

Affidavit of Narinder Singh Misra Commission

Affidavit of S. Narinder Singh (no. 109) of Gammon Colony, Chas, narrates events relating to inhuman killing. He states:

"On November 1, 1984, after we had our morning tea, I heard lot of noise and commotion towards Joshi Colony which is at a distance of 400 yards from our residence. After some time I saw smoke coming out from that side and somebody told me that a mob had started indulging in looting the houses of Sikhs and that the trucks and house of one Sardar Kehar Singh had been looted and set ablaze by the mob. After some time I heard people shouting anti-Sikh slogans like " Sikhon ko loot lo -- Sikhon ko mar do. Sardaro ko Punjab bhej do, etc. All of us got scared and got ourselves secured inside our house. Though we heard a lot of noise and saw people running about carrying goods with them yet we were too frightened to come out of the house....I know all the aforesaid persons (six of them named) very well because they are my neighbours and frequently meet us. They told us that there was a lot of danger to Sikhs outside. Larders are being killed and the houses looted and plundered and set on fire and that we should not come out. We requested them that we may be escorted to the nearest police station so that our lives are not endangered. These persons assured us that they will take care of our house and lives and that nobody dare look at us in their presence. They repeatedly swore that they would lay down their lives to save us. They further told us that we should not go with the police even became the police is also against the Sikhs and we shall not be safe if we go with the police. My mother Amrit Kaur (aged 45) prepared tea for the aforesaid persons and my younger sister Jagjit Kaur (aged about 17 years) who was a student of Chas Kanya High School, Chas, studying in class X served them tea and snacks. These persons left after about half an hour and while going again repeated their assurance to protect us at every cost. They said that we must have faith in them than the police because they had been our immediate neighbours for the last more than 13

years.

That after being assured by the aforesaid persons, we remained inside our house. Though I came to know that the Sikh families were being rescued and taken to the Relief Camps, yet as the fate would have it, we decided to remain in the house. At that time we were the following persons in the room:

1. My mother Amarjit Kaur
2. My sister Jagjit Kaur
3. Rupa Singh, our neighbour, a clean-shaven Sikh
4. Pyara Kaur w/o Rupa Singh
5. Trilok Singh, our neighbour, a clean-shaven Sikh
6. Balbir Singh, our neighbour
7. Joginder Singh, our neighbour
- 8.

Rupa Singh, his wife, Balbir Singh, Trilok Singh and Joginder Singh had come to our house to seek refuge and through they thought of going to relief camp along with police, yet on the assumption that the neighbours mentioned above would be true to their words and save us, they decided to stay with us.

At about 6 p.m. on 1-1-84, we heard our door being banged by some persons. On peeping through our window, I found that all the six persons above mentioned were at the door. They were armed with revolvers, iron rods, lathis, spears and other sharp-edged weapons like knives and choppers. I could not understand their motive because they had earlier posed themselves as our saviours. The above mentioned six persons were accompanied by other 10 to 15 persons whom I do not know by name but can recognise if produced before me. All of them started hammering our door and started abusing the Sikh community in filthy language. I asked them as to what the matter was. They shouted that we should open the door, otherwise they would break open the door. However, the above named six accused persons said that they only wanted to loot our house and if we open

the door and all the inmates come out, no harm would be done to our person. As the force on my door was mounting and it was a matter of time when the door would break, we were left with no option but to open the door, escape and let the aforesaid accused have their way. We opened the door and came out in the compound. Immediately when we came out the mob comprising of the aforesaid persons pounced upon us like blood-thirsty animals. The first blow was dealt by Chandan Singh aforesaid who hit my mother with a chopper on the shoulder. She was so dazed by this sudden and unprovoked attack that she did not ever scream and fell down on the ground. The chopper caused a deep cut on her shoulder, and she bled profusely. The attackers aforesaid did not stop after she had fallen but all of them gave her blows with their weapons causing grievous injuries and thus killed her.

The next to be attacked was my younger sister Jagjit Kaur (about 17 years old) A long knife was thrust into her neck which caused a deep cut and a stream of blood flowed from it. she instantaneously fell down, but the aforesaid criminals continued to hit her till they were sure that my helpless sister was dead.

The wife of Rupa Singh was hit by a bullet in the temple. When she fell down, the aforesaid persons gave her further blows till she died then and there.

Balbir Singh and Joginder Singh aforesaid were surrounded from all sides and beaten mercilessly with lathis and iron rods. They dropped down dead. The aforesaid persons beat me also. . . when the dead bodies of my mother, sister wife of Rupa Singh, Balbir Singh and Joginder Singh were still lying down badly injured, I saw that the aforesaid persons started looting our house. They looted everything in the house....."

The deponent appeared before the Commission and offered himself for cross-examination but that was declined. Thus, whatever he stated

in the affidavit must be taken to be a true account of the incident. When the young man appeared before the Commission, he could not control his feelings and tears rolled down his eyes.

Human conduct could not be more depraved than what the narration pictures.

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