

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 233

Condemning the abduction of Jaswant Singh Khalra and urging his release.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 28, 1995

Mr. DOOLITTLE (for himself and Mr. BURTON of Indiana) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

RESOLUTION

Condemning the abduction of Jaswant Singh Khalra and urging his release.

Whereas Jaswant Singh Khalra, the General Secretary of the Human Rights Wing of the Shiromani Akali Dal, was abducted from outside his home in Amritsar, Punjab, on September 6, 1995;

Whereas Amnesty International reported Mr. Khalra was abducted by Indian police officers;

Whereas Indian police officers have refused to reveal the whereabouts of Mr. Khalra;

Whereas Mr. Khalra was instrumental in exposing the fact that 25,000 Sikhs have been cremated in Punjab, Khalistan as part of the Indian Government's efforts to destroy evidence of a campaign of extrajudicial killings;

Whereas Mr. Khalra has led a strong international campaign to educate people on the continuing violence perpetrated against civilians in India;

Whereas it is believed that Mr. Khalra's abduction and arrest are a result of his efforts to bring human rights concerns in India to the attention of the international community;

Whereas Amnesty International has issued an urgent action bulletin seeking an independent and impartial inquiry to establish Mr. Khalra's whereabouts;

Whereas Mr. Khalra's disappearance is part of a pattern of repression carried out by the Indian Government, discrediting India's claim to be a democracy;

Whereas freedom is universally recognized as the birthright of all nations;

Whereas self-determination is enshrined in Article I of the United Nations Charter; and

Whereas an independent Sikh homeland is economically, militarily, and politically viable: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives joins the
- 2 World Sikh Organization and its Executive Director
- 3 Sajjan Bhangoo in condemning the abduction of Jaswant
- 4 Singh Khalra and urges his immediate release.

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