

# JUSTICE FOR THE KILLING OF MAINA SUNUWAR

AMNESTY  
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# DEMAND ACCOUNTABILITY IN NEPAL

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On 17 February 2004, members of the Nepalese Army took 15-year-old Maina Sunuwar from her home and tortured her to death at a nearby army camp. They repeatedly pushed her head under water and applied electric shocks to her wet hands and feet. She died following an hour and a half of this torture. They buried her body in a secret grave.

For more than five years, Devi Sunuwar – Maina’s mother – has tried to expose the truth about what happened to her daughter, calling for those who tortured and killed Maina to be brought to justice. Her campaign resulted in Maina’s body being located and exhumed in March 2007. It also prompted the army to conduct an internal investigation into her death. However, that investigation only resulted in court-martial proceedings for minor offences in September 2005, at which the three accused were given a six-month prison sentence and a fine. The men were released immediately on the grounds that the time they spent awaiting trial in barracks should be counted towards their sentence.

Add your voice to the campaign for justice for Maina Sunuwar. Demand that those who tortured and killed her are held accountable for their actions.

## TAKE ACTION NOW!

Please sign and send this postcard to the Prime Minister of Nepal

*Image:* Devi Sunuwar holds a photograph of her daughter, Maina. Beside her is the photograph of Maina’s exhumed grave, 10 February 2009. © Advocacy Forum/Robert Godden

Index: ASA 31/007/2009

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### Dear Prime Minister,

More than five years have passed since Maina Sunuwar was tortured and killed in army custody. An internal investigation by the army and subsequent court-martials limited to minor offences have failed to bring those responsible to justice.

I urge the government of Nepal to:

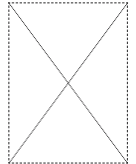
- provide accountability in this case as well as thousands of other cases of killings, torture and enforced disappearances.
- establish an independent investigation into this horrific crime in order to determine the truth about what happened to Maina Sunuwar.
- ensure that those responsible are brought to justice before civilian courts.

Yours sincerely,

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Country:** \_\_\_\_\_



Prime Minister of Nepal  
Office of the Prime Minister and  
Council of Ministers  
Singh Durbar  
PO Box 23312  
Kathmandu  
Nepal

Index: ASA 31/007/2009

*Image:* Family members carry a fake “body of justice” at an event marking the 5th anniversary of the killing of Maina Sunuwar, 17 February 2009.

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