

Sikhs ruled Punjab from 1710 to 1716 and again from 1765 to 1849. When India achieved its independence, the Sikh Nation was one of the three nations that were to receive sovereign power. However, the Sikh leaders of the time chose to take their share with India on the promise of autonomy and respect for Sikh rights—an arrangement similar to America's own association with the people of Puerto Rico. Many of us have spoken about Indian violations of the fundamental human rights of the Sikhs and others. The abduction and "disappearance" of human rights activist Jaswant Singh Khalra is one prominent example. Despite the solemn promises of Gandhi and Nehru, these violations have been going on since the Union Jack was taken down for the last time in 1947. As a result, no Sikh to this day has ever signed the Indian constitution. If the people of New York, California, or Illinois had not agreed to the U.S. Constitution, would we consider them part of this country?

When India attacked the Golden Temple, the Vatican or Mecca of the Sikh Nation, in 1984, more than 20,000 people were killed. Another 20,000 were killed in simultaneous attacks on 38 other Sikh temples, or Gurdwaras, throughout Punjab, Khalistan.

The Indian regime also has imposed "Presidential rule"—that is, direct rule from the central government which supersedes the elected state government—on Punjab nine times. It is likely that if Punjab, Khalistan makes any move toward freedom after the elections, Presidential rule will be imposed for a tenth time. This is one more way to deny the Sikh Nation the freedom that is its birthright.

On October 7, 1987, the Sikh Nation declared its independence and the sovereign country of Khalistan was born. The Sikh Nation is set unalterably on a course to freedom, although this movement is nonviolent and democratic. Khalistan will secure its freedom the same way that India secured its independence. India cannot keep together an empire which has 18 official languages. Many experts predict that India will unravel within ten years, if not sooner. It is falling apart in front of our eyes, and too many of my colleagues do not even recognize it. The collapse of the Soviet empire shows that you cannot keep an empire of many nations by force permanently.

America is a country founded on the idea of freedom. Let us remember America's mission: in the words of John F. Kennedy, "to secure the survival and success of liberty." We must support freedom around the world because we are the land of the free. The American idea requires us to support freedom for the Sikhs, the Muslims of Kashmir, the Christians of Nagaland, the peoples of Assam and Manipur, and all the oppressed peoples of the Indian subcontinent. Two bills are pending which address this issue. The first, H.R. 1425, would cut off United States development aid to India until basic human rights are respected. The second, House Concurrent Resolution 32, calls for self-determination in Indian-occupied Khalistan. I call upon my colleagues to support these bills. They will help to end India's brutal occupation of Khalistan and insure that when we congratulate the Sikh Nation on its 300th anniversary three years from now, we can offer those congratulations to the leaders of a free and sovereign Khalistan.

TRIBUTE TO LYNDEN B. MILLER

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 18, 1996*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I am especially pleased today to bring to the attention of my colleagues Mrs. Lynden B. Miller, my close personal friend, whose years of behind-the-scene service to the public is deserving of a very special tribute. We owe a debt of gratitude to Lynden who, as a designer of public gardens, has made an immeasurable contribution of beauty and grace to the great parks and public spaces of New York City.

Lynden Miller's most recent and notable contribution is on view in Bryant Park, on 6 acres located behind the New York Public Library. The city of New York closed Bryant Park in the late 1980's because it had become a haven for crime. In 1992, after 5 years of renovation, and with gardens newly designed by Lynden, Bryant Park was triumphantly reopened. Since its opening, 10,000 visitors walk through the garden each day, rejuvenated by Lynden's pallet of spiraeas, hydrangeas, foxgloves, sedums, phlox, hollyhocks and Japanese anemones set in borders 300 feet long by 12 feet deep. Today, due largely to Lynden's vision of the possibilities for public space, Bryant Park has been transformed into an oasis of peace and elegance in the midst of busy midtown Manhattan.

As the director of the Conservatory Garden in Central Park since 1982, Lynden has again defied expectations. This northeastern most area of Central Park was designed in the 1930's as an Italianate estate garden. Fifty years later, at the time Lynden was appointed to take on its renaissance, it has been abandoned. After 14 years of Lynden's direction of garden design, relentless fundraising and staff supervision, the Conservatory Garden of Central Park has become one of the great jewels in the greatest public park in the world. Under Lynden's guidance, the Conservatory Garden has also remained a community institution serving residents of both upper Fifth Avenue and some of the blighted neighborhoods of East Harlem.

Other public spaces which bear Lynden's signature include the garden at the Central Park Zoo, portions of the New York Botanical Gardens, Wagner Park at Battery Park City, spring and summer annuals at Grand Army Plaza in Brooklyn, gardens at the Cooper-Hewitt Museum, and Herald & Greeley Squares. She is on the Boards of Directors of the United States National Advisory Council for the National Arboretum in Washington, DC, and New York City's Central Park Conservancy and The Parks Council, among others. Lynden also lectures and participates in symposiums in the United States and abroad. She has written several articles and essays on garden design.

Lynden owes her sense of color to her training as an artist. She was a successful studio artist from 1967 until 1982 and has had several gallery shows in London and New York. She was educated at Smith College, the New York Botanical Gardens, Chelsea-Westminster College in London, and the University of Maryland.

I am very proud to pay tribute to Lynden Miller, who for fourteen years has been quietly

dedicated to the well-being and beauty of New York City's most frequented public spaces. I ask my colleagues to join with me today in celebration of Lynden for her many wondrous botanical gifts to the millions of residents and visitors of the city of New York.

HAVERTHILL GIRLS BASKETBALL  
CHAMPS

HON. PETER G. TORKILDSEN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 18, 1996*

Mr. TORKILDSEN. Mr. Speaker, this morning I spoke on the floor praising the UMASS Minutemen basketball team—the best college basketball team in the country. Now I rise to applaud and celebrate the best women's basketball team in Massachusetts—from Haverhill High School—on their championship win. These athletes have proven they possess the necessary edge to be champions and rightfully deserve heartfelt congratulations.

On Saturday, March 16, 1996, at the Worcester Centrum in Massachusetts, Haverhill won its third consecutive Division I girls crown with a 74–46 victory over Pittsfield High School. With nine seniors leading the team to victory, UMASS-bound Kelly Van Heisen netted 12 points in the championship game.

Other members of this championship team include Julie Szabo, Jaimie DeSimone, Samantha Good, Sara Jewett, Allison Godfrey, Julie Dirs, Tricia Guertin, Cheryl Leger, Nicole Lacroix, Kelly Van Keisen, Melissa Rowe, Melissa Cerasuolo, Meghan Buckley, Heather Langlois and Caitlin Masys.

Thirteen-year head coach Kevin Woelfel had led his teams to win six State titles in the last 10 years, finished second twice and has a stunning overall record of 275–37, for a winning percentage of 88 percent.

To be a champion athlete requires dedication, perseverance, skill and drive. The young women who make up this winning team possess all of these characteristics and combined them to produce a group of unbeatable champions.

I'm very proud to have such an outstanding team from my district. Success in any field demands a great deal of commitment and hard work, and it's obvious from these championship victories that these women have what it takes to win.

These incredibly talented young women have not only proven themselves to be the best this past season, but to possess a record of six championship wins in the past 10 years reflects the dedication of their coach, Mr. Kevin Woelfel. In the equation for success, effective leadership and guidance are as necessary as talent and commitment from the players.

Once again, congratulations to this winning team, and I wish you nothing but continued success as you continue on to college and throughout the rest of your lives. You are excellent role models for those who follow in your footsteps, and you are outstanding representatives of both your school and the State of Massachusetts.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SIKHS ON  
VAISAAKHI DAY

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 18, 1996*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 297th celebration of Vaisaakhi Day, the birthday of the Sikh nation. On Vaisaakhi Day in 1699, Guru Gobind Singh, the tenth and last Guru of the Sikh religion, formally baptized the Sikhs into nationhood, creating the order of the Khalsa Panth.

The Sikhs are a proud, hard-working, and freedom-loving people. At times they have prospered. At times they have persevered under immense tyranny. They have always conducted themselves according to the axiom uttered by Guru Gobind Singh: "Recognize ye all the human race as one."

Sikhism is a monotheistic, independent religion that should not be confused with Hinduism or Islam. Sikhism dates back to the first of the ten Sikh Gurus, Guru Nanak, born in 1469. He laid the foundation of Sikhism by preaching a simple creed based on three principles: 1.) Pray daily, meditating on God's name; 2.) Work hard and earn an honest living by the sweat of your own brow—live a family life and practice honesty in all dealings, and 3.) Be charitable, sharing the fruits of your labor with others.

Most importantly, the Guru instructed Sikhs to stand up against tyranny wherever it exists. On many occasions, Sikhs have lived up to this high calling, defending Hindus from the aggression of Mogul invaders from Afghanistan. Today Sikhs find themselves in a position of defending themselves from the brutal tyranny of the Indian Government. Over the past ten years, over 100,000 Sikhs have been killed by Indian security forces. Yet Sikhs continue to look to the spirit imbued in them on Vaisaakhi Day in 1699.

Mr. Speaker, the Sikh people remain bloody but unbowed in the face of the campaign of murder, torture and rape being waged by the Indian military. Because of India's bloody rule, the Sikh people are seeking to exercise their right to self determination and declare an independent Sikh homeland. In October 1987, three years after India's bloody assault and massacre at the Golden Temple in Amritsar, every major Sikh political group joined together to issue a declaration of nationhood and independence.

I ask all of my colleagues to support two pieces of legislation: H.R. 1425. "The Human Rights in India Act, which would cut off U.S. aid to India until it stops the human rights abuses; and House Resolutions 32, which would recognize the Sikh people's right to self-determination. America stands for freedom, human rights and democracy, and we should support these ideals.

DEPLORING INDIVIDUALS WHO  
DENY HISTORICAL REALITY OF  
HOLOCAUST AND COMMENDING  
WORK OF U.S. HOLOCAUST ME-  
MORIAL MUSEUM

SPEECH OF

HON. GARY A. FRANKS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 16, 1996*

Mr. FRANKS of Connecticut. I rise in strong support of House Resolution 316, a measure which applauds the work of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum while condemning those people who have the sheer audacity to deny that the Holocaust ever occurred.

Mr. Speaker, the Holocaust Museum serves as a poignant historical reminder of one of the darkest periods of human history—the systematic extermination by Nazi Germany of over six million Jews. This important museum serves as an essential, necessary monument that reminds the world of those people whose lives were savagely ripped away from them in Nazi death camps like Auschwitz while honoring the brave people who fiercely took a stand against the evil Nazi tyrants.

Mr. Speaker, anyone who visits the Holocaust Museum will find it to be an experience both sobering and stirring. I applaud the work of those who are involved with the Holocaust Museum for the job they have done in educating the public and making sure that we will never forget. Truly, anyone who visits our Nation's capital should make pilgrimage to this museum.

Sadly, Mr. Speaker, there are still those who dispute that a Holocaust ever occurred. They maintain, mainly out of hatred and anti-semitism, that there was no genocide and that the notion of the Holocaust is fraudulent. Mr. Speaker, I feel it is our duty as duly-elected officials, as representatives of the American people, to condemn these hateful people for such warped attitudes and make notice that these despicable people, these offensive outcasts of society, remain permanently embedded in the status of pariahs of our communities.

Mr. Speaker, when all is said and done, I pray that we have learned from this sad, sad chapter of human history and that we, the human race, must never forget the necessity of being soldiers on the front lines in the war versus bigotry, hatred, and racism. The Holocaust Museum serves as a concrete record and as a reminder, for us and generations to come, of our obligation in this battle for us and our children. I commend Congressman GILMAN and Congressman LANTOS for their work on this endeavor and I encourage my colleagues to pass this important resolution.

FOR SURVIVORS OF THE  
ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 18, 1996*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, between 1915 and 1923 the Ottoman Turkish Empire committed a terrible genocide against Armenians. In a systematic and deliberate cam-

aign to eliminate the Armenian people and erase their culture and history of 3,000 years the Turks committed this atrocity. As a result, over one-half million Armenians were massacred. The Armenian genocide is a historical fact, and has been recognized by academicians and historians all over the world. The documentary evidence is irrefutable and beyond question. Unfortunately, the Turkish Government is still persisting in their denial that the genocide took place.

Many survivors of the genocide have made the United States their new home. On April 24, 1996 Armenians all over the world will commemorate the 81st anniversary of the Armenian genocide. Commemoration activities will occur in Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, and in my district in Fresno, California. I have the honor of representing thousands of Armenians in California's 19th Congressional District, and I send my sincerest condolences on this solemn occasion to all members of the Armenian community. As a member of the Congressional Caucus on Armenian Issues, I intend to join my colleagues, Representatives JOHN PORTER and FRANK PALLONE in a special order on April 24, 1996 on the floor of the House of Representatives to commemorate the genocide victims.

I am an original cosponsor of House Concurrent Resolution 47 which calls on Congress to officially recognize the Armenian genocide and encourages the Republic of Turkey to do the same. This legislation would call on the Government of Turkey to turn away from its denials of the Armenian genocide, and instead, to openly acknowledge this tragic chapter in its history. By doing so, the Turkish Government can help to raise the level of trust in a strategic, yet highly unstable, region of the world and facilitate the normalization of relations between Turkey and Armenia. I encourage my colleagues to vote for the passage of H. Con. Res. 47.

Remembering this genocide against the Armenians will help ensure that this type of tragedy is never allowed to occur again.

CONTRACT WITH AMERICA  
ADVANCEMENT ACT OF 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. THOMAS J. BLILEY, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 28, 1996*

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend Chairman HYDE of the Judiciary Committee and Senator BOND for their leadership on this bill. We share the goals of reducing regulatory burdens on small business and, in so doing, promoting job creation and economic growth.

S. 942 sweeps across a wide range of Federal regulation. Oversight of the Securities and Exchange Commission [SEC] falls within the jurisdiction of the Commerce. The SEC is charged with the important role of preventing fraud in our securities markets. Though its enforcement of the anti-fraud provisions of the securities laws, the SEC builds confidence of investors and makes our financial markets liquid and transparent.

My analysis of the provisions of S. 942 indicates that the bill will not have any negative effect on the enforcement activities of the SEC. We will not tolerate, and this bill does