

women, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing the essential role that NOW has played in leading efforts to create positive social and political change.

DR. AULAKH, PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN, MAKES PRESENTATION AT LONDON INSTITUTE OF SOUTH ASIA

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 27, 2006*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, recently the London Institute of South Asia held an event to honor author Professor Gurtej Singh, who has a significant book on the repression in India. In connection with that, they held a seminar on the topic of a separate electorate in India for minorities. Dr. Gunnit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, spoke at the Institute in connection with the seminar. He spoke about the struggle to liberate Khalistan, the Sikh homeland. As you know, Mr. Speaker, Khalistan declared its independence on October 7, 1987. Yet Indian repression of the Sikh Nation continues to this day.

Dr. Aulakh spoke out against a separate electorate within India for the Sikhs, arguing that only full independence will allow the Sikhs to live in peace, prosperity, dignity, and freedom. He said that independence for Khalistan is inevitable, noting the recent marches, seminars, and other events showing the rising tide of support for freedom for Khalistan. And the politicians in Punjab have noticed and are beginning to speak out for Khalistan. That is a good sign. Even the Congress Party government of Punjab explicitly asserted the sovereignty of Punjab when it cancelled the agreements allowing the transfer of Punjabi water to non-riparian states last year.

He reported on the repression of the Sikhs that continues to show up in the form of the Indian Government destroying Sikh farms with bulldozers, farms that Sikh farmers had worked their lives for, only to see a lifetime of work destroyed by the Indian regime. This repression takes the form of arresting people for raising the flag of Khalistan, even though the Indian courts have ruled that wearing the saffron of Khalistan or raising a flag is not a crime. But the Indian Government apparently believes that it is not bound by the law, a position held not by democratic, but totalitarian governments. As my friend from California has said, for minorities, "India may as well be Nazi Germany."

Mr. Speaker, we cannot sit idly by and let this repression continue. I know that there are many pressing problems on the world stage that require our attention, such as the situation in Lebanon and the continuing fight against terrorism in Iraq and Afghanistan. But we must not let the necessity of attention and action in these important situations allow us to let Indian repression slip under the radar. It is our duty to the principles on which this country was founded to support freedom everywhere in the world, not just in the hot spots. It is time to take action, Mr. Speaker. America should cut off aid and trade with India until all people there are allowed to live in freedom. And we should support real democracy, the kind India claims to believe in, in the form of a free and

fair plebiscite in Punjab, Khalistan, in Nagalim, in Kashmir, and wherever people seek their freedom in South Asia.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to place the Council of Khalistan's press release on Dr. Aulakh's visit to the London Institute of South Asia into the RECORD at this time.

DR. AULAKH SPEAKS TO LONDON INSTITUTE OF SOUTH ASIA—BOOK AWARD TO PROFESSOR GURTEJ SINGH

WASHINGTON, D.C., JULY 12, 2006.—Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President of the Council of Khalistan, spoke last month at the London Institute of South Asia (LISA.) He went there for a ceremony honoring Professor Gurtej Singh IAS for his book, *Tandev of the Centaur*, which won the LISA Book Award. The seminar addressed the topic of a separate electorate for Indian minorities. Dr. Aulakh spoke on the topic of the liberation of Khalistan. He said that the idea of a separate election could be good for some minorities but was something that would hold back the struggle for freedom of minority nations that are dominant in their areas. He gave four radio interviews on Punjabi stations that are listened to worldwide.

Professor Gurtej Singh said, "As part of my narration [for the book], I found myself suggesting a theory indicating the spurious nature of India's struggle for freedom. I am aware that it renders the main activities of the Congress Party and its leaders to an exercise in collaboration. But I am in good company in coming to that conclusion. Michael Edwards, in his *The Myth of the Mahatma*, has clearly shown that the British really feared the 'Western style revolutionaries' whom Gandhi effectively neutralized. The Administration considered Gandhi as an ally of the British as a neutralizer of rebellion."

"This book does not clarify everything, but it clarifies a lot," said Brigadier Usman Khalid, Director of LISA. "It lays the foundation for friendship between two irrepressible nations of the subcontinent—the Muslims and the Sikhs. The national cohesion that exists within the Muslims and the Sikhs cannot be replicated in the caste based Brahminic society," Brigadier Khalid said, "Indian secularism is 'fraudulent; Indian nationalism is a pious hope without foundation or purpose. The book nails those lies. It is a great starting point for the 'freedom for all in South Asia.'"

"Despite the Indian Government's massive efforts over two decades to crush the Khalistani freedom movement and the other freedom movements, there remains strong support for Khalistan in Punjab and the surrounding Sikh areas," Dr. Aulakh said. He noted the anniversary of the attack on the Golden Temple and the atrocities that were committed in Operation Blue Star. He took note of the arrests of Sikh leaders in Punjab for making speeches and hoisting the flag. He noted that Khalistan slogans were raised inside the Golden Temple recently. He noted the seminars organized by Atinder Pal Singh and took note of the atrocities committed by the Indian government, such as the kidnapping and murder of Jaswant Singh Khalra, the murder of Akal Takht Jathedar Gurdev Singh Kaunke, tearing apart the driver of Saba Charan Singh, and the mass cremation of Sikhs. He cited the Chithisinghpura massacre, the bombing of an Indian Airlines flight in 1985, and other atrocities committed by the Indian government.

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 as 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. The 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."

Government-allied Hindu militants have burned down Christian churches and prayer halls, murdered priests, and raped nuns. The Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) described the rapists as "patriotic youth" and called the nuns "antinational elements." Hindu radicals, members of the Bajrang Dal, burned missionary Graham Stewart Staines and his two sons, ages 10 and 8, to death while they surrounded the victims and chanted "Victory to Hanuman," the Hindu monkey-faced God. The Bajrang Dal is the youth arm of the RSS. The VHP is a militant Hindu Nationalist organization that is under the umbrella of the RSS.

"The genocidal policies of the Indian government are aimed at eliminating all these groups," Dr. Aulakh said. "Self-determination must be the standard," he said. "Short of that, it is hard to see how the freedom of all people in South Asia will be protected."

We thank the London Institute of South Asia for including Dr. Aulakh in its presentations. We would like to thank General Khalid, Dr. Awatar Singh Sekhon, V.T. Rajshekar, and all the trustees of the Institute for inviting Dr. Aulakh to make this presentation.

### PRESIDENT NIYAZOV INTENSIFIES REPRESSION IN TURKMENISTAN

#### HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 27, 2006*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, as Co-Chairman of the U.S. Helsinki Commission, I want to bring to the attention of the Congress a number of alarming arrests recently made by the Government of Turkmenistan. Last month between June 16–18, three human rights defenders were detained by Turkmen security forces and have been held for over a month. Considering Turkmenistan's abysmal human rights record, I greatly fear for their safety as they are certainly at risk of torture.

Amankurban Amanklychev, Ogulsapar Muradova, and Sapardurdy Khajiev are affiliated with the Turkmenistan Helsinki Foundation, a non-governmental organization that monitors human rights in Turkmenistan. In addition, Ms. Muradova has served as a journalist for Radio Liberty, a private communications service funded by the Congress through the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

Apparently Turkmen authorities arrested these three individuals because of their connection to a documentary about President Saparmurat Niyazov's cult of personality and

their use of hidden video equipment in making this film. The three now face the trumped-up charges of illegal weapons possession and allegations of "espionage." Given the absence of any media or speech freedoms in Turkmenistan, the government's allegations are simply not credible, and the detentions are unjustifiable.

Human rights organizations report that the detainees are being abused. Most troubling are allegations of psychotropic drugs being administered to Amanklychev and Muradova in an effort to force their confession to "subversive activities." The reports concerning psychotropic drugs are quite believable, as Turkmenistan is known to use these drugs in psychiatric hospitals to punish individuals.

In April, 54 members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives wrote to President Niyazov, urging the unconditional release of a prisoner of conscience held in a psychiatric hospital. While that individual was released, soon thereafter Congress learned of an almost identical case—69-year-old Kakabay Tedzhenov. He has been held in incommunicado detention in a psychiatric hospital since January 2006 for peacefully protesting government policies. Considering that just three months ago a significant number of Senators and Members of the House wrote President Niyazov about this barbaric practice, I am particularly disappointed that the Turkmen President continues to allow the misuse of psychiatric institutions as prisons for political dissidents and that Mr. Tedzhenov remains jailed.

With Ms. Muradova's ties to Radio Liberty and the Congress, as well as the letter from 54 Members of Congress to Niyazov regarding the use of psychiatric hospitals, the continuation of these inexcusable actions will affect the relations between Turkmenistan and the U.S. Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I am urging President Niyazov to ensure the immediate and unconditional release of Amankurban Amanklychev, Ogulsapar Muradova, and Sapardurdy Khajiev, as well as Kakabay Tedzhenov.

#### TRIBUTE TO MR. RALPH BOZELLA

### HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 27, 2006*

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the patriotism and military service of Mr. Ralph Bozella of Longmont, Colorado.

Soon after graduating with his teaching certificate during the tumultuous years of the Vietnam war, Mr. Bozella's life forever changed one Monday in the late summer of 1970. The ink was barely dry on the teaching contract he signed the Friday before when Mr. Bozella received notice that he had been drafted for service in Vietnam.

Before long, Mr. Bozella found himself at Bien Hoa Air Base near Saigon, Vietnam. From there he was sent to Chu Lai and assigned to a light infantry brigade within the Americal Infantry Division. Mr. Bozella was assigned to search and patrol the area to protect nearby villages during the rice harvest.

On these patrols into the Vietnamese jungles Mr. Bozella courageously volunteered to be the patrol's point man. In this capacity he

walked first to find booby traps before they found the rest of the patrol.

Eventually, Mr. Bozella transferred to the U.S. Army Education Center where he taught and tested soldiers in a GED program. With his background in education, Mr. Bozella was grateful that he was able to positively impact soldiers in such an incredibly difficult situation.

Following Mr. Bozella's return from the horrors of the war in Vietnam, he encountered an unsupportive society and was ostracized by his peers. Despite these difficulties, Mr. Bozella earned a masters degree in adult and community education from Colorado State University and went on to serve his community in various roles as an educator and administrator.

Mr. Bozella has been intimately involved in several veterans' organizations, serving as chairman of the Colorado Board of Veterans Affairs and as a State officer with the American Legion.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for Mr. Bozella's selfless service to our Nation. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing a man worthy of our honor, Mr. Ralph Bozella. I am deeply saddened by the way he was treated when he came home from Vietnam. After the passing of the years I hope that the respect and honor that his is afforded today will help heal those wounds.

#### HONORING NANCY ALLEN'S SERVICE TO RUTHERFORD COUNTY

### HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 27, 2006*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Nancy Allen for her service to Rutherford County, Tennessee, as County Mayor for 12 years.

Recently, the Tennessee General Assembly changed her title from County Executive to County Mayor. Her title was not the only thing to change recently. Population projects from the 2000 Census to 2005 show Rutherford County has gained more than 36,000 new residents. Money Magazine recently named Murfreesboro, the county seat and my hometown, as 84th out of the top 100 places to live in the United States. These figures and accolades are due in part to Nancy's leadership ability and the collective vision of the Rutherford County Board of Commissioners over which she has presided and previously served 4 years.

In addition to serving as Chair of the Board of Commissioners, Nancy also chairs the Rutherford County Correctional Work Center Board, Community Care of Rutherford County, Inc., and Regional Transportation Authority. Nancy is a founding member of Recycle Rutherford and a member of the Sam Davis Memorial Association, League of Women Voters, the Oakland Association, and the Rutherford County Chapter of the Middle Tennessee State University Alumni Association and recipient of the 1996 Trailblazer Award. The aforementioned awards and memberships are only a highlight of Nancy's commitment to her community.

I know Nancy will not retire completely from performing public service. It is my hope that she will now have more time to spend on per-

sonal pursuits, which will likely include her always supportive family, husband Jerry and daughter Melinda. Thank you, Nancy, for a job well done.

#### IN MEMORY OF APOSTLE ISAIAH REVILLS MAN OF GOD PREACHER OF THE WORD

### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 27, 2006*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a man who I am proud to have called a friend, a constituent, and an inspiration: Chief Apostle Isaiah Revills.

Apostle Revills was born on August 23, 1931 in Moultrie, Georgia, the son of sharecroppers. At the tender age of nine years old, Isaiah's father was murdered by the Ku Klux Klan. His mother was forced to lead the family of nine children, but her rock-solid faith in God saw her through.

Isaiah went on to the Moultrie High School for Negro Youth, where he met a young woman named Ullainee Sanders. Ullainee became his sweetheart and his partner, and on June 4, 1955, Isaiah and Ullainee were married. For the last 51 years, they have been partners in every sense of the word—sharing equally in the joys and burdens of the journey of life.

The young couple moved to Milledgeville, Georgia shortly after their marriage, and there Isaiah began to serve as the pastor of his first church. In 1958 they moved to Albany, Georgia, where together they conducted prayer meetings from house to house. So successful were these meetings that they opened a mission in 1959. Isaiah preached the Gospel there, and as far away as Harlem, as his ministry grew. His congregants grew rapidly in number and they moved to a new facility in the Masonic Hall. Apostle Revills fasted for forty days, a mission that led him to another church building, lovingly called "The Shanty." But the growth continued! Isaiah, a brick mason by trade, built the new church with his own two hands. Shortly thereafter, he went into the ministry fulltime with the constant support of Ullainee.

At the time, Newton, Georgia had a difficult racial climate, but Apostle Revills had a vision from God, and traveled there for a tent crusade. That meeting led him across Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and all the way to California. Apostle Revills was anointed by God in 1966 and went on to many more tent crusades, the largest of which became the annual Camp Meeting in the City of Albany, that ended every year with a baptism at the Mercer Mill.

His ministry grew so large, that in 1981 they opened a new 5,000-seat Cathedral and organized into ten distinct operating districts. Apostle Revills began publishing his Miracle Guiding Star Magazine, and took to the radio and television to preach the Word. He preached in Kenya, Haiti and Israel. In 1991, he was justly recognized as one of Georgia's ten most prominent black pastors.

In 1995, Apostle Revills was formally and publicly ordained as an Apostle of Jesus Christ. He received an honorary Doctorate of