

AMANI TRUST

**Beating your opposition.
Torture during the 2002 Presidential
campaign in Zimbabwe.**

**A report and a dossier of cases prepared by the
Mashonaland Programme of the AMANI Trust.**

25 June 2002

1. The AMANI Trust

The AMANI Trust is a Zimbabwean NGO, whose vision is the provision of medical, psychological and social assistance to victims of Organised Violence and Torture (OVT). Apart from the important rehabilitation work of the Trust, it also works for the elimination of torture both locally and internationally. The Trust was formed in 1993, but had previously existed as an ad hoc committee to implement the recommendations of the ground-breaking Conference on the “Consequences of Organised Violence in Southern Africa”, held in Harare in 1990. This ad hoc committee, operating under the auspices of the Psychiatric Association of Zimbabwe, attempted to maintain regional collaboration on the issue of organised violence, and held a number of regional workshops and seminars. The name of the Trust, *AMANI*, meaning peace in Swahili, was given to this first initiative under the Psychiatric Association of Zimbabwe, and was formalised when the Trust was registered in 1993.

The Trust did initial work in the refugee camps for Mozambican refugees, training health and other workers in the identification and management of psychological disorders due to trauma. The first major programme initiated by the Trust, however, was a partnership with hospitals in Mount Darwin District. This began in 1995 and continued up to 2000. The work in Mount Darwin led to the development of a community-based rehabilitation model, that was shown to be effective and appreciated by the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare. The reputation of this programme then allowed AMANI to begin a programme in Matabeleland in 1997, and a separate programme was fully established in 1998. Both the Mashonaland and Matabeleland Programmes revolved around community-based approaches to rehabilitation, although there were regional differences in the approaches due to the difference in the two contexts.

The AMANI Trust began new work in 1998 in the aftermath of the Food Riots in January of that year. The new work, in the partnership with the then-formed Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum, focused upon current as opposed to historical victims of torture. This required new skills and new approaches, and the Trust then developed a new model revolving around a medico-legal model. The Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum has subsequently become an established feature of the human rights landscape, and has, together with the AMANI Trust, has led the field in documenting and reporting upon gross human rights violations.

The AMANI Trust continued its relationship with the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare with a new training programme for trauma counsellors. Two major training programmes were run during 1999 for Mashonaland Central Province, and, in 2000, on a national basis with trainees drawn from 6 of the Provinces. This was then extended in 2001 with the development of a forensic nurse examiner training programme, run jointly by AMANI and the Zimbabwe Nurses Association. This was done on a national basis, with nurse trainees being drawn from all Provinces. This course, which was the second of its kind in Africa was supported by the International Association of Forensic Nurses, and resulted in 22 diplomats graduating and the creation of the future pool of forensic nurse trainers.

Internationally, the AMANI Trust has acquired a reputation for expertise in the field of documentation and rehabilitation of torture survivors. The Trust is a long-standing member of the Danish-based International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT), with representation on the Council since 1993, and membership of the Executive Committee of the Council since 2000. The Trust was also a founder member of the Southern African Trauma Coalition, an alliance of Southern African centres dealing with torture victims, having members in Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe. Staff from the AMANI Trust have participated in international missions in Botswana, the Philippines, Namibia, Nigeria, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland, and Zambia.

The Trust has an international reputation for its work, having published papers in scientific journals, produced a large number of reports and manuals, and made a large number of presentations at international conferences. In Zimbabwe, the Trust can reliably be regarded as

expert on the matter of organised violence and torture, and has testified as such to the Commission to Investigate the War Victims Compensation Fund, the Chidyausiku Commission. The AMANI Trust was commended by the Commission for the utility of its submission and the supporting documents.

2. Organised violence and torture: an overview

Torture clearly represents an extreme form of exposure to violence, in that the effects are premeditated and designed, the process usually involves attacks of both a physical and psychological nature, and, most importantly, torture has an explicitly political purpose in a clear socio-political context. Torture may be divided into different kinds, but usually it is very difficult to separate them, and certainly it is common for different kinds of torture to be given at the same time. For example, it is very common for people to be given beatings at the same time that they are being verbally abused or threatened. Here there are two kinds of torture at the same time: physical torture in the form of beatings and psychological torture in the form of abuse and threats.

The definition of torture contained in the United Nations Convention Against Torture is a four-part definition as follows:

1. Severe **pain and suffering**, whether physical or mental;
2. **Intentionally** inflicted;
3. With a **purpose**;
4. By a state official or another acting with the **acquiescence** of the State.

This definition is widely used by health professionals in the diagnosis of torture, and is the basis for the examination of torture victims outlined in the Istanbul Protocol, which is now the standard protocol for examination of torture victims accepted by the United Nations High Commission for Human Rights.

2.1 Physical methods of torture

Beatings of one kind or another are by far the most common methods of abuse. The beatings can be generally all over the body, but some countries show a preference for a particular kind of beating. Falanga, or beating the soles of the feet, has been frequently reported in Middle Eastern countries, but there are reports of its use in African countries too. Electrical torture is popular because of the extreme pain that it causes, as well as the few scars that it leaves. Perpetrators in fact can use almost anything to abuse people. The point to grasp here is that any physical harm caused deliberately is torture, and thus any procedure or object can become torture or be used in torture.

2.2 Deprivation as torture

Deprivation is separated from psychological torture in the Southern African setting because it happens very frequently that people are detained in circumstances that lead to ill treatment, but where the intention is not to deliberately use the detention as torture. For the victim however the effect of the deprivation can be the same as torture. The point here is that torture is not just a matter of what was in the mind of the perpetrator or the person doing the detention, but it is also a question of what the victim believed was happening.

This is not an exclusive list, but it covers the kinds of treatments that are forbidden by most human rights conventions or conventions relating to the treatment of prisoners or detainees. These can be very difficult to assess in many African countries where the above forms of ill treatment are so common as to be felt that they are "normal" methods of treating prisoners. Patients will frequently be so used to these methods, or know that they are routinely practiced, so that they will not remark upon them for themselves.

2.3 Sensory over-stimulation

Sensory stimulation is frequently used as a method of torture by perpetrators, but it does not seem to be so common in community settings. The aim behind sensory stimulation, which is often erroneously termed "brain washing", is to attack the person in another way. Psychological studies of sensory deprivation have clearly demonstrated the damaging effects of such abuse. For example, people subjected to constant "white noise" rapidly show signs of stress and can even begin to hallucinate if it goes on long enough.

All of these can be used deliberately, or can be part of the background to detentions. For example, many people have been tortured in settings where they can hear the sounds of others being tortured too, and will talk about how terrible it was to hear the screams and voices of their comrades. This could have been a deliberate policy on the part of the torturers, but is frequently due to their indifference to whether others can hear or not.

2.4 Psychological methods of torture

It is very rare to find physical torture unaccompanied by psychological torture, and psychological torture is probably the most common form of torture used. Psychological torture is also frequently applied on its own, and can be very successful in causing both short-term and long-term damage to a person. Psychological torture is not to be seen as a lesser form of ill treatment, because its consequences can be very powerful and very long lasting.

2.5 High War Zone Stress & Witnessing violence

Some earlier workers in the field of traumatic stress argued that civilian populations were little affected by war. However, there was little direct investigation of trauma in civilian populations until the last decade, and, following the invention of PTSD, there has been the continual demonstration of psychological disorder in populations in situations of war and civil conflict. These situations are usefully described by the term "High War Zone Stress". The term was originally applied in a military context, to differentiate soldiers in combat settings from those in non-combat zones. It was defined by reference to frequent experience of military fighting, proximity to people being killed, and fears about oneself being killed. This situation is, of course, not unique to military personnel, and describes the daily life of many non-combatants and ordinary people. It is particularly relevant to situations of guerrilla war, and obviously to Southern Africa.

As originally propounded, High War Zone Stress refers to the situation that soldiers can find themselves in, whether they are professional soldiers or conscripts, and here we are referring to men generally who receive training. However, the term can also be applied to civilians, and it is worth remembering that up to 80% of the casualties of modern wars are civilians. Modern wars are distinguished by the strategic involvement of civilians, and especially where there are civil war situations and guerrilla warfare. So it is very common for ordinary civilians to find themselves in situations of high war stress, and to have the frequent experience of witnessing violence and death. Deliberate massacres and executions are frequently forced upon ordinary people by military and paramilitary forces in an attempt to remove support for guerrillas or political parties. Civilians are deliberately terrorized, threatened, and abused in order to destroy the support for one force or political party. This frequently leads to both sides terrorizing civilians in order to prevent support for the other side. For example, during the Liberation War in Zimbabwe it was common for the government security forces to attack villages and to kill or assault villagers in order to destroy support for the guerrillas, and it was also common for the guerrillas to undertake punitive actions against suspected supporters of the government. This creates a situation of sustained fear and stress for the ordinary person.

2.6 Disappearances

One very sinister form of deliberately inducing a situation of High War Zone Stress is the use of forced disappearances. This refers to the abduction of individuals, who may be kept in secret detention for long periods, but are often executed in secret. This is a strategy that has been growing in recent decades, and some of the most tragic examples can be found in Latin America.

For example, about 40 000 individuals were "disappeared" in Argentina during the rule of the military junta in the 1970's. It is also a strategy used in Zimbabwe, both during the Liberation War and the Matabeleland emergency of the 1980's.

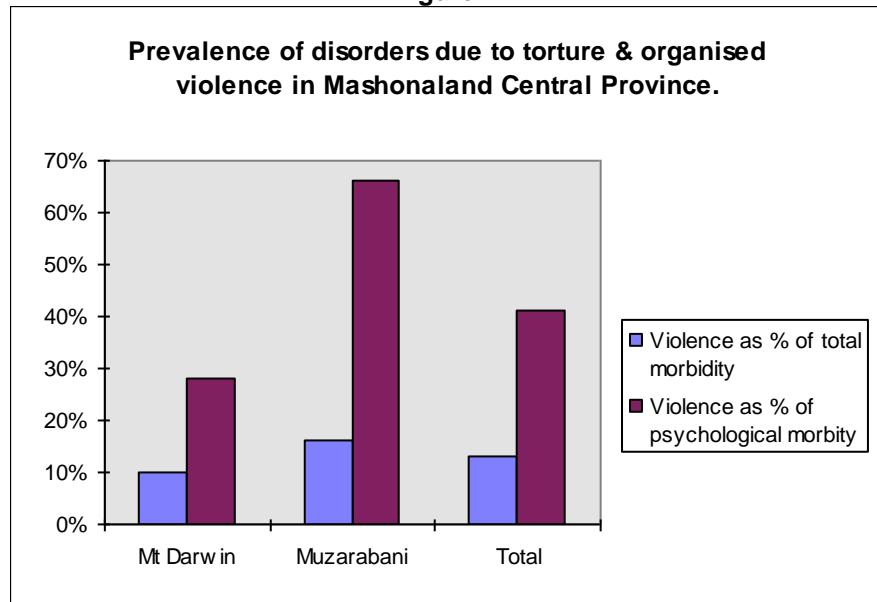
In Africa, disappearances may have even more profound effects. Since death and misfortune are always events of extreme concern for the entire extended family, a disappearance that may or may not be a death creates a wide range of problems. African families are compelled by spiritual belief to undertake proper rituals for the burial of the dead, and anything that prevents this happening can leave the family with the expectation of future misfortune. For example, it was frequently observed in the refugee setting that many Mozambican refugees were preoccupied with worries about not having properly buried their dead when they fled into exile. It has also been observed in Zimbabwe that many families were deeply distressed by the non-return of family members from the Liberation War: large numbers of young men and women left home to join the guerrillas in Mozambique, and large numbers never returned. The families have no information about the end of the people, and some have even engaged in lengthy searches to find out what happened, to find where they were buried if they died [Mupinda.1996].

3. Findings from the Liberation War

In order to determine the prevalence of disorders due to torture in the Liberation War, the AMANI Trust carried out a number of studies in the 1990s. The initial work carried out by the AMANI Trust indicated that Common Mental Disorders as well as disorders due to organised violence and torture were common in Mount Darwin District [AMANI.1995], but this work suffered from the flaw that all the data was collected from hospital outpatient attendees who may be a very select group of patients. It was thus decided to conduct a series of point prevalence studies based on prescriptive screening of random primary care patients, and to sample as many of the existing health care facilities in the District. The first study was carried out in 1997, and has been briefly reported elsewhere [AMANI.1997]. A second study was carried out in early 1998 in a neighbouring District - Muzarabani District - and this provided a comparison for Mount Darwin.

There were some differences found in the prevalence rates for disorders due to organised violence and torture [OVT]. As can be seen from Figure 1 below, these differences were marked. OVT was greater in Muzarabani than in Mount Darwin, both as a percentage of total morbidity and of overall psychological morbidity.

Figure 1



Overall, it is evident that disorders due to OVT are a very significant proportion of psychological morbidity. Nearly one adult in ten was suffering a clinically significant psychological disorder due to OVT, and nearly a third of all psychological morbidity was due to OVT. Here it should be borne in mind that this was almost three decades after the original violence, and hence the long-term consequences of OVT cannot be underestimated.

As can be seen from Table 1 below, the survivors from Mount Darwin in Mashonaland Central reported a high frequency of many different types of torture.

Table 1.
Frequency of torture types in Mount Darwin survivors (Amani.1998)

TYPE	Frequency[mean; s.dev]
Physical torture	2.73[1.66]
Deprivation	2.22[1.88]
Impact torture:	4.99[2.93]
Sensory over stimulation	0.83[1.28]
Psychological abuse	2.36[1.95]
Psychological torture:	3.19[2.64]
Witness torture	2.18[1.99]
Witness executions	0.65[0.99]
Witness total:	2.83[2.62]
Total Torture:	8.53[5.55]

Table 2 shows the frequency of the various types of physical abuse reported by the Mount Darwin group. This has much in common with the OVT groups. Beatings are the most common abuse reported, as is commonly found in all studies of torture survivors, and there are a number of other forms that are reported comparatively frequently - exposure, suspension, asphyxiation and electrical shock.

Table 2.
Frequency of physical abuse of Mount Darwin survivors (Amani1998).

Beating	169[51%]
Severe beating	192[57%]
Exposure	42[13%]
Suspension	35[11%]
Unusual posture	28[9%]
Asphyxiation	49[15%]
Burning	24[7%]
Electrical shock	56[17%]
Rape	16[5%]
Other	22[6%]

Rape is always reported at a low frequency, which cannot be taken as indicative that rape was infrequent for several reasons. the most important of these is the very strong reluctance by women to report rape since this can have decidedly detrimental effects on their marital relationship. For example, at least two of the women who reported rape who concerned that their families might learn of their experience, and their concern was that their husbands might divorce them if they suspected that any of the children born during that time might have been products of the rape. Another reason lies in concerns over infertility, and the perception by husbands and families that the infertility might have been caused by the rape.

Deprivation experiences were also commonly reported, as can be seen from Table 3. Not all of the Mount Darwin group were detained during their torture, but, of those who were, various forms of deprivation were reported. Lack of medical treatment is important to note here, for many survivors received no medical care for the injuries sustained during interrogation and torture, and this was complicated by the closure of most hospitals during the latter part of the Liberation War. This has undoubtedly contributed to the chronicity of many of the injuries.

Table 3.
Frequency of Deprivation in Mount Darwin survivors (Amani.1998).

Deprived of food, comfort	122[37%]
Deprived of food, comfort[more than 2-3 days]	124[38%]
Lack of water[more than 48 hours]	41[12%]
Immobilisation, restraint[more than 48 hours]	63[19%]
Lack of sleep[less than 4 hours per night]	89[27%]
Lack of medical treatment	77[23%]
Other	9[3%]

Sensory over stimulation (see Table 4 below) was not commonly reported, which was the finding of previous studies. Sensory over stimulation seems to have been experienced only by those persons who were taken to specialised interrogation centres such as the Selous Scouts Fort in Mount Darwin.

Table 4.
Frequency of Sensory Over stimulation in Mount Darwin survivors (Amani.1998).

Constant noises	55[17%]
Screams, noises	63[19%]
Powerful lights	5[2%]
Constant lighting	6[1.5%]
Special devices	6[1.5%]
Drugs	2[1%]
Other	0

Psychological abuse, however, was reported with a very high frequency, as might have been expected. It is noteworthy that the survivors did not openly report psychological abuse, but the reports were prompted by the assessment process. As can be seen from Table 5, verbal abuse, threats and false accusations were widely reported, with threats against families and simulated executions also being reported with some frequency.

Table 5.
Frequency of Psychological Abuse in Mount Darwin survivors (Amani.1998).

Verbal abuse	218[64%]
Threats	184[54%]
False accusations	163[48%]
Abuse with excrement	17[5%]
Sexual abuse	20[6%]
Threats against family	89[26%]
Simulate execution	79[23%]
Other	9[3%]

Witnessing torture is reported as a separate category from psychological abuse, since witnessing does not necessarily involve the characteristic of being unavoidable. This does not mean that witnessing is less traumatic, and many survivors report the experience of having to watch a loved one undergo violent and painful treatment. As can be seen from Table 6, the frequency of witnessing was very high. Interestingly, the rate of witnessing electrical torture is low in comparison to the direct experience of this, and this is expected, since virtually all electrical torture would take place at interrogation centres and most witnessing would take place in the community.

Table 6.
Frequency of Witnessing Torture in Mount Darwin survivors (Amani.1998).

Beating	185[56%]
Severe beating	222[67%]
Exposure	51[15%]
Suspension	42[13%]
Unusual posture	68[21%]
Asphyxiation	41[12%]
Burning	74[22%]
Electrical shock	11[3%]
Rape	15[5%]

The frequency of witnessing executions (see Table 7) was much lower than the frequency of witnessing torture. Beatings and shootings were the most commonly reported forms of execution witnessed, which corroborates the reports of independent sources.

Table 7.
Frequency of Witnessing executions in Mount Darwin survivors (Amani.1998).

Beating	72[22%]
Shooting	85[26%]
Stabbing, cutting	12[4%]
Hanging, strangling	9[2.5%]
Burning	17[5%]
Other	16[4.5%]

As can be seen from these findings, the use of torture was widespread during the Liberation War, having severe long-term effects upon the victims. There were many different types of torture used, with psychological torture being particularly common.

Medical examination:

Medical examination of the sample was carried by a doctor with some experience of examining torture survivors. The examination was guided by a protocol developed by the AMANI Trust, but based mostly upon the protocol suggested by Rasmussen in his seminal study of the sequelae of torture (Rasmussen.1990).

On medical examination, only 7% of the patients seen had evidence of anxiety, whilst another 7% showed evidence of depression. The remainder showed no obvious psychological or emotional symptoms.

Scarring due to torture was also not commonly seen, as can be seen from Table 8 below. This is probably not surprising since this is a chronic sample and scarring due to torture is difficult to determine more than two decades after the injury.

Table 8.
Scars attributable to torture
(Amani.1998).

Skin(head)	10%
Skin(body)	3%
Skin(extremities)	13%

The detailed medical examination revealed a picture that corroborated the reports of torture given by the clients. As can be seen from Table 9 below, the most commonly identified problems were to do with damage to the vertebral column, which tied in with the reports of severe beatings. The other common problems, to the extremities (fingers, toes, hearing, etc.) and the thorax, were also commensurate with beatings, and, in this sample, with falanga.

Table 9.
Medical examination of Physical
Assessment sample
(Amani.1998).

Vertebral column	52%
Extremities	29%
Thorax	10%
Skull	7%
Neurological	7%
Abdomen	3%
Genitalia	3%

The general physical condition of the sample was poor, and medical examination indicated that 45% were below average in their nutritional state.

In general, the medical examination did not indicate many obvious problems, but it should be borne in mind that this was clinical examination alone without the support of laboratory or radiological investigations. The sample was also a chronic sample, with most injuries having been inflicted more than two decades previously, which undoubtedly made physical examination more difficult.

4. Findings from the Food Riots

In 1998, the human rights community in Harare swung into action following the many reports of human rights violations, and the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum (Human Rights Forum) was formed. This group, then a loose alliance of NGOs, provided assistance to detainees, persons complaining of human rights violations and ill-treatment, and produced a report on the riots — ***Human Rights in Troubled Times: An Initial Report on Human Rights Abuses During and After Food Riots in January 1998***¹ — which was forwarded to the President and Parliament in support of the request for an independent commission of inquiry. As was stated in the report:

The human rights organisations call upon Government to set up, as soon as possible, an independent Commission of Inquiry headed by a High Court Judge to investigate these allegations of human rights violations. In the interests of transparency and accountability the findings of this Commission must be made public. Pending the setting up of such a Commission, the organisations request

¹ Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum (1998), *Human Rights in Troubled Times: An Initial Report on Human Rights Abuses During and After Food Riots in January 1998*.

Parliament to establish its own Committee to look into these allegations and report its findings to Parliament. In conducting these investigations the Parliamentary Committee should enlist the assistance of the Ombudsman's office which now has jurisdiction to investigate allegations of human rights abuses on the part of members of the police, army and prison service. Although the Ombudsman may only investigate when complaints have been made to that office, the proposed Parliamentary Committee would be able to refer some of the complainants to the Ombudsman's office so that their complaints can be investigated by personnel in this office.

Following these inquiries arrangements must be made for compensation to be awarded to all persons found to have suffered human rights abuses without those persons having to bring claims in the courts. Government must also take stern disciplinary action against all those who are proven to have perpetrated human rights abuses to send a clear signal that this sort of misconduct will not be tolerated.

In respect of those who are alleged to have engaged in unlawful violence the law must continue to take its course. However these cases must be dealt with according to the ordinary rules of procedure and evidence which are there to ensure that accused persons receive fair trials. Any cases that were hurriedly processed through the courts in the emotionally charged atmosphere following upon the food riots must be thoroughly reviewed to ensure that no miscarriages of justice have occurred. The sentences in these cases must also be carefully scrutinised to ensure that they were fair and not disproportionate, taking into account the all the relevant factors that have a bearing upon sentence, including the fact that the criminal action may have been an expression of anger and frustration about harsh economic conditions. On the other hand, more deterrent sentences are obviously appropriate for hooligans and criminals who simply took advantage of the troubled situation to commit crimes.

Last but certainly not least, mechanisms must be established to ensure that businesspersons who suffered financial loss as a result of the riots receive compensation or at least soft loans to allow them to re-establish their businesses.

There was no response from either the President or parliamentarians, and thus the Human Rights Forum took the step of lobbying the UN Human Rights Committee at its meeting to consider the implementation by Zimbabwe of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. When the Committee produced its final report in September 1998, it made a strong statement endorsing the call by ZHRNF for an independent commission of inquiry. The UN Committee made two specific recommendations in respect of the Food Riots:

16. The Committee expresses its concern over recent reports of excessive use of force by the police and the army during food riots in 1998. The Committee urges that all cases of alleged excessive use of force committed by members of the police or the army be investigated by an independent and impartial body, that action be taken against those officers found to have committed abuses and that compensation be paid to the victims; the State party should report to the Committee thereon. Intensive training and education programmes in the field of human rights for members of the army and law enforcement officials are recommended. The Committee urges that the list of situations in which the use of lethal force is allowed under domestic law be reduced.

30. The Committee requests the State party to ensure the wide dissemination in Zimbabwe of the Covenant, the State party report and the Committee's concluding observations.

There was been no wide dissemination as requested, and since the Government made no steps to either constitute a commission of inquiry or compensate those who suffered human rights violations, the ZHRNF decided to go ahead and support the request by survivors for civil claims against the Government.

This section deals with the cases that were referred to members of the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum, and are based on detailed interviews with all the clients. All persons had lengthy interviews with health workers and legal practitioners. Additionally, medical reports were obtained from medical practitioners and physiotherapists where the clients had seen these personnel. Where possible, witnesses were interviewed and affidavits obtained from them. All this data was compiled on to a database, and the following results are derived from the database.

All the cases described above were comprehensively assessed as part of their claims for damages. Detailing the psychosocial consequences is important when it is considered that the only other official report on the Food Riots, that issued by the ZRP General Headquarters, made no mention of human rights abuses or even the scale of injuries suffered. The press reports indicated that men, women and children were all affected by the violence, and this is again corroborated by the results of the Mabvuku case studies. As can be seen from Table 10 below, more men than women were affected, and most were young persons (mean age 26.9) as opposed to other groups of survivors. This is not a comment of any consequence however, and it would be expected that current victims would be young. As also might be expected of a young group, there were a large number of single persons and relatively few widowed or divorced persons.

Table 10.
Demographic characteristics of Riots Victims
(HRF. 1999)

GENDER:	
male	30
female	14
AGE:	27.5[9.9]
MARITAL STATUS:	
single	15
married	16
divorced	3
widowed	1
EMPLOYMENT:	
employed	28
unemployed	16

One complaint was brought on behalf of a deceased person, whilst 13 were complaints about injuries due to bullet wounds (see Table 9 below). The majority brought complaints about assaults, some of whom experienced these assaults during detention.

Table 11.
Complaints by victims of Food Riots
(HRF.1999)

Death	1
Bullet wounds	13
Assaults	30
Detention	11

As can be seen from Table 12, most person were injured by members of the Zimbabwe Republic Police, but a large number were also injured by members of the Zimbabwe National Army. Some were injured by more than one branch — uniform branch and support unit of the ZRP — or more than one agency — ZRP and ZNA.

Table 12.
Alleged perpetrators of human rights violations.
(HRF.1999)

Zimbabwe National Army	16
Zimbabwe Republic Police	23
Riot Squad	2
Criminal Investigation Department	1
Support Unit	4

The medical complaints of these survivors were split between those who had been shot — death, bullet wound and amputation — and those who had been assaulted — fracture, pain. Two people complained that they had lost employment as a result of the injuries sustained. One man, for example, sustained permanent disability — loss of function in his arm — as a result of a bullet wound, and was unable to continue his employment as a driver due to the disability.

Table 13
Medical complaints of victims of Food Riots
(HRF.1999)

Death	1
Bullet wound	10
amputation	1
fracture	4
Pain	12
loss of job	3
epilepsy	1

As regards the deaths, the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum was only been able to obtain information on the follow-up to one death, that of Kudzai Ndlovu who was shot and killed in Gweru. The public inquest, which was concluded in March 1999, revealed a wholly unsatisfactory situation. The presiding magistrate noted that no satisfactory investigations were conducted in order to reveal the identity of the perpetrator, and went so far as to state that the ZRP in Gweru were actually stifling investigations. He then recommended that the investigations should be taken over by an independent team of investigators from a different town. This is clearly at variance with the assertions of Superintendent Bvudzijena and the ZRP's own report.

4.1 Torture during the Food Riots

As indicated above, torture can be defined according to various different definitions, the most common of which are the definitions contained in the UN Convention Against Torture and Other Forms of Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment and Punishment (UN.1984) and the Declaration of Tokyo (WMA.1975). The latter has remained the most complete statement about torture yet produced by the medical profession. As the WMA definition states:

For the purpose of this Declaration, torture is defined as the deliberate, systematic or wanton infliction of physical or mental suffering by one or more persons acting alone or on the orders of any authority, to force another person to yield information, to make a confession, or for any other reason. (World Medical Association, 1975)

According to this definition, a very large number of persons experienced torture during the Food Riots. Table 14 below shows the reported frequencies of the various torture types reported by the survivors seen by the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum, and examined by the AMANI Trust.

Table 14.
Mean frequency of Torture types reported by Food Riots victims
(HRF.1999)

Physical abuse	1.3
Deprivation	0.7
IMPACT TORTURE	2.02
Sensory over stimulation	0.21
Psychological abuse	1.5
PSYCHOLOGICAL TORTURE	1.7
Witnessing assaults	1.2
Witnessing executions	0
WITNESSING TORTURE	1.2

The group did not report frequencies of torture as high as previous groups (AMANI.1998), which again is unsurprising since most had only one encounter with the Police or the Army. Impact Torture was reported much more frequently than other forms, and, of the forms of Impact Torture, beatings were the most frequently reported. Psychological abuse was reported with the greatest frequency. One important factor in the pattern of abuse is that most of this group were tortured outside of detention.

Table 15.
Unconsciousness reported by Food Riots victims
(HRF.1999)

>30 minutes	30-60 minutes	60-120 minutes	<120 minutes
7	1	1	1

A very high proportion (24%) of the group reported unconsciousness, but most of these reported unconsciousness of less than 30 minutes. For the majority of those reporting unconsciousness, this was associated with gunshot wounds, but two members reported unconsciousness following assaults. Unconsciousness is important to identify, both because of its association with long-term disability and its status as an indicator of the severity of the assault.

Table 16
Symptoms reported by Food Riots victims on the Present Health Status Questionnaire(PHSQ)
(HRF.1999)

PHSQ(tot)	PHSQ(psy)	PHSQ(phys)	PHSQ(sleep)
13.7	5.8	6.7	2.3
6.9	4.2	3.6	2.3

The group as a whole reported very high numbers of symptoms after the alleged torture. The mean number of symptoms reported was 13.7[s.dev 6.9], and this was a mixture of both psychological and physical symptoms. People with ordinary psychological disorders have been shown to present with high numbers of symptoms — about 3 according to most Zimbabwean

studies², and this group had a considerably higher number of symptoms. This was probably due to the combination of physical and psychological injuries.

The scores obtained from the Self-Reporting Questionnaire (SRQ-8) and the Harvard Trauma Scale (HTS) additionally show that this group had experienced psychological problems as a consequence of their alleged torture. The SRQ-8 is a psychiatric screening instrument, and all scores in excess of 4/8 are strongly indicative of clinically significant psychological disorder. Fifteen (36%) members of the sample reported scores in excess of 4/8, which is lower than other Zimbabwean samples, but is undoubtedly due to the fact that most people experienced only a single experience.

The sample reported more experiences of trauma than witnessing or hearing stories on the Harvard Trauma Scale. Only 7 (47%) persons of the clinically disordered group showed signs of PTSD, but this was a much higher percentage than other Zimbabwean studies, and undoubtedly reflects the acute nature of the psychological distress. PTSD would be more strongly expected as an immediate consequence of OVT than other forms of disorder.

The victims from the Food Riots in 1998 were different in many ways to the sample from the 19870s War of Liberation. In most respects their treatment was less severe than those from the Liberation War, and was confined to a single episode of torture or injury due to gunshot wound. However, it is significant that they clearly suffered from the experience and many were psychologically disturbed by the experience. The data did support the claims that torture had been inflicted and that gross human rights violations had taken place. This report has subsequently been validated by the results of the court cases that have taken place, where the majority of the claims have been upheld by the courts and damages awarded. In some of the cases, the judges have made very strong statements about the use of torture and indiscriminate and irresponsible use of firearms.

5. Victims from the 2000 Parliamentary Elections

During the 2000 Parliamentary Elections in Zimbabwe, there were a very large number of reports made of gross human rights violations being perpetrated by the supporters of the Zanu(PF) government. These reports were made by local observer groups such as the Human Rights Forum, the Zimbabwe Election Support Network (ZESN), and the Zimbabwe Civic Education Trust (Zimcet), as well as by international human rights organisations and election observer groups. A number of the victims of OVT were referred to the AMANI Trust for medical assistance. This has been documented in detail in a number of reports dealing with the Parliamentary Elections³, and it is not our intention to summarise the enormous detail relating to human rights violations and electoral irregularities here. Additionally, many of the issues related to the psychological distress suffered by the victims and the issues related to some of them testifying in the Zimbabwe High Court to their experiences have been described elsewhere⁴. Here we will confine ourselves to some quantitative observations about the victims from the Parliamentary Elections. This summary is based upon the victims seen by the Amani Trust.

² See HALL, A., & WILLIAMS, H. (1987)(a), *Hidden psychiatric morbidity. Part I: Study of prevalence in an outpatient population at Bindura Provincial Hospital*, Central African Journal Of Medicine., 33, 239; REELER,A.P., WILLIAMS,H., & TODD,C.H.,(1993), *Psychopathology in Primary Care patients: A four-year study in rural and urban settings*, Central African Journal Of Medicine, 39, 1-8; PATEL, V., TODD, C., WINSTON, M. ET AL (1997), *Common mental disorders in primary care in Harare, Zimbabwe: associations and risk factors*, Brit.J.Psychiat., 171, 60-64.

³ See AMANI (2002), *Neither Free nor Fair: High Court decisions on the petitions on the June 2000 General Election*, HARARE: AMANI TRUST; AMANI (2002), *Organised Violence and Torture in the Bye-Elections held in Zimbabwe during 2000 and 2001*, HARARE: AMANI TRUST.

⁴ See AMANI (2002), *Heroism in the Dock: Does testifying help victims of organised violence and torture? A pilot study from Zimbabwe*, HARARE: AMANI TRUST; AMANI (2002), "At the boiling point of the pain". Report of a pilot study examining the efficacy of psychotherapy for torture survivors, HARARE: AMANI.

Firstly, the sample was largely male (73%), and most were married. In contradistinction to the sample from the Liberation War most (65%) were employed, and, since the majority were supporters of the Movement for Democratic Change (MDC), this probably reflects bias to the urban and educated group frequently associated with the MDC. As can be seen from Table 17 below, the perpetrators, at least for this sample, were drawn from three main groups. Surprisingly, there was no mention of either the Zimbabwe Republic Police or the Zimbabwe Republic Army, groups that have been mentioned in other reports, albeit with less frequency than the three groups mentioned here.

Table 17.
Perpetrators during the 2000 Parliamentary Elections.

Perpetrators	Percentage
CIO	4%
War Veterans	35%
Zanu(PF) supporters	61%

As can be seen from Table 18, relatively high rates of torture are reported. The mean number of different torture types experienced was high, and much more like the survivors from the Liberation War than the Food Riots. Physical abuse and psychological torture were the most common categories, but the witnessing of torture was also common.

Table 18.
Types of torture reported during the 2000 Parliamentary Elections.

Physical abuse	1.8 (1.3)
Deprivation	0.44(0.7)
IMPACT TORTURE	2.3(1.9)
Sensory over stimulation	0.04(0.2)
Psychological abuse	2.1(1.5)
PSYCHOLOGICAL TORTURE	2.12(1.5)
Witnessing assaults	0.92(1.1)
Witnessing executions	0.4(0.8)
WITNESSING TORTURE	1.3(1.3)
TOTAL TORTURE	5.7(3.8)

There were significant numbers of the victims with clinically significant psychological disorders (46%). The mean SRQ-8 score (4.1; s.d: 1.8) was higher than that obtained from the victims of the Food Riots, which is unsurprising in view of the finding that the victims from the Parliamentary Elections experienced more severe torture and multiple occasions of torture. A high proportion (39%) of the victims reported periods of unconsciousness, which was all associated with physical torture, and beatings in particular.

Table 19.
Unconsciousness reported by victims from 2000 Parliamentary Elections.

>30 minutes	30-60 minutes	60-120 minutes	<120 minutes
3	5	0	3

Here we should comment that this sample was drawn mainly from victims in urban areas and from the communal lands, and another study conducted by the AMANI Trust, in internally-displaced commercial farm workers, has shown a very much worse profile⁵. In this most recent study, it was found that 71% had suffered a recent experience of torture, with 65% having another

⁵ See AMANI (2002), *Preliminary Report of a Survey on Internally Displaced Persons from Commercial Farms in Zimbabwe*, HARARE: ZIMBABWE.

previous experience. 59% had had another adult family member witness their torture, with 55% having had a child witness the same. In this population, over 80% had clinically significant psychological disorders, which is far and away the highest prevalence rate obtained in any Zimbabwean study.

Thus, there may be important differences between victims from the commercial farms and other populations in the current epidemic of organised violence and torture, and there remains a pressing need for detailed study of the problem, with the development of accompanying helping services.

6. Overview

As will hopefully be seen from this admittedly sketchy summary, organised violence and torture have been a common feature of the Zimbabwe political landscape of the past three decades. This review does not include the Gukurahundi period, as there are yet to emerge any good clinical studies of this period, although there are a plethora of human rights reports and reports of various types of interventions with the survivors of the Gukurahundi. However, taken together, the overview is one that must cause considerable concern. Some general points can be made here.

Firstly, there is continuous evidence of the use of systematic torture over the decades, as well as obvious evidence of organised violence, for what better term can be used to describe civil war than "organised violence". However, the use of torture is very serious matter, and is now proscribed by a large number of international conventions and covenants. There are no times or situations during which the use of torture can be justified, but this does not seem to be a lesson that has been learned in Zimbabwe. When it is additionally realised that Zimbabwe usually deals with this understanding through the use of impunity, the magnitude of this problem becomes clear.

Secondly, the numbers of people affected over the years is growing, and may now reach hundreds of thousands. It seems that the term "epidemic" is warranted, and we have previously commented that the epidemic due to organised violence and torture may rival the HIV/AIDS epidemic. This is a crucial point to understand. The most severe and persistent consequences of torture are psychological, and, as we have demonstrated in our work with the oldest living survivors of our many epidemics – those from the Liberation War – psychological disorders may persist for decades. This is not merely to emphasise the need for treatment, for it is also clear that treatment may allow many survivors to cope better, but there is no strong evidence that we can cure the after-effects of torture. The point here is to stress prevention rather than cure, or prevention in addition to cure.

This is our third point. Prevention means changing the ways in which we resolve our political disagreements, for it is abundantly clear that all of these victims are produced by an inability to resolve political dispute or to maintain political through the use of force. As will be seen in the evidence to follow, the current epidemic is wholly related to political problems, to the desire to maintain political power through the use of force. In reality, in Zimbabwe, the more things change, the more they stay the same; at least this seems true for the victims of torture. It cannot be said that we do not know these things any more, and the data accumulated by the AMANI Trust over the past decade provides strong testimony that we have not heard the voices of the victims clearly enough. It is sad, therefore, that we must produce again a new report in order that the victims' voices be heard.

7. Torture related to the 2002 Presidential Election

Amani Trust is a non-partisan organisation that is prepared to assist any victims of organised violence whatever their political affiliation. Although relatively few ruling party supporters have

sought medical assistance from Amani, it has helped several of ruling party supporters. Apart from negative government perceptions of Amani, another reason why not many ruling party supporters have not approached Amani may be that these persons are often employed by the state and therefore have easier access to state assisted health care.

7.1 Background to the Presidential Election

State organized violence increased following the rejection of the Government sponsored constitution in the referendum at the beginning 2000. The violence was initially sporadic and confined to one or two areas at a time but as the 2000 parliamentary elections approached, it became more intense and widespread. The state trained and deployed more people in an effort to control perceived supporters of the newly formed opposition. At first the beatings were random and the perpetrators used crude weapons such as sticks and logs. Later the persons perpetrating the violence became more organised. They started to make use of weapons such as batons, whips and bicycle chains. The use of torture techniques such as electrical shocks, burning and mock executions became more prevalent.

By the time the 2000 parliamentary elections took place there were very few parts of Zimbabwe, urban or rural, that had not been subjected to some form of state organized violence. The actual prevalence of violence prior to the 2000 elections was hard to estimate, as many people were too frightened to report the violence. People were unable or unwilling to report the incidents to the police. In a disturbingly large number of cases, the police or the CIO were named by the victims as either being involved in the torture or reluctant to prevent or stop the ill treatment.

Many people who were assaulted were unable to afford medical help from the health services and their injuries were thus not documented by medical personnel. Since methods of torture are designed not to leave permanent scarring, this meant that by the time the victims were able to seek medical help, there were few visible scars. Many of the residual injuries seen were more difficult to establish as directly related to the torture that they had received. However, complaints such as chronic backache secondary to myofibrosis from soft tissue injuries, joint pain as a consequence of being restrained in abnormal positions, and foot pain due to falanga were prevalent. Many of the victims had suffered significant psychological trauma and were suffering from a post traumatic stress disorder. Therefore careful interview technique and examination was required in order to verify the narratives given by the patient. The findings were previously reported in several publications of the Human Rights Forum, and are summarized here.

After the June 2000 parliamentary elections, it was established that 39 constituencies had sufficient reasons to challenge the results in the High Court, and a majority of challenges were based on the amount of violence that had occurred in the time preceding the elections. People who had suffered physical beatings and torture were brought to Harare as witnesses, and for many of these victims, it was the first time they were able to report what had happened to them and to seek medical help for their physical and psychological injuries. Amani Trust was involved with the documentation and in organizing treatment for these victims. The Trust was also responsible for providing the necessary counselling prior to testifying in court, and debriefing the victims afterwards. After the June 2000 Parliamentary elections it was hoped that the violence would subside, but as the election petitions and by-elections occurred in the subsequent months, the violence kept appearing, concentrated in the constituency in which there was a direct challenge to the ruling party.

Because Amani was increasingly concerned by the evidence of systematic torture, various systems were set up in order to meet the specific medical requirements of victims of organized violence and torture. Initially funding support for the medical treatment was difficult to find, but as more evidence of organized torture and violence was revealed, the donor community was willing to fund the medical requirements of the victims. This meant that Amani was able to establish a comprehensive programme for victims of organized violence and torture. In the beginning all the medical services were rendered to patients only when they reached Harare, but this often meant

considerable delays, while transport was arranged, and messages sent requesting help. (Many of the victims and their families were and are unable to move freely within their communities.) Therefore a network of health services was set up throughout the country so that victims were able to receive medical attention within a shorter period of time. This also meant that the injuries were seen and documented by medical personnel while still fresh, and therefore more accurate reports could be recorded.

Many patients also required physiotherapy. Amani established a dedicated physiotherapy service, using physiotherapists with specific training in treating and rehabilitating injuries peculiar to torture such as falanga. Other physiotherapists were also utilized when patients required a more specific therapy as requested by the treating surgeons. While the patients were undergoing treatment, they were provided with accommodation and transport to and from appointments, as the majority of the patients were from centers outside Harare.

Counselling for patients was provided on different levels. The initial interview and documentation of injuries marked the start of therapy, and initial assessment of the patient's mental state. From this assessment, the patient was either referred for counseling by appropriately trained trauma counsellors, or to a psychiatrist, for neuro-psychiatric assessment and treatment.

A pilot study was conducted by a group of clinical psychologists, to establish the specific needs of victims of organized torture and violence, and a comprehensive programme to develop counseling services in the affected communities is being established. This is an important component of rehabilitation, because as shown in previous studies by Amani Trust, communities and families that have been subjected to violence, and that have had no access to counseling services and redress, have more social dysfunction, and chronic illness than other communities.

With the development of these concurrent comprehensive programmes for victims, it became easier for Amani to reach and treat victims of organized violence, and to monitor the levels and methods of perpetration of violence in the communities. During 2001 reports were released from the Human Rights NGO Forum on a monthly basis, using the data gathered both from Amani Trust and other sources, and tracking all the components of the violence, such as the area, perpetrators, methods of torture used etc.

From this information, a number of facts emerged:

- *It was clear that more systematic forms of torture were being employed;*
- *It was clear that there was wide spread geographical spread in the of various forms of torture;*
- *It was clear that the perpetrators were increasingly members of the 'youth militia;'*
- *It was clear that torture was increasingly being inflicted at the 'bases' of the youth militia.*

When the violence first started, most victims were beaten at their homes or local gathering point, but by January 2002, when the violence rose exponentially in anticipation of the presidential elections, nearly 50% of victims gave a story of abduction to a specific 'base.' When they were detained for up to ten days and then systematically tortured using well known methods of torture such as whipping, beating, slapping across the ears to rupture the ear drums, falanga, burning, attempted drownings, and sexual assault. It was increasingly disturbing to record the increasing frequency of rape as a method of torture. This was particularly serious in view of the life long implications of HIV infection. There were recorded incidents of the abductees being used as forced labour, and being denied food, shelter and medical attention. Many victims were cautioned against seeking medical help or making a report, and a number of victims were assaulted on more than one occasion.

After the results of the presidential elections were announced it was expected that the violence would decrease as had happened after the Parliamentary elections in 2000. Instead the violence

intensified and became even more targeted. All officials involved in the electoral process from all contesting parties were required by law to have their names and identification particulars published in the local press, and after the elections. Such opposition officials were actively sought by the youth militia, frequently assisted by state security services, and then abducted and tortured. Many of these people are still not able to return to their homes and are living in Zimbabwe as refugees, or internally displaced people.

7.2 The Evidence of Torture

This section summarizes the information relating to 180 cases of torture. The cases themselves will be given in an accompanying dossier which will be submitted to the African Commission on Human and People's Rights, the UN Commission on Human Rights, and a number of the UN Special Rapporteurs on Torture.

The 180 patients presented in the dossier represent the patients who sought medical help from Amani, from January 2002, when the violence noticeably increased. They sought help from Amani either because of their injuries or because they were unable to get help elsewhere. These patients were all assessed by the clinical team during the course of their treatment. It is by no means a dossier of all the victims of organized violence in the five month period around the elections. Many people did not seek medical help because of fear, and many patients did not reach Harare. Amani has over 570 documented cases over the same period that were seen in other medical facilities around the country, which gives a total 750 people requiring medical attention over the first five months of 2002 because of their perceived political beliefs. Over the week around the elections in March 9 people required hospitalization for their injuries from torture in Harare, and there were more than 10 in other centers. It should be noted here that there were virtually no such reports during the 2000 Parliamentary Elections. As indicated above the violence did not cease after the Presidential election, and, over the month of March 70 people sought medical help in Harare, with over 120 in other centers.

As can be seen from Table 20 below, the injuries associated with torture were characteristic of systematic torture. Beatings were clearly the most common form of torture, but other types were also reported. It is significant that falanga was commonly reported (19%), as this has not been a common form in previous decades and has only recently become widespread in its use. A large number of torture victims (19%) required hospital admission due to the severity of their injuries, with many requiring either special surgery or orthopedic treatment.

Table 20.
**Percentage occurrence of various forms of injury
associated with torture.**

INJURY	% OCCURRENCE
Beatings	97%
Falanga	19%
Requiring hospital admission	19%
Skeletal injuries	7%
Burns	7%
Stab wounds	6%
Ruptured ear drums	5%

In Mashonaland East there were three instances of branding of victims, all done by the same gang, where the initials of the opposition party were carved into the victim's back. One of these cases was widely reported at the time.

It is evident from the injuries themselves that these were due to torture and not to injuries sustained during violent fights. The beatings were mainly confined to the back and the buttocks, and were generally consistent with the victims' allegations that they had been compelled to lie

down or forced to withstand the beatings. Falanga, of course is impossible to inflict without compelling the victim to remain still or by holding the victim still.

Rupturing of the eardrums rarely occurs during fighting since it requires percussive blows to the ears. It is not a blow per se that causes the injury, but it is the deliberate percussion (usually with a cupped hand) that causes the rupture.

The medical evidence clearly supports the testimony of the victims, and in many cases is corroborated by the statements of family members. Furthermore, the evidence from these cases conforms to the reports of other independent investigations. It is also important to note that victims reported more than one form of torture.

The perpetrators are generally those identified as those commonly reported in earlier reports.

**Table 21.
Perpetrators identified by victims.**

Perpetrator	Percentage
Zanu(PF) supporters	46%
Youth militia	29%
Zimbabwe Republic Police	12%
MDC	5%
War veterans	4%
Zimbabwe National Army	2%
Unknown	2%

It is important to note that not all the violence in Zimbabwe is perpetrated by the state or ruling party supporters. However the percentage of violence perpetrated by the opposition MDC is relatively small, and furthermore the evidence available to the Amani Trust does not indicate the use of systematic torture.

The significant change observed during the Presidential election is the increased number of cases in which the youth militia are implicated. This has been noted in many other recent reports. There seemed to be significantly higher percentage of cases involving the Zimbabwe Republic Police, and much of this seemed to occur during the post-election period when there was a purge on opposition party polling agents and election officials.

7.2 Conclusions

In many ways the individual cases reported in the accompanying dossier will speak for themselves, but they cannot however give any estimate of the prevalence of torture during 2002. This evidence thoroughly supports the conclusion that systematic torture is being used in Zimbabwe, although there has been a significant decline in the past month.

The evidence also suggests that torture techniques have been taught to various groups in Zimbabwe. This is clearly suggested by the increased use of falanga, as well as by the types of beatings inflicted and the instruments employed. All of the injuries suggest the deliberate infliction of pain and suffering with an intention not to kill or maim, but rather an intention to punish or terrify. And this was done in an attempt to influence an election: the victims were all told that their political associations or beliefs were unacceptable. The victims were frequently told to give up their associations and beliefs and were frequently told that their political party would not be allowed to win the Presidential election.

This all conforms to the definition of torture contained in the UN Convention Against Torture. The Amani Trust has previously deprecated this situation, and in a recent report made a number of recommendations. We can only reiterate these recommendations:

- *The international community should carry out independent, impartial investigations into human rights violations and should work with Zimbabwean civil society in such investigations;*
- *Government, regional and international action is needed to reform the Zimbabwe Republic Police in order to promote the accountability and effectiveness of the police;*
- *Government, regional and international action is needed to promote the Zimbabwe judiciary's independence and effectiveness;*
- *The Zimbabwean government should review legislation to repeal or amend those laws that are unconstitutional or violate human rights;*
- *The Zimbabwe government should ratify the Convention Against Torture with alacrity.*

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Dossier of selected cases seen by the AMANI Trust in 2002.

The cases reported below do not contain either names, ID numbers, or photographs. These were removed for the public version of the document in order to provide confidentiality for the victims.

Amani Trust case number	982	Report number	1
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Name	Age	Sex	ID number
J.A	33	male	
Province	District	Political Affiliation	
Mashonaland Central	Concession		
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
15/04/02	Torture, assault	05/04/02	
Employment	Perpetrators		
Unemployed	Police		

Case history

On 05/04/02 at approximately midnight J.A. was awoken at his house in Dandenero Township by persons identifying themselves as police. They crashed through the door and ordered J.A. to get dressed. He was then assaulted with batons, before being taken to the assailants car where he was further assaulted and tortured. His testicles were crushed with a pair of pliers and he was beaten on the soles of his feet. J.A. was taken to Concession Police Cells and then transferred to Budiriro Prison where he was charged with participating in an illegal gathering. He was released on bail.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination the patient had extensive scabies and molluscum contagiosum, both contagious skin infections, which the patient probably acquired while detained in prison. He also had neuropraxia of both hands, to the extent that he was unable to lift or carry any weight greater than 2 kg, secondary to being held in tight handcuffs for a prolonged period of time. He had tender painful feet secondary to falanga, and experienced difficulty in walking. He had a painful swollen scrotum secondary to the crushing injury with pliers.

Amani Trust case number	591	Report number	2
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
A.B	25	male	
Province	District	Political Affiliation	
Mashonaland Central	Bindura		
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
09/01/02	Abduction, assault	07-08/01/02	
Employment	Perpetrators		
Teacher	Zanu PF youth militia		

Case history

A.B. was on his way to Bindura when he was stopped at a roadblock manned by Zanu PF youth militia. He was asked for a Zanu PF party card, which he could not produce. He was then slapped three times. The following day on 08/01/02 A.B. went to make a delivery to the MDC Women's Branch Chairpersons house. He was accosted by the Zanu PF youth militia and interrogated. He was dragged to his house, which was then searched. A National Constitutional Assembly booklet was found in the search. The youth militia then took A.B. back to their base and beat him with cables. He escaped and fled to Harare.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination the patient had multiple track patterned bruises on his back and right arm and a large deep haematoma on his right buttock.

Amani Trust case number	882	Report number	3
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
J.B	55	female	
Province	District		Political Affiliation
Mashonaland East	Chivhu		
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
21/03/02	Assault	01/03/02	
Employment	Perpetrators		
Unemployed	Zanu PF supporters		

Case history

J.B. was ordered off the bus at Sengwe Township by Zanu PF supporters. She was taken into the bush and accused of being a member of the MDC. She was told that she was going to be 'fixed' and was then whipped and beaten.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination on 21 March 2002 (3 weeks later) the patient had a linear suprascapular track scar and a painful right shoulder with limited range of movement but no fractures. She also had a neuropraxia of her right arm which resolved with physiotherapy. She had a linear scar of greater than 10cm on her left posterior leg.

Psychiatric assessment

On assessment 24 days after the traumatic event the patient had recurrent distressing recollections of the trauma. She had dreamt about the trauma on one occasion. She admitted to distress whenever she watches television and hears news about people being beaten or killed. She tries to avoid thinking about the trauma and is afraid to go back to her home. She had anxieties about her future. On mental state examination the patient looked much older than her stated age and the only other significant finding was that of depressed mood. A diagnosis of Adjustment disorder was made.

Amani Trust case number	822	Report number	4
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
R.B	50	female	
Province	District		Political Affiliation
Mashonaland East	Chikomba		
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
05/03/02	Abduction, assault		01/03/02
Employment	Perpetrators		
Farmer	Zanu PF youths		

Case history

R.B. reported that she has suffered continual harassment by Zanu PF youths. On 01/03/02 she was followed into her garden and was forced to accompany the group of Zanu PF youths to see a Mr Magwenzi at their base. She was taken into the bush and beaten up with leather whips for approximately four hours. R.B. was then locked up in a hall in Chikomba for a short period of time before she was beaten again, and then released.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 5

On clinical examination 4 days after the torture (5 March 2002) the patient had extensive soft tissue injuries involving her back, buttocks, thighs and arms. Both lower arms had linear bruising compatible with being assaulted with whips, her back and upper arms were a mass of deep haematomas, overlaid with linear abrasions, both buttocks had extensive deep haematomas involving the whole gluteal area and her left lateral thigh had a deep haematoma from the iliac crest to 5 cm above her knee. She was in considerable pain and showed significant psychological trauma as indicated by her high SRQ-8 score.

Amani Trust case number	845	Report number	5
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
S.B	33	male	
Province	District		Political Affiliation
Harare	Harare		
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
12/03/02	Assault	12/03/02	
Employment	Perpetrators		
Self-employed	Presidential guards		

Case history

At approximately 22.15h on 12/03/02 S.B. was stopped by presidential guards outside State House. A companion and himself were accused of having sworn at them and shown them the MDC sign with his hand. The two men were ordered to lie on the ground and were beaten up with rubber truncheons. S.B. was forced to crawl on the ground and was beaten again, as he was told that he crawled like a soldier. He was then taken to Harare Central Police Station, but was not charged and was released.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 0

The patient sustained a fractured left anterior 9th rib and deep haematomas to his mandible and left temple.

Amani Trust case number	571	Report number	6
Name N.B	Age 29	Sex male	ID number
Province Mashonaland East	District Marondera	Political Affiliation	
Date of report 10/01/02	Nature of incident Assault	Date of incident 09/01/02	
Employment Unemployed	Perpetrators Zanu PF supporters		

Case history

At 21.00h on 09/01/02 N.B. was asleep with his family in Rujeko Township when a group of Zanu PF supporters arrived at the house. They were holding captive an MDC activist friend of N.B. and used him to force N.B. to open the door. As N.B. opened the door, six Zanu PF supporters held him and he was hit on the head with an iron bar and on the shoulder and lower limbs with a shovel. He was also whipped.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

The patient was seen the day after the assault, and was admitted to hospital for suturing and observation after he sustained a deep extensive laceration to the scalp, compatible with being assaulted with an iron bar. He also had a haematoma on his left shoulder, and multiple linear lacerations and haematomas on his back, compatible with being whipped.

Amani Trust case number	814	Report number	7
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
T.B	23	male	
Province	District		Political Affiliation
Harare	Chitungwiza		
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
04/03/03	Abduction, assault, torture	03/03/02	
Employment	Perpetrators		
Contract worker	9 Zanu PF supporters		

Case history

T.B. was returning from church at 15.00h on 03/03/02 in Chitungwiza when he passed unknowingly by a base in Unit N. He was asked by a group of nine people whether he had a Zanu PF card. As T.B. did not possess one, he was told that he would be 'disciplined'. He was taken to an office and searched, his bible, money and other personal belongings being taken off him, and he was stripped naked, save for a shirt. He was told to wear a pair of trousers, which had been stripped off another victim. He was kept until 20.00h, when his hands were tied behind his back with wire and he was blindfolded with his shirt. T.B. was ordered to lie down and was beaten all over his body with rubber sticks and batons, and was kicked and punched. He was also threatened with electrocution and shooting. After the assault, T.B. and another victim who had been abducted previously were taken in a truck to an unknown destination. Here, both men were beaten on the soles of their feet, were forced to drink urine, and had their faces urinated upon. This continued until midnight when both men were driven back and were dumped into the bush in Unit B. Eventually, T.B. managed to loosen the wire around his hands and crawled to a nearby village, where he contacted family members. He was picked up by an MDC support unit and taken to Harare for treatment. A police report was made to Chitungwiza police station and they have a copy of the medical report. T.B. notes that there were three women in the group of assailants, and they appeared to be the most cruel.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination the following day the patient had an extensive right peri-orbital haematoma, and haematoma and tissue edema of the whole mandible and left zygomatic area. He had three superficial abrasions, one on his left posterior arm, 3cm, and two on his back 2cm long. He also had tender swollen plantar surfaces of both feet, with difficulty in walking, secondary to falanga. He had not sustained any fractures on Xray of his facial bones and mandible.

Amani Trust case number	846	Report number	8
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
S.B.	33	male	
Province	District	Political Affiliation	
Harare	Harare		
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
12/03/02	Assault	11/03/02	
Employment	Perpetrators		
Farmer	Soldiers – State House		

Case history

At 23.00h S.B. and a companion were driving towards town when they were stopped by soldiers outside State House. They were ordered out of the car and forced to lie on the ground. The two men were beaten with rubber truncheons all over the body. S.B. received blows to the head, back, buttocks and he was kicked on the left loin side. The assault lasted for ten minutes, after which the two men were taken to Central Police Station, where they were told that the soldiers had claimed the two men had used abusive language towards them and given the MDC salute. S.B. and his companion were released without charge at 01.00h and sought medical treatment immediately.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination the following day the patient had bruising on his occiput and 4 linear haematomas on his back, as well as two deep haematomas on his buttocks, compatible with being assaulted from behind with blunt objects. He was tender to palpation over his anterior chest and abdominal wall, and Xray revealed fractured left lateral ribs 6,7 and 8. Ultrasound scan of his abdomen revealed no visceral haemorrhage.

Amani Trust case number	843	Report number	10
Name P.C	Age 28	Sex male	ID number
Province Mashonaland Central	District Mvurwi	Political Affiliation	
Date of report 12/03/02	Nature of incident Abduction, assault	Date of incident 01/03/02	
Employment General worker	Perpetrators Zanu PF youth		

Case history

On the 01/03/02, P.C. was called to Mondynes Farm Bar by a group of Zanu PF youths. He was accused of distributing MDC flyers. He was kept captive for the entire night and beaten for a period of two and a half hours with broomsticks, plastic beer crates and a heavy stick.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 11 days later the patient complained of a painful left ear and diminished hearing. He had a healing scar on his lower lip and a clinically sprained left thumb. He also had tender buttocks with resolving haematomas, and a swollen tender left ankle with limited range of movement. The injuries healed with analgesia and physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	906	Report number	11
Name R.C	Age 32	Sex male	ID number
Province Mashonaland Central	District Shamva		Political Affiliation ZESN monitor
Date of report 25/03/02	Nature of incident Abduction, assault		Date of incident 08/03/02
Employment Labourer – Shamva Goldmine	Perpetrators Zanu PF supporters		

Case history

R.C. was waiting for a bus to take him to Harare to be trained as a ZESN monitor for the elections. A pick-up truck pulled over and one of the men jumped down, ordering R.C. onto the truck. He refused and a second man jumped off the truck with a baton stick. R.C. was struck twice on the left temporal region of the head and bundled into the truck. He was taken to a Zanu PF base where the assault continued. He was beaten on his right shoulder with baton sticks and then all over his body until he lost consciousness. He awoke later in the hospital. On 03/04/02 R.C. returned to Shamva and had his property razed to the ground that same evening. He has now left the area.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 2

The client was suffering from dizziness, a severe headache and a painful left shoulder. On clinical examination 2 weeks after the assault, there was no demonstrable neurological deficit or visible external injuries or limited function of his shoulder joint, but a clinic card recorded evidence of a scalp haematoma after the incident.

Amani Trust case number	1068	Report number	12
Name L.C	Age 31	Sex male	ID number
Province Mashonaland West	District Hurungwe	Political Affiliation	
Date of report 09/05/02	Nature of incident Assault	Date of incident 06/05/02	
Employment Unemployed	Perpetrators Zanu PF supporters		

Case history

On 06/05/02 L.C. was at home in Coldstream, Chinhoyi when a group of Zanu PF supporters arrived and began hurling abuse at him about the MDC loss in the elections. Fourteen members of the group attacked the house with sticks and iron bars. They then broke into the house and beat up L.C., stealing cash in the process. He was left unconscious after the assault and was taken to the hospital by the police. The hospital would only suture L.C.'s wounds as he had no money for further treatment. The police did not take any further action on the behalf of L.C.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination 3 days after the incident the patient had three haematomas on his scalp and a 6cm sutured deep laceration on his left cheek. He complained of diminished hearing but both tympanic membranes were intact, although the left auditory canal was inflamed. He also complained of chest pain although there were no visible external injuries and clinical examination was normal.

Amani Trust case number	908	Report number	13
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
J.C	31	male	
Province	District		Political Affiliation
Manicaland	Mutasa		
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
26/03/02	Abduction, detention, assault		08/03/02
Employment	Perpetrators		
Signwriter	Soldiers		

Case history

J.C. was a polling agent for the elections and had been collected for a briefing meeting in the Honde Valley on 08/03/02. On the way, the car in which he was travelling was stopped by soldiers, and J.C. and his companions were taken to a police camp at Ruda. He was punched and beaten all over the body with fists and sticks and was kept in police cells until 12/03/02. Before being released, J.C. and his companions were stripped of their clothes and money. The detention meant that J.C. was unable to cast his vote or act as a polling agent. After being released, J.C. went to the Mutasa District Council offices to collect a bus fare to return home. He was accosted by the same group of soldiers, who again attempted to beat up the men. The men escaped and went to Mutare on the 13/03/02 to receive medical treatment.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 2

On clinical examination 2 weeks after the event the patient had multiple healing linear contusions over his back and buttocks.

Amani Trust case number	910	Report number	14
Name F.C	Age 37	Sex male	ID number
Province Mashonaland West	District Chinhoyi		Political Affiliation Polling agent trainer - MDC
Date of report 26/03/02	Nature of incident Destruction of private property, intimidation, abduction		Date of incident 05/03/02 & 09/03/02
Employment Road inspector	Perpetrators Robert Sikanyika and Zanu P supporters, Police		

Case history

At 02.00h on 05/03/02 F.C. was sleeping at home in Chinhoyi. He heard an explosion in the lounge and went to investigate, finding the curtains on fire. He then heard a bang on the bedroom window and opened the curtains. He saw a green Nissan truck with 'Zanu PF' written on the side parked twenty metres away. F.C. and his family left the house for the night. The next morning, he discovered an unexploded petrol bomb on the front lawn. A report was made to Chemagamba Police Station. Initially the officers refused to take the report, only doing so after the intervention of the commanding officer. F.C. was a trainer for polling agents and was working in this capacity on 09/03/02 when the second incident took place. He was taken by the officer in command of Chinhoyi Police Station to see a police officer who had been accused of masterminding MDC activities in the area. F.C. managed to escape through a back door. However, that evening he was picked up by armed police and taken along the Chegutu Road and issued with death threats. The vehicle had a puncture and whilst the police were trying to change the tyre, F.C. managed to escape again and made his way to Harare.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 2 weeks after the last episode of assault, the patient had a painful right shoulder with limited range of movement and pain on lifting heavy objects. He also had severe psychological disturbance as indicated by his high SRQ-8 score. The pain settled on analgesia and physiotherapy.

Psychiatric assessment

On assessment 19 days after the second assault the patient complained of a headache, insomnia, and recurrent dreams of the event. He was using alcohol to treat the headaches,

and had an exaggerated startle response, and was very suspicious of people. On mental status exam he was restless, with irritable mood, pressured speech and grandiose delusions. A diagnosis of Bipolar Disorder (manic episode) was made. He was treated with anxiolytics and haloperidol.

Amani Trust case number	851	Report number	15
Name R.C	Age 23	Sex male	ID number
Province Mashonaland Central	District Shamva	Political Affiliation Polling agent - MDC	
Date of report 13/03/02	Nature of incident Assault	Date of incident 08/03/02	
Employment Unemployed	Perpetrators Zanu PF supporters		

Case history

R.C. was travelling to a polling station with other polling agents on 08/03/02 when they were intercepted by a lorry load of Zanu PF supporters. The polling agents were chased into a dead end at Chipori Farm, where they were assaulted by the Zanu PF supporters and beaten with logs. R.C. lost consciousness and woke up at Shamva Police Station.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 5 days after the assault the patient had a 5cm sutured laceration on the left supraorbital region and a 3cm sutured laceration infra orbitally.

Amani Trust case number	836	Report number	16
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
S.C	31	male	
Province	District		Political Affiliation
Mashonaland East	Goromonzi		Polling agent - MDC
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
10/03/02	Abduction, assault		09/03/02
Employment	Perpetrators		
Teacher	Zanu PF youths, war veterans		

Case history

At approximately 11.00h on 09/03/02 S.C. was at Rusike Business Centre assessing MDC polling agents when he and a colleague were abducted by Zanu PF youths. They were beaten up and forced to march to the Manembe Zanu PF base. There they were beaten up again with iron bars, heavy sticks and bricks. The pair were later taken to the Murewa War Veterans command base and S.C. was interrogated and ‘subjected to propaganda’. He was later released into police custody.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

The client was suffering from pain in both ears and reduced hearing in his right ear. He had a headache and a painful bridge of the nose. His right mandible was tender and swollen, and painful when swallowing and he had pain and healing linear contusions across his back.

Amani Trust case number	820	Report number	17
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Name N.C	Age 20	Sex male	ID number
Province Mashonaland West	District Karo		Political Affiliation MDC
Date of report 04/03/02	Nature of incident Abduction, assault		Date of incident 01/03/02
Employment Unemployed	Perpetrators Zanu PF youths		

Case history

At approximately 22.00h on 01/03/02 N.C. was at his party chairman's house in Karoi when a group of Zanu PF arrived and began to stone the house. MDC youths who were at the house were also beaten. During the commotion, one of the MDC youths was captured and assaulted by the Zanu PF youths. Upon hearing the MDC youth's cries for help, N.C. ran to help. The youth managed to escape but N.C. was caught. He was taken to their base and beaten on the head, back, face and both arms. He was also hit on his left foot. At 24.00h N.C. escaped and made a report to the police.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

The patient was transferred from Karoi General Hospital to Harare by ambulance because of concern for his safety in the General Hospital. On clinical examination on transfer the patient had multiple lacerations of his scalp and face, and severe edema and bruising of his face. He had lacerations of his lips and nose and swelling of his left elbow, but no fracture or dislocation. He had multiple deep linear bruises on his back consistent with being whipped and he had superficial abrasions on both anterior ankles. The patient required hospitalisation for 6 days.

Amani Trust case number	852	Report number	18
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
A.C	34	male	
Province	District	Political Affiliation	
Mashonaland Central	Muzarabani		
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
13/03/02	Abduction, assault	04/03/02	
Employment	Perpetrators		
Unemployed	Zanu PF supporters		

Case history

On 04/03/02 at Chimoro in Muzrabani, A.C. was involved in the distribution of MDC fliers. He was accosted and taken by Zanu PF supporters to their base where he was severely beaten for the entire day. The assailants used heavy sticks and rubber batons. He escaped that night to Harare.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 9 days after the assault the patient had a painful haematoma on his occiput, tenderness along his posterior cervical spine and a tender swelling over his anterior right 10th rib with pain on inspiration but no clinical pleural involvement. The pain settled on analgesia.

Amani Trust case number	914	Report number	19
Name P.C	Age 31	Sex male	ID number
Province Mashonaland Central	District Shamva	Political Affiliation	
Date of report 23/03/02	Nature of incident Assault	Date of incident 17/03/02	
Employment Sampler – Shamva Mine	Perpetrators Zanu PF youths		

Case history

On 17/03/02 a group of Zanu PF youths arrived at the house of P.C. at Shamva Mine at 15.45pm. He was accused of being a member of the MDC and was beaten with slaps and sticks. One of the assailants bit him on the left thumb. After the assault, P.C. left for Harare. On 22/03/02, he returned to Shamva but on his first night home the same group returned and began to break down the windows and the roof of his house. P.C. managed to escape and fled to Harare.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 0

On clinical examination 9 days after the incident the patient had a septic 2x2cm lesion on his left thumb, consistent with a human bite. He was treated with antibiotics, and did not require surgical intervention.

Amani Trust case number	656	Report number	20
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
W.C	26	male	
Province	District	Political Affiliation	
Mashonaland Central	Bindura/Rushinga		
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 07/02/02 • 27/02/02 • ? 	Abduction, assault	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 04/02/02 • 23/02/02 • 20/03/02 	
Employment	Perpetrators		
Unemployed	Zanu PF activists		

Case history

- W.C. was at home on 04/02/02 at Mupandira Village in Musana when approximately twenty Zanu PF activists came and demanded that he accompany them to their base. W.C. refused and in the ensuing struggle was injured on the palm of his right hand and on his left knee.
- On 23/02/02 a group of Zanu PF activists accosted and stoned W.C. and companions in Rushinga. The men were taken to their base and were beaten up for a period lasting twenty-four hours before the men managed to escape.
- On 20/03/02 at 15.00h W.C. was taken from his house at Nyakabai Village by a group of approximately thirty Zanu PF supporters. He was taken to their base and forced to exercises and stand in various postures for an hour. He was released, but was followed by four of the activists who beat him severely with heavy sticks.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination after the second event the patient had a right subconjunctival hemorrhage and backache, but no visible soft tissue injuries, and on examination after the third event, he had extensive swelling with tenderness of his upper and lower right arm, but no fractures. He also had several small tears on both palmar surfaces, and extensive abrasions on his left knee.

Amani Trust case number	960	Report number	21
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
A.C	44	female	
Province	District		Political Affiliation
Mashonaland Central	Shamva		Election monitor
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
04/04/02	Assault		12/03/02
Employment	Perpetrators		
Peasant farmer	Unknown assailants		

Case history

At 21.00h on 12/03/02 A.C. was returning from Shamva after monitoring the elections at a polling station there. She was at the Shamva bus terminus trying to board a bus to return to Harare when a group of people arrived and indiscriminately began to assault travellers. She was beaten with pick handles on the back and fell down face forwards

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

The patient was seen 3 weeks after the event and was complaining of headaches, backache chest pain and abdominal pain. On clinical examination there was no neurological deficit, no evidence of rib fractures and her chest was clinically clear. Her abdomen was normal. Her complaints resolved on analgesia and physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	978	Report number	22
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
S.C	22	male	
Province	District		Political Affiliation
Midlands	Zvishavane		MDC
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
10/04/02	Assault		13/03/02
Employment	Perpetrators		
Unemployed	Zanu PF supporters		

Case history

S.C. was on his way to an MDC meeting on 10/04/02 at 15.00h. He saw a group of approximately forty Zanu PF supporters and decided to turn back as he was wearing an MDC t-shirt. Before he could return to safety however he was spotted by one of the Zanu PF supporters who ran and held onto his t-shirt. S.C. punched the man who fell. In retaliation, the other Zanu PF supporters began to stone S.C, who fell to the floor after a rock hit him on the head. As he lay on the floor, the assault continued and he was hit with a large rock at the base of his spine. Eventually the police arrived on the scene and S.C. was taken to hospital.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 5

The patient was transferred to Harare by ambulance, 2 weeks after the assault because of bilateral weakness in his legs. He was admitted to hospital under a neurosurgeon and CT scan revealed a fracture of the transverse process of Lumbar vertebra 3. At present he is still under treatment. He also shows evidence of psychological trauma as shown by his high SRQ-8

Amani Trust case number	696	Report number	23
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
M.C	68	male	
Province	District	Political Affiliation	
Mashonaland East	Chikomba		
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
11/02/02	Abduction, assault, detention	06 - 08/02/02	
Employment	Perpetrators		
Unemployed	Zanu PF supporters		

Case history

A group of six to eight people came to the house of M.C. on 06/02/02 in the Nyahoni Irrigation Scheme and took him to a youth base at Gokomere Hall. M.C. was beaten with sticks after being accused of allowing his son to distribute MDC pamphlets from Harare. His wife and two others were also taken to the base. M.C. was detained for two days until 08/02/02 by a soldier known to M.C. at the base, and was forced to cut grass alongside other detainees.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 2

On clinical examination 3 days after the assault, the patient had a deep haematoma of the right lumbar region extending from the posterior lower ribs to the posterior iliac crest. He also had deep haematomas of both buttocks.

Amani Trust case number	654	Report number	24
Name C.C	Age 32	Sex male	ID number
Province Mashonaland Central	District Muzarabani	Political Affiliation	
Date of report 05/02/02	Nature of incident Assault	Date of incident 13/01/02	
Employment Unemployed	Perpetrators Zanu PF supporters		

Case history

C.C. was looking for his cattle in Mudoka Village on 13/01/02 when he was intercepted by a group of approximately twenty people accusing him of belonging to the MDC because he was 'well dressed and groomed'. He was beaten with sticks and batons and was hit in the chest with a brick.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 1

On clinical examination 3 weeks after the event the patient had a painful swollen right wrist with very limited function. Xray showed no evidence of fracture, and the patient was treated with analgesia and physiotherapy. 2 months later the patient was still complaining of pain and reduced function, and was re Xrayed, again there was no skeletal fractures, and the pain and swelling finally settled with intensive physiotherapy.

Psychiatric assessment

44 days after the traumatic event C.C had recurrent intrusive thoughts of the trauma. He also had nightmares of the torture and related that he becomes very distressed when he reads stories about political violence in the newspapers. He sometimes finds himself crying when he recalls what happened to him. He admitted to being afraid to go back to his home area and had a sense of foreshortened future. He had problems with sleep and has been more irritable since the attack. On mental state examination he had a low mood and depressed affect. He had loss of energy, insomnia and he expressed feelings of helplessness and hopelessness. He had some paranoid ideas and his concentration was impaired. He had no suicidal ideas. A diagnosis of PTSD comorbid with major depressive disorder was made.

Amani Trust case number	965	Report number	25
Name P.C	Age 32	Sex male	ID number
Province Mashonaland East	District Murehwa North	Political Affiliation MDC	
Date of report 09/04/02	Nature of incident Abduction, assault	Date of incident 25/03/02	
Employment Unemployed	Perpetrators Zanu PF supporters		

Case history

On 25/03/02 at 16.00h P.C. was taken from the church at Dandara in Murehwa by a group of Zanu PF supporters. He was accused of being an MDC polling agent during the elections. P.C. was taken to their nearby base and forced into a room. He was interrogated as to why he had joined the MDC. P.C. denied the political affiliation but was beaten with sticks as the assailants produced a copy of the Daily News, which had a list of the polling agents, including that of P.C. He was hit on the chest, left side of his body and below his feet. The assault lasted for half an hour, but P.C. was held until 02.00h the next morning, when he escaped.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 5

On clinical examination 2 weeks after the assault, the patient was complaining of chest pain, occasional hemoptysis, lower lumbar pain and painful feet on walking. His chest was clinically clear, confirmed by Chest xray, he was tender over the left lower lumbar area, but there was no visible haematoma, and the plantar surfaces of his feet were tender to palpation. He exhibited a high SRQ-8 showing psychological disturbance after the assault. The patient recovered with physiotherapy, analgesia and counseling.

Amani Trust case number	818	Report number	26
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
Z.C	36	male	
Province	District	Political Affiliation	
Mashonaland Central	Shamva		
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
06/03/02	Assault, detention	28/02/02	
Employment	Perpetrators		
Geological technician – Shamva Mine	Riot police		

Case history

On 28/02/02 Z.C. was at the MDC provincial office in Harare at approximately 14.00h when the offices were stormed by a group of riot police. People were beaten up indiscriminately, including Z.C, who was assaulted with a baton stick on his ankles and left forearm. Thirty seven people, including Z.C. were taken to Harare Central Police Station and kept until 05/03/02 when they were released without charge.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 0

On clinical examination 6 days after the assault, the patient had large haematoma on his left upper arm and left forearm (anterior). He also had an area of marked tenderness over his right patella, although there was no swelling, bruising or loss of function, and an area of tenderness over his left lateral leg, again with no swelling or bruising.

Amani Trust case number	655	Report number	27
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
A.C	22	male	
Province	District		Political Affiliation
Mahonaland Central	Muzarabani		
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
05/02/02	Abduction, assault		02/02/02
Employment	Perpetrators		
Unemployed	Zanu PF supporters		

Case history

A.C. was on a bus on 02/02/02 at Mvurwi. A former member of the MDC pointed him out to a group of Zanu PF supporters, who chased and caught A.C. he was taken to their offices and beaten with iron rods, sjamboks, bottles and logs from a fireplace. The assault continued for three hours until the police arrived and intervened.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 3 days after the event the patient had a 4cm laceration on his left parietal area which had been sutured. He had numerous linear haematomas over his back extending from his neck to his buttocks, consistent with being assaulted with heavy blunt objects. He also had numerous linear haematomas on the posterior surfaces of both arms.

Amani Trust case number	877	Report number	28
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
T.C	26	male	
Province	District	Political Affiliation	
Mashonaland East	Mutoko	MDC	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
19/03/02	Assault	17/03/02	
Employment	Perpetrators		
Unemployed	Zanu PF supporters		

Case history

T.C. and a friend were walking home from the shops on 17/03/02 when they were accosted by a group of five youths who said that they were going to beat the pair because they supported the opposition MDC. The youths began to punch and kick T.C. and his companion all over the body. T.C. was then beaten on the head and face. He managed to escape and made his way to Harare the next morning.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 2

On clinical examination 2 days after the event the patient had an occipital haematoma, a sub-conjunctival hemorrhage of his left eye and multiple abrasions on his left cheek, with soft tissue swelling. There was no evidence of a zygomatic fracture.

Amani Trust case number	743	Report number	29
Name P.C	Age 22	Sex male	ID number
Province Harare	District Harare		Political Affiliation
Date of report 21/02/02	Nature of incident Assault		Date of incident 19/02/02
Employment Student	Perpetrators Zanu Pf supporters and 'war veterans'		

Case history

On 19/02/02, P.C. and a driver went to Cranborne, Harare, to distribute ZESN and Zimbabwe Christian Students pamphlets on voter education. Upon arrival, they were intercepted by a group of Zanu PF supporters and 'war veterans'. They were asked what they were distributing and were accused of distributing MDC pamphlets. Both men were punched and kicked all over the body and were beaten with sticks, especially under the soles of their feet. The men were ordered to beat each other up with sticks and were made to crawl in the tarmac road. After an hour P.C. and his companion were rescued by two soldiers who took them away for questioning. After being checked for any criminal conduct by an officer from Braeside Police Station, P.C. and his companion were released into the care of a representative from the Students Christian Movement and were taken to hospital for treatment.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 0

On clinical examination shortly after the incident the patient had extensive bruising and soft tissue swelling of his face. Xray of the facial bones showed no fractures. He also had 3 linear bruising across the back, consistent with being whipped, and soft tissue swelling of the buttocks with some bruising. He also had tender plantar surfaces of the feet secondary to falanga, and had difficulty walking. He required analgesia and physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	706	Report number	30
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
T.C	30	male	
Province	District		Political Affiliation
Mashonaland East	UMP		MDC
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
12/02/02	Assault, intimidation.		07/02/02
Employment	Perpetrators		
Unemployed	Police, unknown youths		

Case history

On 07/02/02, a group of approximately thirty people, including armed policemen, an officer in charge, and CID went to the house of T.C., accusing him of holding ‘illegal’ MDC rally meetings. The house was searched for a gun, but nothing was found. Later that day, T.C. and his wife tried to board a bus for Harare at Nhakiwa Business Centre, but they were intercepted by a group of youths. T.C. was dragged off the bus and kicked, before being blindfolded and taken to an anthill. Here he was beaten up with a stick across his buttocks, before being released with his wife.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 2

On clinical examination 6 days after the event the patient had extensive bruising of both buttocks and tenderness over the right iliac crest. There were no fractures.

Amani Trust case number	800	Report number	31
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
T.C	73	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Chihota	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
07/03/02	Assault	10/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

T.C. was called from his house on 10/02/02 by a group of Zanu PF youths. He was taken to Marondera School in Chihota and accused of supporting the MDC. T.C. was ordered to bare his back and lie on the ground. He was beaten up with heavy sticks for twenty minutes, until he lost consciousness for approximately an hour. He was released when he awoke.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 3 weeks later, the patient was still complaining of pain in his shoulders and lower back. He had 3 healing linear haematomas with superficial abrasions across his back, consistent with being assaulted with a heavy linear object. He also had considerable muscle spasm of his lower back, which resolved on analgesia.

Amani Trust case number	749	Report number	32
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
M.C	33	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Mvurwi	Self-employed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
22/02/02	Assault	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 19/02/02 • 24/04/02 	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters, Amos			
Chigwada			

Case history

- M.C. and ten others were putting up MDC posters in Mvurwi and Concession on 19/02/02. As they were returning along a route, they discovered that some of the posters had been pulled down. The group of men began to replace them, but were stopped by a group of Zanu PF supporters who arrived in a minibus. M.C. and his companions were attacked with stones, bottles, and pieces of iron. M.C. was hit in the abdomen during the assault, and injured his leg whilst trying to get into a car for protection. M.C. and his companions say that the police are seeking them, claiming that they began the violence.
- On 24/04/02 M.C. was assaulted at Chipanza Farm near Centenary whilst he was at home at 01.00h. The intruders beat his back and buttocks with sticks, and then destroyed the household property of M.C, including a TV, radio and furniture. He fled that night and has not returned.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 1

On clinical examination 3 days after the first assault the patient had bilateral tenderness of his lateral chest walls and tenderness of his upper abdominal wall. There was no swelling or bruising, or evidence of visceral injury. He had an 8cm superficial abrasion on his right anterior shin, and tender plantar surfaces of his feet but with no visible bruising.

On clinical examination after the second event he had extensive muscular tenderness of his lower back and buttocks, but no visible bruising.

Amani Trust case number	865	Report number	33
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
A.C	30	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Midlands	Gokwe West	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
18/03/02	Assault	11/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

A.C. was returning to Kadoma after supplying the MDC polling agents in Gokwe with food. The vehicle he was travelling in was attacked by Zanu PF supporters, and he received a blow to the head.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination the patient had no detectable neurological abnormality or visible injuries.

Amani Trust case number	732	Report number	34
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
H.C	21	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Mahusekwa	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
19/02/02	Assault, torture	15/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

On 15/02/02 at approximately 09.00h H.C. was at home when ten Zanu PF youths arrived. They told him that they had been looking for him as he was an MDC supporter and needed to be disciplined. H.C. was forced to accompany them to their base at the Mahusekwa Business Centre, where there were over two hundred Zanu Pf supporters. H.C. was forced to shout slogans and to sing revolutionary songs. He was slapped in the face during the ordeal and was kicked all over the body with booted feet. After this, H.C. was made to carry tractor weights weighing 120kg on his back. He was kept at the base for three days and was assaulted in this manner every day. H.C. was only given one meal during his detention and was kept in an empty classroom. He managed to escape on the evening of 17/02/02.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination 4 days after he was released the patient was found to have muscle spasm and tenderness of his lower back, which resolved with physiotherapy and analgesia.

Amani Trust case number	757	Report number	35
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
T.C	55	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Marondera	Welder	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
25/02/02	Abduction, assault	21/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

A group of Zanu PF youths surrounded T.C. on 21/02/02 at 07.30h at the Tabhanga Business Centre. He was accused of having held a meeting for the MDC and having distributed flyers in the area. T.C. was beaten up with heavy sticks, fists and booted feet. They then forced T.C. to accompany them to their base several kilometres away. He fell unconscious before they arrived at the base however, and when he awoke the assailants had disappeared. The next day he heard that the same group were returning to find him and he fled to Harare.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 4 days after the abduction and torture, the patient had bilateral subconjunctival hemorrhages, and a ruptured right tympanic membrane, consistent with being slapped across his ear. He also had multiple linear bruises and lacerations on his posterior upper arms and back. He also had abrasions on his posterior ankles consistent with being restrained.

Amani Trust case number	875	Report number	36
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
L.C	33	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland West	Mhondoro	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
19/03/02	Abduction, assault	06/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

L.C. was at home with his wife in Masawi Village on 06/03/02 at 15.00h when a group of approximately twenty-eight people arrived singing at his homestead. He was ordered to come out of the house, but refused to do so. Four men entered the house, trying to drag L.C. outside. He was beaten with hoe and axe handles all over his body. L.C.'s wife tried to intervene but she was stopped and slapped on the face. He was asked to surrender all MDC material in his possession and then the Zanu PF supporters killed four chickens. Two of them entered the house and ransacked it, stealing an axe, clothing and cash. The words "Vote Zanu PF" were painted on the outside walls of the house. After this, L.C. was taken to the Zanu PF base at Dzumbunu. On the way, they stopped at the house of L.C.'s cousin and ransacked that as well. Once at the base, L.C. was questioned for over four hours and then was released. The following day L.C. tried to take a bus to Harare but was intercepted by the same group and taken back to the base. He was kept overnight, but managed to escape the following morning on 08/03/02. He fled to Harare, but returned for a few hours on 10/03/02 in order to cast his vote.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 5

On clinical examination 13 days after the assault the patient was anxious and exhibiting signs of psychological disturbance with his high SRQ-8. He had a ruptured left tympanic membrane and complained of headache and dizziness. There were no other neurological abnormalities detectable. He was tender in the right loin area, but there was no detectable haematoma, and he had no history of haematuria.

He settled with analgesia, anxiolytics and counseling.

Amani Trust case number	737	Report number	37
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
K.C	17	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Harare	Harare	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
20/02/02	Assault	18/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

K.C. was at Town House on 18/02/02 when a group of Zanu PF supporters began to beat people up. He was hit by a brick in the small of his back and fell down to the ground. When he had regained his senses, K.C. fled the scene.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination 2 days after the event the patient had a 3x2cm deep abrasion on his lower back, consistent with the assault described by the patient.

Amani Trust case number	767	Report number	38
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
D.D	30	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Harare	Harare	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
28/02/02	Assault	27/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Unknown possibly army			

Case history

D.D. was at home in Budiriro 4 on 27/02/02 at 23.00h when a group of men identifying themselves as army officers arrived. They ordered D.D. to open the door, and when he did so, one of the men tripped him up. As he lay on the floor he was punched and beaten with clenched fists, baton sticks and iron rods. The assault continued for an hour until D.D. pretended to pass out. The assailants left and D.D. ran and hid in a nearby maize field for the rest of the night.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 2

On clinical examination the day after the assault the patient had a swollen tender left wrist, but Xray revealed no fracture. He had extensive bruising of his lower back and buttocks and 3 abrasions. He also had abrasions on both posterior arms. Both popliteal fossae had deep lacerations and haematomas. All the observed injuries were consistent with being assaulted as described in the narrative.

Amani Trust case number	923	Report number	39
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
C.D	30	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Harare	Harare	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
27/03/02	Assault, theft	24/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Riot Police			

Case history

On 24/03/02 at 18.30h, C.D. was in Budiriro when he was surrounded by a group of riot police and beaten up. His jacket, containing a cash amount of Z\$2,500, was stolen along with his sister's medication.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 3 days after the assault the patient had several superficial abrasions on his face, and a fractured distal phalanx of his left index finger, confirmed on Xray. He also had superficial extensive bruising of his back and buttocks.

Amani Trust case number	707	Report number	40
Name P.F.	Age 23	Sex male	ID number
Province Mashonaland Central	District Mazowe	Employment Panel beater	
Date of report 12/02/02	Nature of incident Abduction, assault	Date of incident 12/02/02	
Perpetrators Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

In early February, P.F. received a warning from a neighbour that he was seen as ‘selling out the country’. Two days later, two men arrived and told P.F. that he would be kidnapped within a couple of days. On 12/02/02 at approximately 03.00h, he was returning from a funeral wake in Dandamera Township, when he was approached by two men. One of them stuck a gun into his ribs, and the men forced P.F. to enter a white Landrover. They drove out of town into the bush where five other men were waiting. The group told P.F. that he had information which they needed. He was then stabbed in the neck with a knife and struck on the head with an empty beer bottle. During the ensuing struggle, P.F. was also cut on the side of his right eye with a knife. P.F. broke free and managed to escape. He sought medical treatment at a hospital and then fled to Harare.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 2

On clinical examination the same day, the patient two 1cm lacerations on his right supra-orbital area, a 3cm laceration on his scalp and a 4cm deep laceration in his right anterior triangle of his neck, along the sternocleidomastoid muscle, all of which required suturing. He also had a very swollen painful neck and had difficulty in swallowing. The injury pattern was consistent with the torture described.

Amani Trust case number	819	Report number	41
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
K.F	32	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Shamva	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
05/03/02	Assault	03/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

At 01.00h on 03/03/02 a group of Zanu PF supporters arrived at the house of K.F and broke down the door and the windows. As he tried to escape through a window he was hit with a baton stick on the leg and shoulder. K.F. fled to Harare immediately.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination the day after the assault, the patient had a 3cm haematoma on his right shoulder and a painful swollen right ankle, which resolved on analgesics.

Psychiatric assessment

Seen a year after his last traumatic event. He had recurrent distressing intrusive thoughts of the traumatic events and reported dreams of the perpetrators. He related that he is always afraid and that he still gets very distressed at cues. He tries not to think about the trauma but finds it impossible. He related that he had lost interest in activities that he previously enjoyed. He had an exaggerated startle response and panics when he hears loud noises.

Findings on mental state examination included a low mood with congruent affect, loss of appetite, loss of energy, reduced libido and loss of interest. He also had some paranoid ideas and believed that the CIO were looking for him. His concentration was impaired.

A diagnosis of PTSD and major depressive disorder was made.

Amani Trust case number	579	Report number	42
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
C.G	33	female	
Province	District	Employment	
Midlands	Kwekwe	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
14/01/02	Assault, destruction of private property	12/01/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters.			

Case history

A group of more than one hundred Zanu PF supporters arrived at 01.00h at the house of C.G on 12/01/01. They demanded to see her husband who is the Midlands Provincial MDC Secretary. The husband of C.G. was not present at the time, and she was beaten up. The house was looted and then burnt to the ground, all the household goods in the home being destroyed.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 2 days after the event the patient was markedly psychologically traumatised, with a high SRQ-8. She had a severely swollen tender right wrist, which had no fracture on Xray. She had extensive deep haematomas of both buttocks extending down her posterior thighs. She also had a painful left hip, but had full range of movement. The patient was treated with analgesia, physiotherapy and counseling.

Amani Trust case number	765	Report number	43
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
N.G	37	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Midlands	Mberengwa	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
27/02/02	Assault, detention	15/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF militia			

Case history

N.G. was on a bus on 15/02/02 passing by Chamagunda School at 20.00h, when the bus was stopped by Zanu PF militia. His name was called out and he was forced off the bus. The militia beat up N.G. with fists, boots, and sticks. He was then handcuffed and detained overnight until he was rescued the next morning by the police. N.G. was taken to Musami hospital for treatment and kept under police guard. He was transferred to Mwene after the hospital was besieged by the youth militia, and then made his way to Harare.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 12 days after the assault, the patient was psychologically disturbed by the events, and complained of panic each time he saw a crowd. He had been admitted in a Harare private hospital for fractured right lower ribs and extensive soft tissue injuries of his back and upper legs. He had numerous linear haematomas of his back and upper posterior and anterior thighs, and a myoscitic swelling on his right gluteal muscle.

Amani Trust case number	632	Report number	44
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
E.G	41	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Manicaland	Buhera South	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
31/01/02	Assault, destruction of private property	25/01/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

E.G. was asleep in his hut on 25/01/02 at 01.00h in Buhera when Zanu PF supporters arrived. He was locked into his hut, whilst the group broke down windows, pulled thatched grass off the roof and tossed it inside the hut. The Zanu PF supporters then threw two explosive devices in the hut, which blew up. The hut and its contents caught alight, E.G. receiving burns in the process. Upon hearing his cries, the assailants opened the hut door and dragged E.G. out. He was then assaulted outside the hut with an iron bar across his head and back and was knifed in the right leg and left arm.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 2

On clinical examination 6 days after the assault the patient had septic superficial burns of his cheeks, nose, lips, forehead and pinnae. He also had bilateral conjunctivitis. He also had a deep 10x10cm burn on his left shoulder and a septic 8cm laceration on his left anterior forearm consistent with a knife wound. There was a 4cm long, deep laceration on his medial lower leg, again consistent with a stab wound. He had linear extensive haematomas on his back consistent with being beaten with a flat heavy object, such as an iron bar.

Because of the sepsis and extensive soft tissue injuries, the patient required admission to hospital for more than 1 week.

Amani Trust case number	941	Report number	46
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
S.G	35	female	
Province	District		Employment
Harare	Harare		Vegetable vendor
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
03/04/02	Assault		01/04/02
Perpetrators			
Youths			

Case history

On 01/04/02 S.G. had gone to buy some potatoes in Mbare for resale in Budiriro. As her and two friends were preparing to leave the gate at Mbare Musika, three youths approached and beat S.G. with fists until she fell to the floor, hurting her right shoulder in the process. The youths fled and she was assisted by her friends. S.G. did not report the matter to the police as she feared that the youths would follow her to the station and further assault her.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 2 days after the assault the patient had bilateral conjunctival inflammation, and tenderness of her left lateral neck. She had a 3cm abrasion of her right shoulder and muscular tenderness but no loss of function. Her pain resolved on analgesia and physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	780	Report number	47
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
B.G	26	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Harare	Harare	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
22/02/02	Assault	17/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

B.G. and friends were attending an MDC rally at Chibuku Stadium on 17/02/02. At 13.00h there was a commotion outside the stadium and B.G. and a friend went to investigate. Two Zanu PF youths accosted the pair with knives. The friend of B.G. managed to escape but B.G. was held by the two youths and was hit on the back, right shoulder and face with stones and kicked on the left upper arm. He was also assaulted with stones from a catapult on the head.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination 5 days after the assault the patient had extensive soft tissue pain of his upper torso, with muscular tenderness but no visible bruising.

Amani Trust case number	652	Report number	48
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
R.G	57	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	UMP	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
05/02/02	Assault	09/01/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

Six Zanu PF youths went to the home of R.G. on 09/01/02 when he was not there and left a message with his wife that he was ordered to see them at Musiwe Township. After receiving the message, R.G. took his and his wife's MDC membership cards and went to see the youths to explain why he had bought them. He was then assaulted for being a member of the MDC. He was suspended in the air by his legs and beaten with logs across his back, thighs and buttocks. He was also kicked in the face. When the youths realised the severity of the assault, they released R.G.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 1

On clinical examination 3 weeks after the assault, the patient had a healed 2cm laceration of his left upper lip. He also had marked muscular tenderness over his lower back, buttocks, posterior thighs, but no visible haematomas or swelling. The pain settled on analgesia.

Amani Trust case number	769	Report number	49
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
S.G	30	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland West	Chegutu	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
28/02/02	Assault	26/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

S.G. was at a local hall in Chegutu on 26/02/02, when he was confronted by Zanu PF supporters. He was accused of being an MDC supporter and was beaten on the right side of the chest with a knobkerrie until he fell down. One of the assailants then took a burning piece of firewood and struck S.G. in the chest with it. He also was burnt in the face and on both arms.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 0

The patient was transferred by ambulance from Chegutu General Hospital, and on admission to a private hospital was found to have a tension pneumothorax secondary to a fractured first rib, where he was assaulted with a knobkerrie. He also had a deep burn on his forehead and lower lip and chin. He had deep burns on his anterior chest wall and both forearms, with a total surface area of 10%. The burns were all septic, and with the complications with the pneumothorax, the patient required admission in a high care unit for over one week, and then a further three weeks in hospital.

Amani Trust case number	622	Report number	50
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
F.G	33	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	UMP	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
31/01/02	Abduction, assault	10/12/01	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

F.G. was at Manyika Shopping Centre on 10/12/01 when he was approached by a group of Zanu PF youths, who identified him as an MDC activist. He tried to run away but was caught and taken to a ‘war veterans’ base. He was detained overnight and beaten up with logs and kicked with booted feet. He was also forced to lie on the ground whilst being hit across the buttocks.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 7 weeks after the event, the patient still had a deep myositic abscess of his right buttock, 5cm in diameter and about 3cm deep. This took a further 2 months to heal, and the patient was markedly psychologically disturbed and had difficulty in relating the incident, without becoming agitated.

Amani Trust case number	719	Report number	51
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
C.H	26	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Marondera	Guard	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
18/02/02	Assault	16/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

C.H. was walking from his uncle's house on 16/02/02 when he met up with a crowd of approximately one hundred and fifty youths at the showground in Marondera. He was found to not possess a Zanu PF party card and was taken to a room in the showground, where he was beaten with iron bars, sticks and sjamboks across the buttocks and under his feet. He was then hit across the back of the head with an empty beer bottle, which smashed into pieces. C.H. was forced to close his eyes and open his mouth whilst a bitter tasting liquid was forced down his throat. Eventually, the assailants left to go and toyi-toyi, and C.H escaped with six others who had been held captive in the room.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination 2 days after the assault, the patient had a swollen painful lower left mandible, and left occipital area. He had extensive soft tissue swelling and bruising of both his upper and lower right arm but no fractures. He had tenderness of the lower lumbar area, and patterned track haematomas of his buttocks, consistent with being assaulted with whips. Both plantar surfaces of his feet were very tender and there was a 3cm haematoma on the medial left mid -metatarsal region. His injury pattern was consistent with his testimony of torture.

Photographic evidence

Amani Trust case number	603	Report number	52
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
A.H	26	male	
Province	District		Employment
Mashonaland East	Marondera		Unemployed
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
17/01/02	Assault		12/01/02
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

A.H. was coming out of a beer hall on 12/01/02 in Marondera, when he was accosted by four Zanu PF supporters, who accused him of being an MDC member. They tried to force A.H. to accompany them but he refused and was assaulted. They tried unsuccessfully to handcuff him and in the process hit him with fists and full beer bottles. He was also kicked and lost consciousness at which point the assailants fled.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 5 days after the assault the patient complained of a continual headache, difficulty in balancing and concentrating, and a red eye. Clinically his central nervous system was intact, but he had a sub-conjunctival hemorrhage of his right eye. He was reviewed by an ophthalmologist 3 times, and the eye settled on treatment. The headache resolved on analgesia.

Amani Trust case number	823	Report number	53
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
C.I	34	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Wedza	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
04/03/02	Assault, abduction, torture	26/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters, police			

Case history

At Bristol Farm Compound in Wedza on 26/02/02 at 22.00h, C.I. and companions were surrounded by Zanu PF supporters. They were told that they were going to be beaten up because they supported the MDC. C.I. told the Zanu PF supporters that the MDC was a legal party. In response, he was tied up and beaten, and forced to walk barefoot to their base twenty kilometres away in Numwa. He was detained overnight and was tortured with whips and sticks, all over his body and under the soles of his feet. The police arrived at the base at 08.00h on 27/02/02, and took C.I. away to their police camp. Here he was threatened and forced to give a statement.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 6 days after the event, the patient had fracture of his left clavicle, which was confirmed on Xray, and managed by an orthopaedic surgeon. He also had 5 extensive linear haematomas on his back, and bilateral tender plantar surfaces of his feet, consistent with his testimony of torture.

Amani Trust case number	815	Report number	54
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
P.J	36	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Harare	Harare	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
06/03/02	Assault, detention	28/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Riot police, Mr Shumba			

Case history

On 28/02/02, P.J. was at the MDC Provincial offices in Harare receiving training as an MDC polling agent. Riot police stormed into the offices and began to beat up people. P.J. was kicked by a Mr Shumba across the bridge of his nose, and whipped by another man with a sjambok across the back of his head and back. He was taken along with thirty-seven others to Harare Central Police Station and kept in a cell for four days until 04/03/02. He was released without charge.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 0

On clinical examination 6days after the incident, the patient had a swollen tender nasal bridge, but no fracture. The injury settled on analgesia.

Amani Trust case number	939	Report number	55
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
A.J.	Unknown	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Bindura	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
03/04/02	Assault	31/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

Three Zanu PF youths arrived at the house of A.J. in Mpandira village in Musana on 31/03/02. He was accused of supporting the MDC and was ordered out of the village. A.J. refused to leave and was dragged into the yard, where the youths kicked him with booted feet and attempted to strangle him. The youths ran away after the neighbours intervened.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 3 days after the event the patient complained of a painful throat and pain on swallowing, and a headache. His neurological system was normal, and there were no detectable lesions on the neck. He did, however, have numerous superficial abrasions on his right posterior forearm.

Amani Trust case number	662	Report number	56
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
C.J	25	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Marondera	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
08/02/02	Assault	05/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

A group of eight Zanu PF youths met C.J. at Dhirihi Shopping Centre at 03.00h. he was forced to chant Zanu PF songs and slogans. He was accused of being an MDC member and was forced to lie down on the ground. He was then beaten with planks, barbed wire and iron bars. C.J. notes that the police were present throughout the entire assault but took no action to help him.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 3 days after the event, the patient had two 3cm healing abrasions on his left forehead, and a 3cm haematoma with abrasion on his right cheek. He also had 3 linear haematomas with abrasions on his back consistent with being assaulted with barbed wire and planks. He also had an extensive deep haematoma involving his right hip and lateral thigh, 20x15cm in size with considerable soft tissue swelling.

Amani Trust case number	853	Report number	57
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
P.J	19	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Shamva	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
13/03/02	Assault	09/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

P.J. was on his way to be deployed as an MDC polling agent in Shamva on 09/03/02 when him and his companions were intercepted by a lorry load of Zanu P supporters. They were chased into a dead end at Chipori Farm and were stoned. P.J. was beaten with logs. A report was made to the police, but no action was taken.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 4 days after the incident, the patient was complaining of a headache, and he had a 6cm sutured laceration on his occiput. He had no detectable neurological abnormalities.

Amani Trust case number	634	Report number	58
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
T.K	26	male	
Province	District		Employment
Harare	Harare		Unemployed
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
29/01/02	Torture		28/01/02
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

T.K. was returning from Hatcliffe Clinic on 28/01/02 at 16.00h when he was accosted by a group of people in a Mazda 323. He was asked where MDC meetings were held and who was occupying MDC party structures. T.K was then held as they squeezed his diaphragm with their hands. The men then connected cables from the revving engine of the car and pressed them against the thighs of T.K. and under his fingernails. He was then forced to swallow some herbs. After this he was released.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination the day after the incident the patient was profoundly ill with uncontrollable diarrhoea and more than 10% dehydrated. He was apyrexial. He had a 1cm laceration on his right cheek, and his tongue was stained dark brown. There was no particular odour of an aromatic or organic poison. His quadriceps muscles were in severe spasm and he was unable to straighten his legs. Neurologically he was slightly disorientated, but with no other abnormalities. His pupils were equal and reacting to light, with no dilation or constriction.

His chest was clear and his abdomen was scaphoid and soft, with no organomegaly. He was urgently transferred to a high care unit, where he was found to have a severe electrolyte imbalance, secondary to the herb induced diarrhoea.

He subsequently died in hospital 4 days later, due to electrolyte imbalance.

Amani Trust case number	741	Report number	59
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
M.K.	43	male	
Province	District		Employment
Mashonaland East	Ruwa		Unemployed
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
21/02/02	Assault		18/02/02
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

M.K. was eating supper at home on 18/02/02 in Mandley Park when a group of approximately twenty people arrived. Five of them entered the house and forced M.K. to accompany them back to where the rest of the group were waiting. He was asked for books and information about his MDC committee. M.K. was slapped, and beaten with baton sticks all over the body and under his feet. The ordeal lasted for two hours before he was released. The next morning M.K. tried to seek medical treatment but could not because all his money had been stolen by the people the night before.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 6

On clinical examination 3 days after the assault, the patient had 2 abrasions on his right cheek, 2cm and 5cm long, and extensive soft tissue swelling of his right upper and lower jaw. His left tympanic membrane was ruptured, consistent with being slapped across the ears.

He had bilateral tenderness over his lower chest walls, but no bruising visible, and no evidence of rib fractures. He had a painful left knee, but with no detectable joint or soft tissue injury, and he had very painful plantar surfaces of his feet, and experienced difficulty in walking.

Amani Trust case number	570	Report number	60
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
T.K	31	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Harare	Harare	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
10/01/02	Assault	09/01/02	
Perpetrators			
War veterans			

Case history

T.K. was taken from his house in Dzivarasekwa on 09/01/02 at 07.00h by ‘war veterans’. He was taken to their base where he was interrogated about MDC activity in Dzivarasekwa. The ‘war veterans’ were not satisfied with his answers and he was beaten with sticks and hands for two hours, before being released

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination the day after the event the patient had a haematoma and swelling of his left cheek and loose upper incisors. He was referred for dental management.

Amani Trust case number	959	Report number	61
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
C.K	73	female	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Bindura	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
02/04/02	Assault	31/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

C.K. was at home in the Chief Musana area on 31/03/02 when Zanu PF supporters arrived at her son's residence. They began to destroy his house and assault him. Upon hearing the cries, C.K. went out to investigate. She saw twelve Zanu PF supporters attacking the son and tried to intervene. She was punched on her right cheek and fell down. A brick was then thrown on her back and she was kicked once on the back whilst lying down.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 2 days after the event she was complaining of severe pain over her right lower ribs and thoracic spine and her right cheek. She was moderately tender to palpation over her right cheek, but with no detectable bruising. She was also tender to palpation over her right lower chest wall and lower thoracic spine, but with no swelling or bruising or neurological changes. A chest Xray was normal, and the patient settled on analgesia.

Amani Trust case number	830	Report number	62
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
T.K	41	male	
Province	District	Employment	
	Mhondoro	Driver	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
07/03/02	Assault, detention	03-07/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths, police			

Case history

T.K. was returning from Chegutu on 03/03/02 and was at the Musinamwe Business Centre at 22.15h. He was attacked by a group of youths, whom he had been trying to avoid. He was punched on the face, slapped and kicked with boots. The youths then reported to the police that T.K. had been carrying stones and catapults. He was picked up by the police and taken to Mubaira where he was detained until 07/03/02. He was forced to pay a fine of Z\$2,000.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination on the day of release the patient had bilateral sub-conjunctival haemorrhages, but normal visual acuity, and a painful neck, but no visible soft tissue damage, or cervical spine trauma. The pain settled on analgesia.

Amani Trust case number	602	Report number	63
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
K.K	22	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Midlands	Gokwe	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
17/01/02	Assault	12/01/02	
Perpetrators			
Unknown youths			

Case history

K.K. was with ten companions on 12/01/01 at Memoria Shops in Mhondoro when they were accosted by a group of twenty youths. K.K. was attacked and was beaten with sticks and bricks and was punched. The youths wanted to force him to accompany them to their base, but he managed to escape.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 1

On clinical examination 5 days after the assault, the patient had 2 healing superficial abrasions on his occiput and left parietal area, and bilateral conjunctivitis. His visual acuity was normal.

Amani Trust case number	926	Report number	64
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
M.M	33	male	
Province	District		
Harare	Harare		Boilermaker - foreman
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
28/03/02	Assault	24/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Riot police			

Case history

A group of riot police went to Budiriro 2 and beat up people indiscriminately. M.M. was assaulted with a rifle butt and batons across the head and back.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 4 days after the event, the patient had a 2cm laceration on his right forehead, which was sutured. He had 4 deep haematomas on his left arm, of a similar shape and size to a rifle butt injury, and six similar deep haematomas on his back, and then one on his left anterior thigh. He also had numerous train track injuries on his back, consistent with being whipped. There was no evidence of any fractures.

Amani Trust case number	594	Report number	65
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
F.M	41	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Harare	Harare	Security guard	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
09/01/02	Assault	06/01/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youth militia			

Case history

F.M. was assaulted with barbed wire and clubs by a group of youth militia on 06/01/01 at OK Bazaars in Budiriro.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 0

On clinical examination 3 days after the event, the patient had a 3cm laceration on his right lower back, and 3 deep 3cm lacerations on his right ankle and foot, consistent with barbed wire injuries.

Amani Trust case number	859	Report number	66
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
G.M	32	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Midlands	Gokwe North	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
19/03/02	Assault	16/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Unknown men			

Case history

G.M. was a polling agent for Gokwe North during the elections. On 16/03/02, he was returning home to the Chitsa area, when a group of five men approached him and called out his name. They threw a stone at him and he fell to the floor. The men then assaulted G.M. with iron bars as he lay on the ground. G.M. fainted and the assailants ran away.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination 3 days after the event, the patient had 4 haematomas on his face, about 2cm diameter each, on his forehead, right cheek, nasal bridge and right lip. He had a very painful right shoulder, but no evidence of fracture or dislocation, and a deep abrasion of his dorsal surface of his right hand 4x4cm. He had another 4x4cm abrasion on his right hip, and 2 similar deep abrasions on his right ankle. His right shoulder settled on analgesia and physiotherapy.

Psychiatric assessment

Three days after the traumatic event the patient had recurrent intrusive thoughts of the trauma and dreams of the trauma. He related that he becomes very distressed when he sees groups of people and has palpitations. He tries to avoid thoughts and feelings related to the trauma by praying. Avoids going back to his home area because he is afraid of being killed. Has difficulty remembering some aspects of the trauma. He has sleep disturbances and is often woken up by bad dreams. He relates that he is more irritable since the attack and is hypervigilant. Significant findings on mental state examination included poor eye contact with the interviewer, reduced psychomotor activity, low volume speech, sad mood, disturbed sleep, poor appetite, reduced energy and loss of interest. He had no suicidal ideas. He had auditory hallucinations –heard voices but words were indistinguishable. He also had impairment of concentration. A diagnosis of Acute stress disorder with depressed mood was made.

Amani Trust case number	657	Report number	67
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
T.M	29	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Rushinga	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
01/02/02	Abduction, assault	16/01/02	
Perpetrators			
War veterans			

Case history

T.M. was in Gwangwava village on 16/01/02 attending to MDC business when he was abducted by a group of seven ‘war veterans’. He was taken to their base in Rushinga town and beaten up with sticks for a period of two hours. He was forbidden to go to the hospital for a period of ten days. T.M. fled the area and made his way to Harare.

Medical assessment

SRQ 8score: 3

On clinical examination 2 weeks after the event, the patient had a tender left wrist with moderate swelling, but no clinical evidence of fracture. The patient responded well to analgesia and physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	753	Report number	68
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
M.M	27	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Mvurwi	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
22/02/03	Assault	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 27/01/02 • 18/02/02 	
Perpetrators			
Unknown assailants			

Case history

M.M. was attacked by unknown assailants on 27/01/02 at Mvurwi Community Hall at 15.00h. He was hit with stones which were wrapped in a t-shirt. That evening at 22.00h he was picked up by the police for public violence and detained for seventeen days. He was released on bail of Z\$2,000. M.M. was attacked for a second time on 13/03/02 at his home and was assaulted with sticks and kicks.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 1

On clinical examination 3 weeks after the event, the patient had 2 resolving haematomas on his face, and a large resolving haematoma on his left shoulder. He also had a rash of insect bites across his lower back and buttocks, consistent with being bitten by lice. He had clinical symptoms of louse borne rickettsia, and the illness resolved on doxycycline.

Amani Trust case number	812	Report number	69
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
I.M	28	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Bindura	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
07/03/02	Abduction, assault	05/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

I.M. was abducted on 05/03/02 at 13.00h by five men in a Toyota Venture near Caltex Corner Filling Station in Harare. He was taken to a place near Harare Showgrounds and beaten up with electric cables. The assailants said this was because I.M. was a member of the MDC party. He was released at 16.00h.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

The patient had 5 linear haematomas across his back consistent with being whipped with cables. He also had a sub-conjunctival haemorrhage and pain of his left eye, but his visual acuity was not affected.

Amani Trust case number	596	Report number	70
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
G.M	27	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Harare	Harare	Taxi rank marshall	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
07/01/02	Assault, detention	05/01/02	
Perpetrators			
Plainclothes officers			

Case history

G.M. was at Cleveland House in Harare on 05/01/02 when himself and five others were taken to Harare Central Police Station and interrogated by plainclothes officers. G.M. was accused of being a member of the NCA and was beaten up with baton sticks across the buttocks. After this, he was driven around Warren Park and Hatcliffe before being returned to the station. At the station, he was hit on his left ear, before being released. He was also threatened with death.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 2 days after the event, the patient had a 4x4cm haematoma of his left shoulder, and then extensive deep haematomas of both buttocks and upper thighs, with marked soft tissue swelling. He was psychologically disturbed as shown by his high SRQ-8 score.

Amani Trust case number	806	Report number	71
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
H.M	34	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Manicaland	Buhera	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
07/03/02	Assault, detention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11-14/02/02 • 28/02/02 	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

H.M. was abducted at 09.00h from his home in Buhera to a councillor's house, Mr Lovemore Chapwanya. He was beaten with sticks and wire all over his body. H.M. and ten other people were forced to run, toyi-toyi or sit locked up in his spare room. They were assaulted on several occasions and were not provided with any blankets in the rooms they were kept in. H.M. was released on the 14/02/02. He was at home on 28/02/02 when he received a warning that the police in Chivhu were coming to kill him, and he fled to Harare.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination 14 days after the event, the patient's back was covered in resolving haematomas, from his neck to his sacrum. It was difficult to determine any patterns.

Amani Trust case number	600	Report number	72
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
A.M	33	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Manicaland	Buhera	unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
15/01/02	Assault	12/01/02	
Perpetrators			

Case history

A.M. was waiting at the Murambinda Growth Point to attend an MDC rally on 12/01/02. Approximately eighty to one hundred Zanu PF supporters approached A.M. and he was attacked with rocks, knives, stones and iron bars. He was treated at Murambinda Hospital and then fled to Harare for safety.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 3 days after the event, the patient had a sutured deep laceration on his fronto-parietal scalp, and a painful left shoulder and chest. He also had swollen tender forearms and right calf. His chest xray and arm xrays revealed no fractures, and the injuries resolved with analgesia and physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	1039	Report number	73
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
C.M	49	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Harare	Harare	Clerk	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
08/04/02	Assault	05/04/02	
Perpetrators			
Soldiers			

Case history

C.M. was at Budiriro shops having a drink on 05/04/02 at 20.00h when soldiers accosted and assaulted him and other members of the public. The soldiers were accusing people of being members of the MDC. C.M. escaped and ran home.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 3days after the assault, the patient had a 2cm deep abrasion on his occiput, 3 linear haematomas on his back, consistent with being beaten by a flat heavy object, and a fracture of his distal left ulnar which required a plaster cast.

Amani Trust case number	964	Report number	74
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
M.M	28	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Shamva	Locomotive driver	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
08/04/02	assault	07/04/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

M.M. returned from church on 07/04/02 at 16.00h to find a group of thirty men surrounding his house. He knew most of the people in the group as they worked at Shamva Goldmine. He was accused of being a member of the MDC and of taking information to Harare. M.M. was asked for a Zanu PF card but could not produce one. He was taken to the Zanu PF office at the mine and was told that he was going to be beaten until he told the truth. M.M. was ordered to lie face down on the floor and was kicked with booted feet and beaten with sticks over the back and buttocks. By this time, the group of men had grown larger and they were chanting liberation songs. After the assault. M.M. was taken back to his house by a Mr Gore Chiyanika (Welfare officer at Shamva Mine). His property was cleared out from the house and M.M. was ordered to leave the mine and go to Harare to seek work from the MDC.

He only managed to escape with his wife and with one bag of clothes. M.M. said that 42 people from the mine had been chased away from their work, and replaced by youth militia.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination the day after the event the patient had soft tissue tenderness of the right lateral abdominal wall and lumbar area, and of both buttocks. There were no visible haematomas or lacerations.

Amani Trust case number	720	Report number	75
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
G.M	29	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Harare	Harare	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
20/02/02	Assault	19/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

G.M. was attending the Nomination Court at Townhouse for the mayoral elections on 19/02/02 when a large crowd of Zanu PF supporters surrounded him and others members of the public. Individuals, including G.M. were assaulted with heavy sticks, kicked with booted feet and hit with clenched fists. The attack lasted for half an hour until the police arrived and the Zanu PF supporters fled.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 2

On clinical examination the day after the event, the patient had an extensive abrasion on his right cheek and a loose left lower second incisor. He required dental intervention.

Amani Trust case number	834	Report number	76
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
L.M	39	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Goromonzi	Toy maker	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
10/03/02	Abduction, assault	09/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

L.M. was with colleagues from the MDC on 09/03/02 at Rusike. They were attacked by Zanu PF youths and beaten up. L.M. and his companions were then forced to march to the Manamba Zanu PF base twenty kilometres away. Upon arrival the men were beaten up again with sticks, bricks, fists, booted feet and slaps. After this, the men were taken to the ‘war veterans’ base at Murehwa where they were interrogated. The men were then taken to the police.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination the day after the assault, the patient had a sub-conjunctival haemorrhage of his left eye, but normal visual acuity, extensive bruising and swelling of his forehead and scalp, and bruising on his posterior cervical region and right posterior shoulder. He had a tender anterior left chest wall, but no evidence of rib fractures. Both forearms were painful, but with no bruising or fractures. He had pain and swelling of his right knee and ankle, both with normal range of movement. All injuries resolved on analgesia and physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	808	Report number	77
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
A.M	25	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland West	Marirangwe	Contract worker	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
05/03/02	Assault	02/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters, a soldier			

Case history

A.M. went to the shops in Marirangwe at 19.00h on 02/03/02 where he met a group of Zanu PF youths and a soldier. He was asked for a Zanu PF party card which he could not produce. He was beaten up with logs and a rifle butt all over his body and dumped twenty kilometres away from the shops at 23.00h.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 1

On clinical examination 2 days after the assault, the patient had a large abrasion on his forehead, and 2 soft tissue swellings on his occiput. His back was covered with extensive bruises and abrasions, and his buttocks had deep haematomas with soft tissue swelling. He had tender quadriceps muscles on his right thigh, but no visible bruising.

Psychiatric assessment

He was examined three days after traumatic event and had recurrent intrusive thoughts and flashbacks of the event. He admitted to becoming very distressed when he hears that other people have been beaten. He avoids places like shopping centres which remind him of the trauma. He held the belief that he may have suffered life-threatening injuries as a result of being beaten. He had sleep problems and admitted to poor concentration and difficulty in swallowing.

Significant findings on mental state examination included low mood, loss of energy, sleep disturbances, feelings of helplessness and hopelessness. Concentration was impaired. A diagnosis of Adjustment disorder with depressed mood was made.

Amani Trust case number	866	Report number	78
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
J.M	49	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	• Mudzi	Unemployed	
Harare	• Harare		
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
18/03/02	Assault, detention	• 26/02/02	
		• 01/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters, police			

Case history

- J.M. was at home on 26/02/02 when a group of Zanu PF supporters arrived. They had with them a list upon which was J.M.'s name. He was asked to accompany them to Chingwena Township. J.M. complied, but on the way tried to escape by asking if he could relieve himself. The Zanu PF supporters beat him up with a stick before he managed to run away. The men went back to J.M.'s home and took his wife to the Zanu PF office at Kotwa where she was assaulted. She was then taken to the police at Nyamapanda, where she was released. Whilst at J.M.'s home the Zanu PF supporters destroyed his crop and stole his belongings.
- On 01/03/02 J.M. was in Chitungwiza, Harare travelling in an MDC campaign vehicle when it was stopped by 'black-booted' police who assaulted J.M. and his companions and detained them for two days in a cell.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On examination 3 weeks after the initial event, although the patient had no visible bruising to document, he had extensive muscular pain of his left shoulder and hand. He also complained of back pain, involving his thoracic spine and lumbar spine. No functional abnormalities could be detected, and the patient responded well to analgesia and physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	744	Report number	79
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
G.M	39	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Harare	Harare	Driver	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
21/02/02	Assault	19/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

G.M. and a colleague were putting up posters at churches in Cranborne for voter education on 19/02/02. As they were leaving one of the churches, they were accosted by a group of approximately fifty people. They blocked the road and asked G.M for some of his posters. He complied and they accused him of bringing politics to the churches. His car keys were taken off him and the two men were ordered to return to the church and remove the posters. The men did so, after which the posters were burnt and the men were ordered to remove their shoes and shirts. The men and their vehicle were searched, after which the clothing of the men was burnt and they were assaulted with sticks and stones for an hour. A group of soldiers from Cranborne Barracks arrived and halted the assault. The men were driven to the barracks and questioned about their activities and possible links to Amani Trust. The men were then released and made a statement at Braeside police station before an officer from ZESN took them to receive medical treatment.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 2

On clinical examination 2 days after the event the patient had multiple haematomas over his back, left shoulder, left forearm and left foot. He complained of left sided chest pain and a chest Xray showed a fracture of his 9th left rib, with no evidence of haemopneumothorax. The patient recovered with analgesia and physiotherapy.

Psychiatric assessment

The patient was seen two days after the traumatic event and had no psychological complaints at that time. His mental state examination was unremarkable except for impairment of concentration.

Amani Trust case number	746	Report number	80
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
T.M	29	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Mvurwi	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
22/02/02		19/02/02	
Perpetrators			

Case history

T.M. and ten others were putting up posters in Concession and Mvurwi on 19/02/02. They discovered that some of their posters had been pulled down and started to replace them. A group of people arrived in a minibus and questioned the men about their activities. They started to throw stones and bottles at T.M. and his companions. T,M, was hit with a large stone on the left side of his chest.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 1

On clinical examination 3 days after the event the patient had tenderness of his right lateral chest wall, but no evidence of rib fractures. The pain settled on analgesia.

Amani Trust case number	560	Report number	81
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
C.M.	60	female	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Guruve	Peasant farmer	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
15/01/02	Assault	06/01/02	
Perpetrators			
War veterans			

Case history

At 22.00h on 06/01/02 a ‘war veteran’ named Nguwayembudzi and a group of youths went to the house of C.M. in Nagwikwi Village and accused her and her family of being MDC informers. This was because in December three huts of C.M. had been razed to the ground and a report had been placed in the newspaper. The group assaulted C.M. and four of her daughters with sticks and sjamboks. C.M. was hit across the back and buttocks. She fled her home after the incident and went to Harare.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 1

On clinical examination 9 days after the assault, the patient had tenderness over her lower lumbar spine and buttocks, and a healing linear abrasion on her buttocks, consistent with being whipped. The pain settled on analgesia and physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	561	Report number	82
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
O.M	27	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Guruve	Farmer	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
15/01/02	Assault	06/01/02	
Perpetrators			
War veterans			

Case history

A group of ‘war veterans’ arrived at the home of O.M. on 06/01/02 and asked him to go to a rally and then part in the destruction of people’s houses. He refused and the group turned on him saying that he was a “sell-out”. He was assaulted with whips and received blows to the head and back. He was abducted and detained at a school for three days before managing to escape to Harare.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 2

On clinical examination 9 days after the event, the patient was experiencing pain in his lower jaw, and difficulty in chewing. There was soft tissue injury only. He had 9 linear healing abrasions on his back, consistent with having been whipped. His pain settled on analgesia.

Amani Trust case number	621	Report number	83
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
T.M	28	male	
Province	District	Employment	
	Harare	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
18/01/02	Abduction, assault	18/01/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF Youth Brigade			

Case history

At 03.00h on 18/01/02 a group of Zanu PF youth brigade in uniform broke into the home of T.M. and blindfolded him. He was abducted and taken to an unknown site where he was beaten and kicked with booted feet. He was then cut on the leg with a machete. He was left for dead after the assault, and was discovered at 04.00h and was taken for medical treatment.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination on the day of the assault, the patient had a partially severed infrapatellar tendon, which required orthopaedic reconstructive surgery. The wound then developed sepsis and the patient had to undergo further surgery. The patient was confined to walking on crutches for three months, and had to have extensive physiotherapy to regain the use of his knee.

Amani Trust case number	1055	Report number	84
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
R.M	27	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Manicaland	Chipinge	Welder	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
29/04/02	Assault, detention	21/04/02	
Perpetrators			
Police, soldiers			

Case history

R.M. was standing outside the shops in Chimanimani by his vehicle on 21/04/02 and witnessed a fight involving a policeman. the policeman approached the vehicle in an incoherent state and tried to deflate the tyres. R.M. and his companions confronted the policeman and then took him back to his police camp. The next Friday, the men were called back to the police camp, where they were assaulted by police and soldiers. The police took statements off the men and detained R.M. and a companion before releasing them.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 8 days after the event the patient had tenderness and swelling over the right scapula, with minimal loss of function of his shoulder, which settled on analgesia and physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	837	Report number	85
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
A.M	36	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Goromonzi	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
10/03/02	Assault, abduction	09/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths, war veterans			

Case history

A.M. was at Rusike Business Centre on 09/03/02 inspecting polling agents for the MDC. He was abducted by Zanu PF youths and beaten up. He was forced to march twenty kilometres to the Munamba base in Goromonzi where he was beaten up again with iron bars and heavy sticks and was kicked with booted feet. A.M. and other abductees were taken to the Murehwa base of the 'war veterans' and were subjected to interrogation about their activities before being taken to the police.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination the day after the event, the patient had a haemorrhagic swelling in his right ear canal and tenderness across his posterior chest wall with no detectable bruising. Xrays of his skull, chest and thoracic spine revealed no fractures. The pain settled on analgesia.

Amani Trust case number	816	Report number	86
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
C.M	26	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Harare	Harare	Self-employed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
04/03/02	Assault, abduction	27/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

On 27/02/02 C.M. was at a tuck shop in Chitungwiza, Harare at 17.30h when he was surrounded by a group of Zanu PF youths. He was assaulted with planks and iron bars before being forced to their office in Unit N. the assault continued with sticks from the fire, iron bars, rubber sticks and planks of wood all over his body. The assailants also stamped upon his back and chest. C.M. was rescued by his colleagues at 19.00h.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 7 days after the event the patient had extensive pain over his anterior chest wall, but chest Xray was normal. He had a large abrasion >10cm diameter on his left posterior shoulder, and an abrasion on his left knee.

Amani Trust case number	826	Report number	87
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
C.M	32	male	
Province	District		Employment
Mashonaland East	Ruwa		Farm supervisor
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
08/03/02	Assault, abduction		07/03/02
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

At Chadsley farm at 14.00h on 07/03/02 a group of Zanu PF youths arrived and asked for firewood. The farmer's wife agreed to give them firewood but commented on their behaviour. C.M. gave the men the firewood and they left, promising to return. The Zanu PF youths returned and forced the farm workers to chant Zanu PF slogans. C.M. was identified as the workers leader and was assaulted. He was taken to the Goromonzi turn-off where he was beaten up with electric cables, ropes and heavy sticks. He was then burnt on the right eye with a lit cigarette.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 1 day after the event the patient had an inflamed red right eye with a burn mark on the lower lid consistent with a cigarette burn. He had a laceration of his lower lip and a tender soft tissue swelling on his occiput. He had several abrasions on his posterior left lower arm. He had a linear contusion along his right forearm. He had extensive haematomas across his shoulders and a large haematoma on his left posterior thigh and right anterior thigh. He had tender swellings on his left medial and lateral lower leg. The injuries are all consistent with the methods of torture described.

Amani Trust case number		Report number	88
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
W.M	23	male	
Province	District		Employment
Harare	Harare		Unemployed
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
15/04/02	Assault, abduction		14/04/02
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

W.M. was disembarking from a bus at 10.00h on 14/04/02 at Mbare when he was approached by Zanu PF youths, who demanded to see what was written on his t-shirt underneath his shirt. As soon as they saw that it was an MDC t-shirt W.M. was handcuffed and taken to their base. He was beaten up with steel rods, hose pipes and a slasher all over his body, across his head and under his feet. He was kept in a steel cage and released at 18.00h.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination the day after the event, the patient had a ruptured right tympanic membrane and a peri-orbital haematoma of his right eye. He had tenderness and swelling of his lower jaw bilaterally. He had a circumferential contusion of his left wrist, and parasthesia of his right thumb consistent with being hand-cuffed. He had a 10cm linear contusion of his anterior chest wall and extensive bruising of the whole of his back and buttocks. He had bilateral plantar tenderness secondary to falanga, and he experienced difficulty in walking bare foot. His injuries resolved on analgesia and physiotherapy, and he required counseling.

Amani Trust case number	821	Report number	89
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
A.M	45	female	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Madziva	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
04/03/02	Assault	14/12/01	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

At 23.00h on 14/12/01 Zanu PF youths went to the house of A.M. and requested a meeting. When she queried this, A.M. was assaulted and her arm was broken. She reported the matter to the police who told her that she “should toe the party line”.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 5

On clinical examination 3 months after the event, the patient was exhibiting psychological disturbance as showed by her high SRQ-8 score. Her arm was encased in a plaster cast, done at her district hospital, and check Xray revealed a non union of fractures of both the proximal and distal ends of the ulnar. She required open reduction and internal fixation by an orthopaedic surgeon and then extensive physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	752	Report number	90
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
G.M	29	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Mvurwi	Self-employed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
22/02/02	Assault, detention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 27/01/02 • 19/02/02 	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

- On 27/01/02 G.M was assaulted by unknown people. He was treated at Mvuwi Hospital before being detained in Bindura Prison from 30/01/02 – 13/02/02 and charged with public violence.
- On 19/02/02, G.M. was with a group of ten men putting up posters along the Mvurwi-Concession Road when they were attacked by a group of Zanu PF supporters in a minibus and another small car. He was punched in the face and neck and dragged along the tarmac.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 0

On examination 3 days after the second assault, the patient had soft tissue tenderness of the right lateral and posterior neck. He also had abrasions of the whole of his right posterior forearm and right posterior lower leg consistent with his story of being dragged along tarmac.

Amani Trust case number	983	Report number	91
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
N.M	45	female	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Guruve	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
15/04/02	Assault	Early March 2002	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

In early March just before the elections, a policeman went to the house of N.M. in her village in Dande to investigate the damage done by Zanu PF supporters after an attack on her house. After the policeman left, a group of Zanu PF youths went to the house and accused N.M. of entertaining a member of the MDC. She was beaten up with heavy sticks for approximately half an hour until she fell to the floor.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 6 weeks after the assault there were no physical injuries to detect, but the patient had multiple somatic complaints, eg. palpitations, chest pain, cough, lower back pain and insomnia. Clinically there was no evidence of organic disease, and her Chest Xray was clear. These complaints are consistent with someone who has experienced trauma, physical and psychological. She settled on analgesia, counseling and anxiolytics.

Amani Trust case number	608	Report number	92
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
G.M	29	male	
Province	District		Employment
Manicaland	Buhera		unemployed
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
24/01/02	Abduction, assault, torture		18/01/02
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

G.M. was at Matimba village on his way to Gweva Township when him and some companions were accosted by Zanu PF youths and asked for Zanu PF cards. When G.M. and his companions said that they did not possess any, they were asked to accompany the Zanu PF youths to their base. G.M. refused and was beaten with bicycle chains, batons and logs. His hands and feet were bound and he was taken to their base, where there were two hundred Zanu PF supporters. There he was suspended from the roof, and further beaten. They told G.M. that he would be killed and stabbed him in the throat. He was kept overnight at the base until the next morning when a policeman came to release him. There was no police transport so G.M. caught a bus to Murambinda Hospital.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 6 days after the assault the patient had multiple septic abrasions on his forehead, cheeks and lower lip. He had 2 lacerations on his neck, of 2cm length each, one on the left lateral neck and one in the midline. His back and posterior arms were covered with linear contusions and deep haematomas consistent with being whipped with chains and beaten with batons. He had a very painful left knee, with no bony injury and full range of movement, which settled on analgesia and physiotherapy. He required antibiotics and twice daily dressings to his septic wounds.

Amani Trust case number	697	Report number	93
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
R.M	35	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Shamva	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
12/02/02	Assault	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 2001 • 02/02/02 	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

In mid December 2001, a group of Zanu PF supporters arrived at the village of R.M and accused him of being a member of the MDC. He denied the charge but was stoned and beaten up. He was assaulted with heavy sticks and his chest was stamped upon. R.M. lost consciousness, only regaining his senses at Madziva Hospital. The police took a statement from him at the hospital. On 02/02/02, the Zanu PF supporters sent R.M. a threatening letter and on 05/02/02 they arrived at his house and burnt it down to the ground, after which he fled to Harare.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 2

On clinical examination 2 months after the initial assault the patient had a newly healed 4cm jagged scar on his forehead. He was also complaining of pain in his right elbow, although there was no detectable bony or soft tissue injury. The pain in his arm settled on analgesia and with physiotherapy, but two weeks later just prior to the elections the patient presented again with symptoms of anxiety and depression, as he was unable to access his family who were being held at a militia camp.

Amani Trust case number	1066	Report number	94
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
T.M	19	female	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Mount Darwin	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
06/05/02	Rape	11/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Unknown assailants			

Case history

On 11/03/02 a group of youths went to the house of T.M. in Gandanzara Village and burnt two of the huts at the homestead and assaulted the couple with sjamboks. Her husband ran away on 12/03/02, leaving T.M. with a new baby. On 14/03/02, six men returned to T.M.'s house at 02.00h. She was asked why she had not left yet and threatened to rape her. She was then gang-raped by four of the men. After the assault they told T.M. that they would return the next day and kill her if she was still there. She then fled to Harare.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 5

On clinical assessment 2 months after the event the patient was markedly psychologically disturbed by what had happened, as indicated by her high SRQ-8, she was very tearful and admitted to major sleep disturbance with difficulty in falling asleep and early morning wakening. She expressed anxiety about HIV and pregnancy, and was concerned about her lower abdominal pain and abnormal vaginal discharge. On examination she had mild pelvic inflammatory disease, which was treated and she had psychiatric counselling, and counselling for HIV and pregnancy tests, which were subsequently done.

Psychiatric assessment

On examination two months after the trauma she had recurrent intrusive thoughts of the traumatic events and had recurrent dreams of the same. She reported having feelings of reliving the trauma at times and also had flashbacks. She related that she tried to avoid thinking about the traumatic events and going to places that aroused recollections of the trauma. She had lost interest in previously pleasurable activities. Her sleep was disturbed by nightmares and she admitted to poor concentration and had an exaggerated startle response. She was worried that she may have contracted HIV as a result of the rape. Mental state examination revealed a lady who looked older than her stated age, who had a depressed mood and admitted to suicidal ideas. She had had thoughts of

hanging herself or taking poison. She had insomnia, poor appetite, loss of energy, loss of interest and feelings of hopelessness and helplessness. She also had auditory hallucinations –hearing voices saying the things that her attackers were saying when they were raping her. The voices were not those of the attackers, they just repeated the same words. A diagnosis of post traumatic stress disorder and major depressive disorder was made and management included antidepressants and psychotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	694	Report number	95
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
C.M	36	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Mount Darwin	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
08/02/02	Abduction, assault	05/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

C.M. was on his way to visit his in-laws on 05/02/02 in the Chief Nembire area when he was apprehended by a group of Zanu PF supporters. He was asked for a Zanu PF card which he could not produce. He was accused of being an MDC supporter, and then forced to march with some colleagues to a Zanu PF base at a nearby shopping centre. Upon arrival, C.M. was assaulted with iron poles, sjamboks and baton sticks across his back, buttocks and under his feet. He was also slapped and kicked on the face. The assault lasted throughout the night and the following day people from nearby villages were asked to come and witness the assault. Photographs of the incident were taken by the Zanu PF supporters. At 09.00h, the brother of Chief Chiweshe arrived with companions and C.M. was taken and kept in a room at St Albert's Business Centre, until 12.00h when a policeman arrived. C.M. was told by the policeman that he should try and escape or else he would be killed. C.M. managed to flee and hide in the police camp until 19.00h that evening, when the police escorted him to a safe place in the mountains. The next morning C.M. left the area and went to Harare.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 1

On clinical examination 4 days after the assault, the patient had tender cheeks, but no abrasions or bruising. His back and buttocks were covered with linear bruises consistent with being beaten with sticks. He had a linear contusion on his scrotum where a sjambok had caught the scrotum, and he had tender plantar surfaces of his feet, where he had had falanga.

Amani Trust case number	735	Report number	96
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
S.M	40	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Muzarabani	unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
19/02/02	Abduction, assault	15/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

S.M. was travelling on a bus on 15/02/02 at 03.00h when it was stopped by Zanu PF supporters. He was accused of belonging to the MDC and was taken off the bus and forced to accompany them to their base at Machaya Secondary School. S.M. was beaten with sticks across the buttocks and under his feet and was hit across his eyes and ears. He was released at 08h00.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 0

On clinical examination 4 days after the event the patient had bilateral conjunctivitis, with normal visual acuity, and extensive haematomas of both buttocks. He also had painful plantar surfaces of both feet secondary to falanga, with difficulty in walking.

Amani Trust case number	807	Report number	97
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
M.M	23	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland West	Norton	Machine operator	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
07/03/02	Assault, abduction	06/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

Sixteen Zanu PF youths arrived at the home of M.M. on 06/03/02 at 02.00h in Katenga Township. He was asked for MDC t-shirts and cards, and was told that they were looking for his two nephews. M.M. was assaulted at his home with clubs, sjamboks, a chain and ropes with bearings attached. He was then taken with another family member to Ngoni Stadium, where they received another beating for an hour, before being left at the stadium.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination the day after the assault the patient had soft tissue painful swelling of his scalp, and a large contusion involving his right eye and zygomatic arch, He had a superficial laceration 2cm on his left cheek, He also had a 2cm laceration on his left posterior auricular area. His left forearm was grossly swollen and looked deformed but ther was no fractures seen on Xray. His back had extensive bruising with 3 linear abrasions. The patient recovered with analgesia and physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	927	Report number	98
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
J.M	39	female	
Province	District	Employment	
Harare	Harare	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
27/03/02	Assault	24/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Riot police			

Case history

J.M. was at home on 24/03/02 in Budiriro 2 when armed riot police stormed the house and assaulted her and eight other family members with baton sticks.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 3 days after the assault, the patient had a 6cm jagged laceration on her posterior scalp, and a peri-orbital haematoma of her right eye. She had extensive deep haematomas of her back and buttocks, consistent with being assaulted with baton sticks. Her right forearm was markedly swollen and tender, but there were no fractures detected on Xray. The patient recovered with analgesia and physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	589	Report number	99
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
Z.M	22	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Manicaland	Buhera North	Security officer	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
14/01/02	Assault	12/01/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

Approximately seventy to eighty Zanu PF supporters went to Z.M's place of work at Buddies Supermarket on 12/01/02. The security screens had been placed up as the staff at the supermarket knew that the supporters were coming, but the huge mob forced up the screens and entered. One of Z.M's female colleagues was slapped on the face before the Zanu PF supporters turned their attention to Z.M. He was stabbed in the right chest cavity with a knife before he managed to escape and hide in a nearby house. Later, policemen arrived and took Z.M. to hospital for medical treatment.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

The patient was transferred from Buhera with a penetrating chest wound (his only injury) in his right anterior mid chest wall, and by the time he reached the treating hospital in Harare his condition was critical due to a tension pneumothorax. He was admitted to a high care unit for several days, and then discharged, and then subsequently developed a wound and chest infection, which required further antibiotic treatment.

Amani Trust case number	1063	Report number	100
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
G.M	22	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Harare	Harare	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
06/05/02	Assault	04/05/02	
Perpetrators			
Possibly war veterans and			
Zanu PF supporters in			
police uniforms			

Case history

On 04/05/02 at 21.00h a group of fifteen men and women arrived at the house of G.M. Twelve of them were in police uniform. He was ordered to accompany them, but G.M. asked to see some identification, which none of the group could produce. G.M. refused to comply with the group's orders and was assaulted with iron bars. He was then handcuffed and dragged out of the house. A family member followed and alerted neighbours to the situation. The crowd stopped the assailants from forcing G.M. into an unmarked car by stoning the vehicle. The assailants fled the scene, and a "friendly" policeman uncuffed G.M. and told him not to go to the police camp as 'war veterans' and Zanu PF supporters had taken over the camp.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination 2 days after the assault, the patient had a 1cm tear on his right forehead, a 2cm haematoma on his left forehead, and a 2.5cm haematoma on his left cheek.

Amani Trust case number	918	Report number	101
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
K.M	18	female	
Province	District	Employment	
Harare	Harare	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
27/03/02	Assault	24/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Riot police			

Case history

The riot police stormed K.M's house in Budiriro and assaulted her and her family with baton sticks. K.M. reports that the police did not offer any explanation as to why her family had been made targets.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 2

On clinical examination 3 days after the event, the patient had extensive soft tissue tenderness of her right arm, but no loss of function, and a deep 3cm abrasion on her right shoulder. She also had 15cm long linear contusion of her right anterior thigh.

Amani Trust case number	228	Report number	102
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
C.M	30	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Harare	Harare	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
19/02/02	Assault	18/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Possibly Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

On 18/02/02 C.M. was assaulted with sticks by an unknown group of people outside Town House at 14.00h. He was then taken to hospital for treatment.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination 1 day after the assault the patient had a tender soft tissue swelling of his occiput 3cm diameter. He also had a swollen tender left mandible, but no fractures visible on Xray. He had an extensive linear haematoma on his mid thoracic back, consistent with being beaten with a heavy stick. He had tenderness of both lateral chest walls and lumbar regions, but no visible injuries and his chest Xray showed no fractures. He had painful knees, but with no loss of function and no joint injury on Xray. He recovered on analgesia and physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	647	Report number	103
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
C.M	49	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Muzarabani	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
04/02/02	Abduction, assault, torture	25/01/02	
22/02/02		18/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

On the morning of 25/01/02, C.M. was travelling on a bus from Muzarabani to Mvurwi. The bus was stopped by Zanu PF youths, and C.M. and others were ordered off the bus. They were taken to a Zanu PF base and assaulted. C.M. reports that they were tortured with a variety of methods, including being forced to remain standing in strange positions, and being assaulted with bottles. The men were also beaten with fan belts, and were hit under he feet with broom handles. The assailants were drunk, and stole money off the men in order to buy more alcohol. The following morning, the men were released.

On the second assault, on his return to Muzarabani, C.M. was once again taken off a bus and assaulted by being kicked all over the body.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical assessment 9 days after the first assault, the patient had tenderness of his anterior chest wall and buttocks, but no visible injuries. On the second assault he complained of tenderness of both lateral chest walls and lumbar regions, consistent with being kicked with booted feet. He recovered on analgesia and counseling.

Amani Trust case number	709	Report number	104
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
W.M	28	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Mount Darwin	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
12/02/02	Assault	06/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

On 06/02/02 W.M. heard that a friend had been captured by Zanu PF youths. He went to the friends house to investigate the incident and was seen by the youths. They demanded that he produce a Zanu PF party card, which he could not and was ordered to lie on the ground. When W.M. refused to do so, he was pushed to the ground and was given ten cuts with a heavy stick. His arm was injured in the attack.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 6 days after the assault, the patient was very tender over the right lateral chest wall, but on Xray there were no rib fractures. He had a large haematoma on his right forearm, with limited function of his wrist, and on Xray he had a fractured distal third of his right ulnar which required a plaster cast for immobilisation and then physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	604	Report number	105
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
B.M	35	female	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Marondera	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
17/01/02	Assault	06-08/01/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

At 20.00h on 06/01/02, B.M. was drinking in a beerhall. She was told to go outside by a youth, and when she did so, found that she was surrounded by a large mob. She was questioned about her activities for the MDC and was hit three times before being released. The following day at midnight she heard movement outside her house, and at 02.00h heard a window break and stones being thrown at the house. Men entered the house and dragged B.M. outside, beating her up. She reports seeing hundreds of people around her house, before losing consciousness. When she awoke, she was in a different location and the crowd had gone. She then crawled to the police station for assistance.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 9 days after the assault, the patient had a healing 6cm tear on her right forehead, a 2cm tear on her right anterior thigh and a 2cm tear on the dorsal surface of her right hand. She also had a mid-shaft fracture of her right radius and ulna which required open reduction and internal fixation.

Amani Trust case number	984	Report number	106
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
F.M	36	female	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	UMP	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
12/04/02	Assault	12/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

F.M. was at home on 12/03/02 in the Chief Nyajina area when eight Zanu PF supporters arrived at 07.30h. She was accused of being an MDC polling agent during the elections and one of the assailants grabbed her hair and smashed her head against a wall. She was then beaten with logs all over her body. The assailants left and F.M. went to seek treatment at a hospital.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 1

On clinical examination 4 weeks after the assault, the patient still complained of a headache, although there were no abnormal neurological findings, and she had tenderness over her lower back and buttocks and left hip. She also had a painful right ring finger and tender plantar surfaces of her feet from falanga. She responded well to analgesia, physiotherapy and counseling.

Amani Trust case number	646	Report number	107
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
O.M	33	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Murehwa South	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
31/01/02	Abduction, assault	30/01/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

O.M. was previously assaulted in May 2001. On 31/01/02, he was traveling on a bus from Marondera to Ruwa when he was assaulted. Nine people on the bus accused him of being a member of the MDC, and he was handcuffed. The group took him off the bus to a nearby base. He was injected in the back with a cold liquid before being beaten with sticks. The assailants stole Z\$5000 cash of O.M. and his ID card. After the incident, he escaped and made a police report in Ruwa before traveling to Harare.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination the day after the assault the patient had a painful right eye and temporal area but with no visible bruising and normal visual acuity. He had an abrasion, 5cm diameter on his back and a small 0.5cm fluid filled blister with a needle mark on his right scapula. He had extensive deep haematomas of both buttocks and thighs. He had tender soft tissue swelling over both anterior shins, and right foot, and a swollen tender right forearm. He had an extensive haematoma of his left posterior forearm and thumb. The patient recovered with analgesia and physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	588	Report number	108
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
T.M	27	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Manicaland	Buhera North	Branch manager –	wholesale centre
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
14/01/02	Assault	12/01/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

At 07.45h a group of approximately fifty MDC supporters left their offices singing MDC songs. As they approached the market they were accosted by a group of Zanu PF supporters who were waiting for them with sticks, knobkerries, sticks, sjamboks and knives. The MDC supporters were outnumbered and began to run away, but they were followed and attacked by the Zanu PF supporters. The police arrived to break up the fight but apparently focused on the MDC supporters. After the fight had broken up, T.M. reports that the supporters started to look for him, going to his place of work. He tried to hide in the ceiling of the wholesale centre but was discovered. He was pulled down and assaulted with logs and knives. He was then stabbed in the right shoulder, left side of his torso, lip and both buttocks. He managed to escape by running and hiding in a nearby house. He was followed and was hit over the head with a log, losing consciousness.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

The patient required hospitalisation after the assault for the multiple trauma that he sustained. He had a large haematoma on his right parietal area and a haematoma over his nasal bridge. He had a 2cm laceration on his lower lip, requiring sutures. He had a stab wound in his right anterior shoulder and a stab wound in his left lower quadrant of his abdominal wall. There was no visceral involvement in either stab wound although both required suturing. He had 2 stab wounds of his left buttock, again which required suturing. He also had tenderness of his left anterior thigh consistent with being assaulted with a log.

Amani Trust case number	618	Report number	109
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
T.M	32	female	
Province	District		Employment
Mashonaland West	Kadoma		Unemployed
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
29/01/02	Assault		15/11/01
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

T.M. was at her home in Rimuka Township in Kadoma on 15/11/01 when five Zanu PF youths approached at 18h30. They demanded to know the whereabouts of her husband, and T.M. said that she had no such knowledge at that time. She was then ordered to follow them into the nearby bush, but T.M. refused. After trying to drag her along, they assaulted her with sjamboks and threw stones at her. She was then beaten all over her body before the assailants left.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination 2 months after the event, the patient complained of decreased vision in her right eye. Examination by an ophthalmologist revealed traumatic glaucoma, and a partially detached retina of her right eye. The patient is still undergoing treatment.

Amani Trust case number	1048	Report number	110
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
A.M	59	male	
Province	District		Employment
Mashonaland	Chihota		Farmer
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
25/04/02	Assault		26/02/02
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

A.M. was watering vegetables in his garden on 26/02/02 when a group of six youths arrived and asked him to chant an MDC slogan. He did, but noticed that some of the youths were wearing Zanu PF t-shirts. At this point, he was then assaulted with chains, whips, punches and kicks all over his body. The assault lasted for twenty minutes before A.M. managed to call for his wife. As she arrived, he lost consciousness and the assailants fled. A.M. was then taken to hospital for treatment.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 2 months after the assault, the patient still had tenderness over his right shoulder, right lateral chest wall and lower back, although there were no visible injuries and no reduced mobility. He also still had tender plantar surfaces of his feet secondary to falanga. He responded well to physiotherapy, counseling and analgesia.

Amani Trust case number	763	Report number	111
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
P.M	35	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Mutoko	Temporary teacher	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
27/02/02	Torture	20/02/02	
Perpetrators			
War veteran and Zanu PF youths			

Case history

P.M. was previously beaten on 02/11/01. On 20/02/02 at 16h30 he was invited to dine at the house of a businessman who was also a war veteran. After dinner, the man and a group of Zanu PF youths at the house turned on P.M. and beat him across the head and body. They accused him of being part of a plot to topple the president. He was tortured with fire and received more beatings. A report was made to the police after the incident but no action was taken on behalf of P.M.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 7 days after the assault, the patient had bilateral sub-conjunctival haemorrhages, and 2x6cm track healing abrasions on his right lateral neck. He had a healing human bite mark on his right scapula, and tenderness over his right lateral lower ribs, but no clinical fractures. He had a 3cm diameter healing burn mark on his right anterior thigh, and 3 small healing burn marks on his left medial foot.

Amani Trust case number	957	Report number	112
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
D.M	25	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Murehwa	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
04/04/02	Abduction, assault, detention	13/03/02-01/04/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

On 13/03/02, D.M. was returning from his duties as an MDC polling agent when he was taken from the Murehwa Business Centre by a group of Zanu PF supporters at 19.00h. He was taken to their base and kept overnight. The next day his hands were bound and he was beaten across the buttocks with heavy sticks as he was held on the ground. He was then kept at the base for two weeks before being released on 01/04/02.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 3 days after his release, he had bilateral tenderness of his lateral chest walls, but no clinical rib fractures or visible bruising. He had resolving deep haematomas on both buttocks, and pain in his left leg from his hip to his ankle. He responded well to physiotherapy and analgesia.

Amani Trust case number	803	Report number	113
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
R.M	26	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland West	Norton	Vendor	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
07/03/02	Abduction, assault	06/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

R.M. was sleeping with his uncle and younger brother at their home in Katanga, Norton on 06/03/02 when a group of Zanu PF youths arrived and asked to see the younger brother. He was hidden in the wardrobe by R.M, who then went to speak to the youths. The youths took R.M. and his uncle outside and started to beat both men. They were taken to Ngoni Stadium, where they were beaten with sjamboks, chains and studded leather belts. R.M. was ordered to strip before being beaten all over his body. The incident lasted for an hour before the assailants robbed the men and left them at the stadium.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination the day after the assault, the patient had a 1cm abrasion on his left forehead, a peri-orbital haematoma and sub-conjunctival haemorrhage of his left eye, and extensive abrasions on his right cheek. He had 3 abrasions on his left upper arm and multiple linear patterned contusions on his back.

Amani Trust case number	922	Report number	114
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
L.M	45	female	
Province	District	Employment	
Harare	Harare	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
27/03/02	Assault	24/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Riot police			

Case history

L.M. was at her home in Budiriro on 24/03/02 when she noticed teargas smoke coming from the direction of the shops. She went inside and sent her younger son to close the gate. Whilst he was doing this, ten riot police officers in full riot gear arrived at the gate and told him to go inside the house. The young boy was then followed into the house, and the riot police began to assault L.M's daughter, who was holding L.M's grandchild at the time. The police then assaulted another daughter of L.M's, her son-in-laws, and two tenants. When L.M. tried to intervene, she was assaulted with baton sticks and was punched on the head, face, back and shoulders.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 2

On clinical examination 3 days after the assault, although no visible injuries could be observed, the patient had soft tissue tenderness over her head, neck and shoulders, and responded to analgesia.

Amani Trust case number	919	Report number	115
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
T.M	24	female	
Province	District	Employment	
Harare	Harare	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
27/03/02	Assault	24/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Riot police			

Case history

On 24/03/02 riot police stormed the Budiriro home of T.M. and her mother (see previous case) and assaulted family members. T.M. was assaulted with a baton stick all over her body, despite T.M's pleas asking the police why they were being assaulted. After the incident, T.M. reports that the riot police moved onto other houses.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 1

On clinical examination 3 days after the event, the patient complained of painful eyes secondary to the teargas, and had a large haematoma on her left arm and breast. She also had bruising of her left ankle, and extensive soft tissue tenderness of her left arm, lateral abdominal wall thigh and leg. The pain settled with analgesia and physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	876	Report number	116
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
S.M	50	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland West	Mhondoro	unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
19/03/02	Assault, abduction	02/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

At Kadhani Township at 17.30h on 02/03/02, S.M. was accosted by a group of Zanu PF supporters who ordered him to sit on the ground. He was then beaten up and thrown onto the tarmac. After this he was taken to Jampani Resettlement area where he was hung by his ankles and wrists from the window sill of a building. He was later released by another group of Zanu PF youths whom he knew from his own area.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 17 days after the assault the patient was showing significant psychological disturbance as indicated by his SRQ-8 score. He had soft tissue tenderness of his lower back, but no visible physical injuries. His pain settled on analgesia and physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	766	Report number	117
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
G.M	30	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Marondera	General worker	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
28/02/02	Assault	23/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Unknown youths			

Case history

G.M. was sleeping in his home in Rujeko Township on 23/02/02 at 02.00h when he heard a knock at the door. Upon answering it, he was dragged outside by seven men and assaulted. He was hit with knobkerries across the back, sustaining injury to his left leg and shoulder. After he escaped from the men, they ransacked his room and stole some personal belongings.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 5 days after the event the patient had a swollen tender left shoulder, but with no loss of function, and a septic 3x5cm abrasion on his left knee.

Amani Trust case number	623	Report number	118
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
P.M	65	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Manicaland	Buhera	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
31/01/02	Assault	24/01/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

Twelve people went to the house of P.M. on 24/01/02 in Muteremuswa Village at 20.00h. He was accused of holding spears and knives for the MDC, although he only possessed hoes which he used for cultivation. His door was broken down and he was assaulted inside his home before being dragged outside. Once outside, P.M. was hit with chains and sticks all over his body and placed a gag in his mouth. He was then stabbed in the chest. During the assault, P.M lost consciousness, and the assailants fled. His wife was also assaulted during the incident.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 7 days after the event the patient had a 2x4cm abrasion on his right parietal area. He had 2 healing patterned abrasions on his abdomen 15cm long, and a 2cm stab wound right of his umbilicus. He had multiple patterned contusions on his back consistent with being assaulted with chains, and he had bruising on both elbows. He had a deep haematoma of his right anterior shin.

Amani Trust case number	874	Report number	119
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
M.M	28	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Marondera	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
18/03/02	Assault	06/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

On 06/02/02, M.M. was at home in his village at 21.00h when a group of thirty Zanu PF supporters arrived and attacked him. He was assaulted with a machete, stones and sticks, sustaining injuries all over his body.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

The patient was admitted in a district hospital for a fractured right radius and ulnar, and right fibula. He was examined by the clinical team 5 weeks after the assault, and the following injuries were noted. He had a healed linear 6cm scar on his occiput, and 2 linear scars on his back, all recently healed. He had a 10 cm linear scar on his left posterior upper arm and a linear scar, 6cm on his left dorsal hand. His right arm and right leg were encased in plaster casts.

Amani Trust case number	606	Report number	120
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
C.M	46	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Muzarabani	Tailor	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
24/01/02	Assault	15/01/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

C.M. was summoned from his home on 15/01/02 by two female youths to Muzarabani Hall. Once here, he was accused by Zanu PF youths of obstructing the course of the Zanu PF party. He was then set upon, forced to lie prone on the ground and beaten with sticks and rubber whips. Three different groups took it in turn to beat him up. He was released after thirty minutes. He tried to seek medical treatment at the clinic but did not receive any, so sought help from the police who took him to Guruve Hospital. He was offered painkillers only, so made his way to Harare for further treatment.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 9 days after the assault the patient he had extensive linear haematomas across his back and buttocks, consistent with being beaten with whips. He also had several small healing abrasions on his buttocks, and a large deep haematoma of his posterior right thigh.

Amani Trust case number	861	Report number	121
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
N.M	44	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Marondera West	General worker with DDF	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
18/03/02	Abduction, torture	05/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

N.M. was working for the DDF on 05/03/02 at Chibwanda Shopping Centre. At 10h30 a group of Zanu PF supporters came to him and his colleagues and said that they were looking for N.M. Once N.M. had identified himself, he was taken to the Zanu PF base and accused of being an MDC supporter. He was shown a book, which had listed the names of suspected MDC supporters, including his own. N.M. was ordered to remove his shoes and was beaten under the soles of his feet. He tried to defend himself but was overpowered by six assailants. N.M. was forced to the ground and kicked repeatedly on the face and torso, before being whipped with an electric cable. After this, he was forced to have simulated sex with the ground. The ordeal lasted until 16h00, but he was kept until 20h00 until his captors decided to go and have a drink. One person was left to guard N.M., but he managed to escape when the guard went to have a meal. The escape journey was a distance of twenty-eight kilometres to Mahusekwa Business Centre.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination 15 days after the assault, the patient had a tender left cheek and neck pain, and tenderness of the left lateral chest wall and abdomen but no visible injuries. He also had a very tender swollen right anterior leg, with soft tissue injury, and bilateral tender plantar surfaces of his feet, from falanga.

Amani Trust case number	869	Report number	122
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Name	Age	Sex	ID number
O.M	46	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Domboshawa	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
18/03/02	Torture, abduction	16/03/02	

Perpetrators
 War veterans and Zanu PF
 supporters

Case history

Eleven ‘war veterans’ and Zanu PF supporters arrived at the home of O.M. on 16/03/02, wanting to confirm with him whether he had been an MDC polling agent during the elections. O.M stated that he had been, and was forced to march to the office of the Zanu PF chairman for the area. Upon arrival, the chairman asked whether he was a Zanu PF supporter or not, and was accused of harbouring MDC supporters in the area. After this, O.M. was force marched to Mverechena Bus Stop and forced to accompany the Zanu PF supporters on a bus to the Showgrounds. At the Showgrounds he was taken to a disused building and assaulted with sticks across his buttocks, waist and left shoulder. He was also forced to bash his forehead against a wall several times. He was released at 19h00 when the police arrived and intervened.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 2 days after the assault, the patient had extensive soft tissue swelling across his forehead, and linear haematomas across his left posterior shoulder and both buttocks, consistent with being beaten with sticks. His left shoulder initially had a limited range of movement, but improved to normal function with physiotherapy and analgesia.

Amani Trust case number	924	Report number	123
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
A.M	26	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Harare	Harare	Mechanic – Mbare Home Industries	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
28/03/02	Assault	27/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

On 27/03/02 at 11.30h, a group of approximately one hundred and fifty Zanu PF supporters arrived at the workplace of A.M. and said that they had been looking for him, as they wanted to “fix” him. The group closed the gate of the centre and requested everyone to attend a meeting. A.M. was accused at the meeting of selling out the country. He was told that he had four days to vacate his stand at the centre as he was against the government. Six other people were also identified at the meeting as being wanted by the Zanu PF supporters. The meeting was closed and every-one disbursed except the seven men including A.M. He was tripped to the ground and beaten all over his body with iron bars and sjamboks. They then stole his cellphone and Z\$7,000 before A.M. managed to escape. As he ran away, the other six men continued to be beaten, He reported the matter to the police but no action was taken.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 1

On clinical examination 1 day after the assault the patient had tenderness over his whole scalp, but no visible injuries. He had one linear haematoma over his right shoulder consistent with being whipped, and tenderness over his left lateral ribs, but no clinical fracture. He also had deep muscle tenderness over his left calf, but no bruising was noted.

Amani Trust case number	702	Report number	124
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
C.M	26	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Muzarabani	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
05/02/02	Abduction, assault	31/01/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

C.M. was in Hwata Township on 31/01/02 when a Zanu PF truck pulled up along side him. Inside the truck were a crowd of Zanu PF supporters and a man whom C.M. recognised as an MDC polling agent over the election period. The man pointed out C.M. to the Zanu PF supporters and identified him as a fellow polling agent. The man told the crowd that A.M. was an MDC supporter, and he was apprehended and pulled into the truck. He was hit all over the body with clenched fists, before being taken to a nearby base at Chidikamwedza Farm. Upon arrival, his hands and legs were tied up and he was forced to stay bound all night. The next morning, C.M. and other captives were forced into a pick-up truck and were taken to the Mvurwi base at the bus terminal. He was assaulted for the duration of the day with fan belts and baton sticks before being forced to sing Zanu PF revolutionary songs until 02.00h the next morning when he was released. A particularly disturbing incident for C.M. was when he was forced to perform oral sex upon one of the Zanu PF supporters.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 5 days after the assault, the patient had a tender swelling over his left parietal bone. He had bruising over his lumbar-sacral area and buttocks and he was tender over both anterior shins. Both plantar surfaces of his feet were extremely tender, secondary to falanga, and he was unable to walk bare footed. He required admission to a clinic for analgesia for his feet, and the pain settled with regular physiotherapy and analgesia.

Amani Trust case number	733	Report number	125
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
O.M	24	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Harare	Harare	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
19/02/02	Assault	18/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

On 18/02/02 O.M. was outside the Town House when a bus carrying Zanu PF supporters arrived. They disembarked and began to beat up people indiscriminately, including O.M. he was assaulted with an iron bar on his left forearm and across the right side of his abdomen.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 0

On clinical examination the day after the assault the patient had a fresh abrasion across his right lateral abdominal wall and a contusion on his left elbow.

Amani Trust case number	668	Report number	126
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
C.M	45	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Chihota	Peasant farmer	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
11/02/02	Abduction, assault, detention	05/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

C.M. was abducted from his home in Chitsaya Village in Chihota by a group of fifteen Zanu PF youths and taken to their base. He was forced to lie down on the ground and was beaten across the back and buttocks with thorny sticks. He was then beaten across the soles of his feet and his fingers. He was kept overnight before being released the next day.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 6 days after the assault, the patient had healing superficial abrasions on his back, and tenderness on the plantar surfaces of both feet, consistent with falanga.

Amani Trust case number	810	Report number	127
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
E.M	75	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Madziva	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
04/03/02	Assault	14/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

A meeting of Zanu PF supporters was called on 14/02/02 at Ganze Village and people were told that some-one would be beaten in the village that night. At 23.00h, E.M. awoke to the sound of his house being attacked. He was ordered outside by the Zanu PF supporters and was told that he had been harbouring a fugitive. E.M. was assaulted with fists and booted feet, after which the doors and windows of his house were destroyed.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 5

On clinical examination 18 days after the assault the patient was experiencing marked psychological disturbance as indicated by his high SRQ-8 score. He had 5 healing linear contusions across his back, and he had a grossly swollen scrotum. Ultra sound scan revealed bilateral haemorrhagic haematomas, confirmed on surgical excision and drainage.

Amani Trust case number	1051	Report number	128
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
N.M	29	female	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	UMP	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
24/04/02	Abduction, assault, torture	• 14/12/01	
		• 15/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

On 14/12/01, a group of Zanu PF supporters went to the home of N.M. in Chaka Village and took her to their base in Chitsungu Township. She was beaten across her back and under the soles of her feet for two hours, before being ordered to divorce her husband. She was taken back and placed into the care of her parents. On 15/02/02, N.M. was at the clinic receiving treatment for a medical problem, when she was discovered by the same group of men. She was instructed to leave the clinic without any treatment and was then assaulted again. This time the assailants took embers from the fire and burnt her on the soles of her feet, and across her back and chest.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 2 months after the assault, the patient had 6x0.5cm circular healed scars on her upper abdomen, and one on her right breast, probably consistent with healed burn scars.

Amani Trust case number	710	Report number	129
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
M.M	49	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Guruve North	General worker	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
13/02/02	Assault	31/01/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

M.M. was disembarking from a bus at 21.30h on 31/01/02 at Mushumbi Pools when he was accosted by a group of 'war veterans' and Zanu PF youths. They demanded to search his bag, and found a couple of MDC pamphlets. Immediately, the men assaulted M.M. with clenched fists, before taking a baton off a security guard and beating M.M. with it until he lost consciousness. At 04.00h, M.M. regained consciousness and crawled along the ground to seek help. He reports that a policeman was present during the assault.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 2 weeks after the assault, the patient had a swollen painful left hand with a fractured metacarpal, confirmed on Xray. He had a painful left knee, with no swelling or loss of function, and bilateral tender plantar surfaces of his feet secondary to falanga. He required immobilization of his hand, and then physiotherapy.

Psychiatric assessment

On examination almost three months after the trauma the patient has recurrent intrusive thoughts of the trauma, dreams and flashbacks. He becomes very distressed and has palpitations when he sees Zanu-PF supporters. He tries to avoid thinking or talking about the trauma and also avoids people who remind him of the trauma. He cannot remember some aspects off the torture. He has become socially withdrawn since the torture and he has problems with his sleep. He is more irritable since the torture and has poor concentration. He admitted to a dry mouth, shortness of breath and increased sweating. Significant findings on mental state examination included depressed mood with suicidal ideas, loss of energy and feelings of helplessness and hopelessness. A diagnosis of post traumatic stress disorder was made and the patient managed with anxiolytic and antidepressant medication.

Amani Trust case number	748	Report number	130
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
S.M	27	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Mvurwi	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
22/02/02	Assault	19/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

S.M. and companions were putting up posters at the Riverside Shops along the Mvurwi Road when a group of people arrived in a minibus and began to assault the group with axes, stones and iron bars. S.M. was hit in the back with stones.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 2

On clinical examination 3 days after the assault, the patient had scattered small abrasions on his back in the mid thoracic region. He also had soft tissue tenderness of his mid back and lateral chest walls, but no visible injury.

Amani Trust case number	701	Report number	131
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
T.M	26	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Shamva	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
12/02/02	Assault	01/01/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

T.M. was awoken at 02.00h on 01/01/02 by a large group of Zanu PF youths whom had come to Kamudyariwa Village. They came to the door of his house and said that they needed shelter for the night. The youths then set the door alight. T.M, fearing for the life of his child, ran outside to try and intervene. He was assaulted with rocks, sticks and wire until he lost consciousness. Forty-five minutes later, T.M. awoke to find his home destroyed and his property stolen.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 6 weeks after the assault, the patient complained of insomnia, fear and palpitations, and a feeling of helplessness. Physically he had mild weakness of his grip on his right hand and wrist (he was hit across his right forearm) and he had a 3cm healing circular wound on his right leg and a similar wound on his right foot, consistent with being hit with stones.

Amani Trust case number	605	Report number	132
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
H.M	23	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland West	Mutoroshanga	Magazine worker	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
28/01/02	Assault	12/01/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

A group of people went to the house of H.M. on 12/01/01 and demanded to see his Zanu PF card. They stoned the roof of his house, and he was injured by stones and a falling piece of asbestos.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 16 days after the assault, the patient had pain in his right shoulder with very limited movement. Xray revealed a chip fracture of the greater trochanter of the right humerus, and he required an open reduction and internal fixation.

Amani Trust case number	963	Report number	133
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
C.M	30	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Muzarabani	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
05/04/02	Assault, abduction	06/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

C.M. was working in the fields when a group of seven youths arrived and ordered him to accompany them to Utete. Before they left, he was assaulted with wires, hoe handles and knobkerries all over his body. After the assault, C.M. was forced to go with the youths and on the journey they met up with a group of police officers. C.M. was taken by the police to the station where he was asked to give a statement about the incident. The next morning C.M. was taken back to the police station, where he was advised to drop all the charges. Afterwards, he continued to receive threats from the youths and fled into the mountains. He was intercepted by another group of Zanu PF supporters and abducted to a nearby base where he was assaulted over a four-day period. He was then released.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 1

On clinical examination 2 months after the assault, the patient had several loose incisors, and required dental treatment. He was also still complaining of painful feet, secondary to falanga.

Amani Trust case number	968	Report number	134
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Name	Age	Sex	ID number
T.M	24	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Guruve North	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
08/04/02	Assault	12/03/02	

Perpetrators
 War veterans and Zanu PF
 youth

Case history

T.M. was returning home after working as an MDC polling agent during the elections. He was intercepted by a group of five ‘war veterans’ and Zanu PF youths and punched repeatedly. He was then beaten all over his body before managing to escape.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 0

On clinical examination 3 weeks after the assault the patient had tenderness over his anterior chest wall, and bilateral lateral abdominal wall tenderness. He also was tender over his thoracic and lumbar spine, although no physical injury could be seen. The pain resolved on analgesia and physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	658	Report number	135
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
P.M	31	female	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Bindura	Self-employed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
08/02/02	Abduction, assault	05/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

P.M. was disembarking from a bus on 05/02/02 with companions when they were stopped by a group of approximately one hundred male and female Zanu PF supporters. She was asked where she was coming from and whether she had a Zanu PF party card. P.M. could not produce one and was accused of being a member of the MDC. She was taken to their base at Chikwira and beaten with sticks all over her body, especially across the buttocks and face and under the feet. She was kept at the base overnight before being taken to Dotito Police Station the next day. The Zanu PF supporters told the police that P.M. and her companions had been terrorising people. P.M. was kept in police custody for the rest of the day, but was released as the police could not charge her with anything.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 7

On clinical examination 3 days after the assault, the patient was severely psychologically traumatised by her assault, as indicated by her very high SRQ-8 score. She had a painful swollen left thumb, which had no fracture on Xray, and she had extensive deep haematomas of both buttocks with marked swelling consistent with being beaten with sticks. She required physiotherapy, counseling and analgesia.

Amani Trust case number	947	Report number	136
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
M.M	32	female	
Province	District	Employment	
Harare	Harare	Vendor	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
09/04/02	Assault	24/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Riot police			

Case history

M.M. was selling her wares at Budiriro shops on 24/03/02 when a unit of riot police arrived and began to beat up people indiscriminately. She was attacked from behind across her back and head, falling to the ground. Whilst lying on the floor, she continued to be assaulted with baton sticks across her body until she lost consciousness. She awoke in the hospital.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 5

On clinical examination after the assault she had a fracture of her right radius and ulnar, requiring immobilisation in a plaster cast, and extensive bruising of her right medial thigh and left lateral thigh.

Amani Trust case number	838	Report number	137
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
W.M	26	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland West	Karoi	Farm worker	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
10/03/02	Assault	09/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

Over the election weekend on 09/03/02 at 12h00 W.M. was dragged from a polling station at Tavoy Farm into the nearby bush. He was beaten up all over his body, including his head and under his feet. The assailants released him after three hours.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination the day after the assault, the patient had a swollen painful left hand, but with no fractures on xray. He had painful deep haematomas on his posterior right shoulder and superficial burn marks below his right scapula, 4 in number each about 2cm in diameter. He had swelling and pain of his right arm but no fractures. He had deep haematomas of both buttocks and haematomas and swelling of both plantar surfaces of his feet secondary to falanga. He required admission to hospital for pain control and for physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	1052	Report number	138
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
C.M	41	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Manicaland	Chipinge North	Welfare officer –	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Tanganda Tea Company	
29/04/02	Assault, detention	Date of incident	
Perpetrators		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 07/04/02 • 13/04/02 	
Police			

Case history

C.M. and his colleagues had just finished a football match on 07/04/02 when they saw a man deflating a tyre on a truck. They apprehended him and took the man to Junction Gate police post. The man was released from police custody, and the men returned home. On 13/04/02, the men were picked up for questioning by policemen from Chimanimani at 15.00h. Upon arrival at Chimanimani, C.M. and his colleagues were assaulted by the police and interrogated. C.M. reports that he was hit in the face by an officer named as 'Gumbo'. The men were detained overnight, and were assaulted again on the second day. C.M. was kicked with booted feet and hit with a slasher. The men during the entire ordeal were accused of being MDC supporters.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 1

On clinical examination 4 months after the event, no visible physical injuries could be detected.

Amani Trust case number	994	Report number	139
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
W.N	29	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Mutoko	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
17/04/02	Assault, abduction	23/12/01	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

W.N. was at Nyamuzuwo Mission on 23/12/01 when he was accosted by twelve Zanu PF youths at 15.00h. They demanded to see a Zanu PF party card, which he could not produce. He was then assaulted with a whip, booted feet and slaps. W.N. was detained for two days by the youths at their base, suffering further assaults.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 4 months after the assault no visible physical injuries could be detected.

Amani Trust case number	714	Report number	140
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
C.N	25	female	
Province	District		Employment
Mashonaland East	Chivhu		Unemployed
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
15/02/03	Assault, detention		08/02/02
Perpetrators			
Police			

Case history

C.N. was visited by a police support unit and plain clothes officers at her home in St Mary's on 08/02/02. Her name and the name of a friend of hers were shouted out aloud before the officers broke down her door and forced her out of her room. C.N. was clothed only in her underwear. They began to beat her up until she fell to the floor. She was then forced to dress, and was taken in a car along with other tenants from the same house to St Mary's police camp. There, the people were interrogated about the Amani Trust and the MDC. She was released at 15h00.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 7

On clinical examination 7 days after the assault the patient was severely psychologically disturbed by the assault, as indicated by her high SRQ-8 and she was very tearful throughout the consultation. She had tenderness in her left lumbar area, and marked lower abdominal tenderness, and a palpable mass, confirmed on ultrasound examination as a complicated thick walled ovarian cyst. She had a haematoma on her right medial knee. She was referred to a gynaecologist for further management.

Psychiatric assessment

On examination two months after the traumatic event C.N related that she tried to avoid thoughts related to the traumatic event but found this very difficult to do. She had started drinking alcohol soon after the traumatic event but has reduced the amount of alcohol that she drinks over the last month because she is afraid of becoming a victim of political violence whilst she is out drinking.

Mental state examination of the patient revealed a well kempt lady with poor eye contact who was somewhat restless during the interview and fidgeted continuously. She admitted to low mood. Her affect was depressed throughout the interview and she was tearful at times. She had suicidal ideas. She also had poor appetite and feelings of

helplessness. Her concentration was impaired. A diagnosis of Major Depressive Disorder was made.

Amani Trust case number	661	Report number	141
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
A.N	57	male	
Province	District		Employment
Mashonaland East	Mahusekwa		Peasant farmer
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
08/02/02	Abduction, assault		05/02/02
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

A group of Zanu PF youths arrived at the home of A.N. on 06/02/02 at 01h00. They forced their way in and took A.N. and his wife to a nearby growth point. They were accused of being MDC supporters and were beaten with iron bars and sticks and were slapped. The couple were hit across the back, buttocks and on the soles of their feet. They were then released at 06h00.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 3 days after the event, the patient had a subconjunctival haemorrhage of his left eye, and a deep 20x10 cm haematoma on his left shoulder and a deep 5cm diameter haematoma of his right upper arm. He had extensive haematomas on both buttocks and on his right posterior thigh. He also had painful swollen plantar surfaces of both feet secondary to falanga.

Psychiatric assessment

19 days after traumatic event A.N had recurrent intrusive thoughts of the torture. He also had dreams of the torture and related that sometimes his wife has to stop him from getting up and running away at night. He also had flashbacks of the torture.

He tries to avoid thinking or talking about the torture and avoids going near the place where the torture took place. He does not expect to have a normal life span.

He had insomnia and problems with his concentration.

Mental state examination revealed well kempt gentleman who admitted to low mood and feelings of hopelessness and helplessness. He also had poor appetite and loss of energy. He was suspicious of strangers and held the belief that people were spying on him.

A diagnosis of Acute stress disorder was made.

Amani Trust case number	665	Report number	142
Name L.N	Age 47	Sex female	ID number
Province Mashonaland East	District Mahusekwa	Employment Peasant farmer	
Date of report 08/02/02	Nature of incident Abduction, assault	Date of incident 05/02/02	
Perpetrators Zanu PF youths			

Case history

On the night of 05/02/02, a group of Zanu PF youths arrived at the home of L.N. and her husband and accused the couple of being MDC supporters. They were taken to a base at Mahusekwa and were made to sit together with other detainees. They were forced to lie on their stomachs and were beaten across their backs. The seven year old grandchild of the couple was also present and was forced to stay in the cold. L.N. and her husband were detained overnight and assaulted again in the morning. Afterwards, the couple were released and ordered to go straight home without making a police report.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 3 days after the event, the patient had extensive deep haematomas of both buttocks, consistent with being beaten with solid objects.

Amani Trust case number	592	Report number	143
Name E.Nr	Age 25	Sex male	ID number
Province Mashonaland West	District Hurungwe West	Employment Unemployed	
Date of report 03/01/02	Nature of incident Abduction, assault	Date of incident 01/01/02	
Perpetrators Zanu PF youths			

Case history

E.N. was returning from the Zvipani Growth Point when he was accosted by a group of over twenty Zanu PF youths. He was seized and beaten with bricks and sticks. E.N. was told that he would be killed because he was a member of the MDC. He was taken to their base and assaulted further until he fell to the ground. After this, E.N. was told that he would not be killed if he did not make a report to the police. He was helped away from the base by bypassers and did make a report to the police. No action was taken on his behalf.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 2 days after the assault the patient had an extensive swelling of his right back, subscapular to his posterior iliac crest, which was tender to palpation. The swelling settled on analgesia, with no abscess formation.

Amani Trust case number	909	Report number	144
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
P.N	31	male	
Province	District		Employment
Mashonaland West	Banket		Unemployed
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
26/03/02	Assault, attempted abduction		12/03/02
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths and supporters			

Case history

P.N. was in Banket over the election weekend co-ordinating polling agents. He was chased by Zanu PF supporters and youths for over three hours until he was caught at Tashinga Stores. The men ordered P.N. to get into their truck but he refused. As they struggled, he was punched and kicked with booted feet. This lasted for twenty minutes, and the assailants left. After this, a Zanu PF truck pulled over and more Zanu PF supporters tried to abduct P.N. This time they attacked him with knives and bricks. At this point, a crowd of over three hundred on-lookers had gathered, and the second group of assailants fled. P.N. went to the police to make a report and to request safe escort to the hospital but was refused. The assailants came to police station whilst P.N. was inside, looking for him. However they were told that he was not present. International observers intervened and took P.N. to hospital.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 7

On clinical examination 14 days after the assault, the patient had 3 healing abrasions on his face, one above his right eye, one on his right cheek and one on his left cheek. He had a healing linear scar consistent with a knife wound on his left parietal area, and three healing linear lacerations on his back, consistent with knife wounds. He had a patterned healing contusion on his anterior left abdominal wall. He also had resolving haematomas on both anterior shins, consistent with assault with a flat heavy object.

He was also severely psychologically disturbed by his assault as indicated by his high SRQ-8, and required intervention by a psychiatrist, because of his strong suicide ideation.

Amani Trust case number	764	Report number	145
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
A.N	50	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Muzarabani	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
27/02/02	Assault, abduction	18/02/02	
Perpetrators			

Case history

A.N. was distributing MDC flyers in Utete Village on 1/02/02 when him and his companion were spotted by some-one who reported them to the Zanu PF youths at their base. The colleagues ran away but A.N. was caught by the youths. His money was stolen from him and he was beaten with a sjambok. He was kept tied up at the base for three days before he escaped. He reports that the same people from the camp are hunting him down.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 9 days after the event, the patient had numerous healing linear contusions on his right posterior arm, buttocks and posterior thighs. He had healing abrasions on his ankles consistent with being forcibly restrained and he bilateral tender and swollen plantar surfaces of both feet secondary to falanga. He required analgesia and physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	987	Report number	146
Name C.N	Age 25	Sex male	ID number
Province Mashonaland East	District UMP	Employment Unemployed	
Date of report 15/04/02	Nature of incident	Date of incident 19/02/02	
Perpetrators Zanu PF youths			

Case history

On 19/02/02, C.N. was campaigning for the MDC in UMP. A group of ten Zanu PF youths came to Karimbika Township where C.N. was and began to assault him with iron rods and sticks, and he was also punched. The assault lasted for thirty minutes after which the assailants fled and C.N. left the area for Harare where he received medical treatment at a hospital.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 2 months after the event, the patient was complaining of headaches and dizziness, poor concentration and sleep disturbances. He had no focal neurological signs, but a CT scan was done and was normal. He had tenderness over his left shoulder and left hip, but no visible injuries. The patient received psychiatric intervention and counselling.

Psychiatric assessment

Assessment two months after the traumatic event the patient had recurrent intrusive recollections and dreams of the trauma. He was afraid of returning to his home and tried to avoid thinking about the trauma. He related that he was unable to recall some aspects of the trauma and he had a sense of foreshortened future. He also had sleep problems and was irritable. Mental state examination revealed a young man who admitted to depressed mood and suicidal ideas. He had insomnia, poor appetite, loss of energy, loss of interest and feelings of guilt. He also had some paranoid ideas. His concentration was impaired. A diagnosis of PTSD and major depressive disorder was made and the patient was managed with antidepressant medication and psychotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	856	Report number	147
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
D.N	27	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Harare	Harare	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
19/03/02	Assault	16/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

D.N. was at Mbare bus terminal on 16/03/02 at 14.00h when he was recognised as an MDC supporter by a Zanu PF supporter. The man alerted his colleagues about D.N, and he was accosted by the group. He was hit across the face with a baton stick and fell to the ground. Whilst lying on the ground he was hit across head, before the assailants fled.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 3 days after the assault, the patient had a right peri-orbital haematoma and conjunctival haemorrhage. His visual acuity was not affected. He had tenderness over his scalp and a 2cm haematoma on his left thenar eminence.

Amani Trust case number	970	Report number	148
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
E.N	26	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland West	Hurungwe West	Builder	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
04/04/02	Assault	20/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

E.N. was at Mudzimu shops on 20/03/02 at 20.00h distributing MDC fliers. He was beaten by Zanu PF youths with heavy sticks until he fell. Whilst lying on the floor the assailants stamped on his back with booted feet.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 2 weeks after the event, the patient had severe backache, with limited range of movement, and a painful swollen right wrist. He also had generalized tenderness of the abdomen. Xrays of the wrist revealed a comminuted healing fracture of the base of the 5th metacarpal bone, and Xrays of the lumbar and thoracic spine were normal. An ultra sound scan of his abdomen was normal. The injuries resolved on analgesia and physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	633	Report number	149
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Name	Age	Sex	ID number
S.N	28	male	
Province	District		Employment
Mashonaland West	Kadoma		General worker
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
16/03/02	Abduction, torture		09/03/02

Perpetrators
 CIO police, soldiers, Zanu
 PF youth militia

Case history

The brother of S.N. was arrested on 09/03/02 and S.N. was travelling to pay his fine. When he disembarked from the bus he was abducted by soldiers and Zanu PF youth militia. He was taken to a nearby base and accused of plotting to join an army of white people and of being an MDC activist. He was assaulted throughout the night and handed over the next morning to the CIO. He was handcuffed and tortured. They attempted to drown him in a barrel of water and was then thrown onto the floor head first. He was forced to sit on a cloth and his genitals were burnt with acid. He was then kicked in both eyes and punched. He escaped at 11h00 and walked to Sanyati for 18 hours for assistance.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination on arrival in Harare, the patient had bilateral peri-orbital haematomas, and tenderness over his whole scalp. He had extensive bruising of his back and buttocks, and of his abdominal wall bilaterally. He had circumferential deep abrasions of both wrists and ankles consistent with being restrained in hand cuffs. He had excoriations on his scrotum from acid burns. He had bilateral painful swollen plantar surfaces of his feet secondary to falanga. The patient required admission to hospital for several days for pain control and dressings for his wounds.

Amani Trust case number	824	Report number	150
Name S.N	Age 26	Sex male	ID number
Province Harare	District Harare	Employment Unemployed	
Date of report 07/02/02	Nature of incident Abduction, assault	Date of incident 06/03/02	
Perpetrators Zanu PF youths			

Case history

S.N. was walking to the shops on 06/02/02 in the Chief Seke area when he was intercepted by a group of Zanu PF youths. He was accused of being an MDC supporter and was abducted to their base. Once there, he was assaulted by twenty assailants with bottles, rubber belts and knobkerries all over the body including his head, right forearm and back. The attack lasted for ten minutes and he was released. S.N. reported the case to the police but no action was taken.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:0

On clinical examination the day after the assault, the patient had a small laceration on his right forehead. He also had 9 linear haematomas on his back and posterior arms, consistent with being assaulted with a baton.

Amani Trust case number	762	Report number	151
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
E.N	26	female	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Mahusekwa	Housewife	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
26/02/02	Assault	14/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Unknown assailants			

Case history

Sixteen youths came the house of E.N. and demanded to see her husband. She did not know his whereabouts and was accused of telling lies. E.N. was beaten all over her body and under her feet with punches, boots and sticks. The assault lasted for thirty minutes. Her sister and brother were also beaten.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 12 days after the assault the patient was 28 weeks pregnant by palpation and fetal movement was felt. She complained of pain over her left lateral ribs but there was no evidence of rib fractures or bruising. She also had tenderness over her plantar surfaces of her feet, secondary to falanga.

Amani Trust case number	734	Report number	152
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
E.N	32	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Harare	Harare	Self-employed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
19/02/02	Assault	18/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporter			

Case history

E.N. was at Townhouse in Harare on 18/02/02 at 13.00h waiting to see the MDC councillors who would be up for nomination. An iron bar was thrown at him by a Zanu PF supporter injuring his shoulder.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination the day after the assault, the patient had a tender swollen area over his right trochanteric area, and no other injuries.

Amani Trust case number	624	Report number	153
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
M.P	27	female	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	UMP	Housemaid	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
31/01/02	Assault	04/01/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

A group of Zanu PF supporters arrived at the home of M.P. on 04/01/02 at 01.00h and wanted to take her brother away for a beating as he was an MDC supporter. M.P. followed the group as they seized her brother and was punched. She fell to the floor and was beaten with sticks across her back and legs.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 2

On clinical examination 3 weeks after the assault the patient 2 healing linear contusions, one on her back and one on her right lateral leg, consistent with being hit by sticks. She also had tenderness over her right anterior chest wall, but no evidence of rib fractures, or haematoma formation.

Amani Trust case number	650	Report number	154
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
S.P	35	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	UMP	Teacher	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
21/01/02	Abduction, assault	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14/12/01 • 04/01/02 	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

On 14/12/01, S.P. was attending a rally at Matsaga Primary School when his name was called out and he was beaten in front of two thousand people.

A group of forty-eight Zanu PF supporters came to the home of him and his sister on 04/01/02 and dragged S.P. from the house. All the witnesses were assaulted, including his sister, and he was beaten with clenched fists, booted feet and sticks. He was abducted and kept on the move for five days before he escaped and went to Harare.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 17 days after the second assault the patient was anxious, as shown by his SRQ-8 score. He had a ruptured left tympanic membrane, secondary to being slapped on the ears.

Psychiatric assessment

Three months after traumatic events the patient had flashbacks of the second traumatic incident and also had nightmares of the trauma. He also related that he was very suspicious of people. He related that he tried to avoid thinking about the trauma or talking about it and he avoided places and people that aroused recollections of the trauma. He reported feeling "like a social misfit" and felt estranged from other people. He had symptoms of hypervigilance. Mental state examination revealed a low mood and poor short term memory. He also had some paranoid ideas. A diagnosis of post traumatic stress disorder was made.

Amani Trust case number	690	Report number	155
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
S.P	29	male	
Province	District		Employment
Harare	Harare		Unemployed
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
11/02/02	Assault, detention		08/02/02
Perpetrators			
Riot police			

Case history

In September 2001, S.P. came to Harare after his father was beaten and their home in Bindura destroyed. On 08/02/02, riot police came to their home in St Mary's, Chitungwiza at 03.00h and took them all to the police station. From here, the group was divided and the seven men were taken to Harare and the women were released. The men were then transferred to Bindura on 09/02/02 and released. During his detention he suffered an attempted strangling and was kicked in the chest.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 1

On clinical examination 3 days after the assault, the patient had circumferential pain around the neck, and pain on swallowing, although there was no soft tissue swelling or bruising. He was also tender over the anterior chest wall, with no clinical rib fractures. He also had pain in the right inguinal region, with moderately impaired movement of the joint, which resolved on analgesia.

Amani Trust case number	993	Report number	156
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
I.P	24	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Shamva	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
16/04/02	Abduction, assault	29/03/02	
Perpetrators			
ZanuPF supporters			

Case history

At 04h00 on 29/03/02 a group of Zanu PF supporters arrived at the house of I.P. in Concession, kicked open the door to his room and dragged him outside. He was taken to their base and accused of having burnt the hut of a Zanu PF supporter the previous day. S.P. was taken to a room where the lights were switched off and he was assaulted on the jaw and right arm with punches, kicks and slaps. He was only released after a female Zanu PF supporter intervened on his behalf.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 1

On clinical examination 18 days after the assault, the patient still had bilateral tenderness and swelling of his mandible, but with no evidence of fracture. He also had tenderness and swelling of his upper and lower right arm, but with full function. The pain settled on analgesia and physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	809	Report number	157
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
D.P	37	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland West	Mhondoro	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
07/03/02	Assault	24/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

On 24/02/02 D.P. was in Rumuka Township when he was stopped by five Zanu PF supporters at 19h00. He was ordered to follow them, but refused. D.P. was then assaulted with sjamboks and logs whilst his hands were tied behind his back. D.P. started to fight back but was then stoned on his face and body. He fell down and was then further assaulted on his body and under his feet.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 5

On clinical examination 2 weeks after the assault the patient had 2 deep healing lacerations on his forehead and a right peri-orbital haematoma. He also had a large haematoma on his right cheek. He had a 5x2cm haematoma on his left anterior upper chest wall and a fractured right 9th rib confirmed on xray. He had 3 contusions on his anterior abdominal wall. He had multiple contusions on his back, consistent with being assaulted with a log. He had contusions on his anterior shins and a contusion on both the plantar and anterior surfaces of his feet, with soft tissue swelling. The xrays showed no fractures.

Amani Trust case number	590	Report number	158
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
S.R	17	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Marondera	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
08/01/02	Assault	08/01/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

S.R. went to the house in Dombotombo Township of a woman who had been kidnapped by Zanu PF youths to drop off a set of keys. When he arrived there he discovered three Zanu PF supporters in the kitchen. He was assaulted with broken bottles and baton sticks for being an MDC sympathiser.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 5

On clinical examination on the day of the assault, the patient had a 4cm deep laceration of his left forehead. He had soft tissue swelling of both lips with superficial lacerations. He had a deep laceration of his left forefinger and of his right dorsal surface of his hand(1cm). He required suturing of the lacerations. He was also psychologically disturbed by the assault as indicated by his high SRQ-8 score.

Amani Trust case number	839	Report number	159
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
R.R	26	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Mvurwi	Farm foreman	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
12/03/02	Abduction, assault	02/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

R.B. and seven companions were taken from their homes by a group of Zanu PF youths at 18.00h. They were assaulted with sticks and hard brooms in a waiting room at Mvurwi bus terminal. The youths accused them of being MDC supporters and forced them to chant slogans from 23.00h until 05.00h the next morning. During the ordeal, the men were forced to lie on the floor and were kicked all over their bodies and on their heads. The assailants then urinated upon them. Some of the men's clothing was stolen from them before they were released.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination 10 days after the assault, the patient had tenderness over his left shoulder and neck, but with no functional impairment. He was also tender over both posterior iliac crests, and over his pubic bone, but with no clinical fractures. The pain settled on analgesia and physiotherapy.

Psychiatric assessment

Nine days after the torture the patient had no significant psychological complaints and the only finding of note on mental state examination was impairment of concentration.

Amani Trust case number	593	Report number	160
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
J.R	32	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Midlands	Gokwe	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
03/01/02	Assault	18/12/01	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

Early in the morning on 18/12/01, a large group of Zanu PF youths arrived at the home of J.R. in Gumunu Village. They destroyed his house and assaulted him and his wife because of their support for the MDC. They were beaten up with iron bars, sticks and were kicked with booted feet. Neighbours came to the rescue of the couple who then fled to Harare.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 3 weeks after the assault, the patient was psychologically affected by the assault as seen by the SRQ-8 score, and he complained of panic attacks. He had a circumferential laceration of his left middle toe which was septic and required debridement and secondary suturing.

Amani Trust case number	883	Report number	161
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
T.S	35	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Masvingo	Zaka	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
21/03/02	Assault	12/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

T.S. was co-ordinating MDC polling agents over the elections in Zaka. On 12/03/02, at Jerera Growth Point a group of gathered Zanu PF supporters attacked him with heavy sticks, stones and clenched fists. He lost consciousness and was taken by the police to a hospital.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 11 days after the assault, the patient had a healing linear 5cm laceration on his left parietal area. He also had a 2cm healing laceration on his lower lip. He had a 5cm linear healing laceration on his right posterior elbow.

Amani Trust case number	659	Report number	162
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
G.S	32	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Mount Darwin	Self-employed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
08/02/02	Assault	05/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

G.S. was travelling to Nembire in Mount Darwin to collect polling agents. As he disembarked from the bus he was surrounded by a group of people. He ran away and hid in the bush overnight with two companions, but the other three were captured and beaten. The next day G.S. went to the base at Nembire to see what had happened to his friends. He found that his brother Tendai and another woman (Pedzisai Muzavazi) were amongst those who had been beaten, and a third person Mavhunga, had been abducted. G.S. was caught by the group at the base and beaten with logs and sticks across his back and face. He was also kicked in the jaw. At one point he was forced to sniff dust.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 6

On clinical examination 3 days after the assault, the patient had a peri-orbital haematoma of his right eye, and a tender swollen right mandible. Xray of the mandible showed no fracture. He had extensive bruising across his shoulders and buttocks, consistent with being beaten with logs. He showed evidence of post traumatic stress disorder as indicated by his high SRQ-8 score, and he required counseling.

Amani Trust case number	660	Report number	163
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
T.S	26	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Mount Darwin	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
08/02/02	Abduction, assault	05/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

T.S. was escorting his brother to Mount Darwin who was going to recruit polling agents for the elections. As they disembarked, T.S. and three others were captured and taken to a base at Nembire. T.S. was beaten on the head, across the buttocks, and under his feet with knobkerries, sticks, iron bars and with punches. The assailants were also carrying axes. After the incident they were forced to march to Datito Police Station where they were handed over to the police. The police released them after warning them not to return to the area.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical examination 3 days after the assault, the patient had a sub-conjunctival haemorrhage of his right eye. Both buttocks were had extensive deep haematomas, with blistering and edema. He had tender swollen plantar surfaces of his feet secondary to falanga.

Amani Trust case number	840	Report number	164
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
W.S	31	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Mvurwi	Farm foreman	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
12/03/02	Abduction, assault	02/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

W.S. had just started his evening shift at Mandyness Farm in Mvurwi on 02/03/02 when he was approached by two men and asked to accompany them to the farm beerhall. Upon arrival at the beerhall, a group of people gathered there assaulted T.S. with barbed wire all over his body. He was detained there overnight and moved the next morning to Mvurwi bus terminus. He was taken into a kiosk, blindfolded with pieces of cloth, which smelt of urine and forced to lie prone on the floor. He was then assaulted again with brooms and sticks whilst being punched and kicked. This lasted for thirty minutes and then he was kept overnight again and released with six others the next day.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 1

On clinical examination 10 days after the assault, the patient had tenderness over his left lateral chest wall and right hip. He had a 10cm healing linear abrasion on left anterior forearm and healing abrasions on his left knee and ankle. He had swollen tender plantar surfaces of both feet, secondary to falanga.

Amani Trust case number	1062	Report number	165
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
T.S	30	male	
Province	District		Employment
Harare	Harare		Unemployed
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
06/05/02	Abduction, assault		06/05/02
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

On the morning of 06/05/02 at 01.00h, T.S. heard noises outside his house in Highfield and opened the door. He then heard a gunshot before four Zanu PF supporters forced their way into his house. T.S. was handcuffed and taken into a white Toyota car and driven to Mahusekwa. In the bush there, he was assaulted for three hours. There were twelve other men in the bush who were part of the group. T.S. managed to escape when the handcuffs were removed.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination on the day of the assault the patient had extensive bruising of his forehead bilaterally, and a 2cm tear on his lower lip. He had numerous linear contusions on his anterior chest wall, and upper posterior arms. He had a swollen tender right forearm which had no fracture confirmed on Xray. His back had extensive linear contusions, and oval shaped bruises. His buttocks also had deep haematomas, and he had pain of both anterior thighs. He had bilateral swollen tender plantar surfaces of his feet and he was unable to walk. There were no tarsal or metatarsal fractures confirmed on Xray. The patient required admission to hospital for pain control, and counselling.

Amani Trust case number	771	Report number	166
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
L.S	25	male	
Province	District		Employment
Harare	Harare		Self-employed
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
28/02/02	Assault	27/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Soldiers			

Case history

On 27/02/02 L.S. was with a friend at a bar in Budiriro when they noticed that soldiers had seized one of their friends. The two men left and slept at another friend's house, fearing to return to their own homes. At 23.00h, soldiers in plain clothes arrived at the house and assaulted them. L.S. was assaulted with iron bars until the soldiers left.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 1

On clinical examination the day after the assault, the patient had a swollen tender upper lip. He multiple linear contusions on his arms and shoulders and 4x 3cm diameter circular deep haematomas along his thoracic and lumbar spine. He had bruising on both dorsal surfaces of his hands, but no fractures. He had painful knees, with clinical soft tissue injury only.

He responded well to analgesia and physiotherapy.

Psychiatric assessment

Seventeen days after the traumatic event R.S had recurrent intrusive recollections of the torture. He related that he has flashbacks of the torture sometimes. He also reported episodes of feeling as if he was reliving the trauma and being beaten and tortured again. He became very distressed when he saw Zanu-PF youth. He lost interest in activities that he used to enjoy and had sleep disturbances. He had general body weakness and loss of power and sweating when he heard loud noises. He had reduced the quantities of alcohol that he drank since the traumatic event because he did not want to be found drunk by the militia and killed.

Significant findings on mental state examination included sleep disturbances, poor appetite and impairment of concentration. A diagnosis of Adjustment disorder was made.

Amani Trust case number	813	Report number	167
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Name	Age	Sex	ID number
R.S	31	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Guruve North	Lorry assistant	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
01/03/02	Abduction, assault	24/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths, war veterans			

Case history

R.S. has been delivering MDC pamphlets and was travelling back to Guruve South when he was stopped at Mbitzi Business Centre by Zanu PF youths. The youths fetched a group of 'war veterans' who gave chase to R.S. He was captured at Mukwanga Business Centre by the Zanu PF youths and taken to their base at Chipomba. He was tortured with sjamboks, and kicked with booted feet. He was also made to run long distances.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination 7 days after the assault the patient had bilateral deep haematomas of his buttocks and a deep haematoma 10x10cm of his right lateral thigh.

Amani Trust case number	1038	Report number	168
Name R.S	Age 22	Sex male	ID number 27-144125-H-27
Province Masvingo	District Gutu North	Employment Unemployed	
Date of report 23/04/02	Nature of incident Assault	Date of incident 14/03/02	
Perpetrators Zanu P supporters			

Case history

At midnight on 14/03/02 a group of people arrived at the home of R.S. in Gombe Village wearing t-shirts with the words "Vote Zanu PF – Third Chimurenga" printed on them. He was beaten with sticks after they broke down his door to gain entry.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 1

On clinical examination 5 weeks after the assault, the patient had pain over his anterior chest wall, with a healing 5cm healing scar. He also had several small healed scars on his left posterior forearm.

Amani Trust case number	631	Report number	169
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
M.S	26	male	
Province	District		Employment
Midlands	Kwekwe		General hand
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
31/01/02	Abduction, assault		21/01/02
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

The house of M.S. was surrounded by Zanu PF youths at 20.00h on 21/01/02. They started banging the door and M.S. tried to escape. He was captured outside and taken to a nearby base at an old house on a golf course. He was assaulted with sticks, sjamboks and iron bars, across his back, head and under his feet. A liquid was poured onto his head which affected his eyes. He was released at 01h00 with the aid of the police, whom M.S. suspects had been present at the house all along. He was then taken to hospital for treatment.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 2

On clinical examination 10 days after the assault, the patient had a ruptured right tympanic membrane, secondary to being slapped across the ears. He had tender cheeks, with no bruising. He had multiple linear contusions across his back, upper and lower, and across his buttocks. He had tender swollen plantar surfaces of his feet secondary to falanga.

Amani Trust case number	829	Report number	170
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
B.S	27	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland West	Karoi	Contractor	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
07/02/02	Assault	03/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

B.S. was returning home with colleagues after a trip into town on 03/02/02. They were stopped by a group of men who asked them their business and then asked them to shout a slogan. B.S. and his companions shouted a Zanu PF slogan. At the same time a jeep arrived and the driver asked them for their Zanu PF party cards. The men could not produce any and their ID cards were taken off them. They were then assaulted, B.S. receiving a blow to the forehead with an empty bottle. He was stabbed in the abdomen with a knife, and then in the back and left shoulder. He collapsed during the assault and when he awoke the assailants had fled.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

The patient required transfer to Harare by ambulance for surgery. On examination he had several lacerations on his forehead, from assault with a broken bottle. These all required suturing. He had 5cm stab wound in his left shoulder, involving soft tissue only. He had a penetrating 5cm long stab wound below the umbilicus in the midline, with protruding bowel and omentum, and he had a haematoma of his scrotum. He required an exploratory laparotomy and repair.

Amani Trust case number	736	Report number	171
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
I.T	28	male	
Province	District		Employment
Mashonaland East	Chihota		Unemployed
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
19/02/02	Abduction, assault		14/02/02
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

I.T. was at Mavhize Business Centre on 14/02/02 at 11h00 when he saw sixteen youths singing revolutionary Zanu PF songs. As he knew most of them he went over to greet them and then went for a drink alone. Some time later a youth known to I.T. arrived and asked him to accompany the youth to the Zanu PF base. Along the four kilometre journey, I.T. was forced to toyi-toyi. Upon arrival he was interrogated about his knowledge of the MDC and then taken to a nearby house. Once there, his shoes were removed and his head was covered with a blanket. I.T. was beaten beneath his feet with sjamboks and logs. His entire body was then assaulted with sjamboks and logs. He tried to escape but was caught and taken back for further beatings. After this assault, I.T. was taken to another base where an ex-combatant named Tsindi handed him over to five youths, who beat him and kicked him in the head. The following day police and soldiers arrived and secured the release of I.T.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 2

On clinical examination 5 days after the assault, the patient had tenderness and swelling over his scalp and right mandible. He had multiple healing linear contusions over his back, buttocks and posterior left thigh consistent with being whipped. He also had marked tenderness and swelling bilaterally of the plantar surfaces of his feet, and blistering. He was unable to walk easily and required analgesia and physiotherapy. He subsequently developed insomnia and anxiety and required several consultations with a psychiatrist, and anxiolytics.

Amani Trust case number	827	Report number	172
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
A.T	25	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Goromonzi	General worker – hunters	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
08/03/02	Abduction, assault	07/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF youths			

Case history

A.T. was taking a lunch break on 07/03/02 when eight Zanu P youths arrived and asked the workers to chant slogans and accused them of being MDC supporters. The men were taken from the tannery to the youths' base near the Goromonzi turn-off. Along the way, they were beaten with sticks. Upon arrival, A.T. was assaulted with a sjambok by several people who took it in turn. A.T's ID was stolen during the incident preventing him from voting. Two election observers arrived at 19.00h and secured the release of the men.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination the day after the assault, the patient had a circular burn mark on his right medial canthic fold, consistent with being burnt with a lighted cigarette. He had tender swellings bilaterally over his parietal regions, consistent with being kicked. He had tenderness of his right shoulder and upper arm, but with no loss of function. He had a 4cm abrasion on the lateral surface of his left arm. He had haematomas and swelling of both buttocks and upper thighs, consistent with being beaten with sticks.

Amani Trust case number	1057	Report number	173
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
B.T	30	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Marondera	Self-employed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
	Detention, torture	• 14/02/02	
		• 22/02/02	
Perpetrators			
CIO Police			

Case history

- On 1/02/02, B.T. was accused of assaulting members of Zanu PF and was kept in detention for a week before being released on 21/02/02.
- The next day on 22/02/02 he was arrested again by the CIO who accused him of setting alight a Zanu PF vehicle at the Marondera charge office. B.T. tried to explain that when the incident occurred he was in detention and could not have committed the crime. He was informed however that they believed that he had masterminded the incident. That evening he was assaulted by the CIO, especially two officers named as Chikwanda and Nyagura. He was beaten with baton sticks, punched, kicked and beaten on the soles of his feet. The assault continued on and off during the night until 05.00h the next morning. During this time he was forced to drink urine and to eat dry sand. B.T. was taken to court on 26/02/02 and then Marondera Prison where he was released after paying a fine on 27/02/02

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 1

On clinical examination a month after his release the patient was complaining of headaches and abdominal pain. There were no physical injuries detected and on systemic examination there were no detectable abnormalities.

Amani Trust case number	749	Report number	174
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
E.T	32	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Seke Rural	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
06/03/02	Abduction, assault	04/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

The younger brother of E.T. is an MDC activist and because of this both brothers have been on the run. On 04/03/02, E.T. was accosted by a group of Zanu PF supporters at Madangure shops in Seke who shouted “traitor” at him. He was taken to their base and assaulted with clenched fists.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination two days after the assault the patient had a peri-orbital haematoma of his left eye and a swollen tender right mandible, with no clinical fracture. He also had a jagged laceration of his lower lip,

Amani Trust case number	1054	Report number	175
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
E.T	27	female	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Marondera	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
30/04/02	Abduction, assault	23/02/02	
Perpetrators			
CIO, CID police			

Case history

E.T. and companions were taken from a friend's house on 23/02/02 by members of the CIO and CID and were accused of having burnt the car of a Zanu PF activist. They were taken to a police camp, where nine of the officers assaulted E.T. for six hours. She was beaten under her feet with batons and was kicked and punched.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 3

On clinical assessment 2 months after the assault the patient had 6 fading linear scars on her lower back, and a fading circumferential scar around her right wrist. The patient complained of recurrent nightmares, and became tearful when relating the incident. She was referred for psychotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	961	Report number	176
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
T.W	29	male	
Province	District		Employment
Mashonaland East	Chikomba		Unemployed
Date of report	Nature of incident		Date of incident
03/04/02	Abduction, assault, detention		24/02/02
Perpetrators			
War veterans, Zanu PF youths, soldiers, police			

Case history

On 24/02/02 T.W. took a bus from Harare to Chikombe. Upon his arrival in Sengwe at 13h00 a group of ‘war veterans’, youths and soldiers took T.W. to their base at the business centre. He was placed in handcuffs and leg irons and was beaten with chains and sjamboks. He was kept in the camp for a week, during which time he was deprived of food. On 01/03/02 T.W. was taken into custody by the CID and released on 03/04/02 with bail of Z\$2,000. He was accused of murder, but was in custody when the crime was committed.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 5

On clinical examination 2 months after his release, he showed evidence of post traumatic stress disorder as evidenced by his high SRQ-8 score. He had a 10cm linear newly healed scar on his anterior left chest wall, and 6 linear healing scars on his back, and 6 linear scars on his posterior upper arms. He still had tender buttocks and his left anterior shin was tender. The nature of the scars visualised is consistent with his testimony of torture methods used.

Amani Trust case number	835	Report number	177
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
M.Y	27	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland West	Karoi	Farm worker	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
10/03/02	Assault	09/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

M.Y. was at a polling station on Tavoy Farm on 09/03/02 when he was approached by Zanu PF supporters. He was beaten up because he had been brought to the station by a white man and was accused of being an MDC supporter. He was assaulted all over his body and under the soles of his feet for over an hour. The assailants also urinated upon M.Y.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination the day after the assault, the patient had a 6cm linear wound on his right parietal scalp which required suturing. He had numerous linear contusions on his back, and deep haematomas on his buttocks, with edema. He had a painful right elbow and hand, with swelling, and limited function, but there were no fractures on Xray. He had swollen tender bilateral plantar surfaces of his feet, secondary to falanga. He had a 2cm circular burn mark on his left lateral anterior surface of his foot. He required admission to hospital for several days for pain control, and physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	798	Report number	178
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
Z.Z	31	female	
Province	District	Employment	
Harare	Harare	Welder	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
06/03/02	Abduction, assault	28/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

Z.Z. was captured in Chitungwiza at 20.00h by a group o Zanu PF supporters and taken to their base in Unit N. She was handcuffed and forced to chant Zanu PF slogans. Some of the officers were in police uniforms and used gas lighters to burn the skin of Z.Z. this continued until 09h00 the next morning when Z.Z. escaped.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 5

On clinical examination 6 days after the assault, the patient showed signs of post-traumatic stress disorder as evidenced by the high SRQ-8. She had 3 circular 2cm haematomas on her forehead and right cheek, and 4x 2cm healing burn marks on her back and posterior arms. She had 1x10cm linear haematoma on her lower right lumbar region. She had a septic right ring finger secondary to burns, and haematomas on both her anterior knees.

Amani Trust case number	728	Report number	179
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
T.Z	21	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Chiweshe	Commuter bus driver	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
19/02/02	Abduction, assault	12/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

T.Z. parked his bus at Nzvimbo Growth Pont on 12/02/02 and started to walk back towards his village. He was approached by two Zanu PF youths who asked him for his Zanu PF party card. As he could not produce one he was taken to a nearby school and interrogated. T.Z. was then assaulted with sjamboks and fists and was drenched in water. He was forced to march to a base eight kilometres away and was further assaulted.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 4

On clinical examination 7 days after the assault, the patient had bilateral rupture tympanic membranes secondary to slaps across the ears and a sub-conjunctival haemorrhage of his left eye. He had a 2cm laceration of his right shoulder and a 3cm laceration of his right anterior thigh. He had a 10cm linear contusion of his left posterior shoulder and several small lacerations along his lumbar spine. He had evidence of post traumatic stress disorder as indicated by his high SRQ-8 score.

Amani Trust case number	581	Report number	180
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
A.Z	35	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Marondera	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
08/01/02	Abduction, assault	07/01/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF militia			

Case history

At 20.00h on 07/01/02, A.Z. was at home in Dombotombo Township when he was kidnapped by Zanu PF militia. He was taken to their base by car and tied up. A.Z. was then beaten up with empty bottles, sticks and batons for three hours before being released.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 5

On clinical examination the day after the assault, the patient had evidence of post traumatic stress disorder with his high SRQ-8 score. He had a sub conjunctival haemorrhage of his right eye and a 3cm contusion of his left occipital area. He complained of backache, although no specific injury could be noted.

Amani Trust case number	711	Report number	181
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Name	Age	Sex	ID number
L.Z	28	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland East	Ruwa	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
14/02/02	Abduction, torture, detention	11/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters, Zanu PF official, police			

Case history

On 11/02/02, L.Z. was returning from the Phillips farm after completing MDC party business. He was stopped by three men and ordered to go back to the farm. He refused but a green landrover with a top Zanu PF official (name supplied) and Zanu PF youths inside pulled up. He was abducted in the landrover to the base at Goromonzi. The Zanu PF official left after ordering that he be interrogated but not beaten. The Zanu PF youths questioned and assaulted L.Z. throughout the night. He lost consciousness at one point, waking when he was burnt with a lit copy of the Daily News. The next day the Zanu PF official returned and was assured by the youths that L.Z. had not been assaulted. He left and at 11.00h two CIO officers arrived and ordered L.Z. to stand on one foot, until he fell to the floor. They then left, returning at 13.00h to take L.Z. to the police station in Marondera, where he spent another night. On 13/02/02 he collapsed in the cell he was being kept in and was revived with water and tablets. He was interrogated once more before being released at 14h00 and ordered not to make a report to any-one.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 5

On clinical examination 3 days after the assault the patient showed evidence of post traumatic stress as indicated by the high SRQ-8. He had a circular burn mark on his right pinna and multiple superficial burns on his torso, both anterior and posterior, consistent with being burned with lighted paper. He also had extensive bruising of his chest wall, anterior and posterior, and of both arms. He had a fractured terminal phalanx of his right middle finger, and bilateral tender plantar surfaces of his feet.

Psychiatric assessment

On examination about six weeks after first traumatic event and three days after second traumatic event the patient had dreams of the traumatic events as well as flashbacks. He also complained of distress whenever he saw or heard anything that reminded him of

Zanu-PF and got palpitations when he saw police cars. He related that he tried to avoid thinking about the traumatic events and had become very suspicious of people. He did not expect to have a career or a normal life span and said that he had become "hardened" and did not care about his siblings anymore. He had problems with his sleep and had difficulty with his concentration. He was easily startled by loud noises. The above complaints had been present for almost six weeks since the first traumatic event but had worsened since the second event. He had also increased his alcohol consumption since January to "help him to sleep".

Mental state examination revealed a gentleman who was initially suspicious of the interviewer and who admitted to depressed mood. He had suicidal ideas and had written a letter to a friend expressing suicidal intent. He admitted to reduced energy and expressed feelings of hopelessness, helplessness and worthlessness, "I'm just a failure in life and there is nothing good in my life". He had mood congruent auditory hallucinations –voice of his dead brother saying that he was soon going to follow him and die. He was very suspicious and believed that he was being followed.

A diagnosis of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Major Depressive Disorder was made. He was managed with antidepressants and psychotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	802	Report number	182
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
D.Z	28	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland Central	Guruve	Peasant farmer	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
07/03/01	Abduction, assault	24/02/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

D.Z. was at the shops in Kachuta with a companion on 24/02/02 at 17.00h when they met a group of men. These men told them that they were invited to attend a meeting. D.Z. and his companion found themselves surrounded by a group of youths and were taken to a base. The two men were assaulted with rubber whips across the buttocks and the neck. They were released at 21.00h.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 1

On clinical examination 11 days after the assault the patient had tenderness of the left lateral neck and left lateral chest and abdominal wall. There was no visible bruising.

Amani Trust case number	833	Report number	183
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
A.Z	38	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Mashonaland West	Karoi	Unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
10/03/02	Abduction, assault	09/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF supporters			

Case history

A.Z. was the polling agent for the MDC at Tavoy Farm over the election weekend. As he took a lunch break on 09/03/02 a group of Zanu PF supporters abducted him and took him into the nearby bush here he was assaulted all over his body and under his feet. After being released he crawled for help and was taken to the police.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score:

On clinical examination the day after the assault the patient had a 7cm laceration of his left forehead and a haematoma of his left mandible. His back was covered with linear contusions and he had haematomas of both buttocks. Both arms were swollen and tender and he had multiple superficial lacerations. There were no fractures. He had gross edema and tenderness of both plantar surfaces of his feet, and he was unable to walk, and required hospitalisation and physiotherapy.

Amani Trust case number	981	Report number	184
Name	Age	Sex	ID number
S.Z.	28	male	
Province	District	Employment	
Midlands	Gokwe South	unemployed	
Date of report	Nature of incident	Date of incident	
12/04/02	Assault	24/03/02	
Perpetrators			
Zanu PF militia			

Case history

S.Z. was in the district Chairman's residence in the Chief Nemangwe area on 24/03/02 at 17.00h, when they were surrounded by two hundred Zanu PF militia. The homestead was attacked with catapults and stones, and S.Z.'s leg was broken by an iron bar which was thrown at him. Despite the fact that a bone was protruding through his skin and dragging on the ground, S.Z. managed to crawl back into the house for safety.

Medical assessment

SRQ-8 Score: 2

The patient sustained a compound fracture, mid shaft of his right tibia, and required operative orthopaedic intervention.