

ghalugara (large holocaust) In 1762, one third of the Sikh population was killed in three days.

In 1765, Sikhs again established Sikh rule in several Sikh missals (free cantonal republics) as well as the principalities of Patiala, Nabha, Faridkote, Kapurthala, Jind, and Kalsia. This lasted until 1799 when Maharajah Ranjit Singh established Khalsa Raj in Punjab by uniting the missals and principalities. They marched into the capital city of Lahore and hoisted the Sikh flag, manifesting the spirit of liberty reaffirmed at the Vaisakhi of 1699. This Khalsa Raj lasted until 1849 when the British conquered the Sub-continent. This Sikh nation of Punjab was recognized by most of the Western powers of the time. The contemporary struggle to liberate the Sikh homeland, Punjab, Khalistan, is part of the same historical process.

Maharajah Ranjit Singh's rule was the Golden Age for Punjab. Sikhs destroyed Mogul rule and stopped invasions from the Afghan rulers to the west. Under the command of Hari Singh Nerwa, Sikhs defeated the Afghans and occupied Kabul. Nelwa left Kabul after securing the promise from the Afghans that they would not cross east of the Khyber Pass. Maharajah Ranjit Singh and Hari Singh Nerwa invaded Kashmir, which was part of Afghanistan, and annexed it to Punjab in 1819. India and Pakistan owe a debt of gratitude to the Sikhs, as both countries claim Kashmir as their own.

During Maharajah Ranjit Singh's rule, Hindus, Muslims, and Christians all had a share of power alongside the Sikhs. All of them were represented as ministers in his Cabinet. The Faqir brothers, who were Muslims, were trusted ministers in the inner circle of Maharajah Ranjit Singh. General Ventura, a Christian, was in charge of the artillery. The Hindu Dogras (Dhian Singh Dogra and his brother Lal Singh Dogra) wielded enormous power with Maharajah Ranjit Singh.

The Dogras betrayed the Sikhs and conspired with the British in the defeat of the Sikh army.

When Hari Singh Nalwa took a lone bullet from an Afghan, he wrote his last letter in blood rather than ink to bid his last fateh to Maharajah Ranjit Singh. Nalwa had previously asked for more troops but those letters were intercepted by the Dogra brothers, who kept the requests to themselves instead of telling Maharajah Ranjit Singh. They wanted Hari Singh Nalwa to be killed.

Nalwa instructed the messenger to give his letter to Maharajah Ranjit Singh personally and to no one else. The messenger arrived early in the morning.

Maharajah Ranjit Singh and Dhian Singh Dogra were out for a morning walk. When the messenger tried to give the letter to Maharajah Ranjit Singh, Dogra tried to intercept it. The messenger told Maharajah Ranjit Singh that he was instructed to give the letter to him personally. When Maharajah Ranjit Singh read the letter, he was so angry with Dhian Singh Dogra that he hit Dogra with his water bucket. Then he instructed the army to get ready to march towards Afghanistan.

They arrived at the River Attack. It was flooded. It had overflowed its banks. The Sikhs wanted to wait until the flood was over, but Maharajah Ranjit Singh led his horse into the river. The water went down and the Sikhs crossed the river. Maharajah Ranjit Singh fought the Afghans and defeated them. That stopped the incursion of the Afghans into the Sikh territory of Punjab.

After the demise of Maharajah Ranjit Singh in 1839, the British infiltrated their agents like the Dogra brothers and others

into the Sikh Raj. Sikh rulers were murdered, one after the other. The Sikhs gave the British a tough fight in the Anglo-Sikh wars, but the Sikhs lost the war through the betrayal of the Dogra brothers and the British annexed Punjab in 1849.

The Sikh Nation's desire for sovereignty has not diminished. Sikhs always recite the couplet 'Raj Kare Ga Khalsa' after their morning and evening Ardas (prayers.) The Sikhs actively participated in the Indian struggle for independence from the British. Although Sikhs were just 1.5 percent of the population, they gave over 80 percent of the sacrifices in the freedom struggle. 2,125 Indians were executed during the freedom struggle. Of these, more than 1,500 were Sikhs. Out of 2,645 exiled by the British, 2,147 were Sikhs.

At the time of India's independence in 1947, the Hindus of India and the Muslims of Pakistan received sovereign, independent states. Sikhs were supposed to be a party to the arrangement and receive their own state as well. But the Sikh leadership of the time accepted the false promise of Jawahar Lal Nehru (reaffirmed in resolutions of the Indian National Congress) that they would have 'the glow of freedom' in Punjab and no law affecting Sikh rights would be passed without Sikh consent. On this basis Sikhs took their share with India.

However, soon after the independence of India, the Sikhs discovered that they had been betrayed. The Indian leaders had no intention of giving them what they had promised. Home Minister Patel shamefully sent out a memo describing Sikhs as a 'criminal tribe'. The repression of the Sikh Nation began with that memo and continues to this day.

The time has come for Sikhs to break free of the repressive Indian regime. This is the only way that their human rights will ever be respected. And the world is beginning to notice. In the United States Congress, the Congressional Record is serving as a vehicle to keep an accurate record of the repression and to defeat India's effort to whitewash the situation and the history of the Sikhs and other minorities. The Congressional Record carries repeated calls for a free and fair plebiscite on the independence of Khalistan and the other nations seeking their freedom from India. There are also repeated calls for a cut off of U.S. aid to India until human rights are respected. The pressure is mounting for human rights and freedom in South Asia. How soon will India collapse under the pressure? It is only a matter of time.

RECOGNIZING CHERYL HALE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Cheryl Hale of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Cheryl has enjoyed a successful banking career spanning 28 years and has been chosen to receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Award for Women in the Workplace.

Cheryl truly built her career from the ground up. At the age of 22, Cheryl already had a family to support, yet she had little education and experience. She took the initiative and obtained her General Education Degree. She then took her first job working as a bookkeeper, while she began taking college classes at night. In 1990, Cheryl graduated Summa Cum Laude from Missouri Western State College with a degree in Business Administration.

As a member of the community, Cheryl has been a major advocate of the "Profit in Education" program. She has audited books for several Parents and Teachers Association's in the area, and served on the boards of Band Boosters and The Coalition for Achievement. Currently, she serves on the Clarence J. Carpenter Memorial Fund Board and is very active in the Pony Express Chapter of the American Business Women's Association.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Cheryl Hale. Her commitment to education, business, and the community are truly remarkable. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

TRIBUTE TO CHATHAM TOWNSHIP

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2006

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chatham Township, in Morris County, NJ a vibrant community I am proud to represent. On September 9, 2006, the good citizens of Chatham Township are commemorating their bicentennial anniversary celebration with a day long extravaganza featuring a Fireman's Parade and an old-fashioned country fair.

In 1806 the Commonwealth of New Jersey officially incorporated the 23 square miles of land to the north and east of the Great Swamp and west of the Passaic River as the Township of Chatham. It originally included the areas that are now the boroughs of Chatham, Madison and Florham Park. The coming of the Morris and Essex Railroad in 1837 led to sharp increases in the population of the township which resulted in incorporating Chatham, Madison and Florham Park as separate boroughs.

In the late 1870s and 1880s the area became a center of the rose-growing industry. The specialty of one of the greenhouses was the American Beauty rose with a 5-foot-long stem. At Christmas they were sent to European royalty. Fifty were also sent to Queen Victoria in recognition of her golden anniversary.

After a 5-year construction ban during World War II, large farms gave way to luxurious home sites. Former rose farms became two major shopping centers at the corner known as Hickory Tree, named for a hickory tree planted during President James Madison's term.

In 1959 the Port Authority of New Jersey and New York considered the Great Swamp to be the ideal location for a major metropolitan airport. Through the massive efforts of area residents, the Great Swamp was secured through donations as a federally protected wilderness area now known as the Great Swamp Wildlife Refuge, a national treasure.

High above the Passaic River on the east side of town, the Little Red School House was built in 1860. A school until 1928, the building eventually became the property of the township and housed the police and administrative offices until 1988. Today the historic building appropriately houses the Township Museum and Historical Society.

Today Chatham Township consists of 9 square miles housing 10,000 people. The

horse farms, dairy farms and rose greenhouses are gone, but the five-person township committee form of government continues as it was in 1806.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the residents of Chatham Township on the celebration of 200 years of rich history and the building of one of New Jersey's finest municipalities.

TRIBUTE TO MUNCIE SHERIFF IN
SNIPER ARREST

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2006

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, a tragic tale of death and sniper shootings over the weekend has turned into a bittersweet success story for law enforcement in my home state of Indiana.

Early Sunday morning, after leaving a relative's hunting party on a Washington County farm, Zachariah Blanton, a 17-year-old Gaston, Indiana native, committed four shootings—two along Interstate 65 in Jackson County and another pair along Interstate 69 in Delaware County.

The previous two left Jerry Ross, age 40 of New Albany, dead and another man injured.

Mr. Speaker, this tale is all too familiar to those living in the 50-mile radius of this very Chamber from which we speak today. For it was October of 2002 when the hearts of the American people were troubled by barbaric acts of terror that felled innocent women, men, and even children, in the vicinity of our Nation's Capital.

Whatever the motivation, the acts of John Allen Muhammad in Washington and Zachariah Blanton are acts of terror. These perpetrators defied civilized behavior and believed they could defy the finest local, State, and Federal law enforcement in the world. How wrong they were.

Mr. Speaker, Zachariah Blanton was apprehended by Indiana law enforcement on Tuesday of this week, just two days after his heinous crimes.

Compared to the sad slayings that paralyzed Washington for nearly two months in 2002, one can only stand in honor and amazement at the quick end to the events of this week in the Hoosier State.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the coordination efforts of the Indiana State Police with Jackson County officials, but rise with particular deference to Sheriff George Sheridan and his Delaware County Department of whom the residents of East Central Indiana are most proud this morning.

Mr. Speaker, the nation is watching Delaware County and Sheriff George Sheridan, and the nation is impressed.

On behalf of the residents of east central Indiana, I offer a heartfelt thanks to Sheriff George Sheridan and all law enforcement officials across the Hoosier State. God Bless you for your hard work.

HONORING SANDY AUGLIERE ON
HER 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2006

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sandy Augliere on her 90th birthday and recognize her many accomplishments as well as her years of dedication to the Lake Barcroft community.

Sandy Augliere was born Mary Margaret Reed in Marion, N.C., but most everyone who has met her knows her simply as Sandy. Through her engaging personal demeanor and business acumen, Sandy has become an institution in the Lake Barcroft real estate community. In addition, Sandy has been a dedicated and loving wife to her husband Vince, and mother to her four children, Carol, Noel, Reed and Tom.

The senior associate broker at Long and Foster, Sandy has been in the real estate business for some 50 years. She has been in the top 1 percent of Realtors nationally and is a lifetime Million Dollar Club member. In the course of her impressive career, she has sold or re-sold approximately 700 to 800 of the 1,044 houses in the Lake Barcroft. Even today, Sandy works seven days a week, and has no plans to quit.

In establishing her impressive real estate accomplishments, she led opponents of discrimination against African Americans in the home buying market. Sandy sold homes to a diverse group of individuals and families, including Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall and Attorney General of the United States Ramsey Clark.

Throughout her ongoing success, she has never advertised on television. Instead, she depends on friends and word of mouth. If asked, Sandy is quick to point out that her personal touch has always been a hallmark of her success. This same personal touch has been felt in Lake Barcroft through her community service as Lake Barcroft Association president and Woman's Club president.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Sandy Augliere for her contributions to the Lake Barcroft community. She is an exemplary model of success and citizenship. I call upon my colleagues to join me in recognizing her on the occasion of her 90th birthday.

TRIBUTE TO 100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF OLD TIMERS DAY

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2006

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the 100th Anniversary of Old Timers Day, a city tradition in New Castle, Pennsylvania, since 1906.

The first annual Old Timers picnic took place at Cascade Park on August 23, 1906, drawing in 7,000 residents of New Castle and has continued as an annual affair. The second year's picnic drew 11,000 people, and by the third year, attendance jumped to 17,000. The figures have fluctuated throughout the years,

but this event has always been a success and an important community event.

This year's festivities will be no exception, thanks to the chairmen and the community leaders who have planned the event. Activities will include: dancing, refreshments, prizes, and souvenirs.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the "Old Timers" of New Castle and their families. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute the achievements and fine traditions that truly improve the lives of the senior citizens of the New Castle and neighboring communities.

REPUBLICAN FISCAL POLICY IS
WORKING

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2006

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month the White House Office of Management and Budget handed down good news in its mid-year budget update—the Republican fiscal policy is working. This year's budget deficit is now forecasted at \$296 billion, which is 30 percent lower than the February projections.

We have made great progress in eliminating the budget deficit through fiscal responsibility and through increased tax revenues brought on by lower taxes.

Since the President's tax cuts were fully implemented in 2003, we have seen consistent and substantial growth in tax revenue. This reaffirms our knowledge that when we ease the tax burden on the American people, we become more productive. As we face future budget challenges it is important to keep that fact in mind.

We must do what is best for Americans. As we all can see by the new forecasts . . . cutting spending and reducing taxes produces real results.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS
THAT VENEZUELA SHOULD SUPPORT
STRATEGIES FOR ENSURING
SECURE AIRPORT FACILITIES

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2006

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to revise my previous statement regarding H. Con. Res. 400. I rise in opposition to H. Con. Res. 400. While I believe the United States should address the issue of drug trafficking from Venezuela, this resolution is too harsh a condemnation of the Government of Venezuela.

It should be the goal of the United States to work closely with Venezuela and the other nations of this region to combat the trafficking of narcotics and other controlled substances. It is not only out of concern for the welfare of our own Nation if illegal substances and laundered