



UNITED NATIONS  
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER  
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN NEPAL



Press Release - 16 March 2006

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**On the “relay fasting program” by Society of the Family of Disappeared Citizens by the State**

On Wednesday 15 March members of the OHCHR-Nepal staff met with representatives of the Association of the Families of the Disappeared by State. The Association delivered to our office a petition and materials documenting the cases of disappearance of their family members, which OHCHR-Nepal has undertaken to forward to our Office in Geneva. Later that day, a group from the Society of the Family of Disappeared Citizens by the State also visited the OHCHR-Nepal office. They informed staff of OHCHR-Nepal that they intended to conduct a “relay fasting program” from within the premises. The Society has assured OHCHR-Nepal that their action is not a protest against OHCHR.

OHCHR-Nepal is committed to working with families of disappeared people to secure information on their whereabouts and to obtain justice. The recent report of the High Commissioner to the Commission on Human Rights highlights this as one of the most serious outstanding human rights issues which the State must address.

OHCHR-Nepal has asked the members of the Society of the Family of Disappeared Citizens by the State to end their fasting program within OHCHR-Nepal premises. While we cannot condone or facilitate any demonstration within the grounds of our office, we continue to work with the Society in their struggle for information and justice.