

INDIA SHOULD BE DECLARED A
TERRORIST STATE**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, the time has come to declare India a terrorist state. India is one of the leading practitioners of terrorism in the world, but they get away with it by cloaking it under a mask of democracy. India practices terrorism internally against its minorities and externally against its neighbors.

The Coordination Committee on Disappearances in Punjab identified 838 victims of India's mass cremation policy in a preliminary report last year. It published their names and addresses. These young Sikhs were abducted by the police, tortured, and murdered, then the police disposed of their bodies. This policy amounts to nothing less than terrorism against the Sikhs of Punjab, Khalistan.

Tens of thousands of Sikh political prisoners continue to rot in Indian jails without trial. They are not the only ones. After an Indian airliner was hijacked in November, India agreed to release several prisoners. According to the Los Angeles Times, India violated international law by holding these prisoners without charge or trial.

On December 20, according to Reuters News Service (as reported in India West), Pakistani police arrested a man who confessed that he was an Indian agent and that he planted bombs that killed 9 people. Clearly, this is a terrorist act sponsored by the Indian government.

The book *Soft Target*, written by two Canadian journalists, proved that India blew up its own airliner in 1985, killing 329 people. In 1991, the Indian intelligence service, RAW, masterminded a hijacking of an Indian plane. These acts give us reason to suspect that India's hand may have been behind the recent Air India hijacking.

In November 1994, the *Hitavada*, a well respected newspaper in India, reported that the Indian government paid Surendra Nath, the late governor of Punjab, one and a half billion dollars to foment terrorism in Punjab, Khalistan and in Kashmir. Can anyone deny that a country which would do this is a terrorist nation?

The Indian government intelligence wing, RAW, supported the militant Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam to gain control of the port of Trincomelli. *India Today* magazine reported that the leader of the LTTE was entertained by the Indian government in one of Delhi's best hotels. Later, India turned against the LTTE and invaded Sri Lanka to crush the LTTE freedom movement. The Indian government has blood on its hands.

The Indian government has murdered minorities in massive numbers. Over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984, over 200,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1947, more than 65,000 Kashmiri Muslims since 1988, and tens of thousands of Assamese, Manipuris, Tamils, Dalits, and others have been murdered by the government of India. The State Department reported in 1994 that the government of India paid more than 41,000 cash bounties to police officers for murdering Sikhs.

Hindu militants allied with the government have burned down Christian churches and prayers halls, murdered priests, and raped nuns. Hindus affiliated with the Vishwa Hindu Parishad surrounded the jeep of missionary Graham Staines and his two sons, ages 8 and 10, and burned them to death. The VHP is part of the same umbrella organization as the ruling BJP. In 1997, police broke up a Christian religious festival with gunfire.

Last year, Indian Defense Minister George Fernandes organized and led a meeting with the Ambassadors from Cuba, Red China, Russia, Iraq, and Libya aimed at creating a security alliance "to stop the U.S." India supported the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and votes against American interests consistently. The time has come to take strong measures against India's brutality and terrorism by declaring India a terrorist nation.

Mr. Speaker, recently the Council of Khalistan issued a news release on Indian state terrorism. I would like to place it into the RECORD for the information of my colleagues.

[From the Council of Khalistan, Washington, DC, Jan. 13, 2000]

U.S. SHOULD DECLARE INDIA A TERRORIST
STATE

WASHINGTON, D.C., JANUARY 13, 2000.—Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, called on the United States government to declare India a terrorist state. "India is one of the leading sponsors of terrorism in the world," he said.

Earlier this week, Mandeep Singh Sodhi, a 27-year-old Sikh in Uttar Pradesh burned himself to death to protest police abuses against his family. The Los Angeles Times reported that India violated international law by holding the prisoners who were released without charge or trial. There are tens of thousands of Sikh political prisoners rotting in Indian jails without trial. On December 20, according to Reuters News Service and *India West*, Pakistani police arrested a man who confessed to being an Indian agent and to planting bombs that killed 9 people.

Responding to some recent reports, Dr. Aulakh said that he "would not put it past" the Indian government to organize the hijacking themselves to justify a new wave of terror in Kashmir. "They have created incidents to promote terror in Punjab, Khalistan, Assam, Nagaland, Tamil Nadu, and other places within their artificial borders," he said.

The book *Soft Target*, written by two Canadian journalists, proved that India blew up its own airliner in 1985, killing 329 people, to blame the Sikhs. In 1994, the *Hitavada*, a well respected Indian newspaper, reported that the Indian government paid the late governor of Punjab, Surendra Nath, \$1.5 billion to organize and support covert state terrorism in Punjab, Khalistan and in Kashmir.

The Indian government intelligence wing, RAW, infiltrated the militant Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and supported the LTTE to gain control of the port of Trincomelli. When the Sri Lankan government agreed to give India control of the port, India turned against the LTTE and invaded Sri Lanka to crush the LTTE freedom movement. The Indian army suffered heavy losses at the hands of the LTTE freedom fighters and withdrew from Sri Lanka. Rajiv Gandhi, the ex-Prime Minister of India under whose government this took place, was blown up by a female Tamil freedom fighter.

The Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs since 1984. They have also killed over 200,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1947, more than 65,000 Kashmiri Muslims since 1988, and tens of thousands of Assamese, Manipuris, Tamils, Dalits, and others. "Only a terrorist state could commit atrocities of this magnitude," said Dr. Aulakh.

The U.S. State Department reported that the Indian government paid more than 41,000 cash bounties to police to murder Sikhs. One of these bounties was collected by police officers who killed a three-year-old boy, his father, and his uncle "Would you call this democracy or terrorism?" Dr. Aulakh asked.

Government-allied Hindu militants have burned down Christian churches and prayer halls, murdered priests, and raped nuns. The Vishwa Hindu Parishad, which is affiliated with the parent organization of the ruling BJP, described the rapists as "patriotic youth" and called the nuns "antinationals elements." Hindus affiliated with the VHP surrounded the jeep of missionary Graham Staines and his two sons, ages 8 and 10, poured gasoline on it, set it on fire, and surrounded it, chanting "Victory to Lord Ram." In 1997, police broke up a Christian religious festival with gunfire. "Only a terrorist government could allow these kinds of atrocities," Dr. Aulakh pointed out.

Last year, Indian Defense Minister George Fernandes led a meeting with the Ambassadors from Cuba, Red China, Russia, Iraq, and Libya aimed at constructing a security alliance "to stop the U.S." "How could India form an alliance against the world's oldest democracy and then ask for help?" Dr. Aulakh asked. "Based on these and other pieces of India's pattern of terrorism, the time has come for India to be declared a terrorist state," Dr. Aulakh said.

TRIBUTE TO AMBASSADOR JULIUS
L. KATZ**HON. BILL ARCHER**

OF TEXAS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2000

Mr. ARCHER. Mr. Speaker, we rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional human being, Ambassador Julius L. Katz, who died last Thursday, January 27, at the age of 74, was a man of extraordinary intelligence, integrity and courage, who devoted more than 30 years to the service of his country.

Ambassador Katz first demonstrated his courage and devotion to service when, at 18, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and joined the 90th Infantry Division during World War II, leading at Normandy and fighting in the Battle of the Bulge. His experience during the war helped to shape his goals and ambitions for the rest of his life, as he fought to build and strengthen an international trading system not only for its substantial economic benefits, but as a bulwark against political conflicts among nations, misunderstanding, isolationism and, ultimately, war.

Upon his return from Europe, Ambassador Katz attended the George Washington University, and graduated with a degree in international relations and economics. In 1950, he