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

Written statement* submitted by Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, 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.

[1 February 2023]

* Issued as received, in the language of submission only.



Violation Against Dalits

Human rights are moral principles or norms for certain standards of human behaviour and are regularly protected in municipal and international law. They are commonly understood as inalienable, fundamental rights "to which a person is inherently entitled simply because she or he is a human being" and which are "inherent in all human beings", regardless of their age, ethnic origin, location, language, religion, ethnicity, or any other status. Country like India where the caste atrocities on Dalits continue to fester and Indian government fails to stop these violations because government has not taken steps to ensure the safety of Dalits.

On 11 December 2022 in Vadodara area of Gujarat India, where a group of seven upper caste Hindus assaulted a 24-year-old Dalit Youth named Alpesh Parmar with a leather belt and sticks while he was with an upper caste woman friend. A video of this incident where a Dalit man being publicly assaulted and abused by a group of upper caste men has been making the rounds on social media. The video only shows a man being beaten by a group of people, two of which were hitting him with belts. The FIR was filed by the victim but police took no action against those responsible. On 23 December 2022, another incident from the state of Tamil Nadu has come to light of a caste-based crime when a Dalit youth named Raja committed suicide after 'upper caste' men violently attacked him. According to details on 21 December, Raja Marianathan and his friends were out for dinner, Raja Marianathan tried to help an elderly man from Vanniyar caste to fetch some water in front of a house. However, when the man's son-in-law, Moorthy, opened the door and saw Raja at his doorstep, he got furious and asked how a Dalit man dared to come to his house and knocked on the door. Then, Moorthy and his two friends, Mohan and Suresh, under the influence of alcohol allegedly assaulted Raja Marianathan. Raja Marianathan was rescued by his friends, Sebastian and Vinoth who took him to the hospital where he had to get stitches on face and torso. The victim tried to register a complaint against the Moorthy and his two friends, Mohan and Suresh but police refused to do so. Frustrated with all these situations, Raja Marianathan committed suicide. We urge this council to ask Indian government to stop these atrocities and take necessary steps to ensure the safety of Dalits.
