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**Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related
forms of intolerance, follow-up and implementation
of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action**

Written statement* submitted by Integrated Youth Empowerment - Common Initiative Group (I.Y.E. – C.I.G.), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[7 February 2022]

* Issued as received, in the language of submission only. The views expressed in the present document do not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations or its officials.



Caste discrimination and Dalits'

Caste discrimination and Dalits' Murders

Caste discrimination is a highly politicised and sensitive issue in India. 201 million people from scheduled castes are living in India and violations of their fundamental human rights continue on a massive scale.

The extreme and violent crimes known as 'atrocities' committed against Dalits, and the widespread impunity for perpetrators, do not fit well with India's image as the world's largest democracy. Law in India remains weak, and conviction rates are shockingly low. That is why the incidents of atrocities against Dalits are increasing day by day.

On 28 November 2021, a 45-year-old Dalit man named Ramesh Ram was allegedly tortured to death in the Champawat district of Uttarakhand, India by 'upper caste' people after he was found having food at a wedding along with 'everyone', but not separately in violation of casteist norms prevalent locally. The family of Ramesh Ram reached the police station for FIR but the police did not listen to them and sent them back. After family protests against the police and caste system, Champawat Police registered FIR against unknown persons, but no arrests have been made yet.

In another case on the night of 23 November in Gohri village of Prayagraj district in Uttar Pradesh, India, four members of a Dalit family were brutally murdered in their home by upper-caste on a land dispute. Their bodies were allegedly discovered two days later on 25 November, when the bleating of the goats, kept on leashes in the compound of the house, alerted their relatives, who live 500 metres away.

India responds to international attention to caste discrimination by referring to it as an 'internal issue' and a 'family matter' that the world does not need to deal with, especially since constitutional and legal protective mechanisms are in place but the reality is quite opposite.

We urge this council that ask the Indian government to end Caste Discrimination and also end violations of the fundamental human rights of Dalits.
