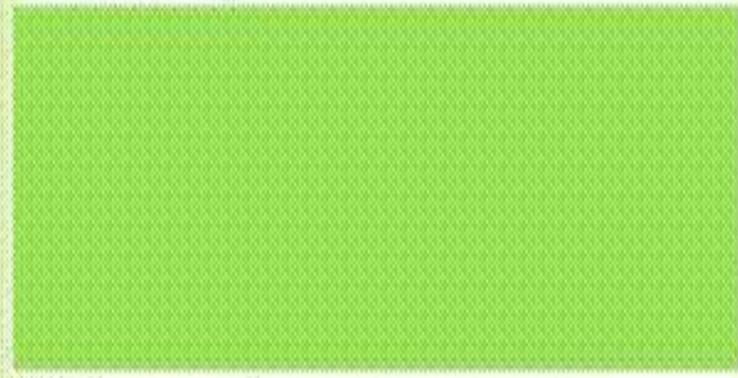
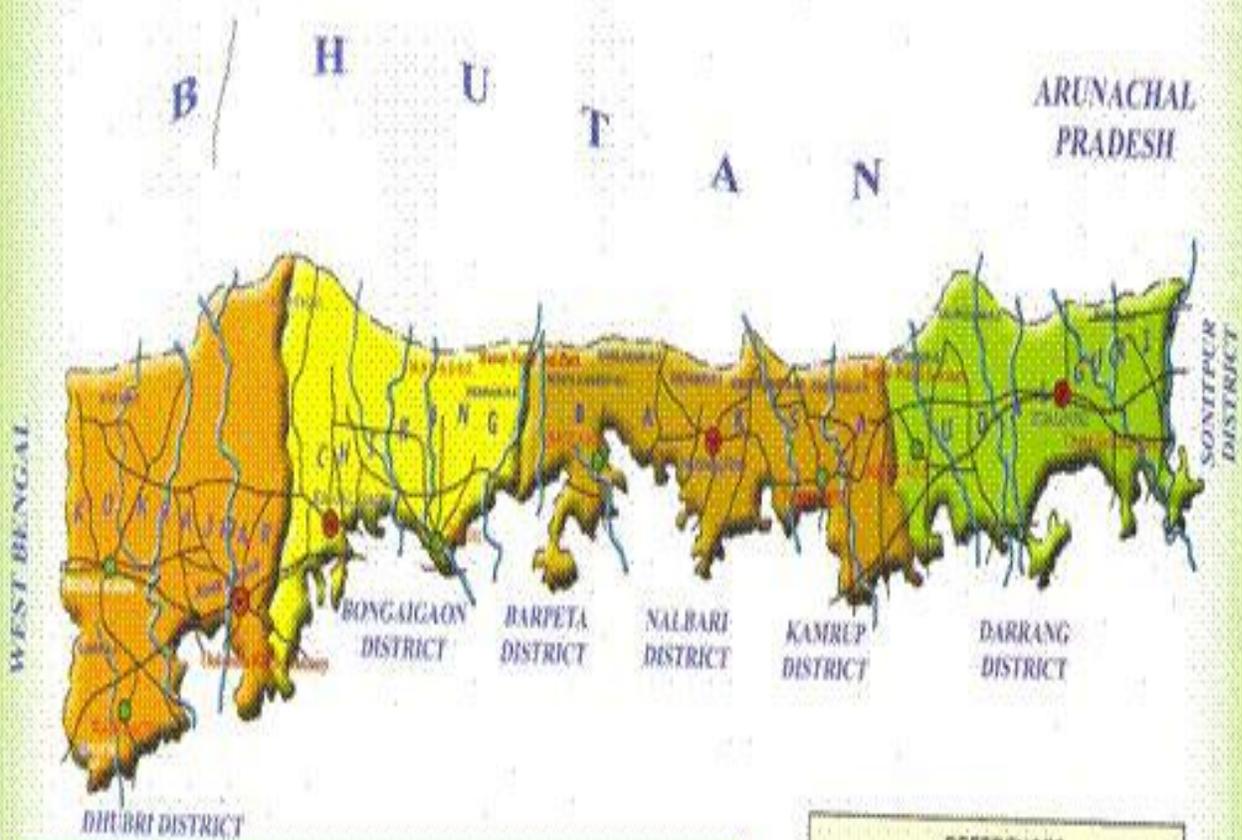


IRON CURTAINED ENCOUNTERS: HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION



MAP OF BODOLAND TERRITORIAL COUNCIL (BTC)



REFERENCES	
1. Boundary International	—•—•—•—•—•—•—•—•—•—
2. State	—•—•—•—•—•—•—•—•—•—
3. BTC	—•—•—•—•—•—•—•—•—•—
4. District	—•—•—•—•—•—•—•—•—•—
5. Roads	—•—•—•—•—•—•—•—•—•—
6. District Head Quarters	•
7. Sub-Division Head Quarters	•
8. Railway Line	—•—•—•—•—•—•—•—•—•—
9. River & streams	—•—•—•—•—•—•—•—•—•—

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PREFACE

This book contains the study of the encounter cases that took place in Kokrajhar, BTC remote areas. Full details of the incidents were collected from the family members and the villagers. From the study it came into light the height of the violation of human rights which is exploited the human itself.

*From this study it is clear that our voice for the human rights is trembled down and unheard. **So much inhuman acts due to so called encounter had really made us think are we safe in our own country?***

Who is going to protest our rights?

And the force who is entrusted to safe guard us has become our own enemy.

Is the immense torture and brutal killing only way to sway all the trouble?

And what would we call such act when it is a fake encounter decorated as an encounter dressed with arms and ammunition.

Hope reading this book would make the readers aware of the ongoing exploitation of our Human Rights next to our nose.

Real scenario of Encounters in Assam

According to The Hindu Report, Government figures show that in the last four years, 555 fake encounter cases were registered across India, with majority being reported in Uttar Pradesh (138), followed by Manipur (62), Assam (52), West Bengal (35), Jharkhand (30), Chhattisgarh (29), Odisha (27), Jammu and Kashmir (26), Tamil Nadu (23) and Madhya Pradesh (20). Only 144 cases, out of 555, have been solved so far.

These figures, however, do not give us the number of victims. It is often the case that more than one person is killed in an encounter, so the numbers involved are usually higher than the number of cases they have.

“Whatever cases regarding alleged fake encounter are registered, they are mainly due to the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)’s intervention.

The State police always try and hide such cases and the

Centre has no control over States or a mechanism to deal with such cases. While a decade back fake encounters were rampant in insurgency-affected States like Jammu and Kashmir and the north east, such cases are now growing in the Naxal-affected states,” said Asian Centre for Human Rights Director Suhas Chakma.

Print Media on 28th October 2013 has reported that according to sources 115 cases of fake encounter were registered by the AHRC in the last six years. The AHRC stated that many such fake encounter cases are not being reported by the family members of the victims due to several reasons. On the several occasions, security personals threaten the family members of the victims of severe consequences if they approach the police or any other concerned authorities for redresal. In this regard, the state Home Department has not also taken any visible measure so far to stop fake encounters in Assam.

Our team of two staffs from Nedan Foundation took the initiative to study the real story behind the iron curtain of the recent encounters. Total 10 cases were done in different place of kokrajhar in BTC, Assam. And the truth and fact which came into light was shocking and pathetic. The main motive of our study is to measure the height of exploitation of rights in the name of encounter which is totally fake and was decorated by the officials as encounter. And secondly it is our initiative to stop such kind of act in future and to protect our young generations from exploitation. Here are the 10 cases in details below-



Case 1: Basbari Bazar, kokrajhar

It was a day of 28th September 2013, Raju Brahma alias Thepra had to face a tragic incident where he was shot death along with his friend, by the force. According to the police report he was a cadre of National democratic front of Bodoland (NDFB) and acquired arms from him. Raju had to lose his life at the very young age of 18.

The information/report that was flashed out was not enough for us to know the actual scenario of the incident. So on 17th October 2013 in search of Raju's house we reached there and came to know the real story behind the iron curtain. Raju hails from a small village called Basbari under kokrajhar district. He was the 2nd son of Mr. Ranjit K. Brahma and Mrs. Brahma. He had five siblings, two brothers and three sisters who are all married and his elder brother was also married. Raju was a class 8 drop out student. He was bound to quit his studies due to financial crisis at home and went to work in a Hyderabad based company for five months, after that he returned and stayed at home for few months and he again worked in Guwahati as a security personal for six to seven months. According to Raju's mother after coming back from Guwahati he joined the group through his friends and was only 3-4 months hardly joining the group. He was not even trained and neither was given any arms to handle. After joining the group he hardly visits his house. It was several days his parents saw him but on that unfortunate day in morning his brother saw him in the market with his friend. He smiled back his brother and rode the cycle carrying his friend. Who knew that smile on Rajus face in morning would turn into darkness. We were told that from the market Raju and his companion headed towards the place called kajigaon to surrender as per plan. But they were shot to death on the midway by the armed forces.

Raju's family members told us that one of their friends had surrendered so Raju was also asked by his companion to surrender. After a few days they went to OC with detail information to surrender but due to some reason it was rejected and asked to come some other day. And this other day brought darkness in the life of Raju.

According to the villagers on the day of incident he was also seen by many villagers going somewhere riding cycle with his companion empty handed. Raju was also seen going in a simple dress, half pant and banyan. But it was flashed out that arms and ammunitions were found from him, which is quite illogical from the view of the villagers where the entire village was the witness of his innocence and the unfair game played by the officials.

It was very tragic and painful to mention that Raju's parents were not even informed by the police. They only came to know through news when the incident and names were flashed out in T.V. Then only they assured of the incident and collected the body from the Morgue.



From left Father, Youngest brother, Mother and Sister.

Case: 2 phaglijora part 1, Basbari

Mahesh alias Maa Brahma hailed from a most interior village called Phaglijora Part I under Basbari. He lost his father in a very young age. He stayed with his mother and his three siblings. Academically he was good and completed his twelfth standard without any failure other than financial problem, as his mother earned very little to facilitate financially in their studies. So after twelfth exam his mother asked him to find some work for financial support to his family but he was allured by the friends and joined NDFB group before the result of the twelfth was declared.

It was almost two and a half years Maa joined the group. In these two and a half years for one and a half years he never visited home but later he started visiting home as love for his mother and his siblings pulled him towards home.

But all these love and care for his family died along with him when he had to face the so-called encounter branded by the force. Maa was the companion of case 1 victim Raju Brahma shot death when they were heading toward IC riding cycle to surrender on **28th September 2013**.

Similar with the case 1, flashed out that arms and ammunitions were found. While according to his mother's description he was at home from a few days and on the day of incident he asked his mother to prepare food early in the morning as he was in plane to go for surrender. But his mother delayed preparing food in order to stop him from going out as the area was under tense because of the killing of 2 police personals by the NDFB on previous day.

But Maa with a strong determination to surrender to finish off all these hide and seek game, which made him bound to say away from his family, set out without having food.

But all his hope to stay with his family and study again, died along with him leaving his mother in trauma. Maa's mother is again trapped in trauma losing his middle son while she was able to overcome her previous trauma of losing Maa's father, time when she needed support to raise her children.

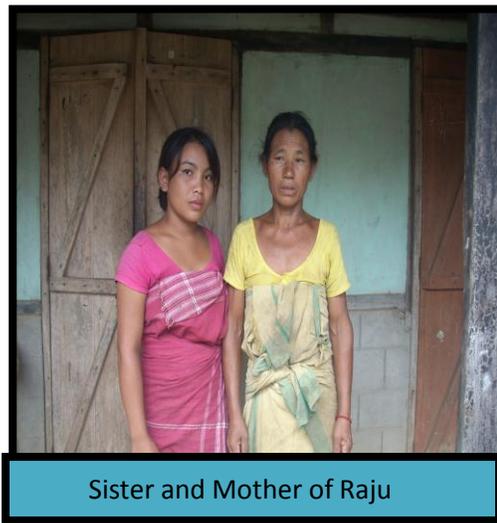
He was also flashed out that arms and ammunitions were found from them but the villagers along his family members are the witness that during his stay at home he had no arms; neither did he carry any such kind while going to surrender.

Now the question arises at this point: from where the arms and ammunitions have come then?

If they are not having any arms then why are they shot to death without any enquiry?

Then what should we call this- **“a fake encounter!”**

Then where is justice and humanity killing someone without arms. Where is human rights we were granted.



Sister and Mother of Raju

Case 3: Bhutiapara, Dotma

Rito alias Rafwt Brahma was born and brought up in village of Dotma called Bhutiapara no.3. He had five siblings, other than him and his youngest sister all of them got married. He left his studies when he failed class tenth and joined NDFB group at the very young age when he was not even eighteen. By then it was almost six to seven years approx. joining the group.

After joining the group he hardly visits his house. But before the incident few days back he visited home to provide financial help to his sister in her admission. He never takes shelter in his house as he was aware that forces might come in search of him. So he used to take shelter in his friend's house.

On that incident day of too he was in his friend's house. It was around 4 O'clock in the morning when some force broke into the house where he was sleeping; his friend was chased out of the room. And other members of the house were also kept outside the house. According to the villagers Rito was locked in the room along with force and the people outside could hear only four loud shooting sounds.

After that they opened the door and took some photographs and sent the body for postmortem. From the villagers we came to know that it was the most barbaric act where victim's hands were tied at back, he was blindfolded and let kneeled down. He was first of all hit with a big iron rod which the victim used to support the door to shut off his room. Then he was shot in his waist, chest, mouth and then forehead. Our team was told that the villagers could see his flesh, brain and blood shattered everywhere in the room and bullets hitting the walls and pillars of the house. He was tortured at the fullest and then killed.

It was very shocking for Rito's family members and quite painful to go and see the spot where he was so brutally killed while he was only 25 years. One of his brothers couldn't even have the guts to go and see his brother's so called encounter spot. Whole village is the witness of the incident and very much sure that he was not carrying any arms and ammunition with him but was flashed out to be found with arms and ammunition from him.

Case 4: East Badrampur, Bismuri

Thungri Brahma, a 19 years old young boy hailed from a village called East Badrampur under Bismuri. He belong to a poor family had five siblings altogether two of them his own and three of them were step. They live separately, his step mother live separately with the step brothers and Thungri and his two siblings were looked after by their mother. Whereas Thungri's father died long time back when they were small, he was also shot by the militants.

Thungri was academically good and completed his class 9th standard but due to poor financial support he discontinued his studies. It was almost two years he was completely out of touch with studies till the tragic incident of 14th January 2013 and had to lose life at a very productive stage of 19. After he discontinued his studies he worked in Hyderabad based company for seven months and then he returned to his native place and stayed in his brother in-law's house for a few months.

According to his family as per their knowledge Thungri was in NDFB group from last two three months only. But later they heard from others that he was involved in the group from last three years. Whatever he was engaged only as a helper and messenger, was never engaged in any big activities nor ever handled any arms and ammunition.

On that tragic day of 14th January Thungri and a wanted NDFB set out with a bike to hand over money to someone. But they were surrounded by the army on the way to Runikhata, Gelaishree and were shot to death at around 9:30am. He was flashed out to be found with arms and ammunition. But according to his mother and brother, Thungri was empty handed; he didn't have any arms and ammunition when he was encountered.



Case5: Mainaonagar, Bismuri

Arun Basumatary alias Laopani Basumatary hailed from a remote village called Mainaonagar, under Bismuri. Arun and his three siblings were looked after by his mother. As he was from a poor family he had to discontinue his studies after class seven. He had no scope for studies and as an eldest son he felt the need of financial support to his family.

Finding no other choice, he chose to join the NDFB group. And it was almost ten years his joining into the group. After joining the group he supported his family. Arun also looked after his brother's and sister's study expenditures and all other household expenses. He hardly used to visit his house as because he knows that he was wanted. Still everything was doing well.

But on that unfortunate day of 16th August 2013 Arun (27 years) was said to be encountered by the force by 9 am in the morning. According to the family members Arun on 15th august went to drop his friend midway and took shelter in one of the house at night. But unfortunately early in the morning he was surrounded by the force and while trying to escape he was shot death. He was shot 10 bullets, at thigh, leg, head and body. Apart from that he was also stepped several times with the pointed split end bamboo at his chest. This has torn his chest in a very brutal shape and all his rib bones were visible.

This was the most inhuman and cruel manner of killing someone leaving his family in trauma and snatching only support of the family.



Case 6: Mohanpur, Bismuri

Bilifang alias Bilwma Basumatary was from a village called Mohanpur of Bismuri. He was very active sevred in different sectors like village development council and also in youth Bodo people's front. Bilifang also cleared his 10th board exam. But unfortunately at the very young age he joined the NDFB group through his friend. But it was only four to five months joining the group and had to face a tragic death.

On 14th September 2013 he was caught from Chirang and on 15 September 2013 he Bilifang was taken to the reserve forest of Bismuri and was shot death there. According to his brother he was shot 3 bullets – in his naval, chest and thigh. It was very unfortunate to mention that Bilifang had to lose his life at the very young age of 21, the developmental stage where youths are to be called the backbone of the Nation and future of the country.



Bilifang's Brother

Case7: Pholodabri, Kochugaon

Uttam alias Urailang Mushahary was the only son of his parents from Pholodabri, Kochugaon. He had four sisters and was much pampered son of his mother. He belonged to a very good family background where his all cousins and uncles are academically excellent. Every facility he was provided in his studies and all needs were also fulfilled.

Urailang did his schooling from Kokrajhar town only. As they had house in kokrajhar so he used to stay in Kokrajhar and studied till class ten but after that he did not appear for the board exam and discontinued his studies and used to stay with his parents in the village

Pholodabri. Urailang's father also mentioned with grief that his son also had a dream to become a Doctor and for that reason he also chose adv. Maths as an elective subject.

Mr. Pradip Mushahary father of Urailang Mushahary told us that his son had to face an unfortunate incident on 19th December 2013 and died at a very young age of 25. According to him Urailang only once in a blue moon used to visit his house so on that incident day also he was at someone else house staying for some programme of Bodo National conference (BNC). His father also mentioned that Urailang was not willing to attend the meeting but as he was requested again and again he agreed to attend the meeting. But unfortunately on the way to the meeting on 19th December 2013 he met an unfortunate death. He was surrounded by the force on the midway and was shot to death before reaching the meeting venue.



Our team being a social worker it was very difficult to control our emotions, all of us were moved by seeing the condition of Urailang's father and mother. By just looking at them any one can say they are in trauma. His mother expressed her grief of losing her only son and their support of old age. While expressing all these tears rolled down from her eyes uncontrollably saying she can't forget losing his son. From the time she lost her son she is in trauma and her health is also degrading day by day.

Case 8: Holtugaon, Tinali

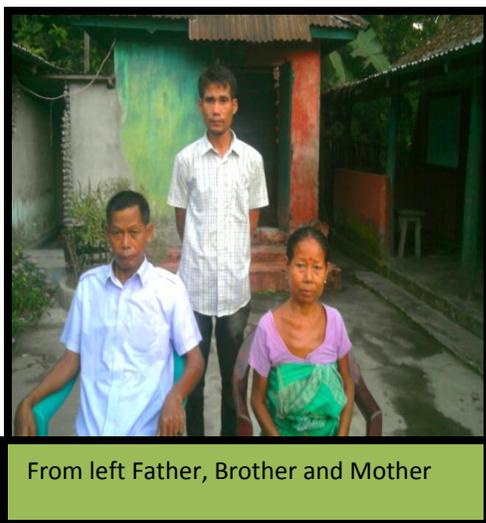
Rahul Boro was a young and enthusiastic boy from Holtugaon, Tinali. He was from a good family background. His father Mr. Daneswar Boro is an employee of Forest department and had two brothers. Rahul was excellent in his academic level, after passing out HSLC he took admission in 10+3 for higher studies. But before class began he joined the NDFB group through his friends and also because of losing his brother in an encounter in 24th October 2009. Encounter of his brother triggered the anger and grief of Rahul to take revenge and joined the group right after seven months of his eldest brother's death. And this is also another factor which has led Rahul to join the Group.

It was almost four year since then joining the group. Rahul hardly visits his house as he was in wanted list. But unfortunately on 8th September 2013 he had to lose his life at the very young age of 2013 in an encounter by the force, where he was flashed out to be recovered with arms and ammunitions.

The real story behind the iron curtain was told to our team by the family members to us that Rahul was caught from Kochugaon at around 3 am, from one of the residence of that place and was brought to Audang bazaar. He was tortured like hell for at least 4-5 hours and then was shot to death shooting three bullets. His brother told us that his skins were also burnt with match stick and rubbed with salt and lime. They didn't stop at this; his private part was also not spared. After this height of torture he was then awarded with three bullets at his chest, thigh and naval.

The grief of that family was immeasurable, Rahul's mother cried out of emotion and told us, those memories of her eldest son was just started fading but at the mean time she again lost her youngest son. Apart from that her middle son who is alive was also not spared from the harassment of the police. He was already picked up from his house thrice in suspect of the connection with the underground and charged him with fake charges.

This time Rahul was not the only victim but his whole family suffered. It put an immense effect on his whole family. His whole family is in trauma to face all deadly incidents and harassments. Rahul's mother expressed that it would have been good only if he was put into jail then at least he would have been alive rather than shot so brutally and killed.



Case 9: Sowraidakha, Serfanguri

Gwambar brahma alias Khokha was from a village called Sowraidakha in Serfanguri. He had two siblings one brother and one sister. He studied till class tenth but didn't succeed in the board exam, later he didn't appear for the exam due to financial crisis at home. Gwambar joined the group NDFB five years back. But before joining the group he worked with Gytry Company to support his family.

According to his family report he was trapped in an unfortunate incident. On 17th December 2012 he was caught by the force but on 19th December 2012 he was taken to Takampur, Kochugaon and was tortured in the fullest. He was hit on his head first of all and then shot 6 bullets, which clearly states that he was tortured in full height and then killed in the name of so called encounter as he was branded by the force.

He was found in a very bad shape with damaged head and deformed jaw which was very sad for his family member to see and perform the last ritual of his death. And it was also mentioned to our team that he didn't have any arms or ammunitions when he was caught but it was flashed out to be recovered with arms and ammunitions.

Case 10: Labainopur, Bismuri

Anjalu alias Maru Brahma was a very young boy, who was only 18 years hailed from a village called Labainopur. Labainopur is one of the most interior places without any essential infrastructures. Maru used stay with his father, mother and two brothers and sister in-laws and a sister. Academically Anjalu completed his class nine. But he doesn't want to continue his studies and he quit his studies and stayed at home helping his brothers in farming. But after a year he quit his studies he joined the NDFB group and since then it was almost a year Anjalu's joining the group.

But on 8th September 2013 Anjalu had to face a tragic death in an encounter which was flashed out. But the real story behind this so called encounter came into light when our team went to the house of Anjalu and interacted with his family members.

According to anjalu's mother her son would have been alive but he was killed intentionally. It was early in the morning she got a call from her relative saying that her son is caught by the force and he could be saved if she lodges an FIR in the police station of Bismuri but she couldn't meet IC. While she was trying hard to save his son she got a call at around 10 am saying that his son is no more. The news of his son's death had broken her heart into pieces.



On that day Anjalu and his companion was taking shelter in one of the house at Audang Bazzar. It was around 3 am they were at deep sleep and suddenly they woke up with the light torch with was lit to their room. Anjalu and his companion had a fishy smell on this so Anjalu went out looking for it but he didn't return. Then his companion was sure that they were surrounded by the forces so tried to escape and hide in the backyard garden.

Anjalu and his companion both of them were caught by the forces and they roamed around the village along with them and then they were taken to the nearby bush in the village and tortured them like hell. Both of them were kept separate. Accordiung to anjalu's mother her son's hands were tied and dragged and then his skins were burnt were cigarette. It was such a barbaric inhuman acyivity that they even rubbed lemon on his burnt and then he was hit at the back of head that it was totally damaged. All this torture had killed him and then only he was shot in his shoulder. It was then decorated as killed in an encounter.

Anjalu's mother and father claims that their son has died in a very pathetic way and who have gave the forces that right to do such insane act which is totally not acceptable.



Mother of Late Anjalu paying last ritual to his death son



Mother and Father of Anjalu