

# FACTS UNDER GROUND

*A fact-finding mission on nameless graves & mass graves in Uri area*

*A report by*

ASSOCIATION OF PARENTS OF DISAPPEARED PERSONS (APDP)

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## PREFACE

Since the German “Nacht und Nebel” and their industrial killing of Jews and Gypsies in the Holocaust, states institutionalized the practice of making people disappear --- for political, religious, ethnic, cultural or other motives. This has become an ‘efficient’ tool of war and repression. This practice of making people disappear is now known as *enforced disappearance*, which has now been recognized as a ‘crime against humanity’. Both genocide and crimes against humanity is often associated with the use of mass graves or nameless graves in order to conceal the crime and also prevent individual identification.

Over the past twenty years forensic experts have been contracted or subcontracted to investigate such mass graves by truth commissions, local courts and international tribunals, local and international human rights and family associations in more than forty countries across the globe.

Mass graves are present in Jammu and Kashmir too. The war of suppression unleashed in 1990 by the Indian occupation forces has produced an immense humanitarian crisis in Kashmir. A high unnatural death toll of more than 70,000 persons, primarily in the age group of 18-35, detention and torture of more than 60,000 persons, massacres, custodial killings, fake encounters, rape and molestations are some of the shocking results of this violent campaign of state terrorism carried by these occupation forces. We have tried to record and document some of this in our compilation “*State of Human Rights in Jammu and Kashmir 1990-2005; Srinagar, 2006*”. However, there is a mystery surrounding the fate of the 8 to 10 thousand persons who have been subjected to Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (EID) since 1990. While we don’t have clinching evidence, we believe that the some of the answers could perhaps lie buried in the so-called ‘unidentified’ graves strewn across J&K.

This report is in the nature of a survey of the graveyards in the frontier areas of Uri in Baramulla District, where special permission is to be sought from the District Magistrate and from the army headquarters for visiting such areas. This survey is an attempt to share our findings. For obvious reasons it was not possible for us to exhume the bodies or undertake any other scientific method of investigation. Nor was it possible for us to move around as freely as we would have preferred because the Indian security forces maintain a ubiquitous presence over our lives and movement. Nevertheless, despite these our survey provides accounts of villagers and their testimonies, which make a strong case for an independent international scientific investigation. We in APDP (Association of Parents of Disappeared Persons) are indebted to people who spoke to us knowing fully well that we neither offered them any protection for talking to us nor any guarantees that our demands would be met. This convinces us, yet again, that many a story of what befell our people at the hands of the Indian security forces remains to be told.

## INTRODUCTION

In 1991 people of Chandanwari (Baramulla) found 5 dead bodies lying on the river shore and took them for burial to the local graveyard. It was Friday; a person namely Ali Akbar Khan of the same village collected some donations in village for the burial. When he glanced at the dead bodies during the burial he found, to his horror, the body of his son Bashir Ahmad Khan, who had been picked up by the army a week before.

Since 1989 when mass resistance against Indian occupation in Kashmir erupted an estimated 8-10,000 persons have become victims of Enforced or Involuntary Disappearance (EID). According to the Association of Parents of Disappeared Persons (APDP) nearly two hundred thousand relatives of *desaparecidos* have been putting untiring efforts to ascertain the whereabouts of their missing ones. The state and the central Government claim that most of the persons have crossed over to Pakistan (i.e. 'Azad' Kashmir) to seek arms training. However the families of the missing as well as the APDP have contested the claim. Successive state governments of J&K have been making contradictory statements regarding the number of missing persons in the state. (See-ANEXURE 1)

In vast majority of cases of EID, people were detained during cordon and search operations locally called crackdowns. Some persons arrested were only male members of their families. The army, SOG and Government sponsored gunmen working with army have also been abducting people whose whereabouts remain unknown to this day. There are cases where non-combatant Kashmiris after detention have been killed in fake encounters at different places and then labeled as foreign militants. After the Chattisinghpura massacre, the Indian army killed five civilians passing them off as the 'foreign militants' responsible for the massacre of Sikhs. It was in 2005 that Association of Parents of Disappeared Persons (APDP) came to know about the widespread phenomenon of graves-with-no-names or unidentified graves at different places in Uri area.

Thereafter 38 documented cases including that of Abdul Rehman Padroo emerged, which showed how non-combatant Kashmiris were taken into custody, killed, labeled as foreign militants and then buried in graves with no names. The unraveling of Padroo case in January 2007 forced thousands of people, including the families of disappeared persons, to take to streets and protest against the phenomenon of EID. This lends weight to the stories circulating for years that unidentified graves may after all contain remains of thousands of missing civilians of Kashmir. (See -ANEXURE 2)

We met people claimed to have seen dead bodies being thrown into River Jehlum. In many cases police were informed about it but to no avail. Some of the dead bodies resurfaced when they got stuck on the river shore and were retrieved by the people who buried them in their village graveyards in order to avoid the desecration of dead bodies. We also met witnesses who have seen the army, with the help of police, burying the dead in different graveyards.

We decided to investigate this matter. A team of APDP visited the areas and conducted a survey of some of the places that contain nameless and mass graves. These places are: Zandifaran, Budmulla, Fatehgarh, Kichama, Gondabal Peerniyan, Chehal Bimyar, Boniyar, Trikanjan, Banali, Parro- Gagarhill, Chottali, NHPC Road, Brigade Head quarters Rampore, Gingal, Bijhama, Lachipora, Dashewara, Mayan, Charkote, Hatlonga LoC.

Most of these graveyards, according to the local community, were constituted by the inhabitants of these villages on the orders of Jammu and Kashmir Police. The total number of such graves according to our survey in three Tehsils of the frontier district Baramulla of J&K comes to 940 or nearly 1000. The Armed forces and Jammu Kashmir police claims that the slain persons buried in such cemeteries were unidentified foreign militants killed in the border areas while infiltrating across the line of control. Whereas many locals claimed that most of the persons buried in such graves are local Kashmiris.

### DEFINITION OF MASS GRAVE

According to Mark Skinner, "a mass grave contains many (at least half a dozen) individuals", while Mant is more modest regarding numbers: Two or more bodies in contact with each other suffice to define a mass grave. Haglund, Connor and Scott state "*Mass, of course, means a large quantity or aggregate, usually of considerable size*". United Nation Commission of Experts defines a mass grave as any site intended as a place of permanent internment from which the bodies are prevented from being moved by natural elements and which contains two or more bodies. A mass grave contains the remains of a group of individuals (meaning more than 1), who share "*common trait that justifies their assassination in the eyes of the perpetrator*". Schmitt defines mass graves originating from war crimes, genocide or crimes against humanity. They are clandestine graves implying secrecy and lack of knowledge; always somebody knows about their existence, even if unable to point out their exact geographical location.

## LIST OF SOME OF THE PLACES WITH NAMELESS GRAVES & MASS GRAVES

S. NO.	VILLAGE	GRAVEYARD DETAILS	TEHSIL
1.	Zandfaran, Budmulla & Fatehgarh	Around 15 bodies are believed to be buried in these villages.	Baramulla
2.	Kichama	The two Martyr Graveyards in the village contain around 235 dead bodies.	Baramulla
3.	Gondabal Peerniyar	Contains a grave of an unidentified. The dead body was recovered from Jehlum River.	Boniyar
4.	Chehal Bimvar	Around 203 unidentified persons are buried in this graveyard.	Boniyar
5.	Bonivar	Near Police station there are three graves containing 8 dead bodies.	Boniyar
6.	Trikanjan	Contains two graveyards with 8 and 6 nameless graves respectively.	Boniyar
7.	Banali	Contains 4 nameless graves.	Boniyar
8.	Parro-Gagar hill	Around 52 unidentified dead bodies have been buried on a hill called Gagar hill.	Boniyar
9.	Chottali	There are 10- 15 unidentified <b>graves</b>	Boniyar
10.	NHPC Road	NHPC road near forest 11 nameless graves.	Uri
11.	Brigade Headquarters Rampore	Contains 15 Graves of unidentified dead bodies.	Uri
12.	Gingal	Gingal, Uri Contains 8 unidentified dead bodies.	Uri
13.	Bijhama	200 unidentified dead bodies have been buried in the village graveyard.	Uri
14.	Lachipora	The Area is divided into two parts as Lachipora A and Lachipora B. Both parts contain around 1180 graves, among which around 50 are nameless.	Uri
15.	Dashewara	Contains Around 40 Graves, Mostly Of Unidentified Persons.	Uri
16.	Mayan	Contains 160 graves among which 22 are of unidentified persons.	Uri
17.	Gharkote	In this village once 16 dead bodies were buried in an adobe hut.	Uri
18.	Hathlonga - LoC	The village contains graves containing 21 unidentified dead bodies.	Uri

**The details of our survey undertaken between November 2006 and January 2008 are as follows:**

**FIRST PHASE**

In the first phase of the survey APDP team visited Zandfaran and Kichama villages. These graveyards were established in mid 90's after police started to hand over the dead bodies to the inhabitants of these villages for burial.

**ZANDFARAN (ZumZumPora), BUDMULLA & FATEHGARH**

Zandfaran village is 7 kms in the west of Baramulla, 1km away from Sheeri. In this village there are 6 nameless graves. In Budmulla there are 4 nameless graves. In Fatehgarh we found 4 unnamed graves.

**KICHAMA, SHEERI**

Kichama village is in the west of Baramulla, 1 ½ km away from Zandfaran. In the village Martyrs' Graveyard there are around 235 graves of unidentified persons. On visiting the village, the team met a number of youth who usually bury such dead bodies and perform their last rites. From their accounts it emerged that the graveyard had been established in 1994 when police and locals brought 5 dead bodies to the village claimed to be of militants by the security agencies.

One of the youth said, "We performed their last rituals and buried them in the land situated on the fringe of the hill near our village. We have buried around 250 un-named dead bodies in this graveyard. Out of them, 8-10 bodies are of the locals of Kichama village. These locals were killed in different encounters with the troops. Police and Army have been claiming that the dead bodies we buried in this graveyard were all unidentified foreign militants. These persons were claimed to be killed in the border areas of Uri while crossing the line of control."



*Kichama Martyr graveyard: around 235 unidentified persons are buried here*

According to their account most of the dead bodies were completely damaged and their identification was not possible, because the faces of the dead bodies were badly mutilated. "Once the bones of three persons were brought to the village. These persons (claimed as militants) were burnt to death and bodies charred in a house during an encounter with the troops at Baramulla. We put those bones in a single grave. The clothes worn on all the dead bodies were torn and the labels on them had been removed. We tied these clothes around tree trunks and on the nearby fence poles of the graveyard. Some Amulets were also recovered from these dead bodies. We also tied these amulets with the trees", added our informant.

We met Muhammad Yousuf Malik, National Conference Block president of the Kichama village and Sarpanch of the village who said, "We have buried around 225-250 unidentified dead bodies in the graveyard. Most of the dead bodies were of Kashmiri youth, but police constantly claimed that the dead bodies are of unidentified foreign militants.



We began to bury these dead bodies at a time when five militants were killed in Tangmarg on 4th May 1994. The dead bodies of these militants were brought to Baramulla by the army. The army then took these bodies to the jungle and they were about to cremate them. I received information regarding the dead bodies from one of my friends, who is a police official. I called SP (Superintendent Police) Baramulla on phone and requested him to bring the dead bodies to our village for burial as otherwise the army would cremate them. The SP received the dead bodies from the possession of Army and sent these to our village and we buried them in our village with reverence. These bodies were claimed to be the bodies of foreign militants (Afghanis) by the Army, but when we saw the dead bodies, they were of Kashmiri youth.”

He added, “Once, sometime in 1994, two dead bodies were dumped in the outskirts of our village. These bodies bore marks of brutal torture and were identified as that of Javaid Ahmad and Ghulam Rasool belonging to Srinagar. The duo had been arrested from a marriage ceremony. We buried both of them in our village, but after exhumation and identification of the bodies, their parents took the dead bodies to their native places”, added Muhammad Yousuf Malik..



*Another view of Nameless graves in Kichama.*

He further mentioned that the villagers are just performing this deed to ensure that dead are given proper burial. Things like shroud, stones and bricks etc, required for the burial of the dead bodies are purchased from the donations and monetary assistance of the villagers. “Once we recovered 1600 rupees from the pockets of two dead bodies, 500 from one body and 1100 from another. From that money we bought some spades and rakes for digging graves” Muhammad Yousuf Malik said.

“Many a times I was arrested and tortured by Army. Army frequently harassed me as they were accusing me for having affiliation with the militancy and for receiving Rs 35000 from Pakistan for every burial. Finally when the whole village was persecuted and harassed by the army, the villagers decided not to bury these unidentified dead bodies”, Said Muhammad Yousuf. Infact by year 2002 people stopped burying even their dead here because the graveyard was completely filled with dead bodies. Since then the dead bodies are buried in Chehal village.

“There are many other cemeteries in the jungle areas of Baramulla and Kupwara districts. At some places in the border areas, there are big ditches, where the dead bodies of alleged unidentified foreign militants are thrown. In the month of May 1994, around 90 militants were killed in the Lachipora, a village in the border area of Uri. The dead bodies of all these 90 militants were tossed into a big trench. A local resident of our village, who was accompanying those militants and had survived the attack, divulged the whole incident to us. In another similar incident around 70 persons were killed in the mountainous areas of Doodhipora, Handwara. All of them were also buried in a trench without disclosing their whereabouts” said Muhammad Yousuf Malik, sarpanch of Kichama village.

The villagers also claimed that there are hundred of other graveyards in the dense forests where unidentified persons have been buried. Some places are inaccessible as they are situated in the border areas.

Significantly, in a triple murder case of 1999 the dead bodies were exhumed from Kichama Martyr Graveyard. On 23rd June 1999, at about 7:45 p.m. Special Task Force (STF) personnel apprehended three young men riding on a scooter. The trios Ghulam Mohammad Mattoo, R/o Nawakadal, Javed Ahmed Shah, R/o Lal Bazar and Nazir Ahmed Gilkar, R/o Nowhatta, were returning from a marriage celebration. The trio was dragged to the police station in Soura and detained. Inside the police station, it is alleged that the SHO, Rashid Billa, along with his six accomplices tortured them ruthlessly, and later killed all of them.

Five days later the families were able to exhume the two dead bodies from Kichama Baramulla and bury them in their ancestral graveyards. The case was widely reported in the media creating pressure on the government to order inquiry. The accused were identified and the case went to the court of law. Eight years later, the case continues to stretch from one hearing to another, bringing no relief to the relatives of the deceased.

## SECOND PHASE

In the second phase of the survey the research team visited Chehal Bimyar and Peerniyan Gonadabal villages. In the Chehal village there is a graveyard where only unnamed dead bodies have been buried. So far nearly 203 dead bodies are laid to rest in this Chehal graveyard.

## PEERNIYAN GONDABAL

Peerniyan Gondabal is situated at a distance of 12 kms to the west of Baramulla. In the area opposite the Government Middle School at Gantamulla Balla and on the left side of the lower Jehlum Hydro Project Canal there is a grave of a girl buried there. The girl was found naked and her dead body recovered from Jehlum River 10 years back and then was buried at this place.



*One nameless grave of a girl, whose dead body was recovered from Jehlum River.*

## CHEHAL BIMYAR



*Nameless Graves at Chehal Bimyar Behind Boy's High School*

Chehal Bimyar is about 18kms to the north of Baramulla and is approximately 7kms away from Kichama. The village contains a martyr graveyard consisting of around 130 marked graves, in which 203 dead bodies are buried. It is situated on the periphery of the mountain near the Boys' High School Bimyar. The graveyard was established in the year 2003 and around 20 bodies have been exhumed and identified so far. Before the establishment of the graveyard the dead bodies were buried in Kichama village and when no space was left for burial there, the Police Authorities then decided to carry the dead bodies to this graveyard. However, even this land got filled with unidentified dead and now a day the



dead bodies are buried in the second layer of graveyard, because the first layer was crammed with the previous burials. Thus the first layer was filled with soil and the second layer is being used for entombment.

Atta Muhammad Khan, 65-year-old person, a local resident of the Bimyar village is the caretaker of this graveyard. He told us, "This cemetery was constituted in the year 2003 in our village. Before 2003, the dead bodies were taken to Kichama, Sheeri village and buried there. A police constable of our village was posted in the Kichama, Police station. When the graveyard of Kichama filled up he then suggested to his colleagues that there is some vacant land in our village where they can bury the dead bodies. On his suggestion police began bringing the dead bodies to our village for burial. The police usually claim that these dead bodies are of the foreign militants killed in frontier areas."

He added while talking to us that he had buried around 203 dead bodies in this graveyard, out of which no more than 10 were of foreign militants and remaining all were Kashmiris. There are around 203 dead bodies in this graveyard; many of the graves contain two or three dead bodies. Out of 203 dead bodies, 20 have been exhumed and identified so far. The exhumed bodies were being identified by their families. In this graveyard only six graves bear name plaques, which are:

1. Bashir Ahmad Dar, S/o: Ghulam Mohi-u-din, Jalshiri, Baramulla; killed on 25 July 2004.
2. Javaid Iqbal Khan, R/o: Alialpora Shopian; killed on 23 August 2003.
3. Farooq Ahamd Teli, S/o: Habib-ullah Teli, Alias Aarif Kashmir; killed on 2 October 2003.
4. Farooq Ahmad Sheikh, S/o: Abdul Ahad, Alias: Akash and Haris, R/o: Moza Kunzar Tangmarg.
5. Mohammad Altaf Beigh, S/o: Ghulam Qadir Beigh, Alias: Aabid, R/o: Gunstaan Sumbal; killed on 25 August 2003.
6. Farooq Ahamad Sofi S/o: Muhammad Akbar Sofi, R/o: Parigam, Pulwama; killed on 25 August 2003.



*Chehal graveyard with some identified graves*

When Bashir Ahmed Dar was being buried in 2004 as an unidentified militant along with five others, Atta Mohammad had no idea that the man watching from a few metres away was Dar's father Ghulam Mohi-u-Din. It took Mohi-u-Din two weeks to find out that his son had actually been buried in his presence as an unidentified militant. "My son had left home to fetch his wife from his in-laws' place, but never returned," said B.A.Dar's mother, Jana. "After searching for long, my husband found out what had befallen our son." The family from Jalshiri village about 10 km from the graveyard in Chehal acquired an exhumation order from the district authorities to identify Dar's body. "When I opened the grave, his (Dar's) family members identified the body quickly but asked me to let it rest there," says Atta Mohammad. Like most families who manage to find the body of a missing relative, Dar's family did not ask for compensation. Dar's grave is one of just seven graves at Chehal graveyard with a gravestone. The rest are just a mass of indistinguishable little mounds with no names.

"The above named persons were initially buried in the graveyard. Then their family members identified them by getting them exhumed. Whereas the other dead bodies in the graveyard remain nameless", said Atta Muhammad.



“These dead persons are really martyrs, because the exhumation of Javaid Iqbal Khan’s dead body was miraculous. After Javaid Iqbal’s dead body was identified by his parents, I again buried it in the same grave. But after five days, Javaid’s father came back to our village. He told me that he wants to take his son’s dead body to his native village Shopian. I refused him to do so by saying that this would not be fair and apt to exhume the dead body for second time, but he did not comply with me. He himself capriciously opened the grave. As soon as he opened the grave he found nothing in the grave except the shroud. There was also a stone situated in the wall of his grave and the stone was smudged with fresh blood. The shroud was placed in the same way as I had placed after the first exhumation. After finding nothing in the grave Javaid’s father changed his mind and refilled the grave and also abjured for his mistake. That was miracle and mystery, which I have seen by my eyes”, said Atta Muhammad Khan, caretaker of the graveyard while talking to us.



*Chehal martyr graveyard: nearly 203 unidentified dead bodies are buried here.*

He further adds that he also returned 10 to 15 dead bodies to Srinagar, 5 bodies to Baramulla and 1 body to Chandoosa after their identification. These dead bodies were taken by their family members and were buried in their respective native graveyards. “I am not being paid by any institution or organization for this work. I just do it out of religious conviction and generosity”, said Atta Muhammad.

He also told us that most of the dead bodies were brought by the police officials from Kreeri Pattan, Sopore, Tangmarg, Gulmarg, and Boniyar, Uri.

On 21<sup>st</sup> April 2005, 4 dead bodies were buried in Chehal. The dead bodies had been handed over to police by the army. Army claimed that they were foreign militants. Later all the four were identified as locals. Police took the photographs of the dead bodies and kept them in the Police Station, Uri.

A resident of Boniyar, after visiting police station recognized two photographs, which were of Mohammad Sidiq and Ashfaq Ahmad because both of them were from Baramulla area. However, two other dead bodies were identified by their families and were taken to respective places after exhumation.

The dead bodies were identified as Ashfaq Ahmad of Chandoosa, Mohammad Sidiq of Boniyar, Mohammad Rafiq of Chattabal, Srinagar and Feroz Ahmad Bhat of Basant Bagh, Srinagar.

Among the four slain, Ashfaq had withdrawn rupees 20000 from rural Bank to buy medicine for his shop in Chandoosa, whereas Mohammad Sidiq was selling vegetable at Batamaloo, Srinagar and had been picked up from Batamaloo by some Gypsy borne personnel on April 20, 2005.

On August 25, 2007, another four persons were killed and claimed to be foreigner militants but soon after the incident one of the deceased was identified to be a local person from Nadihal, Baramulla.

### THIRD PHASE

In the third phase the APDP team visited Boniyar, Trikanjan, Parro, Rampore, villages.

#### NHPC ROAD BONIYAR



NHPC HOARDING

*Mass graves on the NHPC roadside inside the fencing.*

NHPC (National Hydro Power Corporation) Boniyar is around 100 meters before Boniyar Market. On the left side of the Baraulla Uri road there are 11 nameless graves. The graves are nearly 50 feet away from the Hoarding NHPC inside the fencing of the forest.

#### BONIYAR, POLICE STATION



*Nameless graves near police station Boniyar containing 8 dead bodies.*

Boniyar is 21 kms west of Baramulla. On visiting the village we talked to some of the residents.

“In this village eight dead bodies had been buried in three graves near the Boniyar Police Station. The police with the help of local people buried these bodies in the year 2001. All the eight dead bodies were claimed to be the bodies of unidentified militants killed in an encounter in the jungle area. In the same village there are three more graves situated on main road. Six dead bodies are buried in these three graves each grave contains two dead bodies. The police claimed these dead bodies are of the unidentified foreign militants”, said one resident of the village.

#### TRIKANJAN

Trikanjan is a hill village 8 kms south of Boniyar. There are two small cemeteries lying opposite to each other on the two sides of the road. On one side of the road there are 8 unidentified dead bodies buried and on the other side of the road there are six buried in three graves.

#### BANALI

Banali village is 1 ½ kms from Trikanjan. Here we came across 4 nameless graves.

#### PARRO-GAGARHILL

Parro - Gagarhill falls inside the forest of Trikanjan village and is approximately 3kms away from Banali. In the area there is a place called Gagarhill. Here around 52 unidentified dead bodies have been buried between 1995-1997.

#### CHOTTALI

The Chottali village falls on the left side of Parro. There are more than 10 nameless graves.

#### BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS, RAMPORE

Village Rampore is 4 ½ kms from Boniyar. Inside the Rampore Army Brigade Headquarters there is a well where a number of dead bodies have been buried by the army between 1997-1998. There is a Deodar (Cedrus plant) plant under which there are about 15 graves.

#### GINGAL

Gingal is 9 kms to the north of Boniyar. On reaching the village we talked to locals regarding the presence of nameless graves. We were told that in this village there is a small graveyard containing eight nameless graves. These persons were killed sometime in June 1994. The bodies were brought here by the police. The police informed the villagers that the bodies were that of foreign militants who were killed in an encounter with the army on the line of control but police neither disclosed their identities nor nationalities.



#### FOURTH PHASE

In the fourth phase of the survey APDP team visited Bijhama, Lachipora, Mayan, etc. In these villages some more graveyards were found where unidentified dead bodies had been buried by the locals. Police used to collect the dead bodies from Army and other paramilitary forces and hand them over to the villagers for burial. The villages containing such graveyards are as follows:

#### BIJHAMA

Bijhama is 8 kms from Gingal and to the north of Boniyar. There are nearly 200 nameless graves in the local graveyard near the police station. The Army from time to time had handed over these dead bodies to the police, who handed them over to the locals for burial. The locals then buried them in their village graveyard. These dead were buried between 1995-2000.

We were told by residents that one Mohammad Sadiq Mir son of Hafizullah, a porter working with army, disappeared sometime in 1999. Then in the year 2002, four dead bodies were brought here and buried. All of them were claimed to be foreign militants later they were recognized as locals. The identity of one of the dead on exhumation was established to be of Mohammad Sadiq Mir of Bijhama.



*A View of police station Bijhama from the graveyard.*



*Nameless graves at Bijhama. Around 200 unidentified graves are here*



#### LACHIPORA:

Lachipora is a large village in the north of Baramulla. The village is 8 Kms from Bijhama and 105 kms from Srinagar and 2-½ hour's distance from Srinagar. The total population of the area is 6500 (3500 in Lachipora A and 3000 in Lachipora B). APDP team visited this area and conducted a survey of the graveyards, where nameless persons are buried. The village is divided into two parts, which we have named as Lachipora-A and Lachipora-B in order to differentiate locations of the graveyards. Lachipora-A contains around 170 graves of locals as well as of unidentified persons. These graves are situated in three different graveyards. Lachipora-B contains around 1010 graves of locals and of unidentified persons.

#### LACHIPORA-A

The population of Lachipora A is approximately 3500. Most part of the village is called Khan Mohalla, where three graveyards are located.

In Rawathpora village of Lachipora A, there are two graveyards facing each other lying on the two sides of the Lachipora road. At the beginning of the village the first graveyard is on the right side of the road containing nearly 70 graves, out of which many are nameless. The second graveyard is situated on the left side of the road and has about 50 graves of both locals and unidentified persons. In both the graveyards most of graves are without name plaques.



*Four nameless graves at Rawathpora.*

About 1 km from Rawathpora is another graveyard situated opposite to the mosque of Khan Mohalla. The place is called Munganaar. In this graveyard there are around 50 graves, of which 12 are nameless. In the year 2007 four dead bodies of unidentified persons were buried in this graveyard.



*Nameless graves at Munganaar.*

#### LACHIPORA-B

The Population of Lachipora B is nearly 3000. In the area there are 4 graveyards.

**Challadoori:** The village lies at the beginning of Lachipora B. Here lies the Shrine of Syed Jamaludin Sahab. In proximity to the shrine is a large graveyard containing around 800 graves, of which 14 are nameless. As per the locals name plaques were erected on some buried on the direction of the security forces claiming the dead to be foreign militants. The graveyard is spread over a few hundred meters. On one end of the graveyard is Khan Mohalla and on the other is Wateera village. The graveyard is spread between these two villages. In the year 2007 eight dead unidentified bodies were buried in this graveyard. Troops claimed to have killed them while they were crossing LoC.



*Graveyard in the vicinity of the shrine of Syed Jamaludin challadoori.*



*Nameless graves in the Martyr graveyard Challadoori.*

**Chakipora:** The village contains 2 graveyards situated on the two sides of road, facing each other. One contains around 100 graves and the other contains around 60 graves, (Both identified and unidentified).



*Chakipora martyr graveyard with nameless graves*



**Daznapayan:** The village contains 20 graves of which 4 are nameless.



*Nameless graves in Daznapayan.*

**Mukhloor:** The village contains 30 graves of which a few are nameless.



*Nameless graves in Mukhloor village.*

#### DASHEWARA

Dashewara is about 2kms from Wateera village. The village contains a graveyard with approximately 40 graves mostly of unidentified persons, whom army claimed to have killed in different encounters. The police handed over these dead bodies to locals for burial.

#### MAYAN

Mayan is about 3kms from Lachipora and 2kms from LoC (Line of Control) with a population of about 2600. There are two villages in the Mayan area:

**Braripora:** This village situated in Mayan area has a population of about 1000. There is a martyr graveyard near the army camp with nearly 100 graves, out of which 8 are unidentified.



*A Place with Nameless graves at Braripora*

**Muqampeera:** is around 2kms from Braripora with a population of nearly 1600. There is a graveyard with about 60 graves of which 14 are unidentified. The graveyard is situated near the Baba Gafoor Sahib Shrine.



*Nameless graves in Muqampeera near  
Baba Gafoor Sahib Shrine*



*Another view of Nameless graves near Baba  
Gafoor Sahib Shrine.*

#### GHARKOTE

In Gharkote village of Tehsil Uri, locals believe that 16 dead bodies were buried in an adobe hut by the troops in 90's.

#### HATLONGA URI

In this village about 21 unidentified dead bodies have been buried in the village graveyard and at other places. It is believed by the locals that a decade ago 8 militants killed in an adobe hut mortar shelling by the troops and they were buried in that very hut.



## GLOBAL PRACTICE ON THE ISSUE OF NAMELESS GRAVES & MASS GRAVES

In Argentina National Commission Of Disappearance of People was appointed to probe into the disappearance of 9000 people during Argentina's "*Dirty war*". Plaza de Mayo sought the help of American association for advancement of science and thereafter-Argentine Forensic Anthropology (EAAF) team was established in 1986. EAAF has been working in 30 different countries including East Timor, Ivory coast and Sierra Leone. In countries where nameless graves and mass graves exist with the help of international forensic anthropologist working on the mass graves, local organizations have come up. The Boston based Physician for Human Rights (PHR), since 1990's have played an increasingly important role in the excavation of mass graves as part of human rights investigations and have carried out forensic investigation in different conflict areas.

### **The International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP)**

One of the entities to which ICTY (International Criminal Tribunal on Yugoslavia) releases human remains is The International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP), which was established at the G-7 summit in Lyon in 1996 as a mission to the conflicts of the former Yugoslavia 1991 – 1995. In 1999 the mission was expanded to the Kosovo conflict, in 2001 to the Macedonia crisis, and in 2003 to the present situation in Iraq. From 1996-97 onwards, local commissions in the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina and the Republic of Srpska began the so-called Joint Exhumation Process, exhuming mortal remains buried on each other's territory. Most other regions of former Yugoslavia are now taking part in the project. In 2001, the ICMP took over the co-ordination of the Joint Exhumation Process from the Office of the High Representatives.

The main objective of the ICMP is

*“ To secure the co-operation of the Governments and other authorities in location and identifying persons missing as a result of armed conflicts, other hostilities or violations of human rights and to assist them in doing so ”*

Now ICMP has become the world leader in this field. Since 90's mass graves have been investigated in countries like:

- Ø El Salvador -El Mozote massacre in 1992.
- Ø Iraqi Kurdistan and Iraq - mass graves flow in Iraq – Spring 2004),
- Ø Former Yugoslavia {Slovenia, Croatia - Ovcará grave, Bosnia Herzegovina, Kosovo - ICTY conducted exhumation 1999 and 2000, Sarajevo and Srebrenica - ICTY conducted mass grave investigation relating to Srebrenica massacre from 1996-2001}.
- Ø Rwanda (Kibuye and Kigali mass graves in 1996).}

Human Rights mass grave investigations have contributed significantly to the success of national as well as international truth Commissions, human rights courts, criminal courts and tribunals throughout the world. Some institutions pursue either truth *or* justice; others pursue both truth *and* justice – and this accounts even for recent truth commissions. Consequently, mass grave investigations by human rights groups have contributed considerably to both.

In the context of violent conflicts and the resultant massive human right abuses by state agents, the success of such institutions is paramount to the societal rebuilding process. At the societal level they promote the establishment of democratic institutions to provide safety and security for reconciliation processes as and when it begins. We believe that the contribution of mass grave forensic investigation teams have been most notable in cases where a systematic, long term and large scale strategy has been applied for meeting the ends of justice. The field is rapidly growing, and forensic anthropology and archeology are to an increasing degree being incorporated into international crisis and conflict management strategies – notably by United Nations.

Mass grave investigation teams of human rights groups have in general pursued three major purposes: humanitarian, legal and historical. Establishing a historical record – the factual truth of what happened and in which sequence, at a specific location and at a specific point in time – is paramount to pursuing the legal and historical purposes and important also to reaching the humanitarian purpose of identifying victims. Archeologist's unique contribution lies in the panoply of methods archaeologists apply to establish the historical record from features in the ground and earth found objects. Guiding these methods is the paradigm that human behavior is patterned and leaves behind a physical record that is also patterned in a way that is consistent with the behavior that produced it. Thus, the work of archaeologists must be characterized as a valuable contribution to any mass grave forensic investigation team.

## CONCLUSION AND DEMANDS

In the light of our survey certain issues stand out starkly. Foremost among them is to identify these so called nameless graves and mass graves. Who were they? Is there any way to identify them? How did they die? These are normal queries on encountering unidentified/nameless graves. Apart from this there are other pressing concerns which guided our survey.

Starting 1998 the APDP (Association of Parents of Disappeared Persons) has been demanding from the Indian state an independent judicial commission of inquiry to look into the phenomenon of EID (Enforce or Involuntary Disappearances) and to let the families of the disappeared know what befell their kith and kin. In 2002 During State Assembly Elections held under Indian occupation in J&K, People's Democratic Party (PDP) in their election manifesto promised to setup a commission of inquiry if they were voted to form the government. They came to power in a coalition formed with the Congress party in November 2002 but promises remained unfulfilled. Subsequently, with the help of friends in New Delhi (India) we took up the matter and lobbied with the Government of India in November 2005, once again to no avail. Thus as a decade long demand has remained unmet while kith and kin of the disappeared are still searching for their near and dear ones the issue has not been addressed.

Now that the phenomenon of unidentified graves has surfaced it offers us some hope that the disappeared might be buried in these unnamed graves. In view of the callous indifference displayed by the Government of India and the government of Jammu and Kashmir on this matter of great concern we believe that time has come to turn to the international fora. Considering also that EAAF (Argentine forensic anthropology) and ICMP (International Commission on Missing Persons) have the necessary skills and expertise to carry out a scientific excavation and establish the truth or otherwise of the claim being made by us and because friends and families of the disappeared have the right to know what happened to their near and dear ones, we therefore impress upon EAAF and ICMP to consider our request to take up this investigation.

## ANEXURE 1

### **Contradictory statements made by governments from time to time in the legislative assembly regarding the missing persons.**

NAME OF THE MINISTER	POLITICAL PARTY	PORTFOLIO	ACKNOWLEDGED	DATE
Khalid Najeab Soharwardy	National Conference	Home Minister	3,184 disappearances since 1989 to July 2002	18 July 2002
Mufti Mohammad Sayed	People's Democratic Party (PDP)	Chief Minister	During 2000, 2001 and 2002. Mufti informed the State Assembly in Jammu that "3744 persons disappeared in between 2000 to 2002. 1,553 persons got disappeared in 2000. 1586 went missing in 2001 and 605 in 2002".	25 Feb 2003
Muzaffer Beig	People's Democratic Party (PDP)	Law Minister	Since December 1992- March 2003; 3,744 disappeared of whom 135 have been declared dead up to June 2002.	25 March 2003
Mufti Mohammad Sayed	People's Democratic Party (PDP)	Chief Minister	Only 60 disappeared since the inception of militancy in the state. These figures were provided during the joint press conference of PM and CM at Srinagar Air Port	April 2003
Mufti Mohammad Sayed	People's Democratic Party (PDP)	Chief Minister	3, 744 persons were reported missing from 1990 till December 31-2002.	11 June 2003
Abdul Rehman Veeri	People's Democratic Party (PDP)	Minister of State for Home	3,931 disappeared since 1989 to June 2003	June 21- 2003
Bhim Singh	Panthers Party		4000 disappeared are lodged in Jammu jails	October 7 – 2004
Ghulam Nabi Azad	Congress	Chief Minister	Total of 693 disappearances registered	Question hour session of the J&K state assembly Feb- March 2006 at Jammu
Ghulam Nabi Azad	Congress	Chief Minister	Between 1-1-2004 and 15 -2-2006 4 cases of disappearances were recorded	Question hour session of the J and K state assembly Feb- March 2006 at Jammu
Muzaffer Beig	People's Democratic Party (PDP)	Deputy Chief Minister	60 cases of disappearances during National Conference 6 year rule	Aug 1 – 2006 State Assemble

Ghulam Nabi Azad	Congress	Chief Minister	12 cases of custodial disappearances from 2003 to July 28 – 2006	Aug 2 – 2006 State Assembly
Ghulam Nabi Azad	Congress	Chief Minister	33 custodial disappearances from 1990 – 1996	Aug 4 – 2006 State Assembly
Ghulam Nabi Azad	Congress	Chief Minister	From 1995 to 2002, 60 custodial disappearance	Aug 5 – 2006 State Assembly
Ghulam Nabi Azad	Congress	Chief Minister	15 from 2003-2006	Aug 5 – 2006 State Assembly
Ghulam Nabi Azad	Congress	Chief Minister	1 case of custodial disappearance since 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov 2005 to August 5 - 2006	Aug 5 – 2006 State Assembly
Ghulam Nabi Azad	Congress	Chief Minister	33 and 60 custodial disappearances in governor's rule and NC regime and during coalition rule 15	Aug 6 – 2006 State Assembly
Mangat Ram Sharma	Congress	Health Minister	108 cases of custodial disappearances have been registered since 1990	Oct 28 –2006 (In a programme organized by BBC radio on disappearances)
Ghulam Nabi Azad	Congress	Chief Minister	Only 1 custodial disappearance during one year rule of coalition regime led by Congress (2 Nov 2005 to 2 Nov 2006)	Nov 2-2006: CM admitted it while addressing a public gathering at Dal Bungalow, Rajouri
			1017 youth are missing since 1990 a survey conducted by the state government reveals. In Baramulla 433 – 153 in Anantnag.	January 22 –2007 – the state govt. admitted in state legislative assembly – Jammu
Taj Mohi-ud-Din	PDP	Consumer Minister	111 cases have been reported since 1990. "Between the period of 1990 to October 1996, 33 reports of persons going missing in custody were received while 56 persons disappeared in custody from 1996 to November 2002. From November 2002 to this time, 22 persons have disappeared in the custody of security forces	On Sep 1, 2007: In the State Legislative Assembly.



Ghulam Nabi Azad	Congress	Chief Minister	No case of custodial disappearance reported in the year 2007.	Nov 7 – 2007 in Jammu: The CM said at a function organized to distribute orders for conferment of ownership rights of state land to farmers of Jammu. (Courtesy – KT)
Ghulam Nabi Azad	Congress	Chief Minister	No case of custodial disappearances in 2007 According to CM there was a time 'when 17 and 18 custodial disappearance would occur in a year.'	Feb 1 – 2008: The CM said while talking to the media in his Secretariat office.

## **ANEXURE 2**

### **List of Disappeared persons killed by the paramilitary forces and labeled as foreign militants**

<b>S. NO.</b>	<b>NAME OF VICTIM</b>	<b>DISAPPEARED ON</b>	<b>DETAILS</b>
1.	Abdul Hameed Badyari s/o Ali Mohammad Badyari R/o Boat colony Bemina	21 Jan 2000	Was arrested by the Indian security forces and subsequently killed at Waligham Kupwara Taharatpora  Petition in the High Court for exhuming the body.
2.	Shabir Ahmad Ghasi S/o Ghulam Nabi Ghasi R/o Boat Colony, Bemina	21 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2000	Arrested by the STF (Special Task Force Of J&K Police) and later killed at Waligham Kupwara Taharatpora  Petition in the High Court for exhuming of the body
3.	Aashiq Rasool Bhat ( a student) S/o Ghulam Rasool Bhat Ganderbal	13 March 2000	FIR No. 63 / 2000 The 19 RR of Indian army claimed that they have killed three foreign militants in an encounter. <i>Case pending in high court for directing the police for completing investigation and prosecution.</i> <i>Body exhumed, identified as local.</i>
4. 5. 6. 7. 8.	Zahoor Ahmed Dalal of Mominabad, Mohammad Yousuf Malik of Kokernag, Bashir Ahmed Bhat of Kapran Dooru Juma Khan (son of Faqeer Khan) and Juma Khan (son of Sher Ali Khan) of Brari Angan	25 March, 2000	The Army officials, then attached with 7 Rashtriya Rifles (RR), had allegedly killed the five civilians - Zahoor Ahmed Dalal of Mominabad, Mohammad Yousuf Malik of Kokernag, Bashir Ahmed Bhat of Kapran Dooru, Juma Khan (son of Faqeer Khan) and Juma Khan (son of Sher Ali Khan) of Brari Angan allegedly in a fake encounter. They were later dubbed as foreign militants responsible for killing 36 Sikhs at Chattisinghpura village in Anantnag district on March 20, 2000  <i>The murder case has been filed before CJM court against 5 army officials. Accused have not been arrested so far, but they have contested the prosecution. Since no sanctions have been granted by the Indian government under AFSPA (Armed Forces Special Powers Act) the accused could not be tried.</i>  <i>Bodies Exhumed, identified as locals</i>
9.	Latief Ahmad Ganie s/o Ghulam Mohammad Ganie r/o Machama, Bererwah, Budgam	24 September 2001	FIR No 103/ 2001 PS Kangan by 33 RR claims that they have eliminated two foreign militants in an encounter at village Hari Ganoon <i>The High Court directed the police to conduct investigation but no investigation has been initiated.</i>

			<i>Body exhumed, identified as local.</i>
10.	Bashir Ahmad Khan s/o Mumta Khan r/o Chaunti Mohallah Bandipora	24 September 2001	FIR No 103/ 2001 PS Kangan by 33 RR claiming that they have eliminated two foreign militants in an encounter at village Hari Ganoon  <i>Body exhumed, identified as local.</i>
11.	Farooq Ahmad Khan S/o Wali Mohammad Khan R/o Kupwara	24-08-03	18 RR claimed that they have killed a foreign militant. Body exhumed on 11 April 2005 identified as local. DNA test still awaited. The case is pending before the division bench of J&K High Court. Investigation not yet completed by the police.
12.	Syed Yaseen Shah S/o Mohammad Yaseen Shah ( <i>Imam</i> ) R/o Kupwara	March 2004	18 RR at Lolab claimed that they have killed two foreigners as Abu Fazil and Jaffar Ali.  <i>Body exhumed, identified as local.</i>
13.	Mohammad Anwar Shah son of Mohammad Ayub Shah ( <i>Imam</i> ) R/o Kupwara	March 2004	18 RR at Lolab claimed that they have killed two foreigners as Abu Fazil and Jaffar Ali.  <i>Body exhumed, identified as local.</i>
14.	Ghulam Mohammad Naik S/o Habibullah Naik R/O Bahbi Jahlan village in Noorabad, Qazigund	6 July 2004	9 RR Dhanev Camp claimed that they had killed a foreign militant on 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2004.  <i>Body exhumed, identified as local.</i>
15.	Abdul Rashid Kutay R/O Bahbi Jahlan village in Noorabad, Qazigund	6 July 2004	9 RR Dhanev Camp Camp claimed that they had killed a foreign militant on 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2004. <i>Body exhumed, identified as local.</i>
16.	Ghulam Mohd Chopan S/o Lassa Chopan R/o Badgam, Doligam, Banihal	24 February 2004	17 RR in their FIR claimed that they had killed a foreign militant of LeT on 27 Feb 2004.  <i>On March 5<sup>th</sup> 2004, body exhumed on the order of District Magistrate Doda and identified as local.</i>
17.	Name not ascertained		The director general BSF ordered an enquiry against Commandant Narendra Singh on the allegation of Subhan Rathore of 42 BN that a Kashmir youth was killed by the commandant and labeled him as a Pakistani militant.
18.	Bhushan Kumar	April 20 – 2004	The deceased were porters with the army and were killed by Rashtriya Rifles in Lolab just to get gallantry awards. All the deceased were dubbed as foreign militants. This incident of fake encounter finally gets media coverage on 29 <sup>th</sup> of August 2005 (after a year and 4 months) when a soldier from the same unit revealed the story in an anonymous letter written to the victim's parents. In this connection army were accused of killing their own officer 'Major Kholi', who was threatening the perpetrators that he will expose them.
19.	Satpal of Chatha		
20.	Ram Lal		
21.	Ashok Kumar		
22.	Abdur Rahman Padder, 35, S/o Ghulam Rasool Padder R/o Larnoo, Kokernag	Jan 28 2007	A carpenter Abdur Rahman Padder, 35, son of Ghulam Rasool Padder of Larnoo, Kokernag, went missing from Batamaloo bus stand Srinagar on December 8 – 2006 Police said on Jan 28- 2007 that he was killed by Special Operation Group (SOG) in fake encounter and dubbed him as foreign militant of Lashker-e-Toiba. <i>His dead body was exhumed from Batmohalla, Sumbal.</i> The SSP & DSP were attached.
23	Ghulam Nabi Wani (Con) – Even acknowledged by the govt. in Jan 29 –07	March 2 – 2006	March 2 – 2006: He was selling goods at Lal Chowk, Srinagar near Bisco School. A missing report was lodged in Kothi Bagh police station. Later he was killed in fake encounter and labeled as a "foreign militant" <i>His dead body was exhumed From Ajas, Bandipora.</i>

24.	Showkat Ahmad Kataria S/o: Noor Aalam R/o: Nowkote Doligam Baihal arrested from Masjid Aalamgari Bazar Srinagar where he was performing the job of an Imam (priest)	15 Oct - 2006	He was Arrested from Masjid (Mosque) Aalamgari Bazar, Srinagar where he was performing the job of local Imam (Priest)  <i>Body Exhumed on 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2007 from Bazipora, Bandipora; identified as local.</i>
25.	Ali Mohammad Padder S/o Ghulam Ahmad Padder R/o Matigawran, Kokernag	7 March 2006	He was arrested when he was on his way to Jammu and later killed in fake encounter in Ganderbal by Special Operation Group of J&K Police and 24 RR of Indian army in the intervening night of March 7 and 8, 2006. <i>Body exhumed on Feb. 3, 2007 from Batmohalla, Sumbal, identified as Local civilian.</i>
26.	Nazir Ahmad Deka S/o Abdul Rehman Deka R/o Daksum, Kokernag	16 Feb 2006	He was arrested from Lal Chowk where he was selling perfumes as a street vendor. Body exhumed from Ganderbal on 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb. 2007 identified as local civilian.
27.	Habibullah Naik (50) son of Abdul Jabbar  R/o Devar Kupwara	Jan 30 - 2000	Habibullah Naik (50) son of Abdul Jabbar and Sams-ud-din War (28) son of Haleem of Diver Lolab were arrested by troops of 18 Rashtriya Rifles on December 17, 1999. Three days later, troops denied the arrest. The families say they met the duo in the army camp after their detention. “They were not tortured when we met them two days after the arrest,” the families alleged. He was branded as foreign militant killed in an encounter. <i>Family demands the exhumation</i>
28.	Sams-ud-din War (28) son of Haleem of Diver Lolab	Jan 30 - 2000	Habibullah Naik (50) son of Abdul Jabbar and Sams-ud-din War (28) son of Haleem of Diver Lolab were arrested by troops of 18 Rashtriya Rifles on December 17, 1999. Three days later troops denied the arrest. The families say they met the duo in the army camp after their detention. “They were not tortured when we met them two days after the arrest”, alleged families. He was branded as a foreign militant killed in an encounter. <i>Family demands the exhumation</i>
29.	Manzoor Ahmad Mir s/o Ghulam Mohammad Mir R/o Delina, Baramulla	7 September 2003	Body exhumed from Delina, Baramulla (At the time of his arrest there was an army camp at the place) on July 7 - 2006 the dead body was identified to be of Manzoor Ahmad.
30.  31.	Mohammad Yaqob Bhat, 30, a fruit merchant s/o Abdul Aziz Bhat r/o Lori, Imam Sahib, Shopian Mudasir Ahmad Rather, 18, Student of Islamic s/o Ghulam Ahmad r/o Halowpora Shopian	11 Dec 2005  Year 2004	Yaqoob disappeared mysteriously. He had gone to Mumbai with a fruit truck. On 11 December 2005 he made his last call from Mumbai and talked to his family. Mudasir was pursuing his education in Gujarat, where he disappeared mysteriously. On 17 March 2006, Gujarat police claimed that four persons killed in Vatva locality in Gujarat were militants from Pakistan. <i>Bodies exhumed identified as Kashmiri locals and brought back to valley on 20 March 2006.</i>
32. 33. 34.	Mohd Aziz son of Sher Mohd, Mohd Aziz son of Mohd Din Mohd Yusuf son of Raj Mohd All resident of: Kot Dhara, Rajouri	October 1997	Three bodies allegedly buried at no man's land on Line of Control (LoC) at Peer Badesar. All of the three were allegedly killed in fake encounter and branded as foreign militants. On 19 <sup>th</sup> June 2007, skeleton of one of the victims Mohd Yousuf, which was identified by his wife, was recovered after excavation of the portion where the trios were buried. The site was dug by the police in presence of a Magistrate and Board of Doctors after receiving a written complaint from Mohd Farooq that his father had allegedly

			<p>been killed and buried near LoC at Peer Badesar in 1997.</p> <p>The brother of Yusuf said all the three were informers to the army and they supplied narcotics to the colonel, which he smuggled out to other states of India. Before the camp gets transferred from the area, the colonel, for fear of exposure, killed them in fake encounter.</p> <p><i>Skeleton of Yusuf exhumed and sent for DNA test.</i></p>
35.	1. Reyaz Ahmad Bhat, 18 son of Mohammad Ismail Bhat R/o Kalaishpora, Srinagar	April 29, 2007	<p>Army claimed it had killed four militants of LeT on April 30, 2007. The army claim was contested by one of the families of the killed persons who accused army of killing their kin in fake encounter and later passed him off as a Pakistani militant.</p> <p>Family of Reyaz Ahmad Bhat was the first family who contested the army claim. The family alleged that he was missing from 25 April 2007.</p> <p>The family has discovered his grave in martyr's graveyard Kandi Kupwara and identified him from photographs of the bodies available with the police.</p> <p>Mohammad Ismail Bhat, an elderly person and a cancer patient hailing from downtown locality of Kalaishpora demands a probe into his son's killing.</p> <p><i>Bodies of Sartaj and Manzoor were exhumed, identified as locals.</i></p>
36.	2. Manzoor Ahmad Wagay S/o Lassa Wagay R/o Letar, Pulwama		
37.	3. Sartaj Ahmad Ganie S/o Ghulam Qadir R/o Tikipora, Shopian		
38.	4. Identity Not ascertained		