



Ambedkar Times

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GREETINGS ON THE INDEPENDENCE DAY AUGUST 15

TODAY, August 15, we are celebrating the Independence Day of India. My greetings to all my fellow citizens and friends on this happy occasion.

India has come a long way since 1947. We are a nation of 1.25 billion people. Demographically, India is one of the youngest countries. India is the largest democracy of the world. It is one of the fastest growing economies. India is one of the largest reservoirs of skilled and semi-skilled manpower. But India is still poor and under developed. We are to go a long way. It is a matter of concern and worry that things are seemingly not under control. The divisive forces are at work and are gaining strength. We are a divided lot on the basis of caste and religion. We are one of the top corrupt nations. The economy is in dis-array. Political parties do not have any national agenda. India is surrendered by hostile neighbours.



Ramesh Chander
(Ambassador, IFS Rtd.)

India Today, in one of its latest issues has termed India as "World's only RDC" and said "There are LDCs (Less Developed Countries) and there are UDCs (Under Developed Countries) But India is an RDC, a Refusing to Develop Country, thanks to its politicians. India today has further informed that in 1982, India's per capita income was 39% higher than China's. By 1912, India's per capita income had reduced to just 24% of China's. An average Chinese is 3 times richer than an Indian; he was 28% poorer than an Indian in 1982. It is a matter of shame and concern. Let the Independence Day be an occasion for introspection. We have definitely gone wrong on the way. Before we get derailed, we need to remind ourselves of the warning Dr. B.R. Ambedkar gave in the Constituent Assembly in November, 1949. He said "Independence is no doubt a matter of joy. But let us not forget this independence has thrown on us great responsibilities. By independence, we have lost the excuse of blaming the British for anything going wrong. If hereafter things go wrong, we will have nobody to blame but ourselves"

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Tamilnadu Government order No. 92, (SC/ST and Dalit Christians, Buddhists - Tuition fees free for UG/PG all professional course. Further please make contact: Biku. A. Bodhi Ambedkar, s.b., Educational counselor, Gauthama Buddha Students Hostel, Mathur Post, Pudukottai (Dt), Tamilnadu State. humanismforum@gmail.com,

APPROVING NOVEMBER 2013 AS SIKH AWARENESS APPRECIATION MONTH, CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY PASSES ACR 25



Senate Majority Leader Senator Ellen M. Corbett & Assembly member Bob Wieckowski with the Sikh community members

Sacramento:- Assembly Concurrent Resolution; ACR 25 (Wieckowski) honoring Sikh American Awareness and Appreciation Month November 2013 was passed by the California Assembly on Monday afternoon August 19, 2013. ACR 25 was authored and presented on the Assembly floor by Assembly member Bob Wieckowski with Assembly member Dan Logue as its principal Coauthor. Assembly member Henry Perea and seven other Assembly members supported the Resolution with powerful speeches on the Assembly floor and became its Coauthors when asked by the Speaker of the House.

Senate Majority Leader Sen. Ellen M. Corbett also spoke strongly in favor of the Resolution in her welcoming address at the reception. The reception with refreshments was arranged by Assembly member Bob Wieckowski at 11.00 A.M in Room number 313 at the Capitol building before the start of the session.

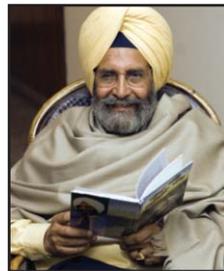
Subsequently 40-50 Sikh Community members who attended the reception were led to the Assembly Hall Visitor's Gallery at around noon time when the ACR 25 was presented, discussed and voted upon. The ACR 25



Assembly member Bob Wieckowski with Late commissioner Lahori Ram family & Prem K. Chumber (www.ambedkartimes.com)

was passed with a unanimous vote across the party lines as Assembly members from both parties became its Coauthors and strongly spoke in its support.

Prof. Onkar Singh Bindra, a retired Educationist, Harpal Singh Rana, a Punjabi Teacher in Logan High School, many students and several other active community members from the Sacramento as well as Bay area were present. On behalf of the Sikh Council of Central California (SCCC) Education and Awareness Committee, Charanjit Singh Bath, Pashaura Singh Dhillon (Coordinator) and Joga Singh Mahil from Madera travelled all the way from the Central Valley California to support



By Pashaura Singh Dhillon
(Coordinator SCCC Fresno)

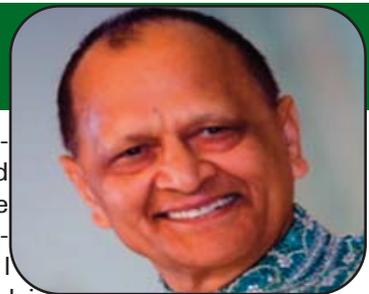
ACR 25. It is worth mentioning here that the pre-runner of ACR 25 was the Resolution passed by the Sikh Council of Central California (SCCC) in its annual celebration of the Sikh Awareness and Appreciation Month November 2012 during the Guru Nanak Prakash Utsav at the Lincoln High School Selma last year. Prem Kumar Chumber Chief Editor of "Ambedkar Times" & "Desh (Doaba" (www.ambedkartimes.com & www.deshdoaba.com) was also in attendance and took the photographs. (Continued on page no 4)

Fifth Picnic IVACC in Lahori Ram Memory

Sacramento (Ambedkartimes.com News Bureau)- The Indus Valley American Chamber of Commerce (IVACC) along with the Ram Family organized the Fifth Annual Picnic in Memory of Late Lahori Ram, Commissioner, California Economic Commission, on Sunday August

all over California to enjoy a beautiful day in the park. Many elected officials also attended the event and presented Mrs. Prito Ram with Certificates of Recognition. There was an organized girl's soccer tournament and a men's volleyball tournament. Food and drinks were

performed live traditional Punjabi songs in memory of Lahori Ram. Honorable Roger Dickinson



(L to R) JP Singh, Sukh Chan (IVACC Members), Sacramento City Council man Alan Warren, Yuba City City Council man Tej Mann, Assembly Man Roger Dickinson, Jagdev Ram and Ajaipaul Ram

18th 2013 at the Elk Grove Park in Elk Grove, CA. Guests came from

served from 10:00 am to 6:30 pm. Raj Brar, a renowned Punjabi singer,

(Assembly Member District 7) (Continued on page 4)

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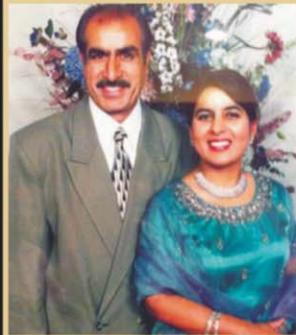
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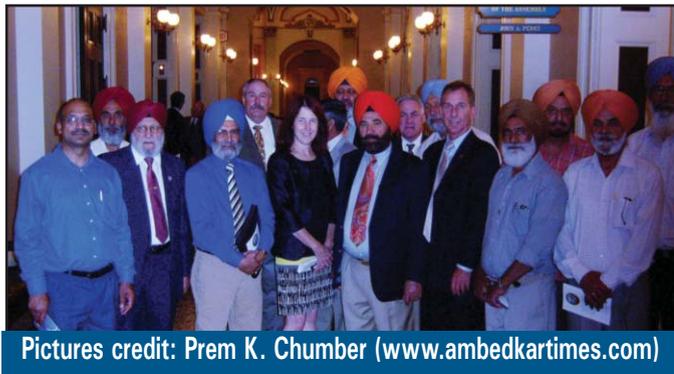
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Pictures credit: Prem K. Chumber (www.ambedkartimes.com)



2013/08/18

Fifth Picnic IVACC in Lahori Ram Memory

spoke about the life of Lahori Ram and presented Certificate to the Ram Family.

Honorable Dr. Richard Pan (Assembly Member District 9) spoke about the great contribution the Indian community have made in his district.

Honorable Tej Mann (Council Member - City of Yuba City) brought a Proclamation from the City of Yuba City. He said that he owes his success to the hard work of State Commissioner Lahori Ram.

Honorable Mark Johannessen

(Council Member - City of West Sacramento) who is running for Assembly from the Sacramento area also spoke about the importance of political activism.

Honorable Alan Warren (Council Member - City of Sacramento) said he is always at the disposal of the Indian community and especially the Ram Family.

Honorable Diana Rodriguez (Trustee - Sacramento City Unified School District) who is running for Assembly wore traditional Indian clothing. She spoke about the impor-

tance of including the history of minority communities in the school curriculum.

Anne Marie Shubert - Candidate for Sacramento County's District Attorney's office said she would like to get more involved in the community and was thankful to the organizers for allowing her to come and meet the community.

Many members for the local Sikh Gurdwaras were present. Indo-American Cultural Organization, CA-USA honored Mrs. Prito Ram for the family's service to the community.

President Bindra said that Lahori Ram was one of the first supporters when the organization started celebrating the Mela Ghadri Babeyan Da.

IVACC board members Sukh Singh, Iqbal Badwalz and Gary Sidhu were very active in the festivities.

Jagdev and Ajaipaul Ram thanked everyone for attending and keeping the memory of their Father alive. They said we all need to continue the hard work of their Father and work together to reach the next level.



Pictures credit: Prem K. Chumber (www.ambedkartimes.com)