

February 28, 2011

WHY MISMATCH IN FIGURES? HARYANA GOVERNMENT ACKNOWLEDGES 32 KILLED AND FIR HAS COUNT OF 20

More than 26 years after the November 1984 Sikh massacre in village Hondh Chillar, Haryana government has acknowledged killings of 32 persons in village Hondh Chillar in Rewari district, Haryana on November 2, 1984. The FIR, number 91 which was registered at police station Jatusana in Mahendergarh district, now in Rewari, based on DDR no 5, had a count of 20 persons massacred in village Hondh Chillar.

There are several questions which remain unanswered. Why is there a mismatch in the figures? Which records have the Haryana Government considered and where have they got their numbers from? How the FIR which was registered after the incident was lost or misplaced? Why was there no investigation in the matter and none of the eye witnesses ever contacted? And why did the police close the case? There are many more unanswered questions.

Only after the mass grave of Sikhs killed in November 1984 discovered, Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda sought a report in the incident and demanded a judicial probe.

On November 02, 1984 attackers surrounded Sikh houses and attacked by throwing petrol bombs into Sikh homes. Men and children were beaten and thrown into the burning houses and women were first raped and then thrown into the fire. The Guru Granth Sahib was desecrated and Gurudwara was put on fire as indication of the murderous rage of the mob, looking to destroy any and all traces of Sikh identity. The entire village was burnt along with its Sikh population and Gurudwara.

Victims of the massacre are waiting for the justice for years. The killings were never investigated even after an FIR was registered.

According to the FIR, no 91, a copy of which was presented in the Punjab and Haryana High Court on Wednesday, which was registered at police station Jatusana in Mahendergarh district, now in Rewari, based on DDR no 5, the killers had first arrived in a truck from the side of Hali Mandi in Pataudi, Gurgaon district on the morning of November 2, at around 11am, but were "pacified" by a group of villagers of Chillar and persuaded to go back. However, they returned in the evening, accompanied by more people in two or three trucks and started the bloodbath. "They said they were determined to eliminate the Sikhs because those Sikhs had killed our

beloved leader Indira Gandhi' reads the statement recorded by the complainant in the FIR.

The FIR was registered on the complaint of Dhanpat Singh, the then sarpanch of Chillar who has stated that the killers came back in the evening and started burning the dwellings of the Sikhs. Though, the locals tried to stop them but the killers carried on their arson and attack, while threatening the locals to keep out. The complaint states, "Deep Chand Nambardar, Nanak Chand, Kanhaiya Lal Panch, a resident of Nurpur came to the spot and tried to convince them (killers). But, none of them paid any heed to it and said that Sikhs are traitors and we will finish them, and if you said a word then you will also face bad consequences. They were 400-500 in number and they put houses and shed on fire and started pelting stones, due to which some people were burnt in the houses".

The sarpanch also stated that the locals could not identify the burnt bodies, which were 20 in number. "We wanted to come to report the incident immediately but those people confined us and did not allow us to come." He also mentions the name of Subedar Deep Chand, who accompanied the sarpanch to the police station to report the incident.

The FIR was attested and signed by head constable Ram Kumar and it was registered under sections 148/149/302/436 and 34 of IPC. The document also says that a "special report is being sent by hand through Lal Prashad to Illaqa magistrate sahib and officers. Since the SHO sahib has gone to Rewari along with officials vide report no 21, dated 1.11.84 for special duty, he is being informed through wireless, and 1, 2 HC along with constable Dharampal are leaving for the spot along with Dhanpat and Deep Chand."

Sikhs for Justice and All India Sikh Student Federation had moved the Punjab and Haryana High Court demanding a judicial probe into the horrific killing of Sikhs in village Hondh-Chillar in Rewari District, Haryana on November 2, 1984. In a Civil writ petition filed with the Punjab and Haryana High Court, Sikhs for Justice and All India Sikh Student Federation demanded an enquiry from a retired High Court to be assisted by the Central Bureau of Investigation.

The killings of Sikhs in village Hondh Chillar further demonstrate that the massacre of Sikhs in November 1984 did not take place only in Delhi and that the killings of Sikhs were not sudden and angry reaction but a planned and organized genocide of the Sikhs. The way the massacre has remained undetected and the guilty unpunished, demonstrates complicity and participation by the highest functionaries of the government and the ruling party.

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February 24, 2011

KILLERS MOTIVE WAS "REVENGE" SAYS FIR

SIKHS FOR JUSTICE AND ALL INDIA SIKH STUDENT FEDERATION MOVE HIGH COURT ON REWARI KILLINGS

Sikhs for Justice and All India Sikh Student Federation have moved the Punjab and Haryana High Court demanding a judicial probe into the horrific killing of Sikhs in village Hondh-Chillar in Rewari District, Haryana on November 2, 1984.

In a Civil writ petition filed with the Punjab and Haryana High Court, Sikhs for Justice and All India Sikh Student Federation demanded an enquiry from a retired High Court to be assisted by the Central Bureau of Investigation.

Representing the petitioners, Advocate Navkiran Singh stated that proper investigation was never done in this case. None of the eyewitnesses or survivors were ever contacted by the police.

On November 2, 1984 in an organized attack the entire Sikh population of village Hondh-Chillar, then district Mahendergarh presently falling under district Rewari, Haryana was massacred and their dwellings and the Gurudwara were burnt down.

According to the FIR, no 91, a copy of which was presented in the Punjab and Haryana High Court on Wednesday, which was registered at police station Jatusana in Mahendergarh district, now in Rewari, based on DDR no 5, the killers had first arrived in a truck from the side of Hali Mandi in Pataudi, Gurgaon district on the morning of November 2, at around 11am, but were "pacified" by a group of villagers of Chillar and persuaded to go back. However, they returned in the evening, accompanied by more people in two or three trucks and started the bloodbath. "They said they were determined to eliminate the Sikhs because those Sikhs had killed our beloved leader Indira Gandhi" reads the statement recorded by the complainant in the FIR.

The FIR was registered on the complaint of Dhanpat Singh, the then sarpanch of Chillar who has stated that the killers came back in the evening and started burning the dwellings of the Sikhs.

Though, the locals tried to stop them but the killers carried on their arson and attack, while threatening the locals to keep out. The complaint states, "Deep Chand Nambardar, Nanak Chand, Kanhaiya Lal Panch, a resident of Nurpur came to the spot and tried to convince them (killers). But, none of them paid any heed to it and said that Sikhs are traitors and we will finish them, and if you said a word then you will also face bad consequences. They were 400-500 in number and they put houses and shed on fire and started pelting stones, due to which some people were burnt in the houses".

The sarpanch also stated that the locals could not identify the burnt bodies, which were 20 in number. "We wanted to come to report the incident immediately but those people confined us and did not allow us to come." He also mentions the name of Subedar Deep Chand, who accompanied the sarpanch to the police station to report the incident.

The FIR was attested and signed by head constable Ram Kumar and it was registered under sections 148/149/302/436 and 34 of IPC. The document also says that a "special report is being sent by hand through Lal Prashad to Illaqa magistrate sahib and officers. Since the SHO sahib has gone to Rewari along with officials vide report no 21, dated 1.11.84 for special duty, he is being informed through wireless, and 1, 2 HC along with constable Dharampal are leaving for the spot along with Dhanpat and Deep Chand."

Sikhs for Justice and AISSF have demanded `proper investigations`, claiming that the killings were never investigated even after an FIR was registered.

The local police on Wednesday claimed that they did not have any record of the said FIR, while AISSF president Karnail Singh Peermohammad told TOI that he, along with engineer Manwinder Singh, who had discovered the village first, had procured the FIR from the same police station a few days ago. "We have a signed copy from the same police station," he stated.

Attorney Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, legal counsel for Sikhs for Justice stated that the brutal killings at Hondh-Chiilar further confirms that the attacks on the Sikhs in November 1984 were not sudden and angry reaction but a planned and organized massacre of the Sikhs and the way the massacre has remained undetected and the guilty unpunished, demonstrates complicity and participation by the highest functionaries of the ruling party and the government.

The Bench of Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi and Justice Augustine George Masih before who the petition was placed adjourned the matter to **March 1, 2011**.

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February 18, 2011

**MASS GRAVE OF "SIKHS" KILLED IN NOVEMBER 1984 DISCOVERED IN HARYANA
AFTER 26 YEARS**

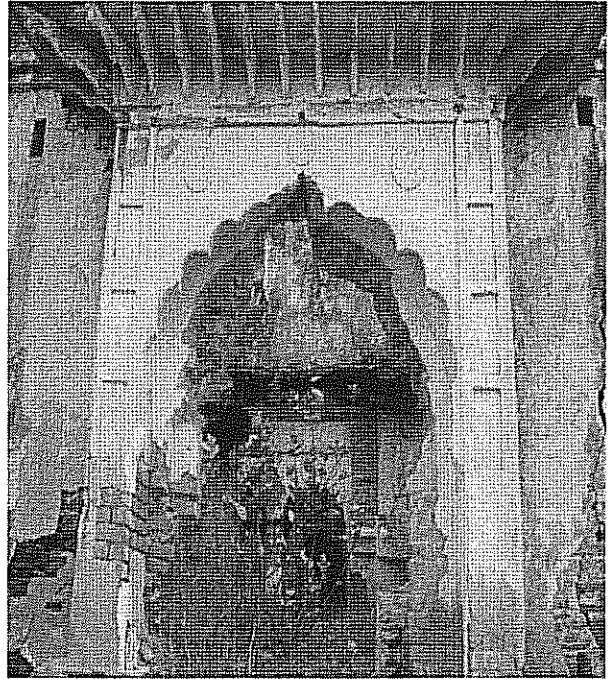
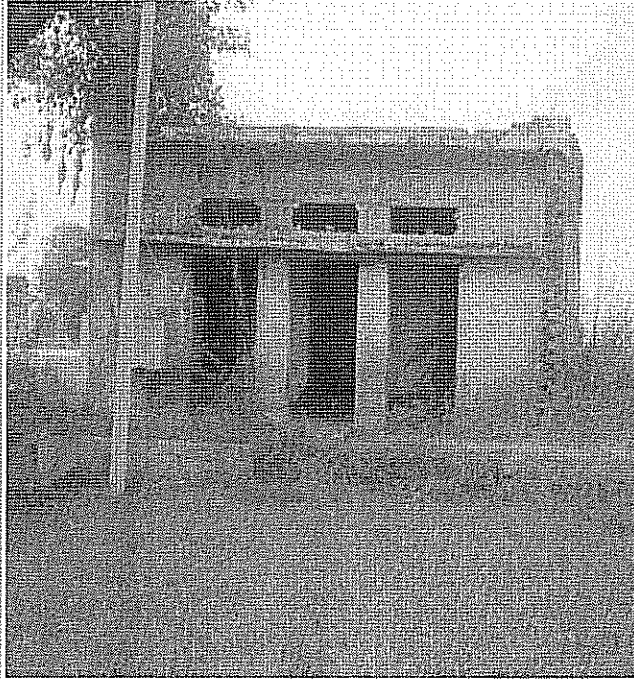
A mass Grave of Sikhs killed in November 1984 has been discovered after 26 years in village Hondh-Chillar, District Rewari, Haryana. The village was inhabited by several Sikh families and on November 02, 1984 in an organized and well planned attack, the entire village was burnt along with its Sikh population and Gurudwara. The village consisting of torched houses, burnt Gurudwara and scattered human bones has been now been discovered.

As per attorney **Gurpatwant Singh Pannun** Legal Advisor to Sikhs For Justice, the forlorn debris and human remains at village Hondh-Chillar discovered after 26 years are the most specific and convincing evidence of Sikhs localities being attacked and wiped out throughout India in a identical pattern. The evidence discovered on site indicates systematic pattern in which armed groups lead by Congress Leaders would cordon Sikh neighborhoods, rape the women and burn the men and children alive. "The discovery of Mass Grave of Sikhs in Haryana proves that Nanavati Commission's scope of inquiry into the killing of Sikhs was gravely insufficient and eyewash because the commission did not look into killings of Sikhs that took place outside Delhi", added attorney Pannun.

According to **Karnail Singh Peermohammad** scores of Sikhs living in the village were burnt to death on November 02, 1984 and the Police neither identified the dead nor investigated the killing of Sikhs. According to the FIR filed by Ghanpat Singh Sarpanch and other eyewitnesses, the Sikh population of the village was attacked on November 02, 1984 by a group of about 500 people who came in Trucks and were armed. The group was shouting "Ye Sardar Ghaddar hain, Inn ko khatam karain ge" (These Sardars are traitors and we will wipe them out).



Echoing a shock felt by numerous international human rights organizations and activists, Jatinder Singh of Sikhs For Justice added "It is unthinkable the way in which these Sikhs must have been systematically targeted and subjected to the most gruesome methods of mass killing known to humankind. It is horrifying to think that these murders took place with state complicity through carefully orchestrated genocidal acts by armed groups of Indian men, transported from village to village by the state." Adding to this shock, Jatinder Singh also cited that, "An entire village ethnically cleansed of a religious minority is the gravest violation of human rights and the most clearest proof of the Sikh Genocide. The innocent families of Hondh-Chillar village, mothers, fathers, brothers and sisters were all exterminated simply because of their religious beliefs differed from the majority of India."



In addition to the statements made by AISSF and SFJ, researchers have brought forth information that on November 02, 1984 attackers surrounded Sikh houses and attacked by throwing petrol bombs into Sikh homes. Men and children were beaten and thrown into the burning houses and women were first raped and then thrown into the fire. The Sri Guru Granth Sahib was also desecrated and Gurudwara was put on fire as indication of the murderous rage of the mob, looking to destroy any and all traces of Sikh identity.

In light of the recent discovery, AISSF and Sikhs for Justice (SFJ) will approach United Nations, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and South Asian Human Rights Commission to visit the site of Sikh Mass Graves in village Hondh-Chillar and investigate the attack on Sikhs that took place throughout India in November 1984.

The genocidal site of village Hondh-Chillar is discovered by the sustained and unceasing efforts of **Engineer Manvinder Singh Giaspur**

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February 1, 2011

"ASIAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (AHRC)" SUPPORTS PROSECUTION OF KAMAL NATH IN U.S. COURT

(10-cv-2940 Sikhs for Justice v. Kamal Nath)

New York (February 1, 2011)

Demand of Sikhs for "no immunity" to Kamal Nath in pending case before US Court (10-cv-2940 *Sikhs for Justice v. Kamal Nath*) got the attention of International Human Rights Organizations when "Asian Human Rights Commission" (AHRC) in its recent statement supported the cause of justice for November 1984 victims and stated that "it is equally the responsibility of both governments to investigate, prosecute and punish crimes against humanity" and "the nature of charges against Kamal Nath prevents the Government of India and the United States Government from taking refuge in sovereign immunity in Nath's case".

Urging US Government to weigh against the Nath's request for immunity, AHRC stated that "it will serve the interest of justice of 1.2 billion people, should it facilitate the process, at the very minimum by no standing in between the truth and those so seek for it."

According to attorney Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, legal advisor Sikhs for Justice (SFJ), the statement of AHRC is very significant step forward in gaining international support for the cause of 1984 Sikh Genocide. SFJ will approach Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and

other international human rights organizations to join and support victims of November 1984 in seeking trial of Kamal Nath in US Court. A delegation of SFJ will approach United Nations Human Rights Commission to step in on the issue of immunity for Kamal Nath and remind India and United States that as per UN Charter, both countries are under obligation to prosecute human rights offender instead of shielding.

Advocate Navkiran Singh, Legal Director SFJ, stated that efforts of Indian Government to protect Kamal Nath is in violation of Constitution of India which obligates the government to prosecute the criminals who have been accused of leading an organized campaign of mass murders.

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