

OCTOBER 25, 2010

THIRD CHARGE SHEET TO BE FILED AGAINST CONGRESS LEADER SAJJAN KUMAR

COURT PAVES WAY FOR FRESH CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS FOR SAJJAN KUMAR

A Delhi Court paved the way for initiation of criminal proceedings against Congress Leader Sajjan Kumar in another case for his involvement in November 1984 Sikh Genocide. The court directed Delhi Police to file a fresh charge sheet against Sajjan Kumar in the court for the case based on FIR number 67/87 at Nangloi police station.

The court rejected the plea of the Delhi police to club this case involving Sajjan Kumar with the ongoing trial in another case related to the Genocide. District Judge S K Sarvaria stated that there is no order on judicial records with regard to clubbing to FIR no 67/87 with FIR no 418/1991.

The case (FIR no 67/87) with regard to the killings of five persons allegedly involving Kumar was clubbed with the FIR (418/1991) with Nangloi police. In 1994, the police filed the charge sheet in FIR no 418/1991 against five accused but did not mention Sajjan Kumar as an accused.

The charge sheet based on the case (FIR no 67/87) citing sufficient evidence to proceed against Sajjan Kumar was prepared on April 8, 1992, but it was kept in the police file and never brought before the court.

Newspaper Coverage:

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/New-criminal-proceedings-against-Sajjan/Article1-617087.aspx>

<http://www.indianexpress.com/story-print/701520/>

<http://ibnlive.in.com/generalnewsfeed/news/court-paves-way-for-fresh-criminal-proceedings-for-sajjan/441164.html>

http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report_court-paves-way-for-fresh-criminal-proceedings-for-sajjan-kumar_1457004

<http://news.in.msn.com/national/article.aspx?cp-documentid=4495328>

October 20, 2010

HEAD-SCARF IS A NONISSUE - OBAMA SHIES AWAY FROM PAYING TRIBUTE TO INNOCENT SIKHS MASSACRED AT GOLDEN TEMPLE IN JUNE 1984

New York:

Reacting to the President Obama's refusal to visit Golden Temple, Sikhs for Justice (SFJ), a human rights advocacy group backed by hundreds of Sikh Gurudwaras across North America stated that cancellation of visit by President is not due to headscarf issue as Indian lobbyists want everyone to believe but instead President has shied away from speaking about and paying tribute to the thousands of innocent pilgrims who were murdered in Golden Temple by Indian Army in June 1984.

According to Attorney Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, legal advisor to SFJ, President Obama is going to Mumbai a city of about 20 million populations to pay tribute to victims of terrorist attacks while ignoring Sikh victims of violence who had approached him ahead of his visit to Golden Temple.

Attorney Pannun further added that President Obama's visit to Golden Temple would have given a tremendous push to key Sikh issues such as separate religious identity of Sikhs, massacre of Sikhs at Golden Temple by the Indian Army and his visit would have been seen around world as a gesture of support to suppressed religious minorities. No other world leader is more capable to understand the plight of India Sikhs than President Obama who himself comes from a community that had suffered discrimination and injustice, added attorney Pannun.

President Obama, has played right into the hands of Indian lobbyists who have successfully thwarted his visit to Golden Temple. The refusal by President Obama to visit Golden Temple exposes hollowness of Obama's claim of respect for religious diversity, and undermines the so called "world leader" stature of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh who is a Sikh.

In his January 19, 2008 statement, President Obama stated that he will be a President who will "respond forcefully to all genocides", however, President Obama's refusal to visit Golden Temple has become another instance where he failed to fulfill his electoral promise and caved in to the Indian lobbying.

According to attorney Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, legal advisor to SFJ, any electoral promise aside, Article 1 of U.N Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (1948) requires the United States President to take all actions necessary to prevent and punish acts of genocide. The obligation to act on the issue of every Genocide, added attorney Pannun, is neither absolved because of the economic status of the country where the Genocide was committed (i.e. India) nor is it mitigated by the number and status of victims (i.e. Sikhs).

SJF backed and supported by hundreds of Sikh Gurdwaras across America approached President Obama in September 2010 in Philadelphia and urged him to show solidarity during his visit to Golden Temple, where thousands of innocent Sikh pilgrims were ruthlessly murdered by the Indian Security Forces in this very Temple, the Vatican of Sikhs, in June 1984. President Obama's visit to Golden Temple and SFJ's

campaign was going to expose the gross human rights violations and murders committed by the Indian Army in the same very Golden Temple in June 1984. Unfortunately President Obama who himself comes from a minority community, caved in to the pressure of lobbyists and cancelled his visit to Golden Temple instead of standing with an oppressed minority of India.

According to Attorney Pannun who practices human rights, refugee and asylum law in the United States, such efforts on part of Indian lobbyists are not new or surprising because since June 1984, Indian Government has consistently blocked and disallowed visits to Punjab by foreign human rights organizations in order to cover the atrocities perpetrated against Sikhs in India. He further added that most recently members of United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCRIF) who wanted to visit India to investigate the state of affairs viz`-a-viz` Indian Christians, were denied visas by the Indian Government. In April 2009 Amnesty International was forced to close its office in New Delhi, making India the only democracy in the world without the presence of even a single international human rights organization.

Coordination Committee

Sikhs For Justice

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OCTOBER 14, 2010

**JOIN
JUSTICE RALLY
TO COMMEMORATE NOVEMBER 1984 SIKH GENOCIDE**

DATE: NOVEMBER 1, 2010

TIME: 11:00 AM TO 3:00 PM

PLACE: UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK

RAISE THE VOICE TO GET JUSTICE FOR THE VICTIMS OF NOVEMBER 1984 SIKH GENOCIDE

STAND FOR JUSTICE

NEWSPAPER COVERAGE:

<http://www.punjabtimesusa.com/print/NY-2010-41.pdf>

http://hamdardweekly.com/_case/index.php?option=com_zoom&Itemid=60&page=view&catid=281&tmpl=component&key=1&hit=1&uid=0

<http://punjabmailusa.com/pdfs/pmu.pdf>

<http://www.pardesnews.com/newspaper/101006/index.htm>

<http://punjabiwriterweekly.com/images/epaper/current.pdf>

http://www.charhdikalausa.com/CharhdiKala_USA/CHARHDI_KALA_USA.html

http://www.apnapunjabinusa.com/06-10-2010/06102010_6.pdf

<http://panjabexpressusa.com/images/05.pdf>