

To whom it may concern:

We at the Mauritanian Network for Human Rights in the US would like to bring the following human abuses to the attention of the United Nations with the sole purpose of getting a resolution on continuous and ongoing human rights violations of Mauritanian women and girls, which have lasted for decades, for the sole purpose of finding a solution at last.

You can learn more about our organization at: <https://www.mauritaniannetwork.org/>

1. Please provide information on the enjoyment of human rights by women and girls in humanitarian situations, which include humanitarian emergencies, forced displacements, armed conflicts and natural disasters, including sudden-onset natural disasters and slow-onset events.
2. In Mauritanian women and girls still suffer a great deal of violence, and harassment , including frequent and recurring rape and genital mutilation.

"Rape survivors in Mauritania have nowhere to turn to get help from the government. With one forensic doctor for the whole country and no government-run women's shelters, women and girls can find themselves lost and abandoned during a traumatic experience. Even worse, rape survivors can find themselves arrested and prosecuted for having sex outside marriage, a crime known as zina, if they report an attack and can't prove they didn't consent. But the news is not all bad"<https://www.hrw.org/news/2018/09/05/courage-women-mauritania#>

Women in Mauritania also suffer from low literacy, because of early and often forced child marriages which still occur to this day.

In addition to the issue of women s rights, Mauritania is suffering a great deal, of racial discrimination including slavery and impunity. Some of the racial based struggles for Black Mauritians that have remained unresolved are the issue of impunity/accountability for the perpetrators of the 1980' and 1990' crimes, the issue of land grabbing, which is robbing entire families of their sole livelihood, the race based hiring for governmental jobs, and statelessness among others.

Thank you.

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Warmly,

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Your stand, is your brand!