

MONTAGNARD FOUNDATION, INC.

Dedicated to the preservation of the indigenous people of Central Vietnam

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A DEGAR GIRL WAITS ON HER FATHER'S GRAVE

DEGAR CHRISTIAN MURDERED BY VIETMESE SECURITY POLICE ON 28 APRIL 2008

THE MURDERERS – EIGHT POLICE – ARE IDENTIFIED AT THE END OF THIS REPORT

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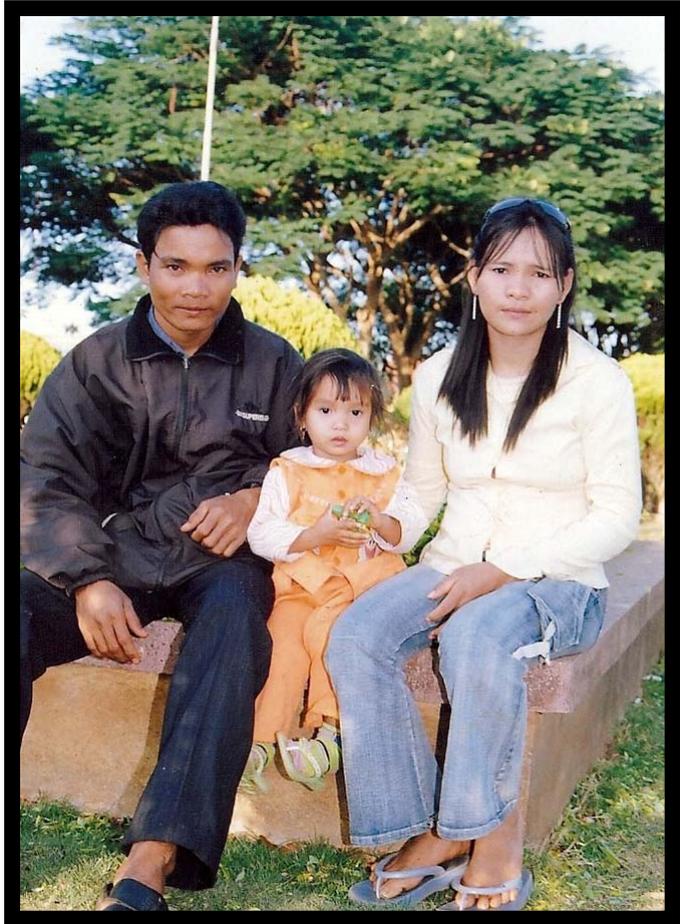


MURDERED: The Degar Montagnard man Y-Ben H'Dok (left is a photo of his corpse) was murdered by Vietnamese security forces on 28 April 2008. Security police put a rope around his neck, tied him to a vehicle and dragged him until he died. He had also been beaten and tortured by security forces. His daughter (above) sits on his grave mourning the loss of the father she will never see again.

DETAILS OF THE MURDER OF Y BEN HDOK

On April 28, 2008 Vietnamese security police used a Degar policeman, Y-Blen Nie, to entrap another Degar. They asked Y-Blen Nie to invite his friend, Y-Ben Hdok, to drink coffee with him at a restaurant close to the police station. When our Christian brother, Y-Ben Hdok, arrived at a restaurant, eight Vietnamese security police including Y-Blen Nie attacked him, handcuffed him and took him to a quiet and secluded place where they began to beat him. They struck him repeatedly with their police batons and also kicked, punched, and stomped on him until Y Ben Hdok fell down unconscious. They broke the bones in both his upper and lower legs and also his upper and lower arms. Then, these brutal police officers placed a rope around his neck and then tied it to their jeep and dragged him around until he died. After that, they took his corpse to the hospital and called his family, claiming that Y-Ben Hdok had killed himself.

His parents and his wife asked the chief police from Daklak province *“how could a person break all the bones in his own legs, arms, ribs and then break out all of his own teeth...How could he “crack his skull on both the front and back sides, and then scratch and burn his skin and tear up his own clothes like he had been dragged through the ground in addition to the rope burns around his neck? How can a man kill himself in this way?”* The face of the Vietnamese police chief became red and he was furious because he had no answer. The marks on his body were clearly visible to his wife and parents when they cleaned his body before the burial. The family also asked the Degar police who was involved in the killing what happened and they were told that the Vietnamese police had put a rope around Y-Ben Hdok’s neck and tied it to their jeep while he was still alive and then dragged him around until he died.



(Above: Y Ben Hdok with his family before his murder)

When the corpse was brought home, the security police tried to stop the family from taking pictures or producing any evidence. They also prevented relatives and friends from entering the house and viewing the body. Even worse, they tried to stop the family and relatives from crying and mourning and they threatened the family, ordering them not to tell anyone, not even relatives in the US about Y-Ben Hdok’s death. On the day of the burial, on May 4, 2008, there were around 200 security police who escorted the family to the burial grounds where numerous other security police were also stationed to prevent foreigners from interviewing the family and to prevent villagers from conducting any peaceful demonstrations. Y-Ben Hdok was born in 1979 in the village of Buon Dung, commune of Cu Ebur, town of Buonmethuot in the province of Daklak.

THE SECURITY POLICE WHO MURDERED Y BEN HDOK ARE IDENTIFIED AS:

1. **Doan Van Tri**, Vietnamese
2. **Bui Quang Thuan**, Vietnamese
3. **Pham Duc Can**, Vietnamese
4. **Pham Thi Ky**, Vietnamese
5. **Y-Rina Mlo**, Degar
6. **Y-To Nie**, Degar
7. **Y-Blen Nie**, Degar
8. **Y-Lil**, Degar

ON BEHALF OF THE FAMILY OF Y BEN HDOK, THE MONTAGNARD FOUNDATION CALLS ON THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, ESPECIALLY THE US STATE DEPARTMENT, THE UNITED NATIONS, THE EUROPEAN UNION, EMBASSIES AND CONCERNED ORGANISATIONS TO DO WHATEVER IT CAN TO ENSURE VIETNAM CEASES THE PERSECUTION AND MURDER OF THE DEGAR PEOPLE AND ALL OF THE MURDERERS MUST BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE.