

NOIDA DOUBLE MURDER CASE

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INTRODUCTION

Authorities went to her parents for answers when 13-year-old Aarushi Talwar was found dead with her throat slit in her bedroom in Noida, India on May 16, 2008. Because throat-cutting suicide is uncommon, authorities felt positive they were dealing with a homicide. However, the research that followed proved to be anything from straightforward. Indeed, it took so many twists and turns over such a long time that it became a thrilling whodunnit of almost unprecedented proportions. Hemraj Banjade, a 45-year-old hired assistance at Rajesh and Nupur Talwar's home, was initially the main suspect – until he was found dead just one day after Aarushi Talwar. His body was discovered half decomposed on the Talwar home's terrace. With two killings under their belts, the police began to muddle the investigation by failing to secure the crime scene after Aarushi Talwar's death and allowing the media and the general public to enter the home hours after the murder. Despite this, the investigators rapidly zeroed in on the people with the most power and likely motive for the two murders: Talwar's parents.

CASE HISTORY

Aarushi Talwar, who was born on May 24, 1994, was a student at the Delhi Public School and resided with her parents in Noida's Sector 25 at the time of her death. Meanwhile, doctors Rajesh and Nupur Talwar worked in a clinic in Sector 27 and at Fortis Hospital, where the former was the director of the dental department. Close friends of the Talwars, Anita and Praful Durrani shared the Noida clinic with them. Praful and Nupur had the evening shifts from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., while Rajesh and Anita had the morning duties from 9 a.m. to noon. On the morning of May 16, at 6:01 a.m., the doorbell rang. Bharti, the housemaid, was typically allowed inside by Banjade, but he was oddly absent. She rang the bell three times more before being hailed by Nupur, who was standing on the balcony. This was odd because Aarushi Talwar's parents were accustomed to sleeping in because they worked nighttime shifts at the office. Banjade was in charge of admitting servants and visitors in. Nupur had to throw Bharti a set of keys because the gate at the entry was locked from the outside. When the maid entered the house,

she found Rajesh was also awake. Both parents were sobbing in their daughter's room. They said, "Look what Hemraj has done."

Bharti then noticed Aarushi Talwar, who was lifeless in a pool of blood, her throat cut with a kukri knife. She hurriedly summoned her neighbors and sought medical help. It was far too late to assist the young lady. When the police arrived at 7:15 a.m., a crowd of 15 individuals had gathered in the Talwars' living room, with another five or six in the Talwars' master bedroom. Having dozens of individuals damage the integrity of DNA evidence and shift things around was very extreme in terms of crime scene manipulation. The majority of the 28 fingerprint samples taken from the crime site were smeared and ineffective. Rajesh, strangely enough, instructed the cops not to open the locked terrace door and gave them Rs 25,000 to find Banjade. The theory that it was the live-in servant quickly gained traction. The Talwars w Furthermore, Rajesh and Nupur said that they did not hear a single sound throughout the murders. They claimed that the sounds of bludgeoning and laceration were muffled by their closed-door and air conditioning unit. A bloodstained kukri knife was discovered in the residence of Krishna Thadarai, a Talwars' aide. After a court found that the CBI had employed excessive interrogation techniques, he was released and he engaged in spreading this story, according to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

CBI INVESTIGATION AND FINDING

When the CBI took over the investigation of this case, they discovered numerous inconsistencies in the testimony of the witnesses. When they were asked back for an investigation, it was discovered that a few witnesses had made fraudulent statements that completely contradicted the facts. This blunder was once again blamed on the police department, even though the early interrogations were found to be vital to the case's investigation. After the CBI reopened the investigation, they discovered Krishna, the Talwars' former housekeeper, to be a suspect. The CBI issued a formal declaration convicting Krishna of the killings of both Aarushi and Hemraj after conducting a Narco-Analysis test on him. When these circumstances were given to the court, the court declined to consider the results of the Narco-Analysis test. The test was unethical and inadmissible in court, according to the report. Krishna was cleared of all allegations because the CBI was unable to present any additional evidence to support their theory. Because there were no leads, the CBI urged that the matter be closed. However, the motion for closure was denied, and the case was handed

over to another CBI team with more experience. The second team went straight to work on the pre-existing evidence and decided that the Talwars were to blame.

TALWARS AS SUSPECTS

The absence of noise from Aarushi's chamber on the night she was murdered was deemed suspicious by the CBI. When questioned about it, the parents said that the noise from their air conditioner made it difficult for them to hear anything outside their room. The CBI resumed their search for more evidence and discovered that on the night of May 15th, the internet router in Aarushi's room was continually turned on and off. Because it was a manual router, the person who operated it should have been in Aarushi's room. The CBI's mistrust was heightened by the fact that the keys to Aarushi's room were only available to the Talwars.

THE TRIALS OF THE TALWARS

The trial began on May 11, 2013, and ended on November 25, 2013 with both defendants being found guilty. According to NDTV, the prosecution offered the following rationale for Aarushi Talwar's murder: Rajesh heard a disturbance the night of the murder and imagined it was coming from Banjade's room. He didn't see anyone in there, so he went inside Aarushi's room and grabbed the golf club from Banjade's room. He spotted a couple having a sexual encounter there. Rajesh smacked the 45-year-old servant in the head with his fist. Banjade moved when he tried to punch him again, causing the father to strike his daughter instead. Banjade and Aarushi were both near death by the time Nupur was roused by the ruckus and ran into the room. AGL Kaul, a special prosecutor, stated, "The injured Hemraj had slipped from the bed." "They both checked Aarushi's pulse and found her near-dead, which alarmed them, so they killed Hemraj so no one would notice." To get away with the double-murder of their daughter Aarushi Talwar and their servant, the married couple understood they'd have to make up a story. They wrapped Banjade's body in a blanket and carried him to the terrace, where they would dispose of his remains at a later date. They resolved to slit his throat and do the same to his daughter. Rajesh and Nupur then cleaned up the crime scene, mopping up bloodstains on the floor, removing any ruined clothing, and disposing of anything they could see had been polluted by the violent act. To deceive the authorities, the pair left the house, closed the gates from the outside, and entered the residence through Banjade's room. That's when the father took a seat and drank a glass of whisky.

JUDGEMENT OF THE COURT

After analyzing the evidence presented by the CBI, the Sessions Court found the Talwars guilty of the murders of Aarushi Talwar and Hemraj Banjade. Based on circumstantial evidence, the court instructed the officials to proceed with the detention. The Talwars were also found guilty of fraud by forgery when they attempted to tamper with evidence at the crime scene, according to the court. The Talwars filed a challenge at the Allahabad High Court, claiming that they had been falsely imprisoned they claimed they had not received a fair trial and sought that their case is heard by a higher court. The Talwars were pronounced innocent and given the benefit of the doubt when their case was reheard by the High Court. The judge ordered the Talwars to be released immediately because the CBI conclusions were simply speculations and no real evidence was offered. The CBI was likewise unable to present any evidence to support the Talwars' conviction. In 2014, they were acquitted of all charges.

CONCLUSION

The murder of Aarushi Talwar is said to be one of the most perplexing cases that the Indian judiciary has ever seen. The various defects and discrepancies, in this case, have rendered it a mystery to this day. One of the primary features of this case was the shoddy investigation and functioning of law enforcement organizations, which shattered people's trust in the process of restoring justice. The topic of "Who killed Aarushi Talwar" remains unsolved, and the most disturbing aspect is that no action has been done to identify the perpetrators. We must accept the grim fact that whoever committed these killings has yet to be apprehended and is still free to wander the earth. The rule of law was respected by acquitting individuals who were thought to be innocent. However, we must ask ourselves a basic question: Was there a fair trial?

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