

Darfur atrocities file prepared

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ethnic Sudan
The Chief prosecutor at the International Criminal Court says it has documented the massacre and rape of thousands of civilians in Darfur.

Investigators found evidence of ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity in the war-torn Sudanese province, Luis Moreno Ocampo said in a report submitted to the U.N. Security Council.

Singled out

According to witnesses, three ethnic groups – the relatively dark-skinned Fur, Massalit and Zaghawa – have been singled out by forces loyal to the Khar-

HD 19
toun Government. The report said: "In most of the incidents ... there are eyewitness accounts that the perpetrators made statements reinforcing the targeted nature of the attacks, such as 'We will kill all the black' and 'We will drive you out of this land'."

Tribes in the western province rebelled in 2003, provoking a crackdown by the Sudanese military and a pro-government Arab militia known as the Janjaweed.

Two million persons have been displaced and more than 180,000 killed.

After an investigation last year, the U.N. Security Council instructed the international

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criminal court to prosecute those responsible.

Mr. Moreno Ocampo said his investigators had details of thousands of civilian deaths, hundreds of alleged rapes and several massacres.

He said the Sudanese authorities had not prosecuted alleged perpetrators, and the ICC had a duty to do so. Investigators would focus on several massacres and then press charges. Khartoum was cooperating with his team, he added.

Sudan's Ambassador to the U.N., Elfatih Mohamed Ahmed Erwa, told reporters his country had convicted many people for crimes in Darfur. — ©Guardian Newspapers Limited 2006

THE HINDS

Doda massacre part of ethnic cleansing: BJP

UPA "soft policies" blamed for terrorism

Special Correspondent

NEW DELHI: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Monday charged the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) Government with adopting "soft policies" towards terrorists and terrorism, a cause identified by it as leading to the Doda massacre. The party said terrorists were trying to carry out ethnic cleansing, just as they did in the Valley when Kashmiri Pundits were driven out.

This point was made by party spokesperson Prakash Javadekar here as well as leader of the Opposition L.K. Advani, who stopped at Neemuch in Madhya Pradesh in the course of his "yatra." Mr. Advani's statement was released to the press here.

The party condemned the killing of innocent people in Doda and the violence in Vadodara. Mr. Javadekar said government officials, municipal corporation authorities and the police had talked to leaders of both the Hindu and Muslim communities in Vadodara and it was agreed that "20 small temples and 3 dargahs" that had encroached on public land would be demolished to make way for roads. The clashes occurred when one of the dargahs was being pulled down, he added.

The party's view was that the steps to demolish the religious

structures were taken only after an agreement was reached. This was not a communal issue but one that related to protecting government land and the need for amenities such as roads.

Union Home Minister Shivraj Patil will visit Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday to make an on the spot assessment of the situation there in the aftermath of the massacre of 22 civilians. Mr. Patil will be accompanied by Home Secretary V.K. Duggal and senior officials from the Home and Defence Ministries, a Home Ministry spokesman said here on Monday. The Minister will also visit those injured in hospital.

"Barbaric"

The Asian Centre for Human Rights (ACHR) on Monday condemned the massacre of 22 civilians in Jammu's Doda district.

In a statement, the ACHR said: "The barbaric and senseless killing is a crime against humanity and an attempt to undermine democratic processes like the conduct of elections and the Prime Minister's parleys with the moderate Hurriyat Conference." It urged the Central Government to take appropriate measures to bring the culprits to book.

Rajouri Hindus told to be alert at night

ANAND BODH
JAMMU, MAY 2

AN ALERT has been sounded in Rajouri district bordering Udhampur and Doda where 32 Hindus were killed by militants on Sunday. In the past, Rajouri has witnessed several killing of Hindus, a minority in J-K.

Police have asked Hindus residing in the upper reaches to be more vigilant. They have been told not to open their doors at night, while the Army, the Special Operations Group and the police have been instructed not to conduct any search operation during night hours.

"This is to prevent militants from entering houses in the garb of security forces or police personnel. People have been asked not to open doors at night...the villagers have been advised to light a fire to alert others if someone insists on getting the door open," said Kulwant Singh Jasrotia, DSP (operations) Rajouri.

Jasrotia said that militants usually strike when the family takes dinner. "We have asked people to be more alert and instructed them to make four-five male members to guard the homes outside while the families take dinner," Jasrotia added. He said that members of the Village Defence Committees have been given wireless sets for direct link with the nearest security picket.

In October, 2005, 10 Hindus were killed by militants in Gabbar village of Budhal tehsil in Rajouri district. In July last year, five Hindus were killed at Phulbari Dhok in Sakri area of Budhal tehsil. Seven Hindus were killed by militants in February 1998 at Kotdhara area of the district, while eight Hindus were killed in Sohadi area of Budhal tehsil in September 1997.

Meanwhile, recent intercepts from militants reportedly indi-

Doda expresses its solidarity with a peace march



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
DODA, MAY 2

A PEACE march was taken out in Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir today, where 19 Hindus were killed, to express solidarity with families of the victims even as normal life was affected here for the second day due to a bandh called to protest the killings.

Members of the separatist Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) outfit also took part in the peace march as protestors carrying black flags appealed to people to support the families of the

deceased in their hour of crisis.

Speaking to reporters, JKLF leader Yaseen Malik said the killings were "an unIslamic step and those responsible for it should be punished".

Doda MLA Majid Wani said the killings was aimed at scuttling the peace process and the upcoming roundtable conference.

In his speech, BJP state president Nirmal Singh demanded rifles for the security of locals and the establishment of an Army post in the area.

Meanwhile, shops and business establishments were closed and traffic remained off the roads here for the second consecutive day.

cate that militant leaders in PoK were directing militants to kill Hindus in J-K.

The Army had reportedly informed this to the police. "According to these intercepts, a militant leader from PoK had directed militants operating in the Jammu region to attack more and

more Hindus by ambushing them or carrying out Fidayeen attacks," said the Army sources.

Inspector General of Police, Jammu, Dr SP Vaid said that though the Army had informed the police about the intercepts but they were generalised in nature. He said that security is the collec-

tive responsibility of the police and the security forces.

"A large number of such intercepts are received by the Army and they are of a very general nature. Besides it is not possible for the police to reach everywhere as the region has difficult terrain," he said.

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