

Monitoring Framework of the violation of the freedom from arbitrary arrest and detention and freedom from cruel or degrading treatment by the Republic of Fiji Military Forces (RFMF) since its Coup d' etat of 5th December 2006

Updated 26th January 2007

Fiji Const. = 1997 Fiji Constitution

UDHR – Universal Declaration of Human Rights

ICCPR – International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

ICESCR – International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Date	Event	Source of information (Newspaper, Radio, Television, personal testimony)	Human Rights, Constitutional provisions, Rule of Law Violated	Sources of Law	Comments/ Action resulted if any
05/12/06	PM Qarase was placed under house arrest. 40 armed soldiers with M16s cut off the road leading to Qarase's residence	Newspaper item in Daily Post 06/12/06	Freedom from arbitrary arrest and detention Freedom from arbitrary interference with privacy, family, home and freedom from arbitrary attacks on honour and reputation Right to choose leader in free & fair elections Freedom of movement	UDHR Art 9, 12, 13, 21 Fiji Const. ss 23, 34 & 37 ICCPR arts 9, 12	On the afternoon of the 5 th of Dec, Commodore Bainimarama announces that he has taken over Government and dismissed the PM & Cabinet after "stepping into the President's shoes". At the same time, Bainimarama announces the sacking of senior

					Government officials including CEOs of some Ministries & the Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner & Assistant Commissioner of Police respectively
06/12/06	VP Ratu Joni Madraiwiwi was removed from office and forced out of his official residence by the military	Newspaper item in Fiji Times 07/12/06 Verified by personal interview	Freedom from cruel and degrading treatment Freedom from arbitrary interference on the person Illegal dismissal	UDHR Art 12 Fiji Constitution art 25 Fiji Constitution art 93(2)	Ratu Joni later tendered his resignation to the Great Council of Chiefs (the body that appointed him) the week after his illegal removal
06/12/06	Acting Police Commissioner Moses Driver and Acting Deputy Commissioner Kevueli Bulamainaivalu were taken to the Army camp “under duress” by a truck full of army soldiers. ACP Driver and ADC Kevueli were then told they had been removed	News paper item in Fiji Times 07/12/06	Right to liberty Freedom from arbitrary arrest and detention	UDHR Art. 3, 9 Fiji Const. s.23 ICCPR art 9	Acting Commissioner Driver & ACP Bulamainaivalu were dismissed for not supporting the military take over
06/12/06	Unionist and former MP Kenneth Zinck was taken into the Army camp for questioning after comments he made while drinking at the Union	Fiji Times article 9/12/06	Freedom from arbitrary arrest and detention Freedom from cruel and degrading	UDHR Art. 9 Fiji Const s 23 & 25	Mr. Zinck was subsequently again detained on 4 th Jan 2007 in Nadi by

	Club. He made these comments whilst drinking with friends and a relative of Bainimarama's was sitting close by. He was taken up to the camp after 9 pm and was made to run around a sports field while four soldiers ran behind him with guns point to his back. "Then they made me stand under the spotlight while they stood behind – it so that couldn't see their faces and warned me not to speak out against eh commander again and for me to watch out"	(www.fijivillage.com 8 th Jan 2007)	treatment Freedom of opinion and expression	UDHR Art 19, Fiji Const. s30 ICCPR 19	soldiers for commenting against the Commander. He was allegedly assaulted. (www.fijivillage.com)
09/12/06	Army takes in writers of letters to the editor and unionists for questioning. They gave the writers of the letters to the editors a verbal warning. Another writer to the open column was detained for one day	Fiji Times 9/12/06 Fiji Times 15/12/06	Freedom of opinion and expression Right to liberty & Freedom from arbitrary arrest and detention	UDHR Art. 9, 12,19, Fiji Const art 23, 27, 30, 37	
11/12/06	Attorney General and Minister for Justice Qoriniasi Bale taken to Military camp for "discussions"	Fiji Times 12/1/206	(A) Right to personal liberty/security of the person (B) Right against arbitrary arrest/detention (C) Rights of arrested/detained person (D) Right to privacy/	(A) Constitution of Fiji – Art. 23 UDHR – Art 3 ICCPR – Art 9 & 10 (B) CF – Art 23 UDHR – Art 9 ICCPR – Art 9	

			Right against arbitrary interference with privacy, family, home or correspondence	(C) CF – Art 27 ICCPR – Art 10 (D) CF – Art 37 UDHR – Art 12 ICCPR – Art 17	
11/12/06	Military has confirmed taking people to its camp in Nabua but has not commented on complaints made	News item Fiji Times 12/12/06	(A) Right of detained person (B) Right to be free from arbitrary arrest & detention (C) Right to liberty & security of person (D) Right to privacy/free from arbitrary interference with privacy, family, home or correspondence	(A) CF – Art 27 (B) CF – Art 23 UDHR – Art 9 ICCPR – Art 9 (C) CF – Art 23 UDHR – Art 3 ICCPR – Art 9 (D) CF – Art 37 UDHR – Art 12 ICCPR – Art 17	
12/12/06	Military has warned Deposed PM Qarase to remain on his home island in Vanuabalau stating that Mr. Qarase's presence in Suva would not be accepted	News item Fiji Times 12/12/06	(A) Freedom of Movement (B) Right to personal liberty & security of person	(A) CF – Art 34 UDHR – Art 13 ICCPR – Art 12 (B) CF – Art 23 UDHR – Art 3 ICCPR – Art 9	Qarase remains to on his island to this day. Domestic Airline Air Fiji has refused to allow him to travel in their airplane.
12/12/06	Pro-Democracy activist and member of the Young People's Concerned Network, Pita Waqavonovono was harassed for about • an hour at a soldiers checkpoint at the Bailey	Fiji Times 13/12/06	(A) Right to liberty & security of person (B) Right to be free of torture, cruel or inhuman treatment	(A) CF – Art 23 UDHR – Art 3 ICCPR – Art 9 (B) CF – Art 25	Pita was taken in by Soldiers on 25 th Dec 2006 with other pro-democracy

	<p>Bridge in Suva while traveling to work in a taxi; they ransacked his possessions and sent the taxi away. Another taxi driver came to his aid and assisted him.</p>		<p>(C) Right to privacy/ right to be free from arbitrary interference with privacy, family, home or correspondence (D) Right against discrimination due to personal opinions and beliefs</p>	<p>UDHR – Art 5 ICCPR – Art 7 (C) CF – Art 37 UDHR – Art 12 ICCPR- Art 17 (D) CF – Art 38(2)(B)</p>	<p>activists and were subjected to assaults & humiliation by 20-30 soldiers</p>
12/12/06	<p>Fiji Women ‘s Crisis Centre call for a stop to the threats made to human rights defenders. Called the FHRC to investigate these threats as they did in 2000.</p>	<p>Fiji Post 12/12/06 Fiji Times 27/12/06 Fiji Post 28/12/06</p>	<p>(A) Right of human right defenders to be protected by State</p>	<p>(A) UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders specifically Art. 2(1)</p>	<p>Fiji Human Rights Commission (FHRC) states that rights are limited & NGOs should be careful about what they say. FHRC Director Shaista Shameem has been non-committal about investigating the military’s human rights abuses & in one case, has questioned the motive of activists who were tortured by the military (Fiji Times 27/12/06)</p>

12/12/06	FHRC states that it will investigate allegations of human rights violations.	FHRC press release 12/12/06	N/A		To date, no reports have been published by the FHRC on their investigations
13/12/06	State Minister for Public Utilities Reform Samisoni Tikoinasau was taken to the barracks from his Lami home at 10 am accompanied by army personnel for questioning which he said was “very intimidating”	News item Fiji Times 13/12/06	(A) Right to liberty & security of the person (B) Rights of detained person (C) Right to privacy/ free from arbitrary interference with privacy, family, home or correspondence (D) Right to be free from arbitrary detention/arrest	(A) CF – Art 23 UDHR – Art 3 ICCPR – Art 9 (B) CF – Art 27 ICCPR – Art 9 & 10 (C) CF – Art 37 UDHR – Art 12 ICCPR – Art 17 (D) CF – Art 23 UDHR – Art 9 ICCPR – Art 9	
14/12/06	The Military yesterday ordered the immediate deportation to Australia of Daily Post Editor in Chief, Robert Wolfgramm. Soldiers were seen seizing his passport outside the paper’s Suva office. Wolfgramm who is originally from Fiji is now an Australian citizen. He and his family were forced to leave. Daily Post staffs including Wolfgramm were	Article in Fiji Times 15/12/06 Fiji Post 14/12/06	(A) Right to fair labour practices (B) Right against expulsion from a country without due process (C) Right to privacy/ Right against arbitrary interference with privacy, family, home	(A) CF – Art 33(3) (B) ICCPR – Art 13 (C) CF – Art 37 UDHR – Art 12 ICCPR – Art 17 (D) CF – Art 30	

	taken up to QEB and warned by the military to “tone down” the content of images and anti-military sentiment it had been publishing.		or correspondence (D) Right to freedom of expression (E) Right against discrimination due to personal opinions or beliefs	UDHR – Art 19 ICCPR – Art 19 (E) CF – Art 38(2)(b)	
14/12/06	Army personnel threatened a Daily Post reporter, Jyoti Pratibha and her family – soldiers’ actions described as “harsh and rude”. The soldier was trying to locate the reporter’s boss, the General Manager of the Daily Post Mesake Koroi	Article in Fiji Times 15/12/06 17/12/06 Daily Post 14/12/06 Fiji Daily Post 14/12/06	(A) Right to privacy/ Right against arbitrary interference with privacy, family, home or correspondence (B) Right to security of the person (C) Right to freedom of expression (D) Right against discrimination due to personal opinions or beliefs	(A) CF – Art 37 UDHR – Art 12 ICCPR – Art 17 (B) CF – Art 23 UDHR – Art 3 ICCPR – Art 9 (C) CF – Art 30 UDHR – Art 19 ICCPR – Art 19 (D) CF – Art 38(2)(b)	
18/12/06	Pacific Island Forum Secretariat, a regional intergovernmental organisation Metuisela Usa was taken in by military accused by a local street kid of vandalizing a car in the neighborhood. About 20 soldiers came to his residence then forced him into a van and “along the way to QEB they beat me with their fists and the butt of their rifles – mostly hitting	Article in Fiji Times 18/12/06	(A) Right to personal liberty and security of the person (B) Right against arbitrary arrest or detention (C) Right to be free from cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment (B) Right of arrested &	(A)CF – Art 23 UDHR – Art 3 ICCPR – Art 9 (B) CF – Art 23 UDHR – Art 9 ICCPR – Art 9 (C) CF – Art 25 UDHR – Art 5	It appears from the large number of civilians taken in by the military who are not connected politically or to the human rights community that opportunistic accusations are

	my head” Then locked up for 3 hours.		detained persons/ Right to due process/natural justice	ICCPR – Art 7	being made by members of the public against others. Although this is not substantiated and is only anecdotal evidence, a significant number of opportunistic accusations are being made by Indo Fijians against indigenous Fijians.
23/12/06	RFMF Military Commander issued warnings on Fijian radio to people and non-government activists who he believes are inciting civil unrest. Individuals named included Virisila Buadromo of the FWRM, Imrana Jalal of RRRT/UNDP, Imraz Iqbal, businessman and Laisa Digitaki of the Young Person’s Concerned Network	23/12/06 Fiji Times Article Daily Post 23/12/06 Daily Post 23/12/06	Freedom of Speech Freedom of personal liberty Freedom from arbitrary interference	<i>Fiji Const.</i> Arts. 30 and 23. <i>UDHR</i> Arts. 3, 12, 19 <i>ICCPR</i> art 19	
23/12/07	Four youths told of how soldiers beat them up and forced them to drink waste water from a drain and kiss each other gunpoint. The youths, of Naimalavau Village in Tailevu alleged that they were picked up	8/01/07 Fiji Sun newspaper on line	(A) Right to personal liberty and security of the person (B) Right against arbitrary arrest or detention	(A) <i>CF</i> – Art 23 <i>UDHR</i> – Art 3 <i>ICCPR</i> – Art 9 (B) <i>CF</i> – Art 23 <i>UDHR</i> – Art 9	

	while walking home after going out dancing on a Saturday night before Christmas. At QEB they were forced to crawl through the drain while they were kicked and punched. Youth were too frightened to report incident.		(C) Right to be free from cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment (B) Right of arrested & detained persons/ Right to due process/natural justice	ICCPR – Art 9 (C) CF – Art 25 UDHR – Art 5 ICCPR – Art 7	
25/12/06	Pop signer Laisa Vulakoro writes a letter to the editor criticizing the coup Vulakoro was then visited at her home by the military on 26/12/06 and warned not to make further statements against the military. Vulakoro refused to stop speaking freely. Vulakoro was taken to military camp on 28/12/06 and held for 3 hours	Fiji Times 27/12/06 article in Fiji Sun, 27/12/06 Daily Post 29/12/06	Freedom of expression Freedom from arbitrary interference on the person Rights to personal liberty Freedom of conscience	<i>Fiji Const</i> Art. 23, 30, 25 <i>UDHR</i> Art. 3, 12, 19 ICCPR art 19	Purportedly Vulakoro’s hair was cut by the military officers. She is currently abroad.
25/12/06	Six pro-democracy activists were taken into QEB at around midnight on Sunday (Christmas Eve) after actively voicing their concerns over the military takeover. Taken in were Virisila Buadromo of FWRM, her partner Arshad Daud, businessman, Laisa Digitaki of the Concerned Young Person’s Network, businessman Imraz Iqbal, youth activists Pita Waqavonuvonu and	Eyewitness account of 6 being marched out of QEB – early morning 25/12/06 Personal. Comm. 25/12/06 News item in Fiji Times 26/12/06	Freedom from cruel and degrading treatment Right to freedom of opinion and expression –freedom to hold opinions without interference Freedom of speech Freedom of thought and conscience	<i>Fiji Const.</i> Art. 23, 25, 26, 27, 30, 35, 38(2) <i>UDHR</i> Art. 3, 5, 9, 12, 19 ICCPR Arts 2, 7, 9, 10, 17, 19	By 26/12/06 one youth activist had filed a police report and underwent a medical examination at the SPH. 03/01/07: Fiji Times and Pacnews – Bainimarama said

	<p>Jackie Koroi. At the camp, the six activists suffered humiliating and degrading treatment including physical, verbal and emotional abuse. Before and during interrogation, they were beaten, punched, kicked, and made to crawl on all fours. One youth activist was repeatedly asked who the President was and upon answering “Ratu Iloilo” was repetitively kicked by military officers. The majority of the bruises that the activists received were from the chest area and below. After 1am they were forced to walk in the rain from the military camp to the democracy shrine at Lami via Reservoir Road. LD appeared on Fiji One News on Tuesday evening, going through her Lami property which was completely ransacked by the military and “Merry X-Mas and Happy New Year” spray-painted by the military officers on the outside walls of the house. LD was also seen on television with visible injuries to her face and wearing a neck-brace. The activists were warned by the military that if they spoke out again they would be taken up to the military camp again and would suffer</p>	<p>News item in Fiji Sun 27/12/06 “Torture Victim tells of loaded gun at her head”.</p> <p>Personal communication 9/1/07</p>	<p>Freedom of movement Freedom from arbitrary arrest and detention Right to non-discrimination on the grounds of opinion Right of detained to be treated with humanity & respect for human dignity</p>		<p>he will not apologise for the treatment of the pro-democracy activists beaten by the military.</p> <p>Also, earlier (Fiji Times 26/12/06) The Commander warned that any military officer found to have authorized or sanctioned such deplorable human rights violations would face the full brunt of the law.</p> <p>One of the activists who have left Suva has been repeatedly harassed by the military & directed to return to the army barracks. He has refused to do so.</p>
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	worse treatment and that their families would also suffer ill-treatment.				
25/12/06	The military has also since issued a directive to immigration not to allow the 6 pro democracy activists out of the country.	Fiji Sun 27/12/06	Freedom of Movement	<i>Fiji Const</i> art 34(3) UDHR art 13 ICCPR art 12	Immigration turned away Laisa Digitaki from the airport when she attempted travel to Sydney with her 2 children. Her 2 children were allowed to travel (see Fiji Sun 30 Dec 06)
25/12/06	There were others up at the camp – what they were doing to us they were doing to others. We saw some young Fijian boys stripped down to their underwear and made to crawl through the drains	Eyewitness report from Virisila Buadromo during her interrogation at QEB	Right to liberty Freedom from cruel and degrading treatment Right to freedom of opinion and expression –freedom to hold opinions without interference Freedom of speech Right of detained to be treated with humanity & respect for human dignity	<i>Fiji Const.</i> Art. 23, 25 & 27 <i>UDHR</i> Arts. 3, 5, 9, 10 & 12 ICCPR 7, 9,10 & 17	In a statement (Fijilive 27/12/06) the British High Commission in Suva said it was concerned about the arbitrary detention and inhumane treatment of Non Government Organizations and others who have spoken out against the December 5 coup.
27/12/06	NGO Pacific Centre for Public	Fiji Sun article,	Right to freedom of	<i>Fiji Const.</i> Art.	The warnings from

	Integrity was warned by the military “We are telling her to shut up or be careful with she says when making public statements” in response to a PCPI press release which condemned the actions of the military in their treatment of human rights activists. Army spokesperson, Major Leweni stated that “I would like Angie to know that what was done to her six comrades could have been worse”	27/12/06	opinion and expression –freedom to hold opinions without interference Freedom of speech	30, 35 <i>UDHR</i> Art. 19. ICCPR art 19	the military have not deterred the Director of PCPI. There are concerns however about her physical safety
27/12/06 See also update 11/01/07.	Suva businessman Keni Dakuidreketui was taken to the barracks on 24 / 12/06 for questioning after witnessing an assault by soldiers on another individual. He stated that he was questioned and released. .	Fiji Time article 27/12/06	Freedom arbitrary arrest and detention Right to personal liberty	<i>Fiji Const.</i> Art. 23, 27 <i>UDHR</i> Art. 3, 9 ICCPR art 9, 17	
27/12/06	Secretary to the Council of Chiefs Adi Litia Qionibaravi was taken to the military barracks and locked in a cell for 10 hours at the military barracks. It was reported that she was questioned by the military commander Voreqe Bainimarama. Her daughter appealed to the military on TV One to release her mother. Adi Litia reunited with her family on Thursday 27/12/06. She has since suspended making public statements. According to the Fiji Times it is	TV One 27/12/06 Fiji Times Dec 31 st , 2006 Daily Post 30/12/06 and 3127/12/06	Freedom from arbitrary detention Freedom of opinion and expression Right to personal liberty Right of detained to be treated with humanity & respect for human dignity	<i>Fiji Const.</i> Art. 23, 27, 30, 35 <i>UDHR</i> Art. 3, 5, 9, 19 ICCPR arts 9, 10, 17 & 19	

	believed that Adi Litia was taken in by the military because she remained defiant and made statements against the military in what she claimed was her capacity as CEO for the Fijian Affairs Board. She had been sacked by Bainimarama and replaced with the commodore's older brother Ratu Meli who is the CEO of Ministry of Fijian Affairs				
28/12/06	Laisa Vulakoro taken to military camp at about 1am and detained for 3 hours. She was reportedly taken up again later in the day and soldiers cut her hair (this not confirmed yet).	Legend FM News on 28/12/06	Freedom from cruel and degrading treatment Freedom from arbitrary arrest and detention Right to Personal liberty	<i>Fiji Const.</i> Art. 23, 25, 27, 30 <i>UDHR</i> Art.5, 9, 12, 19 ICCPR 9, 10, 17 & 19	LV left for Australia on 28/12/06
30/12/06	A man was beaten to death at the Royal Suva Yacht Club after attending the wedding party of Commodore Bainimarama's daughter to Samuel Whippy. Whippy's uncle (John Whippy) was said to have been assaulted at about 2am on 30/12/06. A post-mortem examination report showed the deceased suffered brain hemorrhaging. Commodore Bainimarama's brother in law Francis Kean, the key suspect	Fiji Times 01/01/07, 06/01/07 & 09/01/07	Right to life	<i>Fiji Const.</i> Art. 22 <i>UDHR</i> Art. 3 ICCPR art 6	No charges have been made.

	has been interrogated by police and released over the fatal assault. A letter to the editor (Fiji Times 06/01/07) by a member of the public condemned the delay in police investigation and provided the case should not be a difficult on as there were eye witnesses.				
31/12/07	SDL national director Peceli Kinuwai was reportedly contacted by the military at 4pm to head to the military camp at Nabua. Peceli asked the he be picked up instead from Kalabu Police Post and spent 8 hours in detention at the military camp in Nabua. He was released at 3 a.m. in the morning (of 01/01/07). He was quoted in the Fiji times to not have been subject to harassment or torture and given food which he did not touch. According to the Times, Peceli has been cautioned 5 times for speaking on behalf of the SDL Party. Peceli was detained by the military in response to a his ‘thanking the majority that is, some silent 500,000 who gave us [SDL] the mandate to run the Government for their prayers and continued support for the party’ on National TV (TV One).	Fiji Times paper & online 02/01/06 Fiji TV One Online 3/01/07	Freedom of opinion and expression Freedom from arbitrary arrest and detention Right to personal liberty Right of detained to be treated with humanity & respect for human dignity	Fiji Const. Art. 23, 25, 26, 27, 30, 37 UDHR Art 3, 5, 9,12, 18, 19 ICCPR arts 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 17, 18, 19	
02/01/07	Sugar Cane Growers Council CEO in	TV One News	Right to work and	Fiji Const s.23,	Mr. Sami wrote a

	Lautoka Jagannath Sami was reported to be ordered out of his office by military personnel and his staff was threatened that they would be taken in to the military camp if they fail to report to the military if Mr. Sami turns up at the office. This move was made because Bainimarama claims he had sacked MR Sami along with 7 other government-appointed councilors the previous week.	02/01/07 Fiji Times 03/01/07	Right to personal liberty Freedom from arbitrary interference upon honour and reputation Freedom from cruel and degrading treatment	25 UDHR Art 5,12,23 ICESCR art 6	media report about the incident.
03/01/07	Reports of “daily” round ups of persons taken to QEB by the military in response to public complaints about crime ranging youth being drunk and disorderly, spitting at shopkeepers, loitering, letter writers criticizing the military, a mentally disturbed man who did not pay his internet fees at a suburb near the Suva CBD. Most of the younger soldiers are reported to be assaulting arrested and detained persons without any reason.	Anecdotal reporting Personal testimony of Soldier S No media reports of these events and no statements from FHRC as to the number of these sorts of incidences which may be occurring.	Freedom from unreasonable searches & seizure Personal Liberty Right to be presumed innocent until proven guilty Freedom from torture, cruel, inhuman & degrading treatment Right to privacy Freedom from arbitrary arrest/ interference Right of detained to be treated with humanity & respect for human dignity	Fiji Constitution art 23, 25, 26, 27, 30, 37 UDHR Art 3, 5, 9,12, 18, 19 ICCPR arts 5, 7, 9, 10, 17, 18, 19	
03 – 05/01/07	A pastor and two youths from Nakaulevu Village, Nakelo taken	Fiji Times 7/01/07	Freedom from torture, cruel, inhuman &	Fiji Constitution art 23, 25, 26,	

	into QEB – “arrested” by the military and assaulted. No reports issued		degrading treatment Right to privacy Freedom from arbitrary arrest/ interference Liberty Right of detained to be treated with humanity & respect for human dignity	27, 37 UDHR Art 3, 5, 9,12, 18, ICCPR arts 5, 7, 9, 10, 17, 18	
5/12/06 See up date 11/01/06	A man held in military custody was confirmed dead this morning. Nimilote Verebasaga of Nakaulevu Village in Nakelo had visible injuries. He was arrested at 5:41 am on January 5 th , he was taken from his home to QEB, and no reason for the arrest was given. At 11:30 am his body was taken to CWM hospital. Relatives who identified the body said it was bruised and blood was still oozing from his head. No one at the CWM hospital was willing to go on record to discuss the death. RFMF stated that the man had injuries prior to him being taken to camp. Former Opposition leader, plus the man’s family call for full investigations	PacNews 5/01/07 6/01/07 Daily Post 7/01/07 Daily Post 7/01.07 Fiji Times 6/01/07 Fiji Times	Right to Life Freedom from torture, cruel, inhuman & degrading treatment Rights of arrested & detained persons Right of detained to be treated with humanity & respect for human dignity	Fiji Constitution arts 22, 25, 27 UDHR arts 3, 5 ICCPR arts 6, 7, 10	
07/01/07	British Army Officer assault by military being investigated by the British High Commission in Suva.	Fiji Times 8/01/07	Right to liberty & security of the person Freedom from torture,	Fiji Constitution art 23, 25, 26, 27, 37	

	<p>The officer and a friend, a local police officer were taken to QEB yesterday for questioning after a taxi driver accused them of making fun of the military. Their taxi driver reported their comments to a military check-point and the two were taken up for questioning. The British soldier has been medically declared unfit for duty travel. He was to return to the UK to continue his work on Wednesday the 10/01/06</p>		<p>cruel, inhuman & degrading treatment Freedom from arbitrary interference Right to privacy Freedom from unreasonable search & seizure</p>	<p>UDHR Art 3, 5, 9,12, 18, ICCPR arts 5, 7, 9, 10, 17</p>	
07/01/07	<p>Former MP Mere Samisoni was taken into QEB by the military for questioning. The military spokesperson has reiterated that NGOs and political commentators should exercise caution when making public statements”</p>	<p>Fiji Times 8/01/06</p>	<p>Freedom from arbitrary interference Freedom from cruel, inhuman & degrading punishment Freedom of Expression/conscience Freedom from unreasonable search & seizure Right to privacy</p>	<p>Fiji Const art 23, 25, 27, 30, 35, 37 UDHR 3, 5, 9, 12 & 19 ICCPR arts 5, 7, 9, 10, 17, 19</p>	

09/01/07	<p>On Monday Jan 8th, six soldiers visited Mick Beddoes home in Nadi & warned him against making comments on the country's situation. They told him that they were acting under the orders of Col Pita Driti.</p>	<p>Fiji Times Online 9th Jan 2007 Fiji Sun Online 10th Jan 2007</p>	<p>Freedom from arbitrary interference Freedom of Expression</p>	<p>Fiji Const 30 UDHR art 12 & 19 ICCPR arts 17 & 19</p>	
11/01/07	<p>A man today claimed in court that he admitted to two incidents of violent robbery and unlawful use of a motor vehicle after being beaten by police and threatened to be taken to the military camp.</p> <p>Penioni Nakaulevu pleaded not guilty to assaulting and robbing a man of \$80 cash, a mobile phone and a watch in Lami before making his getaway in the victim's vehicle on 24th November last year.</p> <p>He also faces charges for allegedly assaulting another man in Samabula on 3rd December last year before stealing his clothes, sandals, a DVD player and a Nokia mobile phone.</p>	<p>Fijivillage.com (3.59 p.m.)</p>	<p>Liberty & security of person Right of detained person</p>	<p>UDHR Art 3, 9 Fiji Const. s 23, 27 Const. Art. 27</p>	

	<p>It was alleged that he was mistreated by officers and forced to make certain admissions in his statement after being threatened to be taken up to the military camp.</p> <p>The case has been adjourned till the 19th of next month for hearing.</p>				
<p>Updated (9.33am) 10/01/07</p>	<p>FORMER boxer Sunia Cama was taken to the military barracks on Tuesday morning for reasons he considers "not serious". He was dropped off at home after four hours.</p>	<p>Fiji times on line 11/12/07</p>	<p>Freedom from arbitrary interference</p>	<p><i>Fiji Const.</i> Art. 23, <i>UDHR</i> Art. 3,</p>	
<p>11 /01/07 <i>See also</i> <i>27/12/06</i></p>	<p>A person illegally detained stated that 2 mini vans and 2 trucks of soldiers turned up to take him to the camp the day that he was taken in. It traumatized his whole family and that his older son is still traumatized by the incident.</p>	<p>Personal Testimony 11/01/07</p>	<p>Freedom from arbitrary interference</p>	<p><i>Fiji Const.</i> Art. 23, <i>UDHR</i> Art. 3,</p>	
<p>11/01/07</p>	<p>On the evening of 23 December 2006, 7 indigenous Fijian taxi drivers who are older men were drinking under a tree to celebrate Xmas (not sure whether at taxi base or not) They were taken in by soldiers to</p>	<p>Third person testimony unsubstantiated 11/01/07</p>	<p>Freedom from arbitrary interference Freedom from cruel, inhuman & degrading punishment Freedom of personal</p>	<p>Art, 25 ICCP Art. 7 UDHR Art. 5</p>	

	<p>Colo i Suva, made to crawl on the ground and then stripped naked and made to hold each other's penises in a circle. They were released several hours later. They were told that they would be further consequences if this was reported. This information is unsubstantiated.</p> <p>A written personal statement from one of the taxi drivers would need to be retrieved on the basis that his identity and his confidence will be protected.</p> <p>It was mentioned (third party source) that the officer in charge at the scene of the incident is Lt. Siwatibau Rabuka</p>		liberty	<p><i>UDHR</i> Arts. 3, 12, 19 <i>ICCPR</i> 9, 17, 19</p>	
<p>Updated 12/01/07 (8.40 a.m.)</p>	<p>In a police statement, a family member claims that Nimilote Verebasaga was wearing jeans when he was taken by a group of soldiers but when they went to see his body at the Suva Mortuary, his clothes were changed. The family members are also demanding an explanation from the military as to how Verebasaga died.</p>	<p>Fijivillage.com 12/01/07</p>	Delay in investigation.		<p>See also 5/12/06</p>

	When questioned by Village News as to how long it will take police to investigate the death, Superintendent Baleinuku replied that no timeframe has been set.				
12/01/07	<p>Meanwhile, the Suva Yacht club murder file is still with the Director of Public Prosecutions.</p> <p>Divisional Crime Officer Southern Superintendent Ponsami Chetty confirms that they are yet to receive the DPP's advice before proceeding with the investigations.</p>	Village News online	Delay in investigations		See also 30/12/06
12/01/06	<p>Mohammed Atiq claims being beaten up by armed soldiers 11 Jan 2007 17:50:07 A New Zealand citizen, who's in the country to resolve his land issues, tonight claims, he was beaten up by armed soldiers.</p> <p>Mohammed Atiq of Auckland, claims he was punched, kicked and dragged by his feet by soldiers in full combat gear, and that his life was also threatened.</p>	<p>Fiji TV News on 11/01/07</p> <p>[also see Fiji TV ONLINE]</p>	<p>(A) Right to personal liberty and security of the person</p> <p>(B) Right against arbitrary arrest or detention</p> <p>(C) Right to be free from cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment</p> <p>(B) Right of arrested & detained persons/ Right to due process/natural justice</p>	<p>(A) CF – Art 23</p> <p>UDHR – Art 3</p> <p>ICCPR – Art 9</p> <p>(B) CF – Art 23</p> <p>UDHR – Art 9</p> <p>ICCPR – Art 9</p> <p>(C) CF – Art 25</p> <p>UDHR – Art 5</p> <p>ICCPR – Art 7</p>	

	<p>Atiq says the incident happened after he harvested cane on the land on Sunday morning.</p> <p>The 60 year old claims, he was also dragged by his feet along the ground, resulting in this state of his back. He also showed us injuries to his arms, chest, and feet.</p> <p>He now has difficulty breathing and walking. He also claims his life was threatened.</p> <p>Police and Army spokesperson have said the incident will be investigated pending also medical reports. Atiq meanwhile wants action.</p>				
13/01/07	<p>In another case a man who was taken along with two others from a settlement in Nadera, Nasinu, to the Army Training Centre at Nasinu on New Year's Eve claims he was innocent and he was harassed along with the two others because of unsubstantiated sketchy reports that they were creating a nuisance.</p> <p>The mother of one of the men yesterday said the incident was</p>	<p>Fiji Times On line 13/01/07</p>	<p>(A) Right to personal liberty and security of the person (B) Right against arbitrary arrest or detention (C) Right to be free from cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment (B) Right of arrested & detained persons/ Right to due process/natural</p>	<p>(A) CF – Art 23 UDHR – Art 3 ICCPR – Art 9 (B) CF – Art 23 UDHR – Art 9 ICCPR – Art 9 (C) CF – Art 25 UDHR – Art 5 ICCPR – Art 7</p>	

	<p>unfortunate and she wanted to know why the military took her son in. Her son was allegedly beaten and had his hair shaved before being reportedly thrown in a muddy bog in the Nasinu camp. "It is a very bad thing and very embarrassing in the way they came here and took them," said Salote Biu, of Verevere Settlement, in Nadera.</p>		justice		
13/01/07	<p>In another case a man who was taken along with two others from a settlement in Nadera, Nasinu, to the Army Training Centre at Nasinu on New Year's Eve claims he was innocent and he was harassed along with the two others because of unsubstantiated sketchy reports that they were creating a nuisance.</p> <p>The mother of one of the men yesterday said the incident was unfortunate and she wanted to know why the military took her son in. Her son was allegedly beaten and had his hair shaved before being reportedly thrown in a muddy bog in the Nasinu camp. "It is a very bad thing and very embarrassing in the way they came</p>	<p>Fiji Times On line 13/01/07</p>	<p>(A) Right to personal liberty and security of the person (B) Right against arbitrary arrest or detention (C) Right to be free from cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment (B) Right of arrested & detained persons/ Right to due process/natural justice</p>	<p>(A) CF – Art 23 UDHR – Art 3 ICCPR – Art 9 (B) CF – Art 23 UDHR – Art 9 ICCPR – Art 9 (C) CF – Art 25 UDHR – Art 5 ICCPR – Art 7</p>	

	here and took them," said Salote Biu, of Verevere Settlement, in Nadera.				
13/01/07	<p>In the latest incident to come to light, a number of women were part of a group taken to the Army Training Group headquarters in Nasinu on New Year's Day, ordered to strip to their undergarments by female military officers and then made to run around the drill square. The group of women and teenagers included a number of men, one of whom was thrown into a drain for running slower than other members of the detained group during a forced drill exercise.</p> <p>A group member who feared being named said the money raised at a function they were arrested from was also taken by the soldiers.</p> <p>A group member said they believed they were victimised because they hailed from ousted PM Laisenia Qarase's village on Vanuabalavu.</p> <p>In other attacks by soldiers, former Minister of Labour Kenneth Zinck</p>	Fiji Times Online 13/01/07	<p>(A) Right to personal liberty and security of the person</p> <p>(B) Right against arbitrary arrest or detention</p> <p>(C) Right to be free from cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment</p> <p>(B) Right of arrested & detained persons/ Right to due process/natural justice</p>	<p>(A) CF – Art 23 UDHR – Art 3 ICCPR – Art 9</p> <p>(B) CF – Art 23 UDHR – Art 9 ICCPR – Art 9</p> <p>(C) CF – Art 25 UDHR – Art 5 ICCPR – Art 7</p>	

	<p>was arrested by six soldiers from West Motor Inn in Nadi. He was picked up by soldiers for comments he made against the President in which he supported the work of military.</p> <p>He said six soldiers took him to the Namaka Police Station, made him run around the CAAFI ground beside the station, punched him several times and made him spend the night at the police cell. This was his second arrest.</p> <p>Interim Minister for Labour and Tourism Bernadette Rounds-Ganilau said she did not condone such acts and would issue a statement after she was better</p>				
13/01/07	<p>POLICE have still not been able to interview the soldiers who picked Nimilote.</p> <p>This is despite army spokesman Major Neumi Leweni this week saying the military would help police with any requests.</p>	<p>Fiji Times On line 13/01/07</p>			<p>See 05/12/07</p>
14/01/07	<p>A NAUSORI taxi proprietor claims he was beaten up and subjected to a</p>	<p>Fiji Times On line</p>	<p>(A)Right to personal liberty and security of</p>	<p>(A)CF – Art 23 UDHR – Art 3</p>	

	<p>humiliating two-hour ordeal by soldiers last week.</p> <p>Sushil Maharaj Singh, 40, said he was picked up by seven soldiers early on January 5 and beaten at an army camp at Lelean Memorial School because of negative reports they had received about him.</p>	13/01/07	<p>the person</p> <p>(B) Right against arbitrary arrest or detention</p> <p>(C) Right to be free from cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment</p> <p>(B) Right of arrested & detained persons/ Right to due process/natural justice</p>	<p>ICCPR – Art 9</p> <p>(B) CF – Art 23</p> <p>UDHR – Art 9</p> <p>ICCPR – Art 9</p> <p>(C) CF – Art 25</p> <p>UDHR – Art 5</p> <p>ICCPR – Art 7</p>	
15/01/07	<p>FIJI'S military has denied torturing two British Army soldiers, saying that the level of punishment handed out to them was in line with army standards.</p> <p>The two soldiers, who are in Fiji on leave, said they were taken to Queen Elizabeth Barracks and bashed.</p>	Fiji Times 15/01/07	<p>(A)Right to personal liberty and security of the person</p> <p>(B) Right against arbitrary arrest or detention</p> <p>(C) Right to be free from cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment</p> <p>(B) Right of arrested & detained persons/ Right to due process/natural justice</p>	<p>(A)CF – Art 23</p> <p>UDHR – Art 3</p> <p>ICCPR – Art 9</p> <p>(B) CF – Art 23</p> <p>UDHR – Art 9</p> <p>ICCPR – Art 9</p> <p>(C) CF – Art 25</p> <p>UDHR – Art 5</p> <p>ICCPR – Art 7</p>	See also 13/01/07
16/01/07	<p>THE military yesterday defended its treatment of a person taken to Queen Elizabeth Barracks last week, saying they were treated as they deserved.</p> <p>This was in response to reports that a woman was taken to the camp and</p>	Fiji Times 16/01/07	<p>(A)Right to personal liberty and security of the person</p> <p>(B) Right against arbitrary arrest or detention</p> <p>(C) Right to be free</p>	<p>(A)CF – Art 23</p> <p>UDHR – Art 3</p> <p>ICCPR – Art 9</p> <p>(B) CF – Art 23</p> <p>UDHR – Art 9</p> <p>ICCPR – Art 9</p> <p>(C) CF – Art 25</p>	

	<p>forced to strip to her underwear and then run around the exercise yard.</p> <p>Senior military liaison officers said two women had been drinking heavily and smoking marijuana at Makoi and acting in a disorderly manner and disturbing the peace.</p>		<p>from cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment (B) Right of arrested & detained persons/ Right to due process/natural justice</p>	<p>UDHR – Art 5 ICCPR – Art 7</p>	
17/01/07	<p>The Republic of Fiji Military Forces has today confirmed that some people who have been taken up to the military camps have been assaulted.</p> <p>As a number of reports emerged on the alleged cases of human rights abuses, Village News questioned whether some people have been punched up by soldiers.</p> <p>Army spokesperson Major Neumi Leweni's reply is that the RFMF is using force to deal with people who may not listen to the military's warnings during the State of Emergency.</p>	<p>Fiji Times 17/01/07</p>	<p>(A)Right to personal liberty and security of the person (B) Right against arbitrary arrest or detention (C) Right to be free from cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment (B) Right of arrested & detained persons/ Right to due process/natural justice</p>	<p>(A)CF – Art 23 UDHR – Art 3 ICCPR – Art 9 (B) CF – Art 23 UDHR – Art 9 ICCPR – Art 9 (C) CF – Art 25 UDHR – Art 5 ICCPR – Art 7</p>	
18/01/07	<p>SUGAR Cane Growers Council CEO Jagannath Sami is in Lautoka Hospital under military guard.</p> <p>Mr Sami turned up for work today</p>	<p>Fiji Times On Line 18/01/07</p>	<p>(A)Right to personal liberty and security of the person</p>	<p>(A)CF – Art 23 UDHR – Art 3 ICCPR – Art 9</p>	

	<p>after the High Court yesterday ordered his reinstatement from a suspension ordered by interim Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama. Soldiers were waiting at his office and tried to stop him entering but he made it through with a police escort.</p> <p>Shortly after Mr Sami was seen talking with military officers in his office.</p> <p>He left, escorted by the military.</p> <p>It is not known at this stage what happened between them leaving the office and him being taken to the hospital, where he is believed to be on a drip.</p>				
20/01/07	<p>MILITARY commander Commodore Voreqe Bainimarama and his men have been granted full and unconditional immunity by the President, Ratu Josefa Iloilo.</p> <p>A gazette released by interim Attorney-General Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum yesterday supports the actions of Commodore Bainimarama</p>	<p>Fiji Times 20/01/07</p>	<p>Unconditional Immunity</p>		

	<p>and the military on December 5.</p> <p>"And whereas the commander of the Republic of the Fiji Military Forces reluctantly intervened by the declaration of a state of emergency on December 5, 2006 and other acts subsequently including as holding the office of acting President of the Republic of Fiji between December 5 and January 4, 2007, to return the governance of the nation to an honest path," Ratu Josefa said</p>				
21/01/07	<p>NAVY Commander Francis Kean appeared in court yesterday charged with the murder of a salesman on New Year's Eve.</p> <p>Kean, the brother-in-law of interim Prime Minister and army commander Commodore Voreqe Bainimarama, was denied bail by the Magistrates court.</p> <p>Magistrate John Semisi rejected Kean's bail application filed by lawyer Abhay Singh.</p> <p>"This is the first time the matter has been called to court since the accused has been charged and looking at the</p>	<p>Fiji Times 21/01/07</p>	<p>Assault</p>		<p>See 30/12/06</p>

	<p>seriousness of the case and charge of murder, the accused is remanded at the Korovou prison," said Mr Semisi. He remanded Kean until February 2.</p> <p>Kean, 40, is alleged to have assaulted John Whippy to death after a fight at the wedding reception of Commodore Bainimarama's daughter who is also Kean's niece.</p>				
22/01/07	<p>THE army has warned that people it considers are using human rights as "a tool to incite the public" will be dealt with under the State of Emergency that exists at the moment.</p> <p>Military spokesman, Major Neumi Leweni, said the military had promised that human rights would be protected, as guaranteed under the Constitution and will provide information through the Ministry of Justice on complaints raised by members of the public through the Human Rights Commission.</p> <p>"Should there be the need to report a genuine breach of human rights, then it should be channelled to the Human Rights Commission and not the</p>	Fiji Times 22/01/07	Freedom of Expression	<i>Fiji Const. Art. 27,</i> UDHR Art. 5 ICCPR Arts. 10	

	<p>media," he said.</p> <p>"Last, but not least, those individuals who have been blowing this matter out of proportion, should be mindful of the fact that the State of Emergency is in force and they will be dealt with accordingly."</p>				
22/01/07	<p>Suspended Chief Justice Daniel Fatiaki is banned from the leaving the country.</p> <p>This follows a directive from the interim Prime Minister's office.</p>	<p>Fiji TV News 22/01/07</p>	<p>Freedom of Movement</p>	<p><i>Fiji Const</i> art 34(3)</p> <p>UDHR art 13</p> <p>ICCPR art 12</p>	
24/01/07	<p>Prominent lawyer, Richard Naidu was taken to the Queen Elizabeth Barracks last night (23/01/07).</p> <p>Soldiers surrounded Naidu's home just after 9 o'clock last night and took him to the military camp.</p> <p>Village News has received confirmation that Naidu was dropped off in Wailoku to find his way home at Duncan Road.</p> <p>Land Force Commander, Colonel Pita Driti has confirmed to Village News that Naidu was taken to QEB last night and cautioned.</p>	<p>Fiji Village Online 24/01/07</p>	<p>Freedom of Exprsession</p> <p>Right to personal liberty and security of the person</p>	<p><i>Fiji Const.</i> Art. 27, UDHR Art. 5 ICCPR Arts. 10</p> <p><i>Fiji Const.</i> Art. 23, UDHR Art. 3 ICCPR Arts. 9</p>	

	<p>Colonel Driti only said that Naidu had made some comments which could bring instability and incite people. He said due to the State of Emergency, Naidu was cautioned to ensure that he does not make inciteful remarks.</p> <p>Meanwhile Interim Attorney General, Aiyaz Sayed Khaiyum is expected to comment about the incident later this morning.</p>				
24/01/07	<p>Col. Driti said businesswoman Laisa Digitaki was supposed to have been brought in with Mr. Richard Naidu but could not confirm whether she was at the camp last night.</p> <p>Efforts to get a comment from Naidu and Digitaki proved futile.</p>	Fiji Times On Line 24/01/07	<p>Freedom of Expression</p> <p>Right to personal liberty and security of the person</p>	<p><i>Fiji Const.</i> Art. 27, UDHR Art. 5 ICCPR Arts. 10</p> <p><i>Fiji Const.</i> Art. 23, UDHR Art. 3 ICCPR Arts. 9</p>	See also above.
25/01/07	<p>The military should charge people they believe to be inciting instability instead of taking them to the military headquarters.</p> <p>This was the advice of Interim Attorney-General Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum, who announced less than</p>	Fiji Times 25/01/07	<p>Right to personal liberty and security of the person</p>	<p><i>Fiji Const.</i> Art. 23, UDHR Art. 3 ICCPR Arts. 9</p>	

	two weeks ago that those deemed to be inciting instability would be taken to the camp.				
26/01/07	Pacific Centre for Public Integrity director Angie Heffernan is hiding with her family from the military. She becomes the second individual who has retreated in fear after speaking out against the military.	Fiji Times 26/01/07	Freedom of Movement Liberty & security of person Freedom of expression	<i>Fiji Const</i> art 34(3) UDHR art 13 ICCPR art 12 UDHR Art. 3, 9 <i>Fiji Const</i> Art. 23 <i>Fiji Const.</i> Art. 30 UDHR Art. 19 ICCPR Art. 19	
26/01/07	Reports also follow that businesswoman, Laisa Digitaki has reportedly gone into hiding as well	Fiji Times 26/01/07	Freedom of Movement Liberty & security of person	<i>Fiji Const</i> art 34(3) UDHR art 13 ICCPR art 12 UDHR Art. 3, 9 <i>Fiji Const</i> Art. 23	

