



Nida, 4 years old, is surrounded by her mother (Ishrat) and 3 doting cousins. On the night of the disaster, Ishrat lived across from the Union Carbide factory in JP Nagar and was badly exposed. She gave birth to Nida in 2001 who was born with a cleft lip. Ishrat died in 2011 from kidney failure. Nida's deformity made her a fierce campaigner seeking accountability from Union Carbide and Dow Chemical and from the Indian government.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Survivors of the 1984 Bhopal Gas Disaster on US Tour to Press for Action on Corporate Crime and Build Alliances with US Environmental Justice Groups

Events Part of Campaign to Designate Dec. 3 as Chemical Disaster Awareness Day

Interviews available with Bhopal survivors and organizers

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Survivors of the world's worst industrial disaster, the Bhopal, India gas explosion and the resulting widespread groundwater contamination are on a 20-stop speaking tour across the United States through September 25. On this tour, survivors will meet with frontline communities, environmental justice leaders, students, academics, and others. Each event features a conversation & Q/A with survivors of the 1984 Bhopal gas tragedy, and many are in partnership with US environmental justice organizations based in Black and Brown communities. The tour has been organized by the [International Campaign for Justice in Bhopal \(ICJB\)](#) and comes ahead of **the 40th anniversary of the Bhopal disaster on December 3rd.**

ICJB is meeting with federal lawmakers, **seeking to designate Dec. 3 as Chemical Disaster Awareness Day and working with local groups to make Dec. 1-7 a Week of Solidarity with Bhopal.** If an organization might hold a solidarity event on the week of Dec. 3, 2024, they are asked to fill out [this form](#).

Since the night of the gas leak at the Union Carbide factory in 1984, over 20,000 people have been killed due to chemical exposure, and over 500,000 remain seriously impacted by chronic health conditions, generational birth defects, and ongoing groundwater contamination in Bhopal. No Union Carbide officials were ever held criminally responsible, and the company only paid victims and families

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of those killed trivial amounts of compensation. Last October, a representative of Dow Chemical (which now owns Union Carbide) showed up in a Bhopal court after two decades of evasion. But the company rejected the court's jurisdiction, and insisted it has no responsibility to pay for a clean-up in Bhopal.

With this tour, the ICJB seeks to raise awareness and reinvigorate solidarity with Bhopal in the US, as it is where Dow Chemical is based. The Bhopal gas disaster had significant consequences for environmental health policy in the US and across the world. However, survivors continue fighting for justice.

During their US visits, they are convening with numerous environmental justice organizations to highlight similarities between the struggles in both India and the US, and share stories on how Bhopalis have taken care of each other and maintained the struggle through 40 years of injustice.

Resources:

[Video \(1 min.\): WDSU-TV coverage of New Orleans event](#)

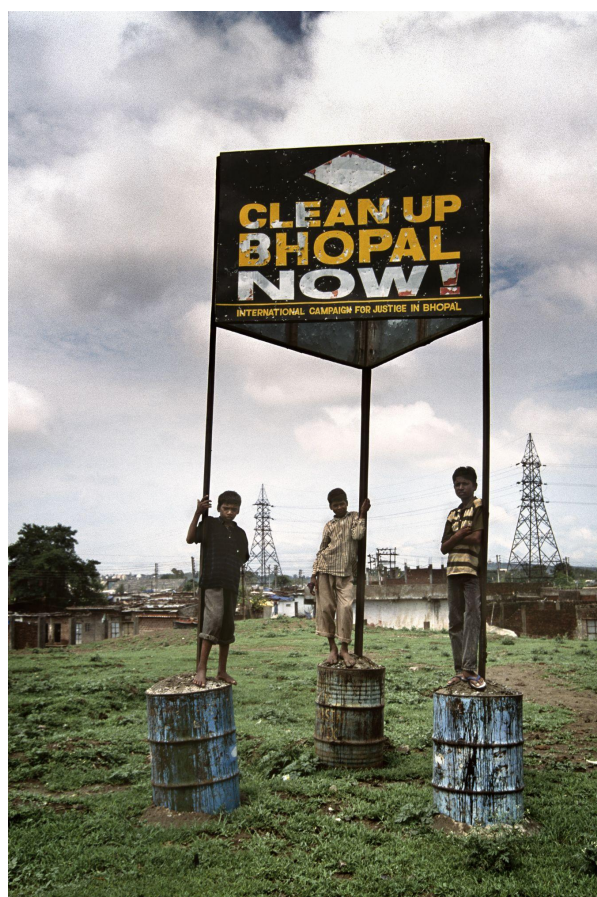
[Tour speaker bios](#)

[Itinerary of the US Tour of Bhopal Survivors](#)

[The Deadliest Corporate Massacre in History](#)

[Solidarity with Bhopal Survivors - What You Can Do](#)

[Website of the International Campaign for Justice in Bhopal](#)



*The **International Campaign for Justice in Bhopal (ICJB)** is a coalition that is comprised of survivors of the disaster, international volunteers, and environmental, social justice and human rights groups. Using education, grassroots organizing, and non-violent direct action, ICJB works to hold Dow Chemical and the Indian Government accountable for the ongoing chemical disaster in Bhopal, India. Through empowering and advising campaigners in this worldwide movement, ICJB strives to further the Bhopalis' **demands for justice**. ICJB is led by half a dozen Bhopal survivor organizations working in close alliance with coalition members in India, Canada, the United States of America, and the United Kingdom.*