



# 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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**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. Guru Nanak Foundation of Jackson, MS
13. Sikh Gurdwara of North Carolina, Durham, NC
14. Garden State Sikh Association, Bridgewater, NJ
15. Guru Nanak Sikh Society of Delaware Valley, Sewell, NJ
16. Siri Guru Singh Sabha, Glenrock, NJ
17. Sikh Sabha of New Jersey, Lawrenceville, NJ
18. Sikh Cultural Society Inc., Richmond Hills, NY
19. Sikh Cultural & Edu. Society of Western NY, Buffalo, NY
20. Sikh Religious Society of Dayton, Dayton, OH
21. Guru Nanak Found. of Greater Cleveland, Richfield, OH
22. Guru Gobind Singh Sikh Society, Bedford, OH
23. Guru Nanak Religious Soc. of Central Ohio, Columbus, OH
24. Tristate Sikh Cultural Society, Monroeville, PA
25. Mid South Sikh Sabha, Memphis, TN
26. Sikh Center of Gulf Coast, Houston, TX
27. Siri Guru Singh Sabha, Richardson, TX
28. Sikh Gurdwara of North Texas, Garland, TX
29. Singh Sabha Gurdwara, Fairfax, VA
30. Sikh Association of Central Virginia, VA
31. 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 Educational & Religious Foundation, Dublin, OH
5. Sikh Youth Federation of USA, Toledo, OH
6. Academy of Guru Granth Studies, Arlington, TX

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## **WSC-AR Condemns London Bombings, Calls Upon British Government and European Union to Prevent Hate Crimes Against Religious Minorities**

The World Sikh Council – America Region (WSC-AR), on behalf of the US Sikh community, strongly condemns the recent heinous bombings in London. We are shocked and grieved at this human tragedy. We pray for the persons who died and those wounded in the bombings. We honor and salute the brave rescue personnel who put their own lives at risk to save the survivors.

Dr. Tarunjit Singh, Secretary General of WSC-AR, remarked, “As people of faith, we abhor the brutal bombings in London. In a world being increasingly polarized along ethnic, religious, racial, and nationalistic ideologies, we must find just and peaceful resolutions to conflicts.”

The British Government has shown some restraint in not stereotyping any minority community with collective guilt. We appreciate these sentiments of the government.

A few unfortunate incidents of harassment and attacks on British places of worship have been reported in the media. We condemn any and all such stereotyping and incidents of hate and prejudice.

Two Sikh Gurdwaras (places of worship) in Britain, one in Erith and the other in Leeds, are reported to have been attacked. In addition, a Sikh bus driver in Copenhagen, Denmark was attacked with baseball bats. The assailants are reported to have shouted “London” as they beat the Sikh. The Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs has condemned the attack. Attacks on mosques in Britain have also been reported.

“We call upon the British Government and the European Union to work swiftly to protect religious minorities and their places of worship from hate crimes and attacks,” added Dr. Tarunjit Singh.

Traditionally Sikh men wear a turban and sport a beard as an article of their faith. Because Osama Bin Laden wears a turban and has a beard, some people may associate him with the Sikh community. Any association between Sikhs and Osama Bin Laden or his associates is completely incorrect, and against Britain’s commitment of freedom and justice for all.

The WSC-AR is a representative and elected body of Sikh Gurdwaras and institutions in the United States. Its members include 37 Gurdwaras (Sikh places of worship) and other Sikh institutions across the nation.

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