



Nepal – Researched and compiled by the Refugee Documentation Centre of Ireland on 4 January 2019

Please provide any information on Maoist party members who force non political supporters to support the Maoist party and gain support from others in the community – specifically those who are respected/trusted members of community

An Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada response to a request for information on threats from Maoists, in a section titled “Prevalence and Instances of Threat Letters Issued by CPN-M, UCPN and YCL”, states:

“A Secretary General from the Human Rights Organization of Nepal (HURON), a Nepal-based human rights organization indicated in correspondence with the Research Directorate that, since 2006, there are approximately six Maoist factions/political parties that have nearly the same name, with different suffixes or prefixes to differentiate amongst them. The HURON Secretary General also indicated that some of these groups are part of the government, while others are opposed to the government and are engaged in boycotts and violent activities. Without providing further information, the same source added that ‘even after the conflict settlement in 2006-2007, the [CPN-M], later transformed into the Unified Communist Party of Nepal Maoist (UCPN-M), and its sister wing, Young Communist League (YCL), were active in intimidating the people, especially [political] opponents’.” (Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (8 August 2016) *NPL 105569.E – Nepal: Threat letters issued by the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) CPN-M, Unified Communist Party of Nepal (UCPN), and Young Communist League (YCL) groups, including prevalence; whether regional commanders issue threat letters ordering households to join Maoist militia groups or threats to pay fines or donations; whether people suspected of being informants are sent notifications to file for a pardon from such groups; appearance and content of threat letters; availability of fraudulent threat letters (2014-June 2016)*)

This section of the response also states:

“In contrast, in correspondence with the Research Directorate, a representative of the Nepal Peacebuilding Initiative (NPI), a Kathmandu-based non-profit organization working on research, analysis and dialogue on local and national peacebuilding initiatives, who has worked on Nepal's conflict and peace processes for 10 years, stated that, since 2006, ‘there have been hardly any threats for political reasons in Nepal’” (ibid)

In a section titled “Fraudulent Threat Letters” this response states:

“The NPI representative claimed that, although the Maoists issued some threat letters during the initial phases of the civil war, there were also people who obtained ‘mostly fake’ threat letters and had fake news published in the

weekly papers as support for asylum applications in Europe and North America during that period (NPI 24 June 2016). Similarly, the AHRC researcher indicated, without providing further details, that AHRC has come across 'a lot of forgery cases' where people have obtained letters speaking about 'threats and demands'. The AHRC representative also noted that, in Nepal, one can 'easily' design a letterhead and a stamp for less than US\$5 at any 'designing outlet'. The same source further stated that the AHRC has not come across any incidents involving threat letters by Maoist groups since 2006." (ibid)

The 2017 US Department of State country report for Nepal, in a section titled "Elections and Political Participation", states:

"In November 2013 citizens participated in the country's second Constituent Assembly elections, which international and domestic observers deemed essentially credible, free, and fair. In an effort to obstruct the 2013 elections, a breakaway Maoist faction, the Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist, committed acts of political violence and intimidation and attempted to enforce a 10-day transportation ban." (US Department of State (20 April 2018) *2017 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices – Nepal*, pp.21-22)

The 2017 US Department of State report on terrorism in Nepal, in a paragraph headed "2017 Terrorist Incidents", states:

"Nepal experienced an increase in terrorist attacks during the year, primarily in connection with local, provincial, and national elections held around the country in April, June, September, November, and December. None of these attacks were directed against U.S. or Western targets. It was generally believed that these attacks, which resulted in one death and multiple injuries, were intended to intimidate political candidates, convince voters to stay home, and undermine the elections. The incidents initially resulted only in property damage and minor injuries, but they increased in frequency and severity later in the year. By the time elections ended in early December, more than 100 such attacks had occurred throughout Nepal, resulting in one death and numerous injuries." (US Department of State (19 September 2018) *Country Reports on Terrorism 2017 – Nepal*)

An article from Nepalese newspaper The Himalayan states:

"A woman candidate who filed her nomination for the ward member in Dhunibensi Municipality-3 in Dhading has been found dead in her house in an alleged case of suicide on Wednesday morning.

Bina Mijar of CPN-UML had filed her nomination yesterday on the quota for Dalit woman.

She, however, had been intimidated by local leaders of CPN Maoist Centre to withdraw her candidacy, local UML leader Rajendra Neupane claimed.

She reportedly had told the UML leaders that some local Maoists had been repeatedly issuing death threat to her over mobile phone. 'We had asked her not to panic. But she probably killed herself after failing to cope with the stress,' he said, demanding a fair probe into the incident.

The 35-year-old body was found hanging in her house at Thakre this morning, police said.

Her husband Bharat Bahadur Mijar also suspected that she was intimidated by others with death sentence.” (The Himalayan (3 May 2017) *UML candidate kills self “after Maoist intimidation” in Dhading*)

References:

Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (8 August 2016) *NPL 105569.E – Nepal: Threat letters issued by the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) CPN-M, Unified Communist Party of Nepal (UCPN), and Young Communist League (YCL) groups, including prevalence; whether regional commanders issue threat letters ordering households to join Maoist militia groups or threats to pay fines or donations; whether people suspected of being informants are sent notifications to file for a pardon from such groups; appearance and content of threat letters; availability of fraudulent threat letters (2014-June 2016)*

<https://www.irb-cisr.gc.ca/en/country-information/rir/Pages/index.aspx?doc=456635&pls=1>

(Accessed 4 January 2019)

The Himalayan (3 May 2017) *UML candidate kills self “after Maoist intimidation” in Dhading*

<https://thehimalayantimes.com/nepal/uml-candidate-kills-self-maoist-intimidation-dhading/>

(Accessed 4 January 2019)

US Department of State (19 September 2018) *Country Reports on Terrorism 2017 – Nepal*

<https://www.refworld.org/docid/5bcf1f90c.html>

(Accessed 4 January 2019)

US Department of State (20 April 2018) *2017 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices – Nepal*

<https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/277533.pdf>

(Accessed 4 January 2019)

This response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Research and Information Unit within time constraints. This response is not and does not purport to be conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to refugee status or asylum. Please read in full all documents referred to.

Sources Consulted:

Electronic Immigration Network
European Country of Origin Information Network
Google
Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada
Lexis Nexis

Refugee Documentation Centre Query Database
UNHCR Refworld
US Department of State