

Letter of Solidarity in Remembrance of the 1984 Sikh Genocide

This year marks the 30th anniversary of anti-Sikh pogroms in India. In the first week of November 1984, at least 3,000 Sikhs were killed in New Delhi alone.^{1 2 3} Government officials, law enforcement officers and military forces failed to prevent or participated in the slaughter.⁴ In many documented incidents, public officials distributed voter lists and weapons used to locate and kill Sikh men, women and children.⁵ Most of the perpetrators of the pogroms have not been brought to justice⁶ and many have flourished in government and political party positions.⁷

We, the undersigned, acknowledge that thousands of Sikhs were murdered in India in November 1984 with the assistance of or lack of intervention by political parties, law enforcement, military or members of the government.

We join in remembrance of the victims, in opposition to the persecution of minorities and in calling for justice for the affected families.

Signed by the elected officials, community leaders and organizations listed on the following page:

¹ [2011 Annual Report of the US Commission on International Religious Freedom, India Chapter Summary, page 245](#)

² [India: Bring Charges for Newly Discovered Massacre of Sikhs](#), Human Rights Watch, April 2011

³ [US saw Congress hand in Sikh massacre](#), reveal Wiki leaks, Times of India, 5/6/11

⁴ [Twenty Years of Impunity: The November 1984 Pogroms of Sikhs in India](#), Ensaaf, October 2006

⁵ [Truth about Delhi violence: Report to the Nation](#), Citizens for Democracy (India), 1985

⁶ [United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, Letter to President Barack H. Obama](#), 11/20/2009

⁷ [The Original Sin of 1984](#), The Hindu, 11/1/2012

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This letter of Solidarity in Remembrance of the 1984 Sikh Genocide is signed by the elected officials, community leaders and organizations listed below:

Senator Darrell Steinberg
California Senate President Pro Tempore

Kevin McCarty, Sacramento City Councilmember

Steve Cohn, Sacramento City Councilmember

Darrell Fong, Sacramento City Councilmember

Steve Hansen, Sacramento City Councilmember

Don Nottoli, Sacramento County Supervisor

Don Saylor, Chair, Yolo County
Board of Supervisors, District 2

Kerri Asbury, Chair of the
Democratic Party of Sacramento County

Jag Bains, Natomas School Board Candidate

Doug Haaland, Candidate for Assembly District 8

Honey Lum, Joyce Eng, Alex Eng,
Chinese American Council of Sacramento

Linda Ng, Organization of Chinese Americans
Sacramento Chapter - Asian Pacific American
Advocates

Jon Fish, Interfaith Council of Sacramento

Sukhvinder Singh
Sikh Organization for Prisoners of War

Palvinder Kaur, Jakara Movement

Balbir Singh Dhillon and Darshan Singh Mundy
Sacramento Sikh Temple

Bhajan Singh Bhinder
Organization for Minorities of India

California Assemblymember Roger Dickinson

California Assemblymember Mariko Yamada

California Assemblymember Ken Cooley

Bobbie Singh-Allen
Elk Grove Unified School District Trustee

Gary Davis, Elk Grove Mayor

Jim Cooper and Steve Detrick
Elk Grove Councilmembers

Nancy Chaires, Chair, City of
Elk Grove Planning Commission

Steve Ly, Elk Grove Unified School District Trustee

Steve Miller, Citrus Heights Councilmember

Basim Elkarra and Fawzia Keval, Council on
American Islamic Relations, Sacramento Chapter

Wazhma Mojaddidi, former president, Council on
American Islamic Relations, Sacramento Chapter

Marielle Tsukamoto, Fumie Shimada and Andy
Noguchi, Florin Japanese American Citizens League

Lisa Kaplan, Natomas School Board Member and
and former president Jewish Federation of
Sacramento

Ryan Pesseh, Founding Chair California Young
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Norm DeYoung, veteran

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