

Jalandhar Doordarshan produces Guru Maneyo Granth

Jalandhar Doordarshan Kendra has produced a series to mark the tercentenary of Guruta-Gaddi Divas of Guru Granth Sahib titled Guru Maneyo Granth. It is telecasted on DD National from last Friday.

The seven-episode serial is a devotional music programme with historic gurdwaras and monuments whose Bani has been included in Guru Granth Sahib serving as the backdrop.

Daljit Singh, station director, Jalandhar Doordarshan Kendra, said, "Various aspects of Sri Granth Sahib like the compilation, completion, music arrangement of gurbani, depiction of nature, bhakt-bani and universal message in Guru Granth Sahib have been included in the series."

The show has been conceived by Baljit Singh Lalli, CEO, Prasar Bharti. Jaswant Deed, assistant station director, DD, has produced the programme in association with Avinash Singh Chhatwal and Shalinder Sharma.

Mumbai-based music director Uttam Singh has composed music for the programme, while singers Pt Jasraj, Bhupinder and Mitali Singh, Shreya Ghoshal, Sadhna Sargam, Shaan, Hariharan, Suresh Wadekar and Kunal Ganjawala have recorded the bani in their voices.

Noted Punjabi writer Surjit Patar has drafted the script of the series. The programme would be telecast as an half-an-hour episode from October 24 to October 30 at 8:30 pm on DD National.

Unique washing of Hazur Sahib

Nanded, October 27

It was a rare sight and a rare feeling when over 1 lakh devotees thronged the banks of the Godavri to bring holy water to wash the Takht Hazur Sahib shrine and "shastars" (weapons of the Guru's period) here today.

This is the only Takht where "ishnan" (holy bath) of the main shrine, including "angeetha" of Guru Gobind Singh and traditional weapons, takes place on the eve of Diwali. The devotees started gathering since morning, carrying "gaagars" (holy utensils) though the official time was 10 a.m. Hardyal Singh was the first to fill his silver utensil after ardas. Never before has the holy city witnessed such a mega event.

The city is overflowing with devotees who have come for the celebrations of Gurta Gaddi of Guru Granth Sahib despite the fact that the Takht management could not make proper arrangements for their stay. Many devotees were seen playing "narsinga" (war trumpet) and "naubat" (traditional music) in front of Takht Hazur

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Sahib when the holy bath was taking place. The washing of the shrine first with tonnes of milk with the help of fire brigade tenders and then with the holy water was a spectacular sight.

After the Godavri, water from two sources on the premises of the Takht was also poured on the building. The devotees then cleaned the entire building, by removing silver doors of the sanctum sanctorum. They also washed the top golden domes.

A large number of saints who have come from the US, the UK, Germany, Canada and various parts of the country also converged on the banks of the Godavri. The Maharashtra government and the management of Takht Hazur Sahib had made special security arrangements and divers of the Army were also deployed.

Among those present included Bhai Mohinder Singh of the Nishkam Sewa Jatha, Mahant Kahan Singh, chief of the Sewa Panthi, Gonyana, Baba Sewa Singh, Khadoor Sahib, Baba Kashmir Singh Bhooriwale, Baba Balwinder Singh Langarwale, Bibi Inderjit Kaur Khalsa, Bhai Satpal Singh and a number of American Sikhs belonging to the Sikh Dharma International and the Guru Ram Das Sikh Mission, New Mexico and America.

Sikhs gather at Nanded for holy festival

Sikhs from across the world are congregating at Nanded in Maharashtra to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the consecration of the Guru Granth Sahib.

The Prime Minister will attend the celebrations on October 30.

"By the grace of God and Guru, I'm here," said Harihar Singh, US citizen.

A conservationist by profession, American by birth and Sikh by choice, 54-year-old Harihar Singh, a US citizen, embraced the Sikh faith over 30 years ago.

He is in Nanded to be part of the biggest festival of the Sikh community called Guru-ta-gaddi.

"What inspired me about the Sikhs is that their leader Guru Teg Bahadur actually fought for the right of another religion, that of the Hindus, that for me is personally very inspiring," said Harihar Singh, US citizen.

Lakhs of devotees from countries like Canada, the UK and the US are making their way to Nanded to be part of the weeklong festivities observed every year.

It was in Nanded three hundred years ago, that Guru Gobind Singh, the last Sikh guru, consecrated the holy book, the Guru Granth Sahib, as the perpetual master.

"It's amazing to see how people from across the world come here, shows how important it is for the Sikhs," said Harpreet Kaur.

For any visitor Nanded would seem like a town in Punjab.

"We planned this trip at least 7-8 months ago. We flew down to Mumbai and then took a train here. I've never seen anything quite like this before. This is a once-in-a-lifetime program," said Ranvir Kaur.

But the Nanded Sikh festival has brought changes for the place, like a new airport and relief from many hours of load shedding.

Sikhs to mark anniversary of holy book

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BAHRAIN'S Sikh community will mark the 300th anniversary of the first publication of their holy book, the Guru Granth Sahib, at the Sikh Temple in Salmabad on Friday.

A Langar community meal will be the culmination of a two-day non-stop recital of the holy book that will begin at 5pm today.

More than 15 community leaders will take turns reading during the marathon event, said temple treasurer Gurmail Singh.

Meanwhile Sikh community leader Dr Mohinder Singh said that all Sikhs, as well as people from other nationalities and religions, were welcome to attend the celebrations that will consist of religious recitations and discourses on the Sikh religion.

It marks the 300th anniversary of the consecration of Guru Granth Sahib as the eternal guru of the Sikhs and signifies the importance of the Holy Book, which says God does not encourage hatred and instead his message is of love and to help people in need, said Dr Singh.

The Langar community meal will follow a prayer session that will begin at the temple at 7pm.

"Our religion teaches us to live in peace and harmony, help others and fight for justice, even if we have to sacrifice our lives," he said. Contact Dr Singh on 39676779 or Gurmail Singh on 39208388 for more information.

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