

2013-08-13

Fråga-svar

Ekvatorialguinea. Medicinmän, myndighetsskydd, internflykt

Fråga

1. Förekommer det att man offerar människor (inklusive barn) till andar? Hur ser myndigheterna i så fall på det? Är det olagligt? Om det är olagligt, tillämpas den lagen?
2. Hur är situationen för kvinnor som blir misshandlade av sina män? Finns det myndighetsskydd? Hur är situationen för en ensam kvinna med små barn?
3. Finns det möjlighet till internflykt?
4. Finns det någon information om medicinmän/healers? Har de en maktposition i samhället? Förekommer det att man använder sig av medicinmän som hjälper till att exempelvis offra djur för att skaffa sig makt?

Svar

1. Samhällets syn på häxkraft och människooffer

Africa News, *Pope and dangers of Africa's witchcraft menace*, 2011-12-01:

"African leaders aren't immune from the witchcraft poison. In Equatorial Guinea's President Francisco Macias Nguema tough witchcraft practices were projected nationally in devastating fashion. Macias used the knowledge of witchcraft he inherited from his

sorcerer father and built a huge collection of human skulls (from the people he has killed for his witchcraft rituals) at his homestead. Marcias used witchcraft to engage in human sacrifices, including burying some of his victims alive with juju-witchcraft rituals. Marcia darkened Equatorial Guinea as a result. Despite Marcias' subsequent death by firing squad, witchcraft is still problematic in Equatorial Guinea."

Associated Press, Reading Eagle Press, *US could face chill with Equatorial Guinea as prosecutors vow to seize heir-apparent's assets*, 2011-10-26:

"Relations were not always so cordial: In 1994, Washington closed its embassy in Equatorial Guinea after the government accused the U.S. ambassador of performing witchcraft when he attended a cemetery service honouring British airmen who crashed there during World War II. Bennett received a death threat."

Modern Ghana , *The Twisted African Democratic Revolutions*, 2011-08-31:

"In Equatorial Guinea, Francisco Macías Nguema revolution of some sorts turned out more lethal than thought of and nobody knew what kind of regime was going to come out of the terrible mess. Tapping into traditional African irrational supernatural beliefs, Macias forced Equatorial Guineans to believe that he has supernatural powers. That he can change into a cat, a dog, a mouse or any other animal or object, or vanish into thin air. Macias used the knowledge of witchcraft he inherited from his sorcerer father and built a huge collection of human skulls (from most of the people he has killed) at his homestead to hypnotize Equatorial Guineans into supernatural submission. Macias believed he was some sort of God.."

The Age, *Iron Lady's son in limbo, pending justice, rough or not*, 2008-07-06:

"After his involvement in a failed coup against the President of Equatorial Guinea, Teodoro Obiang Nguema, Mark Thatcher is a wanted man. Obiang, a despot rumoured to be a witchcraft devotee and a cannibal, has reportedly hired kidnap squads to bring Sir Mark before him to face justice, or at least justice the Equatorial Guinean way."

Modern Ghana, *Mozambique tackles Witchcraft and Human Sacrifice*, 2007-08-05:

"... In this context, let's look at Equatorial Guinea, dubbed 'Kuwait of Africa,' where human sacrifice and magic constitute one of the most powerful rhetorics of political culture. Florence Bernault, of

the University of Wisconsin-Madison, tells us 'that Public rumors depict sorcery as the most common way to achieve personal success, wealth, and prestige in times of economic shortage and declining social opportunities. Political leaders are widely believed to perform ritual murder to ensure electoral success and power, and many skillfully use these perceptions to build visibility and deference.'

Agence France-Presse, *Priest catches cannibal sorcerers in Equatorial Guinea*, 2003-02-18:

"...A priest stumbled across a group of cannibal sorcerers in Equatorial Guinea as they were carving up a body they had robbed from a grave, the national radio reported Tuesday. The four witchdoctors were "discovered in broad daylight on a lonely road" ..."

UN Commission on Human Rights, *Report on the human rights situation in the Republic of Equatorial Guinea: pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/22*, 2002-01-24:

sid. 10

"The visits to the detention centres confirmed that deprivation of liberty on grounds of witchcraft, sorcery or black magic ("kong" in the Fang language; "mokuku" in the Ndowe language), or associated acts, is commonplace..."

"...While it cannot be denied that sorcery is practised in Equatorial Guinea and is used to cause harm, nevertheless, except in cases of homicide by poisoning or some other direct physical act, it is doubtful whether any judicial authority could rationally establish a causal link between an act of sorcery and the alleged harm and thus assign legal responsibility. Indeed, charges of this kind help to conceal abuses of power under what appear to be legal decisions, but lack any guarantee of due process. It is important to clarify what traditional justice consists in and how it relates to the formal justice system"

2. Situationen för kvinnor och barn

US Department of State, *Trafficking in Persons Report 2013 - Equatorial Guinea*, 2013-06-19:

"Equatorial Guinea is a source and destination country for women and children subjected to forced labor and sex trafficking. The majority of trafficking victims are believed to be exploited in Malabo and Bata, where burgeoning construction and economic activity funded by oil wealth has contributed to increases in the demand for cheap labor and prostitution"

“The Government of Equatorial Guinea demonstrated a slight increase in its efforts to prevent trafficking during the reporting period. Although it did not launch any anti-trafficking informational or educational campaigns for the general public, a new working-level committee to combat trafficking in persons was created in May 2012, made up of representatives from the Ministries of Interior, Women’s and Social Affairs, Justice, Foreign Affairs, and the Office of the President...”

US Department of State, *Country Report on Human Rights Practices 2012 - Equatorial Guinea*, 2013-04-19:

” Violence against women, including spousal abuse, is illegal, but the government did not enforce the law effectively. Victims were reluctant to report domestic violence, which was widespread. Depending on severity and circumstances, the penalty for assault ranges from one to 20 years’ imprisonment. Police and the judiciary were reluctant to prosecute domestic violence cases, and no statistics were available on prosecutions, convictions, or punishments during the year. In conjunction with international organizations, the government conducted public awareness campaigns on women’s rights and domestic violence. On occasion, police organized workshops on family violence, and public marches against violence against women were authorized.”

“Discrimination: While the law provides for equal rights for women and men, including rights under family law, property law, and in the judicial system, the rights of women were limited. According to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the prevalence of negative stereotypes and adverse cultural norms, customs, and traditions--including forced and early marriage and levirate marriage (the practice by which a man may be required to marry his brother’s widow)--resulted in discrimination against women. Lack of legislation regulating customary marriages and other aspects of family law also permitted discrimination against women, particularly with respect to polygyny, inheritance, and child custody”

US Department of Labor , *2011 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor*, 2012-09-26:

sid.216

"In 2011, Equatorial Guinea made a minimal advancement in efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. During the reporting period, the Government engaged in anti-trafficking training to enable its police force to better identify and provide services to victims. Despite these efforts, Equatorial Guinea lacks legislation to protect all children under age 18 from engagement in hazardous

work, pornography and illicit activities. Additionally, the minimum age for compulsory education is lower than the minimum age for employment, leaving children age 13 particularly vulnerable to the worst forms of child labor, as they are no longer required to attend school but are not legally able to work. Further, the Government has not established a coordinating mechanism to combat all the worst forms of child labor, nor does it implement social programs to target the country's problems of child labor in street work, domestic service and prostitution. Children in Equatorial Guinea continue to engage in the worst forms of child labor, including in street work and domestic service."

UD, *Mänskliga rättigheter i Ekvatorialguinea 2010*, 2011-07-07:

sid. 8

"Författningen garanterar lika rättigheter för kvinnor och män, men i praktiken är kvinnans ställning svag. Hustrumisshandel är förbjudet men vanligt förekommande. Rättsväsendet är motvilligt inställt till att väcka åtal för hustrumisshandel. Våldtäkt, sexuella trakasserier och prostitution är förbjudet enligt lag. Regeringen har genomfört aktioner mot våld i hemmet.

Månggifte är vanligt. Kvinnan har i princip ingen rätt att ärva mannen. Om äktenskapet upplöses, till exempel vid skilsmässa, måste kvinnans familj lämna tillbaka brudgåvan till mannens familj. Om detta inte görs kan kvinnan, eller någon i hennes familj, fängslas. Vid skilsmässa tillfaller vårdnaden om barn födda inom äktenskapet mannen, medan kvinnan får vårdnaden om barn som fötts utanför äktenskapet.

Abort är olagligt, såvida inte risk föreligger för kvinnans liv. Mödradödligheten är 680 per 100 000 födselar.

Kvinnor får genomgående sämre utbildning än män. Det finns mycket få kvinnor i den offentliga förvaltningen och i politiken. I parlamentet är cirka 10 procent av ledamöterna kvinnor.

Människohandel är förbjuden enligt lag men förekommer. Ingen tillförlitlig statistik finns tillgänglig."

3. Möjlighet till internflykt

US Department of State, *Country Report on Human Rights Practices 2012 - Equatorial Guinea*, 2013-04-19:

"d. Freedom of Movement, Internally Displaced Persons, Protection of Refugees, and Stateless Persons

Although the law provides for freedom of internal movement, foreign travel, emigration, and repatriation, the government occasionally restricted these rights.

During the year there were no cases requiring cooperation between the government and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, which had no local office, or other humanitarian organizations in assisting refugees and asylum seekers.

In-country Movement: Police at roadblocks routinely checked passing travelers and engaged in petty extortion. Frequent roundups of irregular immigrants and others also occurred at roadblocks. The government claimed roadblocks impeded illegal immigration, mercenary activities, and attempted coups.

Exile: The law prohibits forced internal or external exile. Some members of banned political parties returned from exile during the year; however, many remained in self-imposed exile.”

IRIN, *IDPs: African IDP Convention comes into force*, 2012-12-06:

“NAIROBI, 6 December 2012 (IRIN) - The African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) 2009, also known as the Kampala Convention, came into force on 6 December; it is the world’s first legally binding instrument to cater specifically to people displaced within their own countries “

Simple Community Equatorial Guinea, Nation Media Group, *IDPs. Agriculture key to refugees' livelihood*, 2012-08-12:

“Some of them then came together and formed a group called Ibakia Integrated IDPs. Through this group, they engage in income generating activities as they seek to improve their lives.”

4. Medicinmän

SOS Children’s Villages, SOS Children's Village Bata, [2013]:

” One of the greatest difficulties the population of Bata, and Equatorial Guinea on the whole, faces is the dysfunctional health system, which is marked by insufficient human resources, infrastructure and financial means. In addition, health care is simply not affordable to many: one night at the hospital in Bata can cost the average person up to two and half months’ salary, and a night in an intensive care unit over six months’ salary. These factors have led to a growing association of traditional healers, which is officially recognised in Equatorial Guinea. There are around 800 of these practitioners – as opposed to 153 doctors. In the fight against diseases like tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and malaria traditional healing practices have shown little effectiveness, however. A lack of information – or the proliferation of misinformation – further aggravates the problem.”

EG Justice, *A Broken Health System in Equatorial Guinea*, 2011-07-06:

“Recently, EG Justice interviewed Dr. Wenceslao Mansogo Alo,¹ about the condition of the health system in Equatorial Guinea. In addition to practicing as a gynecologist in a private clinic, Dr. Mansogo Alo is in charge of human rights in the political party Convergence for Social Democracy in Equatorial Guinea. EG Justice: What is your opinion of the health system in Equatorial Guinea?

Dr. Mansogo Alo: To speak of the “health system” in Equatorial Guinea is, in my opinion, to speak of something that does not exist.“

“So, at the same time modern centers like La Paz and Virgen de Guadalupe are erected, a parallel national association of witches and healers (known as “ASOMETRAGE”: the National Association of Traditional Doctors of Equatorial Guinea), is officially recognized in the country.² Simultaneous to the establishment of a medical faculty— which lacks the necessary means to teach modern medicine—and while Equatoguineans are sent to Cuba to study medicine, the government authorizes the practice of medicine by people who are not doctors. This contributes to the proliferation of clinics run by local nurses and Chinese practitioners who are not doctors. This creates chaos in the health system.”

Denna sammanställning av information/länkar är baserad på informationssökningar gjorda under en begränsad tid. Den är sammanställd utifrån noggrant utvalda och allmänt tillgängliga informationskällor. Alla använda källor refereras. All information som presenteras, med undantag av obestridda/uppenbara fakta, har dubbelkontrollerats om inget annat anges. Sammanställningen gör inte anspråk på att vara uttömmande och bör inte tillmätas exklusivt bevisvärde i samband med avgörandet av ett enskilt ärende. Informationen i sammanställningen återspeglar inte nödvändigtvis Migrationsverkets officiella ståndpunkt i en viss fråga och det finns ingen avsikt att genom sammanställningen göra politiska ställningstaganden. Refererade dokument bör läsas i sitt sammanhang.

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