

STATE CAPITOL
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E-MAIL

Assemblymember.Villapadua@assembly.ca.gov



DISTRICT OFFICE
31 EAST CHANNEL STREET, SUITE 306
STOCKTON, CA 95202
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February 4, 2021

On February 4th, 1986, four unarmed and peaceful Sikh students: Ravinder Singh, Baldhir Sing, Jhilman Sing and Harminder Sing, were murdered by State Police in Punjab, India. This was a unprovoked and senseless act done while they were Protesting the desecration of Sikh Scripture.

As the State Assemblymember for the 13th District of California, I stand in solidarity with the Sikh families of the Victims of the Nakodar incident in their pursuit of justice as they continue to build support across the world.

Sincerely,

Carlos Villapudua
Assemblymember
13th District of California

PROCLAMATION

SAKA NAKODAR DAY

WHEREAS on February 4, 1986 four unarmed and peaceful Sikh students, namely Ravinder Singh, Baldev Singh, Jhilman Singh, and Harminder Singh were killed by State Police in Punjab, India in an unprovoked firing while participating in protest against the desecration of Sikh scripture "Sri Guru Granth Sahib" considered by all Sikhs to be the final, supreme and living guru after the lineage of 10 Sikh Gurus; and

WHEREAS the State authorities violated the Freedom of peaceful assembly which is endorsed by article 20 of U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 21 of U.N. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and article 5 of UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders; and

WHEREAS the dead bodies were secretly disposed to conceal this extra judicial killing; and

WHEREAS the State Government constituted a Commission of Judicial inquiry headed by a renowned jurist on this incident of extra Judicial killings. The Justice Gurnam Singh Commission of Inquiry submitted its report to the state government on 31 October 1986 but the government failed to place and discuss the report, along with the mandatory Action Taken Report, in the state assembly within six months of submission; and

WHEREAS the state obscured the relevant parts of the Judicial commission inquiry report and took no action on the report and not even a single perpetrator has been brought to justice to date; and

WHEREAS Victims' families have been fighting for truth, justice, accountability and closure for over 35 years; and

WHEREAS this incident has now also received international attention as Dr. Iqtidar Cheema, Member of United Nations Global steering committee of OSAPG, has raised it on various international forums; and

WHEREAS I have always been an advocate for the democratic and human rights of all people.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as the Mayor of the City of Lathrop, I declare as follows:

The City of Lathrop stands in solidarity and empathy with the Sikh families of the victims of the Nakodar incident in their pursuit of justice as they continue to build worldwide support.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Sonny Dhaliwal, Mayor of Lathrop, do hereby proclaim February 4, 2021 as SAKA NAKODAR DAY in the City of Lathrop.

DATE 2-1-2021

Sonny Dhaliwal
MAYOR



C I T Y O F L A T H R O P

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF STOCKTON

Proclamation

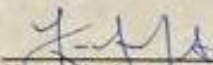
- WHEREAS,** On February 4, 1986, four unarmed and peaceful Sikh students, namely Ravinder Singh, Balbir Singh, Jhiman Singh, and Harminder Singh, were killed by State Police in Punjab, India, in an unprovoked firing while participating in the protest against the desecration of Sikh scripture "Sri Guru Granth Sahib" considered by all Sikhs to be the final, supreme and living guru after the lineage of 10 Sikh Gurus; and,
- WHEREAS,** The States authorities violated the Freedom of Peaceful Assembly which is endorsed by article 20 of U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights Article, 21 of U.N. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and article 5 of U.N. Declaration of Human Rights Defenders; and,
- WHEREAS,** The bodies of Ravinder Singh, Balbir Singh, Jhiman Singh, and Harminder Singh were secretly disposed to conceal their extrajudicial killing; and,
- WHEREAS,** The State Government constituted a Commission of Judicial inquiry headed by a renowned jurist on this incident of extrajudicial killings. The Justice Gurnam Singh Commission of Inquiry submitted its report to the state government on 31 October 1986, but the government failed to place and discuss the report, along with the mandatory Action Taken Report, in the State Assembly within six months of submission; and,
- WHEREAS,** The State obscured the relevant parts of the Judicial Commission inquiry report and took no action. Not a single perpetrator has been brought to justice; and,
- WHEREAS,** The victims' families have been fighting for truth, justice, accountability, and closure for over 35 years; and,
- WHEREAS,** This incident has now received international attention as Dr. Iqidar Cheema, Member of the United Nations Global steering committee of OSAPG, has raised it on the various international forum; and,
- WHEREAS,** The City of Stockton stands in solidarity and empathy with the Sikh families of the victims of the Nakodar incident in their pursuit of justice as they continue to build worldwide support.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kevin J. Lincoln II, Mayor of the City of Stockton, and members of the Stockton City Council, do hereby proclaim February 4, 2021,

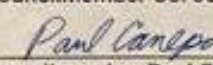
SAKA NAKODAR DAY

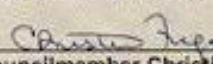
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereby set our hands and caused the seal of the City of Stockton to be affixed this 4th day of February, Two-Thousand-Twenty-One.




Mayor Kevin J. Lincoln II



Councilmember Sol Jobrack


Councilmember Paul Canepa


Councilmember Christina Fugazi


Councilmember Danjel R. Wright


Councilmember Susan H. Klenz


Councilmember Kimberly Warmstey

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

Feb 17, 2021

Mr. Baldev Singh Littran
c/o City of Santa Clara
1500 Warburton Ave.
Santa Clara, CA 95050

Dear Mr. Littran:

I write to you today in solemn remembrance of the four unarmed Sikh students killed by State police on February 4, 1986, in Nakodar, Punjab, India. Sadly, Ravinder Singh, Baldhir Singh Multani, Jhilman Singh and Harminder Singh were killed while peacefully protesting the desecration of Sikh scripture. These killings were unconscionable, and we must never forget their sacrifice.

This issue is especially important to me because support for peaceful protest and human rights runs in my family. My grandfather was a freedom fighter in Gandhi's independence movement in India. He was jailed three times while organizing for human rights and he inspired me to dedicate my life to public service.

As a member of the Committee on Armed Services, I will vigorously advocate for human rights at home and abroad.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ro Khanna". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ro Khanna
Member of Congress



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

*Mani Grewal, County Supervisor
District 4*

*1010 10th Street, Suite 6500
Modesto, CA 95354
Phone: 209-525-4445 Fax 209-525-4410*

February 3, 2021

On February 4, 1986 four unarmed and peaceful Sikh students named Ravinder Singh, Baldev Singh, Jhilman Singh and Harminder Singh were killed by State Police in Punjab, India. This was an unprovoked firing while participating in protest against the desecration of Sikh scripture "Sri Guru Granth Sahib" considered by all Sikhs to be the final, supreme and living Guru after the lineage of 10 Sikh Gurus.

As Supervisor, I stand in solidarity and empathy with the Sikh families of the victims of the Nakodar incident in their pursuit of justice as they continue to build worldwide support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mani Grewal'.

Supervisor Mani Grewal
Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors
District 4



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Councilmember Sylvia Arenas
District 8

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: February 4, 2021

APPROVED: *Sylvia Arenas*

2/4/2021

SUBJECT: RETROACTIVE APPROVAL OF SAKA NAKODAR INTERNATIONAL GLOBAL AWARENESS DAY COMMUNITY EVENT SPONSORED BY COUNCIL DISTRICT 8 AS A CITY COUNCIL SPONSORED SPECIAL EVENT TO EXPEND CITY FUNDS AND ACCEPT DONATIONS OF MATERIALS AND SERVICES FOR THE EVENT

RECOMMENDATION

1. Retroactively approve Saka Nakodar International Global Awareness Day on Thursday, February 4, 2021 as a City Council sponsored Special Event and approve the expenditure of funds.
2. Approve and accept donations from various individuals, businesses or community groups to support the event.
3. Place the item on the Tuesday, February 23, 2021 Council Agenda for action.

BACKGROUND

On February 1, 2005, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 72517 which requires Councilmembers to submit a memorandum to the Rules Committee regarding proposed City Council sponsored Special Events and the proposed use of any funds.

Saka Nakodar International Global Awareness Day is recognized on February 4, 2021 and sponsored by Councilmember Arenas. This special event aims to raise awareness about the Nakodar incident on February 4, 1986 and honor the four unarmed Sikh students who were killed by State Police in Punjab, India during a peaceful protest. Saka Nakodar International Global Awareness Day is an international day to spread awareness to continue generational and community healing for our Sikh American community in San Jose. District 8, home to the Sikh Gurdwara Sahib, and the City of San José at large are deeply enriched by the Sikh community and their generous hearts and commitment to human rights.



SAKA NAKODAR DAY - FEBRUARY 4

WHEREAS on February 4, 1986, four unarmed and peaceful Sikh students, namely Ravinder Singh, Baldir Singh, Jhilman Singh, and Harminder Singh were killed by State Police in Punjab, India in an unprovoked firing while participating in protest against the desecration of Sikh scripture "Sri Guru Granth Sahib" considered by all Sikhs to be the final, supreme and living Guru after the lineage of 10 Sikh Gurus; and

WHEREAS State authorities violated the Freedom of Peaceful Assembly endorsed by Article 20 of U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 21 of U.N. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and Article 5 of UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders; and

WHEREAS the dead bodies were secretly disposed to conceal this extra judicial killing; and

WHEREAS the State Government constituted a Commission of Judicial inquiry headed by a renowned jurist on this incident of Extra-Judicial killings. The Justice Gurnam Singh Commission submitted its report on October 31, 1986, the government failed to place and discuss the report, with the mandatory Action Taken Report, within six months of submission; and

WHEREAS the state obscured the relevant parts of the Judicial commission inquiry report and took no action and to date, not a single perpetrator has been brought to justice; and

WHEREAS the victims' families have been fighting for over 35 years for truth, justice, and accountability; and

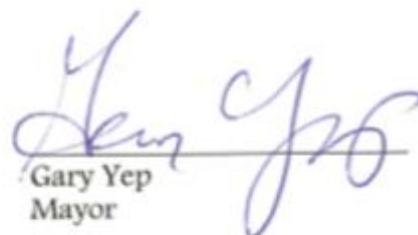
WHEREAS this incident has now received international attention as Dr. Iqtidar Cheema, Member of United Nations Global steering committee of OSAPG has raised it on various international forums; and

WHEREAS the City has always been an advocate for the democratic and human rights of all people and stands in solidarity and empathy with the Sikh families of the victims.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the City Council of the City of Kerman hereby proclaims February 4, as SAKA NAKODAR DAY.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Kerman to be affixed on this 24th day of February 2021.




Gary Yep
Mayor

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 302843
SACRAMENTO, CA 95834-0284
(916) 319-2225
FAX (916) 619-2100



February 4, 2021

On February 4, 1986, four students were killed by India's state security forces for participating in a peaceful protest in the town of Nakodar in Punjab, India. These four young men: Ravinder Singh, Balbir Singh, Jihman Singh, and Harminder Singh belonged to the All India Sikh Students Federation and were peacefully protesting the desecration and destruction of the Sri Guru Granth Sahib, the holy scripture of Sikhs.

Thirty-five years later, the families of the victims are still fighting for truth, justice, accountability, and closure as they grapple with the harsh reality that the murderers were never brought to justice, and that the bodies of their children were never returned to their families for a proper burial.

As a member of the State Assembly for the 25th District of California, I stand in solidarity with the victims' families and the Sikh community as we remember February 4th as Saka Nakodar Day in honor of the students who peacefully protested the destruction of the Sikh scripture.

We must continue the fight to bring awareness to those who fight for equality and justice for all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Lee", is written over a light blue horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Assemblymember Alex Lee, 25th District

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Assemblymember.Kalra@assembly.ca.gov

Assembly California Legislature



ASH KALRA
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, TWENTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES
CHAIR: LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
AGING AND LONG-TERM CARE
EDUCATION
JUDICIARY
WATER, PARKS, AND WILDLIFE

February 4, 2021

On February 4, 1986, four peaceful students, Ravinder Singh, Baldev Singh, Jihlman Singh, and Harminder Singh, were senselessly murdered by India's state security forces for participating in a peaceful protest in the town of Nakodar in Punjab, India. These four young men belonged to the All India Sikh Students Federation and had gathered to protest the desecration and destruction of the Sri Guru Granth Sahib, the holy scripture of Sikhs.

Thirty-five years later, the families of the victims continue to fight for truth, justice, accountability, and closure as they grapple with the harsh reality that the murderers were never arrested or charged, and that the bodies were never returned to the families for a proper burial.

As a member of the State Assembly for the 27th District of California, I stand in solidarity with the victims' families and the Sikh community as we remember February 4th as Saka Nakodar Day in honor of the students who peacefully protested the destruction of the Sikh scripture.

Let this be a reminder that we must continue to bring awareness to those who fight for equality, truth, and justice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ash Kalra".

ASH KALRA



SAN JOAQUIN
— COUNTY —
Greatness grows here.

Board of Supervisors

Miguel Villapudua, *First District*
Chris Rouppet, *Chief of Staff*

February 4, 2021

On February 4, 1986, four unarmed and peaceful Sikh students named Ravinder Singh, Baldhir Singh, Jhilman Singh, Harminder Singh were killed by State Police in Punjab, India. This was an unprovoked firing while participating in protest against desecration of Sikh scriptures. "Sri Guru Granth Sahib" considered by all Sikhs to be the final, supreme and living Guru after the lineage of 10 Sikh Gurus.

As San Joaquin County Supervisor, I stand in solidarity and empathize with the Sikh families of the victims of the tragic Nakodar incident in their pursuit of justice as they continue to build worldwide support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Miguel A. Villapudua".

MIGUEL A. VILLAPUDUA
Supervisor, First District

CITY OF MILPITAS PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on February 4, 1986, four unarmed and peaceful Sikh students, namely Ravinder Singh, Baldhir Singh, Jhilman Singh, and Harminder Singh were killed by State Police in Punjab, India in an unprovoked firing while participating in protest against the desecration of Sikh scripture "Sri Guru Granth Sahib" considered by all Sikhs to be the final, supreme and living Guru after the lineage of 10 Sikh Gurus; and

WHEREAS, the state authorities violated the Freedom of peaceful assembly which is endorsed by Article 20 of U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 21 of U.N. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and Article 5 of UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders; and

WHEREAS, the dead bodies were secretly disposed to conceal this extrajudicial killing; and

WHEREAS, the state government constituted a Commission of Judicial inquiry headed by a renowned jurist on this incident. The Justice Gurnam Singh Commission of Inquiry submitted its report to the state government on October 31, 1986, but the government failed to place and discuss the report, along with the mandatory Action Taken Report, in the state assembly within six months of submission; and

WHEREAS, the state obscured the relevant parts of the judicial commission inquiry report and took no action. Not a single perpetrator has been brought to justice to date; and

WHEREAS, victims' families have been fighting for truth, justice, accountability and closure for over 35 years; and

WHEREAS, this incident has now also received international attention as Dr. Iqtidar Cheema, Member of United Nations Global steering committee of OSAPG, has raised it on various international forums; and

WHEREAS, the City of Milpitas has always been an advocate for the democratic and human rights of all people and stands in solidarity and empathy with the Sikh families of the victims of the Nakodar incident in their pursuit of justice as they continue to build worldwide support.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Rich Tran, Mayor of the City of Milpitas and on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim February 4, 2021 as

SAKA NAKODAR DAY

PROCLAIMED this 4th day of February 2021



Mayor Rich Tran





**City of
Santa Clara**
The Center of What's Possible

Mayor

Lisa M. Gillmor

Councilmembers

Anthony J. Becker
Raj Chahal
Karen Hardy
Suds Jain
Kevin Park
Kathy Watanabe

February 4, 2021

Mr. Baldev Singh Littran
c/o City of Santa Clara
1500 Warburton Avenue
Santa Clara, CA 95050

On February 4, 1986, four unarmed, peaceful members of the All India Sikh Student Federation (AISSF), Ravinder Singh, Baldhir Singh, Jhilman Singh, and Harminder Singh, were killed by State police in Nakodar, Punjab, India while peacefully protesting the desecration of Sikh scripture "Sri Guru Granth Sahib."

The City of Santa Clara takes great pride in our diverse population and welcomes those from different nationalities, backgrounds, and cultures. As Mayor, I stand in solidarity and empathy with the victims' families as they fight for truth, justice, accountability and closure of this unprovoked attack.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lisa M. Gillmor".

Lisa M. Gillmor
Mayor
City of Santa Clara

