

105TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. CON. RES. 37

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the Sikh nation should be allowed to exercise the right of national self-determination in their homeland, Punjab, Khalistan.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 5, 1997

Mr. CONDIT (for himself and Mr. ROHRABACHER) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the Sikh nation should be allowed to exercise the right of national self-determination in their homeland, Punjab, Khalistan.

Whereas the Sikh nation developed a national consciousness in the 17th century and established an independent and sovereign state in 1765;

Whereas the independent and sovereign Sikh state was recognized by other European and Asian states until conquest by the British in 1849;

Whereas the Sikh nation was the last nation to fall to British conquest in the Indian subcontinent;

Whereas the Sikh nation was denied resumption of its independent state when the British divided their conquered territory between India and Pakistan;

Whereas no Sikh has ever signed, and therefore ever ratified, the Indian constitution;

Whereas the Sikh nation reasserted the independence of its state, known as Khalistan, on October 7, 1987 and formed the Council of Khalistan naming Washington DC-based Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh as its President to serve as government pro tempore pending the end of Indian Government occupation of Khalistan;

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

Whereas national self-determination is enshrined in article 1 of the United Nations Charter;

Whereas an independent and sovereign Sikh homeland has been in the past and is now economically, militarily, and politically viable;

Whereas Khalistan remains under Indian occupation;

Whereas an independent and sovereign Khalistan will be a force for peace, leading India and Pakistan to sign the Non-Proliferation Treaty;

Whereas an independent and sovereign Khalistan will serve as a buffer state between India and Pakistan;

Whereas the struggle to liberate Khalistan known as Shantmai Morcha is a peaceful and democratic one;

Whereas Sikhs are committed to the principles of freedom, justice, and democracy;

Whereas an independent and sovereign Sikh nation will help spread democracy and economic prosperity throughout all of South Asia;

Whereas an independent and sovereign Khalistan, nurtured by the Sikh tradition of democracy and justice, would be a natural ally of the United States; and

Whereas the struggle of the Sikh nation to establish an independent Khalistan closely mirrors America's struggle for independence and democracy: Now, therefore, be it

1        *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*  
 2 *concurring),* That it is the sense of the Congress that the  
 3 Sikhs of Khalistan have the right to national self-deter-  
 4 mination in their homeland, Punjab, Khalistan; and be it  
 5 further

6        *Resolved,* That it is the sense of the Congress that  
 7 an internationally supervised plebiscite should be held in  
 8 Punjab, Khalistan, on the question of independence, under  
 9 international supervision, so that the Sikhs of Khalistan  
 10 can determine their political future in a free and fair vote  
 11 in accordance with international law.

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