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## Mother Teresa nuns accused of torture



Mother Teresa (left) was succeeded by Sister Nirmala

**By Subir Bhaumik in Calcutta**

The head of the Missionaries of Charity, founded by Mother Teresa, has surrendered to a Calcutta court after the charity and one of its nuns were accused of torturing a seven-year-old girl.

The organisation's leader, Sister Nirmala, was granted bail on a surety of 5,000 rupees (\$110).

But the case against the Missionaries of Charity was not dropped and the next hearing will take place in October.

A local rag-picker, Kaviran Mondal, has filed a criminal case against the Missionaries of Charity and a nun, Sister Francesco, who heads its home for destitute children in central Calcutta.

He has accused them of burning the hand of his daughter as an act of punishment.

### Embarrassment

Mr Mondal says he is too poor to look after his two daughters, both of whom live in the Missionaries of Charity home.

The whereabouts of Sister Francesco are not known and all attempts to get her version of the story have been unsuccessful.

The Missionaries of Charity are facing embarrassment over the case, but Sister Nirmala says she will not try to suppress evidence at any cost.

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