

# COHRE HOUSING RIGHTS AWARDS 2008

## Call for Nominations

The COHRE Housing Rights Awards, presented annually in three different categories, are designed to draw media attention to some of the world's worst violations of the human right to housing and to honour both governments and individuals showing exceptional commitment to enforcing and securing housing rights for everyone, everywhere. In this spirit, COHRE presents three types of Housing Rights Awards annually:

### Violator Awards (x 3)

Presented to governments or other public institutions that have committed persistent and unjustifiable housing rights violations in the recent past, in clear contravention of international human rights law and related standards.

### Protector Award (x 1)

Presented to a government or other public institution that has shown an exceptional commitment to the protection and fulfilment of housing rights.

### Defender Award (x 1)

Presented to an individual who has demonstrated outstanding achievements in defence of housing rights and who promotes the realisation of housing rights for all. Nominees for the Award should be committed to non-violence and be independent of any political party or government affiliation.

## Selection Process

A panel of housing rights experts, comprised of COHRE Staff and Board members, selects the recipients of each Award on the basis of agreed selection criteria. Winners are announced via an international media conference.

## Nomination Forms

Nomination forms are available in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese.  
Nomination forms may be downloaded from [www.cohre.org/nominations](http://www.cohre.org/nominations)

## Deadline

Send your nominations to [awards2008@cohre.org](mailto:awards2008@cohre.org) by no later than 1 July 2008. Winners will be announced in December 2008.

For further information please visit the COHRE website at [www.cohre.org/awards](http://www.cohre.org/awards)

## Previous Winners of the Defender Award

### 2007 - Baseer Naveed, PAKISTAN



#### Outstanding contribution to the struggle for the right to adequate housing in Pakistan

Baseer Naveed has worked tirelessly for over 20 years, mobilising communities against forced evictions and empowering urban poor leaders to advocate for the housing rights of their communities in Karachi, Pakistan. One of Baseer's most significant contributions towards the realisation of housing rights in Pakistan has been his key role in negotiating a resettlement plan for over 300,000 people affected by the construction of the Lyari Expressway in Karachi.

### 2006 - Fu Xiancai; Ma Yalin; Liu Zhengyou; Huang Weizhong; Chen Xiaoming and Zheng Enchong, CHINA



#### Fearless commitment to housing rights in an environment that is hostile to such ideals

These seven Chinese activists: Fu Xiancai; Ma Yalin; Liu Zhengyou; Huang Weizhong; Chen Xiaoming and Zheng Enchong, have displayed exemplary commitment, courage and perseverance in their struggles for the land and housing rights of hundreds of farmers, workers and residents in China. The work of these activists - undertaken at grave personal risk to them, their families and fellow activists - has played a catalytic role in bringing to light the unjust practices of the Chinese Government. In this photo, Fu Xiancai.

### 2005 - Wardah Hafidz, INDONESIA



#### Instrumental in assisting Tsunami survivors to return to their original lands

53-year-old Wardah Hafidz is Coordinator of the Urban Poor Consortium (UPC) in Indonesia and a tireless advocate mobilising communities against forced evictions and empowering urban poor leaders to advocate for the housing rights of their communities. Her work has resulted in innovative and inclusive housing rights processes, providing urban poor dwellers with security of tenure and helping to prevent a wide range of planned forced evictions.

### 2004 - Rajeev John George, INDIA



#### Groundbreaking work on the City Master Plans using digital mapping

Rajeev John George, Convenor of the National Forum for Housing Rights and founder of non-governmental organisation Deenbandhu, was a passionate and articulate human rights activist who had been a tireless advocate for the housing rights of the urban poor in the city of Indore, and in India generally. Rajeev had been integral in mobilising communities against evictions and in promoting pro-poor interventions in the City Master Plans of both Indore and Hyderabad.

### 2003 - Rachel Corrie, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



#### Her memory serves to inspire housing rights activists through the world

At the age of 23, Rachel Corrie was killed by a bulldozer on 16 March in Rafah, Occupied Gaza, while defending a Palestinian dwelling against demolition and its inhabitants against forced evictions. With her unwavering courage, she set an example for the defence of human rights and the struggle to implement those rights without compromise.