



Jenni Williams (right) of Women of Zimbabwe Arise (WOZA) with Lindsay Mossman, Amnesty Canada's Women's Human Rights Campaigner. The "L" hand sign is a WOZA symbol for "love".



Human rights defender
**Jenni
Williams**
thanks
Amnesty
members

Paul Thompson/Amnesty International

• **Your support means brave human rights activists are not alone in their struggle**

ZIMBABWE

"Amnesty International is our big sister," says Jenni Williams, a Zimbabwean human rights defender. "When I'm in prison, if I know that someone, my big sister, is shouting for me, telling people about me, then I feel less distressed, less frightened and less alone."

Jenni Williams is a founding member of WOZA (Women of Zimbabwe Arise), a movement of 80,000 courageous human rights activists who are peacefully protesting against the worsening economic conditions and human rights crisis in Zimbabwe.

WOZA members are often intimidated and ill-treated by police because of their activism. Some have been beaten. Many have been arrested and

held in overcrowded jails, denied access to lawyers and to much-needed medical attention.

Amnesty International members in Canada have had a close relationship with WOZA for many years. Amnesty members have taken action to help protect WOZA activists from police ill-treatment, and have helped raise much needed funds for WOZA.

Many Amnesty members in Canada generously responded to Amnesty's appeal this year that focused on Jenni and other women activists who risk their lives in the struggle for human rights. Members also mailed in messages in support of Jenni and WOZA.

Recently Jenni Williams visited Amnesty International in Canada. She was the inspirational keynote

speaker at Amnesty's Annual General Meeting in Montreal, and she visited Amnesty's national office in Ottawa to meet members, volunteers and staff.

The support and solidarity of Amnesty members helps Jenni Williams and other WOZA activists feel that they are not alone in their struggle.

"Phoning the police, signing a postcard—all these things make a difference because they send a clear message," says Jenni. "I believe that the phone calls to the police in Zimbabwe during my arrest saved me from torture and rape."

If you would like to take further action to protect WOZA and other women's rights defenders, please email members@amnesty.ca.

Thank you for being a global champion of human rights



Amnesty International



Amnesty International members taking to the streets to demonstrate for human rights.

Above: Alex Neve collecting personal testimonies of human rights abuses in Guiglo village, Côte d'Ivoire, June 2011.

A message from Alex Neve
Secretary General of Amnesty International Canada

EARLIER THIS YEAR, YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT ALLOWED ME TO be part of an Amnesty International research mission to Côte d'Ivoire to investigate a human rights crisis of catastrophic proportions (see full story on page 4).

Amnesty International typically conducts 120-140 such missions each year, and you can be sure that right now your donations are supporting an Amnesty mission in some part of the world, making it possible for Amnesty researchers to uncover abuses, interview witnesses, work with local human rights defenders, and press the authorities to take action to safeguard human rights.

Your support for Amnesty International's work truly means that you are a voice for human rights all over the world.

Already in 2011 you have stood alongside those demanding their human rights in the Middle East and North Africa—in Tunisia, Egypt, Syria, Bahrain and Yemen. You have demanded justice for the people of the Democratic Republic of Congo where a terrible cycle of human rights abuses has affected millions of people over several decades. In Nigeria, in the Niger Delta, you have demanded that oil companies clean up the mess that years of pollution have created.

In recent months, you have also spoken out for human rights in Iran and China and Myanmar. You have spoken out too against unlawful killings by police in Bangladesh, torture in Tajikistan, discrimination against Roma in Europe, and the jailing of dissidents in Viet Nam. You have demanded an end to the horror of political prison camps in North Korea.

None of Amnesty International's work—none of the research missions, campaigns, media work, urgent action appeals—could happen without your support. Thank you for championing human rights all over the world!

Are you interested in getting more involved in Amnesty's work?

AS A GENEROUS DONOR, YOUR SUPPORT OF Amnesty's human rights work is crucial and lifesaving. But if you're interested in getting more involved in our work, we'd love to hear from you. We can let you know more about your choices, and send you our guide to getting more involved.

Simply fill out the enclosed coupon, phone **1-800-AMNESTY** (1-800-266-3789) or email **members@amnesty.ca** to receive your copy of *Taking Action*, a guide to getting more involved. ■

THE Candle

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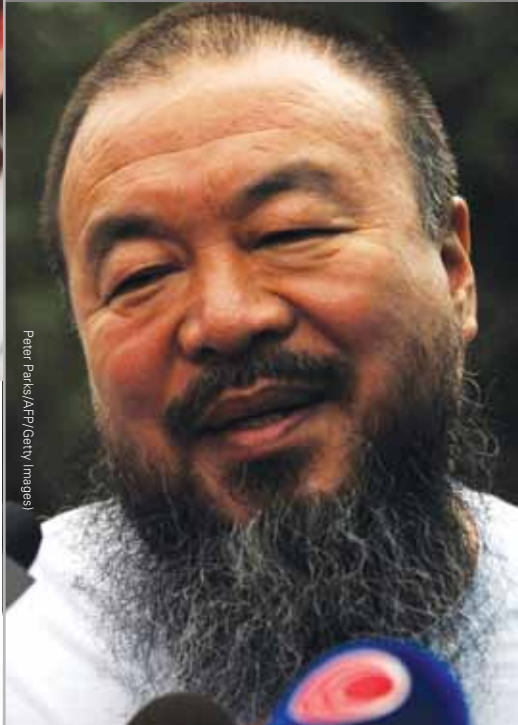
Human rights activist and journalist Emadeddin Baghi.

IRAN: Emadeddin Baghi released, thanks Amnesty members

“ONE REALLY FEELS AS THOUGH we are all part of one family,” said human rights activist and journalist Emadeddin Baghi after his release from prison on June 21, 2011. “I would like to send my warmest regards to all our friends on the team in Amnesty.”

Emadeddin Baghi has been imprisoned several times for his work. He was most recently arrested in December 2009 during a time of large-scale protests in Iran following the disputed presidential election of June 2009. Amnesty members in Canada and around the world campaigned for his release.

At the end of August 2011, two months after Baghi’s release, a further 70 prisoners of conscience and political prisoners were freed in Iran. Among them were several prisoners whom Amnesty members had campaigned for including Dr Arash Alaei, Milad Asadi and Mohammed Pour Abdollah. ■



Peter Parks/AFP/Getty Images



Federic J. Brown/AFP/Getty Images

Left: Chinese artist and political critic Ai Weiwei.

Above: Hu Jia (right) and his wife Zeng Jinyan.

CHINA: Ai Weiwei and Hu Jia released

TWO CHINESE PRISONERS, WHOSE freedom Amnesty members had campaigned for tirelessly, were released from jail in June 2011.

Ai Weiwei, a well-known Chinese artist and political critic, was released on bail on June 22. Ai Weiwei had been arrested and accused of tax evasion in April. His detention was part of a crackdown on dissent in China in 2011 which has seen dozens of activists detained.

Upon his release, Ai Weiwei was warned not to talk to the media or others about his treatment in detention. He remains under tight police surveillance.

Just a few days after Ai Weiwei’s release, prisoner of conscience Hu Jia was freed on June 26. Hu Jia is one of China’s best-known environmental and human rights activists. He had been arrested in December 2007 and imprisoned for “inciting subversion”. Like Ai Weiwei, Hu Jia’s freedom is being severely restricted. ■

CHAD: Forced evictions stopped

THANKS TO AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL supporters who responded to a global letter-writing appeal, more than 10,000 people living in the Ambatta neighbourhood of Chad’s capital N’Djamena are no longer at risk of forced eviction.

The residents of Ambatta have thanked Amnesty International members for taking action, which was crucial in persuading the authorities to stop the evictions. They said that their lives would have been ruined had the evictions taken place.

“Your action in our battle was crucial and salutary for us and has stopped the forced evictions. You have restored hope to the Ambatta people.”

There have been thousands of forced evictions in N’Djamena in recent years, and Amnesty International is continuing to campaign on this critical human right issue for the people of Chad. ■

Right: Joseph Atta Bgré told Amnesty researchers how soldiers burned down his home in Gobroko village, Côte d'Ivoire. More than one million people in Côte d'Ivoire have been forced to flee their homes because of recent violence.

Alex Neve, Secretary General of Amnesty International Canada, reports on the June 2011 Amnesty mission to the West African country.

CÔTE D'IVOIRE MISSION

"IT'S TOO LATE FOR ME. I HOPE IT'S NOT TOO LATE FOR THE country." With those weary words, 81-year-old Joseph Atta Bgré summed up his fears and his hopes about the future, for himself and for Côte d'Ivoire.

Our Amnesty International mission team had travelled to his remote village of Gobroko in June 2011 to investigate human rights violations.

Joseph's house, which he built 40 years ago, had been ransacked and torched. His nephew had been killed. Given his frail health, Joseph felt that rebuilding his home and his life was impossible. But he certainly wasn't ready to give up on his country. His conviction that Côte d'Ivoire would rebuild was strong.

And that, in many respects, was the theme of our mission. Was the country turning a corner?

I was last in Côte d'Ivoire in early 2003, a few months after a civil war split the country. Those divisions were supposed to heal with a presidential election in November 2010. But hatred and suspicion deepened when President Laurent Gbagbo refused to acknowledge that his challenger, Alassane Ouattara, had won.

From the time of the election through to the eventual arrest of Laurent Gbagbo in early April, more than one million people were forced to flee their homes and at least 3,000 people were killed. Amnesty International teams had been to the country twice earlier in 2011 and documented a human rights and humanitarian catastrophe.

As we travelled throughout the country in June, we witnessed a continuing crisis. At least 500,000 people were still too terrified to return to their homes. Human rights violations were being committed daily by the new government's security forces.

Not that we did not see hope everywhere; we did. Clémentine is a human rights defender, who travels from village to village gathering information about abuses and helping survivors, despite having been attacked and raped herself. Raphael is a village chief, who showed us notebooks of names and numbers that he had gathered about killings and displacement, which he had been compiling with confidence that Amnesty International would show up.

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Hope survives after a decade of violence



Amnesty International is pressing urgently for a comprehensive action plan to address insecurity in Côte d'Ivoire, end sexual violence against women and girls and ensure that displaced people can go home. We are urging the United Nations to patrol isolated areas of the country. And we are demanding that those who have committed human rights abuses must be brought to justice.

There is a way out of a decade of violence. It lies in human rights. And we will continue to work to make sure that hope becomes reality. ■



What your support means for the people of the

MIDDLE EAST and NORTH AFRICA

Miguel Medina/ATP/Getty Images

Egyptian women demonstrate in Cairo's Tahrir Square on February 6, 2011.

You're calling for women to have an equal voice in the new **EGYPT**

IT TOOK EGYPTIANS JUST 18 DAYS from January 25, 2011, to oust President Hosni Mubarak, who had ruled Egypt with an iron fist for 30 years. Many protesters paid a high price. At least 840 people were killed, more than 6,400 were injured, and hundreds were imprisoned and tortured.

During the uprising, women played a major role in the protests. Since then, however, women have been excluded from decision-making processes. The committee set up to revise the constitution included no women. The new Prime Minister's cabinet included just one woman. On International Women's Day on March 8, groups of men attacked women demonstrators in Cairo.

Amnesty members have been calling on the Prime Minister of Egypt to ensure that women's rights are respected, that women are central to shaping the new Egypt and that equality and non-discrimination are at the heart of the reform process. ■

You're standing alongside those most at risk in **LIBYA**

BECAUSE OF YOUR COMMITTED support, Amnesty International researchers have been working in Libya throughout much of 2011.

In March, Donatella Rovera, Amnesty's crisis researcher, was in Benghazi as the city came under attack from Gaddafi forces. The following month, Donatella was in Misratah during the siege of the city. In August, Diana Eltahawy, Amnesty's North Africa researcher, was in the capital Tripoli.

Throughout the long crisis, the Amnesty researchers have been investigating human rights abuses and identifying emerging human rights issues. They uncovered evidence that Colonel Gaddafi's forces targeted civilians and killed prisoners in custody. Their reports alerted the world to the desperate need for humanitarian aid in many cities. In August, the researchers focused the world's attention on revenge attacks against black Libyans and people from sub-Saharan Africa suspected of being pro-Gaddafi. ■

You're demanding that the United Nations act on **SYRIA**

IN SYRIA, MORE THAN 1,600 PEOPLE are reported to have been killed since protests began in March 2011. Thousands more have been arrested and held in detention at risk of torture. Despite the enormous risks, people continue to protest.

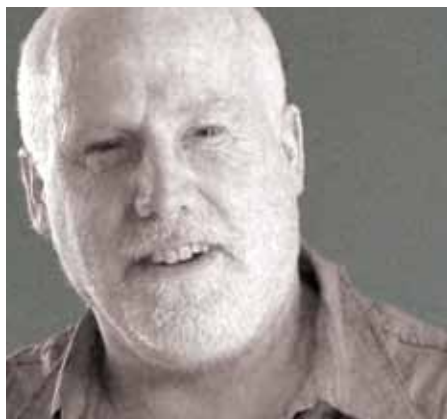
Amnesty International members have been leading the call for Syria to respect the rights of its citizens. In May, a petition carrying more than 165,000 signatures from Amnesty supporters was delivered to Syrian embassies around the world.

Amnesty International was the first to push for action from the United Nations following renewed violence in July that left 160 dead in the central Syrian town of Hama. Amnesty is continuing to press countries on the UN Security Council to pass a resolution requiring countries to act on the human rights crisis in Syria. ■

amnesty.ca/middleeast

Will you help carry on Amnesty's work?

After you've remembered your loved ones in your will, please help Amnesty International continue protecting human rights



Amnesty's Alex Neve explains why he chose to remember Amnesty International in his will

How and when did you first become involved with Amnesty?

I joined Amnesty International in 1984 when I was a first-year law student. I was attracted to an organization that had the ambitious goal of tackling human rights violations around the world and offered ordinary people a meaningful opportunity to make a difference in that struggle. I carry on because there is so much more to do; because we have proven that together we can make progress; and because the Amnesty members and frontline activists I have worked with across Canada and around the world continuously inspire me with their courage and determination.

Why did you decide to remember Amnesty in your will?

Including Amnesty International in my will means my voice will

endure as part of the global chorus defending human rights.

Why do you think it is important for people to leave a legacy for human rights?

The global campaign for universal human rights protection is all about ordinary people joining together, raising their voices and demanding change. The greater the number of people joining together and leaving a legacy for human rights in their will, the stronger our human rights work will be for generations to come. ■



"Song of Hope" © Robert Bateman

A special gift to thank you for remembering Amnesty in your will

CREATED ESPECIALLY FOR AMNESTY

Canada by Robert Bateman, "Song of Hope" depicts a meadowlark singing on a fencepost entwined with barbed wire. This inspiring image represents

the Amnesty International candle—and the voice of Amnesty members.

We would be pleased to send you this hand-signed and numbered fine art print to express our thanks for including a gift to Amnesty International in your will. Please fill out the enclosed coupon as soon as possible to ensure you receive a print (quantities are limited). ■



Heather can help you if you're thinking of leaving a gift to Amnesty in your will

HEATHER WARREN JOINED AMNESTY

International as a donor in 1982. She soon became more involved, first as an activist through letter-writing and then by helping to start an Amnesty International group in Lanark, Ontario. She later served as treasurer on our national Executive Committee.

In 1999, Heather began working at Amnesty's national office, and for over ten years she has been assisting people who plan to leave a gift in their will to Amnesty International. ■

If you have any questions about leaving a gift to Amnesty International in your will, Heather would be very happy to assist you. You can contact her at **613-744-7667 ext 239**, or by email at **hwarren@amnesty.ca**, or by **filling out the enclosed coupon**.

How to use your power of movement to promote human rights!

ONE OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S greatest strengths as a movement has been our ability to mobilize communities to apply pressure on powerful governments and corporations to stop or prevent human rights violations. We know every voice counts, and now, you can make every step you take count too!

Whether it's participating in Yoga Day on April 28, 2012, at a local yoga studio or your own living room, joining a running race in your city that allows you

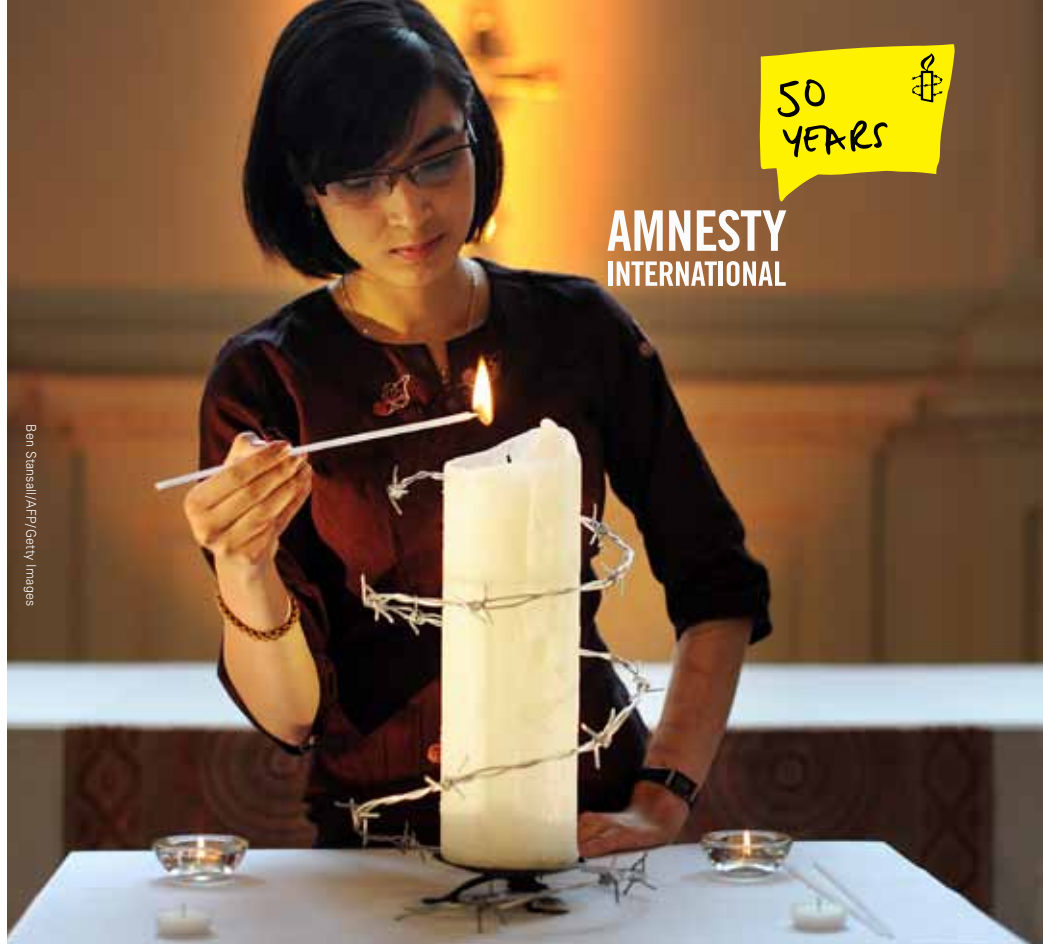


to raise pledges from friends and family, or even making up your own physical fundraising challenge through cycling, rollerblading or walking—you can turn your favourite activity into a way to raise money for Amnesty's human rights work.

To find out more, visit yogaday.ca or amnesty.ca/50runners, or contact Hala Al-Madi at specialevents@amnesty.ca or 1-800-266-3798. ■

50 YEARS 

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL



WAI HNIN PWINT THON OF MYANMAR LIGHTS A CANDLE DURING AN AMNESTY International 50-year celebration church service in London, UK, on May 28, 2011. Amnesty members held events in more than 60 countries to mark half a century of human rights work. Wai Hnin Pwint Thon is the daughter of Ko Mya Aye, a pro-democracy activist who is currently serving a 65-year jail sentence in Myanmar. ■

Available now: Amnesty's 50th anniversary wines

TO HELP CELEBRATE Amnesty International's 50 years of human rights work, Ontario's Black Prince Winery has created an exclusive "Amnesty at 50" wine label (both red and white wines). Black Prince Winery will donate \$2 from the sale of each bottle to Amnesty's work.

Now's your chance



to support human rights by enjoying a glass of wine over dinner with friends, or giving a wine bottle as a gift.

To place your order, visit blackprince-winery.com/our-wines/ai50 or call Geoff Webb, General Manager, Black Prince Winery 1-866-470-9463 ext. 23.

Raise your glass in support of human rights! ■

You're invited to a global celebration of human rights

**WRITE FOR
RIGHTS**



On December 10, 2011—International Human Rights Day—Amnesty International members in Canada and around the world will be taking part in Amnesty's annual *Write for Rights* letter-writing event. In Amnesty's 50th year, they will be writing hundreds of thousands of letters to save lives, stop torture, free prisoners of conscience, and send messages of hope to those who have been unjustly jailed.

It's easy to take part!

There are many places where you can hold your own *Write for Rights* event

- at your workplace
- at your school
- at your faith group
- at home
- with friends
- on your own

REGISTER NOW
for *Write for Rights* 2011
Go to writeathon.ca or
phone 1-800-266-3789 to
register your event, or find out
more about how to get involved.

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