

# Pushpa Kamal Dahal,

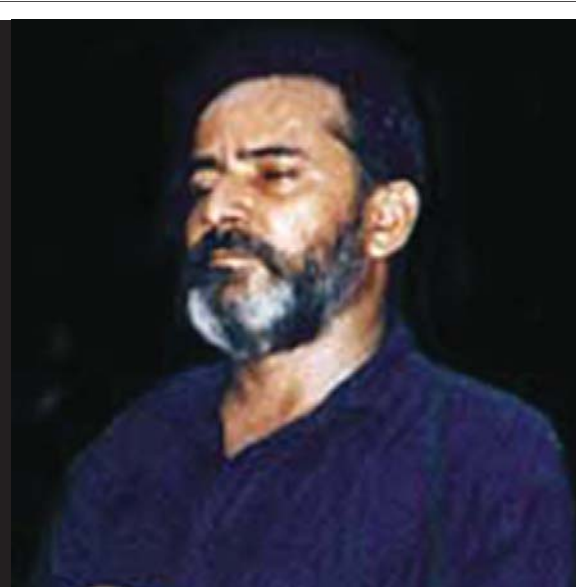
(“Comrade Prachanda” - “The Fierce One”)

Maoist-controlled areas

Born : 11 December 1954

## NEPAL

President of Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist)



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## Training/education

**1970s:** Underground communist activist.

**1950s:** School in western region of Chitwan.

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## Professional experience

**February 2006:** Summons two journalists before people’s courts in western Nepal.

**November 2005:** Signs agreement with political parties to overthrow King Gyanendra. Steps up attacks on security forces.

**February 2005:** Orders equipment of radio station *Ghodagodi* seized and destruction of *Nepal Television* facilities in southern Nepal. Controls nearly half the country at the head of 15,000 fighters.

**2005:** Threatens 10 journalists living in Maoist-held areas and forces them to stop working and flee to Kathmandu.

**2004:** Orders murder of Dekendra Raj Thapa, a *Radio Nepal* reporter accused of being a spy. Ten other journalists kidnapped by Maoists. Orders *Samishran* magazine to close for not printing his party’s statements. Has hundreds of schoolchildren kidnapped for a week of Maoist indoctrination. Forces thousands of people to begin building “Martyrs Road” in Maoist-controlled territory.

**2001:** Says in rare interview he “detests all moderates” as “opportunist dogs” and says “the gun is the best tool for social transformation.” Has two journalists killed, three others kidnapped and blows up several radio and TV relay stations.

**13 February 1996:** Lauches “people’s war” on “autocratic feudal regime.”

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## Hobbies/interests

China’s “Cultural Revolution,” Peru’s Shining Path guerrillas and anti-imperialist struggle.

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