

## A Society Without Caste!!!

Friday, 17 August 2007

Come!!! Let us develop a society without caste!!!

Solidarity greetings from the movement of young workers! There are many incidents of violence happening to the people of the lower caste. The dalits are forced to do certain defined work in the society. They can not aspire for other types of work. Here I am sharing a few experiences violence against dalits.

Palanisamy and Selvi are from Nochipallayam a village in Erode district. They belong to the Arunthathiyar caste (dalits). They work for a person called Govindasamy who belongs to the Gounder caste (upper caste). Their work is to break the coconut and then dry it. Normally it takes 3 days to dry the coconut to be sent for the mill to grind it and extract the oil. However, Govindasamy forced Palanisamy and Selvi to use sulphur powder on the coconut so that it gets dried soon. He did not give protective gloves while using the sulphur. Hence, it resulted into burning injuries. Palanisamy and Selvi repeatedly told Govindasamy about the injuries and the difficulties they face in the work. However, Govindasamy and his son beat Palanisamy and Selvi.

On 26th of January 2007, a dalit student was not allowed to participate in the dance competition by the upper caste people in a middle school at Ambujavallipettai in Cudaloor district.

On 2nd of March 2007, Kairappan (a dalit) was murdered in Thungaavi village in Coimbatore district since he mistakenly stopped a car that belonged to a high case person.

On 4th of March 2007, a dalit youth was beaten to death at Ondiputhoor in Coimbatore district since he went into a temple to collect the free food.

Dear friends let us reflect on these incidents. Let us not allow such incidents against the dalits. These are violations against the right to life which is a fundamental human right. Let us bring this awareness to our young workers, friends and youth. Let us struggle to develop a society without caste!

Rajesh

District secretary