

## INDIA

### Protestants

#### **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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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>

## **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 1<sup>st</sup> 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>

## **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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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:* <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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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. After two weeks of parole, Bijay was sent back to prison on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

*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-martyrs-should-be-a-church-priority/> , <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>