



AMAZIGH LEAGUE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS  
MOROCCO

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## The annual report about the situation of Human Rights in Morocco during the year 2007

### Introduction:

According to its principles in defending human rights and taking part in the national and international efforts to improve human rights situation in Morocco as well as the world, the Amazigh League for human rights decided to persist its fighting against violating human rights and revealing these violations by making periodic and annual reports about specific situations of human rights violations.

We believe that these reports have a great impact on improving the human rights as a culture among citizens and in registering the human rights violations, though these reports still stand as a simple and modest contribution which can not reveal all the human rights violations everywhere.

The Amazigh League for human rights refers to the international conventions while making these reports. It also inspires its approach from the international acts of Human Rights and their philosophy.

The Amazigh League for Human Rights tends to support the efforts that try to make the local laws more suitable with the international ones.

This report views the Human Rights situation in Morocco during the year 2007, especially the Amazigh people who suffer from serious eliminations and discriminations in all sides of life; politically, economically, socially and culturally.



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This report also disproves the political claims propagated by the Moroccan state in the international meetings; as we are living in an age of respecting human rights and freedom. But we objectively declare that the year 2007 is a year of the Amazigh rights violations, as there were many arbitrary detentions in different places, hence it's an obscure year in the Moroccan courts, considering the absence of their autonomy and the wide spread of bribe among some judges. In order that the Moroccan rights ship would land peacefully, the Amazigh League for human rights considers these recommendations to be done instantly:

- The Moroccan state should validate on all the international acts of human rights.
- Cancellation of all sorts of discriminations in the current laws, and making necessary modifications in the constitution which establishes the Amazigh language as an official language for the country.
- Adequacy of the local laws with the international laws.

The civil and political rights:

- 1- Every human being has the inherent right to life. This right shall be protected by law. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his life.
- 2- 1. Everyone has the right to liberty and security of person. No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest or detention. No one shall be deprived of his liberty except on such grounds and in accordance with such procedure as are established by law.

These rights are inspired from the articles 6 and 9 in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the article 3 from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Convention against Torture.



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In 2007 there were several situations in which Human Rights were violated, as there were tens of deaths among citizens due to hunger and cold. This situation happened in a remote area called "ANFGU" near Khenifra city, where people were not considered at all by the authorities, especially on January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007 when 37 people died and more than 15 abortion situations among women. As well as the frequent arbitrary detentions and insults against people while demonstrating as what happened to the Amazigh militant " ABDERAHIM SHEHIBI" who had been insulted and beat by the *PASHA* of Tiznit.

In the beginning of September 2007 Mr. Lahoucine Arejda; Alofoq and MFM correspondent had been badly hit and arrested tyrannically for hours by the central chief of the provincial police and the provincial chief of the auxiliary forces in Tiznit while doing his job as a reporter by taking some picture for the violent intervention of the police against some demonstrators looking for jobs. This right is still violated in Morocco in spite of the Moroccan validity on the international conventions of human rights. Therefore it's compulsory to present the responsables in front of justice and to cancel the judicial advantage procedure which prevents the citizens to have a fair and equal judgment.

- **Kidnap:**

The articles 9, 10 from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights are the reference of this right and the articles 6, 7, 8,9,10 from the International Special Pact of Civil and Political Rights.

The Amazigh League for Human Rights didn't receive any situation of kidnapping during this year 2007, but it's still working on what happened to some militants earlier such as:



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- Boujeaa Hebbaz: who was kidnapped in Rabat in 1981 and we still don't know his destiny.
- Taher Belmadani: he was kidnapped in Bouizakarne in 1956.
- Aabbas Lemsadi: whose destiny is still unknown, though we know that he is killed.

Moreover, the Amazigh League for Human Rights with deep worry recorded the Moroccan state silence towards the crimes committed against the RIF citizens during the years 1956, 1957, 1958 and the efforts of reconciliation with what happened in these years didn't reach the RIF.

The right of a fair judgment:

The international frame: The article 14 from the International Special Pact of Civil and Political Rights.

The articles: 7,8,10 from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

- To have a State of order and law we need fair courts, where citizens are equally judged with full autonomy and transparency. But, in Morocco the courts are still under bad circumstances which make their work unsatisfactory.

- The sections 266,267,268 from the Penal Judiciary Procedure should be canceled in order to obtain the equality of the citizens in front of the law as these sections emphasis on the discrimination between citizens.

- The General Delegation should be separated from the Minister of justice.

- The General Delegation should be given an authority which helps in conditioning some difficult cases.

- Most of the citizens who were violated should have the right to make diagnoses to prove their situation by the General Delegation.



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In many courts the bribes are spread among some judges and some of the king's representatives. It's sufficient to mention the example of "Iaaza Hamid" the citizen who was kidnapped, tortured and abused on Wednesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007 as the medical tests show. His file was transferred by the King's representative in Tiznit to the Penal section in the primary court in Tiznit due to the absence of specializing. But, the King's representative in the resumption court in Agadir conserved his file without giving any reason, and here it' widely obvious that our law is not able to protect citizens from those who have authority and power.

The same thing happened to Mr. Dgherni Ahmed; the general secretary of the Amazigh Democratic Party who had been exposed to an attempt to assassinate him, but the court authorities neglected his case.

We also mention the case of Rqia Abouali who didn't receive a fair judgment beside her maid who wanted to reveal that some judges were involved in her case but they accused her with other charges she didn't commit.

The case of the writers of A letter to history who intended to express their points of view baring in mind that the local law and the international pacts guarantee the right of expression, but the resumption court verdict in Tetouan declared that these lawyers should be dismissed. At that time the Amazigh League for Human Rights considered the verdict as an attempt to calm down all the free voices which criticize corruption in courts.

All these cases show that the Moroccan judiciary is a tool to revenge and to regulate old accounts while it should protect all the voices whatever they say or wherever they come from.



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The right of expression and assembling:

The international reference:

Articles: 18/19/20 from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Articles: 18/19/22 from the International Special Covenant of Civil and Political Rights.

Tear 2007 could be considered as one of the poorest years concerning the freedom of expression and assembling for many reasons:

- Pursuing the Amazigh League struggler Abdelaziz Elouazzani who is the president of Ozgan development Association after his contribution at the international conference about "the rights related to land" which was organized by the A.L.H.R in Bouizakarne on Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007. He was charged of saying : " We should go back to the age of neglect (SIBA) when most of the problems were solved by power and even with law we can't" and " Morocco is without sovereignty"

- Pursuing some national newspapers and magazines: Alwatan Alaan, Nichan... with different charges and judging them to prison or to pay penalties.

- Pursuing the editor of Tadla files who was accused of breaking the press law when he wrote an article subtitled by: "Is really terrorism what happens in Morocco?"

- Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2007: preventing the Moroccan Amazigh Party from holding its 1<sup>st</sup> congress in Marrakech, which let them held it at the public street.

- Sunday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2007: preventing a conference about the book a kidnapped without address in Agadir intended to be organized by Iderfin for culture and arts association, submitted by the journalist Said Bajji.



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The right of recognition the judicial personality:

The civil state authorities and the Moroccan councils abroad still violate the right to name your children with Amazigh names. The Amazigh League for Human Rights follows anxiously this subject.

- Preventing the Amazigh militant Abdelaziz Elaasr from registering his daughter in the civil state register under the name of "Taynast" who was born in July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2006 in Casablanca.

- Preventing to register the name of "Numedia tinas" the daughter of the Amazigh militant Lahoucine Azergui, in the Moroccan council in Lyle, France.

- Preventing Mr. Mouch Shakir from registering his son with the name of "Massin" who was born in Anver, France.

The political detention:

The articles which prevent the political detention:

Articles: 9/10/18/19/20/21 from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Articles: 5/9/14/18/19/20/22/25 from the International Special Covenant for Civil and Political Rights.

The Amazigh League for Human Rights followed with deep concern the judgment of the Amazigh students in Meknes and in Rachidia. Those students received an unfair judgment as they were judged because of they said or because of their beliefs. Moreover their judgments were not at all fair as the court didn't accept different truths presented by the defense. The verdicts were unjust and too heavy because they didn't consider the social and psychological situations of the detained students and their ages.

- 5years for Slimane Ouali, 5 years for the handicapped Mohamed Sekkou, 2 years for Mohamed Oulhaj, and 2 years for Rashid Hachimi.

