



World Sikh Council – America Region (WSC-AR)

A Representative Body of Sikh Institutions of America Working under the Patronage of Siri Akal Takhat Sahib

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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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. Sikh Gurdwara of North Carolina, Durham, NC
13. Garden State Sikh Association, Pluckemin, NJ
14. Siri Guru Singh Sabha, Glenrock, NJ
15. Sikh Cultural Society Inc., Richmond Hills, NY
16. Sikh Cultural & Edu. Society of Western NY, Buffalo, NY
17. Sikh Religious Society of Dayton, Dayton, OH
18. Guru Nanak Found. of Greater Cleveland, Richfield, OH
19. Guru Gobind Singh Sikh Society, Bedford, OH
20. Guru Nanak Religious Soc. of Central Ohio, Columbus, OH
21. Tristate Sikh Cultural Society, Monroeville, PA
22. Mid South Sikh Sabha, Memphis, TN
23. Sikh Center of Gulf Coast, Houston, TX
24. Siri Guru Singh Sabha, Richardson, TX
25. Sikh Gurdwara of North Texas, Garland, TX
26. Singh Sabha Gurdwara, Fairfax, VA
27. Sikh Association of Central Virginia, VA
28. Sikh Religious Society of Wisconsin, Brookfield, WI

Other Sikh Institution Members:

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

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Sikh Community to Celebrate 400th Anniversary of Installation of Granth Sahib on September 4-5, 2004 in Chicago

The Sikh community will gather at the Palatine Gurdwara Sahib in Chicago on September 4-5, 2004 to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the installation of Granth Sahib on September 1, 1604.

On September 1, 1604, Siri Guru Arjan Sahib formally installed the Granth Sahib (a compilation of Gurbani up to that time) at Siri Harmandar Sahib, Amristar in the South Asian region of Punjab. Later, the bani of Siri Guru Tegh Bahadar Sahib was added and in 1708 Siri Guru Gobind Singh Sahib bestowed guruship on the Granth Sahib. Since then, Sikhs refer to it as Siri Guru Granth Sahib and consider it to be the divine word of God.

Sikhs across the globe will be celebrating this historic occasion. In the US, the World Sikh Council – America Region (WSC-AR), the Sikh Religious Society of Chicago, and Gurdwaras of the Midwest region will be jointly organizing the celebrations in Chicago.

A Nagar Kirtan (prayerful procession) will inaugurate the program on Saturday, September 4 at 10 AM in the city of Palatine, Illinois. Following the procession, a seminar on the “The Message of Siri Guru Granth Sahib” will be held in the afternoon. Several notable scholars, who have studied gurbani carefully, have been invited to speak at seminar.

On Sunday, September 5, a morning of Kirtan (congregational prayers) with many famous Kirtanias (singers specializing in Sikh religious music) and youth groups will be held. Sabads (prayers) will be performed in the original Raags as written by the Sikh Gurus. In the afternoon, Kirtan will be continue along various religious themes.

The World Sikh Council – America Region invites all Sikhs, Gurdwaras, and institutions to join us in Chicago for this historic and wonderful opportunity for fellowship and celebration. All participants are welcome to attend. Questions or suggestions for the event can be e-mailed to contact@worldsikhcouncil.org.

WSC-AR is a representative and elected body of Sikh Gurdwaras and institutions in the United States. Its members include 28 Gurdwaras (Sikh places of worship) and 8 other Sikh institutions across the nation. WSC-AR works to promote Sikh interests at the national and international level focusing on issues of advocacy, education, and the well-being of humankind.

There are 25 million Sikhs in the world today. Sikhs first arrived in the United States about a century ago and number almost half a million today.