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# Oberoi terrorist didn't know how to use a tap

**By:** Alisha Coelho **Date:** 2009-11-19 **Place:** Mumbai

## Turkish couple held hostage for hours reveal that in a documentary on 26/11

Taken hostage by terrorists in a room on the 19th floor of the Oberoi Hotel, it was very hard for Turkish couple Seyfi and Meltam Muezzinoglu to feel anything but fear.

But after spending hours with them, the couple experienced pity for their captors, who ended up killing 36 guests and staff at the Trident-Oberoi hotel.

"At one point, we went to the bathroom to drink water and then closed the tap.

The terrorist too wanted to do the same, but he couldn't. He didn't know how to use a tap!

It was so funny because they were so helpless, but when you have a gun you can do anything.

Isn't that interesting?" says Meltam dryly, as she recounts her

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experiences in a new documentary on the attacks.

The documentary has been produced by the Discovery Channel that only last year had aired Hotel By The Bay an inside look into the workings of the five-star hotel.

This time around, however, the approach couldn't have been more different.

"The only common link between the two shows is the hotel, but what we really wanted to do was to showcase survivors," said Rahul Johri, senior VP and GM for India, Discovery Networks Asia Pacific.

#### At Taj...

Gripping also is the account of Amit Peshave, a restaurant manager with the Taj Hotel who was overseeing the safety of 200 people at the Taj Chambers.

After an interview with a minister revealing the location of the Chambers reached the handlers, the staff decided that it would be better to evacuate some of the people in the chambers.

"I had people who were extremely scared. I had families. There were people who were drunk and people under the influence of alcohol are difficult."

However, firing broke out and the staff locked the guests in the chambers again, keeping themselves out.

Peshave survived, but his colleagues did not. Over 40 people died in the Taj attacks.



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**Lucky:** Seyfi and Meltam Muezzinoglu after they were rescued from the Oberoi hotel and now grateful to be alive

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