



World Sikh Council – America Region (WSC-AR)

A representative body of Sikh institutions of America founded under the patronage of Siri Akal Takhat Sahib

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Member Gurdwaras:

1. Gurdwara Sahib Fremont, Fremont, CA
2. Guru Nanak Sikh Mission, Livingston, CA
3. Sikh Gurdwara of LA, North Hollywood, CA
4. Sikh Gurdwara Riverside, Riverside, CA
5. Colorado Singh Sabha, Denver, CO
6. Guru Singh Sabha of Augusta, Augusta, GA
7. Sikh Study Circle of Atlanta, Atlanta, GA
8. Sikh Religious Society of Chicago, Palatine, IL
9. Sikh Society of South, New Orleans, LA
10. Sikh Gurdwara of Michigan, Rochester Hills, MI
11. Sikh Society of Michigan, Madison Heights, MI
12. Guru Nanak Foundation of Jackson, MS
13. Sikh Gurdwara of North Carolina, Durham, NC
14. Garden State Sikh Association, Pluckemin, NJ
15. Siri Guru Singh Sabha, Glenrock, NJ
16. Sikh Cultural Society Inc., Richmond Hills, NY
17. Sikh Cultural & Edu. Society of Western NY, Buffalo, NY
18. Sikh Religious Society of Dayton, Dayton, OH
19. Guru Nanak Found. of Greater Cleveland, Richfield, OH
20. Guru Gobind Singh Sikh Society, Bedford, OH
21. Guru Nanak Religious Soc. of Central Ohio, Columbus, OH
22. Tristate Sikh Cultural Society, Monroeville, PA
23. Mid South Sikh Sabha, Memphis, TN
24. Sikh Center of Gulf Coast, Houston, TX
25. Siri Guru Singh Sabha, Richardson, TX
26. Sikh Gurdwara of North Texas, Garland, TX
27. Singh Sabha Gurdwara, Fairfax, VA
28. Sikh Association of Central Virginia, VA
29. Sikh Religious Society of Wisconsin, Brookfield, WI

Other Sikh Institution Members:

1. Siri Guru Granth Sahib Found., Anaheim, CA
2. Sikhs Serving America, Topeka, KS
3. Sikh Youth Federation of North America, White Plains, NY
4. Sikh Coalition, New York, NY
5. Sikh Educational & Religious Foundation, Dublin, OH
6. Sikh Youth Federation of USA, Toledo, OH
7. Academy of Guru Granth Studies, Arlington, TX

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Sikh American Community Commemorates the 300th Anniversary of the Martyrdom of Mata Gujri ji and Sahibzade on December 18-19, 2004 in Dallas

The Sikh community across the US gathered at the Gurdwara Singh Sabha of North Texas in Dallas on December 18-19, 2004 to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the martyrdom of Mata Gujri ji and Sahibzade (four sons) of Siri Guru Gobind Singh Sahib in December 1704 in the South Asian region of Punjab.

Sikhs from California to Washington, DC, and Ohio to Texas attended the historic observances in Dallas.

Sikhs across the globe are observing this historic occasion. In the US, the World Sikh Council – America Region (WSC-AR), Gurdwara Singh Sabha of North Texas, and other Gurdwaras in the DFW metropolitan area jointly organized the observances in Dallas.

The observances began with a morning of Kirtan (congregational prayers) by youth groups and adults on Saturday, December 18 with a large gathering at the Gurdwara Sahib. Lectures on the life and martyrdom of Mata Gujri ji and Sahibzade were delivered by Mr. Kuldeep Singh (Toledo, Ohio), Chairperson of WSC-AR, and Dr. Amarjeet Singh (Washington, DC), a Sikh human rights activist.

More than 200 persons attended an evening dinner reception at Richardson Hotel. About 50 community leaders from interfaith groups, civil and human rights organizations, and

educational institutions attended. Several speakers addressed the gathering on the universal message of the Sikh faith. They included Mr. Harinder Singh (San Antonio, Texas), Sikh Research Institute, Dr. Amarjeet Singh (Washington, DC), Mr. Chip Pitts (Dallas, Texas), Amnesty International, and Dr. Anahat Kaur Sandhu (San Francisco, California), member of the Executive Committee of WSC-AR.

On Sunday, December 19, a morning of Kirtan (congregational prayers) with Kirtanias (singers specializing in Sikh religious music) and lectures were held. The observance concluded with Langar (Sikh community meal).

Mata Gujri ji was the wife of Siri Guru Tegh Bahaadar Sahib and mother of Siri Guru Gobind Singh Sahib. The four Sahibzade (sons) of Siri Guru Gobind Singh Sahib were Baba Fateh Singh, Baba Zorawar Singh, Baba Ajit Singh, and Baba Jujhar Singh. Mata Gujri ji, along with Baba Fateh Singh and Baba Zorawar Singh (both under 10 years of age), were separated in the first week of December 1704 from Siri Guru Gobind Singh Sahib and his two elder sons, Baba Ajit Singh and Baba Jujhar Singh. The two elder brothers died heroically along with three of the Panj Payaaras on December 22, 1704 defending the siege of Chamkaur Sahib fort laid by Mughal forces. Mata Gujri ji and her younger grandsons were put to death in Sirhind on December 26, 1704 for refusing to compromise on the principles of the Sikh faith.

The WSC-AR is a representative and elected body of Sikh Gurdwaras and institutions in the United States. Its members include 29 Gurdwaras (Sikh places of worship) and 7 other Sikh institutions across the nation.

Media photos shown below of the 300th anniversary observances, suitable for publication in JPEG format, can be obtained by e-mailing <contact@worldsikhcouncil.org>.



Sikh Children Singing a Song Honoring the Martyrs at Gurdwara Sahib



Langar (Sikh community meal) at Gurdwara Sahib



Two Enthusiastic Sikh Boys Celebrate the 300th Anniversary Outside the Gurdwara Sahib



More than 200 persons attended the Saturday evening dinner reception at Richardson Hotel