



GLOBAL SIKH COUNCIL  
VOICE OF SIKHS WORLDWIDE

# GLOBAL SIKH COUNCIL

THE VOICE OF SIKHS AROUND THE WORLD WIDE

## GLOBAL SIKH COUNCIL DENOUNCES THE DISGRACEFUL ATTACK ON A SIKH FAMILY IN BANGALORE, INDIA

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GSC is shocked at the outrageous crime that was committed on a Sikh family on 2 August 2017 in Bangalore, Karnatka India. GSC also abhors the disgraceful act of the police simply acting as spectators, watching the Sikh family of an elderly mother and two adult sons being beaten up, without taking any action against the communal thugs.

It is shocking to hear that Colonel R S Uppal a Sikh retired army officer who served in the army for 37 years, and his family has been terrorised by some Hindu hooligans. They suffered continuous harassment from their new neighbours who threatened to break the legs and outrage the modesty of the woman of the house. Complaints to the police went unheeded; they did nothing to safeguard the family.

Colonel Uppal states, that 'the owners / associates / servants and goons, non-residents of the locality, brutally assaulted my wife, and my two sons, causing them grievous injuries. They felled and kicked my wife. They pulled her hair and manhandled her. My son Harmeet was brutally assaulted and he suffered multiple facial fractures and a broken jaw. My younger son suffered multiple injuries on head, chest, face and limbs.'

The culprits were allowed to enter the premises with iron rods and other weapons and escaped in a car without being stopped by the security of their Home Owners Welfare Association. More than 10 people witnessed the assault and video footage of this incident is available. 'The police visited our resident and called us Pakistani', states Col. Uppal.

The police did not act on the first complaint and that emboldened the culprits and resulted in a major assault. The information recorded by the police is weak, listing the injuries as 'minor'. The police have not collected the evidence of CCTV footage, this can be lost for ever, if not collected in time. When the police did take action, not all culprits were arrested, and one of the culprit went scot free and gave bails for others.

'The scale and brutality of the assault confirm that the motive of the assault is to dislodge us from our property, and to purchase it at a cheaper rate', explained Col. Uppal.

GLOBAL SIKH COUNCIL | THE VOICE OF THE SIKHS AROUND THE GLOBE

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This is not the first, and such incidents are growing as a result of anti-minority rhetoric from the government. The police who are supposed to help the victims, all too often take the side of the perpetrators. Lack of firm action by the Indian government questions the right of India to call itself the 'largest democracy'. Continuing state sanctioned communalism is likely to have long-lasting consequences that will do irreparable damage to communal harmony. Political leaders need to be true to the sentiment that the protection of minorities is not only a responsibility but a sacred trust.

Lady Kanwaljit Kaur Singh  
President Global Sikh Council