

LETTER

Kandhamal—Two Years Later

The survivors of Kandhamal communal violence are completing two years of misery from the main attacks on August 25, 2010. As per the official figures, more than 600 villages were ransacked, 5600 houses were looted and burnt, 54000 people were left homeless and 38 people were murdered. Human rights groups estimate that over 100 people were killed, including women, disabled people, children, Adivasis and Dalits. Three women were gang raped and many were injured. 295 churches were destroyed. Schools, colleges and even medical institutions were not spared. Thousands of people cannot go back to their villages even now. Many are still living in tents in Kandhamal. Almost all those who are responsible for the violence are either freely moving around or getting acquitted.

Peoples' Solidarity Concerns, a coalition of many groups in Bangalore believes that it is a shame that even after two years no justice has been delivered to the survivors of Kandhamal communal massacre. Almost all the affected victims are Adivasis and Dalit Christians.

Kandhamal is only a symbol and attacks on the Christians have taken place in over 10 states including Karnataka.

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