

Chittagong Hill Tracts MONITOR

Vol. 1, March 2007

<http://www.angelfire.com/ab/jumma>

Bangladesh Army Detains Indigenous Leader

On 17 February 2007, the Bangladesh Army arrested Mr. Satyabir Dewan, general secretary of PCJSS from his home of Banarupa in Rangamati. Mr. Satyabir Dewan was involved with PCJSS since his early life. He is a senior leader of PCJSS and was companion of Mr. Manobendra Narayan Larma. He returned to normal life after CHT Peace Accord signed in 1997. He contributed a lot to signing the peace accord and establishing peace in CHT.

Bangladesh Army Tortures Indigenous Man

On 23 February 2007 the joint forces consisting of Bangladesh Army and Police arrested an indigenous activist named Mr. Railai Mro from Bandarban district. The joint forces surrounded his house at Ujanai Para of Bandarban and arrested Mr. Railai Mro. His family member told that no allegation was filed against him with police station or elsewhere. His relative also confirmed that the army arrested him after planting a gun in his house so that the arrest could be justified to the media and an arm case could be filed against him. Mr. Railai Mro who was brutally tortured by the army. Due to his serious condition, the police of Bandarban police station did not agree to receive him while army tried to hand over to them at late night of 23 February.

Continued page 2



Chittipudi Chakma, 6 months, daughter of Manek Kumar Chakma was killed by the Muslim settlers on 2 February 1992 at Malya massacre. Two bombs exploded on a passenger boat. The explosion killed a passenger and seriously injured the driver of the boat. The survivors swam ashore, but the armed Muslim settlers were awaiting for them and attacked the Indigenous passengers - men, women and children. About 30 Indigenous Chakmas were killed.

Bangladesh Army Terrorizes Indigenous Minorities

5 March 2007: the joint forces arrested Mr. Balabhadra Chakma from the house of Ms. Jarita Chakma at Mahajan Para in Khagrachari. At first, the joint forces searched the house of Jarita Chakma. But they found nothing. However, they arrested Mr. Balabhadra Chakma from this house. The victim has been staying there for treatment after stone operation. He was first taken to Khagrachari army zone and then handed over to Khagrachari police station.

Continued page 2

Settlers Rape Indigenous Women

8 September 2006: At about 4:00 p.m. Santosh Das son of late Man Mohan Das raped Nima Marma (11) daughter of Uching Mong Marma of Mrodong Para of Bangalhalia, Rajasthali under Rangamati district. Santosh Das first took away the girl to nearby jungle by alluring her with money and chickpea (*Chanachur*) and then raped her.

Continued page 3

Settlers grab Buddhist Temple

On 20 May 2006 Muslim settlers of Maischari under Mahalchari grabbed a Buddhist temple and its land by torching the huts around the temple and constructing new houses on the land. On 21 May 2006 the Managing Committee of the temple called on to UNO (*Upazila Nirbahi Officer* - local administrative officer) of Mahalchari to resolve the dispute. The UNO convened a meeting between the indigenous people and the Muslim settlers. The Muslim settlers ignored the UNO directive and again constructed 35 more houses. The police destroyed the houses on 25 May. Few days later, on 14 June at night the Muslim settlers torched the Buddhist temple itself and again constructed 40 more houses.

Continued page 4

Chittagong Hill Tracts MONITOR

Vol. 1, March 2007

<http://www.angelfire.com/ab/jumma>

Bangladesh Army Tortures Indigenous Man

From page 1

At the last, he was admitted to Khagrachari district hospital by the joint forces and transferred to Chittagong Medical College hospital later. He is being provided treatment under police and army custody till to date. He was not produced before court due to his life threatening injuries. Mr. Railai Mro is the chairman and headman of Sualok union in Bandarban district. He was never involved with corruption or terrorist activities, and even with any political party. However he had been protesting against the eviction of indigenous people from their villages of Sualok and Tankaboti areas in Bandarban district in the name establishment of artillery training centre. Some 750 families including Mro (small ethnic group in CHT) have been evicted from their dwellings. The military forces acquired 11,445 acres of land in 1991-92 at Renikkhong, Sualok and Tonkaboti mauzas in Bandarban district for artillery training centre. The arrests of indigenous activists including Railai Mro are nothing but suppressing the indigenous people so that they could not protest against massive land grabbing and military atrocity, and they could not raise voice for their just rights.

Bangladesh Army Terrorizes Indigenous Minorities

From page 1

5 March 2007: the joint forces arrested Mr. Manubha Ranjan

Chakma, President of Baghaichari branch of PCJSS. At first he was called by BDR (Bangladesh Rifles) zone commander to meet at his zone office on that day. He went to BDR zone to meet with the zone commander at 6.00 p.m. However, no sooner he reached the zone office, he was arrested by the BDR zone commander and next day (6 March) he was handed over to Baghaihat army zone under Dighinala cantonment in Khagrachari district. Bangladesh Army brutally tortured him. Bangladesh Army produced him before magistrate court in Khagrachari district on 7 March.

18 February 2007: at 4.30 am joint forces (army and police) led by Lieutenant Kazi Mustafizur Rahman and Sub Inspection Mohammed Osman Goni surrounded Mr. Satyabir Dewan's house at Balpiya Adam of Rangamati and arrested him after planting a country-made pipe-gun under the bed of his son Mr. Polo Dewan. Mr. Satyabir Dewan is General Secretary of PCJSS Rangamati branch. Polo Dewan protested while a soldier was planting the gun. But the army threatened him. The joint forces also seized Taka 9,000 and victim's personal collection of books. The victim was produced to the magistrate court in Rangamati district and sent to Rangamati jail. The joint forces fabricated an arms case against him.

18 February 2007: at night the military forces arrested four PCJSS members from Jurachari in Rangamati district. They were

Bimal Kanti Chakma, Mr. Ranjit Kumar Dewan, president of Jurachari branch of, Mr. Udayjoy Chakma, general secretary of Jurachari branch and Mr. Mayachan Chakma organising secretary of Jurachari branch. They were falsely charged in connection with killing of Kina Mohan Chakma, a supporter of *Sama Odhikar Andolan* (Equal Rights Movement- Muslim settler organization backed by Army and Islamic fundamentalist groups).

17 February 2007: members of the joint forces arrested Mr. Satyabir Dewan, general secretary of PCJSS from his home of Banarupa in Rangamati. Mr. Satyabir Dewan was involved with PCJSS since his early life. He is a senior leader of PCJSS and was companion of Mr. Manobendra Narayan Larma. He returned to normal life after CHT peace accord in 1997. He contributed a lot to signing the peace accord and establishing peace in CHT.

11 February 2007: at mid night a group of joint forces (Bangladesh Army and Police) arrested Mr. Saimong Marma, organising secretary of PCJSS Kaptai branch from his home of Raikhali, Chandraghona. The victim was produced to the magistrate court in Rangamati district and sent to Rangamati jail. The joint forces fabricated an arms case against him.

6 February 2007: around 4.00 p.m. a group of joint forces (army and police) arrested Mr. Sumit Chakma, assistant general secretary of Pahari Chatra

Chittagong Hill Tracts MONITOR

Vol. 1, March 2007

<http://www.angelfire.com/ab/jumma>

Parisad, Rangamati branch along with his colleague from Ghachichar, Savar in Dhaka district. The victims were handed over the police after brutal torture. They were produced to the magistrate court in Rangamati district. They were sent to Rangamati jail.

4 February 2007: at mid night, a group of joint forces (Bangladesh Army and Police) arrested Mr. Bikram Marma, president of PCJSS, Kaptai branch from his home of Chandraghona Christian Missionary Hospital under Rangunia. The forces had planted a country made gun at victim's home and "recovered" it during his arrest. The victim was handed over Chandraghona police station. He was produced to the magistrate court in Rangamati district and sent to Rangamati jail. A false arms case was lodged against him at Chandraghona police station.

Settlers Rape Indigenous Women

From page 1

2 September 2006: Muslim settlers in Dighinala area raped and murdered Ms. Runa Chakma (15) daughter of Gyanajyoti Chakma of Hajachara, Dighinala. She was a student of grade nine at Chhota Merung High School in Dighinala. That morning she went to school to sit for examination, but she did not return home that day. Next day (3 September) at the evening around 6:30 pm her naked body was found at Merung creek near Number 10 sentry post of *Ansar* (Islamic Guard) and half kilometer from the Bara Merung Bridge. One of

perpetrators was identified as Monowar Hossain son of Joynal of Khejur Bagan village of Merung.

22 August 2006: Two Muslim settlers attempted to rape Ms. Samapudi Chakma (16) daughter of Aongla Chakma of Falitangyachug under Barkal in Rangamati district. On that day at 2.00 pm the victim went to the adjacent creek to fetch water for her cows. Mohammed Maznu and Mohammed Bazlu both of whom work at a local BDR camp assaulted to rape her. Samapudi Chakma screamed and hearing her scream, a villager Manu Mohan Chakma rushed to the scene to rescue her.

30 June 2006: A group of Muslim settlers raped a Miss. Nunu Marma daughter of Felang Marma of Bara Kheda Para under Ramgarh in Khagrachari district. She was visiting her relative Mr. Jatin Mohan Tripura of Bara Tali Para. At around 1.30 pm a group of Muslim settlers raided the home, tied up Jatin Mohan Tripura and his wife and then kidnapped Nunu Marma. The miscreants told Jatin Mohan Tripura that the Chairman of Patachara Union Momin Habilder had ordered them to pick her up. The next day, some villagers along with Jatin Mohan Tripura met the Chairman and asked about Nunu Marma. The Chairman denied any involvement. However he asked two people to trace Miss. Nunu Marma. Then they informed that Nunu Marma was gang raped and left her after she became senseless.

17 April 2006: A group of Muslim settlers at Taindong, Matiranga of Khagrachari abducted Ms Jamuna Tripura (14) daughter of Krisna Dayal Tripura in broad daylight. The police refused to take action

against the Muslim settlers. The victim had not been rescued till writing this report. The following culprits were identified.

10 April 2006: At around 11.30 am *Subedar* Kobad Ali, a non-commissioned officer of Duitila army camp under Baghaihat army zone raped a widow named Rupali Chakma (26 years) w/o late Dhana Bikash Chakma of Hazachari, Baghaihat. The victim was returning home from Baghaichari by a public bus. When the bus reached Duitila army camp, the military personnel ordered all the indigenous passengers including the victim to alight from the bus. During search, the military personnel found the victims widow allowance book and detained her on the passenger shed. They ordered the bus driver to leave the place along with other passengers. Two *Ansar* (Islamic Guard) personnel were also present during the search. No sooner had the bus left with other passengers, *Subedar* Kobad Ali ordered the *Ansar* personnel to leave the place. Few minutes later, *Subedar* Kobad Ali forcibly took the victim to a room of the camp and raped her. After an hour, the *Subedar* boarded her in a passenger jeep. The victim was threatened that she would be killed if she disclosed the incident to other.

7 April 2006: At 4.00 p.m. Mohammed Alamgir, a Muslim settler of Manikchari raped Domra Ching Marama (16) d/o Mong Chai Marma, of Badnatali under Manikchari *upazila* in Khagrachari district while she was collecting drinking water from a well near the village. A case was filed against the rapist at the Manikchari police

Chittagong Hill Tracts MONITOR

Vol. 1, March 2007

<http://www.angelfire.com/ab/jumma>

station. But the police did not take any action. Reliable sources alleged that Dr. Tozammel Haque Zoarder, Resident Medical Officer of Khagrachari hospital intentionally destroyed some symptoms of raping.

3 April 2006: Muslim settlers raped two Jumma women named Ms. Thuimrajai Marma (16) d/o Mamong Marma and Ms. Krajaima Marma (20) d/o Riprue Marma at Maischari under Khagrachari district during the communal attack against Jummas. The attack occurred when Muslim settlers tried to grab Jumma land.

Settlers grab Buddhist Temple

From page 1

On the other hand Abdul Wadud Bhuiyan, Chairman of the CHT Development Board supplied seedlings to the Muslim settlers on 17 August 2006. The indigenous people of surrounding villagers of the Buddhist temple submitted a memorandum to the Prime Minister of Bangladesh demanding to stop land grabbing by the Muslim settlers and return their lands. But the government which sponsors and supports the Muslim settlers took no action.

EDITORIAL:

Bangladesh: Fountain of Terror

To the outside world Bangladesh is known as a flood prone impoverished country tucked somewhere in South Asia. Bangladesh remains below the radar of world attention. The world media is unaware of Bangladesh as a source of Islamic extremism.

Bangladeshi extremists are heavily involved in international Jihad and Terrorism. Many Bangladeshis fought alongside Taliban and Al Qaeda in recent Afghan war against Northern Alliance and coalition forces. Bangladeshi extremists were involved in terror attacks in India, Israel and Iraq. Bangladesh has a long history of exporting terrorists to many theatres of war. For example during the Israel-Lebanon war in 1982, many Bangladeshis fought alongside PLO against Israel. Even in present day many Bangladeshis are fighting alongside Muslim separatists in Kashmir against India.

Islamic extremism has been growing in Bangladesh since 1975, when country's secular government was toppled by a military coup. Thanks to middle eastern aid. Oil rich Saudi Arab finances many madrashas and mosques in Bangladesh. These madrashas and mosques are breeding grounds for Islamic extremism.

Islamization of Bangladesh could not have been possible without support from the Bangladesh Army. Successive military governments of Ziaur Rahman and Hossain Mohammed Ershad had been enthusiastic supporters of Islamization. Bangladesh Army itself is highly islamized.

In the Chittagong Hill Tracts region the Bangladesh Army and Islamic fundamentalist groups work hand in hand in terrorizing the indigenous people. Bangladesh Army considers Islamic extremist groups as important ally in waging genocidal war against the indigenous people of the Chittagong Hill Tracts and Islamic extremist groups consider Bangladesh Army as a protector in its mission to Islamize the region.

The government of Khaleda Zia was in coalition with Islamic fundamentalist parties. The fundamentalist parties sympathize with Taliban and Al Qaeda. It's absurd for Khaleda Zia to condemn terrorism or shed crocodile tears while she herself is in coalition with Taliban and Al Qaeda sister organizations.

Contact us:

Jumma Committee for
International Campaign

Email:

jumma.committee@yahoo.com