



FS01/CPR-HRD- 01/2008

### ***Maoist Cadres Thrash Political Activists***

<b>Nature of incident:</b>	Beating
<b>Date of incident:</b>	29 April 2008
<b>No of victim/s:</b>	Four
<b>Identification of victim-1:</b>	Ram Singh Rai, 42
<b>Address:</b>	Nagi VDC-4, Bhojpur district
<b>Identification of victim-2:</b>	Khagendra Rai, 52
<b>Address:</b>	Kulung VDC-6, Bhojpur district
<b>Identification of victim-3:</b>	Kul Bahadur Ghale, 62
<b>Address:</b>	Kulung VDC-5, Bhojpur district
<b>Identification of victim-4:</b>	Dedraj Basnet, 40
<b>Address:</b>	Kulung VDC-5, Bhojpur district
<b>Place of Incident:</b>	Kulung VDC-2, Bhojpur district
<b>Identification of perpetrator/s:</b>	Maoist cadres

#### **Background**

Even after the election to the Constituent Assembly, the Maoist cadres are carrying out atrocities in rampant manner in different districts. Reports coming from the districts say that they are still intimidating and beating up many political activists as well as human rights defenders. Though the people have given them clear mandate in the recently held CA elections to lead the country and establish a new Nepal, the local cadres of the Maoist party have been threatening and beating many political activists of other parties and even human rights defenders.

Such act of the Maoists, who have been bestowed with the responsibility to formulate new constitution of the country, violating basic human rights of the people, is a matter of concern. With the Maoist's youth wing YCL still attacking, abducting, intimidating and displacing leaders and cadres of CPN-UML in Bhojpur district, there is suspicion if they are really serious on forming a new Nepal.

#### **Details**

Member of CPN-UML district committee secretariat and chief of organisation department Ram Singh Rai, 42, of Nagi VDC-4; CPN-UML activist and erstwhile VDC chief of Kulung VDC Khagendra Rai, 52, of Kulung VDC-6; former DDC member Kul Bahadur Ghale, 62, of Kulung VDC-5 and teacher Dedraj Basnet, 40, of Kulung VDC-5 were beaten injured by a group of Maoist cadres led by Maoist area in-charge Puspha Chaulagain on 29 April 2008 while the victims were returning back after attending their party's meeting at Kulung VDC-2.

The victims were airlifted to BP Koirala Memorial Hospital in Dharan on the same day in the army helicopter at around 2 p.m. Among the victims, critically injured Ram Singh Rai was referred to TU Teaching Hospital in Kathmandu for further treatment on 2 May 2008. The victim has received bandage with his hand and leg broken and complained with INSEC representative that he still felt problem on respiration.

According to another victim Khagendra Rai, they were beaten with stick, *khukuri*, metal rod and hammer in the leadership of Maoist area in-charge Pushpa Chaulagain (Bibas), while they had gone to the YCL office to talk for the release of UML cadre Kedar Karki of Kulung VDC-5 who was abducted by Maoist cadres and held captive at the YCL office.

*For Human Rights and Social Justice*

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The victims have lodged a complaint against 15-16 persons including Chaulagain at Bhojpur Area Police Office. However, Rai said that DSP Janak Khatri of District Police Office initially had denied lodging complaint against the perpetrators.

#### **Display of Cruelty by Maoists and YCL after the incident**

The Maoist cadres beat injured UML cadres at around 7:45 am on 29 April 2008. Though the victims were quivering due to the beating, the YCL cadres who were nearby the incident site remained a mere spectator. Though the YCL office was situated nearby, they did not make any attempt to rescue the victims who were crying in pain. When the victims asked for water the YCL cadres made mockery of them by telling to give them urine and human stool. When we requested the YCL to carry us to the shade they dragged us to the nearby shade area, said Ram Singh Rai while talking to INSEC representative.

#### **Security Persons Failure to Provide Security**

Though the Maoist cadres beat injured the victims at around 7:45 am, the police deputed at the nearby police post arrived at the incident site only after half an hour of the incident. According to Rai, the police instead of rescuing the victims who were trembling due to the beating started querying about persons behind the incident. Though the victims requested the police to take them to the police post for security, the police did not heed the victims, added Rai. This incident shows that the police who are deployed for safety and security of Nepali people are incapable of doing so. Failure of the police to reach the incident site on time, provide security to the injured and unwillingness to initiate for the treatment of the victims proves the incapability of the security persons. The security persons also didn't prosecute the perpetrator of their inhuman act. This incident also raises question if people living in the village areas are safe with such attitude of the security persons.

#### **Concern**

**Victims were beaten by YCL cadres** in the leadership of Maoist area in-charge Pushpa Chaulagain (Bibas), while they had gone to YCL office for the protection (release) of UML cadre Kedar Karki of Kulung VDC-5. Kedar was abducted by Maoist cadres on 28 April 2008 and held captive at the YCL office. The victims were beaten by the YCL cadres as they asked to release Kedar Karki.

The incident has violated the Comprehensive Peace Accord and the 23-point agreement between the government and the Maoist signed on November 21, 2006 and December 23, 2007 respectively. It has also violated the fundamental Rights provisioned in the interim constitution of Nepal.

**May 14, 2008**

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