

against cancer. According to Dr. Wani, they continue their work because "there is always a need to find something better and less toxic." They truly embody the spirit of inventiveness that is required for finding the cure for cancer. North Carolinians take great pride in the contributions of these outstanding scientists and in their richly deserved recognition.

TRIBUTE TO THE MISSOURI STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I wish to pay tribute to the troopers of the Missouri State Highway Patrol. These men and women, who are directed by the Governor and Superintendent Weldon L. Wilhoit, deserve our gratitude for their contributions to the citizens of Missouri.

You see the Missouri State Highway Patrol's distinctive blue uniforms throughout the state on a daily basis. The men and women of the Patrol can be found tirelessly working on behalf of the residents of the State of Missouri. You may see them testifying in courtrooms throughout the state or working with county sheriffs and local police departments. You may witness their lecturing students on the benefits of highway safety and other important matters. On Missouri's highways, you may see troopers deliver new babies or change motorists' tires, and elsewhere in the state, members of the Patrol may be combating the trade and production of illegal narcotics.

In addition to these very important responsibilities to the citizens of the "Show Me State," the Missouri State Highway Patrol specializes in providing protection for Missouri's governor and managing the law enforcement needs of Missouri's gaming industry. The Patrol also maintains Drivers Examination Stations throughout the state and provides detailed analysis of crime and accident scenes through the use of their Crime Laboratory Unit, Aircraft Unit, and Traffic Division.

Although the troopers prefer calm and peaceful experiences while on duty, their jobs as law enforcement officers sometimes turn deadly when confrontation occurs with the violent criminal element. Each trooper is fully aware that her/his life may be on the line as 21 troopers have died defending the values of Missouri society. Vigilance is always a prerequisite for a trooper initiating a car stop or interrupting a crime in progress. So that no one will forget the supreme sacrifice that troopers have paid, a large picture of each trooper killed in the line of duty hangs in the Missouri State Highway Patrol General Headquarters Building in Jefferson City. These pictures are a solemn reminder that the law enforcement profession is fraught with danger.

Mr. Speaker, the troopers of the Missouri State Highway Patrol exemplify the highest tradition of duty and service to the protection of the citizens of Missouri. I am certain that all Members of the House will join me in expressing appreciation for their dedication.

HONORING REVEREND W.G. AND MARY TERRY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to rise before you today to speak on the behalf of two people who have made Christian Education their life's work. Each year, the Wolverine State Congress of Christian Education honors individuals for their commitment to Christian Education. On June 7, they will recognize the efforts of Reverend Dr. W.G. Terry, and his wife Mary.

W.G. Terry was born in Linden, Texas, and later moved to Henderson, Texas, early in his childhood. After graduating from high school in Henderson, Reverend Terry went on to obtain degrees from American Baptist Theological Seminary in Nashville, TN; Arkansas Baptist College in Little Rock, AK; and Bishop College in Marshall, TX. It was in Little Rock that Reverend Terry also received his Doctorate of Divinity. Over the years, he has been directed by the Lord to pastorates in Little Rock; Minneola, TX; Dyersburg, TN; Jackson, TN; and finally New Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Flint, MI, where he has been the Pastor for the last 39 years. As Pastor, Reverend Terry operates as a spiritual leader, counselor, confidant, and community leader, among many other roles. He helped build the First Baptist Church in Jackson, Tennessee, and helped organize the Mississippi Valley Association School of Ministers. He purchased the New Zion building and added educational facilities. He has been recognized for distinction by American Baptist Theological Seminary, and by the Jackson NAACP as Father of the Year.

Reverend Terry has held many leadership positions in groups such as the Mississippi Valley District Congress, the Interracial Ministers' Alliance, and the Wolverine Baptist State Convention. After serving as the President of the Great Lakes Baptist Conference for 26 years, he was granted Emeritus status. He also serves as an instructor for the Flint Baptist Ministers' Alliance and the National Baptist Congress.

On November 2, 1945, W.G. Terry married Mary Hollins in Henderson, Texas. Mrs. Terry was born in Longview, Texas, and completed her schooling in Henderson. She attended Fisk University and Tennessee State College in Nashville, before receiving a degree from Arkansas Baptist College. Mary became a teacher in Texas and Tennessee, and was also a Vacation Bible School instructor for the East Texas District Baptist Congress. Along with her husband, she helped found the Tennessee Baptist Youth Encampment.

Mrs. Terry currently serves as Co-Director of Christian Education at New Zion Missionary Baptist Church. She also serves as an Instructor of Minister's Wives for the Great Lakes Baptist Congress and the Wolverine State Baptist Congress. She has been Program Director of the National Baptist Minister's Wives for more than 40 years. In addition, she and her husband have raised a wonderful daughter, and have two grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, as a former teacher and seminarian, I am very proud of the work that Reverend W.G. and Mrs. Mary Terry have done to improve our academic and spiritual well being.

It is because of people like them that the Flint community is a better place in which to live. I ask my colleagues in the 106th Congress to join me in congratulating their achievements.

CELEBRATION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF LA PENA CULTURAL CENTER, BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, we celebrate the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the establishment of La Pena a Cultural Center in Berkeley, California. ~

La Pena Cultural Center is a nationally and internationally respected multi-cultural community arts institution working for social change while presenting culturally specific art from diverse sectors of the community. ~

For the past quarter century, La Pena has raised the social and cultural consciousness of our community through projects that bring people together to work on transforming our future. La Pena mission is the belief that artists and cultural workers contribute to positive social change by creating understanding among people, by stimulating discussion and by presenting a powerful vision of the future.

Throughout the year, La Pena presents many educational programs that increase understanding of different cultures and encourages the development of all disciplines that keep alive our cultural roots and diverse heritages. La Pena also operates a multi-purpose center that serves as a gathering place to support the Center's mission, as well as support the work of community organizations that are active in social justice.

To ensure La Pena's long term continuity and growth, the Center is launching an Endowment Campaign to raise \$500,000 over the next three years. This capital base will generate an unencumbered income of \$30,000 annually to support the Center's needs. As this capital base grows, funds generated by The Endowment will enable La Pena's many programs to thrive.

I proudly join people throughout the Bay Area in recognizing this momentous occasion of celebrating 25 years of extraordinary service by La Pena Cultural Center.

FREEDOM FOR THE SIKHS OF KHALISTAN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, the Council of Khalistan recently issued an open letter about the deplorable situation in Punjab, the Sikh homeland which declared its independence on October 7, 1987, as Khalistan.

The Sikhs are under attack from a militant Hindu organization called the RSS. The RSS was formed during World War II in support of the Fascists. It is the parent organization of the ruling BJP and many other organizations also come under its umbrella. Its agenda is to

promote fundamentalist Hindu nationalism. Two members of the ruling BJP, which is a part of the RSS, were quoted in the newspapers as saying that everyone who lives in India should be Hindu or subservient to Hinduism.

Now the RSS is trying to form a satellite organization called the Rashtriya Sikh Sangat which is designed to subsume Sikhs under Hinduism and wipe out their religion. Since the ruling party is part of the RSS, it is implicitly part of this effort to eliminate the Sikh religion. As people who believe in freedom of religion, this assault on anyone's freedom of religion ought to concern all of us.

The recent massacre of 35 Sikhs in Chatti Singhpora is just another chapter in this campaign. Two recent investigations have proven that the Indian government was responsible for that massacre. There are still 50,000 Sikhs political prisoners rotting in Indian jails without charge or trial. The Indian government has murdered over 250,000 Sikhs. Punjab is a police state. The only way to end this campaign against the Sikhs is to support self-determination and freedom for Punjab, Khalistan.

Mr. Speaker, there are measures the United States can take to promote freedom for Khalistan and throughout South Asia. I urge the President to declare India a terrorist nation. We can cut off American aid and trade to India until all people there enjoy their basic human rights. And in accord with American principles, we must declare our support for self-determination for the people of Khalistan, the people of Kashmir, the people of Nagaland, and the other peoples and nations of South Asia. This can be achieved by allowing the people to vote in a free and fair plebiscite under international supervision on the question of independence. Such a plebiscite is similar to the periodic votes in Puerto Rico and Quebec on their political futures. This is how democratic nations do it and it is how great powers do it. If India wants to be taken seriously as a member of the family of democratic nations, it must allow self-determination and human rights for all peoples and nations within its artificial borders.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to place the Council of Khalistan's open letter on the situation in Punjab into the RECORD.

COUNCIL OF KHALISTAN, GURU GOBIND SINGH, THE TENTH MASTER,

Washington, DC, May 12, 2000.

A SOVEREIGN KHALISTAN IS THE ONLY SOLUTION

ALL SIKH INSTITUTIONS AND PRESENT LEADERSHIP IN PUNJAB ARE UNDER GOVERNMENT CONTROL

Khalsa Ji: The militant Hindu fundamentalists of the RSS are now attacking the Sikh Nation. They are trying to insinuate themselves into the Sikh Nation by forming the "Rashtriya Sikh Sangat." They are trying to bring Sikhs under the Hindu umbrella by any means necessary. The Sikh Nation must stay alert and fight back against these efforts.

The only way to stop these efforts is political power. Without political power, nations perish. If we cannot reclaim our lost sovereignty, the RSS will succeed in its efforts to wipe out the Sikh Nation and the Sikh religion. Every day, we pray "Raj Kare Ga Khalsa." Do we mean it? A true Sikh cannot lie to Guru. If we mean what we say, we must do everything we can to establish Khalsa Raj.

The turmoil of the Akal Takht and the SGPC, and the other problems of the Sikh Nation are the result of the fact that we have lost the sovereignty that the Guru gave us. These problems have come about because the entire Sikh leadership and the Sikh institutions in Punjab are under Indian government control. We can only solve these problems by liberating our homeland, Khalistan.

Why are there still 50,000 Sikhs rotting in Indian jails without charge or trial? Why have the Sikh leaders in Punjab been silent about the murders of over 250,000 Sikhs at the hands of the Indian government? There is an Akali government and there are other Akali parties like Mann's Akali Dal. Why can't they start a Shantmai Morcha to free those political prisoners? Why can't they demand that Amnesty International be allowed into Punjab to conduct an independent human-rights investigation?

The government previously sent Professor Manjit Singh to destroy the Khalistan movement abroad. Now it has sent Simranjit Singh Mann. No Sikh leader who speaks for Khalistan will be allowed to leave the country and come here. There is moral degeneration of the Sikh character due to the lack of political power.

Four years ago, the Sikh leadership passed the Amritsar Declaration. It said that if India did not grant Punjab complete autonomy within six months, they would start a peaceful agitation for Khalistan. Four years later, Mann still supports the Amritsar Declaration. He still says that there should be a federation with India controlling defense, foreign affairs, and finances. These are the things that define your political status. The other Sikh leaders in Punjab have backed away from even that position. On February 12 at the celebration of Sant Bhindranwale's birthday, Mann opposed the speakers who spoke for Khalistan, saying that they spoke only for themselves and that Bhindranwale supported secularism.

The proposal for a federated India still keeps Hindustan in control. That is why Mann made it. At the Sikh Day parade, U.S. Congressman Major Owens raised slogans of "Khalistan Zindabad," yet Mann would not even use the word Khalistan. He has long posed as a Khalistani. Even last year at the 300th anniversary celebration, he raised slogans of "Khalistan Zindabad" but now he has changed his stand. He, too, is clearly under government control. There is only one solution: a sovereign, free, and independent Khalistan, as declared on October 7, 1987. Only in a free Khalistan can Sikhs live in freedom, dignity, prosperity, and peace.

The Sikh Nation will not achieve its legitimate aspirations with any of the current political parties in Punjab. None of these parties will bring us a free Khalistan. Whether the Akalis, Congress, or the Akali Dal Mann is elected, elections under the Indian constitution will not free Khalistan and they will not end the slavery of the Sikh Nation and the corruption in the Punjab government. Badal made three promises to get elected: that he would release all political prisoners, that he would punish guilty police officers, and that he would appoint a commission to look into the excesses by the Indian government against the Sikh Nation. He could not even keep these modest promises. Instead, he put the heat on the People's Commission and shut it down.

The massacre of 35 Sikhs in Chatti Singhpora shows that without sovereignty, the Indian oppression of the Sikh Nation will continue. An investigation by the Ludhiana-based International Human Rights Organization, led by D.S. Gill, showed that the Indian government was responsible for the massacre. A recent report by the Justice Ajit

Singh Bains, chairman of the Punjab Human Rights Organization, Sardar Inderjit Singh Jaijee, convenor of the Movement Against State Repression, and General Kartar Singh Gill, also found that the government counterinsurgency forces were responsible. This atrocity underlines the need for a sovereign, independent Khalistan.

Punjab is a police state. None of the political parties will bring us Khalistan. The Sikh Nation needs new leadership and a new party that are committed to liberating Khalistan. We need a Khalsa Raj Party. The Khalsa Raj Party should be committed to self-determination. It should demand freedom for Khalistan and any peaceful, democratic, non-violent means should be used to achieve this goal, whether it is a plebiscite or any other democratic means.

The only way to escape Indian slavery is to liberate Khalistan. New Sikh leadership emerge to free the Sikh Nation. They should raise the slogan "India Quit Khalistan" and start a Shantmai Morcha until we achieve freedom. We have now seen how the Indian government controls Sikh institutions and the entire Sikh leadership in Punjab.

Unless the Sikh Nation brings back the Sikh spirit and fight for truth and justice, the Khalsa Panth will not prosper. Remember the Guru Ka Bag Morcha and the Jaito Morcha. We did it then and we can do it now. Only in a free Khalistan can the Sikh religion flourish. Only in a free Khalistan will Sikhs be able to live in freedom and dignity. Only then can the Sikh Nation finally enjoy the glow of freedom that was promised to us so many years ago.

Khalsa Ji, the onus is on us. The time is now. We must start a Khalsa Raj Party and begin a Shantmai Morcha to liberate Khalistan. We must reclaim our lost sovereignty. New, young leadership which has dedication and the spirit of sacrifice must emerge. Support only these new leaders who are honest, dedicated, fearless, and committed to freedom for Khalistan. India is on the verge of disintegration. Kashmir is going to be free from Indian control. Let us make use of this opportunity to free Khalistan.

Sincerely,

DR. GURMIT SINGH AULAKH,
President, Council of Khalistan.

TELEPHONE EXCISE TAX REPEAL ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support today of H.R. 3916, the Telephone Excise Tax Repeal Act. This tax is a regressive tax that now collects over \$5 billion each year from local and long distance phone calls. The working families of this country deserve lower taxes and this tax repeal will benefit them the most. This tax cut is also an issue that people care about. I wish to express my appreciation to Robert Fuchs, a constituent from the 10th District of Ohio, for bringing this issue to my attention. This tax cut is fair and is long overdue.

The taxation of Americans is necessary to pay for the service of our government. The difficult question is how to structure these taxes. Regressive taxes, which levy taxes regardless of one's ability to pay, are not fair. The telephone tax is a regressive and unfair tax. Progressive taxes, which levy taxes proportional