



Should India's government and judicial system be held accountable for the 1984 Sikh genocide?

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EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION

This topic interests me as I myself am a Sikh and so this is part of my history and background. My own family was affected by this genocide and so I was automatically drawn to researching this complex political topic and investigating the entities involved.

I was expecting that this conflict solely stemmed from the alleged Sikh demand of a separate Sikh state named 'Khalistan' but it is all rooted down to circumstances from post-independence India. New states were formed and divided, where Punjab (Sikh state) was mistreated socially and economically. Therefore, documents such as ASR, which demanded rights for Punjab brought Sikhs in conflict with the central government. Research focusing on interviews, books, and documentaries, concludes that mainly the Indian government and judicial system are to be held accountable for this mass massacre and situations where other entities (such as Sikh militants) are held accountable are also clearly expressed.

I found my research interesting as I found out that there were many layers to this topic: political and legal, the events that made this genocide inevitable, as well as the widespread personal perspectives of various parties.

I decided to do an EPQ on top of my studies as it was a good way to develop my independent study and research skill that would be beneficial for university.

My post A-level plans are to do a Law degree.

