



CENTRE FOR DEMOCRACY, PLURALISM AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Weekly Human Rights Report

(29th July 2024 to 4th August 2024)

1. Pakistan: Occupation Forces Continue to Trample Rights of Ethnic Baloch

Last week CDPHR reported a systematic attack against the peaceful Baloch and pro-Baloch protestors in Balochistan province. During the weekend, there was a call for protest at Gwadar, and people from throughout the province gathered to participate in these protests. This week too Pakistan's Federal forces continued to trample the rights of Baloch, undertook measures to stop the ethnic Baloch from entering the port city, and continued to arrest human rights activists in the province. The violation of human rights of ethnic Baloch continued this week too—an academic supporting the [cause was arrested](#) by the Police this week. Armed forces fired on peaceful protestors on August 2 in Nushki. [At least 1000 people were arrested](#) and the Baloch gathering at Gwadar was fired upon. At least one person died in this crackdown. In Mastung at least 14 were injured in firing. The true extent of human rights violations is unknown as there is an ongoing communication blackout in the region.

For more information:

<https://www.voanews.com/a/protesters-and-military-in-standoff-in-pakistani-city-home-to-china-built-port/7718214.html>

https://www.business-standard.com/external-affairs-defence-security/news/tension-persists-in-gwadar-as-pak-army-refuses-release-of-baloch-protesters-124073100849_1.html

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/7/31/why-protest-by-ethnic-baloch-has-put-pakistans-key-port-of-gwadar-on-edge>

<https://x.com/WaqasAalam/status/1819336796771438770>

https://x.com/MahrangBaloch_/status/1820032968565666233

2. Sri Lanka: Systemic Takeover of Minority Hindu Places of Worship in North

Human Rights Watch, in a recent report, has documented that in the northern Tamil Hindu majority province of the country, there is an ongoing systematic campaign to take over Hindu temples, grab their land, or in many cases redesignate historical temples as Buddhist sites. According to HRW since 2020 this campaign has accelerated. Sri Lankan, Department of Archeology plays a significant role in this process.

Read the full report:

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2024/07/28/sri-lanka-authorities-target-religious-minorities>

3. Turkey: Coalition Partner of Erdogan Gives Warm Welcome to Syrian National Army (SNA) Leaders Accused of Serious War Crimes

Images circulated during July on social media portraying the leader of the Nationalist Movement Party, a coalition partner of Erdogan, meeting with a few SNA leaders. The American government has sanctioned these individuals and their factions over grave human rights violations. This embrace of war criminals by the Erdogan regime is a testament to the complicity of the Turkish government in funding and supporting Islamist extremists in Syria. These images circulating on social media have been verified by the CDPHR.

For more information:

<https://x.com/seyfebubekir1/status/1813611950011768835>

<https://www.fdd.org/analysis/2023/08/21/u-s-sanctions-target-turkey-backed-militias-in-syria-but-not-turkish-authorities/>

4. Tanzania: Government Forcefully Relocating Indigenous Maasai from the Ngorongoro Conservation Area

The land rights of the indigenous Maasai people of Tanzania are under threat as they are forced to relocate from the Ngorongoro Area. This wildlife sanctuary has been home to the community for generations. Since 2022, 100 people have been forced to move out. Now, there is renewed pressure on the community. The state officials have failed to include the community in the decision-making process. [Historically, Maasai land has been under threat](#) and in the name of Conservation and development of Safari tourism infrastructure that brings significant revenue to the state.

For more information:

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/7/31/tanzania-forcibly-relocating-indigenous-maasai-hrw>

<https://www.dw.com/en/tanzania-plan-for-maasai-removal-putting-people-at-risk/a-69817056>

<https://www.jurist.org/news/2024/08/amnesty-international-investigates-business-involvement-in-forced-evictions-of-maasai-people-in-tanzania/>

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2024-03-19/tanzania-s-maasai-pressured-to-make-way-for-safaris-airport>

<https://www.aljazeera.com/features/2024/8/5/tanzania-wants-to-evict-maasai-for-wildlife-but-theyre-fighting-back>

5. UK: Three Kids Die During a Knife Attack Spree

Knife crime continues to be a problem in the country. The failure of the state to control these criminal acts violates the basic rights of British citizens and a dereliction of the duty of local and national governments. Maintaining the rule of law and protecting the lives of its citizens is the basic duty of the Labour government in the UK. On Monday 29th July, in a knife attack spree, several kids were attacked by a man. The attack took place at a Taylor Swift-themed dance event for school kids at Southport. Three kids died and five were still critically injured.

For more information:

https://www.lemonde.fr/en/international/article/2024/07/30/taylor-swift-completely-in-shock-after-children-killed-in-uk-knife-attack_6704930_4.html

<https://indianexpress.com/article/world/uk-stabbing-knife-attack-arrest-teen-9485200/>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cql8j2j0304o>