



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



Press Release – 19 December 2007

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**Government must protect possible burial sites of victims of disappearances –  
OHCHR-Nepal**

An OHCHR-Nepal team was present today at a site in Shivapuri National Park where it is alleged that the body of one of those arrested and detained in the Maharajgunj Army Barracks in 2003 was taken and cremated by the Nepalese Army. The individual was one of 49 people named in OHCHR's May 2006 report which documented torture and disappearances from the barracks. To date, there has been no serious, independent investigation into these allegations of disappearances and torture.

OHCHR calls yet again on the authorities to take all steps to ensure that an independent and credible mechanism is set up to investigate these and other cases of disappearances, and to identify those responsible. The Office supports today's request from the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to the Ministry of Home and the Nepal Police that they immediately make all necessary efforts to protect the Shivapuri site. OHCHR adds that this protection must be afforded to any site or evidence where it is alleged that victims of disappearances and extra-judicial executions might have been buried or cremated, as well as to any witness of such human rights violations.

Failure to do so jeopardizes the rights of victims to know the truth and to receive justice and reparation. Destruction of or failure to protect such evidence must be considered as an obstruction to the course of justice.