As director of the Center for Research and Development in eastern Zimbabwe, Farai Maguwu has conducted extensive research documenting beatings, torture, forced labor and killings of local villagers taking place in the Marange diamond fields by the Zimbabwe African National Union–Patriotic Front (ZANU-PF). After meeting with a monitor from the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (the world’s diamond control body) to discuss the abuses he uncovered in Marange, Zimbabwean authorities arrested him in May 2010 and imprisoned him for more than a month and denied medical care to punish him. Human Rights Watch honors Farai Maguwu for his tremendous courage in exposing abuses in Zimbabwe’s diamond fields and working to end rampant violations of human rights throughout the region.

Impunity and Cycles of Violence in Zimbabwe

Monday, November 7, 2011
4:30 - 6:00 pm
Social Science Tea Room, Room 201
1126 East 59th Street

Farai Maguwu—Human Rights Advocate, Zimbabwe

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Tiseke Kasambala—Senior Researcher, HRW

Tiseke Kasambala, senior researcher in the Africa Division of Human Rights Watch, has specialized expertise in state-sponsored repression and violence, international justice, and economic, social, and cultural rights such as the rights to health and housing. Kasambala joined the organization in 2004 as Zimbabwe researcher and documented abuses surrounding the disputed presidential elections in 2008, marked by government-sponsored violence, the 2005 parliamentary elections in Zimbabwe, and the displacement of 700,000 Zimbabweans during mass evictions in 2005. Before joining Human Rights Watch, Kasambala worked as a campaigner and acting researcher on southern Africa for Amnesty International.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, please contact Sarah Patton Moberg at spmoberg@uchicago.edu or 773-834-0957.

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