

COUNTY OF



ALLEGHENY

RICH FITZGERALD
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Proclamation

WHEREAS, *India Day will be celebrated on Sunday, August 17, 2014; in recognition of India Day, the Nationality Rooms at the University of Pittsburgh will be hosting a festival and parade; and*

WHEREAS, *this year, the theme for India Day is the "Glory of Punjab;" Punjab has played a vital part in Indian history and is where the ancient civilizations of Harappa and Mohenjo-daro flourished; both cities were well-known for their impressive and organized layouts, with the Harappan people also being known for their literacy and knowledge of the Dravidian language; and*

WHEREAS, *during the time of these civilizations, invaders came through the Khyber Pass and Punjab became the entrance to India; the citizens of Punjab had to defend their land, and were defined by their courage and boldness; and*

WHEREAS, *Maharaja Ranjit Singh was the leader of Punjab from 1801 until 1839 and was the founder of the Sikh empire; he established a secular state in which all people, including Hindus, Muslims, and Sikhs, were treated alike; no person was forced to convert religions and no one was discriminated against; Ranjit Singh is best remembered for uniting Punjab as a strong nation and is known as "Sher-e-Punjab," meaning "Lion of Punjab;" and*

WHEREAS, *Allegheny County is home to approximately 12,000 people that claim Indian ancestry; each nationality represented in our region contributes new ways of learning and understanding, we are thankful for all those of Indian heritage that call our community home.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED *that I, Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby proclaim August 17, 2014 as "India Day" in Allegheny County.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, *I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed this 17th day of August, 2014.*

Rich Fitzgerald

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