

Guru Manyo Granth

In Sikh terminology the word GURU means the revealer of the TRUTH, the light which leads a Sikh out of darkness. The word GRANTH means a big book or a sacred big book. However, the sacred book of the Sikhs, is not just a holy book, it is venerated as a living Guru, and hence called GURUGRANTH. With further honorific titles in front and back of this name, the Sikhs reverently call this Granth as SRI GURU GRANTH SAHIB JI.

The Holy Granth contains the actual words or verses as uttered by the Sikh Gurus. Though the language of the Granth is mainly Panjabi, it is often a mixture of medieval Hindi of Biraj variety commonly known as 'Sant Bhasa' in northern India. A unique feature of the Granth is that it also contains a good number of passages or verses from non Sikh Saints e.g. Muslims, Hindus and even so called 'untouchables'. This demonstrates respect and tolerance for all faiths. Altogether the Granth constitutes 1430 page, which include 5,894 SHABADS (hymns or holy verses), which are arranged in 31 RAGAS (musical measures) in accordance with popular beats and rhythms prevalent in contemporary India.

The subject of the Guru Granth is given in the opening sentence, called Mool Martar (the basic belief). That there is 'only One God, the Truth, the Creator, Without Fear, Without Enmity, the Timeless Being, Un-Incarnate and Self Existent'. Since 'God is Truth' the prime aim of human being is to seek those qualities which are associated with Him. Indeed the main message of the Granth is to remember the True Lord at all times and practice truth in all walks of life.

"Truth is high. But higher still is truthful living".

In Sikhism, 'truthful living' is summed up in three short phrases: Naam Jappo (remember God), Kirat Karo (work hard), Wand Chhako (share food).

The first and original copy of the holy book was compiled by the fifth Guru, Guru Arjan Dev Ji, and was formally installed in the sacred shrine of Harmander Sahib in 1604. Later, in 1708 Guru Gobind Singh reproduced a fresh copy of the Aad Granth (original holy book), after adding some compositions of the 9th Guru, Guru Tegh Bahadur.

Although, Guru Gobind Singh's greatest achievement was the formal establishment of the 'Khalsa Panth' by bringing the 'Mission of Guru Nanak' to a successful conclusion, yet before his death in

pdfMachine

Is a pdf writer that produces quality PDF files with ease!

Produce quality PDF files in seconds and preserve the integrity of your original documents. Compatible across nearly all Windows platforms, if you can print from a windows application you can use pdfMachine.

Get yours now!

October 1708, he was able to do one more unique thing, which helped to define more clearly the future of Guruship in the Sikh community. This was the formal ordination of the holy Granth to the status of Guru Granth, along with a declaration that hence forth the Holy SHABAD (word) constituting the Granth was to be regarded as eternal living Guru.

This declaration had been retold by some of Gurus contemporary poets in their own words, but with almost same meanings. An extract from the most popular version which is sung in chorus by the Sikh worshippers at the culminations of service prayer is –

“Aagya Bhaye Akaal Ke By Divine concert
Tabbi Chalaayo Panth Panth has come into being

Sabh Sikhan Ko Hukam Hai All Sikhs are ordained
Guru Manyo Granth” To regard Granth as the Guru

This way the departing Guru Gobind Singh Ji not only rejected in advance, and forever, any claims of Guruship by any other living person among the Sikhs, but also gave a further finishing touch to the Nanak's Mission, by creating a unique corporate religion of the world, complete in all respects. Now, no Sikh service, ceremony or religious procession is regarded as truly complete without the physical presence of the holy Guru Granth Sahib Ji.

This year 2008, marks the 300th anniversary of Gurta Gaddi, when the formal status of Guru was accorded to the holy book of the Sikhs. The special ceremony of the consecration of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji is called GURTA GADDI. Gaddi means a cushioned seat or a throne. This ceremony took place on 5th October 1708 at Nanded in South India, where Guru Gobind Singh Ji was staying near the bank of the river Godavari .

It should be understood, that Guru Gobind Singh's real intentions or instructions to Sikhs were that hence forth the spirit of the Guru may be felt residing in the Guru Granth as being the spiritual successor, whereas the Guru's physical self may be seen in the form of the Khalsa Panth; indeed the 'Guru Panth' as being the temporal successor. Thus by assigning and accepting the status of Guruship to the Granth and Panth, Guru Gobind Singh gave a new idea and a new concept to the world, which is pragmatic and practical as well as progressive.

pdfMachine

Is a pdf writer that produces quality PDF files with ease!

Produce quality PDF files in seconds and preserve the integrity of your original documents. Compatible across nearly all Windows platforms, if you can print from a windows application you can use pdfMachine.

Get yours now!

Badal releases special issue of punjabi magazine 'Mehram'

Tuesday, 04 November 2008

CHANDIGARH: Punjab's Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal released a special issue of Punjabi monthly magazine 'Mehram' dedicating it to the Tercentenary Celebrations of Gurta Gaddi Divas of Sri Guru Granth Sahib here this morning.

Detaling on the special issue SS Bir, the Editor-in-Chief of the Mehram group of publications said it contained 300 coloured pages with relevant photographs and articles contributed by various eminent Sikh scholars highlightng the different aspects of basic philosophy and ideology of Sri Guru Granth Sahib in relation to human and social evolution. Another 124 pages special supplement in English was also released by the CM.

Badal appreciated the initiative of Bir for bringing out these special issues and wished that they would serve as a beacon for the millions of readers to acquaint themselves with the universal message of holy Granth Sahib as an 'Eternal Guru'.

Media Advisor to the Chief Minister Harcharn Bains, Chief Secretary RI Singh, Principal Secretary to Chief Minister DS Guru were also present at the occassion.

pdfMachine

Is a pdf writer that produces quality PDF files with ease!

Produce quality PDF files in seconds and preserve the integrity of your original documents. Compatible across nearly all Windows platforms, if you can print from a windows application you can use pdfMachine.

Get yours now!