

To,
Ambassador Ronen Sen,
Embassy of India
Washington D.C

I am the President of the "Indian Jewish Congregation of USA" as well as the President of the Rego Park Jewish Center, one of the largest synagogues in Queens, New York.

I have come across a very disturbing article sent in by Reuters of a restaurant in Mumbai, India. The name of the restaurant is HITLER'S CROSS being promoted with posters of Hitler and Nazi Swastikas. The owner of the restaurant is Punit Sablok and associated with Sablok Builders. The article is attached.

What is even more surprising that the ex Mayor of Mumbai, Sanjeev Naik as well actor Murli Sharma were invited guests. They found the pictures and posters of Hitler amusing. This is the height of indifference and ignorance. The next is to open a restaurant in Amritsar honoring General Reginald E.H. Dyer and naming it "Jallianwallah Bagh Garden Restaurant." That would certainly not be amusing to any Indian, self included.

Apparently the owner is not aware of the fact that six million Jews lost their lives during the holocaust and the pain and suffering they went through. Further the Holocaust survivors and all present and future generations will not and cannot forget the indescribable horrors perpetrated by Hitler and his gang of hooligans and murderers.

I conduct the Memorial services four times a year at the synagogue in remembrance of the dead as well as those who have survived the Holocaust. The pain they feel and the bitter weeping of people who remember having lost fathers, mothers, friends and relatives is heartbreaking.

That a citizen of India could think of publicizing and honoring Adolph Hitler and the German Swastika is unbelievable. Either the owner is ignorant of history or he is not very bright. And to further state that a chain of restaurants with the same name and theme will be opened is further making the situation one which will not be tolerated by any Jew anywhere in the world.

On behalf of the Indian Jewish Congregation of USA and on behalf of Jews all over the world, I request you to please take this up with The Prime Minister of India, the Chief Minister of Maharashtra, The Mayor of Mumbai and with the owner of this restaurant to either have the restaurant closed down or the name changed so that it does not honor the most evil person of the 20th century.

Regards,

Romiel Daniel
President

Indian Jewish Congregation of USA.

c.c R.S. Jassal (Deputy Chief of Mission, Ambassador)
Gautam Bambawale, Minister (Political)
Anoop Mishra, Minister (Economic)
Manoj Joshi, Counselor (Economic)

To Gary Rosenblatt
Editor
Jewish Week
New York

It is with extreme sorrow and regret that I have forwarded this article to you of a restaurant in Mumbai, India which opened last week having the name Hitler's Cross. Apparently the owners are ignorant and indifferent to the feelings of Jews. This is not the sentiment of the general Indian public. However these misdirected individuals who are large builders in Mumbai have found this rather bizarre method of gaining publicity.

As an Indian and an Indian Jew, I apologize for this unfortunate incident. On our part we are making every attempt to have this restaurant closed down or the name changed so that they do not glorify Hitler, who with his fellow thugs, was the biggest murderer of the 20th century.

We are awaiting replies from the Indian Ambassador and the Indian Consul General in USA. In the mean time the Indian Jewish Federation based in Mumbai is taking steps to redress the situation which has arisen.

Regards,

Romiel Daniel
President
Indian Jewish Congregation of USA