

Photo Essay
Remembering Khairlanji
by Pratap Rughani
29th April 2010

Are You a Vulture?
Reflecting on the ethics and aesthetics of
coverage of atrocity and its aftermath

Pratap Rughani

Reflecting Atrocity

I obtained access to these photographs through the intervention of Dalit activists in Maharashtra, India 2007. They were flashed in front of me - without introduction - as evidence to campaign for a full criminal investigation into the murders of Mrs Surekha Bhotmange, her daughter Priyanka and sons Roshan and Sudhir.

You may prefer not to view the next the following four slides of the murdered Bhotmange family.

They are included to help contextualise reflections on ethical questions in the book chapter *Are You a Vulture?*

CAUTION: *You may prefer not to look at the following slides of the murdered Bhotmange family. They are included to help contextualise reflections on ethical questions that follow.*

PLATE 1

Crime scene images from Khairlanji, India. The bodies of Mrs Surekha Bhotmange, her daughter Priyanka and two sons, Roshan and Sudhir. Images supplied by Dalit activists.



Body by Canal



Body of Priyanka Bhotmange



Body



Dead bodies of mother and son

End of crime scene photographs

PLATE 2



Back door to the Bhotmange Family Home Photo Credit: P. Rughani

PLATE 3



PLATE 4



Family portraits of Mrs Surekha Bhotmange, her daughter Priyanka and two sons, Roshan and Sudhir.



Priyanka Bhotmange



Sudhir Bhotmange



Roshan Bhotmange



Mrs Surekha Bhotmange

