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Eman Atef Omar

Faculty of Law, University of Zagazig

Egypt

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The war has historically been the subject of all the attention of men, but this idea does not reflect reality. Because women are increasingly at risk, but they are sometimes targeted in particular at a time of conflict. However, it often turns a blind eye to their needs.

The aim of the international humanitarian law to prevent human suffering and mitigate them in the wars, without discrimination based on sex, however, recognizes that women face specific problems in armed conflicts.

why IHL subjected women special protection?

Women in combat are not taken to recruit them generally and they often do not have arms. Nor subjected to the protection at a time when disintegrated ethical and societal and institutional guarantees, with an abundance of arms. Moreover, women (wives, mothers, sisters and daughters of the fighters) may be to put pressure on their use of one of the warring parties. And exposure to violence and reprisals, not only the existence of holders of arms in their homes, but especially if the opposition forces signed under their hands.  

1-: See Charlotte Lindsey-Curtet _ Addressing the Needs of Women Affected by Armed Conflict pag: 18
They are the people most affected by the armed conflict precisely where they are vulnerable to a wide range of problems in an insecure environment and though the women were great resilience in circumstances that are often the most difficult ordeals and are women and girls, which lead them circumstances suddenly to support their families embodiment of this Indeed, it is estimated that there are more than a million women are heads of their families in Iraq alone, these women are facing serious difficulties in such times of greatest their need for money. Exacerbated instability to have as a result of lack of access to basic needs.

In fact, it bears the brunt of the impact of tragedies caused by armed conflicts and forms of suffering endured by women, displacement, loss of home, poverty and deprivation of basic needs at pains. And other acts which spread terror among them. However, the sexual abuse of more damage they are located and the numbers indicate only that more than 20,000 women and girls were raped during the Balkan wars in 1992 and in Rwanda in the period between April 1994 and April 1995 about 16 thousand raped girls and women.

All this with the difficulties of access to vital health care as a result of the absence of security and the spread of violence in general.

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2- See United Nations General Assembly statement _ Sixty-sixth session _ the third one committee Item 28 of the work of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) 2011 Schedule

3- See: Samar judge the effects of psychological warfare on women humanitarian Page 42 Number 42, Spring 2008
It was on the international community and international humanitarian law after knowing vulnerability and targeting women exposed factors. Be subjecting them special protection.

**what are the most important risks to women in armed conflicts?**

It concentrated the most important risks to women in armed conflict, sexual violence, displacement and lack of access to basic needs and detention.

**{1}: Sexual Violence:**

Women the right to protection from all forms of sexual violence, or the threat of it, which includes rape, forced prostitution and sexual slavery, forced pregnancy and termination of pregnancy, enforced sterilization and defilement forced medical examinations inappropriate and strip searches.

And it is sometimes used as a means of war when used systematically torture to extract information, whether to do it or actually direct threat to do.

Among the factors that increase the risk of sexual violence on women in wartime. It is usually the women unaccompanied in times of
conflict with their relatives males are usually unarmed thereby reducing their ability to resist and in many cultures are seen as a symbol of the community or national identity, is the abuse of women and a means to weaken the morale of the enemy or to convey a message of intimidation to their own husbands. It also uses sexual violence as a means of war in the displacement of people and the destruction of communities.

Poverty and lack of resources is with women taking responsibility for providing for their families, which exposes them to sexual exploitation in order to have access to basic resources were sometimes subjected to kidnapping and trafficking and sexual slavery in times of conflict to the absence of security and the collapse of state institutions.

Geneva Convention IV has banned all forms of torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment and outrages upon personal dignity and treatment. The acts of sexual violence crimes stand-alone under the Statute of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY). The International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, as well as the Statute of the International Criminal Court, has been included rape as war crimes and crimes against humanity⁴. It also should be placed prisoners in isolation from men to avoid sexual violence.

⁴- See: Article 3 of the Fourth Geneva Convention on the

⁵- See Charlotte Lindsey-Curtet pag 17 _ Op.cit
{2}: displacement:

The threats of murder, torture, rape and generate an atmosphere of terror, which often forced the civilian population to flee their homes or to those homes have been destroyed as a result of fighting or as a result of their use of human shields in case of decline or progress armies.

Women are particularly easy target for harassment by fighters especially those that can be identified as belonging to a particular ethnic or religious group.

And it is used to remove the forced displacement of the population of the region to cut off logistical support for the fighters. Women are an important component of the internally displaced and refugees abroad.

{3}: freedom of movement.

In time of armed conflict, women and girls may become responsible for tasks previously performed by male relatives. Which led to the discharge from the traditional environment for them. These tasks include agriculture, trade and others. But the actual woman's ability to fulfill this role is shrinking at a time of armed conflict because of security risks.

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In the time of the conflict are difficult to navigate to get to health care. And the presence of checkpoints, closures and curfews put their lives at risk, especially those who need medical treatment quickly.

For example, that delays caused by crossing the checkpoint to prevent pregnant women from reaching the hospital in time has been killing women on their way to the checkpoints before reaching the hospital. Fear of exposure to the murder and calculate the time it takes to get to the hospital may deter women visit medical facilities.

This factor is not of the most serious factors facing women in the freedom of movement in time of conflict, women who walk alone through the checkpoints may be forced to have sex or to pay money for transit has been subjected to fold morale of insults and forms of harassment.

{4}: basic needs.

Almost woman is responsible to provide nutrition for the family and in the time of conflict much responsibility on how to provide ways of feeding their families.

While the IHL does not contain the correct reference to the right to food and many of its provisions states that persons who do not exercise or are no longer fighting the practice is not deprived of food or get it.

7 See Charlotte Lindsey-Curtet pag 44 _ Op.cit

He gave IHL task of providing food to the relief work must be carried out by an impartial commission in nature and conducted without any adverse distinction. When providing relief consignments should be granted to the initial women. It is given the highest priority to consider Pregnant issues of young children and mothers having dependent children.

for example. In a country in central Africa, men are no longer leave their village for fear of being killed by armed groups and women out of necessity took this job because he rarely are killed but raped permanently.

Women resort to work or to a relief committees in order to provide their needs and here the idea of freedom of choice appear until instill dignity and freedom of choice to them.

The freedom of the good guys should not be welfare in time of peace or only for developed countries and democracies, but is an essential element and the principle of humanitarian assistance and relief.

At times, women are not the only breadwinner of the family, but the speed that have not been reflected on their nature and their position in society.

9 See Charlotte Lindsey-Curtet pag 48 _ Op.cit
10- See Protocol I Article 76, paragraph 2
11- See: Nicole Aadarshaam work with women in the areas of humanitarian conflict Page 26- 42 Spring 2008
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Women's use is in an armed conflict to help the fighters, whether voluntarily or against their will to provide nutrition, home and clothing for fighters as understood logistical support increases the risk of being targeted strategic concept that they are the enemy.

**Healthcare:**
IHL provides several provisions aimed at the health of civilians in armed conflict. Such as protection of civilians who are suffering from the effects of hostilities and to provide enough food for them and to provide the people are necessary to provide medical assistance. And it provides preferential treatment for women, especially pregnant women and nursing mothers.

**Family links:**
In time of armed conflict demographic composition is changing society and because of that most men either to carry a gun or fleeing in fear of conscription, murder, detention corollary women are the Advanced Initiative for news and information about who the family members of missing persons, or to communicate with relatives of IDPs refugees or other of them in the country.

{5}: detention.
Often they encounter women and girls imprisoned worldwide considerable difficulties in providing protection, privacy and access to services and medical care.

13- Charlotte Lindsey-Curtet pag 76 _ Op.cit
14- See Charlotte Lindsey-Curtet pag 87 _ Op.cit
The consequences of the detention of women and girls have them penetrate the surrounding walls of the prisons have these consequences lengthened their own family members and communities.

Women holding time of conflict in front for reasons related to the armed conflict or for reasons related to ordinary crimes and should be treated due attention to their situation, for example, that are providing enough space for them if with them children.

According to the responsible of the International Committee for the detainees Catherine Doman "female detainees are entitled to enjoy the protections the same care as men are entitled to them as well as the enjoyment of a private necessitated by social and cultural their specific characteristics to the treatment and should at least ensure the safety and security of detainees."

It is the responsibility of the detaining authorities to ensure that all persons deprived of their liberty under their control are treated humanely.

15- See Jessica Barry pain forgotten in the depths of women's prisons humanitarian- Page 9 of 55 Spring 2013


position of international humanitarian law to protect women in armed conflicts?

The first set of rules aimed at protecting women in the war in the law "Libre", article 47 of it to punish foot for the rape of the population of a hostile country, however, despite all the horrors of World War II, but it has not been charged for any person committing this crime appeared.

The agreement also included the Geneva Conventions in 1949 nineteen related specifically to women substance, and if we add the proto Klein thereto, we are in front of 30 articles concerning women.

However, but the Geneva Convention and its protocols have been subjected to two basic criticisms:

First, they fail to determine the type of social regarding the suffering inflicted on women.

Second, it does not recognize the seriousness of the crimes against women sufficiently, and judgments related to the women linked to the protection of children and some suggest not to women's vulnerability to sexual violence, but women in times of conflict facing difficulties are not confined to their roles as mothers or victims of sexual violence.¹⁸

¹⁸-See: Guy Allen Tachew Sbjvo Security Council and women in the war between the peace-building and protection Humanity International Review of the
An example mentioned in Article 76 of Protocol I:

1. Women must be the subject of special respect and shall be protected in particular against rape, enforced prostitution and against any other form of indecent assault.
2. The highest priority is given to consider Pregnant mothers of young children's issues who must support their children and arrested them detained or interned for reasons related to the armed conflict.
3. Parties to the conflict are trying to avoid as much as possible the death penalty on pregnant women or mothers of young children who depend on them because of their children, a crime related to the conflict. It may not be hanged like these women.

And also what comes out of the Security Council resolutions relating to the protection of women in armed conflict, the Security Council has condemned all violations of international humanitarian law committed against women and girls\textsuperscript{19}. And his decision to prevent sexual violence against women in times of armed conflict\textsuperscript{20}.

Shortcuts

1. IHL = International humanitarian law
2. IDPs = Displaced

\textsuperscript{19} See Security Council Resolution 1889 of 2009, which was taken at the meeting of the Council No. 6196 held on 5-10-2009

\textsuperscript{20} See Security Council Resolution 2106, 2013 and adopted at its session No. 6984 and held on June 24, 2013