

## KEY ACTIVITIES

# ICRC REGIONAL DELEGATION



The ICRC Regional Delegation hosted a high-level panel discussion to launch one of the latest editions of the International Review of the Red Cross, themed on 'How International Humanitarian Law Develops' at the gathering of alumni of the South Asia Training Session.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF THE REGIONAL DELEGATION FOR INDIA, NEPAL, BHUTAN AND THE MALDIVES ON WORLD RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT DAY 2024 AND 75 YEARS OF THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS



The significance of the World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day resonates even more profoundly in a world marked by unprecedented crises. As we commemorate this occasion in 2024 on 8 May, the theme “Keeping Humanity Alive” serves as a poignant reminder of the enduring commitment of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent (RCRC) Movement to uphold human dignity, alleviate suffering, and extend assistance to people facing dire circumstances, particularly in remote and hard-to-reach areas. It is an onerous opportunity for the RCRC Movement, our staff, and the 14 million volunteers of the National Societies, to come together and demonstrate our commitment to a shared humanity. We also reaffirm our Fundamental Principles, which guide all our efforts to alleviate human suffering.

2024 is even more special for the institution, as it marks the 75th anniversary of the four 1949 Geneva Conventions (GC75) and the 160th anniversary of the first Geneva Convention. This year especially provides the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) with an opportunity to raise awareness of the importance of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) in contemporary armed conflict and its continued relevance and adaptability to the realities on the ground.

When IHL is respected and its humanitarian spirit upheld, lives are saved, and dignity is preserved. However, it has continued to face enormous challenges and has been tested on the ground in different contexts. Therefore, it is more critical than ever to reaffirm the importance of respecting and ensuring the respect of International Humanitarian Law to prevent and mitigate further human suffering and continue to protect persons who do not, or no longer, take part in the fighting and limit the means and methods of warfare to maintain humanity in armed conflicts.



**Kedir Awol Omar**

Head of the Regional Delegation for  
 India, Nepal, Bhutan and the Maldives

# TOP STORIES

## *Lloyd Law College, Greater Noida, wins the 22nd Henry Dunant Memorial Moot Court Competition*

It was an exciting finish to the 22nd edition of the Henry Dunant Memorial Moot Court Competition on 25 September 2023, with the Lloyd Law College, Greater Noida, emerging as the winner, while Dr Ambedkar Law University, School of Excellence in Law, Chennai, was a close second. A total of 48 teams from all over India competed over three days for the prestigious title. In 2023, more than 40 experts from government agencies, international organizations and academic circles judged the national rounds.



## *ICRC-RRU symposium on maritime security operations and humanitarian considerations*

From 29–30 November 2023, the ICRC and Rashtriya Raksha University (RRU) organized a symposium on maritime security operations and humanitarian considerations. The symposium brought together experts and panellists from Thailand, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Japan and India, including representation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to discuss the challenges and opportunities of balancing maritime security with humanitarian considerations. About 100 participants, including officers from the Indian Coast Guard, Indian Navy, National Academy of Coastal Policing (NACP), Border Security Force (BSF), Maldivian National Defence Force (MNDF), academicians, and students attended the event.

## *The 17th edition of the PII-ICRC Annual Media Awards*

On 24 November 2023, the 17th edition of the PII-ICRC Annual Media Awards for Best Article and Best Photograph on a humanitarian subject was jointly organised by the Press Institute of India (PII) and the ICRC in New Delhi, with the theme 'Stories of Resilience in Humanitarian Disasters: Responses and Challenges'. In the best article category, the first prize was awarded to Vaishnavi Rathore, reporter, Scroll. In the best photograph category, the first prize was awarded to S L Shanth Kumar, chief photojournalist, the Times of India. Rajendra Ratnoo, IAS, Executive Director, National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), was the Chief Guest at the event. N K Singh, Deputy Secretary, Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS), was the Special Guest.



## *Commemoration of the International Day of Disappeared in Kathmandu, Nepal*

On 30 August 2023, with support from the ICRC Kathmandu, 34 Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS) district chapters marked the International Day of Disappeared with the theme, 'Right to know'. The goal was to commemorate and express solidarity with the families of missing persons as well as other stakeholders affected by the disappearances. In addition, the event was organized to advocate for the 'Right to Know' of the families of missing persons and to make state authorities responsible for providing answers. A total of 1207 participants attended the event, along with 334 family members.

### *Clinical hands-on training on Diabetic Foot Basics in New Delhi*

From 20–24 November 2023, the ICRC collaborated with the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Human Study, Germany, to hold a five-day workshop on ‘Diabetic Foot Basics’ at the Pt Deendayal Upadhyaya National Institute for Persons with Physical Disabilities, New Delhi. The course was attended by 12 prosthetist-orthotists (P&O) and senior practitioners from three national training institutes across India to build their capacity to manage diabetic foot complications. The trainers included a P&O expert from Human Study, Germany and a P&O Technical Coordinator from the ICRC.



### *Hands-on workshop on forensic fingerprint photography at PGI, Chandigarh*

In January 2024, forensic experts from India, Nepal, and Bhutan participated in a four-day hands-on workshop on forensic fingerprint photography organized by the ICRC and the Department of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology at Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh. By using these innovative yet cost-effective methods, this workshop aimed to assist professionals in their respective fields in identifying unidentified bodies and providing answers to the deceased’s family.

### *ICRC, CUNPK and USI host the Annual UN Forum*

The United Service Institution of India (USI) hosted the Annual UN Forum 2023 in New Delhi from 21–22 November 2023, in collaboration with the ICRC and the Centre for United Nations Peacekeeping Operations (CUNPK). The forum discussions focused on the theme of ‘International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and Peacekeeping’. Distinguished experts in the field of international relations chaired the panels, with each panel composed of senior officials from the Indian Armed Forces, Indian Police Services, and the Ministry of External Affairs.



### *ICRC supports the Indian Red Cross Society in conducting the First Aid Training of Trainers, among other activities*

The ICRC supported the Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS) in conducting First Aid (FA) Training of Trainers (ToT) to strengthen the IRCS’s emergency-response capabilities. IRCS, Gujarat State Branch, conducted the five-day training module from 24–28 November 2023 in Ahmedabad. Training included practical sessions with an emphasis on practice. Thirty-three IRCS FA trainers from 10 IRCS state branches attended the event. Additionally, the ICRC contributed to facilitating sessions for select IRCS state branches on topics such as branch development, safer access, project cycle management, strengthening volunteer capacity, and protecting family links.

# ●●● ICRC NEW DELHI ON X, FORMERLY TWITTER

✕ The ICRC team, including the Head of the Regional Delegation, @kediromarICRC, held constructive meetings with Ghassan Maumoon, the Minister of Defence, the Maldives, and Major General Ibrahim Hilmy, the Chief of the Defence Force. @MNDF\_Official



✕ In his first visit to the Regional Delegation in New Delhi, Yoann Davison, Operations Coordinator for Asia and the Pacific, held important meetings with Ministries and had productive engagements with the @IndianRedCross NHQ and @redcrossgujarat.



✕ 26 November- the ICRC received the prestigious Mother Teresa Memorial Awards for Social Justice on the theme of 'Humanity in Action' in Mumbai, India. The Honourable Governor of Maharashtra attended the distinguished occasion as Chief Guest, and the Honourable Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment of India, was the Guest of Honour.



✕ On this #InternationalWomensDay, our gratitude to women worldwide for their contribution towards humanity. You are an integral part of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, and your dedication is at the heart of everything we do. #InspireInclusion #GC75.



✕ Workshop on IHL for Judges, Prosecutors and Court officials in partnership with the National Judicial Academy @Janakpur and @kathmandu #promotionofIHL #ICRC



✕ As part of #InternationalVolunteerDay, we honour and recognize the commitment of Red Cross and Red Crescent volunteers in serving affected populations and the spirit of volunteering that is crucial to building community resilience and mobilizing humanitarian efforts. #IVD2023



✕ This #WorldHumanitarianDay, we recognize the spirit and efforts of emergency responders and volunteers who continue to provide, often life-saving assistance, despite all kinds of challenges. @ICRC @IndianRedCross @NepalRedCross @BhutanRed @maldivianrc



Activities during September 2023 – April 2024



**International Committee of the Red Cross**  
**Regional Delegation for India, Nepal, Bhutan and the Maldives**  
 A-49, Vasant Marg, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi - 110057  
 T: +91 11 42211000 | F: +91 11 42211068  
 Email: newdelhi@icrc.org | www.icrc.org/in  
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✕ @ICRC\_nd  
 🌐 blogs.icrc.org/new-delhi