

KOMAGATA MARU HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Post Box 69340, Station "K", Vancouver, B.C., V5K 4W5

MR. Kamal Vir Singh Neel
Khalsa Diwan Society

June 30, 1989

Steering Committee

(Ad-hoc)

Ashok Bhargia (VHP)
Balwinder Brar (NACOI)
Sadhu Singh Dhesi (Akali Singh)
Riasat Ali Khan (Van. Multi-
Cultural Society)
Kewal Pabla (Punjabi Market
Association)
Sabir Ali Pannu (Pakistan Canada
Association)
Dr. Hari Sharma, (IPANA)

Convener:

Dr. Hari Sharma

Treasurer:

Kewal Pabla

Member Organizations:

(Preliminary list)

Akali Singh Sikh Society
B.C. Muslim Association
Council of Muslim Communities
of Canada
Dr. Ambedkar Memorial Society
Fiji Brahaman Purohit Sabha
Fiji Canada Association
Gujarati Society of B.C.
Hindi-Punjabi Senior Men's Group
India Cultural Centre
Indian People's Association in
North America (IPANA)
National Association of Canadians
of Origin in India (NACOI)
Punjabi Market Association
Pakistan Canada Association
Vancouver Multi-Cultural Society
Vishwa Hindu Parishad

Dear friends:

On behalf of the Steering Committee of the KOMAGATA MARU HISTORICAL SOCIETY, I have the honour and pleasure of extending an invitation to your organization to join the Society.

A copy of the "Statement of Orientation and Objectives" is enclosed for your information. We hope that you will seriously study this document to familiarize yourself with the Society and the principles on which it is founded. As you will notice, the Society aims to unite all the diverse cultural, linguistic and religious elements in our community in order to carry out the many short-term and long-term objectives. You will also notice that one of the guiding principles is "self-reliance". In other words THE KOMAGATA MARU HISTORICAL SOCIETY will not seek any funds from any level of government in Canada.

One of the immediate activities the Society plans to launch is to build a countrywide campaign demanding an all-Party Parliamentary resolution recognizing that a gross injustice was done to the passengers of Komagata Maru and as a concrete manifestation of this recognition, the federal government must grant, posthumously, the right to citizenship to all those passengers who were forcefully and illegally sent away from Canada.

There are many other activities which the Society intends to undertake. These have been decided upon through a long and involved process of collective deliberations on the part of the many organizations in our community which have already joined the Society. We hope that by joining the Society, your organization will not only enrich the process of collective deliberations but will also add to its strength to carry out the many activities.

As you will notice from this letter-head, so far the Society has been functioning with the help of an Ad-hoc Steering Committee. We have purposely avoided having regular office-bearers of the Society so far. We would like to do it only after we have explored all the possibilities of other organizations, like yours, join us. It is hoped that you will soon consider joining us, so that your organization can also become a part of the process through which a regular governing structure would evolve.

We look forward to your support and partnership.

Yours sincerely

Hari Sharma
Dr. Hari P. Sharma
Convener.

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// We also invite you to the next meeting of the Society: Thursday July 6, 7 p.m. at HIMALAYA RESTAURANT, 6595 Main Street. Please send a representative. The Agenda and the Minutes of the last meeting are enclosed for your information.