



**DOWNLOAD Mobile App**

Report Social, Political, Economic, Civil and Cultural violations in Zimbabwe

# The concerns are widespread.

What will become of the 2023 Elections in Zimbabwe?

**The Zimbabwe Peace Project  
Monthly Monitoring Report  
September 2022**



**ZIMBABWE  
PEACE  
PROJECT**

Resist, Reject and Report Violence, [#RRRV2023](#)

# inside

- 1 The RoundUP
- 2 Human Rights Violations in September
- 3 Major Highlights
- 4 Key Findings and Recommendations
- 5 Special Focus
- 6 Provincial Outlook

# The RoundUP

September internationally observes the day of democracy on the 15th and the day of peace on the 21st. However, sadly reported a surge in political intolerance and violence incidents in Zimbabwe, recording a total of 272 human rights violations, an increase from August's 257. The hotspots were Harare, with 47, followed by Mashonaland Central (41), Manicaland (38), and Mashonaland East (36). The Zimbabwe Peace Project (ZPP) launched a Resist, Reject and Report Violence Campaign, #RRRV2023, to document and expose perpetrators of politically motivated violence and create an active citizenry that resists, rejects, and reports violence. Zimbabwe is at that time where one ought to look out for the other as human rights violations continue and mainly affect ordinary citizens. A mobile App SPECC, developed by ZPP, empowers citizens to report any Social, Political, Economic, Civil, and Cultural violations in Zimbabwe. ZPP aims to contribute to a peaceful electoral process where citizens are empowered to reject politicians who incite them to engage in politically motivated violence.

The September Monitor showed that Zanu PF topped the list of human rights violators by contributing 45.3% of all perpetrators of human rights violations, followed by the Zimbabwe Republic Police at 27%, Municipal Police at 4.8%, and CCC at 4.3%. Municipal Police were involved in demolishing informal traders' structures during the month. The continued swell in the Zanu PF's contribution to perpetrating human rights violations can be attributed to the increasing party campaign activities in preparation for the 2023 elections, with citizens coerced to attend party meetings and instructed on who they should elect against their will.

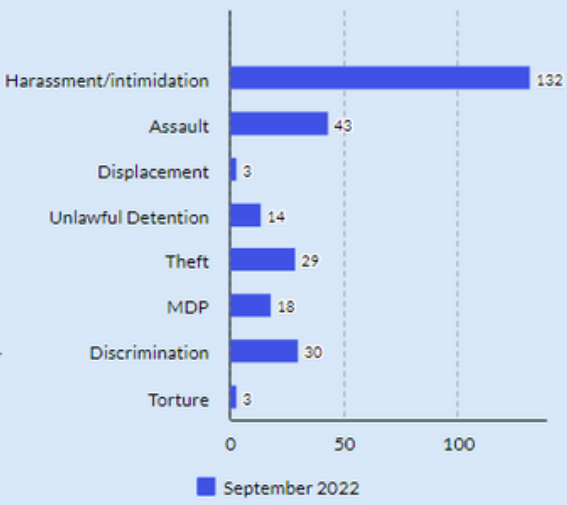
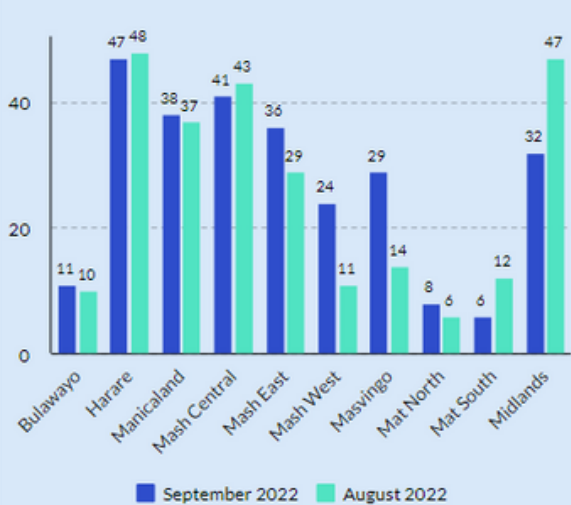
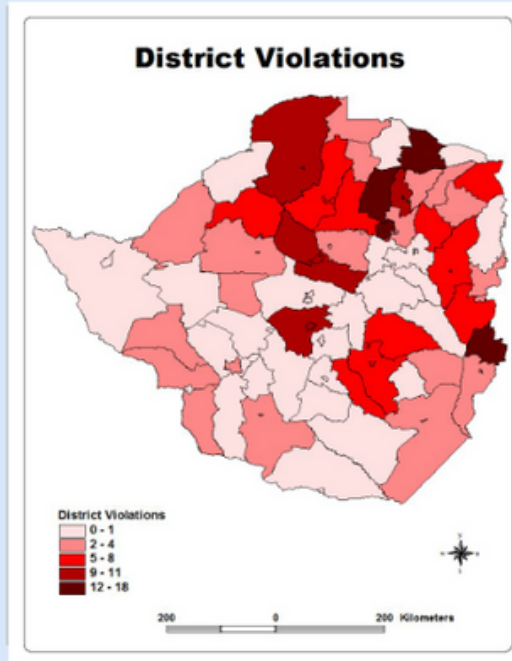
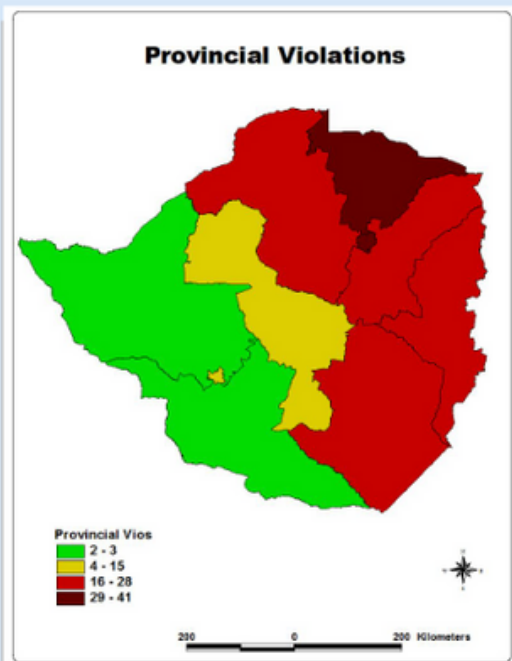
The general citizens comprise most of the September human rights violations victims at over 86%. The Monitor observed an increase from 10.5% in August to 12.4% of the CCC victims. Persons with disability victims decreased to 0.36% for women PWDs and 0.27% for men.

# Human Rights Violations in September

## Human Rights Violations Monthly Dashboard

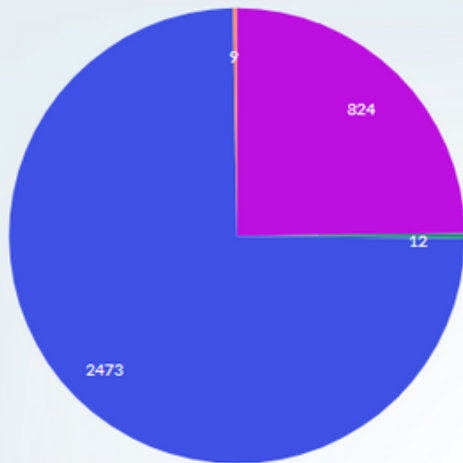
Report time frame: September, 2022

Zimbabwe Peace Project



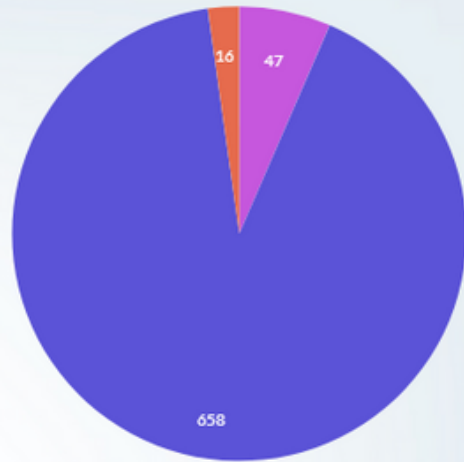
Provincial Violations

Types of Violations



Female (24.83%) Female PWD (0.36%) Male (74.53%) Male PWD (0.27%)

Gender of Victims



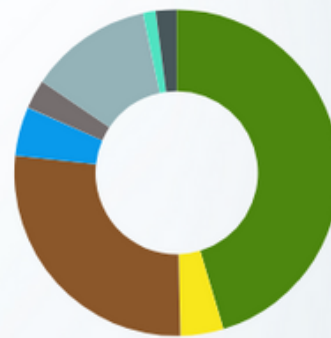
Female (6.52%) Male (91.26%) Unknown (2.22%)

Gender of Perpetrators



Zanu PF (0.72%) CCC (12.45%) General Citizens (86.83%)

Victims Affiliation



Zanu PF (45.35%) CCC (4.3%) ZRP (27.05%) Municipal Police (4.85%) ZNA (2.91%) Unknown (12.21%) State agents (1.25%) War Veteran (2.08%)

Perpetrators Affiliation



Harare (12.2%) Manicaland (19.51%) Mash Central (17.07%) Mash East (12.2%) Mash West (9.76%) Masvingo (12.2%) Mat North (4.88%) Mat South (2.44%) Midlands (9.76%)

Food & Other Aid Violations



Zanu PF CCC  
Intra Party Violence

# Major Highlights

On September 27, 2022, the Zimbabwe High Court granted an application to halt the lower court trial proceedings of a case involving opposition activists Joana Mamombe (Legislator), Cecelia Chimbiri, and Netsai Marova to enable a review of magistrate Faith Mushure's ruling. The application for stay comes after the magistrate ruled to dismiss an application for discharge in a case dragging for over 28 months of alleged stage-managing their abduction and communicating falsehoods. Since their arrest on May 13, 2020, for participating in a peaceful protest, the three women, all members of the Citizens' Coalition for Change (CCC), have been in and out of court. Mamombe, Chimbiri, and Marova suffered torture, harassment, and degrading treatment. They add to the number of victims of torture, abduction, and enforced disappearances at the hands of the State.

Alarmingly, on September 29, a CCC activist Felix Biri was reportedly abducted by Zanu PF activists in Nyatsime. He was allegedly forcibly taken from his home, beaten, tortured, and later dumped at Zimbabwe Republic Police CID Law and Order. The victim appeared in court on October 1, charged with inciting public violence, denied bail, and remanded in custody to October 11, 2022. Opposition activists and human rights defenders continue to be victims of abductions and torture while the government denies the accusations and sometimes blames a third force and falsehoods.

On September 29, Zimbabwean author and activist Tsitsi Dangarembwa and fellow protestor Julie Barnes were both found guilty of inciting violence when they marched in Harare holding placards calling for institutional and political reforms. The two were arrested in July 2020 and, more than two years later, sentenced to six months in prison, suspended on condition that they pay a fine of ZWL \$70,000. Their conviction for exercising the right to demonstrate and petition violates their constitutional rights and should not be criminalised in Zimbabwe.

On September 12, students at the University of Zimbabwe embarked on peaceful #FeesMustFall demonstrations against tuition fee hikes of up to 1000%, paying a steep ZWL500,000.00 from about ZWL50,000.00. The university also increased accommodation fees from ZWL71,000.00 to \$616 United States Dollars (USD). Despite the peaceful demonstrations, three female students were arrested and assaulted by the Police and sustained severe injuries. Another 14 students were arrested, while five more arrested two days later. The students were charged with violating the Criminal Law, Codification and Reform Act. Section 59 of the Constitution provides that every person has the right to demonstrate and present petitions. Though the Higher and Tertiary Education Minister Amon Murwira defended the fee hike, arguing that the government was already subsidising, the fees were later reviewed down after students petitioned Parliament.

Members of Parliament Job Sikhala and Godfrey Sithole and 14 others from Nyatsime are in detention without trial for more than 100 days on allegations of inciting public violence following the murder of Moreblessing Ali in May 2022. Hon. Sikhala, Hon. Sithole and the 14 other detainees were arrested in June 2022 following violent clashes in Nyatsime during funeral proceedings for Moreblessing Ali. The 16 have been in and out of court since their arrest and constantly denied bail, with the latest bail pending trial application dismissed on September 28. According to Section 50 (1) (d), bail is a constitutional right in Zimbabwe, yet these CCC members are continuously denied bail. The continued persecution through prosecution of opposition activists shows the shrinking of democratic space in the country, especially as Zimbabwe heads towards the 2023 harmonised elections. On September 20, Job Sikhala's wife, Ellen, was arrested and had her car impounded for an alleged traffic offence while visiting her husband at Chikurubi Maximum Prison.

On September 23, Vice-President Constantino Chiwenga's ailing ex-wife Marry Mubaiwa had part of her right arm amputated at a local healthcare institution, after several unsuccessful appeals to the courts to have her passport and get specialised treatment abroad. Mubaiwa is accused of violating the Marriages Act and attempted murder. The continued targeted persecution through the prosecution of Marry Mubaiwa shows the failure of the state to promote and uphold women's rights, including the right to health. In a case at the Siansundu Clinic in Binga, the persisting water shortage has led to women bringing buckets of water to access healthcare.

On September 11, a hand grenade is reported to have exploded close to Gadzema Stadium in Chinhoyi, where CCC leader Nelson Chamisa was scheduled to address a rally. The opposition party stated that the grenade thrown from a moving vehicle was an act of intimidation by suspected state agents and Zanu PF activists. Such acts of violence display high levels of political intolerance as the country enters into the shadows of the next election, signifying how potentially violent the election will be.

Religious leaders have become major instigators of human rights violations. These leaders abuse their congregation members primarily in apostolic and pentecostal churches. During community activities, the ZPP learned that several apostolic leaders in Chiredzi Ward 7 take young underage girls to pray for many days, exposing them to sexual assault and forced marriages at a young age. In the Mahenye area in Chiredzi, a 13-year-old girl was married to a prophet named Madzibaba Terminate. While religion unites people from various backgrounds, it is disheartening that people blindly accept their leaders' orders despite violating their rights.



# Key Findings & Recommendations

## International Day of Peace

As the world observed the International Day of Peace on September 21, President Emmerson Mnangagwa mentioned that Zimbabwe was at peace during his address at the United Nations General Assembly, even though his administration detains opposition activists without trial. In line with the international theme this year, 'End racism, build peace', ZPP adopted 'End Intolerance, build Peace' as a response to the many peace breaches that are increasing due to intolerance among political actors<sup>[1]</sup>. The toxicity of politics in Zimbabwe remains alarming and a cause for concern for the Zimbabwe Peace Project. ZPP notes how Zanu PF has launched systematic threats and intimidation targeting opposition supporters in rural and urban areas. The ruling party has adopted concerted actions where opposition political players, especially in the Citizens' Coalition for Change, are threatened and, in some cases, physically abused. ZPP recommends the adoption of the following interventions to promote sustainable peace in Zimbabwe:

### Government

- The state has the responsibility to ensure all citizens exercise their rights without limitation and regardless of their political affiliation, gender, disability, race
- The state has a responsibility to ensure that the law is applied non-selectively

### Chapter 12 Commissions

- According to their mandate generally and the NPRC specifically they need to strike alliances with relevant stakeholders to ensure that positive peace prevails
- The NPRC could take a leaf from Kenya and monitor hate language and take note of words that should be avoided
- The Zimbabwe Gender Commission and the Zimbabwe Media Commission are urged to ensure that women are not subjected to violence and cyber bullying

[1] <https://data.zimpeaceproject.com/en/entity/fe2zw0lg3h7>



The Zimbabwe Republic Police has been biased and continues to be selective in enforcing the law in favour of Zanu PF, as seen through arbitrary and unlawful detentions of opposition activists and human rights defenders. The ZRP continues to be an enforcer for the ruling party, ready to arrest those who do not support Zanu PF and deliberately look away when the ruling party is on the wrong side of the law. High levels of hate speech expose the culture of political intolerance in Zimbabwe during campaigns and on social media. According to Johan Galtung, widely known as the father of peace, there is negative and positive peace. He states that positive peace has characteristics such as the restoration of relationships, the creation of social systems that serve the needs of the whole population, and the constructive resolution of conflict. Therefore the absence of war is not peace. In line with this, ZPP recommends the government adopt the following interventions to ensure police officers do not abuse their powers:

- Training of Zimbabwe Republic Police on their constitutional mandate and the transformation from a force to a service as required by the Constitution
- The clear separation of powers of the judiciary, legislature and executive in line with dictates of democracy and the Constitution



### State of Health

Zimbabwe's health system has been directly affected by the ailing economy and further crippled by the COVID-19 pandemic. Public hospitals cannot offer primary healthcare as they operate on shoestring budgets. Private hospitals charge exorbitant fees, leaving most citizens stripped of their right to access essential healthcare services. The Ministry of Health and Child Care and other health stakeholders in Zimbabwe are struggling to contain a measles outbreak that has already infected more than 5 735 children and killed at least 639 children. The raging measles outbreak is spreading fast, mostly among children of members of the Apostolic Church who do not subscribe to having their children vaccinated. The failure to contain the spread is a dilemma that the Zanu PF government battles between safeguarding a vast voter base and making it mandatory for all to vaccinate their children. In line with this, ZPP recommends the government adopt the following interventions to ensure the revival of the health sector in Zimbabwe:

- Ratification of the Abuja Declaration on Health to increase government health funding to at least 15% of the national budget.
- Enforcement of anti-corruption laws in the country to ensure that financial resources meant for the health sector are not corruptly abused by certain protected individuals.
- Enforce laws that make mandatory for infants to be vaccinated against the seven killer diseases



# Special Focus

## 1. Human Dignity and Right to personal security

On 22 September in Nkulumane constituency, a Citizen Coalition for Change member identified as Fanelo Sibanda assaulted a fellow 30-year-old party member. It is said the two together with others were arguing on the possibility of the CCC winning the forthcoming elections. Verified facts suggest that the victim became critical of the party executive and cited that there was no clear vision. This angered Sibanda who lost his temper and slapped him for undermining the leadership of Nelson Chamisa.

In another disturbing incident, a Zanu PF aspiring Member of Parliament for Marondera Central and business man Mr Lucas Chimoka was shot dead on 23 September in Paradise Park Marondera Central. It is alleged that robbers pounced at the Chimoka house before shooting him in cold blood and brutally assaulting his wife. It is unclear whether the incident was purely a robbery or a political assassination aimed at stopping Chimoka from participating in the upcoming elections. Residents of Marondera were shocked by such an incident and still suspect that the robbery was a cover up of a political assassination.

On 15 September at Mutoko Centre flea Market, Ward 11 in Mutoko North, a CCC activist was assaulted by Farai Hodzi a former Zanu PF Councillor and war veteran. The victim was shoved and slapped by Hodzi before being accused of derailing Zanu PF election plans. Reports indicate that Hodzi confronted the CCC activist with other Zanu PF members with the intention of inciting serious violence.

A CCC security personnel, reportedly assaulted a News-Hawks journalist Ruvimbo Muchenje at Gahadzima Grounds in Chinhoyi on 10 September. The assault and inhuman and degrading treatment on Muchenje happened during a CCC rally. Reports state that Muchenje was trying to find her way into the stadium and was beaten up by CCC party security who attempted to block her from entering. She was then forced on to the ground and made to roll, leaving her dress torn.

In ward 28, Mazowe North Mvurwi, Zanu PF district chairperson Cde Chiwara issued threats of abduction to CCC activist Vengai Matiriri. On 21 September Chiwara told Matiriri that he might go missing for supporting the CCC party. Following the threats, the victim immediately made a police report at Mvurwi police station. The case was later referred to Bindura Law and Order for investigation (RRB5150217). The trend of arrests and detention of citizens continued in September following the arrest of CCC activists Job Sikhala, Godfrey Sithole and other victims of the Nyatsime violence in June 2022. On 29 September CCC activist Felix Bhiri was arrested by the police after he was abducted and assaulted by suspected Zanu PF activists in Nyatsime. The victim was reportedly abducted and taken to a base where he was assaulted for unknown reasons. He was later picked up by the police and charged with inciting public violence following the June 14 Nyatsime violence.

On 8 September at Red Acres Farm, ward 13 in Zvimba North it is alleged that a Zanu PF activist Tawanda Madikiwa had a violent scuffle with a 37 year old man. Reports indicate that before that incident Madikiwa had threatened the victim with death threats. After the fight around 12 midnight Madikiwa reportedly torched the victim's house, using an accelerant thought to be gasoline. The fire destroyed property worth thousands of dollars and left the affected family in dire need of assistance. The matter was reported to the police however no arrest was reported.

On 26 September at Magunje Growth Point Ward 12 in Hurungwe Central, a Zanu PF activist and war veteran Frank Ndambakuwa threatened to kill a 50 year old CCC member. The victim, who is a teacher, was harassed, intimidated and threatened with death after he failed to attend a Zanu PF meeting. He is also worried about the extent and continued threats by the Zanu PF activist. During the month of September Hurungwe district became a hot spot of political violence.



On 29 September renowned Zimbabwean author Tsitsi Dangarembga and co-accused Julie Barnes were convicted of participating in a public gathering with intent to incite public violence at Harare Magistrates Court. The pair were given a suspended prison sentence for inciting violence by staging a peaceful protest calling for political reform in 2020. Dangarembga was arrested in July 2020 for holding a placard inscribed “We want better. Reform our institutions” during a peaceful protest while Barnes was also apprehended for brandishing a placard demanding freedom of the media. The pair were each fined ZWL70 000 (500 USD). A six-month jail term was suspended for the next five years on condition that the two do not commit a similar offence.

On 4 September a case of abduction and right to personal security was reported in Damofalls suburb in Goromonzi North. It is alleged that a CCC supporter was abducted and tortured by persons suspected to be Zanu PF activists around sunset. Reports confirm that he was manhandled and forced into a vehicle and taken to an unknown location. The assailants reportedly brutally assaulted him and he passed out. He was then dumped near a dairy farm east of Arcturus mine. He woke up disoriented the next day and was assisted by some locals to contact his family and party.

## 2. Freedoms of Association and Movement

On 26 September, police officers disrupted a parents' demonstration at Kambuzuma High 1. Parents who intended to demonstrate against alleged corruption at the school were dispersed by the police while some were detained at Kambuzuma police post. He alleged that Chiwara overcharged tuition fees without government approval and had not issued parents with tuition fee payment receipts. He also alleged that Chiwara has been demanding contributions from parents to raise \$63000 USD towards the purchase of a school vehicle while ignoring the dilapidated school infrastructure.

On 13 September clashes were reported in Mbare at Mupedzanhamo flea market pitting Zanu PF youths and CCC youths. It is said that anti-riot police had to use teargas to stop the clashes between the youths. The youths were fighting for the control of flea market spaces in Mbare's Mupedzanhamo area resulting in damage to some vending stalls, vehicles and the closure of shops. The market space was being controlled by space barons linked to Zanu PF who reportedly demand fees from vendors to allow them to operate in the area. CCC youths who were being denied operating space at the market clashed with ruling party youths resulting in violence.



On 21 September 2022, between 08:00 hours and 15:30 hours people in ward 13, Bikita West under headman Mupakwa gathered at the ward centre. They had been called to have their names written down in order to be given government sponsored farming inputs under the pfumvudza scheme. It is alleged that people came in their numbers as they thought that inputs would be distributed, yet the agenda was different, it was actually a Zanu PF campaign meeting. It was noted that Raphael Chiranga, Vena Nyangara, Japhet Chiteme had called for the meeting, together with D. Mazhara and Muchafa Mazhara. While at the gathering, Muchafa allegedly intimidated people saying that in the upcoming 2023 general elections, if one was caught supporting the opposition CCC, Zanu PF was going to cut off that individual's head, and for those known as CCC supporters would be heavily assaulted. People were left in fear. The headman Clemence Mupakwa was present and also said that those village heads with CCC supporters in their areas would be in for it, so they were supposed to list the CCC supporters and submit the names to him.

In Bikita East, the area legislator, Johnson Madhuku called for a meeting in ward 17 on 25 September 2022 at the ward centre. During the meeting, he indicated that village heads were to receive 2x50kg compound D and 2x50kg ammonium nitrate fertiliser each. He said that this was to motivate them to whip and coerce their people to vote for Zanu PF in the 2023 elections. He then threatened the village heads that if they failed to mobilise for the ruling Zanu PF, they were either going to be murdered or have their homes destroyed by other Zanu PF members as they would have shown that they were 'sellouts'.

It was reported that Andrew Nyoka of ward 24, Silobela, was at Umelusi on 22 September 2022 at a gathering where he uttered intimidating words during a Zanu PF meeting. Nyoka is said to be the Zanu PF district chairperson. He is alleged to have threatened the gathered villagers that if Zanu PF lost the 2023 plebiscite, they would face the consequences, indicating that it included violence being meted out on them. He informed the villagers that all the inputs and maize were to be distributed according to Zanu PF cell structure registers and those who were not appearing would be denied the government sponsored aid from that day onwards.



A case on the right to personal security was reported in Guruve North ward 6 under Chief Chipuro's jurisdiction. Patrick Chiwara was allegedly summoned to Central Intelligence Organisation office in Guruve where he was questioned in connection with his political affiliation to the Citizens Coalition for Change party. During the conversation, some intelligence officers threatened that all opposition supporters would be severely tortured and punished in 2023. As the victim left the office, he was also told to warn his colleagues that Zanu PF was prepared to punish all traitors working with the CCC party ahead of the 2023 general elections.

A case on the right to personal security was reported on 14 September during a Zanu PF meeting convened in Bindura North ward 12. It is said that drunk Zanu PF youths Tatenda Chipika, Privilege Torwa and Rodrich Jacha sent by Zanu PF Councillor Wendile Machisa disrupted a Zanu PF meeting organised by District Chairperson Mr Masawi. Chaotic scenes were reported until the meeting was forced to adjourn. Verbal altercations were reported and the youths threatened to assault party members. It is said that after the meeting, Masawi escalated the issue to the District Coordinating Committee (DCC).

On 2 September 2022, it was reported that Zanu PF had transported people from rural areas of Chipinge district to Chipinge Town where they were to hold a march from Gaza high density suburb to Chipinge Country Club through Chipinge town. They were singing songs denouncing the opposition CCC party and its leader Nelson Chamisa. Verified facts from insiders indicated that the purpose of this was to intimidate CCC supporters and discourage them from attending a rally that was to be addressed by their leader Nelson Chamisa at Kondo Business Centre in Chipinge West on 18 September 2022. They were also singing wartime songs threatening to unleash violence on those opposed to Zanu PF.

It was reported that there was a lot of intimidation taking place in Mutare West being perpetrated by Zanu PF members and House of Assembly aspiring candidates. It was reported that when the candidates gathered and addressed people on 13 September, they said Zanu PF would never surrender the constituency to the opposition as it funded the activities of the party since there were plenty of diamonds. State security agents were allegedly patrolling the 11 villages telling people of 'short sleeves' that voting was a waste of time as Zanu PF was never going to surrender power. The aspiring candidates were identified as Manengurenani from ward 28 and a Mafararikwa from ward 16.

In Chimanimani West, ward 2, it was reported that the Zanu PF party had started door to door campaigns. In Mhandarume, ward 2, the program started on 14 September 2022 with Washington Gondo leading the campaign. They were allegedly intimidating villagers who were thinking of not voting for Zanu PF. They were also said to have been asking some questions and recording the responses. Some of the questions were as follows: Did one register to vote? What would one want the president to do for them and their community? Would they be voting for Zanu PF in 2023? According to some residents, the campaign was targeting mainly opposition CCC supporters. The exercise, though they were calling it voter education, was intimidating. Some people also claimed that they were told that if CCC wins in ward 2 in 2023, soldiers would be deployed to assault people.

On 7 September, in Rujeko, Masvingo Urban, it was reported that Zanu PF supporters were at each other's throat in a case of intra-party squabbles. These took place after they graduated from the short courses which were introduced by the First Lady Auxillia Mnangagwa as a campaign strategy ahead of the 2023 elections. The program was supposed to be attended by every resident but it was attended by Zanu PF supporters only and a number of women were turned away as they were allegedly not Zanu PF party card holders, but accused of belonging to the opposition CCC party. After they graduated they were now making dishwashers, and others were waiting to go for nurse aid attachment. Only a few were selected depending on who one knew in the Zanu PF party structures and the rest were being left out, so this was said to have led to intra-party violence within the party.



In ward 28, Chiredzi West, Triangle an incident was reported where people who support the opposition CCC party were allegedly segregated on political grounds. On 1 September, in Mufakose, there was a program meant to promote women in the community to get help through the Women's Microfinance Bank to empower women to do projects. The Zanu PF coordinator who was selected to give registration forms to all women in the community allegedly refused forms to a lady accused of not giving her details when they were needed for political use for the Zanu PF cell structure. She was told that she would never benefit from the program since she was an opposition CCC supporter. The phrase 'inodya payakasungirirwa' loosely translated to 'one benefits where they are attached', was recited and she was told to go to the opposition and benefit there. She was left heartbroken since the program was for the empowerment of all women in the community.

### **3. Right to Education**

A case on the right to education was reported in Glenview South at Glenview 3 primary school in ward 32. Between 6 and 9 September pupils at Glenview 2 primary were turned away from school for not paying tuition fees. The school headmaster Mr Mpande went class by class telling pupils to return home and return with tuition fees. Grade seven pupils sitting for their final examinations were not spared. About three quarters of the school was turned away for outstanding payments.

In Buhera West, ward 6, it was reported that pupils at Munyira Primary and Secondary schools were allegedly being turned away on a daily basis for non-payment of fees. As a result pupils were seen loitering at the shopping centre and in nearby bushy areas, increasing the possibility of juvenile delinquency cases. This happened against the backdrop of parents and villagers struggling to make ends meet and access clean and portable water. Citizens were reportedly having to walk for 12 to 20 km to get clean water.

It was reported that in Dangamvura/Chikanga, on 7 September 2022, school pupils were turned away for non-payment of fees. Students from Chikanga primary school, Chikanga 2 area, were ordered by the school authorities to go back home and collect school fees. as ordered.

A village health worker in ward 8 of Gutu Central was informed by the local school headmaster that three learners were not attending school regularly. The students were in form 1, grade 4 and Early Child Development (ECD). It is alleged that the three were being physically and emotionally abused by their paternal grandmother and aunt. The ECD learner had stopped attending school due to a hearing impairment allegedly as a result of assault. The case was reported to the Social Welfare on 8 September 2022 and the mother was advised to move her children from the abusers while the police were carrying out some investigations.

Pupils with outstanding tuition fees payments were turned away from Ran Mine Primary school, in ward 12, Bindura North by the head identified as Matsororo. It is alleged that pupils were told not to check-in until a payment was made by their parents or guardian. This incident was reported on 14 September 2022.

It is alleged that the headmistress at Nyandoro Primary School in Wedza North, identified as Mrs Chipato, sent home pupils over tuition and levy arrears. Approximately 60% of learners missed classes as a result. Reports indicate that Mrs Chipato and the School Development Committee had not engaged parents on the issue but decided on their own to turn away pupils. Although the constitution forbids schools from turning away children, school authorities undermine this right.

The government failed to honour their obligation to pay fees for pupils under the Basic Education Assistance Module (BEAM) programme. It was reported that school fees had not been paid since the first term of the year, which was now inconveniencing pupils who were turned away for non-payment of fees by school authorities on 25 September. This was noted at Tamuka Secondary, Cheninga Primary and other satellite schools in ward 1, Bikita South. This was making vulnerable learners to be disadvantaged even further.

On 23 September pupils at Budiriro 1 primary school were turned away for non-payment of tuition fees. The school head Mrs Zvinvashe reportedly advised teachers to turn away all students with tuition fee arrears from last term. All classes were affected from grades 1-7 and pupils were spotted playing in the streets on their way home.



On 21 September all pupils with outstanding tuition fees and levies at Wadzanai Primary school in ward 15, Shamva North were sent home to collect fees by the school head Mr Gweva. Reports indicate that approximately three quarters of the school were affected, from grades 1-7. At Sosera Primary school in Mt Darwin all pupils with outstanding tuition fee payments were turned away by the school head Mr Mbofana. The incident was reported on the 19th and 20th of September 2022. For two consecutive days pupils were told to return home and collect fees.

Some University of Zimbabwe students who demonstrated against fees hikes at the institution on the 12th of September were assaulted, arrested and detained by the police at Avondale police station. The protestors were later transferred to Harare Central police station where they were charged with inciting public violence. They appeared in court and were released on bail.

#### **4. Right to Food and Water**

In Glenview South ward 32 on 1 September, the City of Harare disconnected water supplies to more than 50 residents after their water metres were stolen by thieves the previous month. This action reportedly left many residents concerned since Glenview South has been a hotspot for cholera and other water borne diseases in the past. A resident lamented against the council decision complaining that instead of replacing the stolen water metres the council decided to disconnect water supplies in the community.

At Halfway Business centre in ward 11, Gokwe Sasame, under Chief Nemangwe , a partisan distribution of aid was reported on 17 September. Zanu PF member and ward councillor Mafukidzamwa Masara addressed residents of the area, informing them about presidential inputs that would be distributed. He indicated that Zanu PF members and those who completed their village levy payments (mutero) would benefit. Those that did not fall under the two categories would be denied the aid as they portrayed 'sellouts' traits.

Villagers in Nyangavi Township, ward 5, Guruve South under Chief Chipuriro's jurisdiction were forced to contribute US \$3.00 to fundraise for Zanu PF's 2023 election campaigns. On 19 September Zanu PF Councillor Mike Kamuzonde reportedly assigned village heads to collect the contributions, citing that the ruling party was fundraising for next year's local and general elections. Kamuzonde reportedly specified that defaulters would not benefit from government aid sponsored under the Presidential pfumvunza inputs scheme. Village heads were also advised to compile lists of the defaulters.

In ward 14, Buhera Weston 16 September 2022, pupils at Chikwekwete primary were being turned away for non-payment of fees. The school was also struggling with clean water to provide for the pupils and parents were supposed to pay additional funds so that they could pay for water. The pupils whose parents had not paid the funds to purchase water were ordered to fetch water across Mwerahari Bridge and were in danger of being knocked down by haulage trucks which use the bridge. The students had to cross the bridge with buckets of water on their heads and walk for about 14km from a Growth Point community borehole.

On 4 September it was reported that in ward 24, Silobela, an elderly woman who residing, who stays alone in Magabi 3 area was allegedly denied her share of food aid by Cosmos Moyo the acting village head of the area. Moyo was one of the people who presided over the distribution of the maize. The victim was denied the aid as she was not in the Zanu PF cell structures and had not attended any Zanu PF meetings so by her actions she was aligned to the opposition CCC.

In Chirumhanzu South, ward 25, on 28 September 2022, it was reported that Patrick Cheza of CCC) gave Shinya and Munhende villagers in ward 25 a fence for their gardens. It was said that the Zanu PF members in those areas influenced other villagers to reject the fence saying that they did not need any items from a Citizens Coalition for Change member. This was after another CCC member had installed a pump for the community dip tank, but it was allegedly vandalised by suspected Zanu PF members. Cheza also installed a public water tap for everyone at the shopping centre, but Zanu PF have been discouraging people from using it. Instead they encourage them to fetch water from a borehole which was installed by the area's legislator Barbra Rwonzi and is difficult to pump. They claim that they do not drink water from a source installed by a CCC member.



## **5. Right to Health**

On 20 September it was reported that Farai Mafumbate, a member of the Johanne Masowe apostolic sect was found with 16 of his children locked up in a room after one of his children had succumbed to measles on 15 September 2022, denying these minors their right to health. Mafumbate who resides in Marima village under headman Masasire did not take heed of the governments call to let children below 13 years be vaccinated. The female Emergency Health Technician for wards 19 and 21 discovered the quarantined children after a tip off when she had gone to the funeral of one of Mafumbate's children. The children are primary school learners who attend school at Chivaka Primary in ward 15. Another girl aged 6 also died of measles in Mudyiwa village, ward 19 on 18 September 2022. Two members of the family who were showing signs and symptoms of measles are in Grade 6 and 7 at Gangare Primary in ward 21.

In ward 32, Glenview South at Glenview Polyclinic, on 27 September a mother reportedly gave birth to her baby in a toilet after she was neglected by healthcare workers at the polyclinic. Reports indicate that the woman was dismissed from the maternity ward by a nurse because she was giving birth for the 5th time. It is alleged that the dismissal was an initiative meant to prioritise people giving birth for the first time. The victim who was experiencing recurring contractions left the ward and gave birth to her baby in the toilet at the polyclinic. The baby spent hours on the toilet floor before the victim was attended to by a nurse. The Sister in Charge at the polyclinic apologised citing that they were short staffed at the clinic. She said the clinic only had 9 midwives instead of the requisite 26.

# Provincial Outlook

## Harare

The state continued to deny citizens their rights to freedom of assembly and association and the freedom to demonstrate and petition. On September 26, police officers disrupted a parents' demonstration at Kambuzuma High 1. The police dispersed parents who intended to demonstrate against alleged corruption at the school while some got detained at the Kambuzuma police post. Some University of Zimbabwe students who demonstrated against fee hikes at the institution on September 12 were assaulted, arrested, and detained at Avondale police station. The protestors were later transferred to Harare Central police station and charged with inciting public violence. They appeared in court and were released on bail. The arrests and detention of citizens continued in September following the arrest of CCC activists Job Sikhala, Godfrey Sithole, and other victims of the Nyatsime violence in June 2022. On September 29, CCC activist Felix Bhiri was arrested by the police after being abducted and assaulted by suspected Zanu PF activists in Nyatsime. The victim was reportedly abducted and taken to a base where he was assaulted for unknown reasons. He was later picked up by the police and charged with inciting public violence following the June 14 Nyatsime violence.

The police blocked a memorial gala for the late former President Robert Mugabe set for the Zimbabwe Grounds on September 17. Officer Commanding Police Harare South District Chief Superintendent M Majojo responded, turning down an application by former Zanu PF youth leader Jim Kunaka to notify the police. Many government schools in Harare turned pupils away for not paying tuition fees, violating Section 75 (a) of the Constitution of Zimbabwe, which stipulates that "Every citizen and permanent resident of Zimbabwe has a right to a basic State-funded education, including adult basic education." In most instances, pupils were told to return home to collect fees while others were told not to report to school until the school authorities received a payment.

# Bulawayo

The province continued to record human rights violations brought about by high levels of intolerance across political parties. Individuals were at the forefront of violating citizens' rights in the name of their political parties and outfits. For example, it was noted that a group of four Mthwakazi activists led by Mzingaye Ndimande forced a CCC member to remove his party t-shirt. The CCC member was wearing the t-shirt at a residence meeting at Stanley Hall when he was told to remove it. The four activists took the t-shirt and tore it in his presence. Mthwakazi activists continue to violate citizens' rights under the banner that citizens should not support political parties led by people from other regions. Simply put, they are determined to violate the rights of anyone who does not support them because whoever resides in Matabeleland should primarily support Mthwakazi.

On the other hand, Zanu PF continues to extend its hegemony by forcing citizens to be part of their structures against their rights. During the month, Mandlenkosi Ncube, a party activist, went around the market square forcing new vendors to buy party cards. Verified facts indicate that Ncube told vendors that were recently allocated stands to fully join Zanu PF and partake in any activity organised by the party or risk losing the stand. The cards were going for \$2.00. This appears to be a strategy the party uses to gain popular support and shrink the operational space for individuals to exercise their rights. Intra-party violence has also been reported, where members disagree over policy direction and leadership decisions, often resulting in violence. Such a case was recorded in the Nkulumane constituency as a CCC member identified as Fanelo Sibanda assaulted a fellow party member Vuyani Zimbili. Reports state that the two, together with others, were arguing about the possibility of the CCC winning the forthcoming elections. Verified facts indicate that Zimbili became critical of the party executive, citing a lack of clear vision. This angered Sibanda, who lost his temper and slapped Zimbili for undermining the leadership of Nelson Chamisa.

# Manicaland

The intimidation and coercion of the traditional leadership to mobilise all the villagers under their jurisdiction to support Zanu PF continued in September, as was the case in August 2022. The Zanu PF second secretaries seem to have been assigned by their party to work on the traditional leaders in different parts of the country. Following the nationwide program that Kembo C.D Mohadi had undertaken during August, Vice President Constantine Chiwenga followed suit in September, especially in Mutare North. Traditional leaders were called to a meeting to meet the Vice President on 15 September 2022 at Bazeley Bridge in Mwandambira village, ward 12. The agenda of this meeting was to allegedly encourage the traditional leaders to mobilise for the ruling Zanu PF for the 2023 elections. Before the meeting, the traditional leaders received food hampers from the party. With these events, traditional leaders are likely to continue to be used by Zanu PF in the forthcoming harmonised elections to violate people's political rights and personal security.

The seeming partisan issuing of national identity documents was also among the provincial highlights recorded during September. Zanu PF members continued to attempt to hijack national programs for their party's benefit while side-lining opposition parties' members. People in the rural areas struggled to travel to centres where the identity documents were being issued as the blitz had deliberately omitted their areas. Zanu PF mobilised to have people ferried to registration centres and those not known members of their party were given conditions that they will only be ferried to obtain the national identity documents if they pledged their allegiance to Zanu PF. Zanu PF also tried to coerce pastors to mobilise for them. A case was recorded on 2 September in Buhera South Ward 33 where a villager approached a pastor's homestead saying he had been sent by the Zanu PF chairperson. He informed the pastor that he was supposed to mobilise congregants to be under the Zanu PF banner. Then they would be taken to the Registrar General's office at Murambinda, some 120km away, to collect national identity documents. The pastor declined the offer, leading to the messenger issuing threats and accusing him of being an opposition supporter.

# Masvingo

In Masvingo province, cases of political violence against opposition CCC supporters by Zanu PF members continued to be recorded in September. The situation of political violence is getting worse as the 2023 elections draw closer. This was notable in Gutu as it was reported that the Zanu PF ward 6B chairperson in Gutu West, Robison Gahadzikwa, allegedly arrived at Mututu. It is alleged that he asked CCC supporters to remove their yellow party t-shirts and regalia. He allegedly assaulted and injured a CCC member in the process. The victim went to Chatsworth police station to make a police report, where he was informed that he had to go to ZRP Masvingo as the higher offices had asked to see him before a docket could be opened. This was a way of intimidating the victim from making a police report against Zanu PF supporters, who the police seem to be biased towards.

Traditional leaders and Zanu PF members continued threatening villagers against supporting the opposition in Bikita. This could be attributed to the various meetings the Zanu PF second secretary Kembo C.D Mohadi has been having with traditional leaders across the country, encouraging them to mobilise for Zanu PF. This is against the dictates of Section 46[1] of the Traditional Leaders' Act and Section 281 [2] (a, b, c and d) of the Constitution, which clearly states that the members of the institution must not be members of any political party or act in a partisan manner. In Bikita West ward 13, under headman Mupakwa, people were gathered at the ward centre where they were called for their names to be registered for government-sponsored farming inputs under the pfumvudza scheme. It is alleged that it was a Zanu PF campaign meeting that had been called for by Zanu PF members who were identified as Raphael Chiranga, Vena Nyangara, Japhet Chiteme, D Mazhara, and Muchafa Mazhara. While at the gathering, Muchafa allegedly intimidated people telling them that in the upcoming 2023 general elections, anyone who was caught supporting the opposition was going to have their heads cut off. The headman also stated that village heads with CCC supporters in their areas would be in for it and were supposed to submit the names of the CCC supporters to him.

## Midlands

During September, the major highlight in the Midlands province was that of Zanu PF threatening to unleash vendors and touts in 2023 to intimidate and possibly assault CCC members. On 14 September, the Zanu PF Midlands Provincial vice chairperson Edson Chiherenge during the party's inter-district meeting, said that all vendors and touts in the province belonged to the ruling party as they were sons and daughters of the struggle. He added that they would stand and fight for the province next year as a party. He was quoted saying, "this time the baton stick is in Midlands, we will defend it no matter what. We are the ones holding the stick, and no one will take it away," The statements by the Zanu PF member are likely to spark violence if not denounced by the party and top leadership. The inter-district meeting aimed at 'assessing and strengthening' the party's districts ahead of the upcoming 2023 polls, but the statements cannot be associated with 'strengthening' a political formation. This was worrying as in the run-up to elections, Zanu PF has been accused of abusing government projects to lure voters into rallying behind the party and perpetrating violence.

In Kana, in the southern part of Gokwe, cases of political intimidation and harassment aimed at CCC members and supporters were the order of the day during the month. In ward 1 it was reported that village heads were not allowing any opposition party to campaign or conduct any activity in their villages. If they did, they were summoned for a hearing at the ruling party's offices. On 11 September at St Hugh's Business Centre, Muayambi Ward 1, Esnath Mpofu, the Manoti Zanu PF district chairperson, allegedly said that those who would be suspected of being members of CCC party were going to be listed down and during the 2023 election they were going to be mandatorily assisted by Zanu PF leaders to vote. If they refused, they would be assaulted.

# Mashonaland Central

The province remained a political hotspot and a no-go area for opposition supporters. Zanu PF's intimidation tactics reached concerning levels as villagers were forced to fundraise for the ruling party's 2023 election campaigns. In some communities' villagers were terrified by Zanu PF's threats to eliminate opposition supporters in 2023. Cases were reported where vendors were forced to contribute towards Zanu PF programs in the name of community development. In Bindura North, Zanu PF activists reportedly deceived vendors into contributing monies towards constructing a public toilet, only for them to be seen drinking beer after receiving contributions. The targeting of perceived opposition supporters by Zanu PF continued as the nation heads toward the 2023 elections. A case on the right to personal security was reported in Guruve North Ward 6 under Chief Chipuriro's jurisdiction. Patrick Chiwara was allegedly summoned to a Central Intelligence Organisation office in Guruve, where he was questioned in connection with his political affiliation with the Citizens Coalition for Change party. During the conversation, some intelligence officers threatened that all opposition supporters would be severely tortured and punished in 2023. As the victim left the office, he was also told to warn his colleagues that Zanu PF was prepared to punish all traitors working with the CCC party ahead of the 2023 general elections.

In ward 28, Mazowe North Mvurwi, Zanu PF district chairperson Cde Chiwara issued threats of abduction to CCC activist Vengai Matiriri. On 21 September, Chiwara told Matiriri that he might go missing for supporting the CCC party. Following the threats, the victim immediately made a police report at the Mvurwi police station. The case was later referred to Bindura Law and Order for investigation (RRB5150217). In Guruve, Zanu PF affiliated land barons were distributing state land to unsuspecting villagers. On 16 September, some land barons identified as Banda, Benji, and Chireru were allocating land for residential stands to villagers charging them exorbitant amounts in US dollars. It is alleged that some villagers were robbed of their hard-earned monies through the double allocation of stands resulting in clashes. In other reports, Guruve District Education Officer Nhokwara, also the Zanu PF Chairperson in Guruve North, reportedly harassed Maxwell Bisiyawo, a trade unionist and teacher, at Angwa Secondary School in Guruve North. Reports indicate that Nhokwara approached Bisiyawo several times, advising him to resign from the education sector for working with the Guruve Residents and Rate Payers Association (GRRRA). It is alleged that he has warned Bisiyawo to resign before he gets fired.

## Mashonaland West

The political environment in Mashonaland West worsened in the month of September as Hurungwe District became an undisputed hot spot. The setting-up and operation of a terror organized violent group (Zvidhoma) in Hurungwe is a sign that villagers will continue to have their political rights infringed. The cases of political intolerance in the province were a reflection that opposition politics is unwanted and Zvidhoma members of the ruling party are keen on 'banning them' in the area. On 8 September at Wire Business Centre in Magunje Hurungwe Central a CCC chairperson was brutally assaulted by a Zanu PF activist identified as Gebo. Reports indicate that Zanu PF activists are targeting CCC activists, assaulting, harassing and intimidating them.

In another case that was reported on 9 September 2 CCC members from Chirota Magunje Ward 25 in Hurungwe, were reportedly assaulted by Zanu PF activists. It is alleged that the two were assaulted by Zanu PF ward Chairperson Frank Ndambakuwa and his secretary Benhilda Chikomvu. The Zanu PF activists in Hurungwe are trying to silence CCC members as the country braces for elections. CCC members are being threatened, harassed and intimidated by Zanu PF activists for exercising the constitutional rights of choosing and supporting a political party of their choice. This shows how unpredictable Hurungwe district has become with Zanu PF supporters failing to respect and promote political rights of villagers and other political parties.

On another note, CCC security personnel, reportedly assaulted a News-Hawks journalist Ruvimbo Muchenje at Gahadzima Grounds in Chinhoyi on 10 September. The assault and inhuman and degrading treatment on Muchenje happened during a CCC rally. Reports state that Muchenje was trying to find her way into the stadium and was beaten up by CCC party security who attempted to block her from entering. She was then forced on to the ground and made to roll, leaving her dress torn.



## Mashonaland East

The month of September recorded an increase in human rights abuses compared to the month of August. This was attributed to the numerous cases of primary school learners who were sent home over non-payment of levies and tuition. Politically, Mashonaland East remained a hot spot with CCC activists being assaulted, threatened and intimidated by Zanu PF supporters. In Wedza, a man of the cloth, Douglas Kwashirai was harassed and intimidated by a Zanu PF youth Hwinhai Karenga at the funeral service of a prominent businessman identified as Chadoka. Pastor Kwashirai was wearing a yellow African attire before he was harassed and intimidated. Karenga accused the pastor of being a CCC member since he was wearing a yellow African attire. When the pastor was about to give a closing prayer, Karenga pulled him away from the mourners and said, “chimbouyayi kuno vakuru, munoziva here bato reCCC kuti ravakupfeka zvamakapfeka? Please don't ever wear this again”. In another case, a CCC supporter was abducted and brutally assaulted in Damofalls suburb in Goromonzi North by persons suspected to be Zanu PF activists around sunset on 4 September. Reports confirm that he was manhandled, forced into a vehicle and taken to an unknown location. The assailants reportedly brutally assaulted him until he passed out. He was then dumped near a dairy farm east of Arcturus mine. He woke up the next day disoriented and was assisted by some locals to contact his family and the party.

In another disturbing incident, a Zanu PF aspiring Member of Parliament for Marondera Central and business man Mr Lucas Chimoka was shot dead on 23 September in Paradise Park Marondera Central. It is alleged that robbers pounced at the Chimoka house before shooting him in cold blood and brutally assaulting his wife. It is unclear whether the incident was purely a robbery or a political assassination aimed at stopping Chimoka from participating in the upcoming elections. Residents of Marondera were shocked by the incident and still suspect that the robbery was a cover up of a political assassination.

## **Matabeleland North**

Political intolerance was recorded at Mafanisa village where Zanu PF activists led by Sham Dube intimidated and threatened Semukele Tshabangu. Reports show that Dube and crew accused Tshabangu of being a member of MDC-T and that she had sold her stand to a man they described as an enemy of the state. While Tshabangu was still at her stand helping the builder, Zanu PF youths arrived and manhandled her. Reports also indicate that they also destroyed the fowl run which was being built by the builder. The matter was reported to the chief. It is clear from this case, that Zanu PF has declared some rural constituencies as 'no go' areas for the opposition parties.

For the sixth time, Chief Saba has been recorded as the main perpetrator in closing operational space for opposition activists in Binga. It was reported that Chief Saba summoned all village heads from Siansundu, Lubanda and Saba villages for an urgent meeting at his homestead. In that meeting the Chief recalled and fired all village heads perceived to be aligned to the opposition, particularly CCC. Verified facts state that the chief instructed all village heads to drum up support for Zanu PF and lead in registering citizens into the party cell group structures. His actions contravene the Traditional Leaders Act and the Constitution which prohibit traditional leaders from partaking in any political activities.

## Matabeleland South

In Matabeleland South province, it has become difficult for the CCC party to carry out its activities as the police and the ruling party have continued to close the operating space. This was demonstrated at Sun Yet Sen village where police officers disrupted a rally organised by the CCC. The rally was intended to drum up support for the CCC ahead of the much-anticipated 2023 harmonised elections. Reports show that at first the police officials had cleared the rally but later came in two trucks and threw two teargas canisters at the crowd. One of the party organisers identified as Graydone Phiri was arrested and detained at Sun Yet Sen police station. A similar case was also reported where Zanu PF activist Jabulani Sibanda intimidated and threatened citizens to vote for Zanu PF before the by-elections that were scheduled for October. It is said that Sibanda arrived at Tshankwa High School to drum up support ahead of the by-elections. Sibanda told citizens that they should vote for Zanu PF and not any other opposition party. It is alleged that he warned citizens that those who attempted to vote for any other party besides Zanu PF would be removed from the beneficiary list.



Report Social, Political, Economic, Civil  
and Cultural violations in Zimbabwe



@zppINFO



ZIMBABWE  
PEACE  
PROJECT

Resist, Reject and Report Violence, #RRRV2023