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## THE WEEK IN RIGHTS

July 04, 2013

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## The Lost Boys—Arif's Story



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*As told by Alice Farmer, children's rights researcher*

I met Arif, a 16-year-old boy from Afghanistan, in a Pizza Hut near Jakarta, Indonesia. He held himself with confidence, dressed in a pressed, white t-shirt, but beneath the exterior I saw a boy who lived thousands of miles away from his family, who had risked his life repeatedly for safety and opportunity.

His story began when, at 15, he borrowed \$7,000 from his oldest brother to hire smugglers to sneak him out of Afghanistan and into Indonesia. He ultimately planned to join his brother in Australia where he could claim asylum, go to school and build a new life.

Over pizza, Arif told me about his first attempt to reach Australia by boat. This part of his story would not go well, I knew. Inevitably, the stories I hear from so many of the boys I interview – my boys, as I think of them – involve harrowing events.

[Read the rest of Arif's Story >>](#)

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## [Chad's Former Dictator, Hissène Habré, in Police Custody at Last](#)

The wheels of justice are turning. After 22 years, Habré's victims can finally see the light at the end of the tunnel. Habré is accused of thousands of political killings and systematic torture during his rule, and is thought to have been responsible for ordering over 40,000 deaths.

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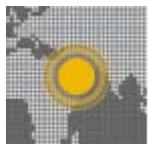


## [India Court Ruling to Better Protect Rape Survivors](#)

After a man she was in a relationship with raped her, Sandhya went to a hospital for an examination and treatment. "The clerk told me a male doctor will conduct the test [forensic examination] and asked me whether that was ok," Sandhya, who is in her 20s, told a Human Rights Watch researcher, Aruna Kashyap. "I said 'yes.' But other than that, I did not know what they were going to do."

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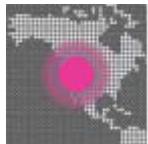


## [In Saudi Arabia, 7 Arrested for Facebook Postings About Protests](#)

Sending people off to years in prison for peaceful Facebook posts sends a strong message that there's no safe way to speak out in Saudi Arabia, even on online social networks.

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## [Rethinking Surveillance](#)

*The New York Review of Books*  
By Kenneth Roth

The government claims that enhanced capacity to monitor our metadata has helped to foil terrorist plots. But officials have been hard-pressed to identify cases in which broad, unfocused electronic surveillance has made a decisive difference.

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In Guinea, a government minister has been charged in the massacre of 150 opposition supporters at a 2009 stadium rally. [Listen to the Story Now >>](#)



In Egypt, mobs sexually assaulted and in some cases raped at least 91 women in Tahrir Square over four days of protests. [Watch Now >>](#)



.@JLo says wouldn't have gone to #Turkmenistan if she'd known of human-rights issues. No internet where she lives? <http://ow.ly/mwdcJ>  
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