

## Yearly Report 2004

### At a glance

Form of atrocity ↓	Perpetrator →	Security Forces	Bengali Settlers	SF+BS	UPDF	Total
No. of person killed		2	3	-	3	<b>8</b>
No. of person tortured		72	15	3	12	<b>102</b>
No. of person arrested		80	-	-	-	<b>80</b>
No. of person harassed		34	9	-	8	<b>51</b>
No. of person against whom case lodged		43	-	-	-	<b>43</b>
No. of house set fire		7	-	-	1	<b>8</b>
No. of house looted & destructed		2	7	2	-	<b>11</b>
No. of house searched		10	-	-	-	<b>10</b>
No. of woman raped		-	1	-	-	<b>1</b>
No. of woman sexually harassed		2	-	-	-	<b>2</b>
No. of person kidnapped		-	-	-	10	<b>10</b>
No. of person whose land grabbed		22	-	14	-	<b>36</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>272</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>360</b>

SF+BS = Security Forces & Bengali settlers; UPDF = United Peoples' Democratic Front

### Headline of the Report 2004

#### Overall Report on Human Rights Situation in CHT

#### January 2004

12 January 2004: PCJSS activist attacked by UPDF in Khagrachari

#### February 2004

8 February 2004: PCJSS Observed 2 Days Road Blockade Event

17 February 2004: UP Chairman Abducted in Bandukbhanga

22 February 2004: Deputy Minister disallowed entering in Khagrachari

23 February 2004: Public Meeting held by PCJSS in Rangamati demanding implementation of CHT Accord

23 February 2004: Attack on Dr. Kamal Hossain at Rangamati-Chittagong district border

24 February 2004: Strike protesting against attack on Dr. Kamal Hussain observed in Rangamati

26 February 2004: Three PCP workers brutally beat up by the army in Ruma

26 February 2004: Two PCP activists harassed by the army in Ruma

28 March 2004: False case filed against Mr. Santu Larma and two others his party members in Khagrachari

#### March 2004

1 March 2004: Jumma houses raided by the army in Dighinala

7 March 2004: Killing and abduction in Bandukbhanga

8 March 2004: International Women Day observed in CHT

8 March 2004: Protest Rally against Lodging False Case against Mr. J. B. Larma

10 March 2004: Local student leader arrested by the police and army in Longadu

10 March 2004: PCP worker arrested and tortured by the army in Barkal

16 March 2004: Bengali settlers beat Jumma villagers in Dighinala

22 March 2004: Jumma villagers beat up by the Bengali settlers in Dighinala

22 March 2004: PCJSS worker arrested and lodged false case by the army in Barkal

28 March 2004: Prohibition on Movement at night issued by the BDR in Barkal

### **April 2004**

First week of April 2004: Initiative to set up new army camp in Ghagra

10 April 2004: Communal attack on Jumma people by Bengali settlers in Baghaichari

10 April 2004: 3 innocent villagers arrested by the army in Khagrachari

10 April 2004: UPDF fired Mr. Bipul Chakma alias Darshan

12 April 2004: 3 innocent villagers tortured by the army in Khagrachari

13 April 2004: Villagers threatened to evict by the army in Khagrachari

17 April 2004: A Jumma killed by the Bengali settler in Naniarchar

25 April 2004: Local people took a bond from UPDF armed cadres

27 April 2004: Two Jummas tortured by the army in Matiranga

### **May 2004**

In May 2004: Land grabbing by the Bengali settlers in Sindukchari area

6 May 2004: GoB Denied Mr. J B Larma's Participation in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of the UNPFII

7 May 2004: 4 innocent persons abducted by the UPDF in Rangamati

8 May 2004: PCJSS workers attacked by the Bengali settlers in Bandarban

12 May 2004: Initiative to set up new army camp in Longadu

12 May 2004: Houses of PCJSS member raided by the army and police in Naniarchar

17 May 2004: UPDF fired on PCJSS member in Naniarchar

18 May 2004: Jumma woman harassed by the BDR in Longadu

20-23 May 2004: 15th Central Foundation Anniversary and 12th Central Council of PCP held

23 May 2004: UPDF cadres ordered to 6 families to leave the village in Kaukhali

25 May 2004: 17 members of PCP, PCJS & PCJSS arrested and brutally tortured by the army in Guimara

27 May 2004: PCJSS office raided and 33 members arrested by the police and army in Khagrachari

27 May 2004: Communal attack on the Jumma people at Khagrachari bazar committed by Bengali settlers

27 May 2004: Another false case lodged against 40/45 unknown persons in Khagrachari

31 May 2004: Release rest of the 10 workers arrested from Guimara

### **June 2004**

27 June 2004: Jumma house raided by the BDR in Barkal

### **July 2004**

14 July 2004: An innocent Jumma arrested by the BDR in Barkal

Mid-July 2004: Setting up new army camp in Ghagra

27 July 2004: the Jumma house raided by the BDR in Barkal

27 July 2004: PCJSS member killed by UPDF in Burighat

29 July 2004: NGO activists harassed by the army in Matiranga

29 July 2004: Killing and religious persecution by the army in Chitmaram

In July 2004: Appeal to GoB for implementation of CHT Accord during 22<sup>nd</sup> session of UNWGIP in Geneva

### **August 2004**

2 August 2004: Communal attack by the Bengali settlers in Rangamati College Gate

2 August 2004: Innocent villagers arrested by the army in Matiranga

6 August 2004: A Jumma woman raped by Bengali settlers in Baghaichari

6 August 2004: Two Jummas of one family killed by Bengali settlers in Barkal

6 August 2004: PCJSS office raided by the army at Madhupua in Khagrachari

11 August 2004: Shashanka Dhamai harassed by the army in Guimara

23 August 2004: An innocent Jumma student Jimpu Chakma killed by the army in Matiranga

### October 2004

Government Move to dismiss 7-Bengali Members of CHTRC

13 October 2004: Deployment of RAB in CHT

16 October 2004: Decision taken for amendment of CHT Accord and Deployment of Army for Protection of Forest Resource

18 October 2004: APBN replaced by Army in CHT

### November 2004

5 November 2004: Five Jumma villagers arrested by the army in Rowangchari

16 November 2004: Ten Jummas tortured by the army in Matiranga

20-30 November 2004: Massive military atrocity on Jumma people in Bandarban

29 November 2004: Jumma houses burnt to ashes by the army in Guimara

30 November 2004: Four Jumma villagers beaten by the army in Rowangchari

### December 2004

2 December 2004: Observation of 7th anniversary of CHT Accord

3 December 2004: Three innocent Jummas tortured by the army in Rowangchari

3 December 2004: Jumma villagers compelled to organise cultural show by the army in Rowangchari

4-5 December 2004: Three innocent Jummas tortured by the army in Rowangchari

6 December 2004: Villagers harassed by the army in Rowangchari

6 December 2004: Jumma woman raped by 4 Bengali settlers in Baghaichari

8 December 2004: Jumma villagers harassed by the army in Rajvila

13 December 2004: House of PCJSS member raided by army and police in Rangamati

15 December 2004: Two Jummas tortured by army and police in Baghaichari

19 December 2004: The CHTRC organised a meeting on social afforestation

17-19 December 2004: CHT Visit of Parliamentary Standing Committee on CHT Affairs Ministry

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## Overall Report on Human Rights Situation in CHT

The CHT is passing through a serious crisis, as the situation has deteriorated significantly because of government's complete negative policy towards the CHT Accord of 1997 and the indigenous peoples of the CHT region, further land occupation by the Bengali settlers and intensification of the 'Operation Uttoron', the Military rule against the Jumma people and the PCJSS. No body can say which area is going to be the second Mahalchari where 14 Jumma villages were completely destroyed by the Military and the Bengali settlers on 26<sup>th</sup> August 2003. Concerned people are aware that the Awami League government of Bangladesh lead by Sheikh Hasina signed the CHT Accord in 1997. She even bagged UNESCO Houpet-Felix Boigny peace award in 1999 for signing the accord. Unfortunately, only a little of the accord was implemented by her government during her three year and eight months tenure. This extent was not enough at all to develop the post accord situation. The BNP led present four-party alliance government took over the state power but during its two years rule it violated vital clauses of the accord. The Bengali settlers of cluster villages have already started occupying lands of Jumma peoples and silent infiltration of Bengali settlers is on with the blessing of the civil and military administrations. The Bengali settlers conducted some large-scale attacks on the Jumma villages with direct support from the Military for making rooms for them even after signing the CHT Accord. The Military could not hide and sterilize their crime done in Mahalchari, which got national and international attention.

### Overall Scenario of the CHT situation during the period of present government:

Present government headed by Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia assumed power in October 2001. There was a feeling among the settlers that their favorite government had ascended to power so there

would be golden opportunity of grabbing more lands for them. So they started driving away Jumma persons from their lands and at few villages even from homes. PCJSS sent delegation to the government and PCJSS president personally held meetings with ministers and even with the Prime minister. It helped publicizing that the government was not going to abrogate the Agreement. Rather there might be step to implement it. It temporarily resulted thwarting land grabbing massively.

**Negative steps:**

- 1) The government, in violation of the provision of the Agreement, gave the charge of CHT ministry to the Prime minister and appointed a deputy minister from among the Jumma people.
- 2) The government, in violation of the Agreement, appointed a non-Jumma person – Wadood Bhuiyan, MP as Chairman of the CHT Development Board.
- 3) The government authorities continue expansion of Cluster villages of settlers at Joysen Karbari Para in Mahalchari of Khagrachari Hill District and other vulnerable places in the three Hill Districts.
- 4) The government stopped providing ration to the Jumma Refugee Returnees since June 2003. There refugees demonstrated strikes in September 2003 against it. There was verbal commitment from the government side in October 2003. But the government did keep words.
- 5) Process for transmigration of population from plain districts to CHT and grabbing of land here and there in all possible ways increased.
- 6) Non-cooperation by civil administration under Deputy Commissioners and Superintendents of police remained same.
- 7) The government created pressure upon the PCJSS for replacing non-Jumma members of the CHTRC with other non-Jumma persons who were to be selected by the government. If necessary, the government was prepared even to change the provision of the CHTRC ACT for it. PCJSS opposed it.
- 8) The government did not allocate proper amount of fund to the CHTRC for the financial year 2003-2004. It did not provide any fund to the CHTRC for disastrous situation. Whereas CHTRC received fund for it in the recent past years.
- 9) The army authorities continue interference in the administration of CHT. They have set check posts in all the three districts and continue checking vehicles carrying passengers and woods etc.
- 10) The armed groups of UPDF are provided shelter by army camp authorities directly at various places like Bauchara in Dighinala and Mahalchari sadar in Mahalchari upazilla in Khagrachari Hill District and subalong in Barkal upazilla and Kattoli in Langadu upazilla in Rangamati Hill District.
- 11) MP Wadood Bhuiyan and his mentors in the present government maintain contact with UPDF leaders who take up their programs in support of the government particularly of Wadood Bhuiyan. For instance, UPDF in line with Wadood Bhuiyan opposed the strikes and Road blockade programs launched by PCJSS since December 2003 and also demanded resignation of J.B. Larma, PCJSS president from the post of CHTRC Chairman.
- 12) New political organization named ‘Pahari Bangali Oikya Parishad’ headed by Mashiul Alam Humayun, a settler leader of Rangamati has been floated in December 2003 to oppose PCJSS and implementation of the Agreement.
- 13) The government has taken up initiative to constitute a committee for rehabilitating the settlers in CHT through providing necessary facilities including land one.
- 14) The government continues allocating fund and food grains to the army authority of CHT for running the ‘Pacification’ program, which was adopted to suppress the insurgency during the armed conflict period. Presently this fund is provided for the settlers as well.

- 15) The government has not yet approved the International Consulting Firm for implementing the rural development Project in CHT funded by ADB.
- 16) The Mahalchari communal attack was committed against the Jumma people by the settlers with direct participation of local army authority and the local BNP leaders.
- 17) Quota for admission of students from CHT into Higher Educational Institutions has been either reduced or Jumma students have been deprived of it in the recent years.

**Positive steps:**

Yet PCJSS continued all its efforts to hold meetings with all concerned ministers including the Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia. On 20 April 2002 a meeting was held between the PM and J.B Larma, President of PCJSS and Chairman of CHTRC. Several meetings were held between the Government and the PCJSS and CHTRC sides. In response to those meetings very a few positive steps were taken. Those were:

- 1) The government appointed Samiran Dewan as Chairman of the Task Force for rehabilitation of Jumma Refugee Returnees and the Internally Displaced Jumma Persons. A meeting of the Task Force was convened in December 2003. But PCJSS and Refugee leaders boycotted it because of improper process of arranging it. Hence that was postponed.
- 2) The CHT ministry finalized the Draft Electoral Rolls Rules of Hill District councils and Law ministry expressed its vetting on it and placed it to the PM in March 2003. The Draft for Amendment of the CHT Land Dispute Disposable Commission Law – 2000 was finalized by the Law ministry in consultation with CHT ministry and CHTRC in January 2003. But cabinet is yet to accept it for placing it to the Parliament.
- 3) The government decided in April 2003 to hand over less important institutions, namely, Cotton Development Centre in Bandarban, Rangamati Vocational Textile Institute in Rangamati and also decided in December 2003 to hand over Rangamati Primary Training Institute to concerned Hill District Councils. But those are yet to be executed. It is notable that CHTRC and Hill District Councils demanded to delegate any related subject / department with all its institutions and manpower. But the government differed on it.

**Attitude of the Jumma people:**

Jumma people were afraid whether present coalition government headed by PM Khaleda Zia would abrogate the Agreement or certain provisions of it. Presently they have become a bit assured that it might not happen so. They took it as the outcome of the hectic efforts of PCJSS. Naturally almost all the Jumma people still have been lending their support to the PCJSS and its issue-based democratic movement for materialization of the Agreement. Jumma students, youths and villagers including women, in spite of opposition by activists and supporters of MP Wadood Bhuiyan and UPDF, actively participated in the demonstrations, strikes, blockade, processions and meetings organized recently. They are having strong spirit to run movement in the coming days.

However it is worrying that few Jumma people being thrown into extremely dilapidated condition or being frustrated of getting return have started selling their lands to the settlers.

**Cooperation of the permanent Bengali residents:**

Permanent Bengali residents under the banner of 'The Adi O Sthayi Bangali Kalyan Parishad' (The Ancient and Permanent Bengali Welfare Council) have become more active to give cooperation to the PCJSS in running the movement for implementing the Agreement. It is notable that the leaders of this organization mobilized the Bengali students and youths, who were supporters of Wadood Bhuiyan and were prepared even to attack the PCJSS workers in Rangamati to foil the road blockade program on 7 and 8 February 2004, for refraining from their activities. It resulted positive.

**Attitude of the Army authorities in CHT:**

The general attitude of the army toward the Jumma people and implementation of the CHT Accord is not favourable. Particularly the condemning of the army for involvement in the Mahachari incident

and the recent emphasis on the demand for lifting military administration from CHT and closing down temporary camps were disliked by them. They have the feeling about attacking upon the Jumma people. Yet they have become passionate enough taking the impact of the Mahalchari incident on the international community into account and the position of the government as well. Still there is no certainty whether they might initiate communal incident any further in the coming days.

However, the army authorities in collaboration of Wadood Bhuiyan, MP and UPDF have become active enough to file cases against PCJSS leaders and workers including PCJSS president J.B.Larma. They have been providing support and cooperation to the settlers for occupying lands of the Jumma people as far as possible. They have been utilizing the UPDF against the PCJSS and giving them help and cooperation in disguise more actively. They have been giving covering support to the UPDF armed group even in armed clashes with the pro-Accord group. It is, of course notable that PCJSS have been always maintaining contact with them to lower down their hostile attitude.

#### **Attitude of the settlers:**

The attitude of the common settlers toward Jumma people and PCJSS is not too much hostile. But few of them, who have vested interests, are quite close with MP Wadood Bhuiyan and anti-PCJSS army authorities. These settlers led by Wadood Bhuiyan and his associates in collaboration with local army commanders have become more aggressive in Mahalchari sadar in Khagrachari Hill District and in Barkal areas in Rangamati Hill District. That is why the Jumma families surrounded by settler families there have either abandoned or thinking to vacate their houses. It is quite evident that if the PCJSS intensify its movement and the government responses negatively the settlers in collaboration with the army and police authorities may jump upon the PCJSS and Jumma people with all their might at any moment.

#### **Attitude of the CHT ministry:**

Most of the CHT officials in CHT ministry including the secretary Sayed Mostaque Ahmed hailing from Sylhet in line with Harish Chowdhury from Sylhet and PS to the PM have anti-Jumma attitude and almost all of them are maintaining communication with Wadood Bhuiyan as well.

Deputy minister Moni Swapan Dewan is also not so committed to protect the interest of the Jumma people and to implement the CHT Agreement. He is afraid of the anti-Jumma and anti-PCJSS lobby within the government and the BNP. So the role of CHT ministry too is unfavourable.

#### **Development Agencies:**

International donor agencies including UNDP appears continuing their development programs in CHT having a balance in their attitude toward Bangladesh government. That is why UNDP formulated its project concept paper for a pilot project on Community development in CHT having its most flexible stand with the government, which preferred making beneficiaries to all irrespective of even resident status. It implicitly meant development for the settlers as well. It would be extremely damaging for the implementation of the Agreement and maintaining its spirit. So PCJSS opposed it vehemently and placed its objection to the UNDP Head office. An independent team of 3- members visited CHT in January 2004 and talked with concerned authorities. UNDP agreed to modify it and to formulate and execute its projects in line with the CHT agreement as well as following the indigenous policy of the UN system.

Considering pros and cons and reviewing the modified guidelines of UNDP on Development programs in CHT PCJSS and CHTRC primarily decided to allow UNDP and its Partner countries and agencies to starting development activities in small scale.

#### **NGO activities:**

Many international and National NGOs have been running projects in the three districts of CHT. There are some Islamic NGOs and some western NGOs operating in various places. It is a matter of worrying whether NGOs would be involved in local political, social and religious activities. Owing to deprivation for ages and decades long armed conflict Jumma people were affected beyond description.

So they are presently welcoming any development programs particularly for education and socio-economic development without any prejudice.

Some local NGOs have been formed in the post-Agreement period and an NGO Forum with them also has been floated.

#### **Islamic conversion:**

It is very much regretting that some 20 families belonging to Tripura, Murung, Marma and Chakma embraced Islam and presently residing in a village in Lama upazill in Bandarban Hill District. Previously it was observed that if any Jumma embraced Islam he had to leave CHT and the Jumma society. So this village would be the first point for further conversion of Jumma people to Islam and may create a Prairie Fire in the future. They are being provided economic facilities by Islamic organizations and the military and civil administration as well.

#### **Propaganda of presence of armed groups:**

The army authorities have adopted the policy of propagating about presence of armed insurgent groups in CHT. They are sometime managing seizure of arms and ammunition from armed groups belonging to foreinger insurgents. But they propagated through news media as if those armed groups and arms were of Jumma people of CHT. It was basically aimed at propagating legitimacy of presence of army in CHT as well creating situation for setting up new camps at the related areas. For instance, owner of the Tourist center at 'Milonchari' near Bandarban sadar was kidnapped in February 2004 at broad day light and 35 foreigners, who had been present at the tourist spot were looted. It was actually posed as if PCJSS activists did it. However, PCJSS could provide the proper clue that it was done by Myanmarese armed group in collaboration of the army. Finally it was clear to the relative of the victim.

#### **Rohinga Muslims Infiltration in CHT**

Rohinga Muslims infiltration have been continuing in Bandarban, southern district of CHT who had suppressed by Myanmar government. Many of them started living permanently in Bandarban instead of dialogue between the govt. of Myanmar and their respective leaders. This infiltration is also continuing in favour of local BNP and Jamat party as well as the administrative inactivity. The infiltrators are affecting Alikadam, Lama, Nakyangchari and Sadar upazilla. It is reported that more than 15 to 20 thousand Rohinga Muslims are also living in Lama. The identified and important villages of Rohinga Muslims in Alikadam are-1. Pan Bazar 2. Aamtali 3. Referfari 4. Kolaziri and 5. Harinziri. The villages of Rohinga Muslims in Nakyangchari are Baisari and Ghonatum.

Moreover, some of them are involved in arms business. Bandarban district is facing population pressure because of Rohinga Muslim infiltration. The population is increasing rapidly. Life and land of local people is facing serious adversity. Already CHT suffered in demographic changing and extreme repression of land for Bengali Settlement. Further, the aware individuals think that the infiltration of Rohinga Muslims will make it more complicated.

#### **January 2004**

##### **(1) 23 January 2004: PCJSS activist attacked by UPDF in Khagrachari**

On 23 January 2004 a PCJSS activist named Mera Towai Marma, General Secretary of Ramgarh Unit was attacked by the UPDF's armed cadres (UPDF- an armed group which is opposing the implementation of the CHT Accord of 1997 and backed by the military forces) while he was going back home from Khagrachari District HQ at Alutila of Khagrachari. He got serious injuries on his arms. He is at Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

#### **February 2004**

##### **8 February 2003: PCJSS observed 2 days Road Blockade programme**

The PCJSS observed a two days road blockade programme in CHT from 8 February and 9 February 2004 demanding proper implementation of the CHT Accord of 1997, cancellation of Wadud Bhuiyan from the CHT Development Board Chairmanship, withdrawal of all non-permanents army camps including Operation Upliftment and appointing a full placed minister on the CHT Affairs Ministry from Jumma.

It is mentionable that the PCJSS, Jumma peoples and the permanent residents of the CHT are convinced that the present Government will not implement the CHT Accord at all and finding no alternative the PCJSS decided to start a democratic movement for the implementation of the accord during its Workers Conference-2003 held at Baghaichari High School Ground under Baghaichari Upazilla in Rangamati Hill District from 14 – 16 November 2003. More than 500 delegates of PCJSS and its front organizations such as, Parbatya Chattagram Mahila Samiti (CHT Women's Association), Pahari Chhatra Parishad (PCP/Hill Students' Council), Hill Women's Federation and Parbatya Chattagram Juba Samiti (CHT Youths' Association) attended the conference from different parts of three Hill Districts of the Chittagong Hill Tracts Region. The overall global, national and local situation, present status of the CHT Accord and process of its implementation, organizational activities, future programme and activities for strengthening the CHT Accord implementation movement were discussed in the conference. The programme adopted by the Workers Conference-2003 is as follows:

**1. To accelerate the movement based on the following issues:**

- (1) To implement the CHT Accord properly;
- (2) To remove communal, corrupt, plot maker of the Mahalchari attack and opponent of the CHT Accord Abdul Wadud Bhuiyan, M.P. from the post of the Chairman, the CHT Development Board and appoint a competent tribal as per the CHT Accord;
- (3) To immediately withdraw all temporary camps of Army, Ansar, APB and VDP including the 'Operation Uttoron';
- (4) To appoint a full Minister from the tribals in the CHT Affairs Ministry as per the CHT Accord.

**2. To undertake following programme with a view to implement the above programme:**

- (1) To undertake necessary steps for strengthening public support from all strata of the Jumma people as well as the permanent residents;
- (2) To strengthen mass awareness and mass contact programmes;
- (3) To build more strength and activate all party organs;
- (4) To accelerate campaign works for getting more support from the civil society of the country and the international community;
- (5) To activate organizational activities of all tiers of the party;
- (6) To activate movement against all anti-accord plot makers and reactionaries;
- (7) To activate unity and solidarity of the Jumma and permanent Bengali residents for strengthening communal amity for the implementation of the CHT Accord;
- (8) To play more active role for strengthening land rights and fundamental rights of the toiling mass, religious minorities and indigenous peoples of the country;
- (9) To get involved with democratic, progressive and non-fundamentalist forces in issue based movement.

**(2) 17 February 2004: UP Chairman Abducted in Bandukbhanga**

On 17 February at 6.00 a.m. the UPDF armed cadres led by Shanti Dev Chakma and Sachib Chakma abducted Mr. Barun Kumar Chakma, Chairman of No. 5 Banduk Bhanga Union Parishad of

Rangamati Sadar Upazilla from his residence, Kuramara, Banduk Bhanga of Rangamati district. On that day he was busy with his grandfather's funeral ceremony at his house.

It is reported that the UPDF has been demanding a huge of money from him as donation since very winter season. But he was not able to pay any money to the UPDF cadres. As reaction, an armed group of UPDF has raided his house and abducted him.

### **(3) 22 February 2004: Deputy Minister disallowed entering in Khagrachari**

Mr. Mani Swapan Dewan, the Deputy Minister on CHT Affairs Ministry disallowed entering in Khagrachari on 22 February 2004. On That day the so called Sama Adhikar Andolon (Movement for Equal Rights), a newly formed settlers Bengali organisation backed by Wadud Bhuiyan and Army called road Blockade programme in Khagrachari and the Minister failed to attend at a pre-decided government programme.

When the Deputy Minister reached at Mahalchari of Khagrachari the activists of Sama Adhikar Andolon blockade his motorcade and shouted slogan against him. Then the Minister was obliged to back home in Rangamati.

Later the Deputy Minister met the press and called that a group of Bengali who do not want peace and stability and creating tension in CHT are responsible for the blockade. Refusing his statement the Sama Adhikar Andolon told that the Minister had tried to break the road blockade programme.

### **23 February 2004: Public Meeting held by PCJSS in Rangamati demanding implementation of CHT Accord**

The PCJSS organised a public meeting in Rangamati on 23 February 2004. Thousands of people gathered at this meeting. In this meeting Jyotirindra Bodhipriya Larma was the chairman and some other intellectual delivered speech to the people.

On that day Dr. Kamal Hossain, the illustrator of Bangladesh Constitution came under attack while he was on way to Rangamati to join at the public meeting as Chief Guest at rubber Garden, Kawkhali of Rangamati District.

It is mentionable that the Sama Adhikar andolan called a road Blocked programme on that day to obstruct the PCJSS's public meeting.

### **(4) 23 February 2004: Attack on Dr. Kamal Hossain at Rangamati-Chittagong district border**

On 23 February 2004 an armed attack upon Dr. Kamal Hossain, renowned lawyer and President of Gono Forum along with other academic, political, human rights and media activists at Rubber Bagan area under Kaukhali upazila of Ranagmati-Chittagong border area by the armed cadres of Parbatya Chattagram Sama Odhikar Andolan (CHT Equal Rights Movement), an Islamic fundamentalist organisation in CHT, with an aim to kill them.

On that day, Dr. Kamal Hossain along with Mr. Mesbah Kamal, Associate Professor of Dhaka University; Mr. Pankaj Bhattacharjee, Presidium Member of Gono Forum; Professor Khagesh Kiran Talukdar, Central Member of Communist Party of Bangladesh; Dr. Aktar Shobhan Khan Masrur, leader of Workers Party of Bangladesh; Professor Govinda Chakrabarty of Dhaka University; Mr. Saidur Rahman, leader of Sammilita Samajik Andolan; Mr. Nazarul Kabir, journalist and human rights activist; and Mr. Binota Moy Dhamai, General Secretary of PCP were coming Rangamati to attend the public gathering called by PCJSS demanding-

- (1) To implement the CHT Accord properly;
- (2) To remove communal, corrupt, plot maker of the Mahalchari attack and opponent of the CHT Accord Abdul Wadud Bhuiyan, M.P. from the post of the Chairman, the CHT Development Board and appoint a competent tribal as per the CHT Accord;
- (3) To immediately withdraw all temporary camps of Army, Ansar, APB and VDP including the 'Operation Uttoron';
- (4) To appoint a full Minister from the tribals in the CHT Affairs Ministry as per the CHT Accord.

On that day, while Dr. Kamal Hossain along with other academic, political, human rights and media activists reached at Rubber Bagan area by a micro bus, the armed cadres of Sama Odhikar Andolan halted them and wanted to know whether Dr. Hossain was in the vehicle. While they confirmed that Dr. Kamal Hossain was in the vehicle then they started to attack on them with iron rode and stick. In his attack, glasses of the micro bus were broken and Dr. Kamal Hossain got injuries in his hand. The attackers tried to get down Dr. Kamal Hossain and his associates from the vehicle. But they could narrowly escape due to judiciousness/wisdom of the micro bus driver.

It is also mentionable that the administration was supposed to provide police escort along with a magistrate for the security of Dr. Kamal and his associates. But astonishingly the administration did not provide police escort and magistrate and it was not informed to PCJSS leaders by the administration. So, it indicates that the attack on Dr. Kamal Hossain and his associates was pre-planned and that is why the administration did not provide security in order to make space for the armed cadres of Sama Odhikar Andolan.

This brutal attack created agitation through out the country. A case was filed against MP Abdul Wadood Bhuiyan with Kaukhali police station by Mr. Pankaj Bhattacharjee. But no miscreant was arrested by the police.

It is mentionable that in a conference held in Chittagong on 15 February 2004 the Islamic communal force of ruling four-party alliance led Abdul Wadood Bhuiyan, MP from Khagrachari district and leader of Bengali settlers formed an extreme Islamic communal organisation named Parbatya Chattagram Sama Odhikar Andolan (CHT Equal Rights Movement). Soon after establishment of the organisation, the Bengali settlers declared to oppose the programme taken by PCJSS. As Dr. Kamal Hossain and his accompanies mentioned above have been supporting CHT Accord Implementation Movement and protesting against the government for following delay-dallying tactic and anti-accord policy, the Sama Odhikar Andolan declared Dr. Kamal Hossain, Mr. Mesbah Kamal, Mr. Pankaj Bhattacharjee etc. undesirable.

#### **24 February 2004: Strike protesting against attack on Dr. Kamal Hussain observed in Rangamati**

The PCJSS observed a hartal on 24 February 2004 in protesting attack on Dr. Kamal Hossain and other national leaders while they were coming to join at PCJSS's public meeting on 23 February 2004 in Rangamati.

The PCJSS accused that some miscreants under the instruction of Wadud Bhuiyan occurred the attack on Dr. Kamal. The PCJSS also demanded to arrest and punish the perpetrators within short of time.

#### **(5) 26 February 2004: Three PCP workers brutally beat up by the army in Ruma**

On 26 February 2004 three members of Pahari Chatra Parishad (PCP) of Ruma upazila branch including Mr. Uhla Ching Marma (22) and Mr. Mong U Ching Marma were severely tortured by the army led by Subedar Nurul Hossain (43 EBR) of Ruma cantonment in Bandarban district. It was reported that that day at 10.00 p.m. Uhla Ching Marma was beaten by two Bengali settlers namely Mr. Nibarun Karmakar and Mr. Nuru Hossain of Ruma Bazar while he along his friend were returning home from hotel. Receiving this news, some PCP workers rushed there and rescued them. At that time, the PCP workers also beat Nibarun Karmakar. However, Bengali leaders of Ruma Bazar made compromise it. But Nibarun Karmakar and Nuru Hossain went to cantonment secretly and informed the army that some Jumma miscreants surrounded Bazar for looting. Receiving this report, the army rushed there and caught PCP workers, and tortured brutally without having any inquiry. Three PCP members mentioned above got serious injuries and got admission at Ruma hospital.

Both indigenous Jummas and Bengalis in Ruma upazila (sub-district) reacted against army atrocity. They observed road blockade on 27 February in Ruma upazila. The PCP also brought out protest procession in Bandarban district headquarters on same day demanding exemplary punishment of army involved with this atrocity. But no action was taken so far.

#### **(6) 26 February 2004: Two PCP activists harassed by the army in Ruma**

On 26 February 2004 two PCP activist of Ruma Upazilla (Sub-district) in Bandarban District were harassed by the army personnel of Ruma Cantonment. It is reported that some settlers Bengalis shouted at night that some indigenous people were looting their shops. At that time the army came to rescue them and started to torture the PCP activists. Later it was known that the looting incident was wrong.

**(7) 28 March 2004: False case filed against Mr. Santu Larma and two others his party members in Khagrachari**

On 28 February 2004, Mr. Mahfujur Rahman backed by Mr. Abdul Wadood Bhuiyan, MP filed a false case against two members of PCJSS Mr. Sudhakar Tripura and Mr. Braja Kishore Tripura of appointing Mr. Jahangir Alam to assassinate Abdul Wadood Buiyan as per the instruction of Mr. Jyotirindra Bodhipriya Larma, President of Parbatya Chattagram Jana Samhati Samiti (PCJSS) and Chairman of Chittagong Hill Tracts Regional Council. Mr. Mahfujur Rahman also filed case against other four members of Awami League in this connection.

It is reported that earlier in the morning of the same day a gang of armed cadres appointed by Abdul Wadood Buiyan caught and brought Mr. Jahangir Alam, a member of Awami League from his place Islampur to Wadood Bhuinya's place Kala Bagan area where Mr. Alam was tortured. Later Mr. Alam was rescued by the police. To turn the incident to different ways, Mr. Mahfujur Rahman filed this false case. It is also to be mentioned that on that same day, another member of Bangladesh Chhatra League named Tipu was caught and tortured by the cadres of Abdul Wadood Bhuiyan.

It is also to be mentioned that, Abdul Wadood Bhuiyan and local leaders of four party alliance put pressure on the local police demanding immediate arrest of accused persons in this connection. They also tried to bring out a procession in Khagrachari town. Mr. Khayer, a Sub Inspector of Khagrachari Police station who did not agree to arrest and allow procession was immediately issued an order of transfer from Khagrachari.

**March 2004**

**(8) 1 March 2004: Jumma houses raided by the army in Dighinala**

On 01/03/2004 in early morning at 4.00 a.m., a group of army from Kabakhali army zone in Dighinala under Khagrachari district raided the house of Mr. Niru Chakma s/o Chandra Bahan Chakma of village Jamtali in Dighinala upazila (sub-district), Khagrachari Hill District. They searched the house but found nothing. The army said him that they (army) had been informed about the presence of arms in his house. That is why they raided house. At last, they apologized for that. But the army also interrogated that whether a brother was staying at Delhi or not. But Niru Chakma denied to have a brother staying in Delhi.

Later in the next morning another group of army from Dighinala cantonment led by one Commanding Officer (CO) came to Niru Chakma's house. But at that time, Niru Chakma was not at home. The CO ordered Niru Chakma's family members to ask Niru Chakma to be present at cantonment by 11.00 a.m. in the same day. It is mentionable that Mr. Niru is leading a miserable life with anxiety now.

On the same night at 2.50 a.m. the houses of Mr. Jagat Jyoti Chakma (Ranaturja) s/o Chok Kala Chakma and Mr. Suujjal Chakma s/o Profulla Chakma of village Boirafa under Merung Union Parishad of Dighinal Upazila in Khagrachari district were also raided by a group of army from Dighinala Cantonment of Khagrachari Hill district. The army destroyed some valuables of the houses. Jagat Jyoti Chakma and Suujjal Chakma were the returnee members of PCJSS according to CHT Accord.

**(9) 7 March 2004: Killing and abduction in Bandukbhanga**

On 7 March 2004 an armed group of UPDF (United Peoples' Democratic Front) led by Shanti Dev Chakma and Tapan Jyoti Chakma attacked on innocent people of Karalya Mura and Palada Adam village under Bhandukbhanga Union in Rangamati Sadar Upazila (Sub-district) in Rangamati. In this attack, the UPDF killed two people and abducted eight from the village. It was learnt that this day at

night around 11.00 p.m. the armed cadres of UPDF surrounded the two villages of Karalya Mura and Palada Adam and caught 10 villagers. Among them, two villagers namely Mr. Chitra Sen Chakma (30), s/o Kamala Kanta Chakma and Mr. Judda Mani Chakma (25), Mani Chakma were killed while they were kidnapping the villagers. Chitra Sen Chakma was an ex-combatant of PCJSS and living in his village. The other 10 villagers were abducted victims. They were:

- 1) Mr. Hamesh Kumar Karbari (50), s/o, Biswa Karma Karbari, Kurulya Mura village
- 2) Mr. Biraj Moni Chakma (35), s/o Surjya Sen Chakma, Kurulya Mura village
- 3) Mr. Kanti Chakma (25), s/o late Shanti Kumar Chakma, Kurulya Mura village
- 4) Mr. Prabhat Chakma (52), s/o Batya Chakma, Sahash Banda village
- 5) Sadan Mani Chakma (45), s/o Surjya Sen Chakma, Sahash Banda village
- 6) Sumati Ranjan Chakma (33), s/o, Pattausya Chakma, Kurulya Mura village
- 7) Mr. Kangsa Chakma (55), s/o Mani Chakma, Palada Adam village
- 8) Mr. Kanti Chakma (25), Panchari village under Subhalong union in Barkal

They also set fire on Shant Ranjan Chakma's house while going back to their camps.

It is reported that the UPDF demanded Tk. 100,000 as toll from the villagers, but the villagers were too poor to pay the toll.

It is mentionable that on 17 February 2004, the UPDF armed cadres led by Shanti Dev Chakma and Tapan Jyoti Chakma also abducted Mr. Barun Kumar Chakma, Chairman of Bhandukbhanga Union from his residence at Kuramara.

### **8 March 2004: International Women Day observed in CHT**

The March 8, the International Women Day (IWD) observed in three districts namely Rangamati, Bandarban and Khagrachari in CHT.

In Rangamati, the Parbatya Chattagram Mahila Samiti, Hill Women's Federation and Adi O Stayee Bangalee Kalyan Parishad organised a women gathering and meeting at Shilpakal Academy Auditorium in Rangamati in urging to unite all sections of people including women against all kinds of state, communal and social violence against women. More than one thousand women joined at the meeting from different remote areas of Rangamati. Ms Madhabi Lata Chakma, president of Parbatya Chattagram Mahila Samiti chaired at the meeting and Mr. Nirmalendu Tripura was present as the chief guest. Mr. Chandra Sekhar Chakma, General Secretary of PCJSS, Ms. Umey Mong, General Secretary of PCMS, Ms. Choitali Tripura, President of HWF, Ms. Roushan Ara Begum, Member of CHTRC, Ms. Kanika Barua, President of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad of Rangamati branch, Ms. Khusi Nahar, women leader of the Permanent Bengali resident in Rangamati and Ms. Kalapana Chakma, Organising Secretary of PCMS also delivered speech in the meeting.

The discussants said that men and women are the inseparable parts of human society but the women have been sufferings in state, social and family torture all over the world since very beginning of human civilisation. In CHT, the women particularly indigenous Jumma women have been subject to rape, abduction, harassment and physical assault by Bangladesh Army and Settler Bengalis.

It was reported that the army from Subhalong army camp tried to halt the country boat by which the women from Jurachari upazila (sub-district) were coming to join the meeting in Rangamati town. The army by speedboat ran away the boats those carrying women and surrounded them. At that time, the driver of the boat was beaten by one Subedar (a lower level commander) of the army.

In Bandarban, HWF and PCMS also organised a discussion meeting on the occasion of the international women day at the PCJSS Office. Ms. Wachang Prue Marma, the former president of HWF and Vice President of Bandarban District PCMS chaired at the meeting. Ms. Unu Prue Marma, member of CHTRC addressed at meeting as the chief guest. Mr. Loyal David Bawm, member of the CHTRC, Mr. Ucho Mong Marma, local leader of PCJSS etc. also addressed at the meeting.

In Khagrachari rally and meeting were the events of IWD. The meeting was held at Surjashikha Club in Khagrachari. Mr. Mong Kya Chaing Marma, Chairman of Khagrachari Municipality inaugurated the rally and Mr. Sudha Sindhu Chakma, Member of CHTRC was the chief guest at the meeting. Ms. Jyoti Prava Larma chaired at the meeting and Mr. Hangsadwaj Chakma, Convenor, CHT Liaison

Committee, Mr. Nabin Kumar Chakma, Mr. Nirmal Kanti Das, President of HTNF Khagrachari branch, Mr. Shakti Pada Tripura, President of Khagrachari Headmen Association, Ms. Shefalika Tripura, women leader and Executive Director of Khagrapur Mahila Samity, Ms. Kalindi Rani Chakma, Ms. Sangati Chakma etc. also addressed in the meeting.

It is reported that the UPDF armed cadres tried to oppose barricading at Dewan Para of Panchari while women from Panchari upazila (sub-district) were coming to join at the meeting in Khagrachari.

#### **8 March 2004: Protest Rally against lodging false case against Mr. J. B. Larma**

On 8 March 2004 at afternoon, PCJSS organised a rally in Rangamati and Khagrachari protesting against false case that filed with Khagrachari Police Station by Mr. Mahfuzur Rahman, leader of BNP in Khagrachari district. In Rangamati a meeting was held at the Shilapakala Academy premise.

#### **(10) 10 March 2004: Local student leader arrested by the police and army in Longadu**

On 10 March 2004 the police of Longadu police station arrested Mr. Kiran Moy Chakma (20) s/o Surja Sen Chakma of Rupban village of Baranachari mouza of Subhalong under Barkal upazila in Rangamati district. He was Organising Secretary of Baranachari Regional Branch of PCP and caught from Kattali Bazar under Longadu upazila. The police handed over him to authority of Subhalong army camp as his house is in Subhalong area. He was severely beaten by the police and army. He was transferred to Rangamati on that day.

#### **(11) 10 March 2004: PCP worker arrested and tortured by the army in Barkal**

On 10 March 2004 the police of Longadu police station arrested Mr. Kiran Moy Chakma (20) s/o Surja Sen Chakma of Rupban village of Baranachari mouza of Subhalong under Barkal upazila in Rangamati district. He was Organising Secretary of Baranachari regional branch of PCP and caught from Kattali Bazar under Longadu upazila while he engaged for organising activities. The police handed over him to Subhalong army camp as his house was in Subhalong area. He was severely beaten by the police and army. He was transferred to Rangamati on that day.

#### **(12) 16 March 2004: Bengali settlers beat Jumma villagers in Dighinala**

On 16/03/2004 a group of Bengali settlers and Madrasa students had beaten Mr. Tushar Bindu Chakma (57) s/o late Punya Kamal Karbari of Madya Boalkhali village of Choto Merung union under Dighinala upazila in Kharachari district. The perpetrators of the attack had also looted and destroyed the houses of Tushar Bindu Chakma and Brajendu Chakma of the village. It was reported that early in the morning of the day, the students of Madrasa (Islamic religious school) found stools inside the Madrasa. The Bengali settlers and Madrasa students accused Tushar Bindu Chakma for defecating. Mr. Chakma denied it. But the Bengali settlers and Madrasa students compelled him (Tushar Bindu) to clean it. Moreover, they beat and dragged him brutally.

It is notable that Tushar Bindu Chakma left his homestead due to massacre committed by Bengali settlers with the direct help of Bangladesh military forces in 1986 and took shelter in Indian state of Tripura. After signing of the CHT Accord in 1997 between the government of Bangladesh and the PCJSS, he returned home. In the meantime, the Bengali settlers occupied his homestead and cultivable land and built a Madrasa on his land. He appealed to the Task Force on Rehabilitation of Returnee Refugees and Internally Displaced Families and to the Deputy Commissioner of Khagrachari district. But he is yet to get back his land. In addition, the Bengali settlers have been always trying to occupy other land of Tushar Bindu Chakma.

#### **(13) 22 March 2004: Jumma villagers beat up by the Bengali settlers in Dighinala**

On 16/03/2004 a group of Bengali settlers and Madrasa students had beaten Mr. Tushar Bindu Chakma (57) s/o late Punya Kamal Karbari of Madya Boalkhali village of Choto Merung union under Dighinala upazila in Kharachari district. The perpetrators of the attack had also looted and destroyed the houses of Tushar Bindu Chakma and Brajendu Chakma of the village. It was reported that early in the morning of the day, the students of Madrasa (Islamic religious school) found stools inside the Madrasa. The Bengali settlers and Madrasa students accused Tushar Bindu Chakma for defecating.

Mr. Chakma denied it. But the Bengali settlers and Madrasa students compelled him (Tushar Bindu) to clean it. Moreover, they beat and dragged him brutally.

It is notable that Tushar Bindu Chakma left his homestead due to massacre committed by Bengali settlers with the direct help of Bangladesh military forces in 1986 and took shelter in Indian state of Tripura. After signing of the CHT Accord in 1997 between the government of Bangladesh and the PCJSS, he returned home. In the meantime, the Bengali settlers occupied his homestead and cultivable land and built a Madrasa on his land. He appealed to the Task Force on Rehabilitation of Returnee Refugees and Internally Displaced Families and to the Deputy Commissioner of Khagrachari district. But he is yet to get back his land. In addition, the Bengali settlers have been always trying to occupy other land of Tushar Bindu Chakma.

**(14) 22 March 2004: PCJSS worker arrested and lodged false case by the army in Barkal**

On 22/03/04 around 5.00 p.m. the army led by Major Ashfaq of Dighinala army zone in Khagrachari district arrested a PCJSS member named Mr. Chane Aung Marma alias Chaneu (30) s/o Mra Chanai Marma from the shop of Mr. Kinadhan Chakma at Baradam Bazar under Dighinala upazila (sub-district) in Khagrachari district. Next day early in the morning, Mr. Chaneu Marma along with a 9mm sub-machine gun was handed over to Dighinala police station. The ASI Md. Harun Tayab Rashid of Dighinala police station lodged an arm case against Mr. Chaneu with Dighinala police station and produced him to Khagrachari district court.

It was falsely mentioned in the case that Mr. Chaneu was caught from Dighinala Jora Bridge area with 9mm sub-machine gun while he was getting preparation for extortion of money at around 20.00 hrs. In fact he was caught without arm from the shop of Mr. Kinadhan Chakma at Baradan Bazar and at that time, Acting Chairperson of Babuchara Union Council Ms. Gopa Devi Chakma and her Secretary Mr. Jagadish Chakma, Chairman of Dighinala Union Council, Mr. Chandra Ranjan Chakma, other UP Members and local people were present there. It was notable that Mr. Chaneu was from the village of Magarachari of Laxmichari upazila under Khagrachari district. He was compelled to leave Laxmichari as anti CHT accord UPDF armed cadres issued warrant for killing as he was working with PCJSS and in favour of CHT Accord. Protesting this, PCJSS of Dighinala upazila branch observed road blockade on the 24 March.

**(15) 28 March 2004: Prohibition on Movement at night issued by the BDR in Barkal**

On 28 March 2004 Zone Commander Lt. Colonel Reza of 34 rifles battalion of Barkal BDR zone harassed Mr. Gyana Taluktar, President of PCJSS of Barkal upazila branch under Rangamati district. That day at around 6.00 p.m. the BDR halted and checked the trawler by which Gyana Talukdar was returning home. Nothing was found in trawler but the Zone Commander of BDR Lt. Colonel Reza seized the handle of trawler without showing any reason and issued prohibition on movement at nighttime. The PCJSS workers protested against it. But the Commander of BDR threatened to shot PCJSS workers if any body moves at nighttime.

**April 2004**

**(16) First week of April 2004: Initiative to set up new army camp in Ghagra**

First week of April 2004 the army of Ghagra cantonment took initiative to set up a new army camp at Panchari village under Ghagra in Kaukhali upazila of Rangamati district. For this purpose, the army authority tried to acquire two acres of land from a villager of Panchari village. But the villager did not agree to sell his land. The army authority put tremendous pressure on the villager for the land.

**(17) 10 April 2004: Communal attack on Jumma people by Bengali settlers in Baghaichari**

On 10 April 2004 the Bengali settlers led by the following BNP leaders made a communal attack on Jumma people at Marishya bazar under Baghaichari upazila in Rangamati district. In this attack, 5 shops and computer centres owned by Jumma people and some households of Babu Para village of Baghaichar upazila have been ransacked and looted.

The ransacked and looted shops and computer centres were:

- (1) Shop of Hilahilly Development Foundation
- (2) Srijani Computer and Photostat
- (3) Tarumban Computer Centre and Printers
- (4) Hill Season Art
- (5) Rageni Radio & Watch Service

The main perpetrators who led the attack were:

- (1) Mr. Azizur Rahman (Ex UP Chairman), s/o Hazi Toiyab Ali of Jibangachara village of Baghaichari upazila
- (2) Mr. Giaz Uddin s/o Baja Ali of Master Para of Baghaichari upazila
- (3) Md. Matin s/o Harun Moulavi of Madyam Para of Baghaichari upazila
- (4) Mr. Shah Alam s/o Azahar Ali of Guchchagram village of Baghaichari upazila
- (5) Md. Jamal, 30, a BNP leader from Hazi Para of Baghaichari upazila
- (6) Md. Manik, 28, President of Chatra Dal (student front of BNP) from Baghaichari upazilla
- (7) Md. Salim, 30, President of Shramik Dal (labourer front of BNP) from Bhagaichari upazilla
- (8) Md. Surup, 45, ex Up member of Marishya UP in Bhagaichari Upazilla
- (9) Md. Razzaq, 45, member of Marishya UP in Bhagaichari Upazilla

It was reported that a women named Ms. Fatema Begum (35) from Headman Para Muslim Block of Tulaban area under Baghaichari upazila was brutally killed by some unknown person/s. But the Bengali settlers without any justification rumoured that the Jumma villagers killed her. Soon after receiving this rumour, the Bengali settlers attacked the Jumma people at Marishya bazar. But the Jumma people could narrowly escape from the attack. However, the shops and computer centres owned by the Jumma people were looted and ransacked. Valuables of shops and computer centres including at least five computers were completely destroyed and looted. The agitated Bengalis also tried to attack Jumma inhabited-village Babu Para.

It is mentionable that it is yet to clear who was/were responsible for the killing of Fatema Begum. Experience shows that the Bengali settlers kept dead body at the Jumma locality if any Bengali Muslim settler died due to internal clash between them in order to hide the crime and to accuse Jumma people for that. Local Jumma people believe that Fatema Begum might also be killed by her husband.

On the other hand, Mr. Sajal Chakma, General Secretary of Hilahilly Development Foundation failed to lodge case in connection with the destruction and looting of shops and computer centres with Baghaichari police station as the authority of Baghaichari police station did not agree to accept the case. In the statement of the proposed case, Mr. Sajal Chakma clearly mentioned the name of culprits, such as, Mr. Azizur Rahman, Mr. Giaz Uddin, Md. Matin, Mr. Shah Alam etc. The police authority tried to dictate Sajal Chakma to delete the name of culprits from the statement. But Sajal Chakma did not agree to do so.

**(18) 10 April 2004: 3 innocent villagers arrested by the army in Khagrachari**

On 10 April 2004 a group army led by Lt. Ashraf from Chandra Para camp under Khagrachari sadar upazila conducted operation at Hriday Member Para of Alutila under Khagarchari sadar upazila in Khagrachari district. In this operation, the army arrested the following three innocent villagers in connection with a bus dacoity occurred on 1 April 2004 at Alutila of Khagrachari-Chittagong road. The arrested villagers were:

- (1) Mr. Chandra Mohan Tripura (25) s/o Bishu Kumar Tripura
- (2) Mr. Babul Jyoti Tripura (30) s/o late Nikhil Kumar Tripura
- (3) Mr. Shyamal Jyoti Tripura (32) s/o late Nikhil Kumar Tripura

The victims were handed over to the Khagrachari police station. It is mentionable that the villagers of Hriday Member Para caught three dacoits namely Mr. Nitya Tripura (18) s/o Brigudhar Tripura, Mr. Gopal Tripura (19) s/o Bhagya Purna Tripura and Nani Tripura (21) s/o Amar Ratan Tripura and handed over them to the army on 1 April 2004. The villagers extended their helping hands to the

administration to arrest the dacoits and to eradicate dacoity from the locality. But astonishingly the army were harassing the villagers in connection with the dacoity.

**(19) 10 April 2004: UPDF fired Mr. Bipul Chakma alias Darshan**

On 10/04/2004 a group of armed cadres of UPDF with the help of some criminals namely Mr. Pratul Sen Chakma s/o Chikya Chakma of North Firingi Para and Mr. Biplab Chakma s/o Shanti Lal Chakma of Mahajan Para fired on the house of Mr. Durga Muni Chakma of Naniarchar bazar. The UPDF cadres fired targeting to Mr. Amar Singh Chakma and Mr. Sumanta Chakma, Convenor and Member-Secretary of Naniarchar Upazila PCP branch. They failed to hit the target. But Mr. Bipul Chakma alias Darshan got bullet injuries at his hand. He was admitted to Rangamati district hospital.

**(20) 12 April 2004: 3 innocent villagers tortured by the army in Khagrachari**

On 12 April 2004 at 5.00 p.m. the said army conducted operation second time at the village. During the operation, the army arrested the following more three innocent villagers in connection with dacoity. The villagers put tremendous pressure to release the arrested villagers. At the last the innocent villagers were released at mid-night after brutally torture. The victims were:

- (1) Mr. Sunil Tripura (16) s/o Gokula Tripura
- (2) Mr. Dayal Chakma, Garden Guard of CHT Development Board
- (3) Mr. Kaloy Chan Tripura (17) s/o Ram Kishore Tripura

**(21) 13 April 2004: Villagers threatened to evict by the army in Khagrachari**

On 13 April 2004 the said army conducted operation third time at the village. During the operation, the army threatened the villagers to produce dacoits within a short period to the army otherwise the villagers would be uprooted from the village. Due to continuous military operation through out the village, the villagers of Hriday Member of Alutila under Khagarchari sadar upazila could not observed 'Boisuk', the national traditional festival of the Jumma poeple in CHT.

**(22) 17 April 2004: A Jumma killed by the Bengali settler in Naniarchar**

On 17 April 2004 at night a group of Bengali settlers led by Salam, UP member, killed Shanti Ranjan Chakma (45) of Toichakmamukh Para village of Naniarchar upazila. The victim was caught and killed at Kukurmara village near Islampur settlers' village. His dead body was found at the lake area near Naniarchar. Victim's son Papul Chakma filed a case with Naniarchar police station against 5 Bengali settlers in connection with this killing. But the police arrested Mr. Salam, however other criminals were yet to be arrested.

**(23) 25 April 2004: Local people took a bond from UPDF armed cadres**

On 25/04/04 the UPDF armed cadres were compelled to sign a bond by the local people of Guimara area in Khagrachari district. It is mentionable that the UPDF armed cadres led by Manabendra Chakma have been conducting atrocities on local people including kidnapping, extortion of money, killing, harassing etc for a long time. As part of continuous atrocity, on 21/04/04 the UPDF armed cadres abducted the following 6 innocent Jumma villagers from Paindong Para and Taindong Para of Guimara area and demanded heavy amount of ransom:

- 1) Mr. Boidya Ranjan Karbari (48)
- 2) Mr. Kadiya Chakma (26)
- 3) Mr. Shambu Chakma (35)
- 4) Mr. Kaloi Chakma (25)
- 5) Mr. Nilu Mohan Chakma (60)

In regard with this kidnapping, the local Jumma people became fed up with the UPDF and caught the 5 UPDF armed cadres on 23/4/04. At a stage, the UPDF cadres were compelled to sign a bond on 25/04/04 with the following condition:

- 1) The UPDF would not conduct any atrocity such as torture, kidnapping, demanding ransom and threatening to the local people;

- 2) If the UPDF suspects any villager with engagement of any objectionable activity then the UPDF would submit objection to local leaders and village Karbari (village head) with the necessary information and evidence of objection. The local leaders and Karbari would judge the dispute. UPDF would not torture the accused person for that.
- 3) The UPDF would not conduct any harassment on the local people.
- 4) If the UPDF violates the conditions mentioned above, then the UPDF would be responsible for that and would accept any action taken by the local people.

Mr. Pradipan Khisa, representative of the Khagrachari district UPDF and Mr. Swapan Chakma, President of Khagrachari PCP branch signed in the bond on behalf of the UPDF. On the other, 6 local leaders including Mr. Anil Karbari, Mr. Anil Bikash Chakma and Mr. Mikhan Chakma signed on behalf of the local people. But it is very astonishing that the military and civil administration falsely propagated that the local police rescued the UPDF members while the PCJSS cadres were kidnapping them.

#### **(24) 27 April 2004: Two Jummas tortured by the army in Matiranga**

On 27 April 2004 at around 4 p.m. a group of army from Chandra Para camp of 27 field regiment under Guimara brigade in Khagrachari led by camp commander Captain Md. Ashfaque physically tortured following two innocent Jumma villagers of Sapmara village of Matiranga upazila under the Khagrachari district taking them to the camp. The victims were as follows:

- 1) Mr. Gajendra Tripura (42) s/o late Poida Kumar Tripura,
- 2) Mr. Babul Jyoti Tripura (17) s/o Chan Kishore Tripura.

Later the victims were admitted to Matiranga hospital with severe condition.

### May 2004

#### **(25) In May 2004: Land grabbing by the Bengali settlers in Sindukchari area**

Recently in May 2004 the activities of land grabbing by the Bengali settlers with the direct support of army authority have been increased in Sindukchari area under Mahalchari and Matiranga upazila in Khagrachari district. For instance, a group of Bengali settlers of Guimara area led by (1) Md. Suraj Ali s/o late Salim Uddin, (2) Md. Altaf Sikder, s/o late Abed Ali and (3) Md. Harun Sikder of Sindukchari village under Mahalchari upazila have forcibly occupied the land of the following indigenous Jumma villagers of 226 Sindukchari mouza under Mahalchari upazila:

- 1) Mr. Paran Joy Tripura s/o late Chini Aung Tripura
- 2) Mr. Rahendra Tripura s/o late Chini Aung Tripura
- 3) Mr. Kalen Joy Tripura s/o Chai Prue Tripura
- 4) Mr. Shanti Kumar Tripura s/o Pati Kumar Tripura
- 5) Mr. Talan Kumar Tripura s/o Ghanaching Tripura
- 6) Mr. Arendra Tripura s/o Prachandra Tripura
- 7) Mr. Biran Joy Tripura s/o Nal Chandra Tripura
- 8) Mr. Jatan Kumar Tripura s/o Rasa Kumar Tripura
- 9) Mr. Mongkya Thowai Tripura s/o late Nagendra Karbari
- 10) Mr. Surendra Tripura s/o Sadhan Chandra Tripura
- 11) Mr. Bira Sen Tripura s/o Jayanta Kumar Tripura
- 12) Mr. Sanjit Tripura s/o Indu Kumar Tripura
- 13) Mr. Rane Mohan Tripura s/o Chai Prue Tripura
- 14) Mr. Aung Thowai Tripura.

The Jumma villagers put objection to the Upazila Nirbahi Officer (head of the upazila administration) of Matiranga upazila for resolving the dispute. The UNO visited the spot and ordered to Sub-Inspector of Guimara police station Md. Nizam Uddin to take necessary action against this illegal land grabbing. Accordingly, on 04/09/2003 on the basis of the orders issued by Deputy Commissioner and Superintendent of Police of Khagrachari district vide no. 13/1-16/2003-916 date 24/08/03 and vide no.

2112/113-96 dated 26/08/03 respectively, SI Md. Nizam Uddin issued a warning notice to the following 11 Bengali settlers and Jumma villagers not to extend boundary lines of the land and to live existing occupied land otherwise strict legal action would be taken against the person who will violate the order.

- 1) Md. Abdul Hai
- 2) Mr. Puran Joy Tripura s/o late Chini Aung Tripura
- 3) Mr. Rahendra Tripura s/o late Chini Aung Tripura
- 4) Mr. Aung Thowai tripura
- 5) Mr. Nurul Islam s/o late Motahar Ali
- 6) Mr. Jamal Uddin
- 7) Mr. Abdul Karim s/o late Abdul Jabbar
- 8) Mr. Toiyab Ali s/o late Jabed Ali
- 9) Mr. Akram Ali s/o late Salim Uddin
- 10) Mr. Suruj Ali s/o late Salim Uddin
- 11) Mr. Altab Sikdar s/o late Jabed Ali

But a Bengali settler named Suruj Ali extended his boundary line and occupied a portion of land of Mr. Rahendra Tripura. He broke the Rahendra's house. On the other, Sindukchari army zone authority created pressure upon Jumma villagers to leave homestead. For this purpose, on 04/05/2004 Adjutant Md. Sahin of Sindukchari army zone called Mr. Rahendra Tripura at the zone and ordered to leave homestead by 20/05/2004. Moreover, some settler children led by son of Harun Sikdar beat the daughter of Rahendra Tripura for creating pressure on Rahendra Tripura to leave the homestead immediately. In addition, the Bengali settlers cut the trees of garden of Rahendra Tripura and planted new one. Mr. Rahendra Tripura submitted application to the Deputy Commissioner for that. But no action has been made by the administration. It is mentionable that the general administration does nothing if the military forces interfere in the issue.

**(26) 6 May 2004: GoB Denied Mr. J B Larma's Participation in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of the UNPFII**

This is very unfortunate that the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) denied yesterday, May 5, 2004 to issue Government Order (G.O.) in favour of Mr. Jyotirindra Bodhipriya Larma, President of the PCJSS (Parbatya Chattagram Jana Samhati Samiti) and Chairman of the Chittagong Hill Tracts Regional Council to visit the USA for attending the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, scheduled to be held at the UN Headquarters in New York from 10<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2004. Mr. Larma has been invited by the Secretariat of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, New York to attend the international meet to discuss the global indigenous peoples' issues.

Mr. Larma who is a signatory of the CHT Accord of 1997 which is also known as the Peace Accord for establishing peace in the conflict-torned CHT region has shouldered the Chairmanship of the interim CHT Regional Council, the apex body over the local councils and GoB agencies with the supervisory and coordinating authority over law & order, civil administration, development and etc. in the CHT region. Mr. Larma, holder of State Minister status as the Chairman of the CHT Regional Council requires Government Order for going to abroad whether in government or private visits.

The GoB has violated the basic fundamental principle of the Bangladesh Constitution and also has denied the access of a national leader with ethnic background to the UN. The GoB decision can be termed as absolute denial of a citizen to go to abroad and also to oppose the indigenous peoples' contribution at global level to help build peace and development. It is also an exposure of the hidden policy of the GoB to isolate the indigenous peoples from the world community, which cannot be accepted by any quarter at national or global level.

The PCJSS calls upon the friendly organisations, CHT support groups, indigenous organisations, human rights organisations, UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, civil society organisations and individuals of the world to condemn this denial of the GoB so that she, in future, abstains from such acts.

**Competent GoB authorities****1. Begum Khaleda Zia**

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**2. Mr. Mani Swapan Dewan,**

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**(27) 7 May 2004: 4 innocent persons abducted by the UPDF in Rangamati**

On 7 May 2004 at about 11.00 p.m. an armed group of terrorist UPDF numbering 20/25 abducted 4 innocent villagers at the gun point from the Digalchari area of Subhalong union of Barkal upazila (sub-district) under the Rangamati district. The victims were:

- 1) Mr. Bana Bihari Chakma (35) s/o late Khagendra Chakma, village- Dighalchari;
- 2) Mr. Anil kumar Chakma (26) (teacher of Panchhari primary school) s/o Chitta Ranjan Chakma, village- Hajachhara;
- 3) Mr. Sadhan Chandra Chakma (45) s/o Harischandra Chakma, village- Dighalchhari;
- 4) Mr. Ranjan Chakma (35) s/o Ananda Chakma, village- Barkalak.

It is mentionable that the abductors demanded ransom of Taka 400,000 for each person. The abductors said that the family members of abducted people have to communicate at Kutukchari bazar area for Anil Kumar Chakma and at Naniarchhar bazar area for other 3 persons. If they fail to do so the abducted persons will be killed soon. According to eyewitnesses Sachib Chakma (37) and Ananda Prokash Chakma (40) led the said abduction.

**(28) 8 May 2005: PCJSS workers attacked by the Bengali settlers in Bandarban**

On 8 May 2005 the Bengali settlers in Bandarban district attacked upon the PCJSS workers and Jumma people as well. It is mentionable that a daylong hartal (strike) was called by the PCJSS in three hill districts of CHT demanding speedy and proper implementation of the CHT Accord. Almost all over the three hill districts, the hartal was observed peacefully and successfully. But in Bandarban district headquarters and Panchari upazila in Khagrachari there were communal attacks made upon PCJSS picketers by the Bengali settlers in collaboration with a section of vested interest group of government of Bangladesh. Six picketers including a PCJSS leader and a minor boy were seriously injured in the attack of Bandarban town area and another person was attacked at Panchari.

On that day at around 11.00 a.m. the Bengali settlers led by the BNP and Jamat-e-Islam leaders first attempted to attack with chopper, stick and rod on the PCJSS activists in Bandarban district while they were picketing on the road beside the Chowdhury market of Bandarban town. When the picketers tried to stop them then there had a clash between the two sides. Soon after the clash the Bengali settlers attacked Bandarban Jumma students hostel where following 3 innocent Jumma students were seriously injured. The victims were:

- 1) Mr. Uthowai Ching Marma (16) s/o Mongkyawan Marma, student of class X of Bandarban Government High School,
- 2) Mr. Nithowai Mong Marma (16) s/o Monghla Prue Marma, student of class IX of Don Boxco High School,
- 3) Mr. Joseph Tripura (16) s/o Padma Moni Tripura.

Moreover, the Bengali settlers attacked on the JSS and PCP activists staying at the premises of Press Club. In that attack following persons were injured:

- 1) Mr. Sadharam Tripura (50) s/o Moikliha Tripura, central member of PCJSS and councilor of the CHT Regional Council,
- 2) Mr. Nira Lal Tanchangya (25) s/o Bimal Tanchangya of Rowangchari village,
- 3) Mr. Uchahla Marma (22) s/o Aungo Mong Marma of Ujani Para in Bandarban Municipality

Besides, from the very beginning Md. Osman Goni, Vice President of district BNP and Kazi Mahatul Hosen, Joint Secretary of district BNP provoked the Bengali settlers to attack the Jumma people.

Mr. Sadharam Tripura and Mr. Uthowai Ching Marma who got severe injuries lodged two cases in connection with this attack with Bandarban police station respectively. But the police authority without any reason did not accept the case filled by Uthowai Ching. Sashuram Tripura mentioned following persons as culprits in the case (No. 54/6 dated 09/05/04) lodged by him:

- 1) Abdul Mabud of Hafezghona, Leader of the Jubadal Presiden and PNB Acting GS of Bandarban district,
- 2) Md. Iliash of Kamal Chairman Para, leader of the Jamat-e-Islam,
- 3) Hafej Mohammad Azizul Haque, s/o Nur Mohammed Moulabi of Bandarban bazar area, a local four party alliance leader and nominee of Bandarban Municipal commissioner of no. 4 ward,
- 4) Md. Alam, Electronic shop of Chowdhury Market,
- 5) Md. Mostofa of Balaghata village
- 6) Md. Joynal of Chowdhury Market,
- 7) Md. Nurul Alam, owner of Zaman hotel of Bandarban bazar,
- 8) Md. Kasem, manager of Nur Ahammed Moulabi shop,
- 9) Md. Kamalya s/o Md. Ahmed of Marma bazar lane,
- 10) Ahamed of Marma bazar lane,
- 11) Mohiuddin, brother of Hafej Md. Azizul Haque.
- 12) Md. Samrat of Bandraban bazar area.

But till today the authority has taken no action against the culprits. Rather, one Bengali settler (shopkeeper) named Hazi Mohammad Nurul Haque s/o late Najir Hossain of Bandarban Bazar lodged a false case in connection with looting his shop against K S Mong Marma, president of the PCJSS district branch and Joli Mong Marma, secretary for education and cultural affairs of PCJSS and other 20/25 Jummas with Bandarban police station.

On the other, in Panchari under Khagrachari distirct an innocent person named Mr. Nayan Kanti Chakma (45) s/o Gobinda Chakma of Panchari bazar area under the Khagrachari hill district was injured in an attack made by the local BNP activists during the hartal.

#### **(29) 12 May 2004: Initiative to set up new army camp in Longadu**

On 12 May 2004 a group of army from Bame Longadu sub-zone under Maini Mukh zone of Longadu upazila visited Rangapanichara village and talked to the owners of the land namely Mr. Amar Jiban Chakma s/o Chhatra Narayan Chakma and Mr. Mohan Chan Chakma of Rangapanichara village under Longadu upazila in Rangamati district. The army informed them that they would set up a new army camp on their land. So, they have to go away from the land to another place. Later, the owners of land contacted to 2IC (2nd-in-Command) of Maini Mukh zone and appealed to cancel the plan of setting up camp on their lands. However, the army officer (2IC) replied that government would set up camp at everywhere if she feels needed. He ordered the owners of the land to leave the land. Lastly, he threatened the owners that they would take necessary action against the owners if they would not leave the lands voluntarily. It is mentionable that 13 Jumma families will be evicted from their ancestral land if the camp is set up. Among them, 4 acres of land (Holding no. H-137/ka) of Amar Jiban Chakma and 1 acre of land (Holding no. H-137/ka) will be fallen under the acquisition for setting up camp.

#### **(30) 12 May 2004: Houses of PCJSS member raided by the army and police in Naniarchar**

On 12/05/05 a group of army and police led by Major Kader of 24 EBR from Naniarchar zone under Rangamati district raided the houses of PCJSS members and supporters namely Mr. Sudatta Bikash

Chakma (36) s/o Tripura Charan Chakma and Mr. Kajal Dewan s/o late Debal Kumar Dewan at Naniarchar bazar under Naniarchar upazila in Rangamati district. In this operation, the army arrested the following Jumma youths:

- 1) Mr. Sudatta Bikash Chakma (36) s/o Tripura Charan Chakma
  - 2) Mr. Kajal Dewan s/o late Debal Kumar Dewan
  - 3) Mr. Papul Khisa (32) s/o Amiya Moy Khisa
  - 4) Mr. Parban Chakma (16) s/o Gyana Ranjan Chakma
  - 5) Mr. Debabrata Chakma (38) s/o Karmadas Chakma
  - 6) Mr. Padan Mauni Chakma (32) s/o Shanti Ranjan Chakma
- And other two persons.

The first 4 persons were released early in the morning and the rest were released next day. The army harassed them. The army raided the houses in the name of searching the miscreants. Major Kader wanted to know from Papul Khisa whether he had any dispute with Mr. Panchanan Chakma. Papul Khisa replied negative. With this regard, the victims believed that the army with the help of UPDF supporters raided PCJSS members and supporters' houses in order to harass them. It is mentionable that Mr. Panchanan Chakma is an active supporter of UPDF.

**(31) 17 May 2004: UPDF fired on PCJSS member in Naniarchar**

On 17/05/2004 at mid-night a group UPDF armed cadres led Dipendu Chakma with the support of Mr. Panchanan Chakma, Chairman of Naniarchar UP fired on returnee PCJSS Members Mr. Gyana Ranjan Chakma s/o Indra Bassu Chakma and Mr. Shanti Ranjan Chakma s/o Batya Chakma at Naniarchar bazar area. But they failed to hit the target.

**(32) 18 May 2004: Jumma woman harassed by the BDR in Longadu**

On 18 May 2004 a group of BDR personnel led by Subedar Kuddush from Temata Post of Rajnagar zone in Longadu upazila raided Mr. Sneha Moy Chakma's house at Rangipara of Longadu upazila under Rangamati district. At that time Mr. Sneha Moy Chakma was not present at his house.

The BDR personnel searched surroundings of his house and pressed his wife to sign on the blank paper that the BDR found out a shotgun and three cartridges at his house. When his wife refused signing on the false blank paper two BDR personnel dragged and harassed her physically. Her blouse was tore off while dragging her by the BDP personnel. At last she was compelled to sign on the blank paper. The BDR personnel ordered to his wife for attending her husband Mr. Sneha Moy Chakma at the BDR zone soon while they leaving house.

**20-23 May 2004: 15th Central Foundation Anniversary and 12th Central Council of PCP held**

On 20-23 May 2004 15<sup>th</sup> Central Foundation Anniversary and 12<sup>th</sup> Central Council of PCP was held in Bandarban town. At 11.00 a.m. of the first of the programme, inauguration was held at Rajbari ground in Bandarban Municipality where central PCP President Mr. Ujjal Chakma in the chair. Mr. Ushatan Talukdar, Secretary for Students and Political Affairs of the PCJSS and Mr. Pankaj Bhattachariya, Presidium Member of Gono Forum were present in the inauguration as chief guest and mail discussant respectively. Ms. Choitali Tripura, President of Hill Women's Federation addressed in the inauguration. After the inauguration, a colourful rally was brought out from Rajbari ground and rounded through out the town.

On that day at 5.00 p.m. the discussion meeting was held at Bandarban town hall where Mr. Ujjal Chakma presided over. Ms. Sultana Hajera, polite bureau member of Bangladesh Workers' Party attended the meeting as chief guest. Mr. Rajakujjaman Ratan, Coordinator of Chittagong, Socialist Party of Bangladesh, Mr. K S Mong Marma, central member and district President of the PCJSS, Ms. Unue Prue Marma, President of district branch of Parbatya Chattagram Mahila Samiti, Advocate Shaktiman Chakma, central member of PCJSS, Mr. Binotamoy Dhamai, central Secretary of PCP delivered the speech in the meeting.

The central council was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> day of the programme. In the council, a 31-member central committee of PCP was reconstituted. The previous President Mr. Ujjal Chakma, General Secretary Mr. Binotamoy Dhamai and Ornagising Secretary Mr. Mong Singno Marma were re-elected in their

respective portfolios. At the last day, the 13 point programme including followings have been adopted in the council:

- 1) To organise strongest movement against land grabbing, extension of cluster villages and illegal infiltration in CHT;
- 2) To organise strongest public opinion against the anti-accord terrorist activities;
- 3) To make strongest network with the different progressive student organisations, teachers, intellectuals, human rights activist and journalists;
- 4) To campaign against and detach the brokers, reactionaries, opportunists from the society;
- 5) To organise strongest movement for withdrawal of temporary camps including military atrocities and military rule 'Operation Uttoran';
- 6) To organise strongest movement against human rights violation and women tortures;
- 7) To make strongest organisational relationship between the Hill Women's Federation and PCP and make help to the HWF.

**(33) 23 May 2004: UPDF cadres ordered to 6 families to leave the village in Kaukhali**

On 23/05/04 the UPDF armed cadres ordered the following 6 families of Betchari and Mitingyachari under Kaukhali upazila in Rangamati district to leave the village by 26/05/04 as they were relative of PCJSS members. As a result, they are staying with anxiety and terrified condition. The victims were:

- 1) Mr. Hari Chandra Chakma (48) s/o late Mahendra Lal Chakma of Betchari
- 2) Mr. Prafulla Chakma (45) s/o late Mahendra Lal Chakma of Betchari
- 3) Mr. Sudipta Chakma (35) s/o late Mahendra Lal Chakma of Betchari
- 4) Mr. Pradip Kumar Chakma (50) s/o Laba Kumar Chakma of Betchari
- 5) Mr. Chandra Kumar Tanchangya (45) of Mitingyachari
- 6) Mr. Sadhan Bikash Chakma (30) of Mitingyachari.

**(34) 25 May 2004: 17 members of PCP, PCJS & PCJSS arrested and brutally tortured by the army in Guimara**

On 25/05/2004 at 5 o'clock army from Sindukchhari camp under Guimara brigade led by Lt. Colonel Abdul Rouf and Second Lieutenant Mahtabuddin of 12 Engineering Core arrested 17 members of PCP, PCJS and PCJSS from houses near office of PCJSS at Guimara. The army tortured them brutally in the camp by hitting with stick and rifle butt, kicking with leg wearing boot, dancing on their back, hanging on tree having upside down and beating, compelling to see sunshine continuously, pushing injection needle, applying electric shock etc. They were kept there without food and water. Mr. Sumedh Chakma was kept standing naked.

On 26/05/04 the army handed over them seriously injured to the police authority of Guimara police station. The victims were produced to the district court of Khagrachari showing arrest under section 54 of Criminal Penal Code and General Diary no. 107 dated 26/05/2004 of Guimara police station.

The PCJSS and its front organisations namely PCP (Pahari Chhatra Parishad) (Hill Students' Council) and PCJS (Parbatya Chattagram Juba Samiti) (CHT Youth Association) undertook campaigning programme through out the Khagrachari district for strengthening organisational base and making public opinion. As part of this programme, the local, upazila (sub-district) and district level workers of PCP, PCJS and PCJSS were visiting Guimara area. With an aim to success the programme and smooth implementation, the chairmen and members of the local union councils, local leaders, local administration including Upazila Nirbahi Officer of Matiranga upazila and Officer-in-Charge of Guimara police station have been informed the programme earlier.

But it is very astonishing that from very beginning of the programme the army and armed cadres of UPDF did not see it with good eye. Consequently, on 25/05/2004 at 5.00 a.m. army from Sindukchhari camp under Guimara brigade led by Lt. Colonel Abdul Rouf and Second Lieutenant Mahtabuddin of 12 Engineering Core raided the adjacent areas of Guimara office of the PCJSS and arrested following

17 members of the PCP, PCJS and PCJSS from the house near to Guimara office of the PCJSS. The victims were:

- 01) Mr. Mong Thowai Marma (28) s/o Tufan Marma of Chhota Pilak under Guimara
- 02) Mr. Alo Bikash Chakma (22) s/o Mangal Chandra Chakma of Badshachari under Dighinala
- 03) Mr. Sunil Kanti Tripura (22) s/o Sneha Kuamr Chakma of Betchari under Dighinala
- 04) Mr. Tatu Tripura (23) s/o Tarang Kumar Tripura of Headman Para under Dighinala
- 05) Mr. Mista Ranjan Tripura (24) s/o Nagendra Tripura of Headman under Dighinala
- 06) Mr. Sukumar Chakma (20) s/o Nayan Chandra Chakma of Betchari under Dighinala
- 07) Mr. Omar Chakma (30) s/o Bima Ranjan Chakma of Kabakhali under Doghinala
- 08) Mr. Bali Tripura (30) s/o Kalinga Tripura of Headman Para under Dighinala
- 09) Mr. Shanti Chakma (22) s/o Ajoy Chakma of Boalkhali under Dighinala
- 10) Mr. Sohag Chakma (20) s/o Sneha Kumar Chakma of Hajachari under Dighinala
- 11) Mr. Sumedh Chakma (25) s/o late Kipta Sen Chakma of Betchari under Dighinala
- 12) Mr. Ujai Marma (25) s/o late Mong Marma of Headman under Guimara
- 13) Mr. Ruapayan Chakma (26) s/o Halesh Chandra of Parshuramghat under Guimara
- 14) Mr. Sagar Baccha Chakma (22) s/o Purna Kanti Chakma of Kumujya Para under Ramgarh
- 15) Mr. Mongchai Marma (25) s/o Aung Prue Marma of Chhota Pilak under Ramgarh
- 16) Mr. Devamoy Chakma (32) s/o Hriday Muni Karbari of Bara Pilak under Ramgarh
- 17) Mr. Antar Tripura (16) s/o Birendra Tripura of Shingali Para under Ramgarh.

As per commitment of district administration, 7 persons among the 17 arrested workers of PCP, PCJS and PCJSS from Guimara by the Sindhukhari army camp were released on 29 May 2004. On 31 May 2004 the administration released the rest of 10 workers of PCP, PCJS and PCJSS.

#### **Conclusion:**

The UPDF armed cadres led by Manabendra Chakma have been continuing kidnapping and ransom, extortion, murder and physical torture at gunpoint against the common people in Guimara area under Matiranga Sub-district in Khagrachari district for long time. This led to explosion of anger and dissatisfaction accumulated among the common people against the UPDF. On 22 April 2004, a group of armed UPDF cadres kidnapped the following innocent villagers from Pinedong and Taidong areas of Guimara and demanded several hundreds of thousands of Taka as ransom for their release.

- 01) Baidya Ranjan karbari (48)
- 02) Kodeye Chakma (26)
- 03) Shantu Chakma (35)
- 04) Koloi Chakma (25)
- 05) Nilu Mohan Chakma (60)

The common people of these areas exploded into anger against the UPDF after this incident. They united themselves and captured five UPDF members on 23 April. Under these circumstances, on 25 April the UPDF local members were forced to give the following conditions in written to the people:

- 01) Right from today no people of these areas will be tortured, kidnapped and charged with ransom and threatened by the members of the UPDF.*
- 02) Right from today cases arisen in the event of any doubt about the activities of any person of these areas seemingly harmful to the UPDF will be settled on the basis of appropriate evidences in consultation with respectable persons and village elders.*
- 03) Without reason no people of these areas will be harassed by the members of the UPDF.*

We shall abide by any action from the people if the conditions mentioned above are violated, and for that the party (UPDF) shall be responsible”.

The representative of UPDF district committee Mr. Pradipan Khisa on behalf of the UPDF and PCP Khagrachari district president Mr. Swapan Chakma signed the letter. On the other hand, six persons including Mikhan, Anil Karbari and Anil Bikash Chakma on behalf of the people of the areas signed it.

On the other hand, representatives of PCJSS and its front organizations visited Guimara area for party organizational activities with the cooperation of local people and its supporters. The local military authority could not see the occasion and activities of the PCJSS and its front organization as good development. As a result, on 15 May 2004 they helped a group of UPDF armed cadres led by Manabendra Chakma to carry out an attack on them. The attackers used iron rod, hockey stick and country-made gun in this attack. The military present in the area indirectly helped the UPDF members. Lastly the police from Guimara police station rescued the members of PCJSS and its front organizations. The following two PCP members were seriously injured in the incident.

01) Shiplu Tripura (19) s/o Tuuam Tripura; and

02) Joseph Chakma (22) s/o Chandra Shekhar Chakma

They were admitted to Khagrachari hospital in critical condition.

The military are making all this drama to arrest the leaders of PCJSS and its front organizations and weaken the organizational strength of the PCJSS thereby. The case filed against them in the Guimara police station says, "The persons arrested have been intensifying unrest and criminal activities in Guimara and Bazar area by kidnapping UPDF members". The statement written in the case is nothing but part of a greater conspiracy of the military and police to politically silence the PCJSS and its front organizations and stop the process of implantation of the CHT Accord thereby and contain the wave of public anger against the UPDF. For that purpose the military and police are resorting to arrest, torture, communal attack and terrible harassment against the members of the PCJSS and its front organizations. Recent attack and torture on members of PCJSS and its front organizations in Guimara, attack on Mahajanpara in Khagrachari Sadar, encouraging Bengali settlers for communal riot and attack against indigenous people in Khagrachari town, attack on the PCJSS district headquarters in Khagrachari, non-bailable arrest and case against PCJSS leaders are examples of this conspiracy hatched under "Operation Uttoran". The law and order situation in Khagrachari has worsened because of these incidents. The military are responsible for all these.

**(35) 27 May 2004: PCJSS office raided and 33 members arrested by the police and army in Khagrachari**

On 27 May 2004 the police and army led by Abul Kalam Azad, Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Khagrachari police station raided the Khagrachari district office of PCJSS and arrested 33 members of PCJSS, PCP and PCJS including Central Member of PCJSS Mr. Sathowai Prue Marma, President of Khagrachari district Mr. Pranati Bikash Chakma and Secretary for Student and Youth Affairs Mr. Braja Kishaore Tripura.

It is mentionable that from 27 May 2004 the PCJSS called for road and waterways blockade for indefinite period through out the three hill districts in CHT demanding release of arrested workers mentioned above. District administration assured PCJSS that they would release arrested workers by 2.00 p.m. on 27 May. But instead of releasing the workers the police and army led by Abul Kalam Azad, Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Khagrachari police station suddenly started firing from their automatic weapons around 1.30 p.m. on that day and raided district office of PCJSS and Jumma inhabited Mohajan para village in Khagrachari town. The police and army beat Jumma persons indiscriminately. They arrested 33 members of PCJSS, PCP and PCJS including the leaders mentioned above. They boarded the arrested persons on the pick-up beating with stick and rifle butt and taken to the police station. Three PCP workers namely Pratyoy Chakma, Suman Chakma and Swapan Chakma were seriously wounded and admitted to Khagrachari hospital. Assistant Superintendent of Police Mr. Mahub rebuked them with slung language and threatened them of committing communal riot as like as Mahalchari communal attack of 26 August 2003. Communal tension loomed large in Khagrachari. Bengali settlers in collaboration with cadres of ruling four party alliances made communal attack on Jumma people including Chairman of Khagrachari Municipality Mr. Mongkyew Ching Chowdhury and health workers of leprosy department Mr. Bimal Jyoti Tripura.

During custody at police station, ASP Mahub threatened the arrested PCJSS, PCP and PCJS activists that they had 1,000 police personnel in Khagrachari and they had 1,000 arms. They could do

everything if they wished. Rather PCJSS had nothing. PCJSS could do nothing. All the Bengalis became united. They were ready to destroy Jumma locality. The ASP also said that all the army fed up against the PCJSS. He also mentioned that hundreds of Jumma houses were burnt down in Mohalchari last year. Hundred of Bengali settlers set fire the houses of Jumma people. That time, the Jumma people could not do anything. He also asked that where was your leader? He would be arrested if he came there. One leader was made home arrest. He again threatened that they had bore lots but would not tolerate any more. It is notable that the ASP gave hint Mr. Raktotpal Tripura and Sudhasindhu Khisa both central leaders of PCJSS and members of CHTRC as Mr. Raktotpal Tripura was not present at the PCJSS office when raided by police and army while Mr. Sudhasindhu Khisa was staying at Circuit House after ending the meeting of the Task Force on Rehabilitation of Repatriated Jumma Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons.

The police argued against the arrest of the workers of PCJSS, PCJS and PCP that the picketers of the PCJSS, PCP and PCJS destroyed a truck at Zero Mile area in Khagrachari. But it was fully perverted and exaggerated. During road blockade programme, a truck came into Khagrachari speedily. The picketers tried to stop it. But the drivers drove it speedily with an aim to get into the picketers. But picketers escaped narrowly from killing. On the other, the Juba Dal (Youth front of Bangladesh Nationalist Party) leader Md. Abdul Salam s/o late Bakkar Mian of Shabda Mian Para in Khagrachari along with Chhatra Dal (student front organisation of BNP) leader Md. Saidul Islam Babul was coming to Khagrachari bazar speedily by motorbike. Unfortunately they fell into accident near the area of M N Larma statue as they were driving speedily. It was very astonishing that after the accident they left the motorbike there and after few minutes some Bengali settlers led by BNP cadres rushed there shouting communal slogans and set fire to the motorbike.

Soon after spreading this propaganda, the police and army raided the PCJSS district office and Jumma-inhabited Mohajan Para village. In fact, there were no argument to destroy the truck and set fire the motorbike as the PCJSS and its front organisations have been observing the democratic programmes such as strike, road blockade, demonstration etc with the heartiest responsibility. Moreover, the motorbike, auto-rickshaw, rickshaw etc were out of road blockade programme.

Among 33 member of PCJSS, PCP and PCJS, 11 persons were released in the evening on 27 May due tremendous pressure by the PCJSS. But the rest of 22 persons were sent to jail. A case (Khagrachari police station case no. 2 dated 27/05/04) was falsely lodged against them. They were accused under section 143/ 144/ 342/ 323/ 324/ 385/ 436/ 427/ 379/34 /387 of the Bangladesh Panel Code related to extortion of money, destruction of property, arson, etc and under section 3 of Firearm Law. In the case 30/35 unknown persons were also accused. Among 11 persons, 3 were PCJSS and PCP leaders and 7 were Awami League workers.

On the other, ASI of Khagrachari police station Md. Abdul Alim filed a separate false case (Khagrachari police station case no. 3 dated 27/05/04) with section 143/ 332/ 353 of Bangladesh Panel Code against 40/45 unknown persons. Those sections are related to illegally obstructing government employees to perform government duties. The police under this case can arrest anybody particularly members of PCJSS, PCP and PCJS and supporters at any time identifying unknown one.

Though 11 persons among the arrested on 27 May were released, but the rest of 22 leaders and activists of PCJSS, PCP and PCJS were sent to jail. Consequently, the situation turned into complex. With this backdrop, a special meeting on law and order has been called by the district administration at mid-night on 27 May. The leaders of four party alliances, their front organisations and different professional organisations backed by the four party alliances were invited in the meeting. On the contrary, only three Jumma leaders namely Mr. Sudhasindhu Khisa and Mr. Raktalpal Tripura both Central Member of the PCJSS and Member of the CHTRC and Mr. Upendra Lal Chakma, Ex-MP were invited. When the meeting started at first all the leaders of the four party alliances, their front organisations and different professional organisations backed by the four party alliances started to deliver speeches one after another for a long time. Consequently, the meeting turned into public meeting organised by four party alliances. They accused PCJSS one sidedly in connection with extortion of money, kidnapping, killing, terrorist activities etc. and rebuked PCJSS leadership with slung language. The PCJSS leaders condemned against it. At the last, a short close-door meeting

among DC, SP, Sudhasindhu Khisa, Raktalpal Tripura, Abdul Wadud Bhuiyan etc was held and a commitment from the end of administration to release the arrested workers by 30 May was given to PCJSS leaders at this meeting.

As per commitment given by the district administration, the PCJSS postponed its continued road and waterway blockade programme till 30 May. PCJSS reiterated its declaration that the road and waterway blockade programme would be started from 31 May if the administration would not release the arrested workers of PCJSS, PCP and PCJS were not released by 30 May as per their commitment.

Name of the 22 and 11 persons respectively to whom the case was filed are as follows:

**22 Persons:**

- 01) Mr. Pranati Bikash Chakma s/o Ajit Mohan Chakma of Pankhiya Para of Khagrachari upazila (President of Khagrachari district branch of PCJSS)
- 02) Mr. Braja Kishore Tripura s/o Alebdra Lal Tripura of Khagrapur of Khagrachari upazila (Secretary for Student and Youth Affairs of Khagrachari district branch of PCJSS)
- 03) Mr. Rupak Chakma s/o Jatin Bikash Chakma of Madhupur of Khagrachari upazila (Assistant General Secretary of Khagrachari district branch of PCJSS)
- 04) Mr. Birendra Lal Chakma s/o Bholanatha Chakma of Mohajan Para of Khagrachari upazila (President of of Khagrachari upazila branch of PCJSS)
- 05) Mr. Pratyai Chakma s/o late Ratan Bikash Chakma of Narankhiya of Khagrachari upazila (General Secretary of of Khagrachari district branch of PCP)
- 06) Mr. Niutan Marma s/o Kongsai Marma of Upper Perachara of Khagrachari upazila (Organising Secretary of Khagrachari district branch of PCP)
- 07) Mr. Suman Chakma (Kandra) s/o Mantu Chakma of Narankhiya of Khagrachari upazila
- 08) Mr. Sunil Kanti Tripura s/o late Barun Kanti Tripura of Khagrapur of Khagrachari upazila
- 09) Mr. Karpan Tripura s/o late Pancharam Tripura of Khagrapur of Khagrachari upazila
- 10) Mr. Chaichhuiya Tripura s/o Yearkiya Tripura of Khagrapur of Khagrachari upazila
- 11) Mr. Kyaching Marma s/o Aching Marma of Madhupur of Khagrachari upazila
- 12) Mr. Alo Jiban Chakma s/o Punya Ratan Chakma of Narikel Bagan of Dighinala upazila
- 13) Mr. Chhoto Chakma s/o Kala Chakma of Betchari of Khagrachari upazila
- 14) Mr. Gyan Jyoti Chakma s/o Bari Bindu Chakma of Dharmajit Karbari Para
- 15) Mr. Gyan Jyoti Chakma s/o Ranjan Kumar Chakma of Jorha Bridge of Khagrachari upazila
- 16) Mr. Kartik Tripura (Jagmin) s/o late Nichhak Kumar Chakma of Punong Para
- 17) Mr. Iron Chakma s/o Dayamoy Chakma of Pulin Headman Para of Doghinala upazila
- 18) Mr. Surapan Chakma s/o Padma Lochan Chakma of Master Para
- 19) Bimal Jyoti Chakma s/o Gyana Kumar Chakma of Pulin Headman Para of Dighinal upazila
- 20) Mr. Michel Chakma s/o Buddha Ranjan Chakma of Pulin Headman Para of Dighinala upazila
- 21) Mr. Anumadarshi Chakma s/o Purna Mohan Chakma of Reservechara
- 22) Mr. Swapan Chakma s/o Ramani Chakma of Jorha Bridge of Dighinala upazila.

**11 Persons:**

- 01) Mr. Sudhakar Tripura s/o unknown of Khagrapur of Khagrachari upazila (Organising Secretary of Khagrachari district branch of PCJSS)
- 02) Mr. Biplab Tripura s/o unknown of Khagrapur of Khagrachari upazila (General Secretary of Khagrachari upazila branch of PCJSS)
- 03) Mr. Ujjal Chakma s/o unknown of Mohajan Para of Khagrachari upazila (President of central PCP)
- 04) Mr. Jatan Tripura s/o unknown of Khagrapur of Khagrachari upazila (Joint Convenor of Khagrachari district Awami Juba League)
- 05) Mr. Ruku Marma s/o unknown of Pankhiya Para of Khagrachari upazila (central member of Chhtra League)
- 06) Mr. Kanu Tripura s/o unknown (Leader of Khagrachari district Chhatra League)
- 07) Mr. Koilash Tripura s/o unknown of Khagrapur of Khagrachari upazila (Leader of Khagrachari district Chhtra League)
- 08) Mr. Mongshi Prue Chowdhury (Apu) s/o unknown of Sluice Gate of Khagrachari upazila (President of Khagrachari district Chhtra League)

- 09) Mr. Apurba Tripura s/o Jatindra Lal Tripura of Milanpur of Khagrachari upazila (Leader of Khagrachari district Juba League)
- 10) Mr. Resource Chakma s/o unknown of Kamalchari of Khagrachari upazila (Joint Secretary of Khachari district Awami Juba League)
- 11) Mr. Milan Chakma (Marked Babul) s/o unknown of Mohajan Para of Khagrachari upazila.
- And other 30/25 unknown persons.

Soon after the filing case against the activists of the PCJSS and its front organisations and producing them to the court, appeal was submitted for bail for the arrested activists to district court. But the court denied to grant bail for them. Consequently, further appeal was made to judge court in Chittagong and the court granted bail in the first hearing for 9 workers. The rest of the workers were granted after a couple of days back.

**(36) 27 May 2004: Communal attack on the Jumma people at Khagrachari bazar committed by Bengali settlers**

On 27/05/04 during the conducting raid on the PCJSS office at 1.30 p.m., the false issue of destruction of a truck and setting fire of motorbike was turned into communal dimension by a group of Bengali settlers in collaboration with communal forces of ruling four party alliances led by Mohammad Abdul Wadood Bhuiyan, MP of Khagrachari. They propagated that the picketers of the PCJSS, PCP and PCJS were destroying and setting fire on vehicles of the Bengali people. Consequently, the cadres of the four party alliances ran after Mr. Mongkyeu Ching Chowdhury, Chairman of Khagrachari Municipality to kill him till his municipal office. He narrow escaped from killing while he hid at his office closing the door. The Bengali settlers also beat Mr. Bimal Jyoti Tripura, a health worker of leprosy department. The BNP cadres set fire on his motorbike at Kola Bagan area of Khagrachari town at afternoon. Besides, Mr. Raju Marma s/o Chaihla Prue Marma of Chowdhury Para village was also injured due to attack by the BNP cadres.

The annual prize distribution programme of Khagrachari Government High School was held at that day in Khagrachari down. All students have been ordered to ensure compulsory present at the programme by school authority. The programme was ended at night. But the BNP cadres attacked the Jumma students when they were going to home after attending the programme. In this attack, Manju Lal Tripura and Jiban Tripura both from Khagrapur in Khagrachari Municipality were wounded. But it was very astonishing that no case was made against the Bengali settlers who committed these communal attacks and no body was arrested in connection with these incidents.

**(37) 27 May 2004: Another false case lodged against 40/45 unknown persons in Khagrachari**

ASI of Khagrachari police station Md. Abdul Alim filed a separate case (Khagrachari police station case no. 3 dated 27/05/04) with section 143/ 332/ 353 of Bangladesh Panel Code against 40/45 unknown persons in connection with obstruction of government work to government employees by the masses uniting illegally. ASI Md. Abdul Alim mentioned in his statement submitted to the court that on 27 May 2004 he with 8 police personnel rushed the spot soon after receiving news over wireless and saw burning of a motorbike. They were thrown bricks and brickbats by the 40/45 unknown persons while they tried to put out the fire. As a result, they opened 2 round of blank fire and then the unknown person fled to PCP office. He would identify if he see them again. The people including PCJSS, PCP and PCJS were afraid of police harassment for this case as police can arrest anybody at any time identifying unknown one.

**31 May 2004: Release rest of the 10 workers arrested from Guimara**

On 31 May 2004 the administration released the rest of following 10 workers of PCP, PCJS and PCJSS who were arrested from Guimara by the army of Sindhukchari camp on 25 May. They were:

01) Mr. Alo Bikash Chakma (22) s/o Mangal Chandra Chakma of Badshachari under Dighinala

02) Mr. Sunil Kanti Tripura (22) s/o Sneha Kuamr Chakma of Betchari under Dighinala

03) Mr. Tatu Tripura (23) s/o Tarang Kumar Tripura of Headman Para under Dighinala

04) Mr. Mista Ranjan Tripura (24) s/o Nagendra Tripura of Headman under Dighinala

05) Mr. Sukumar Chakma (20) s/o Nayan Chandra Chakma of Betchari under Dighinala

06) Mr. Omar Chakma (30) s/o Bima Ranjan Chakma of Kabakhali under Doghinala

- 07) Mr. Bali Tripura (30) s/o Kalinga Tripura of Headman Para under Dighinala
- 08) Mr. Shanti Chakma (22) s/o Ajoy Chakma of Boalkhali under Dighinala
- 09) Mr. Sohag Chakma (20) s/o Sneha Kumar Chakma of Hajachari under Dighinala
- 10) Mr. Sumedh Chakma (25) s/o late Kipta Sen Chakma of Betchari under Dighinala

#### **Chittagong Judge Court granted bail for 9 workers**

Soon after the filing case against the activists of the PCJSS and its front organisations and producing them to the court, appeal was submitted for bail for the arrested activists to district court. But the court denied to grant bail for them. Consequently, further appeal was made to judge court in Chittagong and the court granted bail in the first hearing for following 9 workers.

- 01) Mr. Pranati Bikash Chakma s/o Ajit Mohan Chakma
- 02) Mr. Braja Kishore Tripura s/o Alebdra Lal Tripura
- 03) Mr. Rupak Chakma s/o Jatin Bikash Chakma
- 04) Mr. Pratyai Chakma s/o late Ratan Bikash Chakma
- 05) Mr. Suman Chakma (Kandra) s/o Mantu Chakma
- 06) Mr. Sunil Kanti Tripura s/o late Barun Kanti Tripura
- 07) Mr. Karpan Tripura s/o late Pancharam Tripura
- 08) Mr. Chaichhuiya Tripura s/o Yearkiya Tripura
- 09) Mr. Swapan Chakma s/o Ramani Chakma.

#### **June 2004**

##### **(38) 27 June 2004: Jumma house raided by the BDR in Barkal**

On 27 June 2004 at around 1:00 a.m. in a group of BDR and police personnel led by Captain Amir of the Barkal BDR zone and Sub-inspector Utpal Barua raided the house of a PCJSS member Mr. Sadhan Bikash Chakma of Barkal upazila. Before this, they raided his shop closed at night. The BDR and police personnel told Sadhan Bikash Chakma that they found a pistol from his shop. They forced him to sign on a paper confessing his guilt.

The BDR and police personnel forced all the members of his family to get out of their house. They took away some valuables and books from his house.

Later, BDR and police raided the house of Mr. Nibaran Chakma, Headman of Dewanchar mouza and charged him with a case similar to that of Sadhan Bikash Chakma. Nibaran Chakma was not at his house during the raid. The BDR and police personnel took the fingerprint of his wife in a blank white paper.

#### **July 2004**

##### **(39) 14 July 2004: An innocent Jumma arrested by the BDR in Barkal**

On 14 July 2004 at around 3:00 a.m. a group of army and BDR personnel led by zone commander Md. Mirza Anwar Reza of the 34th Rifle Battalion from Barkal sadar zone and Nasirul Islam from Jagannathchara BDR camp raided the house of Mr. Monghla Ching Marma built temporarily to guard the logs collected from his garden and arrested him along with a *Mahut* (caretaker of elephants) came to him with an elephant to extract his logs and other eight persons from his neighborhood.

Monghla Ching Marma and the *Mahut* were taken to the Jagannathchara BDR camp and tortured there till 1:00 pm. In the evening the victims were handed over to the Barkal police station. The police registered a case against them on false charge of keeping illegal arms with them. The accused were sent to jail without any trial. The other eight were tortured and released later.

Local people of Barkal organized a protest rally at Barkal sadar demanding immediate release of the innocent indigenous people. Mr. Pradip Tripura, Mr. Pratul Chakma, Mr. Samar Bikash Chakma and Mr. Pulin Chakma addressed the rally led by Mr. Nanda Bikash Chakma.

##### **(40) Mid-July 2004: Setting up new army camp in Ghagra**

In the mid of July 2004 the government of Bangladesh started setting up a new army camp over the land recorded in the name two indigenous people at Ghilachari Mukh Talukdar Para near the Panchari High School under Kaukhali upazila (sub-district) in Rangamati district. The owners of the land are:

- (1) Mr. Priti Bikash Talukdar s/o late Lagna Mohan Talukdar and
- (2) Mr. Sadhan Bikash Chakma s/o Horikanta Chakma of No. 101 Ghilachari Mouza under Kaokhali upazila.

On 16 June 2004 in order to build the camp, a group of army led by Subedar Major Md. Rafique housed themselves in the Talukdar Para Junior High School resulting in the closure of the school. Priti Bikash Talukdar and Sadhan Bikash Chakma protested several times the illegal occupation of their land by the army.

The army have been harassing innocent local indigenous people since they took over the school. On 18 June 2004, the army arrested an indigenous people Mr. Letto Chakma when he went to collect blackberry from his own garden near the school. On 19 July 2004, the army seized 1,400 bamboos and nearly 50 feet timber from the following 10 indigenous people while they were taking them for selling in market:

- 1) Arebana Chakma s/o Mulakya Chakma, village- Dhebachari, Kaokhali, Rangamati;
- 2) Sujal Chakma s/o Nakkua Chakma, village- do;
- 3) Bimal Shanti Chakma s/o Chandranath Chakma, village- do;
- 4) Jyoti Lal Chakma s/o Nabin Kumar Chakma, village- do;
- 5) Jyana Lal Chakma s/o Dhana Kumar Chakma, village- Shuknachari, Kaokhali, Rangamati;
- 6) Amrita Lal Chakma s/o Dhana Kumar Chakma, village- do;
- 7) Shanti Lal Chakma s/o Joy Kumar Chakma, village- do;
- 8) Sundar Chakma s/o Hamit Kumar Chakma, village- do;
- 9) Buddha Chandra Chakma s/o Brishamoni Chakma, village- do;
- 10) Jamani Kumar Chakma s/o Mulakya Chakma, village- do.

On 25 July 2004 the villagers organized a protest rally in Rangamati town protesting the establishment of the camp and forcible confiscation of indigenous land by the army. Mr. Jagadish Talukdar, Headman of No. 101 Ghilachari Mouza and Mr. Lal Krisna Chakma and Mr. Sulendu Chakma - members of Ghagra Union Council - were among others who addressed the rally. They submitted a memorandum to the Prime Minister of Bangladesh through the Deputy Commissioner of Rangamati hill district demanding immediate stop of the camp.

#### **(41) 27 July 2004: the Jumma house raided by the BDR in Barkal**

The other incident took place on 27 June 2004 at around 1:00 a.m. in which a group of BDR and police personnel led by Captain Amir of the Barkal BDR zone and Sub-inspector Utpal Barua raided the house of a PCJSS member Mr. Sadhan Bikash Chakma. Before this, they raided his shop closed at night. The BDR and police personnel told Sadhan Bikash Chakma that they found a pistol from his shop. They forced him to sign on a paper confessing his guilt.

The BDR and police personnel forced all the members of his family to get out of their house. They took away some valuables and books from his house.

Later, BDR and police raided the house of Nibaran Chakma, Headman of Dewanchar Mouza and charged him with a case similar to that of Sadhan Bikash Chakma. Nibaran Chakma was not at his house during the raid. The BDR and police personnel took the fingerprint of his wife in a blank white paper.

#### **(42) 27 July 2004: PCJSS member killed by UPDF in Burighat**

On 27 July 2004 an arms group of the UPDF made an arms attack at Bhandari Tilla of Eitmora under Burighat union council of Naniarchari sub-district in Rangamati where one PCJSS member named Mr. Nayan Chakma was shot death.

#### **(43) 29 July 2004: NGO activists harassed by the army in Matiranga**

On 29 July 2004 Mr. Paredra Lal Tripura, Project Coordinator and Mr. Aiubur Rahman, Assistant Cooperative Officer of Matiranga upazila went to the health center located at Bengmara Hala for investigating the project activities. They saw a group of army and Ansar in the health center premises.

Mr. Paren learnt from the caretaker of the health center that the army asked him to give the key of the center to stay therein. Then Mr. Paren talked to Major Ferdous (2IC, Matiranga zone) and requested him not to use the center. It is mentionable that the army had stayed in the center for several times in the past. Then the Project Coordinator instructed the caretaker not to hand over the key of the center in future as it hindered to run health center. Nevertheless the army threatened the caretaker and stayed for several times in the center.

On the 29 July, as a result of the discussion with the coordinator, the army stayed outside the center and on 30 July while leaving the area, the army officer ordered the Community Organizer (paramedic) to see him at their camp on the 31 July. As per the order, the Community Organizer went to the camp and met Major Ferdous where Major Ferdous said about the presence of any terrorist group in the center. He also said that the two terrorists groups were being provided medicines from the center, the staffs of the center helped the terrorists but not the army. The army major instructed the Community Organizer to send message to the Project Coordinator to present in the camp and to provide the following information by on 01 August 2004:

- (1) Names, address, educational qualification, salary of the staffs;
- (2) Name and address of the organization.

On 01 August 2004, at 11.30 a.m. the Project Coordinator along with Mr. Kanaishawr Tripura, General Secretary of Tripura Kalyan Sangsad of Matiranga upazila branch, arrived in the camp where they met with Lieutenant Sabur. In the meeting Lieutenant Sabur interrogated them and charged for helping the terrorist group where the Project Coordinator disagreed with his complaint and asked to provide evidence. Failing to give evidence, Lieutenant Sabur asked the Coordinator not to help the terrorist in future and to provide activities report weekly. The Project Coordinator replied that without any official letter it was impossible to provide weekly activities report and travel 7/8 kilometer way from the health center to the camp. Lieutenant Sabur shunted the Project Coordinator saying that he knew how to make it possible and would take necessary steps to do that. He also asked the Coordinator to come to the camp on 05/08/2004 with the necessary information. It is mentionable that the army Lieutenant misbehaved with the Project Coordinator and his colleague in the camp.

#### **(44) 29 July 2004: Killing and religious persecution by the army in Chitmaram**

On 29 July 2004 around 1.30 p.m. a group of army from Inland camp under Kaptai brigade shot dead Mr. Mong Mong Marma alias Ujjal Das at Pukur Parh near to Muslim Para under Kaptai sub-district. It was learnt that a group of army led by Major Jakir of 2IC of Inland camp of 1<sup>st</sup> Bengal under Kaptai brigade along with hundreds of Bengali settlers made an attack at Chitmaram area under Kaptai sub-district in Rangamati district in the name of searching miscreants. At first without any instigation, the army and Bengali settlers ran after the Jumma and permanent Bengali residents and at a stage the army led by Sargent Habib fired on them. As a result, Mr. Mong Mong Marma alias Ujjal Das (Hindu converted to Buddhist) was shot death at spot of Pukur Parh near Muslim Para. After that the army and Bengali settlers conducted attack at Bara Para where they surrounded the house of Mr. Among Marma and destroyed valuables of the house.

Then the army and Bengali settlers attacked Chitmaram Vihar, holly place of Buddhist followers. They surrounded the Vihar and entered to it with shoes. The army harassed the monk of the Vihar named Ven. Chinda Owaisha Bhikkhu and fastened two orphans namely Mr. Aprue Marma and Pai U Khoi Marma (students of grade VI and VII) while the monk tried to protest against this religious persecution. At that time, one army captain threatened to arrest Mr. Thowai Ching Marma, chairman of Chtmaram Union Council. The Bengali settlers intentionally destroyed Chitmaram Khalmukh Forest Beat in front of army and the army accused the Jumma and permanent Bengali residents for that.

It is mentionable that a dispute was developed regarding payment between the timber traffickers and local forest authority. With regard to this issue, the local forest authority incited army and Bengali

settlers. On the contrary, the army falsely propagated that the local people shot on them first. Needless to say that it was completely false and faked. At present, the Jumma and permanent Bengali residents are living in great fear for further attack.

PCJSS demanded punishment of the army and Bengali settlers involved to the incident and adequate compensation for victims.

**In July 2004: Appeal to GoB for implementation of CHT Accord during 22<sup>nd</sup> session of UNWGIP in Geneva**

In another development, more than 100 indigenous leaders and human rights activists attending the 22nd Session of the United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Populations recently in Geneva sent an appeal to the Prime Minister of Bangladesh urging her for implementation of the CHT Accord.

**Action required:**

The government of Bangladesh should immediately withdraw all the “temporary military and paramilitary camps” from the CHT region in compliance with the Part D, Article 17 (a) of the CHT Accord, and stop human rights abuses and crimes including military rule, “Operation Uttoran” against the indigenous people. It is quite disappointing that the government has failed to comply with this Article even after seven years or so! Rather, the government is misusing its security forces to undermine the movement of the indigenous people demanding proper implementation of the CHT Accord. It is resulting in widespread human rights abuses in the CHT.

It may be noted that Bangladesh security forces in league with Bengali Muslim settlers committed terrible human rights abuses against the indigenous peoples with complete impunity in recent times. Of them, the Mahalchari massacre of 26 August 2003 in which two indigenous people including an eight month-old baby were killed, nine indigenous women were gang raped and three of them were abducted, more than 50 indigenous people including peace-loving Buddhist monks were wounded, nearly 400 houses including three Buddhist temples of the 14 indigenous villages were burnt down; and arbitrary arrest, detention and brutal torturing of 17 indigenous political and student activists on 25 May 2004 and putting them behind the bar on false charges are worth mentioning.

International community, UN Commission for Human Rights, donor countries and international human rights groups should strongly influence the government of Bangladesh:

- 1) To stop human rights abuses in the CHT and punish the members of Bangladesh security forces and Muslim Bengali settlers involved in those human rights abuses;
- 2) To withdraw all temporary camps of army, Ansar, ABP and VDP in accordance with CHT Accord; and
- 3) To implement the CHT Accord in letter and spirits.

**August 2004**

**(45) 2 August 2004: Communal attack by the Bengali settlers in Rangamati College Gate**

On 1 August 2004 at 11.00 a.m. a group of Bengali settlers from College Gate of Rangamati municipality made a communal attack on Jumma people at College Gate, TTC, Kalyanpur and Vedvedi areas. A quarrel between one Chakma student named Mr. Tutul Chakma and one Bengali student of Rangamati Government College was turned into communal tension by the Bengali settler youths. It was learnt that Tutul Chakma was smoking at common room of the college and the Bengali student protested against the smoking. At a stage, the Bengali student attacked Tutul Chakma with knife. This clash was falsely propagated among Bengali settlers staying at College Gate area that the Jumma people were beating Bengalis. As a result, the Bengali settlers started to attack Jumma passers-bys with iron rod and sticks indiscriminately at College Gate, TTC, Kalyanpur and Vedvedi areas. The Bengali settlers attacked Jumma youths who were playing card at Kalyanpur area. In this attack Mr. Mintu Dewan (18) s/o Sunil Kanti Dewan was wounded at his back. At a stage, the Jumma youths

opposed the Bengali settlers. In this clash, an auto rickshaw driver was seriously wounded. He was sent to Chittagong Medical College hospital. Police and army were deployed for control the situation.

**(46) 2 August 2004: Innocent villagers arrested by the army in Matiranga**

On 2 August 2004 at 4.00 a.m. three group of army led by Major Aziz from Sindukchari camp under Guimara brigade conducted an operation at Natun Para of Lubramaram mouza under Guimara of Matiranga sub-district in Khagrachari district in the name searching so-called Jumma miscreants. During the operation, one of the three groups of army arrested following innocent villagers from Nutun Para under Guimara and took them into camp. In the camp, the arrested villagers were brutally tortured. The victims were:

- 1) Mr. Aprue Mog s/o late Sui Thowai Mog
- 2) Mr. Mong Hla Prue Mog s/o late Sui Thowai Mog
- 3) Mr. U Thowai Ching Mog s/o Ruisau Mog
- 4) Mr. Mong Hla Ching Mog s/o Ruisau Mog
- 5) Mr. Dungfa Mog (50) s/o Kyau Prue Mog

Though the first four villagers were released in the evening of that day, but the last one Mr. Dungfa Mog was handed over to Guimara police station. A false case was lodged against him. Another group of army arrested the following villagers of the same village Nutun Para and brutally tortured them:

- 1) Mr. Sui Prue Mog (25) s/o Mongtwa Mog
- 2) Mr. Moingshe Mog s/o Agana Mog
- 3) Mr. Apruek Mog (27) s/o Mongre Mog
- 4) Mr. U Thowai Ching Mog (30) s/o Ruisau Mog
- 5) Mr. Mongreshya Mog (27) s/o Apai Mog
- 6) Mr. Mong Thui Mog (32) s/o Lambaiya Mog

During the operation, the army tried to harass the following women sexually. The army seized a pair ear ball and Taka 180 from Ms. Paikra Mog. The victims were:

- 1) Ms. Khime Prue Mog (20) w/o Sui Prue Mog
- 2) Ms. Paikra Mog (22) w/o Gongbre Shwe Mog

On the other, on same day the army led by aforesaid commander Major Aziz of Sindukchari camp arrested the following villagers of Nakrai Para of Baraitali mouza under Guimara. They were also brutally tortured and handed over to Guimara police station. A false case was also filed against them. The victims were:

- 1) Mr. Ram Prue Mog s/o Aungya Mog
- 2) Mr. Mong Sajai Mog s/o Mong Mong Mog

**(47) 6 August 2004: A Jumma woman raped by Bengali settlers in Baghaichari**

On 6 December 2004 at mid-night a bride named Ms. Boto Chakma (20) s/o Priti Chakma was raped by following four Bengali settlers at Boidya Colony under Baghaichari upazila in Ranagamati district. Her husband Mr. Priti Chakma divorced her for that. A case was filed against the culprits with Baghaichari police station. But no culprit has not yet been arrested. The culprits were:

- 1) Mr. Jamal (31) s/o Sundar Ali of Hazi Para under Baghaichari
- 2) Md. Jahangir (30) s/o Idris Majhi of Boidya Colony under Baghaichari
- 3) Md. Kamal Hossain (30) s/o Golam Hossain of Bridge Ghat under Baghaichari
- 4) Md. Mati (29) of Old Marishya under Baghaichari.

[\[Please see Photo Gallery for photo\]](#)

**(48) 6 August 2004: Two Jummas of one family killed by Bengali settlers in Barkal**

On 3 August 2004 a group of armed Bengali settlers made attack on a Jumma family at Dhandachara of Bhushanchari union under Barkal upazila in Rangamati district. Husband and wife of the family were killed in this attack. An 11-month aged innocent child was also seriously wounded.

On that day at around 11.00 p.m. a group of Bengali settlers led by local UP Member Md. Tamir Ali, Md. Shahidul Mistri, Md. Ibrahim and Md. Emdad from Kalabanya area of Barkal upazila committed

this brutal killing. The miscreants chopped the members of the family. The head of family Mr. Barun Kumar Chakma (33) was spot dead. Ms. Subarna Chakma (28) w/o Barun Kumar Chakma was taken into Rangamati general hospital with serious injuries. She got injuries at head, neck, hands and legs. She was referred to Chittagong Medical College hospital. But she died at Rangamati hospital while the guardians were preparing to transfer to Chittagong on 4 August at 3.00 p.m.

Kampan Chakma, 11-month aged son of Barun and Subarna, was also chopped seriously at right leg by Bengali settler miscreants. He was also admitted at Rangamati general hospital first and later he was transferred to Chittagong Medical College hospital.

It is mentionable that Mr. Dina Mohan Chakma, father of Barun Kumar Chakma was also killed by Bengali settlers in 1984. At that time a massacre at Bhushanchara was committed by the Bengali settlers with the help of military forces where at least 62 Jumma were killed and 5 women were raped. Kampan Chakma was the third generation victimised by the Bengali settlers. A case was lodged against the Bengali settlers mentioned above in connection with this incident.

[\[Please see Photo Gallery for photo\]](#)

#### **(49) 6 August 2004: PCJSS office raided by the army at Madhupua in Khagrachari**

On 6 August 2004 at 8.30 p.m. a group army from Khagrachari zone raided the PCJSS office at Madhupur area in Khagrachari and arrested following 4 PCP (Pahari Chhatra Parishad) (Hill Students Council):

- 1) Mr. Tuhin Chakma (22) s/o Chikanmoy Chakma
- 2) Mr. Shanti Chakma (20) s/o Sumati Chakma
- 3) Mr. Ashish Pranay Chakma alias Bappi (18) s/o late Shyamal Prashad Chakma
- 4) Mr. Chhota Chakma alias Chiji (16) s/o Binode Bihari Chakma

The army destroyed furniture, trunk, ventilators etc of the PCJSS office in the name of searching arms. They brutally tortured the PCP workers who were staying in the office. The army accused the PCP workers that they had arms and ordered them to find out the arms. But as the PCP workers could not find out arms as because they had no arms, the army physically tortured them from 8.30 to 10.00 p.m. at the PCJSS office. After that, they were taken into Khagrachari army zone.

Before the raid of the PCJSS office, they army arrested the following PCP workers from 6th mile area of Khagrachari-Dighinala road while they were coming to Khagrachari from Dighinala:

- 1) Mr. Jogesh Chakma (22) of Dighinala
- 2) Mr. Swapan Chakma (18) s/o Ramani Ranjan Chakma of Jora Bridge under Dighinala
- 3) Mr. Surajit Chakma (24) s/o Dhira Kumar Chakma alias Samesh of Mahajan Para.

Jogesh Chakma was arrested in the morning around 10.00 a.m. and other two arrested afternoon. After the arrest, they were taken into Khagrachari army brigade and tortured brutally there. Left hand of Jogesh Chakma was broken while the army hit with stick. They were also falsely accused for keeping arms. Jogesh Chakma and Swapan Chakma were compelled to put army dress and to go with army during raiding the PCJSS office.

As no arm was recovered from PCP workers, they were released at mid-night with serious injuries. The army expressed their regret to Mr. Sudhasindhu Khisa for the incident over telephone. It is mentionable that Jogesh Chakma was also arrested on 27 May 2004 from Khagrachari district of PCJSS by the police and army and he got bail in July from Chittagong judge court.

The PCJSS central office from Rangamati published a press release on 7 August 2004 condemning the arrest and torture of PCP workers and destroy of office valuables. The press release was circulated around 1.30 p.m. and soon after the release of press note from Rangamati, one brigade major of Khagrachari brigade rang Mr. Sudhasindhu Khisa, central member of PCJSS at his Khagrachari residence around 2.15 p.m. expressing their unhappiness and grief for press release saying that they already beg apology for the incident and they did nothing on PCP workers. In reply Mr. Sudhasindhu Khisa invited him to Madhupur's PCJSS office to see what and how the army tortured the PCP

workers and destroyed the valuables of office. At that the army major cut the telephone line with angry.

It is also very astonishing that no newspaper covered the news of this incident even after releasing press note by the PCJSS. PCJSS believed that the army might censor the report.

**(50) 11 August 2004: Shashanka Dhamai harassed by the army in Guimara**

On 11 August 2004 two groups of army from Matiranga zone and Balyachari camp under Khagrachari district conducted military operation in five Jumma villages of Guimara area under Matiranga sub-district in Khagrachari district. In this operation, at first around 10.00 p.m. the army surrounded the house of Mr. Shashanka Dhamai (56) s/o late Jatindra Dhamai of Balyachari School Para of Guimara. After that at mid-night around 1.00 a.m. on 12 August all the members of Shashanka Dhamai's family were awoken up and interrogated them where about the PCJSS members and its armed groups etc. Shashanka Dhamai was also interrogated how many children he had and where they were living. At a stage, the army compelled him to go with them (army) for searching operation at Kanti Chandra Karbari Para, Bhakta Karbari Para, Rengkhayang Marma Para and Balyachari no. 1 Rubber Bagan area for whole night. He was released at 8.00 a.m on 12 August. But he was ordered to communicate to Matiranga army on next day with the addresses where his sons were staying. Otherwise he would face severe consequences. It is mentionable that Shashanka Dhamai is the father of Mr. Binatamoy Dhamai, General Secretary of Hill Students Council (PCP) and was kidnapped by the armed cadres of UPDF last year.

**(51) 23 August 2004: An innocent Jumma student Jimpu Chakma killed by the army in Matiranga**

On 23 August 2004 an innocent Jumma student named Mr. Jimpu Chakma (Anupam) (18) s/o Amar Sing Chakma of Char Para under Matiranga sub-district in Khagrachari district was killed by the army of Matiranga zone. On that day around 5.30 the army from Matiranga zone arrested Jimpu Chakma from Matiranga bazar under Khagrachari district while he was going to their farmland located at Bengmara of no. 10 Alutila area from his home. Later, on 24 August, the dead body of Jimpu Chakma was handed over to his guardians through Matiranga police station at about 12:00 p.m. This brutal killing created insecurity and anger among the local people of the area.

Char Para, the village of Jimpu Chakma is one kilometer away to the east from Matiranga upazila headquarter. Bengmara where the farmland of Amar Sing Chakma located is 2 or 3 kilometers away to northeastern from Matiranga bazaar situated at 10<sup>th</sup> mile of Matiranga-Khagrachari road.

Mr. Amar Sing Chakma Sailo, father of Jimpu Chakma is a returnee Parbatya Chattagram Jana Samhati Samiti (PCJSS) member under CHT Accord. He is also holding the capacity of General Secretary of Matiranga upazila (Sub-district) branch and a member of Khagrachari district branch of PCJSS. He used to go to Bengmara for taking care of farmland (garden). It was known that at that day, after having lunch, Jimpu Chakma was going to their farmland at Bengamara in request of his mother to assist his father. He was dressed with a full pant and a shirt. He was carrying a plastic bag, which contained some rice, ripe bananas and vegetables. He was waiting for jeep near Shilpi Store at Matiranga bazaar. Just then, a group of patrol army of 27 EBR from Matiranga army zone under Guimara brigade picked him on their van car.

After receiving the news of Jimpu Chakma picking by military, his mother sent message to her husband and she herself accompanied by Mr. Uday Kiran Tripura alias Ajit, Central Member and the President of Matiranga upazila branch of PCJSS and Mr. Hemendra Lal Tripura, Member of Returnee Jumma Refugee Welfare Association, went to Matiranga Army Zone Headquarter. At 12:30 pm, they contacted with RP check post of Matiranga Army Zone Headquarter. Around half an hour later, a RP sergeant named Hossain came and talked to them. However, he admitted that the patrol army picked Jimpu Chakma up their van car. He ensured them that the boy would be spared, so they should not be worried.

Meanwhile, Hossain was seen to talk on his wireless set (probably information was being transmitted from the camp to another place), saying that the boy, who was arrested, admitted everything. Sergeant

Hossain immediately stopped talking on his wireless set and left RP check post rapidly. Around half an hour later, Hussain, coming back to the check post, informed that the commanding officer (CO) of the Zone went to Guimara brigade headquarters. He also informed that the 2-IC told him that Jimpu Chakma could not be released in absence of the Commanding Officer. On the other side, receiving the news that Jimpu was picked up by military, Mr. Amar Sing Chakma immediately returned home from his farmland of Bengmara. At about 5:30 pm. he, accompanied by Mr. Udo Kiran Tripura, Mr. Hemendra Lal Tripura, rushed to Matirang zone headquarters. They waited there until 8:30 pm. The zone commander Lieutenant Colonel Enayet Ullah (PSC) returned the zone headquarters in the evening at about 7:30 pm, but he did not meet with them. Not only that, even he did not allow any officer to meet with them. They were rather ordered to go back home through a soldier.

Instead of going back home, Mr. Amar Sing Chakma, Mr. Udo Kiran Tripura and Mr. Hemendra Lal Tripura went to Matiranga police station. Mr. Khalek, the officer-in-charge (OC) of Matiranga police station was not present at the police station at that time. So, they had to talk to the Second Officer sub-inspector (SI) Mr. Selim and Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) Mr. Ashok respectively. Then they went to Matiranga upazila BNP party office, where they happened to see the OC Mr. Khalek and some local BNP leaders, whom they talked with about the incident of Jimpu Chakma picking up by the patrol army. They sought assistance from them concerning the kidnapping of his son. Upon their earnest request, the OC Mr. Khalek ensured them that he would do his best in releasing Jimpu Chakma immediately, he had been handed over to the police custody.

Next day, on 24 August 2004, Mr. Amar Sing Chakma went to Mr. Nashir Ahmed Chowdhury, Chairman of Matiranga municipality. Mr. Amar Sing Chakma sought the his assistance also for the release of his only son Jimpu Chakma. Then, the Chairman contacted with Matiranga zone headquarter over telephone. He was suggested from the zone office to contact after ten minutes. Whenever, they contacted, they were informed by the zone office that Jimpu Chakma was sent to Khagrachari zone, where they communicated immediately. Mr. Raktotpal Tripura, Central Member of PCJSS also tried to contact with 203 Infantry brigade but he failed to have any response. Later, he again contacted with Khagrachari zone headquarters. In response, he was informed by the zone that no captive was brought to them.

On the same day (24 August), at noon, Mr. Udo Kiran, Mr. Amar Sing and Mr. Hemendra Lal went to Guimara, where they contact with Guimara brigade headquarter through Mr. Kangjari Chowdhury. But, they returned home after being failed and disappointed. On the same day, at 8:30 pm, Mr. Faruk, ASI of Matiranga police station went to the house of Amar Sing Chakma by a motorbike. Mr. Faruk informed Mr. Amar Sing Chakma that he would have to go to Khagrachari police station with the assistance of Matiranga police force.

Going to Matiranga police station, Mr. Udo Kiran and Mr. Hemendra Lal came to know that the dead body of Jimpu Chakma was kept in Khagrachari police station. So, the dead body would be received. Four or five policemen of Matiranga police station led by the ASI Mr. Ashok and Udo Kiran and Hemendralal reached Khagrachai police station at 10:00 p.m.

There was a hot talk between Udo Kiran, Hemendra Lal and Abul Kalam Azad, OC of Khagrachari police station with matter of receiving the dead body of Jimpu Chakma. In that situation, Mr. Udo Kiran and Mr. Hemendra Lal went to their relative house at about 10:30 p.m. from the police station without receiving the corpse of Jimpu Chakma.

On the same day 24 August 2004, the policemen reached Matiranga at about 11:30 p.m. with the dead body of Jimpu Chakma. They reached the dead body to the house of Amar Sing Chakma at about 12 p.m. Mr. Munindra Lal Tripura, Mr. Nashir Ahmed Chowdhury, Chairman of Matiranga municipality, Mr. Jahangir Alam, Commissioner of Matiranga municipality, Mr. Samsul Haque, Mr. Badsha Mia and Mr. Khalek, OC of Matiranga police station had reached Amar Sing Chakma's house before the dead body of Jimpu Chakma was brought to. They said that the incident happened accidentally and requested Mr. Amar Sing to receive the copse. By the way, the OC also informed that he had been pressurized by his senior authority to hand over the dead body in any way.

On the contrary, Mr. Amar Sing had been threatened that if the dead body was not received by the guardians, it would be cremated or buried by the municipality as anonymous. With this backdrop, Mr. Amar Sing Chakma agreed to receive the dead body of his son under two conditions. Firstly, the post mortem report must be provided to him and the second was, only “Jimpu Chakma” would be mentioned in the corpse handing over document, omitting ‘Anupam Chakma alias’. Mr. Amar Sing received the dead body only when the corpse handing over document was rewritten omitting ‘Anupam Chakma alias’ and being ensured of having the post mortem report. It is particularly mentionable that the dead son of Amar Sing Chakma had no other name except “Jimpu”. But, the police and army propagated in various medias like TV, Radio and Newspapers that Jimpu Chakma was a terrorist. They propagated it in name of their self-designed name ‘Anupam Chakma alias Jimpu’. They did it just to validate their misdeeds of killing of an innocent boy.

Jimpu Chakma’s dead body was completely mutilated during post mortem. Yet, after having been received the dead body, it was seen that the right cheek of the face and hands and legs of the body were abnormally inflated. It was supposed to have killed Jimpu Chakma by heavily beating and torture on 23 August. To validate this brutal killing the military fabricated the drama of killing a terrorist in name of “Anupam Chakma alias Jimpu”

It was known through an eyewitness and local source that on 24 August in the morning, two Army pick-ups from Matiranga army zone went to Alutila area located at the road of Khagrachari-Dighinala. The dead body of Jimpu Chakma was supposed to be brought by any one of those pick-ups. Then, on the same day, a jeep (locally called Chander Gari) carrying policemen was seen to come Khagrachari from Matiranga hoisting a red flag on it. People saw it in different places like Zero Mile area, Bus Terminal and Chengi Square. A similar jeep carrying policemen was also seen in Agricultural Research at 1:00 p.m. Then, it was again seen at Seven mile at 1.30 p.m., followed by 4/5 army pick-ups containing numerous army personnel. Then, the pick-ups carrying police and army stopped at a place between Eight mile and Nine mile of Khagrachari-Dighinala road, where they drove out the local jum cultivators. After halting 45 minutes, the army and police again returned back to Khagrachari. At 3.00 p.m., the corpse of Jimpu Chakma was brought to Khagrachari general hospital by that jeep, which was carrying policemen. Post mortem of the dead body was conducted by 6.00 p.m. It was done through high police security. After post mortem, the corpse was kept at Khagrachari general hospital.

It was known through hospital source that on that day (24 August) at around 10.00 a.m., a Bengali informed the RMO (Residential Medical Officer) that a dead body would be brought to the hospital. Therefore, post mortem must be conducted in time. It was also known that no other corpse was brought to the hospital on that day.

It is mentionable that though the army and police administration performed a drama with the killing of Jimpu Chakma, mentally they were frightened. They were highly afraid of public anger, because they thought that PCJSS might raise mass movement with this issue. Moreover, the intelligence branches, military and police were intensively frightened with the suspicion that many journalists, human rights activists, representatives from UN agencies and various organizations of national and international levels, might come to inquire the incident and collect information about the killing of Jimpu Chakma. As a result, the police and military personals and the agents of intelligence branches kept watchful eyes over PCJSS offices and its members in Matiranga and Khagrachari areas from 23 August. After handing over the dead body on 24 August, security measure was strengthened from the 25 August. For this reason, on 26 August, while a group of leaders and activists of PCJSS, Parbatya Chattagram Mahila Samiti, Hill Women’s Federation, Hill Students’ Council (PCP) and Jubo Samiti, led by Mrs. Jarita Chakma and Miss Chaitali Tripura were going to Matiranga to attend the cremation ceremony of Jimpu Chakma by a jeep at 1.30 p.m, they were halted by army and police on the midway. At first, they were stopped at Khagrachari bus terminal by a group of army led by the Commanding Officer (CO) of Khagrachari army zone carried by two pick-ups and then they were again checked at Chengi bridge check post stopping their jeep. After indescribable harassments by army in different places, when they arrived at the mouth of Char Para road near Matiranga Bazaar, they were again stopped and harassed by the local BNP leaders and activists with the support of army and police. They were also severely threatened to go back home and ultimately they became compelled to do that.

On 28 August, again a group of PCJSS leaders and activists led by Mr. Pranati Bikash Chakma, President of PCJSS Khagrachari district branch, went to the house of Amar Sing Chakma at Charpara of Matiranga. Receiving this news, a group of police led Mr. Ashok, ASI of Matiranga police station, went there and threatened them to leave the place immediately. The police also informed the PCJSS leaders that they were just obeying the instruction of their senior authority.

It is worth mentioning that no case was filed against Jimpu Chakma killing so far. It was also known through a reliable source that a case was filed into Khagrachari police station on 24 August. However, it was not possible to know about the mode of the case.

Jimpu Chakma was the only son among the four children of Mr. Amar Sing Chakma. He was a simple natured boy from his childhood. He passed the SSC with "B" grade from Matiranga High School in 2002. Later, he got admitted to Kaliakoir Degree College of Gajipur District for the education year (session) of 2002-3 in science group. Having failed in the preliminary test he returned home on 17 May and then went to Chittagong to get admission in Hathazari Agricultural Diploma College of Chittagong on 14 August 2004. After submitting the admission form he came back home to Matiranga on 20 August. He was supposed to be got admission into the Agricultural Diploma College on 5 September. However, his dream of getting enrolled into the Agricultural Diploma College remained unfulfilled due to his brutal killing by the military miscreants.

[Please see Photo Gallery for photo]

### October 2004

#### **(52) Government Move to dismiss 7-Bengali Members of CHTRC**

The Bangladesh Law Ministry is engaged to dismiss 7-Bengali CHT Regional Council members or Councilors from the council to replace by cadres of the 4-party alliance government led by Bangladesh Nationalist party. The sitting government has been trying to dismiss the 7 Bengali members on the ground that they belong to Awami League party. The government has adopted official and unofficial measures including a pressure tactic upon the CHTRC leadership to allow her remove these Bengali councilors. The CHTRC Act of 1998 has no scope to dismiss any councilor the way the government or ruling part desires. The government has officially raised this issue in the meetings of the National Committee on the CHT led by BNP Secretary-General and LGRD Minister Mr. Mannan Bhuiyan. Failing any scope, it has finally found a 106 years old law- The General Clauses Act (X of 1897) to take action against the CHTRC. But, CHTRC is confident that once CHTRC can go to the court it shall be able to foil the move of the government.

#### **(53) 13 October 2004: Deployment of RAB in CHT**

Another alarming news to us that 13 October 2004 the Home Ministry had decided to send RAB (Rapid Action Battalion), elite force of the country with power to shooting, to negotiate alarming law & order situation of the country to all over country to negotiate any adverse situation during coming Durgapuja festival of the Hindus, Ramadan and Idd festival of the Muslims. Since its introduction many persons have been killed or have died in "Cross Fire". CHT already has Military Administration in the name of "Operation Uttoron" i.e. "Operation Upliftment" and now going to have another Force with mighty powers. Most important is that according to the clause 53 of the CHTRC Act of 1998 the government cannot make any law for the CHT without consultation with the CHTRC and the HDCs. Which means she cannot enforce even any national law in the CHT if it is passed in the Parliament without consultation with our CHTRC and the HDCs.

For instance, on 09 October 2004 at night in Rowangchari sub-district of Bandarban district, a group of RAB arrested Mr. Aung Shwicking Marma, President of Parbatya Chattagram Juba Samiti of Rowangchari sub-district branch. He was released after brutally torture. The RAB personnel took signature in a white paper before release him and ordered him to present next day at 10.00 a.m. at the RAB office of Bandarban district.

#### **(54) 16 October 2004: Decision taken for amendment of CHT Accord and Deployment of Army for Protection of Forest Resource**

In a meeting held on 16 October 2004 the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Environment & Forest Ministry decided to amend the CHT Accord of 1997 for the protection of forest resources of the CHT, increase Army camps to allow deployment of Army personnel including 9 other decisions or recommendations. PCJSS released a press statement 19 October 2004 on the decisions of this committee to amend the CHT Accord, decision for Army deployment and holding the Shanti Bahini responsible for illegal logging. In the press release, PCJSS reiterated that after the deposition of arms and ammunition to the government in accordance with the CHT Accord Shanti Bahini was fully abolished. So, the report of the existence or involvement of Shanti Bahini with timber tracking was politically motivated and imaginative.

**(55) 18 October 2004: APBN replaced by Army in CHT**

On 18 October 2004 the Govt. decided to withdraw 900 Police personnel from 15 camps of three Hill Districts and these will be replaced by Army personnel. Of course, the army replacement has not yet been declared but made known to PCJSS by a reliable quarter. The govt. will take an opportunity of Army deployment to a call made 18 October by Ms. Mya Mya Ching, Chairperson, Bandarban Hill District Council to postpone the decision of withdrawal of Police for the sake of public security.

**November 2004**

**(56) 5 November 2004: Five Jumma villagers arrested by the army in Rowangchari**

On 5 November 2004 the local army in Rowangchari upazila under Bandarban district arrested following innocent persons. They were brutally tortured. Mr. Binanga Tanchangya was injured seriously due to brutal torture.

- 1) Mr. Ratan Kumar Tanchangya s/o Tongkui Lal Tanchangya of Chini Para, Allekkhang union, Rowangchari
- 2) Mr. Uchamong Marma (30) s/o Kyamong Marma of Noapatang, Bandarban (teacher of Noapatang non government primary school)
- 3) Mr. Bhala Chandra Tanchangya (25) s/o Bala Chandra Tanchangya of Sukamani Karbari Para, Noapatang, Rowangchari
- 4) Mr. Indra Kumar Tanchangya (20) s/o Kanga Tanchangya of Chini Para, Alekkhang union, Rowangchari
- 5) Mr. Binanga Tanchangya (Karbari) of Bara Khakhyang Para, Noapatang, Rowangchari

**(57) 16 November 2004: Ten Jummas tortured by the army in Matiranga**

On 16 November 2004 at 9.00 p.m. the following villagers from the village 4 no. Rubber Bagan under 207 Wachu Mouza, of Matiranga in Khagrachari district were physically tortured by the military led by camp commander captain Anowar Hossain of Sichokbari army camp under Matiranga army headquarters in Khagrachari hill district.

- 1) Mr. Sibalchandra Tripura (28), s/o Birendra Tripura,
- 2) Mr. Bura Chandra Tripura (40), s/o late Tapi Ram Tripura.
- 3) Mr. Mong Shwe Marma (27), s/o Ugya Marma
- 4) Mr. Chang Thwai Marma (25), s/o Cheng Theya Marma
- 5) Mr. Aungya Jai Marma (30), s/o Cha Than Marma
- 6) Mr. Cheng Hla Aung Marma (35), s/o Aungya Marma
- 7) Mr. Mati Lal Tripura (28), s/o Mone Chandra Tripura
- 8) Mr. Chesi Tripura (24), s/o Anna Kumar Tripura
- 9) Mr. Juddha Kumar Tripura (20), s/o Saman Kumar Tripura
- 10) Mr. Supok Kumar Tripura (18), s/o Moni Kumar Tripura

It is noted that the military commander ordered Mr. Sibalchandra Tripura, Mr. Bura Chandra Tripura and Mr. Mati Lal Tripura not to close their shops.

**(58) 20-30 November 2004: Massive military atrocity on Jumma people in Bandarban**

On 20 November 2004 an army personnel was killed by the DPA (Democratic Party of Arakan) at Jamchari village of Rajvila under Bandarbar sadar upazila while the army was in duty for security of religious programme of Jamchari Buddhist Temple. The DPA had also seized the arm from the army personnel. It is mentionable that some rebel factions of Mynmar, such as, DPA and its armed wing APA (Arakan Peoples Army) have been residing in Bandarban district under the shelter of Bangladesh army and civil administration. In the name of recovering the arm, the army is conducting operation throughout the Rajvila area under Bandarban sadar upazila. During the operation, the army have been harassing, torturing and arresting the innocent Jumma villagers. For instances-

- (1) The following PCJSS activists in Bandarban district were wanted by the military because of their involvement in the party activities. Pressures are put on their family members. Sometime, they are taken to the camp and punished physically, kept under sun with out food. Since 22 November 2004, they have been taken under forced labor with out payment to expand the military camp. At present, they are compelled to leave their village for the sake of their security.
  - 1) Mr. Aung Thwaiching Marma (28), s/o Prue Thwi marma (70), village-Nachathong Para, Poapotong, Roangchari, bandarban.
  - 2) Mr. Binoy Kanti Tabchangya (40), s/o Jatiya Tanchangya, Vill-Kuhopatli bazar, UP-Alekhsyang, Rowangchari, Information and Publicity secretary, Rowangchari upazila branch, PCJSS
  - 3) Mr. Bachanu Marma (38), s/o Late Mong Bui Marma, vill-Jamchari Bhitara Para, Rajbila, Bandarban
  - 4) Mr. Kamalasen tanchangya (20) s/o Ratrichandra Tanchangya, vill-Lakhsmi Chandra Para, UP-Alekhsyang, Rowangchari, Bndarban
  - 5) Mr. Unaiching Marma (39), s/o Athwoai Marma, vill-Jamcharimukh para, UP-Rajbila, Bandarban sadar
  - 6) On 22 November 2004 the army tortured following two innocent Jumma villagers:
    - 1) Mr. Alak Marma (30) s/o Kangjai Marma, vill- Jamchari Bhitara Para, Rajvila
    - 2) Mr. Mong Nue Marma (30), Noapatang union, Rowangchari upazila
- (2) On 24 November 2004 around 4.00 p.m. a group of army of Bengchari camp conducted military operation at Bengchari Para of Paikhyang mouza under Rowangchari upazila (sub-district) in Bandarban district. In this operation, the army arrested Mr. Khyaching Aung Marma (35) s/o late Shojjai Marma of Bengchari Para. The army beat him inhumanly during custody at camp. He was a teacher of a local semi-government primary school of Bangchari Para village of no. 341 Pai Khyong Mouza of Rowangchari UP of Rowangchari upazila under Bandarban hill district. He was first taken to the local army camp and was told to bring arms to the camp. As he was not able to do so then he was beaten.
- (3) On 24 November 2004 at 4:30 p.m. Mr. Khyo Ching Mong Marma, 35, s/o late Shajjai Marma a teacher of a local semi-government primary school of Bangchari Para village of no. 341 Pai Khyong Mouza of Rowangchari UP of Rowangchari upazila under Bandarban hill district was first taken to the local army camp and was told to bring arms to the camp. As he was not able to do so then he was beaten.
- (4) On 25 November 2004 a group of army led by Major Barua arrested an innocent villager named Mr. Aungshahla Marma (37) of Noapatang Mruekhyang Para of Rajvila under Bandarban sadar upazila while he went to Ven. Dharmaguru Bhikkhu for collecting medicine for his daughter. As Mr. Aungshahla Marma was caught by army, he could not collect medicine and consequently his daughter had died next day without treatment.
- (5) On 25 November 2004 the army of Bagmara camp led by Major Maksud conducted searching operation at Bagmara village of Rajvila under Bandarban sadar upazila in the name of rescuing arms. In this operation the army brutally tortured Mr. Monghla Prue Marma (28) s/o Kyabau Marma of Bagmara Para of Rajvila under Bandarban sadar upazila.
- (6) On 25 November 2004 Mr. Mongnai Marma (36) s/o Shaipai Khoi Marma of Sonase Prue Para village, no. 347 Mrung Khayong mouza of Noapatang UP under Rowangchari upazila of Bandarban district was beaten at his house by the army. On that day the army came there on an operation and asked the minor son of Mongnai Marma what about arms. While interrogation the

son of Mongnai Marma answered 'yes' or 'no' understanding nothing, then the army started to beat Mongnai Marma.

- (7) On 25 November 2004 Mr. Bado Marma (39) s/o Prue Thui Mong Marma of Nashalong Para village, a UP member of ward no. 4 of Noapatang Union of Roangchari upazila under Bandarban district was beaten by the army in false allegation having arms with him. It is learnt that Bado Marma went to take care of fishes of his pond and then he went to respond to natural call nearby jungle. When he came out of the jungle, then the army met him and soon the army made an allegation that Bado Marma had arms. As a result Bado Marma became a victim of beating of army.
- (8) On 25 November 2004 Aungsa Hla Marma, (37) an innocent villager of Mrung Khyong Para village of no. 1 Rajvila union of Roangchari upazila under Bandarban district was severely beaten by the army. It is learnt that when Aungsa Hla Marma went to a Buddhist monk of a nearby temple to collect medicine for his seriously ill child daughter, then the army surrounded and entered the temple and arrested Aungsa Hla Marma. The army sought arms from Aungsa Hla Marma, when he failed to hand over any arm then he was severely beaten by the army. On the other, next day the ill child of Aungsa Hla Marma died of lacking medicine as his father was not able to bring medicine timely due to be tortured by the army.
- (9) On 25 November 2004 Mr. Monghla Prue Marma, 28, s/o Kyobao Marma a day labourer of Baghmara Para village, no. 347 Mrung Khyong Mouza of no. 1 Rajvila UP of Bandarban district was severely beaten by the army led by major Maquesud of Baghmar army camp as Monghla Prue was not able to give the arm that was lost by army. Because of such indiscriminate army operation the villages came manless and villagers are being prevented to go to place of work. On 25 November 2004 the army tortured following persons:
- 1) Mr. Apruthui Marma (29), Bengchari Para, Rowangchari union
  - 2) Mr. Ubhanue Marma (29) s/o Chingsa Nong Marma, Sundari Para, Tarasa union, Rowangchari
- (10) On 26 November 2004 Mr. Ubanu Marma (29) s/o Singa Mong Marma an innocent villager of Sundari Para, Kyabolang Mouza, Tarasha of Rowangchari under Bandarban district was arrested by the army while he came to Rowangchari bazar for buying daily necessities. Then arrested Ubanu Marma was taken to Rowangchari army camp and there he was tortured severely for that night that the sound of screaming of Ubanu Marma was heard by the nearby villagers. Ubanu Marma is yet to be released.
- (11) On 30 November 2004 the army conducted operation at Laxmichandra Para of Alekkyang union under Rowangchari upazila. In this operation, the army surrounded the house of Mr. Chinta Muni Tanchangya (26) s/o Batri Chandra Tanchangya. But at that time Chinta Muni Tanchangya was not at home. The army ordered to his family member to attend Chinta Muni Tanchangya at the camp. The army tortured Chinta Muni Tanchangya while he went to attend the camp.
- (12) From 30 November at noon to 1 December 2004 the army conducted an operation (raid) at Laxmi Chandra Para of Alikhyong union of Rowangchari sub-district under the Bandarban district. During the operation the army raided the house of Chinta Muni Tanchangya (26) s/o Ratri Chandra Tanchangya, an innocent villager of above-mentioned village. At that time the army found and took a cap and a pair of shoes from the house, which were bought from bazar by Chinta Muni Tanchangya. At that time Chinta Muni went to near jungle to collect bamboo. The Commander of army (Major) then told family members of Chinta Muni to attend him (Chinta Muni) at the camp next day. According to the Major's order, Chinta Muni went to meet the commander but at that time he was severely beaten by the army personnel.
- (13) On 30 November 2004 the army tortured following innocent persons:
- 3) Mr. Shoihlau Marma (35), of Wabrain Para of Khakkyang mouza of Alekkyang union under Rowangchari upazila
  - 4) Shoikyew Marma (40), of Wabrain Para of Khakkyang mouza of Alekkyang union under Rowangchari upazila
  - 5) Mong Myaw Marma (47) of Wabrain Para of Khakkyang mouza of Alekkyang union under Rowangchari upazila

- 6) Mr. Laxmidhar Tanchangya (22) s/o Rati Sen Tanchangya, Kacchaptali Bazar, Alekkhyang, Rowangchari

**(59) 29 November 2004: Jumma houses burnt to ashes by the army in Guimara**

On 29 November 2004 at 2.00 p.m. a group of military led by major Aziz of Sindulchari army zone conducted a military operation in the village called Barthali para at Guimara area under Matiranga upazila in Khagrachari district. During the operation the army burnt down the houses of the following villagers, destroyed the valuables and beat up the villagers seriously. The victims were as follows;

- 1) Mr. Thoangya Marma (56), s/o late Uthoaishe Marma, village Barthali para
- 2) Kya Saing Marma (57), s/o late Remrachai Marma. The army took away cash 8000 Taka, one golden chain (worth 10000 Taka), 10 pieces of Bedsheet worthing 20000 Taka.
- 3) Mr. Mongsa Marma (18), s/o Mongmong shwe Marma, destroyed Dressing table, Almirah, furniture.
- 4) Mrs. Bishuru Tripura (42) w/o Naren Tripura. Lost Taka 6000.
- 5) Mrs. Anai Moghini (25), w/o Bodeng Marma. She was beaten and lost consciousness.
- 6) Mrs. Anai Moghini (32), w/o Kongyo Marma. seriously wounded.
- 7) Ms. Kongjari Moghini (16) d/o Mongmong Shwe Marma

**(60) 30 November 2004: Four Jumma villagers beaten by the army in Rowangchari**

On 30 November 2004 at the morning time 4 indigenous villagers namely (1) Shaihla U Marma, 35, (2) Shai Kyau Marma, 40, (3) Mong Mau Marma, 47, of Oabrain Para village and (4) Laxmi Dhar Tanchangya, 22, s/o Rati Sen Tanchangya of Kachchhop Tuli Bazar area of Alikhyong UP under Rowangchari upazila of Bandarban Hill District were became victim of beating made by the army personnel of local camp. According to eyewitnesses, at first, the army personnel looked for the persons involved with the PCJSS and PCP and tell them to hand over arms. While they were unable to do so then the above mentioned persons were severely beaten by the army.

**December 2004**

**2 December 2004: Observation of 7th anniversary of CHT Accord**

The PCJSS organised procession and protesting meeting in three hill district towns and upazila headquarters of CHT, press conference and Discussion meeting in Dhaka demanding immediate implementation of CHT Accord on the event of 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CHT Accord. The PCJSS published and circulated a statement and a report on the present state of implementation of CHT Accord.

***1. Press Conference:***

On 1 December 2004 at 11.00 a.m. PCJSS organised press conference at National Press Club in Dhaka where PCJSS president Mr. Jyotirindra Boshipriya Larma alias Santu Larma read out a written statement and answered to the questions of journalists. Mr. Larma told that though BNP led four-party coalition government has already completed its three years tenure, but the government has not taken any steps for implementation of the CHT Accord. Rather the present government has violated the Accord by appointing a communal settler leader to the post of Chairman of CHT Development Board, by keeping CHT ministry under Prime Minister, continuing military rule in CHT, helping Bengali settlers to grab land of indigenous Jumma people and expanding settlers' cluster villages, assisting UPDF for conducting kidnapping, extortion of money, killing etc.

Mr. Larma also reiterated that the government is going back toward a historic wrong for non-implementation of CHT Accord. The government is pushing CHT toward instability. The government would be responsible for any severe situation in future. At the last, Mr. Larma demanded for:

- (1) Full implementation of the CHT Accord;
- (2) Appointment of a tribal leader to the post of Chairman of the CHTDB by removing fundamentalist leader Abdul Wadud Bhuiyan;
- (3) Withdrawal of all temporary camps of army, Ansar, ABP and VDP including military rule 'Operation Uttaran';

- (4) Appointment of full fledged minister among from the tribals for CHT Affairs Ministry;
- (5) Formulation of voter list with the permanent residents of CHT as per CHT Accord and holding election for three Hill District Councils and CHT Regional Council;
- (6) Execution of Land Commission for settlement of land dispute in CHT.

During the press conference, central leaders of PCJSS namely, Mr. Mangal Kumar Chakma, Secretary for Information and Publicity; Mr. Shaktipara Tripura, Organising Secretary; Mr. Shaktiman Chakma, Assistant Secretary for Land and Law Affairs and Mr. Palash Khisa, General Secretary of PCJSS Rangamati district branch. Mr. Sanjeeb Drong, General Secretary of Bangladesh Adivasi Forum was also present and conducted the conference.

## ***2. Discussion Meeting:***

On 2 December 2004 a half-day discussion meeting demanding 'Immediate implementation of the CHT Accord' was held at Hotel Rigs Inn of Gulshan in Dhaka by the PCJSS in collaboration with Bangladesh Adivasi Forum where PCJSS President Mr. J B Larma presided over.

In the meeting, Mr. Shaktipada Tripura, Organising Secretary of PCJSS read out a paper on behalf of the PCJSS. In the paper, Mr. Tripura reiterated that during the present coalition government, the process of the implementation of the CHT Accord is fully stopped. The non-recognition of autonomy for indigenous Jumma people by the government, government policy for tern CHT region into Muslim-inhabited region, continuous land grabbing by the Bengali Muslim settlers with the direct help of military and civil administration, continuing military rule and military present in CHT, extreme Bengali nationalist and extreme Islamic fundamentalist bureaucracy in CHT manned by the outsider Bengali officials and absence of good governance in CHT were the main obstacles for non-implementation of CHT Accord. In the meeting, the following dignitaries were present as discussant:

- 1) Mr. Kamal Hossain, eminent lawyer and President of Gono Forum
- 2) Mr. Rashed Kan Menon, President of Workers' Party of Bangladesh
- 3) Mr. Pankaj Bhattacharjee, Presidium Member of Gono Forum
- 4) Mr. Tafail Ahmed, Presidium Member of Bangladesh Awami League
- 5) Mr. Rabindranath Saren, General Secretary of Jatiya Adivasi Forum
- 6) Mr. Hasanul Hague Inu, President of Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal
- 7) Ms. Rokeya Kabir, Executive Director of BNPS (Bangladesh Nari Pragati Sangha)
- 8) Mr. Dilip Barua, President of Samyabadi Dal
- 9) Mr. Bijamul Hague Nasim, eminent lawyer
- 10) Mr. Mujahedul Islam Selim, General Secretary of Communist Party of Bangladesh
- 11) Prof. Hayat Mahmud, eminent writer
- 12) Mr. Haidar Akbar Khan Runo, Pullitbureau Member of Workers' Party of Bangladesh
- 13) Prof. H K S Arefin, Department of Anthropology, Dhaka University
- 14) Mr. Rajekujjaman Ratan, Socialist Party of Bangladesh

Mr. Sanjeeb Drong, eminent indigenous writer and General Secretary of Bangladesh Adivasi Forum conducted the meeting.

## ***3. Protest Meeting:***

On 2 December 2004 the protest meetings demanding 'Immediate implementation of the CHT Accord' were organised in district towns of the three hill districts in CHT. After the protest meeting, processions were brought in the towns. The protest meeting at upazila level such as Guimara, Panchari and Dighinala of Khagrachari district and Baghaichari, Kaptai, Jurachari, Bilaichari, Barkal and Longadu in Rangamati were also held by the PCJSS. Thousands of people indigenous Jumma and Bengali people attended.

## ***4. Counter programme by Bengali fundamentalist group***

On 2 December 2004 some extreme Bengali nationalist and extreme Islamic fundamentalist organisations, namely, Parbatya Sama-adhikar Andolan (CHT Equal Right Movement) and Bangali Chhatra Parishad (Bengali Students Council) have taken counter programme in three hill district

towns for demanding annulment of CHT Accord term it 'Black Accord' unconstitutional and discriminatory accord. They tried to bring out procession the town but failed. They also tried to prevent the Jumma and Bengali people to attend the PCJSS protest meeting in Rangamati and Bandarban districts.

**(61) 3 December 2004: Three innocent Jummas tortured by the army in Rowangchari**

On 3 December 2004 at about 11 a.m. three innocent villagers named 1) Sudhonya Kumar Tanchangya, 2) Fula Kumar Tanchangya, 3) Balyo Chandra Tanchangya of Rura Para village under Rowangchari upazila in Bandarban district were physically tortured by the army of local camp while they came to house of a relative at Mog Para village of Noa Patang UP of Rowangchari upazila under Bandarban district.

**(62) 3 December 2004: Jumma villagers compelled to organise cultural show by the army in Rowangchari**

On 3 December 2004 the villagers of Moni Ram Tripura Para village of Noapatang union of Rowangchari upazila under the Bandarban district were compelled to present a cultural show going to the local army camp. On that day the army first came to the village and ordered the villagers calling together to organise a cultural show. Then to tackle the situation the villagers were present at the army camp with their boys and girls and youths. Then they were compelled to present songs and dances. On the other, the Commander of the army drank wine and enjoyed the cultural show.

**(63) 4-5 December 2004: Three innocent Jummas tortured by the army in Rowangchari**

On 4 December 2004 at about 11:00 a.m. the villagers of Chini Para village of Ali Khyong union of Rowangchari upazila under Bandarban district were physically tortured by the army. The army also threatened the victims that they must provide arms within a week; otherwise the consequence would be serious. Even all of them would be killed by random firing. The victims were as follows:

- 1) Ratna Kumar Tanchangya s/o Ashni Kumar Tanchangya, a 'Karbari' (traditional leader),
- 2) Piong Khula Tanchangya s/o Laxmi Moy Tanchangya,
- 3) U Shai Aung Marma (teacher) s/o Kya Mong Marma

On 5 December 2004 the said army commander called Karbaries (traditional village head) including Suranath Tripura, Karbari and Sukhya Moni Tanchangya and told them that there were old terrorists in villages, so they have to provide a list of the terrorists within 7 December 2004 and they have to bring them in the camp. The army also threatened them that if they would fail to do so, then the villagers would be killed by firing like beasts and birds.

**(64) 6 December 2004: Villagers harassed by the army in Rowangchari**

On 6 December 2004 at about 9:30 p.m. the villagers of Antaha Para of Noapatang union of Rowangchari upazila under Bandarban district heard a sound of a firing towards the nearby Antaha Para army camp. Next day

On 7 December 2004 in the morning the local army of Antaha Para of Rowangchari upazila came to the Antaha Para of Noapatang union of Rowangchari upazila under Bandarban district. Then the army told the villagers that they (army) heard a sound of firing and asked who did it. Then the villagers told that they (villagers) heard it toward the camp. After that the army compelled the villagers including Karbaris (traditional village head) to be present at a meeting within 2/3 hours at the bazar. In the meeting the army told again that they heard a sound of firing, as the terrorists had been in the jungle nearby the village. So they would have to conduct operation. Entrance to the jungle was ban from that day. The army also told that if they (villagers) entered the jungle then the army will not be responsible for that.

**(65) 6 December 2004: Jumma woman raped by 4 Bengali settlers in Baghaichari**

On 6 December 2004 at mid-night of 12.00 o'clock Ms. Boto Chakma (20) w/o Priti Chakma of Pahnchari under Baghaichari in Rangamati district was raped by the following 4 Bengali settlers. The incident was occurred at Boidya Colony of Baghaichari upazila headquarters. That day the victim came there to her relative's house. At mid-night around 12.00 o'clock the culprits surrounded the house and ordered to open the door. At that time, there was no male member at the house. Ms. Boto

Chakma and her relative did not open the door. At a stage, the culprits broke the door and entered the house. The culprits ordered the members of the house not to shout otherwise they would kill them. Then the culprits raped Ms. Boto Chakma. The culprits were:

- 1) Md. Jamal (31) s/o Sundar Ali of village Hazi Para of Baghaichari
- 2) Md. Jahangir (30) s/o Idris Maji of Boidya Colony of Baghachari
- 3) Md. Kamal Hossain (24) s/o Golam Hossain of Bridge Ghat of Baghaichari
- 4) Md. Mati (29) of Paran Marishya of Baghaichari.

The culprits lodged a case with Baghaichari police station. The police authority sent the victim to Khagrachari hospital for medical test. The police are yet to arrest the culprits.

**(66) 8 December 2004: Jumma villagers harassed by the army in Rajvila**

On 8 December 2004 at the morning time the army of local army camp came to the Jamchhari Mukh Para village of Rajvila union of Bandarban sadar upazila under Bandarban district and ordered the villagers and Karbaries to present at a meeting within 2:00 p.m. In a fear the villagers came to the meeting leaving their daily works. On the other, during the meeting the army conducted raid houses of the villagers. At gun point the army also asked where about PCJSS and PCP workers. The villagers fearfully replied that they knew nothing.

In the same way on 9 December 2004 the army again raided the houses of the same villagers from at dawn 4:00 a.m. to at 8:00 a.m. During the raid the villagers became victim of harassment.

**(67) 13 December 2004: House of PCJSS member raided by army and police in Rangamati**

On 13 December 2004 at night 10:30 p.m. the house of Ashapura Chakma (37) s/o Rajani Mohan Chakma at TTC road near the Rangamati Govt. College of Rangamati district sadar was raided by a group of army and police. Five army and police officials including an army captain and a female police conducted this raid entering the house. But he was not home at that time. They interrogated what about Ashapura. Some neighbours informed that during departure the army and police members were accusing Ashapura as terrorist and smuggler of woman. As a result, Ashapura and his family members were very afraid of regarding this matter.

**(68) 15 December 2004: Two Jummas tortured by army and police in Baghaichari**

On 15 December 2004 the army personnel of Durchari and forest guards seized a country boat carrying 30/40 sq. ft. wood at near place of Durchari Bazar in Baghaichari upazilla. The boat was run by some Bengali traders.

On the other hand The Police and Army personnel also arrested Mr. Amulya Ranjan Chakma, 40, Member of Khirachar UP as well as PCJSS member of Khedarmara UP Committee along with other 2 people while he was staying at Durchari Bazar.

They were sent to Medhinipur Zone Camp under Longdu Zone and the army personnel severely beaten them except Amulya Dhan Chakma. They were accused carrying illegal arms whereas the army personnel seized illegal arms from the country boat. Mr. Hasanur Rahman, the SI of Baghaichari Thana filed a case against them under arms law 19-A on 16 December 2004. Case No. 02 dated 16/12/2004. The victims are mentioned following:

- 1) Ranga Dhan Chakma, 45, s/o late Padma Bikash Chakma, Bara durchhari
- 2) Man Chakma, 33,

The PCJSS condemned and protested the arresting of above people in accusing with false case on 17 December by issuing a press release signed by Sajib Chakma.

**19 December 2004: The CHTRC organised a meeting on social afforestation**

The CHTRC organised a meeting on social afforestation in 'Reserved Forest of CHT' on 19 December at CHTRC conference Hall. Mr. J B Larma was the chair in the meeting and Chakma Circle Chief Mr. Devasish Roy, Chairman of Rangamati Headmen Association Mr. Binoy Kumar Dewan, Convenor of the Committee for the Land Rights and Forest Protection Mr. Goutam Dewan and etc. along with 40 participants were also present at the meeting.

A 10 members committee led by Goutam Kumar Chakma, Member of the CHTRC has formed in the meeting to find out the recommendation on afforestation in Reserved Forest.

#### **17-19 December 2004: CHT Visit of Parliamentary Standing Committee on CHT Affairs Ministry**

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on CHT Affairs Ministry consisting 7 members led by Mossaraf Hossain MP (Chairperson) over CHT for the first time from 17 December to 19 December 04. The other members of the committee are as follows:

- 1) Moni Swapan Dewan MP, Deputy Minister, CHT Ministry (BNP)
- 2) Abdul Wadud Bhuiyan, Khagrachari (BNP)
- 3) Shajahan Chowdhury MP (Jamat)
- 4) Mujibul Huq MP
- 5) Moazzem Hossain Alal MP
- 6) Mostafa Kamal MP

Firstly, the committee visited Khagrachari district on 17 December and met the people at Circuit House. The PCJSS leaders led by Pranati Bikash Chakma, President, Khagrachari Dist. PCJSS met the committee. The PCJSS leaders asked proper implementation of CHT Accord and expressed their willingness to enhance law and order situation in CHT.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> day (18 December 04) the committee reached in Rangamati and met people from different corners. The committee also met the CHTRC Chairman and Councilors at CHTRC Office. Then they met Chakma Circle Chief Devashis Roy, HDC-Rangamati Chairman Manil Lal Dewan and others. They also met Jumma and Bengali leaders in Bandarban. The Sama Adhikar activists demanded cancellation of CHT Accord.

On 19 December 2004 the committee was supposed to be visited Bandarban. But they left Rangamati for Dhaka canceling Bandarban visit without showing any reason.

The PCJSS thinks that the mission has some aims:

- 1) To make a touch with PCJSS leaders
- 2) To eye wash the problem
- 3) To express so called willingness in implementation of the Accord.

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