

The ugly face of human rights

Capt. (R) Saeed
Hasan P.N

There are many cases of human rights violations with respect to women's rights and child abuse, not only in the third world countries but also in the so-called civilised western world like Germany and the United States, who profess to be the champions and torch-bearers of human rights. Some examples of utter disregard for women's rights in Germany published in the German weekly Stern are:

"According to statistics, recently published, 75% of German women after marriage ask for divorce, that is one in three in small towns and one in two in big cities. Some 156,425 women who are living with their "boy friends" without being legally married, separated from them."

According to the statistics published in Stern dated November 11, 1994 four million women in west Germany were subjected to mistreatment by their husbands of men friends. Some 440,000 women escape from their homes to save their lives and take refuge in one of 334 "Women's House".

Some 3,858 German women died due to the torture inflicted on them by their husbands or men friends, and so 86,922 were maimed. According to the same magazine, thousands of German women who were raped or tortured did not, due to shame of financial dependence on their husbands, lodge any complaint and continued their miserable existence. Two-thirds of the unemployed population are women, and those beyond 30 years of age have no chance of getting a job. Pretty young women have a good chance of finding employment.

These are some of the examples of so-called equality between men and women in Germany, but at the same time the arrogant West talks about disregard of women's rights in Islamic countries. Moral perversity

ly are the main factors that lead to crime.

Another point is trampling the rights of children. Stern revealed the crime committed by a family against their children. The members of the family are on trial in Mainz. They live in Worms. According to the prosecutor's indictment, the family consists of 6 members: a 35 years old mother, 33 years old father, sister, uncle, aunt and 58 years old grandmother. They are accused of having committed sinister acts towards the children. The children who were victims of sexual abuse ranged from 8 months to 8 years. Such crimes are mentioned in the prosecutor's charges. It is alleged that the 4-year-old girl of the family, called Isabel, was undressed by her aunt and was forced to...

It is further stated in the prosecutor's bill of charges: When the father was raping his six-month-old daughter, he tied her sister to the cupboard so that she could not flee from the scene of crime. The prosecutor is also completing another list of charges against 21 families and their friends. They are accused of raping and torturing 15 children of their families. It is unbelievable that such horrible crimes, which have become routine would be committed in a European country that pretends to exercise democracy and equality among its citizens.

In the same issue of Stern a brief reference was made to ethical perversion in the American society. An American called Susan Smith, 23, recently appealed to the police claiming that her two children, 14-month-old Alexander and 3-year-old Michael had been kidnapped. A few days later it was revealed that their mother had drowned her children so that she could begin a new life with her boyfriend.

In Germany all propaganda apparatus are under the control of German and Israeli Zionists. Considering their hatred of German nation since World War II, we should confess that Zionists' wishes are fulfilled, that is dissemination of corruption and crime, among the

of German culture. The Zionists' influence in Germany broadcasting media is so strong that even German music is seldom heard, from German radio stations.

Propagation of moral corruption and indecency planned in the US and the West by the Zionist propaganda machine, heralds extermination of Western young generation and the family. At present we are witnessing that the satellite television of the arrogant powers aims at dissemination of corruption and disintegration of the family.

According to Stern more than one million children in Germany are tortured by their parents and one quarter of murders are perpetrated by families of victims. A school master in Cologne was recently sentenced to 20 years imprisonment for having committed sexual assault. He is now in prison for having raped 10 children ranging from 8 to 12 years. It should be added that the same person had been chosen as an exemplary school master and awarded a prize by the German Ministry of Education. Western countries that are faced with insecurity, bombing, arson and attacks against foreigners, are angry because of the stability, security, political, economic and cultural progress of truly Islamic countries.

There is widespread evidence of gross and consistent patterns of racism throughout the fabric of US society. Many of the acts of racism constitute apparent violations of fundamental human rights as set out in international law. This is the conclusion of the Panel of Eminent Persons set up by the World Council of Churches (WCC) and the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA (NCC) to conduct hearings on racism as a violation of human rights in the United States.

The panel conducted hearing in seven US cities from October 7, 1994, and received written and oral testimony from members of various communities including native Americans, Afro-Americans, Latinos and Asian people.

The US government, while condemning and pressurising other

governments for imprisoning political activists, has vociferously denied that there are political prisoners in the US. It maintains that those who claim to be political prisoners are simply criminals and terrorists. The evidence produced before the panel, however, effectively disproves the US government claim.

In 1990, a special international panel, consisting of legal experts and eminent persons, after carefully considering the documentary and oral evidence of witnesses, including experts, found that there were substantial numbers of political prisoners within the jails. The US criminalises and imprisons persons involved in the struggle for self-determination, particularly native Americans, Puerto Ricans and Afro-Americans. It also found that the criminal justice system of the US is being used in a harsh and discriminatory way against political activists in the US.

In the 1960s and early 1970s, African-American political organisation such as the Black Panther Party and the Nation of Islam were targeted by the FBI under its Counter Intelligence Programme (COINTELPRO). The programme was designed to "expose, disrupt, misdirect, discredit or otherwise neutralise the activities of black nationalist hate-type organisations and groupings, their leadership, spokesmen and supporters". The then FBI director, J. Edgar Hoover, viewed the Black Panther Party as the "single greatest threat" which should become the subject "of imaginative and hard-hitting counter intelligence measures aimed at crippling the Black Panther Party".

Pursuant to the COINTELPRO programme, many Panther leaders were either murdered or convicted on framed-up charges and sentenced to long periods of imprisonment.

Testimony offered to the panel shows a clear pattern of racism within the US criminal justice system. In Oakland, California, Mullard Murphy of Prison Law Office testified: "Racism in American criminal justice system

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functions to perpetuate, under the guise of maintaining the public order, the criminalisation of a host of social problems experienced by poor people of colour including unemployment, hopelessness... In no place is US racism more pronounced than in its criminal justice system.... Nearly one-third of the population of black men in this country have lost the right to vote because they are currently under some kind of penal supervision."

In Washington DC, Keith Jennings of the African-American Human Rights Foundation produced startling statistics to show the criminalisation of black society. Black men are 6% of the US population but constitute over 44% of the prison inmates; 80% of those who use drugs are whites yet of those arrested for drugs only 7% are white; 41% of the death row population is African-Americans and another 9% from the other national minorities; since 1972, 85% of those executed were put to death for crimes against white people.

The US General Accounting Office, in its report "Death Penalty Sentencing", concluded that studies showed: "... race of the victim was found to influence the likelihood of being charged with capital murder or receiving the death penalty, i.e. those who murdered whites were found more likely to be sentenced to death than those who murdered blacks..."

In 1987, the US Supreme Court in *McCiskey vs Kemp*, accepted the validity of a study which found that defendants charged with killing white victims were 11 times more likely to be sentenced to death than those charged with killing African Americans, but ruled that such statistical evidence could not be used. Justice Blackmun, in his dissenting judgement opposing the death penalty, commented: "Even under the most sophisticated death penalty statutes, race continues to play a major role in determining who shall live and who shall die."

The native Americans were among the most angry and alienated groups to testify before the panel. They produced his

evidence on their struggle for self-determination and on the genocide committed against them by the US government. In its early years, the US government, recognising the native Americans as separate sovereign nations, had entered into about 371 treaties with them which were embodied in the US constitution as the "supreme law of the land". However, the US government has for over 200 years consistently violated or refused to respect these treaties and committed theft of 99% of native American land and destroyed their religion, culture and language.

The genocidal practices of the white European settlers, including war and disease, decimated the native American population and reduced it approximately from 12.5 million to less than 227,000 by 1980. These practices were based on the theory of Christian nationalism.

Having failed to eliminate the native Americans physically, the US government has been carrying out policies and practices intended to wipe them out as a distinct people with their unique history, religion and culture. Such practices include forced assimilation, criminalisation of religious practices, systematic involuntary sterilisation of native American women, and depriving them of the land that they consider common and sacred.

The special tribunal of 1990, in its findings, has observed that "native Americans are the poorest population group... with the highest incidence of infant mortality, death by exposure, tuberculosis, plague, malnutrition and teen suicide. The average life expectancy of an American Indian male is 44.6 years. For white males the figure is 74 years.

The native American witnesses made an impassioned appeal to the world community to support them in their struggle against the continuing genocide of indigenous people of the America. They also called for international support in promoting, preserving and maintaining their indigenous languages and culture and for the return of their