

Proclamation



CITY OF NORTHAMPTON
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

India Day
August 15, 2021

- WHEREAS,** India is the largest free democratic country in the world, home of nearly a fifth of the world's population, and with exceptional beauty and rich cultural heritage; and
- WHEREAS,** the Indian independence movement was led by patriots including Mahatma Gandhi, Rani Laxmi Bai, Deshbandhu Das, Jawaharlal Nehru, Subhash Chandra Bose, Lala Lajpat Rai, Lokmanya Tilak, Bhagat Singh, Maulana Azad, Raja Gopalachari, and Sardar Patel. One of their resistance methods was nonviolent protest, which became a model of civil rights movements around the world, including the movement led by Martin Luther King, Jr. in the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** on August 15, 1947, India regained independence from two hundred years of repressive British occupation with civil disobedience and nonviolent protest. That movement became a new weapon to fight against inequality and injustice in the world; and
- WHEREAS,** the Constituent Assembly of India created a most democratic constitution of its own, including inspirations from the American constitution; and
- WHEREAS,** a youthful country on the verge of its 75th Independence Day celebration, modern India has shown an unsurpassed growth in education, health, agriculture, and technology since its independence; and
- WHEREAS,** India's Independence Day is celebrated by almost 1.4 billion people across the country with flag-hoisting ceremonies, kite-flying, and parades; and
- WHEREAS,** India has the largest diaspora in the world, and over 36 million of Indian origin live in other countries, with over 4 million people of Indian origin living in the United States, over 100,000 in Massachusetts, and many in Northampton and neighboring communities, who contribute greatly to the social, economic, and civic health of our nation and our community; and so


NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor David J. Narkewicz, do hereby proclaim August 15, 2021, to be

India Day

and encourages all residents to join the Indian community in Massachusetts and around the world to celebrate and commemorate its 75th Independence Day



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and have imprinted the Seal of the City of Northampton on this 15th day of August 2021.


Mayor David J. Narkewicz