

LETTER

PHYSICIANS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

'Physicians for Human Rights' is a worldwide organisation established in 1981 with a solid foundation of over two decades of investigation, advocacy and accomplishment. It has campaigned vigorously for the human rights of health care workers in various countries and has been in the forefront of the International campaign for justice for Binayak Sen. In fact its founder Jonathan Fine has been in India closely following the case and was present at Binayak's trial.

We choose to offer the position of Honorary Chairman of Physicians for Human Rights / India to Dr Binayak Sen who has given his life to these principles and to serve the poorest among us. Without neglecting others equally worthy, we will work tirelessly for his release from prison and complete exoneration of unjust accusations. His prompt return to the fight for human rights, civil liberties and service of India's masses is essential for the sake of our nation. We strongly communicate our dismay and call for the dropping of charges, recognition of his exceptional contribution to Health & Human rights, his sacrifices & his deep commitment, & rare integrity, his proclaimed consistent support of Non-Violence. It was for the above human values reflected in his life & work he was awarded for being a role model for Medical students, by CMC Vellore his Alma Mater, R R Keithan award for demonstrating the values of the "father of the Nation" and Johnathan Mann award for his work with the Tribals.

'Physicians for Human Rights'—India will mobilize health professionals to advance health, dignity and justice, and to promote the right to health for all.

'Physicians for Human Rights'—India will join with physicians and health professionals similarly organized in other countries to add our voices in support of persecuted fellow health professionals in all countries. We will speak out against torture, physical and psychological abuse, and all forms of repression harmful to the public health. We will work tirelessly to bring our medical skills to the struggle for the attainment of human rights for all people. We pledge to uphold the finest traditions of the medical and allied health professions to investigate and report objectively on all findings of abuses in contravention to the constitution of India, the United Nations Covenants on Social, Political and Economic Rights and the Geneva Conventions and Protocols.

Physicians for Human Rights—India