

LEGAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS CENTRE



**LHRC Mlinzi wa Haki
Newsletter**

July - December 2025





GREETINGS from **LHRC**

Esteemed Readers,

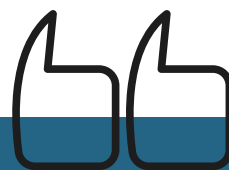
Warm greetings to our friends, partners, and supporters. We are pleased to share the Mlinzi wa Haki Newsletter covering the third and fourth quarters of 2025, a period marked by both significant milestones and profound challenges for human rights in Tanzania during 2025 general election. This July to December period coincided with LHRC's 30th anniversary, offering a moment of reflection on three decades of steadfast commitment to promoting human rights, good governance, gender equality, and access to justice for all.

During these two quarters, LHRC strengthened key partnerships, including the renewed collaboration with the Royal Norwegian Embassy, reaffirming shared values and trust in our mission. At the same time, the Centre remained deeply engaged on the ground, providing legal aid to vulnerable populations, amplifying the voices of women, youth, and persons with disabilities, and responding to emerging human rights concerns across the country.

We extend our sincere appreciation to our partners, including the Embassies of Sweden, Norway, and Ireland, the Ford Foundation, and the Wellspring Philanthropic Fund, for their continued solidarity and support. As Tanzania experienced a highly contested and challenging election period, LHRC remained committed to standing with the people and upholding its role as Mlinzi wa Haki, the Guardian of Rights.



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To our communities, partners, and friends, LHRC reaffirms its dedication to empowering citizens and safeguarding human rights and democratic values. Together, we continue to work toward a just, accountable, and rights-respecting Tanzania.

Mr. Fulgence Massawe (Advocate)

Acting Executive Director,
Legal and Human Rights Centre

➤ LHRC and Norway signed a core support agreement to enhance Political rights, women's empowerment and freedom of expression in Tanzania

On 8 September 2025, Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) and the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Dar es Salaam signed a new three-year core support agreement worth NOK 19 million (approximately USD 2 million). This partnership will fund the three-year operational plan under LHRC's 2025–2030 Strategic Plan, reinforcing its human rights programs and institutional sustainability.

This agreement marks the continuation of a long-standing relationship between the two institutions. Since 2013, Norway has provided over NOK 61 million (around 6,2 million USD) in support of LHRC's work, which has included strategic litigation, legal aid, criminal justice reform, electoral law reforms, and strengthening citizen voices in accountability processes at national and international levels.

Speaking during the signing ceremony, H.E. Tone Tinnes, Norway's Ambassador to Tanzania, reaffirmed her country's commitment:

"This agreement **reflects Norway's long-standing commitment to human rights in Tanzania**. Political rights, reconciliation, women's empowerment, and freedom of expression are essential foundations for democratic growth, and we are proud to continue supporting LHRC's vital work."

H.E. TONE TINNES
Norway's Ambassador to Tanzania



H.E. Tone Tinnes and Adv. Fulgence Massawe during signing ceremony

On behalf of LHRC, Acting Executive Director Advocate Fulgence Massawe highlighted the importance of this collaboration and the impact it has had over the years. He said: "Today marks a significant milestone in our journey of promoting human rights, justice, and democratic governance in Tanzania. The agreement we are signing today for the period 2025-2027 is a continuation of a longstanding and fruitful collaboration."



➤ LHRC Celebrates 30 years of Promoting and Defending Human Rights

On 26 September 2025, Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) marked 30 years of standing for justice, equality, and human dignity in Tanzania. Since its establishment, Legal and Human Rights Centre has expanded by leaps and bounds. It currently has two offices in the city of Dar es Salaam and two branches in Arusha and Dodoma. From a handful of workers in 1995, today the Centre has over 100 lawyers, advocates, programme officers and other support staff.

In addition, there are volunteers and community paralegals working under the Centre around the whole country. In the course of time, 30 years of existence, LHRC has turned into a training ground for the civil society and has remained resilient in provision of legal and human rights education to the public, leading advocacy for promotion and protection of human rights in the country and being a mainstay is provision of legal aid and assistance to those who cannot afford services of lawyers to access justice.

Although the official celebrations are expected to take place during the commemorations of the International Human Rights Day 2025 on the 10th of December, still on September 26th staff had opportunity to celebrate these milestone achievements clients and veteran human rights champions, including



The cake to celebrate 30 years of standing for justice, equality, and human dignity



Celebrating 30 years of LHRC: Hellen Kijo-Bisimba, Jenerali Ulimwengu, and Rebeca Gyumi cut the cake at LHRC HQ

Dr. Hellen Kijo-Bisimba, Jenerali Ulimwengu, and Adv. Rebecca Gyumi. Reflecting on the journey, Dr. Hellen Kijo-Bisimba, a renowned human rights activist and LHRC's former Executive Director, said:

"LHRC has always stood firm, even in tough times. As we celebrate 30 years, we must continue protecting rights fearlessly, because justice has no expiry date." **The event was a joyful moment of reflection and renewal,** reminding everyone that LHRC's mission as Mlinzi wa Haki, the Guardian of Rights, remains as strong as ever.

DR. HELLEN KIJOBISIMBA

A renowned human rights activist and LHRC's former Executive Director

➤ A New Chapter Begins: LHRC Board Chair Makes His First Visit to Arusha Office

A fresh chapter is unfolding at LHRC. On 17 September 2025, the newly appointed Chairperson of the LHRC Board of Directors, Hon. (Retired) Judge Fauz Twaib, made his very first official visit to the LHRC Arusha Office, marking an inspiring moment for staff and signalling a renewed era of leadership after the retirement of Hon. (Retired) Judge Barnabas Samatta.

Warm smiles, excitement, and a sense of pride filled the office as staff welcomed their new Board Chair, who was accompanied by a Board Member and LHRC's Acting Executive Director, Adv. Fulgence Massawe. For many team members, this was not just a formal visit, but a special opportunity to connect with the new leader who will guide LHRC into its next chapter.

Hon. Judge Twaib toured the office, interacted with staff, and learned firsthand about the impactful work being done, especially the legal aid services that have become a trusted source of support for thousands across the Northern Zone.

From land disputes and matrimonial cases to human rights awareness and community engagement, the Arusha office proudly showcased the difference it makes every day.

His presence brought renewed motivation to the team. Staff described the visit as a breath of fresh air, a powerful reminder that the Board stands firmly behind the work happening on the ground. Hon. Judge Twaib expressed admiration for the dedication he witnessed and reaffirmed his commitment to strengthening LHRC's reach and impact nationwide.

This first visit was more than a tour it was a moment of connection, encouragement, and unity. It set the tone for strong collaboration between leadership and field teams as LHRC continues its mission to ensure justice and human rights for all Tanzanians. A new era has begun, and the energy is unmistakable.



The newly appointed Chairperson of the LHRC Board of Directors, Hon. (Retired) Judge Fauz Twaib, with the LHRC Arusha Legal Aid staff.

LHRC Paralegal Visit at the Southern Zone

Between August and October 2025, Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) conducted a nationwide supervisory visit to thirty (30) paralegal units across the Northern, Central, Lake, and Southern zones. The Southern Zone, covering Mtwara and Ruvuma regions was a key focus of the visit, where LHRC met paralegals working at the frontline of justice delivery in rural and underserved communities.

In the Southern Zone, LHRC engaged with paralegal units including Need for Rightness Organization (NERIO), Tegemeo Paralegal Organization (TPO), WASHEHABITA, Privileged Community Organization (PCO), WAKIHABIMA, CHIPO, Tunduru Paralegal Centre (TUPACE), FERUHIPO, Ruvuma Paralegal Centre (RUPACE), RIPOA, NAJATA, and WASHEHABINYA. These units continue to play an essential role in educating communities, mediating disputes, and supporting citizens who face challenges in accessing formal justice systems.

The visit aimed to strengthen working relationships, assess compliance with the Legal Aid Act of 2017, review reporting practices, identify capacity gaps, and document the realities paralegals face in their day-to-day work. During the visit Paralegals highlighted challenges such as limited working tools, inadequate training on new legal developments, and lack of resources to sustain their operations.

During the visit, LHRC strengthened relationships, listened to the challenges on the ground, and assured paralegals of continued support to help them comply with the Legal Aid Act, improve their reporting practices, and build stronger capacity in areas such as land law, probate, gender-based violence, and human rights monitoring.



LHRC Ag. ED handing paralegals in Namtumbo self-help kits.



What stood out most was the passion and resilience of these community justice champions. Their dedication reflects the true spirit of Mlinzi wa Haki-bringing justice closer to citizens, one household and one community at a time.

LHRC Ag. ED handing T-shirts to Nerio Paralegals in Mtwara Urban



LHRC Ag. ED and SPQM on the right joined by Paralegals in Ruvuma Urban – RUPACE.

➤ LHRC Commemorates Democracy Day by Amplifying Women's Voices for Democratic Resilience

On 15 September 2025, Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) joined the global community in commemorating the International Day of Democracy under the theme “Amplifying Women’s Voices for Democratic Resilience.”

The discussion focused on strengthening women’s participation in leadership and decision making as a foundation for inclusive democracy. Participants emphasized that true democratic progress requires equal representation and active citizen engagement in governance.

The commemorations’ discussion reflected the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995) which identified women’s full and effective participation in power and decision-making as one of its twelve critical areas of concern. During the 80th Session of the UN General Assembly held in September 2025, global leaders reaffirmed that women’s political participation is central to gender equality, democracy, peace, and good governance.

These discussions are key and relevant to the



Tanzania political context during the forthcoming general elections to be held on October 29th, 2025. LHRC is closely following up on women participation and involvement particularly documenting human rights violations affecting women and other marginalized groups pre- and post-election period.

Guest of Honour Jenerali Ulimwengu, a veteran journalist and democracy advocate, reminded participants that “no democracy can be truly representative if women remain on the margins.”



Panellists engage in a discussion during the commemoration of the International Day of Democracy, held at Protea Hotel.

➤ Strengthening Partnerships for Justice: Sweden and Germany Delegations Visit LHRC



Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) welcomed delegations from the Embassies of Sweden and Germany, reaffirming shared efforts to advance justice, equality, and the rule of law in Tanzania.

The visit from the German Embassy, led by Secretary-General Mr. Maximilian Mueller, focused on LHRC's ongoing initiatives to strengthen accountability, equality, and social justice.

Mr. Mueller commended LHRC's commitment to transparency and expressed Germany's continued interest in future collaboration.

Similarly, Sweden's delegation, accompanied by Sida representatives, discussed continued collaboration under LHRC's 2025–2030 Strategic Plan. Both visits reflected strong partnerships built on trust, shared values, and a joint vision of a just and democratic Tanzania where human rights are protected for all.

Beyond these two diplomatic visits, LHRC continued to receive various guests during the quarter. These included legal aid clients seeking assistance on human rights-related issues, human rights stakeholders, partner NGOs, and organizations visiting the Centre to learn and exchange experiences.



Delegations from Embassy of Sweden with LHRC staff at LHRC HQ during their visit

➤ Driving Civic Engagement: LHRC at the 2025 Annual NGOs Forum

Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) joined over 2,000 participants and 400 organizations at the 2025 Annual NGO Forum held in Dodoma from 11-13 August 2025.

The Symposium officiated by Hon. Dr. Philip Isidor Mpango, Vice President of the United Republic of Tanzania who was represented by the Minister for Community Development, Gender and Special Groups Hon. Dr. Dorothy Gwajima sought to raise awareness and foster understanding on NGOs regulation and coordination, deliberate on NGOs contribution to national development, discuss alignment of NGOs activities with national development priorities and strengthen partnership and collaboration between the Government and NGOs.

With the annual theme: A Five-Year Review on the Contribution of NGOs to National Development: Achievements, Challenges, Opportunities and Prospects, LHRC was

mainly invited to speak on a panel “Legal Aid and Social Justice 2020/21–2024/25”. Representing LHRC on a panel, Adv. Deogratias Bwire, Director of Empowerment and Human Rights Monitoring, emphasized the importance of legal empowerment and ethical standards in expanding access to justice for all.

Through its Haki TV, LHRC amplified the forum’s impact by providing live coverage, daily highlights, and real-time updates, ensuring that the voices of NGOs and community actors reached audiences across the country.

LHRC’s presence at the forum reaffirmed its leadership in promoting inclusive governance, civic participation, and access to justice, standing as both a thought leader and a communication voice within Tanzania’s civil society movement.



Adv. Deogratias Bwire joins a panel on “Legal Aid and Social Justice” at the 2025 Annual NGO Forum.

Justice for All: LHRC Brings Legal Aid Services to Citizens at the 49th Sabasaba Exhibition.

Every year, thousands of Tanzanians gather at the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair, famously known as Sabasaba, not only to explore business opportunities but also to seek solutions to social and legal challenges that affect their lives. For many, Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) booth has become a trusted stop, a place where ordinary citizens can find answers, guidance, and hope.

For more than a decade, LHRC has been offering free legal aid at the Sabasaba Trade Fair, a long-standing tradition that demonstrates the Centre's unwavering commitment to ensuring justice is accessible to everyone. Beyond Sabasaba, LHRC extends these efforts to other national exhibitions across Tanzania.

At this year's 49th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (Sabasaba) held in July 2025, LHRC provided free legal aid to 57 citizens on diverse legal issues such as land disputes, marriage conflicts, child custody, inheritance, and employment rights.



Among them, 20 clients were referred to the Kinondoni Legal Aid Clinic (KLAC) for continued legal support, while many others received real-time legal guidance from LHRC lawyers and paralegals on-site.

Through this engagement, LHRC reaffirmed its commitment to bringing justice closer to the people, strengthening public understanding of human rights, and promoting equal access to justice across the country.



LHRC's Legal Aid officers providing Legal Aid Assistance to Citizens During Sabasaba exhibition

➤ Restoring Freedom: LHRC Secures Bail for Tanzanians unlawfully detained for bailable offences.

Currently, cases of citizens being denied their right to bail for bailable offences continue to rise across Tanzania. Many citizens still find themselves behind bars for offences that are legally bailable. Some are arrested without proper investigation; others spend days or even weeks in detention simply because they lack legal representation or knowledge of their rights. For the Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC), these stories are not just statistics, they are real life interrupted, families separated, and dreams put on hold.

Through its continuous human rights monitoring and legal response initiatives, LHRC has remained on the frontline of defending those whose freedoms are unjustly taken away. Between July and September 2025, the Centre successfully secured bail for 107 Tanzanians, 95 men and 12 women, who had been unlawfully detained for bailable offences across the country.

Each release marked a small but powerful victory toward restoring justice, dignity, and faith in the rule of law.

To achieve these outcomes, LHRC worked closely with partner organizations including TLS and THRDC and justice stakeholders, using both legal intervention and strategic advocacy to challenge unlawful detention practices.

In one notable case, following a joint statement issued with partners, two activists, Innocent Chuwa and Frida Mikoroti, detained over issues related to online activism, were released. Their freedom stood as a testament to the power of collaboration and the continued need to safeguard civic space in Tanzania.



Advocates Kulwa Maduhu (LHRC), Paul Kisabo (THRDC), and Fredrick Msaki (TLS) successfully secured bail for online activists Innocent “Kiduku” Chuwa and Farida Haji Mikoroti on October 1, 2025.

➤ Empowering Youth Engagement: LHRC Leads Youth Caravan to Promote Tanzania Youth Manifesto

Across Tanzania, LHRC has established over 300 human rights clubs in schools and universities, vibrant platforms where children, students, and young people learn about their rights, responsibilities, and the rule of law. Through these clubs, LHRC nurtures a generation of young human rights defenders who are equipped not only to protect themselves but also to stand up for others. Over the years, these spaces have produced passionate youth activists and advocates who continue to champion justice and equality within their communities.

Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) led a Youth Caravan across five regions, Morogoro, Mbeya, Dodoma, Mwanza, and Arusha, to promote the Tanzania Youth Manifesto 2025–2030. The initiative brought together hundreds of youths under the with the Ajenda ya Vijana Consortium to discuss their role in shaping Tanzania's democratic future.



Empowering young participants during a discussion session at the Youth Caravan, August 2025.



“When children understand their rights, **they also learn to respect the rights of others** and become agents of change in their communities.”

Said this student from Jangwani Secondary School.

During the caravan, youth participants called for stronger representation through the establishment of a National Youth Council, education reforms, and greater inclusion in decision making.

“This is not just a document, it's the voice of Tanzania's youth calling for meaningful participation,” said Ally Seif Ramadhani, LHRC Youth Officer.

The caravan demonstrated LHRC's dedication to amplifying youth voices and empowering the next generation of human rights leaders. LHRC continues to track and monitor individual and collective actions by youth to demand duty bearer's accountability during and after the general election because of participation and engagement in the dissemination of the Youth Manifesto 2025–2030.

➤ **LHRC Strengthens SRHR Education in Line with ACERWC Recommendations on Girls' Right to Education in Tanzania**

In 2019, LHRC and CRR filed a communication before the ACERWC on behalf of Tanzanian girls, alleging that the state subjected primary and secondary school girls to mandatory, non-consensual pregnancy testing and subsequent expulsion from schools if found pregnant or married. These actions, along with denial of re-entry after childbirth and lack of access to sexual and reproductive health information and services, were claimed to violate multiple rights outlined in the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC) including the right to education.

The ACERWC found Tanzania in violation of several articles of the Charter (ACRWC), including those related to non-discrimination, education, health, privacy, and protection from cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment. The Committee issued 14 recommendations, including prohibiting mandatory pregnancy testing, reviewing regulations to remove wedlock as a ground for

expulsion, ensuring re-entry for expelled girls, providing support programs, stop detentions of pregnant girls, offering sexuality education and child-friendly health services, sensitizing stakeholders, eliminating child marriage, establishing reporting mechanisms for sexual violence survivors, prosecuting perpetrators, and taking action against those conducting forced testing or discriminating against pregnant/married girls.

As continued strategy to enhance state's obligation to implement recommendations; LHRC convened teachers and students to improve their understanding on state obligation to implement and report on ACERWC recommendations on girls' rights to education and SRHR.



Group photo of ACERWC members with CSO actors, Teachers and Students during the session to commit and follow-up on implementation of ACERWC decision on girl's right to education.



This convening also aimed to ensure teachers are well trained and that education curriculum covers essential topics for students as per the ACERWC recommendation. Through the meeting, teachers committed to creating safe school environments, providing counselling, and ensuring proper re-entry plans; while students pledged to uphold peers' dignity, strengthen human rights clubs, and act against stigma and discrimination. The action plan to combat stigma and discrimination and improve safe environments in schools based on commitments was developed.



Group photo of ACERWC members with CSO actors, Teachers and Students during the session to commit and follow-up on implementation of ACERWC decision on girl's right to education.

➤ Empowering Coastal Voices: Human Rights in Small-Scale Fisheries Dialogue

In Tanzania's coastal and lake regions, small-scale fisheries sustain thousands of families and play a vital role in the national economy. Yet, many local fishers continue to face challenges related to access to marine resources, policy exclusion, and limited participation in decision-making processes.

To address these issues, the Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC), in collaboration with the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG) and the Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR), convened a two-day National Dialogue on Human Rights in Small-Scale Fisheries in July 2025.

The dialogue brought together community fishers, government officials, and civil society representatives to explore practical solutions for ensuring equity, sustainability, and human rights protection within Tanzania's blue economy. Participants called for policy reforms that promote fairness, accountability



Participants discuss human rights in small-scale fisheries at the National Dialogue, Dar es Salaam.



and inclusive resource management, recognizing the importance of placing local communities at the heart of decision-making about the country's water resources.

"Small-scale fishers are the backbone of coastal livelihoods, yet their voices are often missing from decision-making tables," said Clay Mwaifwani, LHRC's Human Rights and Business Officer.

The dialogue concluded with a commitment to strengthen collaboration toward equitable and sustainable fisheries governance.

➤ Bringing Justice Closer to Citizens Through Court-Based Legal Aid Desks

This quarters, LHRC expanded its reach within Tanzania's justice system by establishing dedicated legal aid desks inside key court centres across Kinondoni, Dodoma, Arusha, and the Temeke One-Stop Judicial Centre. These desks have quickly become essential spaces where citizens, many facing some of the most challenging moments of their lives, can access free legal support directly at the point of need.

From matrimonial disputes and land conflicts to child custody matters and labour cases, LHRC lawyers provided guidance and legal assistance to hundreds of individuals navigating complex legal processes. The Temeke One-Stop Centre saw a higher turnout of women seeking redress on family-related matters, reaffirming the vital role of accessible, gender-responsive legal services.

Through these court-based desks, LHRC continues to break down barriers to justice, ensuring that even those with limited resources are not left to walk their legal journey alone.



Josephine Nkelebe, Legal Officer at LHRC, attending to a legal aid client at the Integrated Justice Center in Dodoma.

LHRC Responds to Human Rights Violations During the 2025 General Elections

The 2025 General Election period was marked by a wave of alarming human rights concerns across the country. As reports of abductions, enforced disappearances, unlawful arrests, and intimidation grew, communities were left frightened and families searched for answers. In the midst of this uncertainty, LHRC stepped forward as a guardian of justice, documenting violations, supporting victims, and defending the rule of law.

Throughout October, LHRC received a rising number of distress calls from citizens reporting missing relatives, unexplained detentions, and violations linked to political activities. Although many cases remained difficult to verify due to limited access to information, internet disruptions, and lack of official communication, LHRC treated every report with urgency and seriousness. Our team worked tirelessly to trace individuals, support families, and raise national attention to the growing climate of fear.

Legal Support and Bail Assistance

In response to widespread arrests during the election period, LHRC mobilized its legal teams to provide immediate assistance. Across different regions, LHRC's advocates visited police stations, engaged with authorities, and secured bail for a high number of detainees who were being held without clear charges or legal representation. Many of those released had been detained in connection with election-related activities yet were unaware of their rights or the procedures required for their release.

Through these efforts, LHRC helped reunite numerous individuals with their families and ensured that those remaining in custody continued to receive follow-up, legal guidance, and monitoring.

For detainees whose cases raised constitutional concerns, LHRC prepared and filed habeas corpus applications to challenge unlawful detention and demand accountability from law enforcement agencies.

Court Representation and Trial Observation

LHRC's commitment extended beyond police stations. Our legal team appeared in courts to represent individuals who had been arrested without cause, and to observe proceedings where human rights violations were alleged. In one widely followed case, LHRC filed a habeas corpus application that contributed to the release of a prominent political figure who had been held incommunicado. This intervention reaffirmed the power of the courts as a protector of rights, even during periods of political tension.

Standing With Communities When It Matters Most

Throughout the election period, LHRC continued to serve as a bridge between families, communities, and justice systems. We documented violations, issued public statements calling for accountability, and engaged national stakeholders to ensure that the rights of all Tanzanians were protected regardless of political affiliation.

Above all, LHRC's actions reflected its unwavering mission: to stand with the people, defend the rule of law, and ensure that every individual's dignity and security are upheld—even in the most challenging moments of our democracy.

➤ Grassroots Paralegals Expand Access to Justice and Community.

Empowerment Across Tanzania's rural and peri-urban communities. LHRC's network of paralegals continued to be a lifeline for thousands of citizens seeking justice, protection, and guidance. This quarter, paralegal units supported more than 1,800 individuals facing challenges ranging from land disputes and matrimonial conflicts to probate matters and gender-based violence.

Beyond offering legal advice, paralegals helped reconcile hundreds of family and community disputes, quietly resolving tensions that might otherwise escalate into prolonged conflict. Their work also ensured that vulnerable clients were connected to the right institutions, from social welfare offices to courts and police stations, guaranteeing they received the support they needed.

Paralegals also played a powerful role as community educators. Through village meetings, marketplaces, ward tribunals, hospitals, and 99 community radio programs,

they reached more than 400,000 people with practical information on human rights, child protection, and the justice process. Radio sessions sparked meaningful public engagement, with listeners calling and sending SMS messages seeking guidance and clarity.

Women made up the majority of those who sought paralegal assistance, an important sign of trust in these frontline justice actors and a reminder of the critical need for gender-responsive support at the grassroots level.

Through their steady presence and deep community engagement, LHRC's paralegals continue to ensure that justice is not a distant concept, but a reality accessible to Tanzanians where they live.



Paralegal (Thedi Mande) on the left during public empowerment at a secondary school in Singida.

➤ Strengthening Community Human Rights Monitoring Through Haki Kiganjani.

LHRC continued to deepen its community-based human rights monitoring efforts through the upgraded Haki Kiganjani system, Tanzania's digital platform for reporting, documenting, and responding to rights violations.

To strengthen this work at the grassroots level, LHRC trained 107 Friends of Haki drawn from different regions across the country. The training equipped them with knowledge on identifying violations, understanding human rights standards, and using the digital system to submit credible reports. By the end of the training, participants demonstrated a clear improvement in understanding, reflecting their readiness to serve as the first line of human rights responders within their communities.

Through Haki Kiganjani, LHRC documented hundreds of human rights violations reports during the quarter. Many of the cases involved unlawful arrests, prolonged detentions, and denial of bail, issues that have increasingly emerged in the context of heightened political activity ahead of the 2025 general elections. After verification, LHRC intervened in several cases, ensuring that affected individuals received legal support and timely assistance.

The growing use of Haki Kiganjani shows the public's trust in this mechanism as a safe channel for raising concerns, seeking help, and documenting abuses. As the system continues to evolve, LHRC remains committed to making human rights protection more responsive, more inclusive, and more accessible to communities throughout Tanzania.

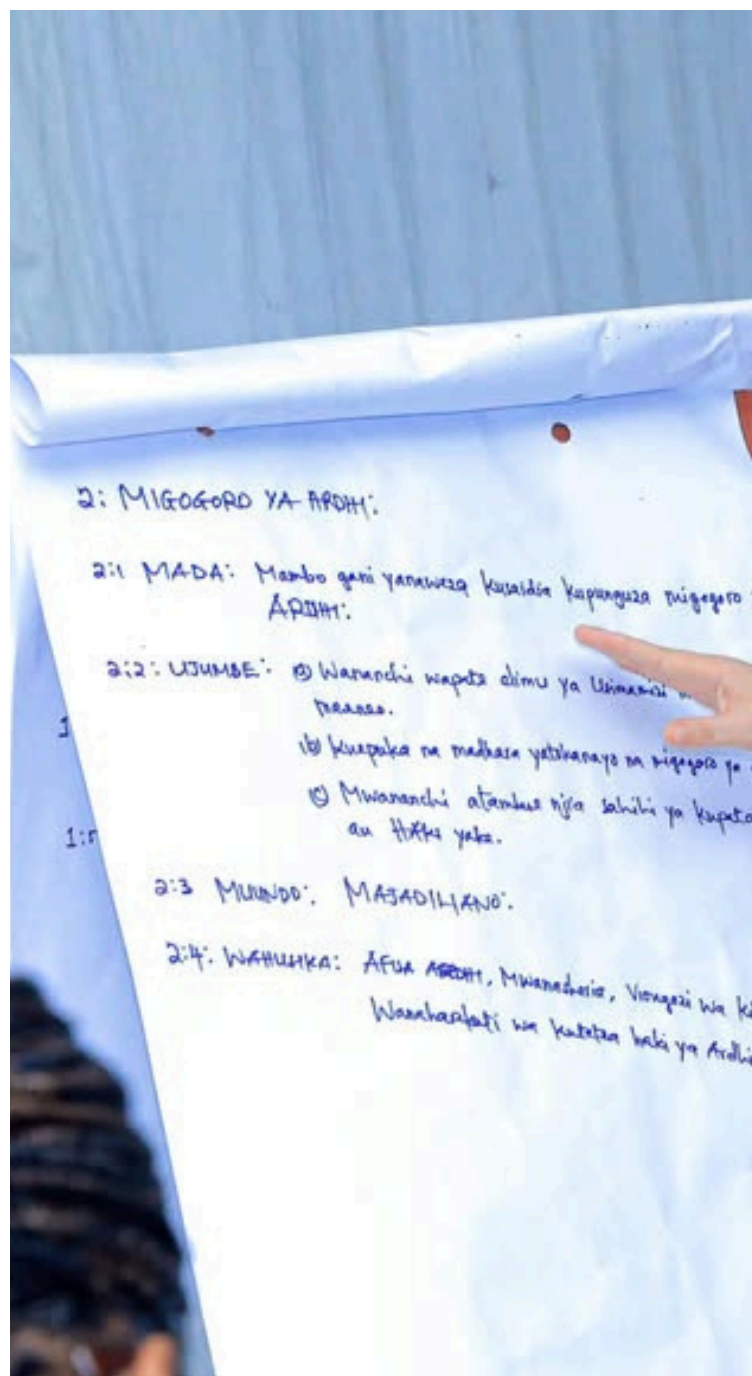


➤ Building Stronger Human Rights Defenders: Friends of Haki Strengthened Through Follow-Up Training.

This period LHRC conducted a supervisory visit to the Friends of Haki training sessions to assess progress and reinforce learning among newly trained community monitors. The visit revealed encouraging results participants demonstrated a stronger grasp of human rights concepts, digital reporting, and community monitoring techniques.

Through interactive sessions and practical exercises, Friends of Haki refined their ability to document violations accurately and to use the Haki Kiganjani system more effectively. Their growth was evident, with many participants showing improved confidence in engaging victims, gathering evidence, and submitting reliable reports that strengthen LHRC's response efforts.

Friends of Haki remain an important pillar in LHRC's community protection model. They serve as the eyes and ears on the ground, ensuring that even in remote areas, violations do not go unnoticed and that affected individuals are connected to the support they need. The follow-up training reinforced the network's readiness to continue providing credible, timely, and community-driven human rights information across the country. Through continuous mentorship and monitoring, LHRC is nurturing a stronger, more coordinated cadre of community defenders, each contributing to a safer and more just Tanzania.



As Tanzania transitions into 2026 following a deeply challenging and painful 2025 General Election, LHRC remains steadfast in its commitment to supporting victims of human rights violations and defending the rule of law. The election period exposed grave concerns, including abductions, enforced disappearances, unlawful arrests, intimidation, and restrictions on civic space, underscoring the urgent need for sustained human rights monitoring and accountability.

In the year ahead, LHRC will continue documenting violations, providing legal assistance and strategic litigation, supporting affected families, and engaging duty bearers to demand justice and institutional reform. Guided by its mission as Mlinzi wa Haki, LHRC will strengthen community-based monitoring, protect civic space, and work with partners to ensure that the lessons of the 2025 elections translate into meaningful reforms that uphold human dignity, democracy, and justice for all Tanzanians.



Our development partners.



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Mlinzi wa HAKI
English Version



**SUPPORT
OUR
CAUSE**



To Improve
Legal and
Policy
Environment

To Reduce
Incidences of
Violence and
Discrimination
Against Women,
Children and
PWDs



To Enhance
Accountability
of Duty Bearers
to Address
Citizen Needs
and Concerns.



To make
LHRC more
Efficient,
Effective,
and
Sustainable.