

The Bleeding Limbs of Sikhs

(Stark Reality Revealed)



Avtar Singh Gill

The Bleeding Limbs of Sikhs

(Stark Reality Revealed)



Avtar Singh Gill

Published By: NotNul

Published On: April, 2023

© *Avtar Singh Gill*

Table of Content

Why This Now	9
The Army General Speaks Out	19
The Academicians Bestows Deep Thoughts	23
1. Introduction	26
The Sikh Homeland Voice	26
The Sikhs seduced	33
The Sikhs betrayed	36
Lok Sabha Hammered	40
Anandpur Sahib Resolution	53
Akal Takht Sahib	56
Peaceful struggle commenced	69
Unpleasant truth	82
2. Operation Blue-Star	83
Golden Temple misused ?	83
Threat to enter Golden Temple	86
Attack on Golden Temple conceived	94
CRPF aggravated situation	98
Golden Temple under siege	101
Operation Blue-star planned	108
Reconnaissance complete	114
G. S. Pandher cautioned	115

Unprovoked firing commenced	117
Army took up positions	121
Stage set for assault	126
The Battle Commenced	133
Sikhs converged on Amritsar to defend	139
Defenders' preparations	142
Akali leaders forcibly taken away	143
Commando action failed	148
Tanks and ARC's brought	153
The last resistance	155
3. A General Massacre	161
Sant Bhindranwale's end	161
Unfounded rumours and beliefs	164
Tracing the dead bodies	165
Dead body not claimed?	167
Identification of dead body	168
Post-mortems reports	169
Time of death	172
Probable manner of death	173
Deaths and cremations	181
Callous brutality and repression	189
The Tiny Tots 'Terrorists'	204
Wave of Torture Continued	214

4. Desecration And Destruction	221
Sikh Reference Library plundered	222
Mass destruction and devastation	229
Zail Singh amidst the wreckage	238
Harmandar Sahib opened to public	246
Harmandar Sahib fired at	252
Govt-controlled media poured salt	255
Anger over jubilations	259
General as street corner vendor	262
Salt in Sikh wounds	265
Weapons recovered	267
5. Legal Aspects Of The Operation	273
Presence of arms: Sanctity not violated	273
The third agency-storming designed	279
Military preparations long back	282
Military preparations after Morcha	283
Govt attempted to justify	289
Military action-unconstitutional and illegal	297
6. The Sikhs Protested	299
Sikhs burning with anger	299
Anger germinated violence	304
Protests by canal cuts	306
Protests outside Punjab	310

Protests by intellectuals	317
Protests outside India	348
Protests by army personnel	362
7. The Indira Healing -Touch	377
The Indira Balm	377
Shabby treatment for Sikhs	385
Draconian laws for Sikhs	390
Repairs by army	397
Sarkar Sewa heaped on Sikhs	399
Buta Singh in search of renegade	401
Head Priests condemn 'Sarkar Sewa'	434
Appeal to boycott Sarkari Sarbat Khalsa	438
8. World Sikh Convention	443
The puppet show: August 11, 1984	443
World Sikh Convention- September 2, 1984	453
Government worried over success	500
Golden Temple liberated	501
Kar Sewa of holy Sarover	524
No Diwali celebrations	538
9. The Aftermath	539
Operation Shanti and Sikh Carnage	539
The Punjab Accord- a Lollipop & Trap	547
The Hit-List	558

Minar-i-Shaheedan as Memorial: Proposed and opposed	578
Nanavati Commission at last	585
Separate Gurdwara Committee for Haryana	597

PREFACE

Why This Now

‘Knowledge of public action in the past’ wrote Pollard, provides the best means of understanding the present and the safest guide for the exercise of political power. Through proper study of history, we can join the wisdom of Solomon to the counsel of Socrates by trying to get understanding and learning to know ourselves.’ After all, history is the record of a nation's character on the wide canvas of time. It is the compendium of experience for persons as well as the people. It beckons to the glories of the past and warns against the pitfalls of future.

There was time when Mughal administration repeatedly ordered complete destruction of every Sikh but, despite all state-sponsored persecution and repeated invasions and butchery, the valiant Sikhs not only resisted and withstood the onslaught and slaughter but, once for all, ferociously repulsed and completely stopped a thousand years wave of invasion, from the North-West of India. Despite a minuscule minority of hardly two percent, their contributions to the freedom of

India have also been the largest. In 1975-79, when Indira Gandhi chose to abrogate all freedoms, brave Sikhs were the only people who made a continuous determined protest against its black laws, involving ruthless suffering, death and imprisonment of over fifty thousand Sikhs and, sadly, none else had then dared to comfort that terrific oppression. They are really the only people who brought about a Green Revolution in India, despite the well-planned clipping of their wings, for all times, through cutting short of their land holdings- the principal mean of their very existence.

Invariably, Sikh struggles have been for the cause of justice and freedom. Several writers, including army men, used their pens to write down the history of the Sikhs pertaining to the post-partition period, especially the Akali struggle and its aftermath. Almost everyone saw the events with jaundiced eyes and open bias, branding the Sikhs as fundamentalists obviously crossing all bounds of reality or serious academics and even ignoring the well-known and well-established ground realities. They seemed to echo the Government version of the horrendous events, superficial, biased and partisan as these were,

seemed unmindful of the dirty game of gross misrepresentations when they tried to justify the ghastly Operation.

It was never realized that several hundreds of innocent Sikh pilgrims- men, women and children-had gathered at the Martyrdom Day of Guru Arjan Dev to commemorate the solemn occasion, as has been done every year for over 350 years, but plans drawn by the army were of the most ruthless kind, without any spark of brilliance. Dismal tale of imposition of total curfew of the most savage kind for 72 hours in the peak of the summer season, total news blackout, indiscriminate killings, the use of tanks and plunder of the most-valuable Sikh Reference library and Archives, speak by themselves the real intention of the then Government. A writer had gone to the extent of criticising the militants, calling them ‘dacoits’ and ‘gangsters’, knowing fully well that such harsh comments might invoke immediate applause only in official circle, but they had generated utter frustration in sober Sikh families. No writer felt sorry for refusing to understand the sentiments of a common Sikh but went on repeating, like parrots, primarily the government versions in one form or the other, though only Dr. Joyce J.M. Pettigrew, a Scottish anthropologist, had the exceptional courage