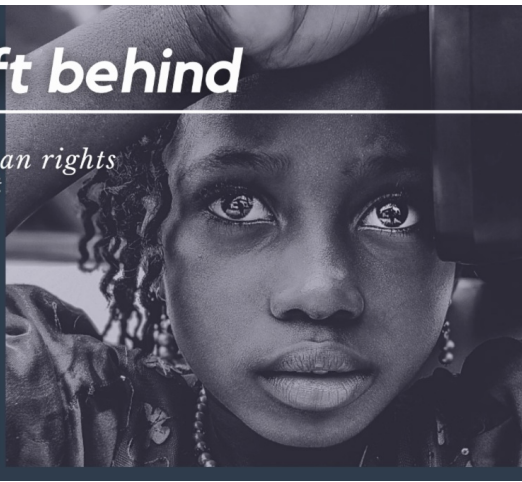


no one left behind

a united nations human rights
council parallel event



Jubilee Campaign holds UN HRC 46 Parallel Event "No One Left Behind"

On 5 March 2021, Jubilee Campaign hosted its third parallel event to the United Nations Human Rights Council 46th Session. This event, titled *No One Left Behind*, was convened to discuss the concerning trend of abductions, forced marriages, and forced religious conversions of minority girls and women in various countries, with a specific focus on Egypt, Nigeria, and Pakistan.

Perhaps the most recent and high-profile cases is that of 13-year-old Pakistani Catholic girl Arzoo Raja. In October 2020, Arzoo was kidnapped outside of her home in Karachi, Pakistan. Days later, Arzoo's parents were informed that their daughter was forcibly converted to Islam and forcibly married to her captor, their 40-year-old neighbor. Arzoo's story is just one of the tens of similar cases not only in Pakistan, but in other nations as well.

"Monday, the 8th of March, the world will focus on International Women's Day. It's only fitting that we raise this issue and continue to raise the awareness to ensure that girls of today can enjoy their full rights as women tomorrow. In stating this, we note that girls who marry before the age of 15 are 50% more likely to face physical and sexual violence from a partner, and it's our goal to see that those numbers are reduced significantly."



Ms. Ann Buwalda, Executive Director, Jubilee Campaign

Download Jubilee Campaign's Report "Abduction, Forced Conversion and Child Marriage of Religious Minority Girls in Pakistan"

"We know that early and forced marriages of children is a violation of human rights. It prevents children from living their lives free from all forms of violence, with wide-ranging and adverse consequences because child marriage disproportionately affects girls.... Compounding this problem is a disturbing

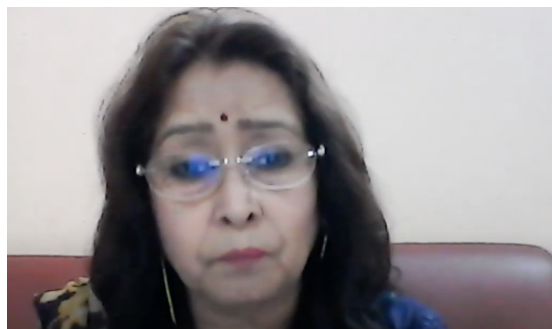


Ms. Mama Fatima Singhateh, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children

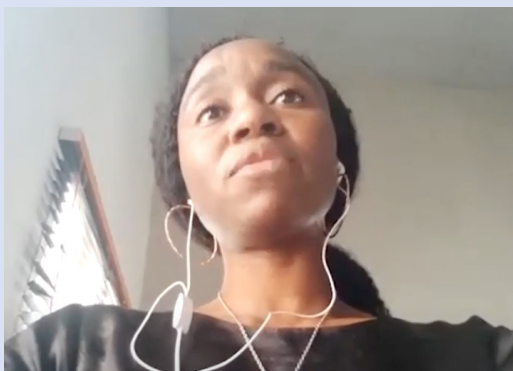
phenomena of forced religious conversions of girls from minority groups.... When conversion is made under duress, it becomes a violation of human rights."

[Download the Special Rapporteur's Full Remarks](#)

"As religious extremism has gained momentum across the globe, so has Pakistan been affected by serious issues. Religious extremists come and take minority females, girls especially...to involve with them and take them for marriage. It's a very serious issue and we the minorities, the Christians and the Hindus, feel very insecure."



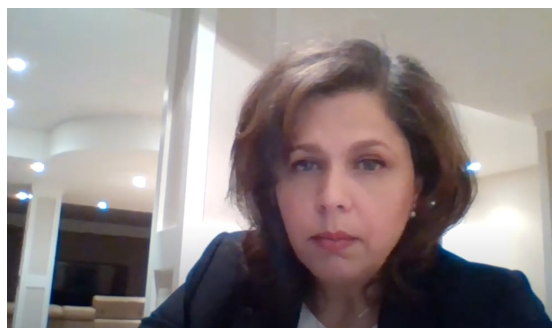
Ms. Mangla Sharma, Member, Pakistan Hindu Council, Provincial Assembly of Sindh Province



Ms. Fatima Njoku, Advocacy Director, Stefanos Foundation

"The story of the abduction of the girls from Chibok [Nigeria] has become global news, something that everyone has heard about. Now that is a story about something that has been happening for a long time, unreported, and many times being denied. Particularly, the abduction of teenage girls, [religious] conversion by force, and marrying them off without the consent of their parents."

"A former member of the kidnapping ring also stated that this group rented apartments in different areas of Egypt to hid kidnapped Coptic girls, where they put them under pressure or take compromising pictures or videos of them, then threaten them if they don't convert to Islam they would defame them and their families."



Download Coptic Solidarity's Report: 'JIHAD OF THE WOMB':TRAFFICKING OF COPTIC WOMEN & GIRLS IN EGYPT

View No One Left Behind:



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