions of the ZNLWVA.

6 March 2002

- Men driving two Mazda 323s at 11am took Alick Mbizvo (MDC) from his home. Mbizvo left the Zimbabwe National Army last year and became an MDC activist. All MDC activists in Budiriro went into hiding on 9 February 2002 following attacks by the police and Zanu PF.

9 March 2002

- The Riot Squad dispersed and ordered voters to go home after the polling station was closed following disturbances in the extremely long queue.

Bulawayo

4 March 2002

- AN was forcibly removed from his home and taken to Majiji Secondary where he and other youths were detained over night by a group of twenty people. At night they were forced to stay in the bush but were not allowed to sleep. Those who slept were assaulted. They all had their heads shaved. The victim and fifteen others were denied their right to vote by a war veteran who was leading the group that had captured them. The victim only managed to escape on Monday 12 March at 1am

5 March 2002

- CL was assaulted for his political affiliation. Zanu pf youths and war veterans beat up the victim assaulting him with clenched fists and booted feet. The assault stopped after he lost consciousness. He was initially admitted at Inyathi hospital and then transferred to Mpilo Central Hospital. GN alleges that he was bleeding incessantly.

6 March 2002

- Zanu pf supporters arrived at the school and started to threaten all MDC supporters with assault and damage to property. Thirty youths and three war veterans arrived at the GN's home and threatened to beat her up. They took 3 chickens and maize. They also destroyed her garden. The victim fled to Bulawayo as the previous day she had witnessed the assault of CL.

13 March 2002

- MM works for ZESN and was writing some names as a ZESN worker when two Zimbabwe National Army soldiers who ordered him to stop approached him. They accused him of supporting MDC and threatened to kill him.

Chegutu

27 March 2002

- A group of Zanu pf youths went to EN's homestead looking for her husband. She heard them coming and fled. While fleeing she stepped into a ditch and sprained her ankle. They threatened to burn their house down if they found her husband there.

Chikomba, Hwedza, Marondera, East + West, Seke

12-31 March 2002

- Thirty-one unnamed farm owners had their farms ransacked by supporters of Zanu pf and war veterans. The value of the looted property was conservatively estimated at Z\$150 million, excluding 1 340 head of cattle either 'redistributed' or missing.

Chimanimani

19 March 2002

- Simon Panganyi Mudonha (MDC Vice Chairman Ward 9) was severely assaulted by Zanu pf supporters and was admitted to Biriri hospital. He was then transferred to Chipinge.

Chinhoyi

7 March 2002

- Thirteen MDC supporters were accused of being responsible for

political violence in the area. They were arrested, fined unspecified amount and later released.

9 March 2002

- Unnamed MDC polling agents were abducted and detained overnight at a Zanu-PF base. The Zanu pf supporters who had abducted them tortured them.

9 March 2002

- Abigail Kadaira (NCA Mashonaland West Chairperson) had her house petrol-bombed at 2.30am, destroying furniture and other household goods worth over Z\$500 000. The attack was four days after the petrol bombing of office property belonging Kadaira's employers, NCA.

8-10 March 2002

- Six unnamed householders had their houses torched by Zanu pf supporters.

Chipinge North

20 March 2002

- Elton Mudzungu, Tawanda Musawonge, Kudzai Chisirimunhu, MDC polling agents) and 38 unnamed people had their homesteads attacked at night by war veterans and Zanu pf supporters. They were assaulted and families had to flee and are scattered. Some are now living under Birchenough Bridge.

Chitungwiza

28 March 2002

- Isaac Mufawaenda, Isaac was whipped and assaulted on his back, head and face by Zanu PF supporters.
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Dzivaresekwa

28 March 2002

- Peter Karimakwenda (MDC, new HCC ward 39 councillor) and five unnamed MDC youths were arrested and detained for 6 days under POSA. They were released without being charged. The police are said to be investigating the case. Edwin Mushoriwa (MDC, Dzivarasekwa) said Zanu-pf youth were fighting among themselves over not being paid for electoral 'duties', and the police arrested MDC supporters nearby at the shopping center.

Glen View

8 March 2002

- Better Tsandugwa (Zanu-PF Branch Chairman) was attacked and bundled into a car belonging to MDC youths. His whereabouts were unknown at the time of the report. Tsandugwa was addressing a campaign meeting at the time of kidnapping.

Gokwe South

29 March – 1 April 2002

- Stephen Kandoro, Fanwell Mkoki, Christian Moyo, Stephen Mudadikwa, Nelson, Albert and Jemani Mhuri (MDC Polling Agents) had their huts torched because they had acted as polling agents / election support staff for MDC.

Gutu North

9 March 2002

- An unnamed female MDC polling agent at Nerupiri Polling Station was abducted from the polling station and held at Mahofa's house overnight by Zanu pf youths. Her detention meant that ballot boxes were left unprotected.

28 March 2002

- Uniformed Zanu pf militia assaulted Crispa/Crispen Musoni (MDC) and unnamed customers.

Gweru Urban

2 March 2002

- Members of the Zimbabwe National Army and Presidential Guard assaulted a hundred unnamed drinkers (MDC). The Gweru Hospital staff refused to give details of those injured in the assaults fearing reprisals. State assaults also occurred in high-density suburbs simultaneously Portia Gwanzura and Hohodza were caught up in earlier assaults at Takarangana nightclub.

Harare

3 March 2002

- Unnamed Zanu PF supporters were threatened with death by MDC supporters.

Harare and Chitungwiza

9 March 2002

- In Zengeza 3 (ward 11 Chitungwiza) the police riot squad dispersed and ordered to go home after 'some disorder' at the heavily queued polling station.

Harare Central

20 March 2002

- Philip Mabika (MDC National Youth Executive Member) had his house stoned by Zanu PF supporters. The damage to his property was not specified.

Harare North

17 March 2002

- CS was at Sahwira beerhall where a group of young men was assaulting some police officers. CS knew one of the officers, a Constable Mbawuya and tried to rescue him. He took him as far as the service station where unknown assailants attacked them. CS is a member of the neighbourhood watch.

Hurungwe East

9 March 2002

- AZ was beaten up by six Zanu pf youths at Tarvoy Farm. AZ was an MDC polling agent. He was later released after a severe assault with electric wires and sticks.

12-31 March 2002

- Eight farm owners had their property looted by war veterans and Zanu pf supporters. The estimated value of the looted property is Z\$17 million in equipment alone.

Hwange East

17 March 2002

- **Sambani Ncube** (MDC) was severely assaulted by soldiers resulting in his ribs and spinal cord being broken. Ncube died as a result of the assault.

Hwedza

8 March 2002

- Rob Edgar, rob (farm owner) was given two hours to vacate the farm or face unspecified action by Zanu pf supporters. Two South African election observers witnessed the incident.

10 March 2002

- AK and an unnamed colleague were assaulted and the car they were travelling in stoned. The front windscreen and the left door window were completely destroyed. AK sustained injuries on his left shoulder and cuts on his right knee.

Kuwadzana

9 March 2002

- CC was a local observer and was at the polling station in Kuwadzana. The riot police had been trying to control the crowd since 10am. At 3:20pm they started randomly beating up people. One of them came from behind and beat CC with a baton stick on

his back and then his chest. When he tried to make a report to the police they dismissed it as a political issue and refused to take a statement.

9 March 2002

- Unnamed voters were assaulted and forced to go home before voting by members of the ZNLWVA.

Makoni East

9 March 2002

- Zanu pf supporters and war veterans attacked two MDC polling agents Vaida Mutigwa and Comet Zano at a polling station while on duty.

20 March 2002

- Two Daily News vendors, Tongai Manomano (20) and Munyaradzi Mupingo, (28) were abducted and force-marched to Zanu-PF offices in Rusape by war veterans and Zanu pf supporters. They were assaulted with sticks, sjamboks and the Falanga method was used. Proceeds from paper sales were stolen. Daily News was 'banned' in Rusape by Didymus Mutasa.

Marondera West

11 March 2002

- TM was a polling agent for the MDC at Chitandara School in Marondera. After the polls Zanu-PF youths kept threatening him with death and he fled to Harare as a result. On the day that he fled, the youths burnt his house.

Masvingo North

27 March 2002

- About 100 Zanu pf supporters repeatedly threatened John Borland (farm owner) with death after Chidza farm was delisted and occupiers served eviction notices. The riot squad broke up an

occupier's 'illegal' demonstration (under POSA) in Masvingo city. Borland gave over 2 of his 3 farms to government. Delisting was believed by ZNLWVA to have resulted from bribing Masvingo PG Josaya Hungwe.

Mazowe West

29 March 2002

- A group of Zanu pf youths from Marata resettlement area came and indiscriminately beat up farm workers. They instructed PZ and JM to pack their bags and leave the farm. They stole \$3500 from PZ's house. The leader of the group is one Matavire. PZ reported at Glendale police station and was referred to Concession where the reports were not taken. The police came the next day and recorded statements. PZ and JM were referred to the hospital and were told that matters reported by MDC supporters could not be taken any further.

Mbare East

29 March 2002

- Kingston Hurudza (a Zanu-PF activist) had his house petrol bombed and two clocks stolen from his house in Mbare. Sixteen suspected MDC supporters are alleged to have forced their way into his house just after midnight. They assaulted Hurudza before petrol bombing the property. Three suspects have been arrested in connection with the attack.

Mhondoro

13 March 2002

- Peter Everard Newby-Varty and four other farm owners were given a couple of hours to leave before farm occupiers looted farmhouses. The loot included 6 firearms worth Z\$1,2 million (later recovered by the police).

Mudzi

26 March 2002

- The chairman of Zanu pf youth, Nyakuma came and abducted the CS's husband. When her husband escaped they came and took CS

away. CS was assaulted with 15 strokes for her husband's "wrongs". She was taken to Nyamapanda Police where a report was made. The police said there was no need for CS to have been beaten up and she was given \$300 for transport to go back home.

Murehwa North

4 March 2002

- War veterans and Zanu pf supporters captured two brothers Paul and Kelvin Tapa when they tried to release their brother, Ephraim Tapa and his wife Faith from confinement in a tin hut at Mushimbo DDF camp. On the 8th of March High Court judge Benjamin Paradza ordered John Nkomo, Augustine Chihuri and Police Officer Masango to storm Mushimbo base in Mushimbo Township and all other bases in Mashonaland East until they found the couple. They were found and released on the 11 March 2002.

Mutasa

7-25 March 2002

- **Donald Jeranyama** (MDC Polling Agent) was arrested under POSA at St Martin's while awaiting deployment. He was tear-gassed and assaulted in the cells. He was bleeding from the ears on release but was discharged from hospital without being given any drugs. He later died at home and MDC have demanded a post-mortem. It is unclear whether he may have been further assaulted at home.

Muzarabani

9 March 2002

- Pinos Mukwengwe (MDC polling agent) was abducted (unclear whether he has been released) and two MDC vehicles torched.

Nationwide

5-8 March 2002

- Reports received from Harare, Gweru and Chinhoyi reported allege that postal voting was enforced under the scrutiny of commanding officers, often war vets. The Registrar General Tobaiwa Mudede refused to state precautions (if any) taken against multiple voting; instead he effectively challenged the complainants to prove the

offence, saying 'if we are informed, the law will take its course'. All uniformed services deployed for the election; were entitled to postal vote if deployed outside their own constituency. They were told to complete their postal vote under the scrutiny of commanding officers and with no monitoring of conditions of voting.

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28 March 2002

- Unnamed MDC supporters (2 547 families) are reported to have been displaced in what seems to be retaliation against the opposition. Some families were evicted while others fled their homes during house-to-house searches for MDC supporters. Displacements dealt with by Amani Trust so far total 423 in Midlands North, 121 in Masvingo, approx 200 in Chimanimani, and 2 000 in Mutasa.

20 March 2002

- Unnamed commercial farmers (50+) were evicted under threats of death with as little as one hours' notice by Zanu PF supporters and war veterans. Their property was looted and 12 homes trashed.

Rushinga

8 March 2002

- Seventeen MDC polling agents were arrested under POSA. No further details were given.

Seke

1 March 2002

- JM was coming from an MDC rally in Marondera when they were stopped by riot police and accused of assaulting people. They were told to get out of the vehicle and lie down. JM was assaulted on his back, hands and head using the barrel of their guns and baton sticks. They then phoned Chitungwiza police who came and arrested JM and others. They were detained in a cell and there were a total of 49 people in that cell. They were not told of the charges and the next day they were asked why they had been arrested. After paying a \$100 fine they were released.

9 March 2002

- CT was an MDC polling agent. On the way to be deployed they met

a truckload of Zanu-pf supporters who chased them into a cul-de-sac and stoned them then beat them with heavy sticks.

22 March 2002

- JC was assaulted by police officers. JC met a group of 15 police officers whilst coming from the MDC Chitungwiza offices. He was asked where he was coming from and why he was wearing an MDC t-shirt. JC was then taken to the police station and asked to lie prone. He was beaten up by two officers with baton sticks on the buttocks and legs.

Shamva

9 March 2002

- Thirty unnamed MDC polling agents were assaulted with clubs and broken bottles by Zanu pf supporters.

12 March 2002

- Fifteen unnamed mineworkers (MDC) were evicted from tied housing for having voted for Morgan Tsvangurai.

13 March onwards

- On the day the results were announced, Merenia Mujati was severely assaulted on her back and legs by members of Zanu pf. She fled to the MDC headquarters in Harare. On the 22ⁿ of March she was among those tear gassed and assaulted by the police riot squad while waiting outside Harvest House.

6-22 March 2002

- Emelda Mushambadope and her son Farai (MDC) were severely assaulted with sticks by about hundred Zanu pf supporters. She suffered a broken right arm and was treated at Bindura hospital. When she returned 'home' she went to sleep in the bush with her husband and four children. A week after the results were announced, she fled to a safe house in Harare leaving her family behind. Farai fled to his rural relatives somewhere in Mashonaland Central. Emelda's husband is too ill to work and she was her family's main support. She was not allowed to cultivate her fields this year by Zanu-pf youth and she is worried that her family may have been killed.

Shurugwi

27 March 2002

- A Tauya Coach Services staff member was threatened in Shurugwi town after they had refused to drive back to Gweru on day 1 of the ZCTU strike. He was ordered by members of Zanu pf to stop using the route on the following day at Tongogara. The bus was withdrawn from this route by Tauya's MD, Gordon Christie. This is seen as an ongoing saga of attacks on Tauya and Christie as they are believed to be MDC supporters.

Umguza

31 March 2002

- Mike Wood (farm owner) and unnamed farm workers were told to leave the farm by the 1st of April by suspected war veterans.

Umizigwane

5 March 2002

- HS joined the police force in January 2000. When members of the police force were awarded salary increases early in the year. The victim was awarded an increase below that of his colleagues. When he approached the officer in charge to inquire about this, he was accused of being an MDC supporter because he was questioning government decisions. On the 5th of March the victim again clashed with his officer in charge when he told the officer that he did not want to cast his vote through the postal ballot since he was going to be deployed in the same area as he had registered in. He was however forced to fill in the postal vote application form after he was threatened with being charged and losing his right to vote altogether. On the voting day the officer in charge informed him that voting against the incumbent president amounted to insubordination and that he could be charged for that. When HS disputed this he was advised to vote wisely or risk losing his job. HS had no choice but had to accept the choice that was imposed on him. He was made to vote in an office without a polling agent, officer or presiding officer.

31 March 2002

- Alastair Coulson (farm owner) and unnamed farm workers were ordered to leave the farm by 1 April. The order came from

suspected Zanu pf supporters and war veterans.

Zvimba South

26 March 2002

- Isaih Pilosi (farm foreman), brother Simeon, Lawrence, his wife and Marijeni Paso (security guard) were assaulted with steel bars and chains by war veterans and Zanu supporters. They were also threatened with death; Pilosi, his wife and Marijeni fled the farm and went into hiding. 'War veterans' invaded the farm immediately after Zanu pf's 'victory' was announced and started torturing workers.

Deaths resultant from political violence 1 January 2002 – 25 March 2002

Name, Political Affiliation if known, Date of Death, Province, Constituency

1. **BHEBHE, Newman** (MDC), February 2002, Matabeleland North, Nkayi
2. **CHATUNGA, Richard**, (MDC), 20 January 2002, Masvingo, Bikita East
3. **CHITEHWE, Mr**, (ZNLWVA), January 2002, Harare, Hatfield
4. **DUBE, Nqobizita**, (MDC), 1 March 2002, Bulawayo, Nkulumane
5. **FORD, Terry**, (commercial farmer), 18 March 2002, Mashonland West, Mhondoro
6. **GATSI, Ernest**, (MDC), 19 March 2002, Mashonaland Central, Guruve North
7. **GWAZE, Tafirenyika**, (MDC polling agent Rukwenjere), 12 March 2002, Mashonaland East,
8. **JEFTHA, Peter**, 3 March 2002, Harare, Harare South
9. **JERANYAMA, Donald**, 25 March 2002, Manicaland, Mutasa
10. **KATSAMUDANGA, Tichaona** (MDC), 5 February 2002, Harare, Harare North
11. **KUMALO, Khape**, (MDC), 6 February 2002, Mashonaland West, Mhondoro
12. **KUVHEYA, Lawrence**, (MDC), March 2002, Mashonaland East, Chikomba
13. **MACHAKA, Shelton, Lloyd**, (Zanu-PF) 27 February 2002, Mashonaland East, Chikomba
14. **MAHUNI, Funny**, 13 March 2002, Midlands, Kwekwe
15. **MANYARA, Owen**, (MDC), 17 March 2002, Mashonaland Central, Mount Darwin
16. **MAPHOSA, Richard**, (MDC), 20 January 2002, Masvingo, Bikita East
17. **MAPHOSA, Stephen**, (Zanu-PF), 2 February 2002, Harare, Budiriro
18. **MAPINGURE, Atnos**, , 9 January 2002, Masvingo, Zaka
19. **MASARIRA, Gibson** ,(Zanu-PF), 9 January 2002, Masvingo, Zaka
20. **MASEVA, Amos Misheck**, (ZNLWVA), 8 March 2002, Masvingo, Gutu North
21. **MATOPE, Kenneth**, (MDC), 13 January 2002, Mashonaland Central, Guruve
22. **MIJONI, Simwanja**, 15 January 2002, Midlands, Kwekwe
23. **MOYO, Henry**, (MDC), 7 February 2002, Masvingo, Masvingo Central
24. **MPOFU, Muchenje**, (MDC), 19 January 2002, Midlands, Mberengwa East
25. **MUKAKAREI, Tabudamo**, (MDC), 14 February 2002, Masvingo, Masvingo North
26. **Munyaradzi** (no surname given), 14 February 2002, Mashonaland East, Marondera East
27. **MUNIKWA, Isaac**, (Zanu-PF), 17 January 2002, Masvingo, Zaka
28. **MUPAWAENDA, Takatukwa Mamhova**, 16 February 2002, Mashonaland West, Zvimba South
29. **MUTEMARINGA, Fungisai**, (MDC), 27 January 2002, Mashonaland East, Murehwa
30. **NCUBE, Sambani** (MDC), 17 March 2002, Matabeleland North, Hwange East

31. **NCUBE, Mthokozisi**, (MDC), 26 January 2002, Bulawayo, Pelandaba
32. **NEMAIRE, Solomon**, (MDC), 23 January 2002, Manicaland, Makoni
33. **NGUNDU, Shepherd**, (MDC), 5 February 2002, Mashonaland Central, Mount Darwin South
34. **NHITSA, Takesure**, (MDC), 20 February 2002, Mashonaland Central, Rushinga
35. **NYANZIRA, Tariro**, (Zanu-PF), 8 February 2002, Manicaland, Buhera North
36. **SANYAMAHWE, Kuziva**, (MDC), 18 January 2002, Mashonaland East, Murehwa South
37. **SIBANDA, Charles**, (MDC), 2 March 2002, Midlands, Zhombe
38. **SIBANDA, James**, (MDC), February 2002, Matabeleland North, Nkayi
39. **SIBINDI, Halaza**, (MDC), 30 January 2002, Matabeleland North, Tsholotsho
40. **SIBINDI, Joseph**, (MDC) January 2002, Bulawayo
41. **SICWE, Jameson**, (MDC), 29 January 2002, Matabeleland North, Lupane
42. **Unnamed**, (2), (farm guards), 23 January 2002, Masvingo, Mwenezi
43. **Unnamed**, 26 February 2002, Bulawayo, Makokoba
44. **Unnamed** (3 MDC polling agents), 16 March 2002, Manicaland, Chipinge South
45. **Unnamed** (MDC polling agent), 13 March 2002, Mashonaland East, Mutoko South
46. **VIKAVEKA, Darlington**, (MDC), (no surname given), 15 March 2002, Mashonaland East, Marondera East

Total of 49 deaths

(Political affiliation: MDC- 32; Zanu-PF- 5, ZNLWVA- 2, Unknown/none- 10)

The Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum (also known as the “Human Rights Forum”) has been in existence since January 1998. Nine non-governmental organisations working in the field of human rights joined together to provide legal and psychosocial assistance to the victims of the Food Riots of January 1998.

The Human Rights Forum has now expanded its objectives to assist victims of organised violence, using the following definition:

“Organised violence” means the inter-human infliction of significant avoidable pain and suffering by an organised group according to a declared or implied strategy and/or system of ideas and attitudes. It comprises any violent action, which is unacceptable by general human standards, and relates to the victims’ mental and physical well-being.”

The Human Rights Forum operates a Legal Unit and a Research and Documentation Unit.

Core member organizations of the Human Rights Forum are:

- The Amani Trust
- Amnesty International (Zimbabwe)
- The Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace
- The Legal Resources Foundation
- Transparency International (Zimbabwe)
- The University of Zimbabwe Legal Aid and Advice Scheme
- Zimbabwe Association for Crime Prevention and the Rehabilitation of the Offender
- Zimbabwe Civic Education Trust
- Zimbabwe Human Rights Association
- Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights
- Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association

Associate member:

GALZ

The Human Rights Forum can be contacted through any member organization or through the following:

The Administrator, c/o P O Box 5465, Harare – email: admin@hrforum.co.zw

The Legal Unit, c/o P O Box 5465, Harare – email: legal@hrforum.co.zw

The Research Unit c/o P O Box 5465, Harare – email: research@hrforum.co.zw

Telephone/fax: 792 222, 737 509, and 731 660. Website: www.hrforumzim.com

All previous reports of the Human Rights Forum can be found on the website.