

From: **Deep Singh** <[REDACTED]>

Date: Fri, Jan 29, 2021 at 2:47 AM

Subject: introductions and Punjabi language advocacy

To: Trena Turner <[REDACTED]>, Angela Vazquez <[REDACTED]>

Cc: Jaspreet Kaur <[REDACTED]>, Navroop Kaur <[REDACTED]>, Mandeep Singh

<[REDACTED]>, Kamaljit Kaur <[REDACTED]>, Manpreet Kaur <[REDACTED]>, Jaskeet Kaur

<[REDACTED]>, Harveen Kaur <[REDACTED]>

Hello Commissioners Turner and Vazquez,

It's a pleasure to e-meet you and I had a chance to listen in on the hearing around language advocacy.

I wanted to introduce myself and our San Joaquin Valley team, including Jaspreet Kaur (San Joaquin County), Navroop Kaur (Stanislaus County), Mandeep Singh (Merced County), Kamaljit Kaur (Madera and Fresno County), Jaskeet Kaur (Fresno and Tulare County), Harveen Kaur (Kern County), and Manpreet Kaur (Kern County).

We are a Punjabi Sikh youth and community organizing and benefit nonprofit, working in 15 counties throughout California. Specific to Zone F we have members and chapters across San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Tulare, and Kern Counties.

As a bit of history, Punjabi was mis-categorized in the 2010 Census and reporting only started in 2018. The data provided by the Secretary of State is still dated for Punjabi and often divides the language between Hindi (an anachronistic categorization) and a Punjabi (the true designation). We have raised the issue in the past with former Secretary Padilla (soon to be Senator) and he assured us that the data from the 2020 Census would be used to correct this historical mis-categorization and marginalization.

We hope to make sure that key documents and translations are available in the Punjabi language related to **San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Tulare, and Kern Counties**. In all of these counties the Punjabi language is either designated 'recommended' or is on the next precinct level designation.

In addition, we hope to invite one or both of you to join us in our San Joaquin Valley Area monthly meetings to share about the redistricting process. Currently we are meeting semi-monthly over Zoom and combining our different county groups. We would love to host you in Feb/Mar.

Happy to discuss and chat more. Appreciate both of you taking time out of schedule and leading this extremely important venture for the future of California.

ਮਸਾ ਚੜ੍ਹਦੀ ਕਲਾ (eternal optimism),

deep.

[REDACTED]
559-647-4700

Naindeep Singh

Executive Director

Jakara Movement

www.jakara.org

together, we are the movement.