

By His Excellency Ned Lamont, Governor: an
Official Statement

*W*HEREAS, Sikhism is the fifth largest independent ethnic religion founded by Guru Nanak in 1469 in the Punjab Region of South Asia. There are over 30 Million Followers World Wide known as Sikhs and 700,000 living in The United States of America. Many Sikhs have called America their home since the late nineteenth century. Sikhs can be found in diverse professions including service in Law Enforcement and US Armed forces with their articles of faith; and

*W*HEREAS, June 2019 marked the 35th Commemoration of Invasion of Harmandir Sahib (Golden Temple) and 36 Other Gurudwaras all over India by the Indian Army, which claimed the lives of thousands of Sikh Worshipers on one of their Holiest days during the year. This year also marks the 35th Commemoration of November 1984 Sikh Genocide; and

*W*HEREAS, Sikhs were shot while their hands were tied behind their backs ,Sikh Political Authority "Akaal Takhat" was attacked with Tanks, Bullets were shot at the Sikh Scripture and Sikh Reference Library was burned and artifacts were looted; and

*W*HEREAS, Eyewitnesses, journalists, and human rights activists have compiled evidence showing that Indian Army took this illegal action in violation of Geneva Conventions and carried Pre Planned Attack on orders of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to End Sikhs Civil Rights movement lead by Sant Jarnail Singh Khalsa Bhindranwale; and

*W*HEREAS, Still 80% of Sikh Population lives in Indian Occupied Punjab and wants to exercise their right for Self-Determination under United Nations guidelines; and

*W*HEREAS, Individuals and organizations throughout the world, recognizing the need for justice, continue to demand prosecution of those responsible for June 1984 Massacre and November 1984 Sikh Genocide; now

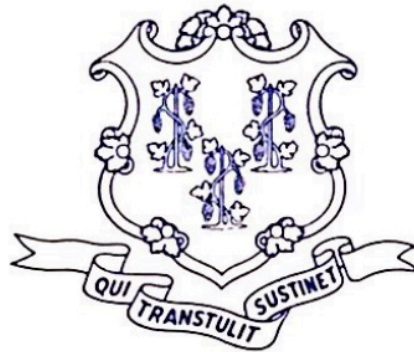
*T*HEREFORE, I, Ned Lamont, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby proclaim June 2019 as

SIKH MEMORIAL MONTH
in the State of Connecticut



Ned Lamont
GOVERNOR

State of Connecticut



General Assembly Official Citation

Introduced by *Senator Catherine A. Osten, 19th Dist.* *Representative Kevin Ryan, 139th Dist.*
Representative Emmett D. Riley, 46th Dist. *Representative Doug Dubitsky, 47th Dist.*
Senator Saud Anwar, 3rd Dist.

**Be it hereby known to all that:
The Connecticut General Assembly
offers its sincerest congratulations to:**

Sikh Community of Connecticut

In recognition of

the observance of June 1st as "Sikh Memorial Day" and the designation of the month of June as "Sikh Memorial Month. This year, Sikhs all around the world commemorate the 35th anniversary of the "June 1984 Sikh Massacre" when the Indian Army invaded the Sikhs' Holy Place "Harmandir Sahib", also known as Golden Temple located in the Sikh homeland, Punjab and the 35th Commemoration of the "November 1984 Sikh Genocide".

**The entire membership extends its
very best wishes on this memorable occasion
and expresses the hope for continued success.**

**Given this 1st day of June 2019
at the State Capitol
Hartford, Connecticut**

by

Martin M. Looney
President Pro Tempore

[Signature]
Speaker of the House

[Signature]
Secretary of the State



WORLD SIKH PARLIAMENT

ਨਾਨਕਿ ਰਾਜੁ ਚਲਾਇਆ ਸਚੁ ਕੋਟੁ ਸਤਾਣੀ ਨੀਵੈ ਹੈ

NANAK FOUNDED A STATE, BUILT ON A FORTRESS OF TRUTH
ANG 966 SRI GURU GRANTH SAHIB JI

Proclamation

June 1, 2020

WHEREAS, Sikhism is the fifth largest independent ethnic religion founded by Guru Nanak in 1469 in the Punjab Region of South Asia. There are over 30 Million Followers World Wide known as Sikhs. Sikhs can be found in diverse professions including service in Law Enforcement and various Countries Armed forces with their articles of faith; and

WHEREAS, June 2020 marked the 36th Commemoration of Invasion of Harmandir Sahib (Golden Temple) and 36 Other Gurudwaras all over India by the Indian Army, which claimed the lives of thousands of Sikh Worshipers on one of their Holiest days during the year. This year also marks the 36th Commemoration of November 1984 Sikh Genocide ; and

WHEREAS, Sikhs were shot while their hands were tied behind their backs ,Sikh Political Authority “Akaal Takhat” was attacked with Tanks, Bullets were shot at the Sikh Scripture and Sikh Reference Library was burned and artifacts were looted; and

WHEREAS, Eyewitnesses, journalists, and human rights activists have compiled evidence showing that Indian Army took this illegal action in violation of Geneva Conventions and carried Pre Planned Attack on orders of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to End Sikhs Civil Rights movement lead by Sant Jarnail Singh Khalsa Bhindranwale; and

WHEREAS, Still 80% of Sikh Population lives in Indian Occupied Punjab and wants to exercise their right for Self-Determination under United Nations guidelines ; and

WHEREAS, Individuals and organizations throughout the world, recognizing the need for justice, continue to demand prosecution of those responsible for June 1984 Massacre and November 1984 Sikh Genocide;

NOW, THEREFORE The World Sikh Parliament remembers those Sikh Martyrs and Innocent men, women and children who lost their lives during the June 1984 Sikh Massacre and November 1984 Sikh Genocide and recognize

June 1st 2020 as “Sikh Memorial Day”.

Recognize Month Of June as “Sikh Memorial Month”.



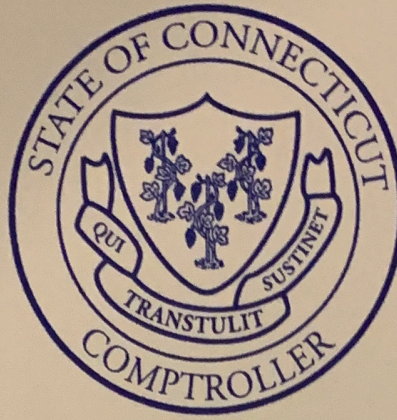
Manpreet Singh

(General Secretary)

Hardyal Singh

(General Secretary)

The World Sikh Parliament was formed pursuant to a resolution of the Sarbat Khalsa (national gathering) held in the Sikh homeland in November 2015. It has resolved to pursue the cause of Sikh human rights, both collective and individual, and the internationalise the campaign for Sikh national self-determination.



OFFICE of the STATE COMPTROLLER
OFFICIAL CITATION

Be it hereby known to all that the State Comptroller
hereby offers his sincerest congratulations to:

Sikh Community of Connecticut

in recognition of

Sikh Memorial Day. Today marks the 35th Commemoration of the Invasion of Hermandir Sahib and the 36 Gurudwara and the sacrifices that were made on that day. In honor of those sacrifices, this Dedication Ceremony of the Sikh Genocide Memorial will serve as a reminder of those martyrs and innocent men, women, and children who lost their lives during this time.

The State Comptroller extends his best wishes on this
memorable occasion and expresses his hope
for continued success.

Given this

1st Day of June, 2019

by

Kevin Lembo

State Comptroller





City Of Norwich

Mayors Office

Peter Albert Nystrom, Mayor

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Sikhism is the fifth largest independent ethnic religion founded by Guru Nanak in 1469 in the Punjab Region of South Asia and over 700,000 are living in the United States, Sikhs can be found in diverse professions including service in Law Enforcement and US Armed forces with their articles of faith; and

WHEREAS, June 2019 marked the 35th Commemoration of the Invasion of Harmandir Sahib (Golden Temple) and 36 other Gurudwaras all over India by the Indian Army, claiming the lives of thousands of Sikh Worshipers on their Holiest days during the year and also marks the 35th Commemoration of November 1984 Sikh Genocide; and

WHEREAS, Sikhs were shot while their hands were tied behind their backs, Sikh Political Authority "Akaal Takhat" was attacked with tanks and bullets; and

WHEREAS, eyewitnesses and journalists have compiled evidence showing that the Indian Army took this illegal action in violation of the Geneva Conventions and carried out an attack on orders of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to end Sikhs Civil Rights movement lead by Sant Jarnail Singh Khalsa Bhindranwale; and

WHEREAS, still 80% of Sikh population lives in Indian occupied Punjab and want to exercise their right for Self-Determination under United Nations guidelines; and

WHEREAS, individuals and organizations throughout the world, recognizing the need for justice, continue to demand prosecution of those responsible for June 1984 Massacre and the November 1984 Sikh Genocide

NOW THEREFORE, I, MAYOR PETER ALBERT NYSTROM AND NORWICH CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM, BILL NASH, ON BEHALF OF THE NORWICH CITY COUNCIL AND THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF NORWICH, do hereby declare June 1, 2019 as Sikh Memorial Day to honor and remember the innocent who lost their lives during the June 1984 Sikh Massacre and November 1984 Sikh Genocide.

Dated this First Day of June, 2019

Peter Albert Nystrom
Mayor



Bill Nash
President Pro Tem



CONGRESSMAN JOE COURTNEY

2ND DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

Presents

THE SIKH COMMUNITY OF
CONNECTICUT ON SIKH MEMORIAL DAY

Special Congressional Recognition

FOR THE UNVEILING OF THE MEMORIAL AT OTIS LIBRARY IN
NORWICH, CT COMMEMORATING 35 YEARS SINCE VIOLENCE
WAS COMMITTED AGAINST THE SIKH PEOPLE ACROSS INDIA
RESULTING IN THE LOSS OF LIFE OF THOUSANDS IN THE
MONTH OF JUNE 1984.

JUNE 1, 2019

DATE

CONGRESSMAN JOE COURTNEY



*"Until lions have their own historians, the tale
of the hunt will always glorify the hunter."*

-African Proverb (Chinua Achebe)

**"Until the history of 1984 is written
by the human rights community
and told to the world, the history of
1984 will always glorify the hunter."**

-The Sikh Coalition

Learn more about the events of June 1984:
<http://bit.ly/blog-june1984>



US flag:
Half staff



State flag:
Half staff

In accordance with a presidential proclamation, Gov. Ned Lamont has directed flags be lowered to half-staff in remembrance of the victims of the mass shooting in Virginia Beach until sunset Tuesday.
WILLIMANTIC

IN BRIEF

Woman: Complex won't allow assistance animal

A Willimantic woman is suing the Windham Heights housing complex for not allowing her to keep her assistance animal in the apartment and threatening her with eviction for not removing it.

Yarieliz Moure alleges the Windham Heights housing complex refused, despite an administrative appeal hearing and repeated written requests, to allow her to keep her assistance animal in the apartment.

The suit was filed May 20 in the Hartford District Court.

Moure is suing Vesta Corp., Vesta Windham LLC and Ashley Johnson in her official capacity for \$150,000, plus punitive damages and attorney's fees.

The suit was filed by Connecticut Legal Services Inc.

The Chronicle (TNS)

NORWICH

Tour tells story of soldier who fought against slavery

The Norwich Historical Society will host a tour at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Norwichtown Green in Norwich.

Tom Coletti and Vic Butsch will share the story of Aaron Dwight Stevens. Stevens fought in the war against Mexico with the Dragoons in New Mexico and against the pro-slavery factions in "Bloody Kansas." The tour is centered close to young Stevens' home, church and school at the Norwichtown Green and will take one hour.

Attendees are to gather on the Norwichtown Green in front of the Norwich Heritage & Regional Visitors' Center, 69 E. Town St.

GROTON Woodstock film to be shown at library

A 50th anniversary celebration of Woodstock will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday at Groton Public Library, 52 Newtown Road.

Musician and historian Craig Harris will take attendees back to that weekend in August 1969.

Sikh memorial keeps past alive



Swaranjit Singh Khalsa, a Norwich Sikh community leader, is interviewed by Amarveer Singh of New York City TV 84 during Sikh Memorial Day marking the 1984 Sikh genocide at Otis Library. See videos and more photos at NorwichBulletin.com [PHOTOS BY JOHN SHISHMANIAN/ NORWICHBULLETIN.COM]

Plaque is 1st of its kind in United States

By John Penney

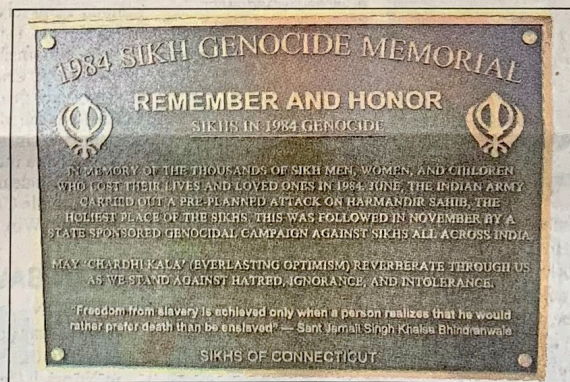
jpenney@norwichbulletin.com
(860) 857-6965

NORWICH — Representatives of the local and wider Sikh community gathered inside Norwich's Otis Library on Saturday to formally commemorate the deaths of thousands of its members 35 years ago throughout India.

The event, attended by several elected city officials and community leaders, included the unveiling of the first United States "1984 Sikh Genocide Memorial" plaque to remind viewers of the June 1984 attack in Punjab, as well as the subsequent genocide of Sikh adherents months later.

The memorial, placed on a wall of the main lobby near a sketch of the city of Norwich, features a plaque honoring Sikh soldiers who fought to protect places of worship with a portrait of Sant Jarnail Singh Khalsa Bhindrawale, who died during fighting at the Darbar Sahib, or Golden Temple, in Amritsar, Punjab.

"Why have this function?" asked Manmohan Singh Bharara, one of several speakers at Saturday's event. "Because the best way to remember is by seeing, doing and discussing. We cannot allow the past to be laid to rest. We have to talk about it."



The 1984 Sikh Genocide Memorial plaque was unveiled at Otis Library in downtown Norwich.

gets repeated again."

In June 1984, after the Indian government suspected weapons were being stockpiled at the temple, troops were deployed into the religious complex. Hundreds of Sikh worshippers were killed and the structure was desecrated and burned.

This month marks the 35th anniversary of the temple fight, which later led to the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi by her Sikh bodyguards. Her death sparked the "November 1984 Sikh Genocide," in which thousands of Sikhs were killed in reprisal across India.

Justice group, said Saturday's ceremony was an opportunity to change decades worth of false narratives on the temple and later killings.

"Initially, the version was always portraying the Sikhs as terrorists, but this was a case of an armed conflict between two groups, a civil rights movement," he said. "The genocide was always referred to as 'riots,' not a situation where thousands were killed and many more went missing."

Singh said the situation for Sikhs in India is still tenuous, with the religion still not

Plainfield budgets facing a 2nd vote

Finance board ordered \$100K total cuts after first vote failed

A second vote on the 2019-20 Plainfield town and school budget proposals is set for Monday.

The meeting: A Town Meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Monday at Town Hall where Plainfield residents for the second time in as many months will vote on proposed 2019-20 general government and Board of Education spending plans. The meeting comes less than two weeks after a recount upheld the results of a May 20 machine vote in which initial proposals failed.

The budgets: After the spending plans' rejections at the polls, the Board of Finance ordered \$100,000 in total cuts, \$50,000 each from town and school board budgets. The amended \$11.8 million general government plan and \$35.9 million school budgets, if approved Monday, would translate to a 0.37 mill rate increase, down from the 0.48 mill-rate jump previously rejected. First Selectwoman Cathy Tendrich said the town anticipates earning at least \$40,000 by auctioning off various pieces of outdated highway department equipment, including engines, vehicles and lawn mowers. She said the auction revenue, along with a \$20,000 straight cut to the highway department, will offset the finance board's directed cuts to the town budget.

Voting: Because the May referendum vote drew so few voters — less than 9% turned out — Monday's town meeting vote will be conducted either by a show of hands or via written ballot. A recent court case determined residents may not petition to bring the town meeting to another machine vote. Per a charter amendment, the town and school budgets beginning this year will be decided separately, though if one fails only that spending plan will come up for a subsequent vote. A town meeting vote will be held every two weeks going forward until the budgets are accepted.



SIKHS REMEMBER THEIR
GENOCIDE, JUNE 1984 ATTACK
AND DESECRATION OF
HOLY GOLDEN TEMPLE BY THE
INDIAN ARMY

Pat Singh, Akali Dal (Amritsar), Michigan Unit, 734-674-6688

July, 2007



NEWS



Norwich-area Sikhs to mark 1984 mass killing, join Orlando vigil



Christ Episcopal Church in Norwich posted prayers for Sikhs who died during the 1984 Golden Temple massacre on its LED sign on Washington Street. Ryan Blessing/NorwichBulletin.com

By **Ryan Blessing**

rblessing@norwichbulletin.com, (860) 425-4205

Posted Jun 26, 2016 at 3:19 PM

Updated Jun 26, 2016 at 4:32 PM







"The **Army** went into Darbar Sahib not to eliminate a political figure or a political movement but to *suppress the culture of a people*, to attack their heart, to strike a blow at their spirit and self-confidence."

- Joyce Pettigrew





REMEMBER AND HONOR

SIKHS IN 1984 GENOCIDE



IN MEMORY OF THE THOUSANDS OF SIKH MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN WHO LOST THEIR LIVES AND LOVED ONES IN 1984. IN JUNE, THE INDIAN ARMY CARRIED OUT A PRE-PLANNED ATTACK ON HARMANDIR SAHIB, THE MOST HOLY PLACE OF THE SIKHS. THIS WAS FOLLOWED IN NOVEMBER BY A STATE SPONSORED GENOCIDAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST SIKHS ALL ACROSS INDIA.

MAY 'CHARDHI KALA' (EVERLASTING OPTIMISM) REVERBERATE THROUGH US AS WE STAND AGAINST HATRED, IGNORANCE, AND INTOLERANCE.

"Freedom from slavery is achieved only when a person realizes that he would rather prefer death than be enslaved" — Sant Jarnail Singh Khalsa Bhindranwale

SIKHS OF CONNECTICUT



