

ZADHR

ZIMBABWE ASSOCIATION OF DOCTORS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

13 MARCH 2007

UPDATE ON DENIAL OF ACCESS TO TREATMENT OF DETAINED
ACTIVISTS

The Zimbabwe Association of Doctors for Human Rights condemns the denial of access to medical treatment of detained opposition and civic leaders that are in need of urgent medical attention. ZADHR has been denied access to those concerned since their arrest on the morning of Sunday 11 March 2007. Denial of access to treatment continues to violate the rights of those detained and threatens their lives.

Notwithstanding a High Court order granted at 8:15pm on Monday 12 March 2007 compelling the police to grant legal and medical access to those detained, the Zimbabwe Republic Police has denied access to the injured activities in defiance of the court order. Medical practitioners that attempted to access those in need of medical treatment on the night of Monday 12 March following the granting of the court order were denied access.

ZADHR remains concerned that the condition of those who sustained injuries as a result of torture and assault may be worsened by delayed access to medical treatment. It is crucial that all those in need of medical attention be transferred to a medical facility that affords them the best possible medical care immediately.

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