

# Association for India's Development and Amnesty International USA

along with 34 US and UK groups In solidarity with 'Free Binayak Sen' forum in India

## Appeal To Free Dr. Binayak Sen



**VIGIL TO OBSERVE ONE YEAR OF DR. BINAYAK SEN'S UNJUST DETENTION BY CHATTISGARH GOVERNMENT**

## **MARCH & PROTEST**

**TO RESIST THE SILENT EMERGENCY and TO RESTORE OUR DEMOCRACY**

**WHEN:** Tuesday, 5/13/2008 @ 4 PM

**WHERE:** Before Indian Embassy, DC

2107 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20008

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<http://www.aidboston.org/FreeBinayakSen/>

**WHY IS THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT AFRAID OF A GOOD DOCTOR?**

### **Background:**

Dr Binayak Sen is a renowned pediatrician and human rights activist who has been working with the poorest people in Chhattisgarh state in central India for the last 25 years. On 14 May 2007, Dr Sen was arrested on trumped-up charges and has been imprisoned without trial. He was instrumental in setting up the cooperative Shaheed hospital for mine workers, and has campaigned tirelessly against violations of the human rights of the poor. On 21 April, 2008, he

was awarded the prestigious Jonathan Mann Award for Global Health and Human Rights. He is the First South-Asian to receive this Global award.

The Chhattisgarh government claims that Binayak Sen has aided banned Maoist groups who are active in the region. In fact, Binayak Sen's real 'crime' was to stand by the dispossessed and to speak out about the violence they face in Chhattisgarh. He was arrested after helping to expose involvement by the police in the unlawful killing of 12 adivasi people. He has been a vocal opponent of the Salwa Judum, a state-sponsored militia which has massacred local people and forced thousands to flee from their homes.

May 14, 2008 will mark one year since Dr Binayak Sen's arrest. The Acts under which he was arrested make it possible for the government to keep him in prison for an unspecified period, without any evidence. The Indian government and the Chhattisgarh state government are determined to silence Dr Sen. We must not allow them to succeed. For more information, contact us at [freebsen@gmail.com](mailto:freebsen@gmail.com) or [www.aidboston.org/FreeBinayakSen](http://www.aidboston.org/FreeBinayakSen).

Similarly, other activists in various parts of the country recently arrested under some of the draconian laws are Lachit Bordoloi, a human rights activist from Assam; Prashant Rahi, journalist from Uttarakhand; Govindan Kutty, editor of People's March in Kerala; Praful Jha, a journalist from Chhattisgarh; Vernon Gonsalves, an activist from Nasik; Arun Ferreira, Ashok Reddy, and Dhanendra Bhurule, and most recently Ajay TG, another activist with PUCL, Chhattisgarh.



*Lachit Bordoloi*



*Vernon Gonsalves*



*Arun Ferreira*

