

Kadyrov's Security Services refused to allow Said-Hasan's 22-year-old daughter to leave the burning house. Only the intervention of the neighbours saved the girl's life. The **Buzurkaev** family's house was also burnt. Their son also belongs to the ranks of the armed troops of the Chechen Republic Ichkeria.

Kadyrov's men detained many local inhabitants, including school-age boys. Some were released after questioning, but 9 people, all relatives of members of the Illegal Armed Forces were taken hostage:

1. **Sheikh-Akhmed Buzurkaev**, 50
2. **Ramzan Avdarkhanov**, 70
3. **Ahmed Avdarkhanov**
4. **Aslan Butzugov**, 25
5. **Arsen Minkailov**, 24
6. **Isa El'siev**, 32
7. **3 members of the Aisultanov family**

Ramzan Avdarkhanov was ill and was released on the first day, as they were afraid he might die, but was soon taken in again. On the same day the wooded hills around Alleroi village were sweep-searched by members of the local military, as information had been received from the military base at Khankala that there were corpses in the wood. Indeed, four corpses were discovered at the indicated location and another buried nearby. The bodies were transported to the Regional Department of Internal Affairs at Kurchaloevski. It was possible to identify three of them: they were Ruslan Rasulovich Suleimanov and Ramzan Madarsoltovich Bamatkhadzhev from Ishkhoi-Yurt village, and Burchaev from Yalkhoi-Mokhk village (whose relative, probably uncle, is a Federal Security Service officer in Khankala). It was not possible to identify the other two bodies: purportedly they were inhabitants of Dagestan.

Of the relatives of the members of the Illegal Armed Forces who had been taken into hostage: Aslan Butsugov was released on 4 May; Isa El'siev on 6 May and Arsen Minkailov on 3 May. Sheikh -Akhmed Buzurkaev and Ramzan Avdarkhanov were also released, as was one member of the Aisultanov family. As of the end of May there was no information about the fate of the other hostages.

On May 4, in *Alleroi village, Kurchaloevski region*, a local woman, **Taus Buzurkaeva** (born 1959) was arrested without the Procurator's sanction by troops of the Kurchaloevski Regional Department of Internal Affairs (under the command of Roman Ediev, formerly a member of Akhmed Kadyrov's Security Services). She was accused of being the mother of a member of the Illegal Armed Forces (IAF). On 2 May 2004 her home was burnt down by members of A Kadyrov's Security Services.

The day before, Akhmad Kadyrov had emphasised, at a memorial service at the Yamadaevs' house in Gudermes, that he would punish all relatives, and even neighbours, of those who had been part of the Illegal Armed Forces. Taus Buzurkaeva is being held at the Temporary Isolation Unit at the Kurchaloevski Regional Department of Internal Affairs.

On May 8, at 23:00 **Ramzan Musaevich Shaipov**, born 1974, was abducted from his home at 23 *Lenin Street in Chiri-Yurt village, Shalinski region*, by Russian-speaking, unidentified, armed men in camouflage uniform.

During Shaipov's detention violence was used against his relatives. So Shaipov's wife Aishat, who rushed to her husband's assistance, had her throat crushed and her mouth and nose covered with a hand. The soldier continued to choke her until she began to lose consciousness. Then her hands were tied with tape.

The attackers forcibly struck the Shaipovs' three-year-old son in the face and threw their small baby, who was asleep, onto the floor. Only then they led the detained Ramzan Shaipov out to the street and took him away to an unknown destination. Aishat ran out after the kidnappers. She saw the kidnappers making their escape in unmarked vehicles – 'Niva', 'Zhiguli -7' and 'Gazel'.

According to the accounts of local inhabitants, there were at the time two armoured personnel carriers stationed on the edge of the village. The soldiers who came in them broke into the houses of the Shaipovs' neighbours, the Astamirov and Aidamirov families, and went on the rampage. During this they beat up 78-year-old Aldan Astamirov and frightened his grandsons who were asleep with him. Only then did the soldiers leave the village. The column of vehicles, comprising several unmarked cars and two armoured troop carriers, set off towards the settlement of Novye Atagi.

On May 16, in the village Kurchaloi the Magomadov home, *on Kurchaloevskaya Street*, received a visit from two members of the Security Services of the President of the Chechen Republic, stationed in the village of Geldagan. They brought with them a note from their son **Yakub Magomedov**, born 1967. In the note Yakub informed them that he was in Chechnya and asked them to arrange a ransom. However the members of the Security Services explained to the Magomadovs that their son was in fact at the military base in Khankala, where he had been brought from Moscow.

Since 2000 Yakub Magomadov has been searching for his brother Ayubkhan Magomadov, who had been kidnapped by the Russian military. In the autumn of 2003 Yakub had travelled to Taganrog, as he had received information that Ayubkhan was there in Temporary Isolation Unit No 2. However at the Unit he was refused any information about his brother, taken inside the isolation unit, where he was laughed at and humiliated for an hour, then put in a car, taken to a point out of town, severely beaten up, robbed of US \$3,000 and left. Yakub managed with great difficulty to get back to the road and on to the nearest village, where he found people from his own village. With their help he made his way back to Kurchaloi, where he was immediately hospitalised and diagnosed with ‘‘concussion, multiple scratches and bruises’’. On his recovery Yakub returned to Moscow where he had lived since 1992.

Yakub Magomadov had been last in touch with his relatives by telephone on 19 April 2004. Subsequently all contact with him was lost. Having received the note, his relatives went to the military base at Khankala, where they were told that Yakub Magomadov was not being held there.

On May 23, at about 21:00 at the entrance of Katyr-Yurt villlage of Achkhoi-Martan Region, Russian soldiers at control point No 186 stopped a Kamaz lorry carrying a load of diesel fuel. The vehicle was accompanied by 5 members of Kadyrov’s Security Services, including Ibrahim Umatgirievich Dishniev, born 1977, Umar Alaudinovich Kheikharoev and Timur Musaevich Khil’dikhoroiev, born 1972. The soldiers demanded 3000 rubles to allow the vehicle to pass through the control point. ‘‘Kadyrov’s men’’ beat p the soldiers and passed on. The injured soldiers radioed through to the Achkhoi-Martan military command to inform them of the incident. On arrival at the village of Achkhoi-Martan soldiers in two armoured troop carriers and a Ural vehicle were waiting for ‘‘Kadyrov’s men’’. An officer of the Federal Security Service suggested that the members of the Security Services disarm and follow them to Military Command. Instead of this, Ibrahim Dishniev (inhabitant of Yandi village) knocked the officer to the ground and began to beat him up. The officer managed to reach his pistol and shot at Dishniev several times, mortally wounding him. Subsequently a fire fight ensued between Kadyrov’s men and the soldiers. As a result Umar Kheikharov and Timur Khil’dikhoroiev (both from Assinovskaya station) were killed. From among the soldiers an officer of the Federal Security Service was killed and three men were wounded. The two remaining ‘‘Kadyrovtsy’’ fled the scene. Shortly after a helicopter arrived at the scene of the incident and took the wounded for transportation to the military hospital at Mozdok.

On May 27, at 5 am in the village of Gekhi, Urus-Martanovsky district, the personnel of Russian power agencies broke into the house of Soltakhanov family, domicile address *Kujbisheva street, 50*.

At that time, the head of the family, Soltakhanov Avgan was in the yard, washing before the morning prayer. The military men who arrived by three unmarked YAZ cars, leaped into the yard over the fence. Avgan was put in front of the house wall with gun targeted at him. The military men entered the house and carried out an unsanctioned search, beat up mentally handicapped Soltakhanov Lechi, hit his mother, Supiyat Mutaeva, who tried to protect Lechi, and hit on the face Eliza, the wife of Supiyat’s second son. After the search the military servicemen took out **Soltakhanov Muslim**, born 1987, put him in car and drove off to unknown direction. The relatives were not informed about the reasons for the detainment, or the place of detainment. According to Soltakhanovs, although the military servicemen spoke Russian (mostly swearing), there were ethnic Chechens among them.

On the fact of kidnapping the relatives filed a complaint to Urus-Martanovsky ROVD. The militiamen responded that they had nothing to do with the detainment and Soltakhanov is not detained at ROVD. In the district prosecution, Soltakhanovs’ application was rejected. Then Sapiyat Mutaeva turned to the district administration for help. There she was informed that her son had been kidnapped by RUBOP (regional department for combat on organised crime).

As of early June the whereabouts of Soltakhanov Muslim were unknown.

For full version of the ‘‘Chronicle of Violence’’ for March 2004 in Russian, please, consult our web site at <http://www.memo.ru/hr/hotpoints/caucas1/rubr/2/index.htm>

III. Work of Courts in the Chechen Republic

Human Rights Center “Memorial” provides legal assistance to the Chechen civilians in their applications to courts. In the section “work of courts” we analyze the major problems the Chechen civilians encounter in their attempts of protect their rights.

Rejection of applications as a form of inactivity of judicial system

One of the wide spread forms of inactivity of judicial system is rejection of applications from civilians, whose rights have been violated, either with reference to courts overload or without explaining the grounds for rejection. Particularly often this happens in cases when there exists strong evidence leading to representatives of power agencies committing the crimes. Thus, the applicant is deprived of her right to fair trial already at the initial stage.

On May 2004 Mrs. **Kh. Kaplanova** turned to “Memorial” office in Grozny for help. In May 2001 Kaplanova’s son and son-in-law, **Kaplanov Isa** and **Sadulaev Ruslan** were kidnapped. Both were kidnapped from their home located in Grozny, domicile address: *Voronezhskaya street, 76* by two representatives of Department of Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation, **Morozov** and **Tikhonov**. The kidnappers arrived by armed personnel carrier. Consequently the Kaplanov and Sadulaev went missing. Kaplanova was acknowledged a victim.

In the last three years Kh. Kaplanova held correspondence with the law enforcement agencies of the Russian Federation and the Chechen Republic. Having lost hope in effective investigation of crime, she decided to file application to court for ineffectiveness of prosecution according to article 125 Criminal-Procedural Code of the RF. However, the court of Zavodskoj district of Grozny rejected her application without providing reasons for the rejection.

In May 2004 Mrs. **S. Israilova** turned to HRC “Memorial” in Grozny. According to Israilova since March 2004 the court of Leninsky district of Grozny had been rejecting her application for determining the legal fact of her son, **Yansuev Il’yas** going missing, according to article 264 Civilian Procedural Code of the Russian Federation.

Civilians **R. Vakhaeva** and **M. Menkaev** turned to HRC “Memorial” in Urus-Martan with a similar problem. Urus-Martanovsky Municipal Court rejected their applications on facts of kidnappings of their relatives.

“Memorial” has registered cases of turned down applications in the courts of Grozny, Shalinsky and Urus-Martanovsky districts as well as the Supreme Court of the Chechen Republic, The Judicial Collegium for Criminal Cases of the Chechen Republic, Judicial Collegium for Civil Cases of the Chechen Republic.

IV. Closing tent camps in Ingushetia

The closing of last tent camp Satsita on the territory of Ingushetia had been planned for early June. Until the end of May the IDPs had to return to Chechnya or to move from “Satsita” to the places of compact settlement “Rassvet” and “Oskanovskie Garages” near Sleptsovsk.

The methods for closing the last tent camp in Ingushetia can be called neither forced nor voluntary. The closure of “Satsita” was announced in advance, and from the example of other camps, the IDPs knew that if the plan to close camps exists, it will be definitely closed. Thus, they agreed to move to Chechnya or to other compact settlements in Ingushetia. Particularly, since instead of threats, the migration services offered quite substantial benefits. According to IDPs, the families, returning to Chechnya were promised:

1. Returning the debt for humanitarian aid (some families had not received humanitarian aid for several months, so getting the whole package at once was significant);
2. Priority treatment in reviewing their applications for compensations for destroyed housing;
3. Providing temporary shelter (plywood houses) for the period of construction works;
4. Financial bonus 1,000-1,500 rubles per person for those, who return to Chechnya.

For residents of “Satsita”, most of whom had no income and live on pensions and children’s subsidies, the benefits offered by migration services seemed significant. Moreover, recently, in Ingushetia the cases of kidnappings and

Êíí ñóëüòòèííí ú éí á èòĴ Ö « ì ā í ðèèè» ÐãĴ óóèèèèÊíí ãð çèèè, ā í çððā ū, óè. Ĵ óòèèèèèè46
Öö.: (87322) 2-23-49, ôèñ: (87322) 2-23-49
E-mail: memorial@southnet.ru

In the contest participated the pupils of 7-9 grade of Chermen schools #2 (Osetian) and # 3 (Ingush). The ceremony took place in the Osetian school. The pupils, teachers and parents from both schools were invited, along with Ingush and Osetian TV and war veterans from both sides. The atmosphere at the ceremony was very open and sincere.