

## **Affidavit of Harnam Singh**

### **Nanavati Commission**

Affidavit of Harnam Singh S/o S. Balti Singh, aged 41 years, Mangolpuri, Delhi

I, Harnam Singh, mentioned above, solemnly affirm and state as under: -

The news of the assassination of India's Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi came as a big shock to us to about 7:30 PM on 31-10-1984.

A few people assembled in the evening and meetings continued throughout the night in our Mohalla.

On 1st November 1984, morning, we went to Gurdwara G-Block where "Sukhmani Sahib" and "Assa Di Waar" were being recited and completed. A mob of about 1000 / 1500 persons had assembled near Gurdwara G-Block by 8 / 9 AM. The mob was led by Hardwari Lal – PA to Sajjan Kumar – MP, who resides near our house.

The mob was carrying iron rods, lathis of uniform length. Some of them were carrying tins of kerosene oil and petrol. We went on the roof of our houses and saw that the door of the Gurdwara was broken, and the Holy Book was torn and set on fire.

Thereafter, Hardwarai Lal and his two sons broke open the almirahs of the Gurdwara and after removing the cloth coverings of the Holy Book and other material, set the Gurdwara ablaze.

The mob then diverted towards F-Block. Our neighbours did not let us get out of the house and locked us in.

At about 5 / 6 PM, a mob comprising of nearby 2000 persons led by Babu Lal and his brother who runs a tea shop in G-Block, came. They

asked our neighbour about the whereabouts of Harnam Singh. On our neighbour, Parkash Chand informing them that Harnam Singh was not there, the mob went away. The slogans of extremist the Sikhs and destroying their houses were being heard throughout the night.

On 2nd November 1984, at about 9 / 10 AM, Hardwari Lal was pointing out the houses of the Sikhs from the voters list that he was carrying, to the mob of about 2000 persons. However, the mob went away on our neighbour telling them that Harnam Singh was not in his house. Police did not help us at all.

On 3rd November 1984, at about 8 AM, a mob broke open the door of house No. G-73, belonging to my brother. After looting the contents, they dragged my brothers Raghbir Singh and Gurcharan Singh and killed them by striking them with iron rods. Police was patrolling on the road opposite us but did nothing to help.

Afterwards, they dragged the dead bodies of both of them on the road and burnt them after pouring petrol on them. Thereafter, the mob broke open the gate of our house No. G-66/65 and plundered all the contents. We were however, hiding on the roof.

Some ladies of our Mohalla signalled to the military rescued us and on seeing the military vans the mob ran away to their houses.

On seeing the military vans, we came out of our houses and reached Punjabi Bagh police station in the military vans. I was eyewitness to the facts stated above. I incurred a loss of Rs.36,400/-