

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY  
CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 34 (ACR 34)

[Link to California Legislative Information](#)

**Remembering those that lost their lives during the  
November 1984 anti-Sikh pogrom and massacre in India**

WHEREAS, November 2014 marked the 30 year anniversary of the horrific anti-Sikh pogroms, which claimed the lives of thousands of Sikhs throughout India in the first week of November 1984; and

WHEREAS, Many Sikh lives were saved from the massacre by compassionate Indians of all religious backgrounds, who put their own lives at risk by providing shelter to their Sikh friends and neighbors; and

WHEREAS, Sikhs were beaten with iron rods; forcibly shorn of their hair, which Sikhs are religiously required to maintain uncut; doused with kerosene; and set on fire; and

WHEREAS, Sikh women, many of whom lost their husbands, sons, and fathers during the pogroms, were gang raped and sexually assaulted by the attackers; and

WHEREAS, Sikh homes, businesses, and houses of worship (gurdwaras) were looted, damaged, and destroyed during the pogroms; and

WHEREAS, The pogroms resulted in the intentional destruction of many Sikh families, communities, homes, and businesses; and

WHEREAS, Eyewitnesses, journalists, and human rights activists have compiled evidence showing that government and law enforcement officials organized, participated in, and failed to intervene to prevent the killings through direct and indirect means; and

WHEREAS, Individuals and organizations throughout the world, recognizing the need for justice, continue to demand prosecution of those responsible for the November 1984 anti-Sikh pogroms; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature remember those who lost their lives during the November 1984 anti-Sikh pogroms and massacre; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

**Reference material is available at the following links:**

[Indian Home Minister Rajnath Singh Calls 1984 a Genocide](#), Hindustan Times, 12/26/2014

[Sikhs Dump Ami-Bera](#), Hindustan Times, 11/1/14

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

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

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

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

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

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

[Truth about Delhi Violence: report to the nation](#), Citizens for Democracy (India), 1985