

**Names in red indicate those who have been released
or are presumed to have been released in 2017*

INDIA

Protestants

AMIT

Place of residence: Mathura

Date and place of arrest: On 4 December 2017

Charges: Carrying out a 'Forcible Conversion Campaign'

Article of the criminal/ civil/ administrative code: Indian Penal Code, section 295A (Deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs)

Last court decision: On 5th December, Amit was sentenced to fourteen days in judicial custody.

Place of detention: Local police station

Other information: Family members of those arrested claim that local people were upset because some individuals were converting to Christianity. This resulting in the seven pastors being attacked when holding a prayer meeting in a private home.

Source: <http://bit.ly/2A51tfc> , <http://bit.ly/2AF08Ne>

ANITA

Place of residence: Hathras

Date and place of arrest: On 4 December 2017

Charges: Carrying out a 'Forcible Conversion Campaign'

Article of the criminal/ civil/ administrative code: Indian Penal Code, section 295A (Deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs)

Last court decision: On 5th December, Anita was sentenced to fourteen days in judicial custody.

Place of detention: Local police station

Other information: Family members of those arrested claim that local people were upset because some individuals were converting to Christianity. This resulting in the seven pastors being attacked when holding a prayer meeting in a private home.

Source: <http://bit.ly/2A51tfc> , <http://bit.ly/2AF08Ne>

A B ANTHONY

Date and place of arrest: On 22nd May 2016, in Kotar, Madhya Pradesh

Charges: Forcible conversion to Christianity

Article of criminal/ civil/ administrative code: Indian Penal Code, section 295A (Deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs), Religious Conversion Act section 3 (Prohibits conversion by the use of force or by inducement or by any other fraudulent means, if a person is converted by unfair means they shall not be considered converted), and section 4 (Requires any person wishing to convert to another religion to give a prior notice of at least thirty days to district authorities, while exempting those 'converting back' to their 'own religion', failure to give notice shall be punishable with a fine of up to one-thousand rupees [approximately €13.68]).

Place of detention: Kotar Police Station

Other information: He was arrested alongside Prabha ANTHONY. The complainant, Prashant Gupta, said he was given a job and money by the pastor of the church, A B ANTHONY, after which he claims the three tried to force him and his two friends to convert to Christianity.

Source: <http://www.outlookindia.com/newswire/story/mp-christian-priest-among-three-held-for-forcible-conversion/940909>

Karan ANTHONY

Age: 18 years

Date and place of arrest: On 23rd August 2017, in Uttar Pradesh state

Charges: Promoting enmity between classes (posting anti-Hindu comments on Facebook)

Statement of the defendant: He denies the charges

Article of criminal/ civil/ administrative code: Indian Penal Code, section 153A (promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion and doing acts prejudicial to maintenance of harmony), the Information Technology Act, sections 66 and 67 (accessing a computer without the permission of the owner and doing so dishonestly or fraudulently; and publishing of information which is obscene in electronic form).

Date of release: 3rd September 2017

Other information: He was released on bail.

Source: <http://morningstarnews.org/2017/10/christian-teenager-india-arrested-comments-fake-facebook-sources-say/>

Prabha ANTHONY

Date and place of arrest: On 22nd May 2016, in Kotar, Madhya Pradesh

Charges: Forcible conversion to Christianity

Article of criminal/ civil/ administrative code: Indian Penal Code, section 295 A (Deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs), Religious Conversion Act section 3 (Prohibits conversion by the use of force or by inducement or by any other fraudulent means, if a person is converted by unfair means they shall not be considered converted), and section 4 (Requires any person wishing to convert to another religion to give a prior notice of at least thirty days to district authorities, while exempting those ‘converting back’ to their ‘own religion’, failure to give notice shall be punishable with a fine of up to one-thousand rupees [approximately €13.68]).

Place of detention: Kotar Police Station

Other information: He was arrested alongside A B ANTHONY. The complainant, Prashant Gupta, said he was given a job and money by the pastor of the church, A B ANTHONY, after which he claims the three tried to force him and his two friends to convert to Christianity.

Source: <http://www.outlookindia.com/newswire/story/mp-christian-priest-among-three-held-for-forcible-conversion/940909>

Munda BADMAJHI

Date and place of arrest: In October 2008

Charges: Murder of the Hindu leader Laxamananda Saraswati

Statement of the defendant: He denies the charges, and Maoists have always claimed the responsibility of the murder.

Last court decision: On 1st October 2013, Munda BADMAJHI was sentenced to life in prison by the district court of Phulbani in Orissa.

Other information: He was charged alongside Sanatana BADMAJHI, Gornath CHALANSETH, Budhadeb NAYAK, Bhaskar SUNAMAJHI, Durjo SUNAMAJHI, and Bijay Kr SUNSETH.

Source: <https://cruxnow.com/church/2016/03/06/remembering-indias-christian-martyrs-should-be-a-church-priority/>, <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/Life-term-for-8-in-Lakshmanananda-murder-case/article11789067.ece>, <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Orissa-pogroms:-Catholics-in-prayer-ahead-of-final-hearing-for-7-innocent-Christians-36317.html>

Sanatana BADMAJHI

Date and place of arrest: On 4th October 2008

Charges: Murder of the Hindu leader Laxamananda Saraswati

Statement of the defendant: He denies the charges, and Maoists have always claimed the responsibility of the murder.

Last court decision: On 1st October 2013, he was sentenced to life in prison by the district court of Phulbani in Orissa.

Other information: He was charged alongside Munda BADMAJHI, Gornath CHALANSETH, Budhadeb NAYAK, Bhaskar SUNAMAJHI, Durjo SUNAMAJHI, and Bijay Kr SUNSETH.

Source: <https://cruxnow.com/church/2016/03/06/remembering-indias-christian-martyrs-should-be-a-church-priority/> , <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/Life-term-for-8-in-Lakshmanananda-murder-case/article11789067.ece> , <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Orissa-pogroms:-Catholics-in-prayer-ahead-of-final-hearing-for-7-innocent-Christians-36317.html>

Gornath CHALANSETH

Date and place of arrest: On 13th December 2008

Charges: Murder of the Hindu leader Laxamananda Saraswati

Statement of the defendant: He denies the charges, and Maoists have always claimed the responsibility of the murder.

Last court decision: On 1st October 2013, he was sentenced to life in prison by the district court of Phulbani in Orissa.

Other information: He was charged alongside Munda BADMAJHI, Sanatana BADMAJHI, Budhadeb NAYAK, Bhaskar SUNAMAJHI, Durjo SUNAMAJHI, and Bijay Kr SUNSETH.

Source: <https://cruxnow.com/church/2016/03/06/remembering-indias-christian-martyrs-should-be-a-church-priority/> , <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/Life-term-for-8-in-Lakshmanananda-murder-case/article11789067.ece> , <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Orissa-pogroms:-Catholics-in-prayer-ahead-of-final-hearing-for-7-innocent-Christians-36317.html>

DAVID

Place of residence: New Delhi

Date and place of arrest: On 4 December 2017

Charges: Carrying out a 'Forcible Conversion Campaign'

Article of the criminal/ civil/ administrative code: Indian Penal Code, section 295A (Deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs)

Last court decision: On 5th December, David was sentenced to fourteen days in judicial custody.

Place of detention: Local police station

Other information: Family members of those arrested claim that local people were upset because some individuals were converting to Christianity. This resulting in the seven pastors being attacked when holding a prayer meeting in a private home.

Source: <http://bit.ly/2A51tfc> , <http://bit.ly/2AF08Ne>

DINESH

Place of residence: Rajasthan

Date and place of arrest: On 4 December 2017

Charges: Carrying out a 'Forcible Conversion Campaign'

Article of the criminal/ civil/ administrative code: Indian Penal Code, section 295A (Deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs)

Last court decision: On 5th December, Dinesh was sentenced to fourteen days in judicial custody.

Place of detention: Local police station

Other information: Family members of those arrested claim that local people were upset because some individuals were converting to Christianity. This resulting in the seven pastors being attacked when holding a prayer meeting in a private home.

Source: <http://bit.ly/2A51tfc> , <http://bit.ly/2AF08Ne>

Akash GUNDIA + six others

Age: 15 years

Date and place of arrest: On 21st May 2017, in Ratlam

Place of detention: Juvenile Detention Center, Ratlam

Date of release: 20th June 2017

Other information: He was one of seventy-two children preparing to board a train in Ratlam on 21st May 2017 for a Vacation Bible School (VBS) camp in Nagpur before Ratlam Railway Police detained them and the eight adults supervising them. Six Christians taking the children to the camp were detained on charges of kidnapping and forced conversion. Although it has been reported that the police handed over to the parents their children, there is no precise information on the status of the other seventy-one children.

Source: <http://morningstarnews.org/2017/06/christians-taking-children-camp-india-charged-kidnapping-forced-conversion/>, <http://www.christianpost.com/news/6-christians-charged-forced-conversions-taking-72-children-vacation-bible-school-189757/>

GURUNDEEN

Age: 35 years

Date and place of arrest: On 27th June 2017, in Uttar Pradesh

Charges: Unlawful assembly

Article of criminal/ civil/ administrative code: Indian Penal Code Section 151 (knowingly joining or continuing in any assembly of five or more persons after being commanded to disperse).

Last court decision: On 5th July 2017, he was granted bail by Bahriach District's Second Class Judicial Magistrate Court.

Date of release: 5th July 2017

Other information: He was detained alongside Chote LAL, Ram NARESH, Gobrey NISHAD, Asha Ram SAHNI and Lal Bihari VERMA.

Source: <http://morningstarnews.org/2017/07/calling-worship-unlawful-assembly-police-uttar-pradesh-india-arrest-six-christians/>,
<http://www.gospelherald.com/articles/71170/20170725/police-india-arrest-six-christians-call-worship-unlawful-assembly.htm>

Stanley JACOB

Place of residence: Kerala

Date and place of arrest: On 4 December 2017

Charges: Carrying out a 'Forcible Conversion Campaign'

Article of the criminal/ civil/ administrative code: Indian Penal Code, section 295A (Deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs)

Last court decision: On 5th December, Stanley Jacob was sentenced to fourteen days in judicial custody.

Place of detention: Local police station

Other information: Family members of those arrested claim that local people were upset because some individuals were converting to Christianity. This resulting in the seven pastors being attacked when holding a prayer meeting in a private home.

Source: <http://bit.ly/2A51tfc> , <http://bit.ly/2AF08Ne>

Vijay KUMAR

Place of residence: Odisha

Date and place of arrest: On 4 December 2017

Charges: Carrying out a 'Forcible Conversion Campaign'

Article of the criminal/ civil/ administrative code: Indian Penal Code, section 295A (Deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs)

Last court decision: On 5th December, Vijay Kumar was sentenced to fourteen days in judicial custody.

Place of detention: Local police station

Other information: Family members of those arrested claim that local people were upset because some individuals were converting to Christianity. This resulting in the seven pastors being attacked when holding a prayer meeting in a private home.

Source: <http://bit.ly/2A51tfc> , <http://bit.ly/2AF08Ne>

Chote LAL

Age: 45 years

Date and place of arrest: On 27th June 2017, in Uttar Pradesh

Charges: Unlawful assembly

Article of criminal/ civil/ administrative code: Indian Penal Code Section 151 (knowingly joining or continuing in any assembly of five or more persons after being commanded to disperse).

Last court decision: On 5th July 2017, he was granted bail by Bahriach District's Second Class Judicial Magistrate Court.

Date of release: 5th July 2017

Other information: He was detained alongside GURUNDEEN, Ram NARESH, Gobrey NISHAD, Asha Ram SAHNI and Lal Bihari VERMA.

Source: <http://morningstarnews.org/2017/07/calling-worship-unlawful-assembly-police-uttar-pradesh-india-arrest-six-christians/>,
<http://www.gospelherald.com/articles/71170/20170725/police-india-arrest-six-christians-call-worship-unlawful-assembly.htm>

Ram NARESH

Age: 35 years

Date and place of arrest: On 27th June 2017, in Uttar Pradesh

Charges: Unlawful assembly

Article of criminal/ civil/ administrative code: Indian Penal Code Section 151 (knowingly joining or continuing in any assembly of five or more persons after being commanded to disperse).

Last court decision: On 5th July 2017, he was granted bail by Bahriach District's Second Class Judicial Magistrate Court.

Date of release: 5th July 2017

Other information: He was detained alongside GURUNDEEN, Chote LAL, Gobrey NISHAD, Asha Ram SAHNI and Lal Bihari VERMA.

Source: <http://morningstarnews.org/2017/07/calling-worship-unlawful-assembly-police-uttar-pradesh-india-arrest-six-christians/>,
<http://www.gospelherald.com/articles/71170/20170725/police-india-arrest-six-christians-call-worship-unlawful-assembly.htm>

Budhadeb NAYAK

Date and place of arrest: According to his wife, police took him away in the middle of the night when he was asleep.

Charges: Murder of the Hindu leader Laxamananda Saraswati

Statement of the defendant: He denies the charges, and Maoists have always claimed the responsibility of the murder.

Last court decision: On 1st October 2013, he was sentenced to life in prison by the district court of Phulbani in Orissa.

Other information: He was charged alongside Munda BADMAJHI, Sanatana BADMAJHI, Gornath CHALANSETH, Bhaskar SUNAMAJHI, Durjo SUNAMAJHI, and Bijay Kr SUNSETH.

Source: <https://cruxnow.com/church/2016/03/06/remembering-indias-christian-martyrs-should-be-a-church-priority/>, <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/Life-term-for-8-in-Lakshmanananda-murder-case/article11789067.ece>, <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Orissa-pogroms:-Catholics-in-prayer-ahead-of-final-hearing-for-7-innocent-Christians-36317.html>

Gobrey NISHAD

Age: 45 years

Date and place of arrest: On 27th June 2017, in Uttar Pradesh

Charges: Unlawful assembly

Article of criminal/ civil/ administrative code: Indian Penal Code Section 151 (knowingly joining or continuing in any assembly of five or more persons after being commanded to disperse).

Last court decision: On 5th July 2017, he was granted bail by Bahriach District's Second Class Judicial Magistrate Court.

Date of release: 5th July 2017

Other information: He was detained alongside GURUNDEEN, Ram NARESH, Chote LAL, Asha Ram SAHNI and Lal Bihari VERMA.

Source: <http://morningstarnews.org/2017/07/calling-worship-unlawful-assembly-police-uttar-pradesh-india-arrest-six-christians/>,
<http://www.gospelherald.com/articles/71170/20170725/police-india-arrest-six-christians-call-worship-unlawful-assembly.htm>

Pastor Asha Ram SAHNI

Age: 38 years

Date and place of arrest: On 27th June 2017, in Uttar Pradesh

Charges: Unlawful assembly

Article of criminal/ civil/ administrative code: Indian Penal Code Section 151 (knowingly joining or continuing in any assembly of five or more persons after being commanded to disperse).

Last court decision: On 5th July 2017, he was granted bail by Bahriach District's Second Class Judicial Magistrate Court.

Date of release: 5th July 2017

Other information: He was detained alongside GURUNDEEN, Ram NARESH, Gobrey NISHAD, Chote LAL and Lal Bihari VERMA.

Source: <http://morningstarnews.org/2017/07/calling-worship-unlawful-assembly-police-uttar-pradesh-india-arrest-six-christians/>,
<http://www.gospelherald.com/articles/71170/20170725/police-india-arrest-six-christians-call-worship-unlawful-assembly.htm>

Bhaskar SUNAMAJHI

Date and place of arrest: In Mid-December 2008, Sunamajhi was playing cards with friends when police told him to take money and clothing and go with them.

Charges: Murder of the Hindu leader Laxamananda Saraswati

Statement of the defendant: He denies the charges, and Maoists have always claimed the responsibility of the murder.

Last court decision: On 1st October 2013, he was sentenced to life in prison by the district court of Phulbani in Orissa.

Other information: He was charged alongside Munda BADMAJHI, Sanatana BADMAJHI, Gornath CHALANSETH, Budhadeb NAYAK, Durjo SUNAMAJHI, and Bijay Kr SUNSETH.

Source: <https://cruxnow.com/church/2016/03/06/remembering-indias-christian-martyrs-should-be-a-church-priority/> , <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/Life-term-for-8-in-Lakshmanananda-murder-case/article11789067.ece> , <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Orissa-pogroms:-Catholics-in-prayer-ahead-of-final-hearing-for-7-innocent-Christians-36317.html>

Durjo SUNAMAJHI

Date and place of arrest: In October 2008

Charges: Murder of the Hindu leader Laxamananda Saraswati.

Statement of the defendant: He denies the charges, and Maoists have always claimed the responsibility of the murder.

Last court decision: On 1st October 2013, he was sentenced to life in prison by the district court of Phulbani in Orissa.

Other information: He was charged alongside Munda BADMAJHI, Sanatana BADMAJHI, Gornath CHALANSETH, Budhadeb NAYAK, Bhaskar SUNAMAJHI, and Bijay Kr SUNSETH.

Source: <https://cruxnow.com/church/2016/03/06/remembering-indias-christian-martyrs-should-be-a-church-priority/> , <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/Life-term-for-8-in-Lakshmanananda-murder-case/article11789067.ece> , <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Orissa-pogroms:-Catholics-in-prayer-ahead-of-final-hearing-for-7-innocent-Christians-36317.html>

Bijay Kr SUNSETH

Date and place of arrest: On 13th December 2008

Charges: Murder of the Hindu leader Laxamananda Saraswati

Statement of the defendant: He denies the charges, and Maoists have always claimed the responsibility of the murder.

Last court decision: On 1st October 2013, he was sentenced to life in prison by the district court of Phulbani in Orissa.

Other information: He was charged alongside Munda BADMAJHI, Sanatana BADMAJHI, Gornath CHALANSETH, Budhadeb NAYAK, Bhaskar SUNAMAJHI, and Durjo SUNAMAJHI.

Source: <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Orissa:-seven-innocent-Christians-still-in-prison-after-four-years-26673.html> , <https://cruxnow.com/church/2016/03/06/remembering-indias-christian->

<https://www.portesouvertes.ch/pdf/prisonnier-e.pdf> , <http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/Life-term-for-8-in-Lakshmanananda-murder-case/article11789067.ece> , <http://www.asianews.it/news-en/Orissa-pogroms:-Catholics-in-prayer-ahead-of-final-hearing-for-7-innocent-Christians-36317.html>

Sumit VARGHESE

Place of residence: Hathras

Date and place of arrest: On 4 December 2017

Charges: Carrying out a 'Forcible Conversion Campaign'

Article of the criminal/ civil/ administrative code: Indian Penal Code, section 295A (Deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs)

Last court decision: On 5th December, Sumit Varghese was sentenced to fourteen days in judicial custody.

Place of detention: Local police station

Other information: Family members of those arrested claim that local people were upset because some individuals were converting to Christianity. This resulting in the seven pastors being attacked when holding a prayer meeting in a private home.

Source: <http://bit.ly/2A51tfc> , <http://bit.ly/2AF08Ne>

Lal Bihari VERMA

Age: 35 years

Date and place of arrest: On 27th June 2017, in Uttar Pradesh

Charges: Unlawful assembly

Article of criminal/ civil/ administrative code: Indian Penal Code Section 151 (knowingly joining or continuing in any assembly of five or more persons after being commanded to disperse).

Last court decision: On 5th July 2017, Lal Bihari Verma was granted bail by Bahriach District's Second Class Judicial Magistrate Court.

Date of release: 5th July 2017

Other information: He was detained alongside GURUNDEEN, Ram NARESH, Gobrey NISHAD, Chote LAL, and Asha Ram SAHNI.

Source: <http://morningstarnews.org/2017/07/calling-worship-unlawful-assembly-police-uttar-pradesh-india-arrest-six-christians/>, <http://www.gospelherald.com/articles/71170/20170725/police-india-arrest-six-christians-call-worship-unlawful-assembly.htm>

Muslims

Abdul QURESHI

Place of residence: Mumbai

Date and place of arrest: On 28th May 2016, in Mumbai

Charges: Hurting religious sentiment

Articles of criminal/ civil/ administrative code: Indian Penal Code, Section 295A (Deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs) and Section 153A (Promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion and doing acts prejudicial to maintenance of harmony).

Place of detention: Judicial custody, Bhopal

Other information: He was arrested alongside Ali SHEIKH. The two were charged for creating and sharing an image deemed to be insulting to the Goddess Kali on Facebook. A far-right group in Madhya Pradesh state threatened a backlash if the two were not arrested. They were arrested in Mumbai and sent to Madhya Pradesh to stand trial.

Source: <http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/two-held-in-mumbai-for-insulting-kali-on-facebook-2822828/> , <http://www.india.com/news/india/two-muslim-youths-from-mumbai-arrested-for-insulting-goddess-kali-in-facebook-1219941/>

Ali SHEIKH

Place of residence: Mumbai

Date and place of arrest: On 28th May 2016, in Mumbai

Charges: Hurting religious sentiment

Articles of criminal/ civil/ administrative code: Indian Penal Code, Section 295A (Deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs) and Section 153A (Promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion and doing acts prejudicial to maintenance of harmony).

Place of detention: Judicial custody, Bhopal

Other information: He was arrested alongside Abdul QURESHI. The two were charged for creating and sharing an image deemed to be insulting to the Goddess Kali on Facebook. A far-right group in Madhya Pradesh state threatened a backlash if the two were not arrested. They were arrested in Mumbai and sent to Madhya Pradesh to stand trial.

Source: <http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/two-held-in-mumbai-for-insulting-kali-on-facebook-2822828/> , <http://www.india.com/news/india/two-muslim-youths-from-mumbai-arrested-for-insulting-goddess-kali-in-facebook-1219941/>

Unknown Faith

Ajay CHAPRANA

Place of residence: Faridabad

Date and place of arrest: On 12th March 2017

Charges: Using inappropriate language, fanning communal hatred, making abusive comments against a community, and uploading the abusive video to various social media

Articles of criminal/civil/administrative codes: Sections 295A (deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings), 298 (uttering words, etc., with intent to wound religious feelings), 504 (intentional insult to provoke breach of peace) of the Indian Penal Code. Section 66A of the IT Act (using abusive language against a particular community with the intent to disturb communal peace and harmony)

Other information: He was arrested with Mukesh YADAV, Prakash DUBEY, and Nakul NAGAR. They allegedly hurt the sentiments of a community by uploading an objectionable video on WhatsApp which went viral on the messenger.

Source: <http://www.outlookindia.com/newscroll/4-arrested-for-uploading-objectionable-video-on-whatsapp/1005988> , <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ghaziabad/four-held-for-making-offensive-video-in-ghaziabad/articleshow/57609313.cms>

Prakash DUBEY

Place of residence: Faridabad

Date and place of arrest: On 12th March 2017

Charges: Using inappropriate language, fanning communal hatred, making abusive comments against a community, and uploading the abusive video to various social media

Articles of criminal/civil/administrative codes: Sections 295A (deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings), 298 (uttering words, etc., with intent to wound religious feelings), 504 (intentional insult to provoke breach of peace) of the Indian Penal Code. Section 66A of the IT Act (using abusive language against a particular community with the intent to disturb communal peace and harmony)

Other information: He was arrested with Mukesh YADAV, Ajay CHAPRANA, and Nakul NAGAR. They allegedly hurt the sentiments of a community by uploading an objectionable video on WhatsApp which went viral on the messenger.

Source: <http://www.outlookindia.com/newscroll/4-arrested-for-uploading-objectionable-video-on-whatsapp/1005988> , <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ghaziabad/four-held-for-making-offensive-video-in-ghaziabad/articleshow/57609313.cms>

Nakul NAGAR

Place of residence: MMG Hospital Campus, Kotwali, Ghazaibad

Date and place of arrest: On 12th March 2017

Charges: Using inappropriate language, fanning communal hatred, making abusive comments against a community, and uploading the abusive video to various social media

Articles of criminal/civil/administrative codes: Sections 295A (deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings), 298 (uttering words, etc., with intent to wound religious feelings), 504 (intentional insult to provoke breach of peace) of the Indian Penal Code. Section 66A of the IT Act (using abusive language against a particular community with the intent to disturb communal peace and harmony)

Other information: He was arrested with Mukesh YADAV, Prakash DUBEY, and Ajay CHAPRANA. They allegedly hurt the sentiments of a community by uploading an objectionable video on WhatsApp which went viral on the messenger.

Source: <http://www.outlookindia.com/newscroll/4-arrested-for-uploading-objectionable-video-on-whatsapp/1005988> , <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ghaziabad/four-held-for-making-offensive-video-in-ghaziabad/articleshow/57609313.cms>

Abdul RAZZAK (alias Badshah)

Date and place of arrest: On 20th January 2017 in the Ghazipur district

Charges: He allegedly posted and circulated morphed and objectionable photographs of Yogi Adityanath on his Facebook page and several WhatsApp groups, which went viral through the message.

Articles of criminal/civil/administrative code: Sections 499 (—Whoever, by words either spoken or intended to be read, or by signs or by visible representations, makes or publishes any imputation concerning any person intending to harm, or knowing or having reason to believe that such imputation will harm, the reputation of such person, is said, except in the cases hereinafter excepted, to defame that person.) and 295A (Deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs) of Indian Penal Code.

Source: <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/lucknow/youth-arrested-for-circulating-yogi-adityanaths-morphed-photographs/articleshow/57737911.cms>

Sunil WAGHMARE

Date and place of arrest: On 16th March 2017 in Khalapur

Charges: Outraging religious feelings or class by insulting religion or beliefs

Articles of criminal/civil/administrative codes: Section 295A of Indian Penal Code (referring to aggravated forms of insults to religion disrupting public order)

Date of release: On 20th March 2017 on bail

Other information: He allegedly questioned on social media why Chhatrapati Shivaji's birthday was celebrated twice a year in a comment on a WhatsApp group. Members of the group asked for an apology, which he was refused. He was attacked the next day on the university campus at which he is a professor by students, teachers, and locals, and was thereafter arrested.

Source: <http://indianexpress.com/article/india/chhatrapati-shivaji-post-controversy-professor-gets-bail-college-suspends-him-4578135/>

Mukesh YADAV

Place of residence: Faridabad

Date and place of arrest: On 12th March 2017

Charges: Using inappropriate language, fanning communal hatred, making abusive comments against a community, and uploading the abusive video to various social media

Articles of criminal/civil/administrative codes: Sections 295A (deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings), 298 (uttering words, etc., with intent to wound religious feelings), 504 (intentional insult to provoke breach of peace) of the Indian Penal Code. Section 66A of the IT Act (using abusive language against a particular community with the intent to disturb communal peace and harmony)

Other information: He was arrested with Ajay CHAPRANA, Prakash DUBEY, and Nakul NAGAR. They allegedly hurt the sentiments of a community by uploading an objectionable video on WhatsApp which went viral on the messenger.

Source: <http://www.outlookindia.com/newscroll/4-arrested-for-uploading-objectionable-video-on-whatsapp/1005988> , <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ghaziabad/four-held-for-making-offensive-video-in-ghaziabad/articleshow/57609313.cms>