

was reported to have died in Giwa around August 2016 the day she arrived, after being beaten during an interrogation.<sup>292</sup> A fifth died in mid-2017.<sup>293</sup> According to one former detainee, five women who were arrested at the same time in Gwoza and were severely malnourished, died early 2017.<sup>294</sup>

### LACK OF PRE- AND POST-NATAL HEALTH CARE

Nine women told Amnesty International that they gave birth while detained in Giwa barracks between 2015 and 2017, including a 16-year-old girl. They confirmed they did not receive any pre-natal healthcare.<sup>295</sup> Of these nine, two reported that they were taken to the military clinic in Mai Malari barracks to give birth and returned to their cell the next day with their child. Seven, however, said they gave birth in their dirty and overcrowded cells without any medical assistance. They explained they gave birth inside the cells because soldiers did not transfer women who started labour in the evening.<sup>296</sup> Only two received any extra food, water or other items for themselves or their newborn babies. One woman said 15 women gave birth inside the cell in the six months she was in Giwa during 2016.<sup>297</sup> Another woman who was detained in 2017 said she witnessed at least ten births inside the cell.<sup>298</sup>

One woman, who was taken to Giwa with her two children in early 2015 and imprisoned for two years said “I gave birth to my son in the cell [around September 2016]. He came at night. The women in the cells helped. I got nothing from the guards. They didn’t give me any extra food or water or even clothes for the baby or myself. They didn’t open the cell doors for four days, so only then could I go to the clinic and get some medicine.”<sup>299</sup> She was released in January 2017.

### SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Since 2015 Amnesty International received five reports about sexual violence in Giwa Barracks.<sup>300</sup> One woman said: “The soldiers have relationships with detainees. Sometimes they are coming to [name withheld], they say they want to marry her. They have relationships with them.”<sup>301</sup>

Another woman confirmed: “Some women have ‘special relationships’ with soldiers. Most are girls, teenagers, they give them everything. Then at 5pm, everybody will be inside, silent, but they [the soldiers] will call one or two girls. You may not even hear when they come back to the cell... The young girls have open relationships, they will invite them to the office, they spend a few hours and then they come back.”<sup>302</sup> She said one of the girls was 15 years old. She further said that some of the women and girls who had “relationships” with the soldiers, would be released secretly. According to her, she witnessed at least 30 such relationships during the 28 months she was in Giwa.

If the soldiers had sex with detained women or girls in Giwa, these acts would constitute rape since detention negates any consent apparently given by a detainee. Although Amnesty International has not been able to interview women who said they had “special relationships” with the soldiers, such allegations are so serious that they should be further investigated.

The sexual violence appears to be linked to the soldiers in charge of the detainees. While former detainees reported one woman soldier present in 2015, the women detainees were supervised through most of 2016 and 2017 by male soldiers. The women named several officers who were particularly brutal. Around August 2017 these individuals were transferred and replaced again with female soldiers.

Amnesty International also interviewed a woman who was detained in Mai Malari barracks who said that a soldier took the women in her cell out at night and raped them. She said that when he tried to take her out, she shouted, which alerted the security officers. Days later, she and the other women in her cell were taken to a court martial to testify on the case. She said the soldier was then discharged from duty.<sup>303</sup>

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<sup>292</sup> Amnesty International interview, November 2016.

<sup>293</sup> Amnesty International, four women, January 2018. The reason that women interviewed gave for the death was “hypertension”.

<sup>294</sup> Amnesty International interview, April 2018. According to the former detainee, two women died after they were transferred in hospital. The other three died in custody. Two other former detainees confirmed the death of three of these women.

<sup>295</sup> Amnesty International interviews, June 2016-March 2018.

<sup>296</sup> Where women knocked on the door or flashed their light for attention, they said they were ignored by soldiers.

<sup>297</sup> Amnesty International interview, September 2016.

<sup>298</sup> Amnesty International interview, August 2017.

<sup>299</sup> Amnesty International interview, September 2017.

<sup>300</sup> Amnesty International interviews, December 2015-April 2018. Most did not want to give details.

<sup>301</sup> Amnesty International interview, November 2016.

<sup>302</sup> Amnesty International interview, April 2018.

<sup>303</sup> Amnesty International interview, April 2018.