

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 1554

Expressing support for the recognition and commemoration of the Sikh
Genocide of 1984.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 25, 2024

Mr. VALADAO (for himself, Mr. COSTA, Mr. FONG, Mr. DUARTE, and Mr.
HARDER of California) submitted the following resolution; which was re-
ferred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the recognition and commemoration
of the Sikh Genocide of 1984.

Whereas the Sikh religion, originating in the Punjab region
of South Asia, is the fifth-largest faith in the world with
over 25,000,000 followers, and is a monotheistic faith
rooted in truth, service, and justice;

Whereas Sikhism is practiced by over 500,000 individuals in
the United States, and Sikhs have been part of the
American fabric for more than 120 years, arriving ini-
tially to work on farms, in lumber mills, mines, and on
the Western Pacific Railroad, and subsequently settling
in every State and territory, contributing significantly to
the Nation's social, cultural, and economic landscape
across diverse fields such as art, music, trucking, agri-

culture, information technology, law, medicine, and many more;

Whereas systemic and orchestrated genocidal violence was perpetrated against Sikhs in 1984 in the capital territory of Delhi, the states of Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Tripura, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, and Maharashtra, and India-administered Jammu and Kashmir;

Whereas, during the Sikh genocide, Sikhs were assaulted, tortured, burned alive, and murdered, and Sikh women, many of whom lost their families during the genocide, were sexually assaulted and raped by groups of attackers;

Whereas Sikh homes, businesses, and gurdwaras, or houses of worship, were looted, damaged, and destroyed during the genocide, causing the intentional destruction of many Sikh families, communities, homes, and businesses;

Whereas the Indian government, through officials and Members of Parliament and with the support of the police and other state institutions, led genocidal attacks and participated in, and failed to intervene to prevent, the genocide;

Whereas, in 1984, over 30,000 Sikhs were murdered;

Whereas the “Widow Colony” in New Delhi still houses Sikh women who were assaulted, raped, tortured, and forced to witness the dismemberment, burning, and murder of their families, and who are still calling for justice against the perpetrators;

Whereas the Sikh community in the United States has not recovered from the physical and psychological trauma of

the genocide, as they keep alive the memory of those who were killed, and will never forget the Sikh genocide; and

Whereas recognizing the state-sponsored violence that targeted Sikhs across India is an important and historic step toward justice, accountability, and reconciliation, which should be an example to other governments: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
2 resentatives that it is the policy of the United States to—
3 (1) commemorate the Sikh Genocide of 1984
4 through official recognition and remembrance;
5 (2) call for all perpetrators, regardless of rank
6 or status, to be brought to account; and
7 (3) reject efforts to enlist, engage, or otherwise
8 associate the United States Government with denial
9 of the Sikh Genocide.

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