

# Chronology

## The Dongria Kondh's struggle to save their mountain

**2003** Vedanta signs an agreement with the Odisha government to mine in the Niyamgiri hills and build a refinery close by to process the bauxite.

**2005** An entire village of the Majhi Kondh tribe in the Niyamgiri foothills is bulldozed, and **103 families displaced**, to make way for the refinery.

**2007** Norwegian government pension fund sells its entire stake in Vedanta, saying the Dongria Kondh 'will probably face extinction if Vedanta is granted clearance [to mine].'

India's **Supreme Court rejects Vedanta's mining application**, stating, 'we cannot take the risk of handing over an important asset into the hands of the company unless we are satisfied about its credibility.' The Court then invites **Vedanta's Indian subsidiary, Sterlite**, to apply.

**2008** The Dongria Kondh stage regular **large-scale protests** against the mine.

India's Supreme Court approves Sterlite's application to mine. The Court has not been asked to consider the rights of the Dongria Kondh.

Scottish Investment firm **Martin Currie** sells its shares in Vedanta, citing Niyamgiri mine.

**2009** Dongria Kondh and Majhi Kondh join hands to form a **human chain around Niyamgiri**.

Release of **Survival's film, 'Mine'**, now watched by over 600,000 people.

The **UK government condemns Vedanta's** treatment of the Dongria, after Survival submits a complaint under the OECD guidelines.

India's Environment Minister acknowledges that if India's tribal rights laws had been applied to Vedanta's mining application '**the chances are that this project would not have been cleared in the first place.**'

**2010** **Church of England** sells its Vedanta shares, citing ethical reasons.

Survival appeals to James Cameron in Variety magazine - '**Avatar is fantasy ... and real**'

Amnesty International launches report, *Don't mine us out of existence*.

**Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust** sells its Vedanta shares, calling the company 'morally indefensible'. **PGGM**, pension firm for over 2 million people, sells its Vedanta stake after 'intensive efforts' to engage with the company fail.

**Bianca Jagger** presents petition of 30,000 names to Vedanta board

Two Dongria Kondh leaders **abducted at gunpoint** and beaten.

India's Environment Ministry commissions two separate studies into Vedanta's mine. Both studies agree the **mine is likely to 'destroy' the Dongria Kondh**.