

PRESS RELEASE
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**ODISHA POLICE
CRIME BRANCH
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT**

KHALIKOTE MURDER CASE ENDED IN CONVICTION

Khalikote PS Case No 113 dt 28.05.2014 registered u/s 302/34 IPC relates to the gruesome murder of Tarun Kumar Acharya on 27.05.2014 at night . The FIR was lodged by one Sri Tapan Kumar Acharya, brother of the deceased. It was alleged that when the deceased and his brother Ganthi @ Tarun Acharya were returning from Khalikote to their native village in their respective bikes accused persons committed murder of the deceased near excise Office. He saw the dead body lying near the Excise Office.

Investigation revealed that deceased Tarun Kumar Acharya was a reporter of Sambad and Kanak TV. It is learnt that P. Syamasundar Prusty was the leading cashew factory owner and had engaged unauthorised labour in his cashew processing Unit. The deceased had reported the matter on 25.05.2014 in daily SAMBAD under caption " **cashew Brandre Prachurya Daridrar Saishaba**" despite prior warning by the said cashew factory owner. Hence, P.Syamasundar Prusty hatched criminal conspiracy with others against press reporter Tarun Acharya and accordingly Santosh Moharana a welding mechanic was instructed to execute the murder. On his request Santosh Moharana and Ramesh Reddy @ Narayan Reddy came to the said factory and plotted for murder. They had engaged supari killer Gudu @ Nrusingha Panda to materialize their objective. On 27.05.14 evening when deceased Tarun Kumar Acharya was returning alone the accused persons obstructed the deceased and killed him by lethal weapons.

Subsequently, as per the order of Hon'ble High court CID, CB, took charge of investigation and Sri R., K. Suar the then Addl. S.P, CID, CB, Cuttack was entrusted with the investigation. As prima facie evidence was well made out against the accused persons I.O submitted charge Sheet against accused persons namely P.Syamasundar Prusty, Santosh Moharana, Suresh Sahu, Sibaram Nayak , N. Narayan @ Ramesh Reddy and Nrusigha Panda.

Since it was a sensitive and gruesome cold blooded murder of Tarun Kumar Acharya, Spl. Public Prosecutor, was engaged by State to conduct prosecution of the case. The trial was conducted in the Learned Court of Addl. Dist. –Cum- Sessions Judge, Khallikote, Ganjam. Judgement was pronounced on 27.06.2019 by the Honb'le Court. The Accused Persons namely 1.P.Syamasundar Prusty S/o P.Rajeswar Prusty At. Karana Sahi PS. Khallikote Ganjam ,2. Santosh Moharana S/o Cjhatrubhuja Moharana At. Lochhapada, PS- Sadar, Berhampur 3.Suresh Sahu S/o Balaram Sahu At- Langaleswar PS- Khallikote Ganjam 4.Sibaram Nayak@ Lillu S/o Prasanna Kumar Nayak Samanta Sahi, Khallikote, Ganjam and 5. N. Narayan @ Ramesh Reddy S/o Ardarajulu Reddy At- Ramakrishna Nagar PS- Baidyanathpur, Berhampur are found guilty and have been convicted. They have been sentenced to undergo regorious imprisonment for life i.e till remainder of their natural life.

Accused Gudu @ Nrusingha Panda is still an absconder for which he has not faced trial. Process is on to bring him in to the book.