



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

Governor Bill Richardson Orders Flags To Be Flown At Half-Staff To Honor Yogi Bhanjan

For Immediate Release
October 7, 2004

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Santa Fe - Governor Bill Richardson today signed an Executive Order directing that flags in New Mexico be flown at half-staff Thursday and Friday, October 7 and 8, to honor religious leader and longtime New Mexican, Yogi Bhanjan, who passed away Wednesday.

“Yogi Bhanjan was a special friend, not just to me and the First Lady, but also to many New Mexicans,” said Governor Bill Richardson. “The wise men in Yogi Bhanjan’s home village of Kot Harkarn, in what was then a part of India, predicted that Yogi Bhanjan’s life would profoundly impact millions of people. I know that he did have that impact, not only in New Mexico, but around the world.”

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2004-056

FLAGS FLOWN AT HALF STAFF IN HONOR OF YOGI BHANJAN

WHEREAS, Yogi Bhajan, a world-renowned spiritual leader of the Sikh faith, passed away on Wednesday, October 6, 2004 in Northern New Mexico;

WHEREAS, Yogi Bhajan, also known as Harbajan Singh Khalsa Yogiji, was born in India on August 26, 1929;

WHEREAS, Yogi Bhajan is survived by his wife, children, grandchildren, and thousands of admirers around the world;

WHEREAS, Yogi Bhajan arrived in the West in 1968, and since 1971 he has been the chief religious authority for the Sikh faith for the entire Western Hemisphere;

WHEREAS, Yogi Bhajan resided in Sombrillo, New Mexico since 1971;

WHEREAS, Yogi Bhajan was also a successful businessman who managed 14 U.S. corporations; and

WHEREAS, Yogi Bhajan made a tremendous impact on the State of New Mexico as a religious, business, and political leader.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Richardson, Governor of the State of New Mexico, by virtue of the authority vested in the Governor, do hereby order that all flags be flown at half-staff from Thursday, October 7, 2004, through Friday, October 8, 2004, in mourning and in honor of Yogi Bhajan. The thoughts and prayers of the people of New Mexico go out to the family and friends of Yogi Bhajan as well as a heartfelt thank you for his commitment to the betterment of the State of New Mexico and the world.

ATTEST:
OFFICE THIS

REBECCA VIGIL-GIRON
THE GREAT SEAL
SECRETARY OF STATE
MEXICO

DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE

7th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2004

WITNESS MY HAND AND
OF THE STATE OF NEW

BILL RICHARDSON
GOVERNOR