



Regn No.
4250

Satnam Welfare & Guru Ghansidas Awakening Trust

Head Office :-
Phone :-

G-234A , Sector-22 Noida –201301
0120-2413655

1) The Chairman

Date : 17 Jan' 2008

National Human Right Commission of India
Sardar Patel Bhavan , Sansad Marg
New Delhi –110001

2) The Member

National Human Right Commission of India
Sardar Patel Bhavan , Sansad Marg
New Delhi –110001

Subject : Brutal killing at Chhattisgarh state - Appeal for justice and protection of Human Right in the land of disparity.

Respected Sir,

We on behalf of SWAGAT Trust prey a humble request to your good office working for protection of human right, for justice, protection of life and prestige in the land of disparity. The incident which took place on 11th Jan' 08 at village Phulwari under Suhela PS of Tilda block, Dist – Raipur in the State of **Chhattisgarh**. The detail is put up below for your kind information and appropriate action in your prescribed format please.

A. COMPLAINANT'S DETAILS

1. **Name** : T.R.KHUNTE, Chairman of Satnam welfare and Guru Ghansidas Awakening Trust (SWAGAT) registered at Delhi . This Trust is working on All India basis, for the welfare, humanity and justice to the downtrodden people of India. The author of the complaint also originally belongs to Satnami community of Chhattisgarh State, Professionally Master of Engg. Graduate of 1978 from MONRECO under Allahabad University.
2. **Sex** : Male
3. **State** : Originally belongs Chhattisgarh State working at Noida
4. **Full Address** : (Present) G-234A, Sector –22 Noida
5. **District** : Gautam Buddha Nagar (UP)
6. **Pin code** : 201301 **Phone No.** : 0120-2413655

B INCIDENT DETAILS

1. **Incident Place (Village)** : Village – Phulwari, (Tilda block, Suhela PS)
2. **State** : Chhattisgarh
3. **District** : Raipur
4. **Date of incident** : 11th Jan'08 morning in between 8 am to 1 pm

C VICTIM'S DETAILS (Statement recorded in CD)

1. **Name of victims**: Thakendra Bhardwaj, Village Surpanch, (Gram Pradhan), was brutally murdered and burnt alive.
2. **No. of victims** : 05 other family members were seriously injured in which women were molested and brutally attempted to kill them.
3. **State** : Chhattisgarh
4. **Full address** : Village – Phulwari, Thana- Suhela of Tilda block
5. **District** : Raipur
6. **Pin Code** :
7. **Religion** : Hindu
8. **Caste** : Satnami (Scheduled Caste)
9. **Sex** : Male and Female both, out of which females were targeted
10. **Age** : Children, young girls, adult women and men
11. **Whether disabled person** : Old aged persons

D Brief Summary of facts/ allegations of human rights involve :

Satnami is the majority community in Chhattisgarh believes in SATNAM PANTH with a message of love and peace to all human beings. Though Satnami believe in casteless society but now placed under Scheduled Caste category after Independence. Satnam Panth has separate identity independent of Hindu society though it is account for the name sack. Satnami do not believe in orthodox culture which hits caste Hindu. Satnamis are hatred by caste Hindus because of identity and ideology.

Regarding background of Phulwari village there are about 270 family belonging to Sahu (Teli) community, very few Yadav family and gond tribe. There is hardly 10 Satnami families residing in this village. Whole village constitutes backward category.

Thakendra Satnami was born in Satnami family and he lost his father in early age. At later date her widowed mother got re-married in the same village with Sahu other community where she got two more children. Being Thakendra was having very good relation with her mother and in turn Sahu community. Some

orthodox Sahu (the backward hindu) as majority community are having ill feeling with Satnami community.

Mr Thakendra was village Sarpanch for the last three years and was performing well his duties and responsibilities. Before this Sakharam Sahu was village Sarpach and at present he is only Panch. There is two three groups in Sahu community. Thakendra could become Sarpanch with support of Sahu voters only in view of Satnami being minority community in the village.

Very good performance of Sarpanch Thakendra was ill-felt by other group. To dominate him they started developing caste feeling and he was attacked once in the past, where he could survive with the help of Police interference.

There is two villages within Panchayat namely Phulwari and Newari at a distance of about 100 meters. Between two village there is one pond. Mean while Sarpanch got sanction for excavation of pond in the Phulwari village. Newari village is also Sahu dominated. Newari people started opposing excavation of pond. Since Sarpanch belongs to Phulwari village as well other community they targeted him as a head of the village. Ex- Sarpanch played vital role in exploiting difference as revenge of past two episodes (Firstly losing his Sarpanchship and secondly inter-caste marriage of Sahu male with Satnami female widow as explained earlier). Nearby village Sawarn Brahmins also played in plotting differences.

Start of Episode:

On 10th Jan' 08 there was Madai (local market where Yadav community use to dance in celebration annual function after cutting harvest). On Madai generally village Sarpach (Gram Pradhan) is being invited to inaugurate the function. Thakendra was the continuing Sarpanch for last three years. Every year he was invited to attend and inaugurate Madai but this year he was purposefully ignored. Sarpanch felt insulted and raised his voice before them.

On 11th Jan' 08 in the morning as usual Sarpach Thakendra went for natural call and there after he was washing mouth using Manjan (Gudakhu) in the pond. At that time some people namely Tijau (village Patel), Sakharam (ex sarpanch) along with few others came to him. Tijau went down and catch hold the foot of Sarpanch Thakendra. Sarpanch thought he is wishing him for the previous day wrong deed, but suddenly Sakharam with his three sons Mahendra, Kaushal, Ghana along and others started beating him. Sarpanch was not prepared for such situation and after lot of struggle; any how he could able to escape away from there and straight away went to his house. Viewing criticality of the situation, to save himself and other family members, he closed iron shutter of his house and locked from inside. He also locked his house from inside.

There after within half an hour a pre-planned crowd of about 150 to 200 people with arms rush to his house and started breaking iron shutter. In view of life endanger Sarpanch also made phone call to Suhela Police Station through mobile for rescue. Suhela Thana is hardly 3 KM from that village.

At about 9.30 AM another Sarpanch Kamalprasad Joshi form nearby village also informed Suhela PS for rescue, when he got the message of the ongoing incident. Mean while from outside some people went to nearby village and informed about happenings. Raju Chaturvedi from Pakridih village also informed Suhela PS over mobile phone but all gone in vain.

After half an hour the mob could able to break the shutter. They also broke the inside door abusing in the name of caste and started beating Sarpanch Thakendra with arms and lathis. Some people looted the money collected for Employment guarantee scheme and started throwing house hold items here and there. Sarpanch wife came for rescue of her husband, she was molested and heavily tortured she is now admitted to Raipur hospital struggling for life and death. Her daughter too was seriously injured but she could survive anyhow.

In between this Sarpanch in injured condition could escape from the home and to save himself he rushed toward house of old Sarpanch Khuman Sahu. But Khuman Sahu also closed his door without giving shelter to him in view of endanger of his life too due to mob mentality. The group of people along with Tijau, Sakharamand his sons, Somnath Jagdish sahu and others rushed towards Khuman's house and catch hold Sarpanch Thakendra outside there. He was miserably beaten and his hands and legs were brutally cut there and they pulled him back to his house in the same condition.

In front of Sarpanch house all belongings of his house hold items TV, table chairs cloths etc were taken out by attackers and spread straw over it burnt them. Sarpanch was then thrown alive in the burning flame. It is worst then terrorist attack and highly inhuman act can be well imagined about the prevailing situation. The attackers also threatening all other people for repetition of similar happenings if they open their mouth against it or giving any witness in the matter.

The whole carnage took about 5 to 6 hours, neither any rescue operation was done nor police rushed to the spot except the total administration was acting as watch dog. At about 9.30AM Tildabandha Sarpanch Kamalprasad Joshi informed Suhela Thana and also to SDO(P) Shukla but ended with shameful result.

On the contrary SDO(P) Shukla who was well verse about carnage is giving derogatory remark about public representative who was hon'le Sarpanch duly elected by people of the village in a democratic India is uncalled for. It appears that

Police was connived with culprit and they purposefully did not reached the spot knowing well before that, is a matter of high level investigation to bring out the truth behind the carnage.

Step motherly treatment of administration towards Satnami people has been seen in the past also. The scheduled caste people are always victims of the circumstances.

E Whether complaint is against member of Armed forces / Para-Military : **No**

F Whether similar complaint has been filed before any court / State Human Rights Commission : **No**

G Name designation and address of public servant against whom complaint is being made : **SDO(P) Shukla of that Tilda Janpad and others who are trying to cover up / wipe out the witnesses.**

H Name designation & address of the authority / officials to whom the public servant is answerable : **DM Raipur, CM Chhattisgarh and other associates.**

I Prayer / Relief if any sought:

- i) Proper FIR shall be recorded on individual victim basis and culprits shall be booked under SC atrocities act besides Loot, Docoity, murder, attempt to rape etc.**
- ii) Local Police official must be removed immediately for proper investigation, justice to the victims and exposure of culprits.**
- iii) Proper protection shall be given to the victims to safeguard their life and prestige. Loss/ damage of properties shall be recovered immediately.**
- iv) The real culprit behind the carnage should be exposed through independent CBI/ Judicial enquiry, which are creating caste conflict within backward and scheduled caste communities.**
- v) Legal aid shall be provided to the victims.**

vi) **Supply of arms on free of cost to the victims to protect and safeguard their life.**

Kindly spare a few moments by giving an appointment to explain the detail

Kind regards

Yours truly,

(T.R.Khunte)

Chairman SWAGAT

Satnam Welfare And Guru Ghasidas Awakening Trust

G-234A, Sector-22, Noida - 201301

सतनाम कल्याण एवं गुरु घासीदास चेतना संस्थान
(रजि नं . 4250)
