

Recently, EPAF has used this model to:

- Train Congolese police officers to investigate mass gravesites in the war-torn province of North Kivu;
- Assess and train the regional staff of the Commission on Human Rights for the Philippines and strengthen their capacity to investigate cases of enforced disappearances;
- Prepare Nepalese Human Rights investigators to uncover cases of forced disappearances and extrajudicial killings from the country's recently concluded internal armed conflict.

For more information: www.epafperu.org



INSTRUCTOR

Jose Pablo Baraybar is a renowned forensic anthropologist, he has consulted on the use of forensics in cases of human rights violations in Argentina, Guatemala, Colombia, Venezuela, Haiti, Panama, Ethiopia, Congo, Sierra Leone, Iraq, and the Philippines. He worked for the United Nations from 1996 until 2007, serving as forensic anthropologist for the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in 1996 and as Chief Forensic Anthropologist/Archaeologist for the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) from 1996-2002. Recently, he was awarded with the Prize "Judith Lee Stronach" 2011, of the Center for Justice and Accountability. He is currently the Executive Director of the EPAF.

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The Center for Justice and Accountability (CJA) is an international human rights organization dedicated to deterring torture and other severe human rights abuses around the world and advancing the rights of survivors to seek truth, justice and redress. CJA uses litigation to hold perpetrators individually accountable for human rights abuses, develop human rights law and advance the rule of law in countries transitioning from periods of abuse.

For more information: cja.org

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HARGEISA, SOMALILAND, HORN OF AFRICA

Forensic Anthropology and Human Rights: Uncovering Somaliland's Troubled Past Field School Project EPAF

OVERVIEW

Somaliland was a part of the former Republic of Somalia. For 21 years until his fall, the regime of Mohammed Siad Barre carried out massacres against the people of Somaliland. About 60,000 civilians were killed, thousands were victims of enforced disappearance, and 500,000 individuals were displaced before the declaration of independence, in 1991.

Since its independence, Somaliland has managed to secure the political stability, economic and social development needed to investigate the atrocities committed in the past, through a War Crimes Investigation Commission of 6 members. The forensic field school in Hargeisa will help to determine the universe of missing people through a systematic approach, antemortem data collection and research of mass and clandestine graves.

In this 4-weeks long field school, the participants will attend virtual and in situ workshops on the culture, society, religion and post-conflict issues of Somaliland. The collected funds from the fieldschool will be used to train the staff of the War Crimes Investigation Commission of Somaliland in forensic investigation of human rights violations.



COURSE OBJECTIVE



At the completion of the course, the participants will have an understanding of the application of forensic sciences to the investigation of Human Rights violations, as well as the process involved in the examination, recovery and analysis of mass graves



CONTENT AND SCHEDULE

Week 1

Participants will attend a virtual module on the culture, society, religion and recent history of Somaliland. This will be followed by extensive lessons about the legacy of human rights violations in the country, an introduction to the forensic investigations about crimes against humanity, the applicable international humanitarian law and the international law of human rights.

At the end of week one, participants should understand the procedures involved in a forensic investigation, the important role that antemortem data plays to investigating cases of forced disappearance, and begin to discussing strategic approaches to deal with the issue of missing persons in Somaliland.

Week 2 and 3

Participants will be guided through the exhumation process from mass graves selected by the War Crimes Investigation Commission of Somaliland, including (but not limited) to surveying, mapping, collection of surface evidence and exhumation procedures.

At the end of week three, participants will possess a framework for assisting in the exhumation process of a mass grave.

Week 4

Participants will be exposed to the examination of remains and associated artifacts recovered during the exhumation process as well as prepare chain of custody forms, clean recovered remains and associated artifacts and storage.

By the end week four, participants will be acquainted with the post recovery process that follows an exhumation.



COSTS, DATES AND OTHER INFORMATION

The estimated cost for each participant is **US\$ 4,050** for the month (US\$135.00 per day). A non-refundable deposit of US\$300.00 is necessary to reserve the participant's space for this field school by November 28th 2011 (account details will be provided upon request).

The cost includes:



Accommodation: Participants will stay at the Adam's Inn located in Hargeisa, a peaceful environment, with all basic services for the participants' comfort.

Meals: All three (3) meals are included in the price for the entire month.

Insurance: Travel insurance included for the whole month.

Airfare is **not included.**

- The field school will run from **February 6 to March 10, 2012.**
- Participants will be monitored and guided through the process.
- Participants will be constantly quizzed and assessed throughout the fieldschool to determine their knowledge.
- In order to explore options for best prices and routes, group travel arrangements can be made.

WHO WE ARE

EPAF For more than 15 years, the Peruvian Forensic Anthropology Team (EPAF) has led the search for the 15,000 victims of forced disappearance from Peru's 20-year internal armed conflict. The forensic investigations that EPAF has conducted, coupled with its defense of the families of the disappeared, have uncovered abuses committed during the conflict and helped break the culture of silence that guaranteed impunity for the perpetrators of such atrocities.

In recognition of these achievements, EPAF has garnered a reputation as a repository of technical expertise for human rights organizations and legal professionals in the Global South that are grappling with grave human rights violations, including enforced disappearances and extrajudicial killings. In response to their urgent needs, EPAF has created forensic training programs built on a model of South-South cooperation that allows EPAF to share experiences with its international partners while offering low-tech solutions to problems frequently encountered in the developing world.

As result, participants in EPAF training programs acquire a sustainable and pragmatic approach to forensic investigations that can be easily replicated, even in the most isolated regions.