

Hon. Stephen Harper,
Prime Minister of Canada

October 24, 2012

Re: YOUR UPCOMING VISIT TO INDIA
Subject: JUSTICE FOR SIKH GENOCIDE VICTIMS; AND
THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT'S CAMPAIGN TO BRAND CANADIAN SIKHS
AS TERRORISTS

Hon. Prime Minister:

The years slip by, but the horror of seeing our loved ones brutally killed haunts us.

This November, it will be 28 years since the genocidal attacks on the Sikh population of India in 1984. Over 30,000 innocent men, women and children were murdered in these genocidal attacks. To this day, nobody has been brought to justice despite strong evidence showing members of the ruling Indian National Congress helped to organize the attacks.

The gravity, scale and organized nature of the attacks has been exposed by the recent discoveries of mass graves of Sikhs killed in the villages of Hondh-Chillar, Pataudi, and Gurgaon in the state of Haryana and several other discoveries in the states of West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir.

By coming to Canada, many of us were fortunate to escape the violence and ongoing persecution of our people. Canadian Sikhs have been on the forefront of a campaign to raise awareness about the Genocide of Sikhs in India (1984-98). We've worked hard by holding justice rallies, gathering signatures for petitions and organizing conferences to create an environment where victims feel safe to tell their stories of survival.

Sadly, many victims are feeling less safe today. While Canadian Sikhs pursue justice, the Indian government brands us as "terrorists." It's a malicious campaign designed to scare away public support and to make the Government of Canada wary of its own Sikh citizens. Through its embassy and consulates, Indian officials are spying on members of our community and threatening retaliation against their relatives in India.

We urge you to raise these two issues with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's government: 1) Denial of justice to the victims of the 1984 Sikh Genocide and 2) India's campaign against Canadian Sikhs branding them as "supporters of terrorism."

Sincerely yours,

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