Common Sense

Paul Jacob



Sikh Freedom First

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If I get gunned down in a hail of bullets . . . *well* . . . *who done it?*

The genocidal Chinese Communist Party, furious at my new website, <u>StoptheChinazis.org</u>?

Perhaps. But what about the regime of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in India?

I'm a member of the Punjab Referendum Commission, an international group advising and monitoring the nongovernmental referendums being organized among the worldwide Sikh diaspora by U.S.-based Sikhs for Justice. Recently, I stood at the entrance of a Sikh temple in Surrey, British Columbia, outside Vancouver, where Canadian intelligence agencies <u>say</u> agents of Modi's government <u>assassinated</u> Sikh leader and Canadian citizen Hardeep Singh Nijjar, back in June, spraying him with 30 bullets. Then, last week, U.S. prosecutors indicted an Indian national for, <u>according</u> to *The Wall Street Journal*, "working with an Indian government officer to pay a purported hitman \$100,000... to murder a prominent advocate" on U.S. soil.

"The court filing did not name the victim," *The Washington Post* <u>reported</u>, "but senior Biden administration officials say the target was Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, general counsel for the New York-based Sikhs for Justice...."

My mouth's suddenly a bit dry; I've been on the same stage as Mr. Pannun several times.

There's a long *history* of political unrest and violence between Sikhs in the Punjab region and the central Indian government . . . leading today to roughly one-fourth of Sikhs living outside of India.

What can we do? Well, though I take no position on whether — YES or NO — the Punjab region should secede from India, I very much like that Sikhs for Justice is resorting to the opposite of violence — democracy — by asking Sikhs around the world to cast their vote.

If they dare.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.