



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Golden Temple Massacre 1984: Freedom of Information Appeal over Secret UK Files**

**02 03 2018**

KRW LAW LLP is instructed by freelance journalist Phil Miller in his appeal against the decision of the Information Commissioner to uphold a refusal of a request made for Cabinet Office files relating to British involvement in the Amritsar Massacre in 1984.

Mr Miller's research exposed that Margaret Thatcher sent a British SAS officer to advise Indian security forces before the Golden Temple Massacre at Amritsar in 1984, in which hundreds, if not thousands, of Sikhs were killed.

When the UK role emerged in 2014, David Cameron ordered his Cabinet Secretary to review Mr Miller's findings, and concluded that the SAS advice had 'limited impact'. However, Sikh groups and the Labour Party are calling for an independent public inquiry.

The files requested by Phil Miller through FOIA could lead to further evidence of British involvement in advising the Indian government and its forces in order to secure trade and arms deals worth billions of pounds.

Phil Miller is the author of *Sacrificing Sikhs*<sup>1</sup>, a report launched by the Sikh Federation in November 2017 with Labour Party support. The Sikh Federation are seeking a statutory inquiry into these allegations from the Foreign Office who have declined to establish an investigation under the legislation.

The three day hearing before the First Tier Tribunal (Information Rights) will hear evidence from senior civil servants from the FCO and will assess evidence in closed session in addition to hearing arguments made by the Counsel for Phil Miller, who, together with KRW, is acting *pro bono* in this matter in the public interest. The three day hearing will commence in London on the 6<sup>th</sup> March.

## **ENDS**

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.sikhfeduk.com/assets/files/Sacrificing-Sikhs-Report-2017.pdf>