

Area divided over the nationalist cause, said Ram Singh, who favors an independent Khalistan.

"It's not that simple," said Balraj Gil as he peered at the pictures of torture. "You can't just get an independent state."

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE S. HUGH
DILLIN

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remark upon a good man, a great jurist, a wise friend now gone.

On June 23, 2006, United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana, sitting en banc in Indianapolis, will conduct a memorial ceremony in honor of an extraordinary man. In 1961, Mr. Speaker, President John F. Kennedy appointed Indiana's S. Hugh Dillin to serve as a Judge of that Court. After 45 years of service, earlier this year in a snow storm we said farewell to him in Indianapolis.

A veteran of World War II, son of a lawyer in Petersburg, Indiana, he came up to the bench in Indianapolis through the politics of southern Indiana and our General Assembly, representing his beloved Pike County and leading the Senate.

I will never forget him. When I was first elected to Congress, it happened that I had emergency surgery at about the time the rest of Congress was being sworn in here in this chamber. A little glum, I watched the festivity of that occasion from a hospital bed in Indianapolis. As I did so, Judge Dillin came to my room with a brief case, introduced himself and produced a single sheet of paper for my inspection, his appointment as a Deputy Speaker of this House, and remarked that he never expected to be so close to the line of Presidential succession as he came that day. He proceeded to administer the oath of office to me and I became a Member of this body and a friend of his for life. I was delighted to bring him to Washington for the next swearing in and a picture of him with me and Speaker Gingrich overlooks my desk today.

He was a giant in the life of Indiana. All of his days he was a man of renowned wit and solid sense-based Hoosier wisdom, forever finding great voice in the resolution of disputes and the teaching of lessons. Much has been made of his stewardship of the Indianapolis school desegregation case which ground on for years, resulting in bussing of children to white suburban schools. A product of our segregated schools, I was always of several minds about the remedy but ended with confidence that he did his very best to follow the law in fashioning a solution. His life was threatened again and again for his trouble and bumper stickers advocated his impeachment, but he kept his listing in the phone book. He permitted the installation of security cameras and buzzers at his chambers but declined to lock his door.

There were many other cases and controversies in the course of his 45 years of service. His decisions involving Indiana's prisons and her treatment of inmates helped extend the Constitution to those so easily forgotten. In closing the disciplinary cells—dungeons, really—at the Indiana Reformatory he

began his entry of judgment with a recitation of the Indianapolis ordinance relating to the treatment of pets, succinctly pointing out that animals in our city were entitled to better conditions than those cells at the Reformatory provided human beings. He brought the Constitution to bear on the plight of women who were prisoners in Indiana, extending equal protection of the law in ways which helped to bring them most of the opportunities provided to male prisoners of the state: the chance to further their educations, pursue meaningful job skills, and to be imprisoned under conditions commensurate with the crimes for which they were sentenced.

There were smaller but important cases, too. A local Arsenal Technical High School girl, a fine baseball player, played on the "boy's" varsity team. The Indiana High School Athletic Association rules forbade her team from competing with other teams as long as she proposed to play. After a day's trial, as he announced his decision from the bench enjoining enforcement of the rule, she rushed from the room, glove in hand. When he wondered aloud what he had done wrong, he got this answer: "She's late for practice, Judge." That young woman, on account of her ability to compete, earned a college scholarship and an education she would not have had access to without his decision. She is a coach today, I am told.

He was much sought after as a speaker and one speech bears particular mention. On the occasion of his retirement as Chief Judge, I believe it was, there was one of those huge festive gatherings of the worthies of bench and bar to celebrate his career and, as usual, his remarks were warmly anticipated. When a distinguished colleague of his pulled her guitar from under the table, faced him and sang a song about him, that was a hard act to follow. As he rose to speak, though, he mastered the crowd. "I'll not talk long," he said. "I have just 482 words for you, important words, many of which many of you have forgotten, or had no occasion to study for far too long." And then he read the Bill of Rights to the gathering.

He lived his last years in Cambridge, Massachusetts, under the watchful eye of his beloved daughter Pat and was laid to rest in his beloved Petersburg. We miss him but his life and lessons, his spirit and his sagacity, his wit and wisdom, live on in our hearts, enriching us all.

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN COM-
MEMORATES GOLDEN TEMPLE
MASSACRE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, on June 3 Sikhs from around the East Coast gathered here in Washington to commemorate the June 1984 attack on the Golden Temple by the Indian government. That attack occurred simultaneously with attacks on 37 other Gurdwaras in what came to be known as Operation Bluestar. Operation Bluestar took the lives of over 20,000 Sikhs in Punjab.

The demonstration was organized by the Council of Khalistan, which has been leading the peaceful, nonviolent, democratic Sikh

struggle for independence for almost 20 years, ever since Khalistan declared its independence from India in 1987.

Mr. Speaker, given the repression of the Sikhs and other minorities, such as Christians, Muslims, and others, I think we would do well for America to support the freedom movement in Khalistan and throughout the subcontinent. This is especially so given that India has a history of anti-American activities.

It is time to press India to pay attention to human rights by stopping our aid and trade with that country and it is time to put the Congress on record in support of self-determination. The essence of democracy is the right to self-determination.

I would like to add the Council of Khalistan's press release on its June 3 demonstration to the RECORD at this time.

SIKHS COMMEMORATE GOLDEN TEMPLE
ATTACK

WASHINGTON, DC, June 3, 2006.—Sikhs from Philadelphia, Florida, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, and elsewhere on the East Coast gathered in Washington, D.C. on Saturday, June 3 to commemorate the Indian government's brutal military attack on the Golden Temple, the center and seat of the Sikh religion, and 125 other Sikh Gurdwaras throughout Punjab, in June 1984, in which over 20,000 Sikhs were murdered. They chanted slogans such as "India out of Khalistan", "Khalistan Zindabad", and others. In addition, demonstrations were held in several other cities throughout the world.

During the Golden Temple attack, young boys ages 8 to 13 were taken outside and asked if they supported Khalistan, the independent Sikh country. When they answered with the Sikh religious incantation "Bole So Nihaf," they were shot to death. The Guru Granth Sahib, the Sikh holy scriptures, written in the time of the Sikh Gurus, were shot full of bullet holes and burned by the Indian forces.

The Golden Temple attack was a brutal chapter in India's repression of the Sikhs, according to Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, the government pro tempore of Khalistan, which leads the struggle for Khalistan's independence. "Sikhs cannot forgive or forget this atrocity against the seat of our religion by the Indian government," said Dr. Aulakh. "This brutal attack clarified that there is no place in India for Sikhs," he said. On October 7, 1987, the Sikh Nation declared its independence from India, naming its new country Khalistan.

"Sant Bhindranwale said that attacking the Golden Temple would lay the foundation stone of Khalistan, and he was right," said Dr. Aulakh. "Instead of crushing the Sikh movement for Khalistan, as India intended, the attack strengthened it," he said. "The flame of freedom still burns bright in the hearts of Sikhs despite the deployment of over half a million Indian troops to crush it," he said.

A report issued by the Movement Against State Repression (MASR) shows that India admitted that it held 52,268 political prisoners under the repressive "Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Act" (TADA) even though it expired in 1995. Many have been in illegal custody since 1984. There has been no list published of those who were acquitted under TADA and those who are still rotting in Indian jails. Additionally, according to Amnesty International, there are tens of thousands of other minorities being held as political prisoners. MASR report quotes the Punjab Civil Magistracy as writing "if we add up the figures of the last few years the number of innocent persons killed would run

into lakhs [hundreds of thousands.]” The Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, more than 300,000 Christians in Nagaland, over 90,000 Muslims in Kashmir, tens of thousands of Christians and Muslims throughout the country, and tens of thousands of Tamils, Assamese, Manipuris, and others. The Indian Supreme Court called the Indian government’s murders of Sikhs “worse than a genocide.”

In the introduction to former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright’s new book, *The Mighty and the Almighty*, former U.S. President Bill Clinton writes that “Hindu militants” are responsible for the massacre of 38 Sikhs at Chithisinghpura in March 2000. This

reflects previous findings by the Punjab Human Rights Organization, the International Human Rights Organization, the Movement Against State Repression, and New York Times reporter Barry Bearak. President Clinton writes, “During my visit to India in 2000, some Hindu militants decided to vent their outrage by murdering 38 Sikhs in cold blood. If I hadn’t made the trip, the victims would probably still be alive.”

“Only in a free Khalistan will the Sikh Nation prosper and get justice,” said Dr. Aulakh. “When Khalistan is free, we will have our own Ambassadors, our own representation in the UN and other international bodies, and our own leaders to keep

this sort of thing from happening. We won’t be at the mercy of the brutal Indian regime and its Hindu militant allies,” he said. “Democracies don’t commit genocide. India should act like a democracy and allow a plebiscite on independence for Khalistan and all the nations of South Asia.” Dr. Aulakh said. “As Professor Darshan Singh, a former Jathedar of the Akal Takht, said, ‘If a Sikh is not a Khalistani, he is not a Sikh.’” Dr. Aulakh noted. “We must continue to pray for and work for our God-given birthright of freedom,” he said. “Without political power, religions cannot flourish and nations perish.”