

9 October 2016

Shanti Lecture & Dialogue

BEGAMPURA
CITY WITHOUT SORROW

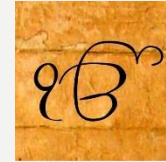
HARINDER SINGH
@IFORCE



LOVE & JUSTICE

*THE COMPASSIONATE
SOVEREIGN HAS NOW
ORDAINED THAT NO ONE
ANNOYS, OPPRESSES OR
INFLICTS PAIN ON,
ANOTHER. ALL SHALL ABIDE
IN PEACE IN A BENIGN
REGIME.*

- GURU GRANTH SAHIB, 74



Chant the Name Warrior Saint
Race Equality Student of Life
Disciplined
Don't Smoke Compassionate
Selfless Service See God In All
Honest Fidelity
One God
Work Hard Help the Disadvantaged
Fearless
Gender Equality
Meditate on God
Exalted Attitude
Don't Drink Revengless
No Discrimination
Brave
Protecter
I am a Sikh
Respects all Paths
Everyone is Equal
Uncut Hair



VAHIGURU – AWESOME WISDOM

- 1Force
- Identified by Truth
- Pervasive Creator
- Fearless
- Without Enmity
- Timeless Being
- Unborn
- Self-Illumined
- Realized through Infinite Wisdom



WORLDVIEW

- Oneness: There is No Other
 - Creator = Creation
 - All 7 billion people are Divine
- Service: Expression of Love
 - Zero Tolerance for Racism & Sexism
 - Political, Social & Economic Rights

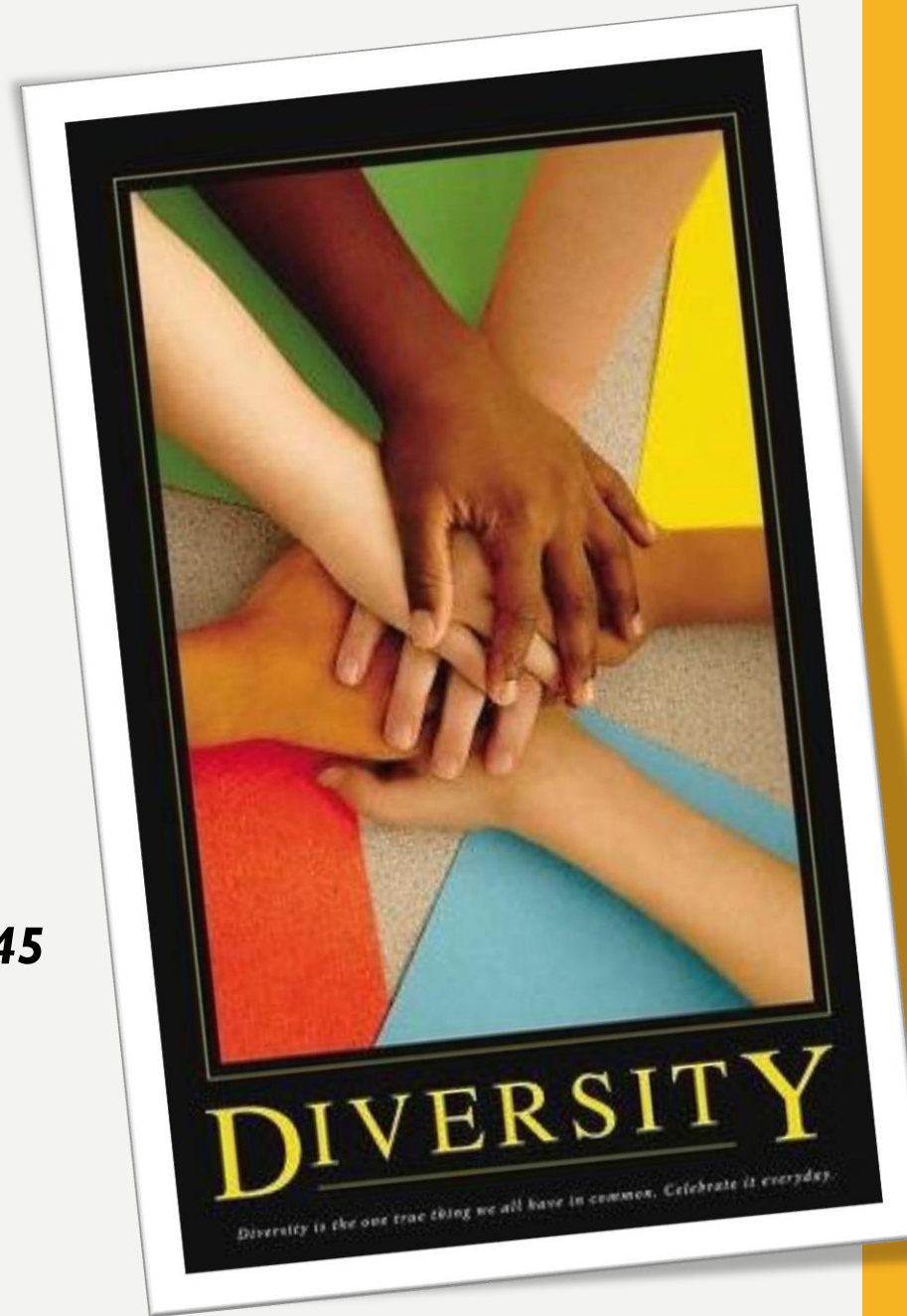


VISION

Begampura City without sorrow

- ***Spiritual Domain***
 - Divine Presence
 - Eternal Peace
- ***Political State***
 - No 2nd class citizens
 - No suffering or fear
- ***Economic Arena***
 - No unfair taxes
 - Content residents

- Guru Granth Sahib, 345



PURPOSE



The aim of life, according to the Sikh Gurus, is not to get salvation or a heavenly abode called Paradise, but to develop the best in us which is God.

- Teja Singh

THE SIKH MODEL

- *Remember (nam japna)*

To be in constant remembrance of the All-pervading;
introspective living

- *Labor (kirt karni)*

To earn in a just manner with integrity and honesty;
truthful living

- *Share (vand chakna)*

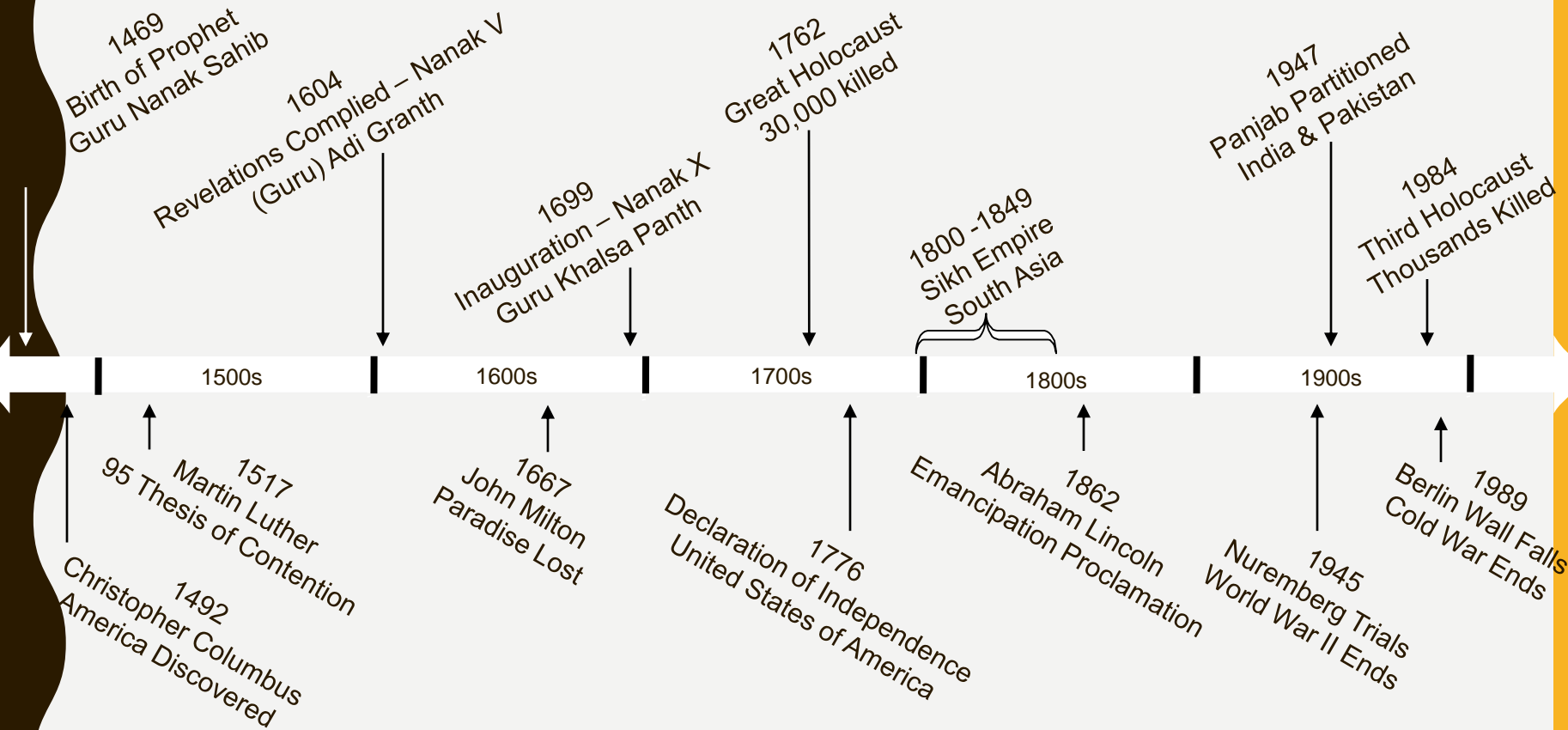
To benefit peers and share with the needy;
distributive living

HARMONY IN A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

Underlying Conflicts	Internally	Externally
Groupism Caste//Tribe	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One message for all• Reorient allegiance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Redefine terms/ideas• Identify with the weak
Gender Discrimination	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oppose customs• Position appointments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Respectful attitude• Challenge roles/spaces

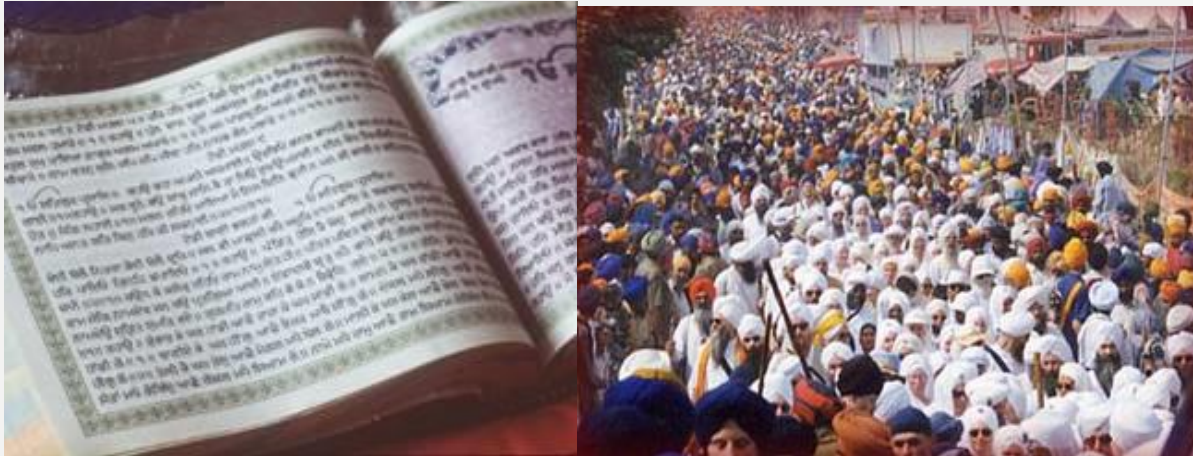


THE REVOLUTION



AT A GLANCE

- ✓ Sikhi originated 550 years ago in Panjab
- ✓ Sikhs left the Homeland 100+ years ago
- ✓ Goal is to recognize divinity here & now
- ✓ 99.9% who wear turban are Sikhs
- ✓ Sikhi is an independent faith/people

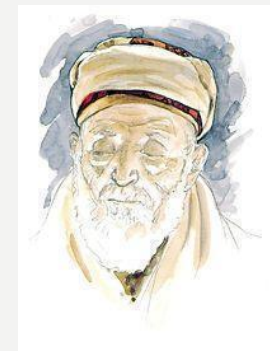
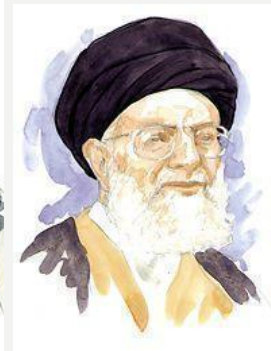
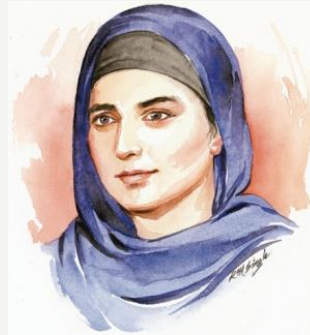


THE COMMUNITY

- **Sikhī: World's 5th Largest Religion**
 - Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism
- **26 Million Sikhs Around Globe**
 - 18 million in Pañjāb, the Sikh homeland
 - 4 million in rest of South Asia
 - 1.5 million in North America
 - 1 million in Great Britain



TURBAN = TERRORIST?



Lessons for Today

1. Focus on “Begampura”
 - Filter out noises, find points of unity
2. Zero tolerance for racism & sexism
 - Home, School, Congregation, Workplace
3. Stand for under-represented
 - Poverty, Conflicts (ethnics/religious/gender), Human Rights



WHO AM I?

O my mind, you are the embodiment of the Divine Light – recognize your origin.

O My mind, Divine is with you; thru Perfection's wisdom, enjoy the colors of Divine Love.

By acknowledging the origin, I shall know the Creator;
and only then will I understand what living-dying really is.

By Perfection's grace know the One; then, there won't be another love.

Peace comes to the mind, and gladness resounds;
then, I shall be acclaimed.

Thus says Nanak: O my mind, you are the image of the Divine - recognize your origin.

- Guru Granth Sahib, 441



242 AMERICAS?

- State: red or blue
- Age: old or young
- Class: rich or not-rich
- Race: white or minority
- Gender: male or female

“Extend the sphere, and you take in a greater variety of parties and interests”

- James Madison (1787 *Federalist Paper* No. 10)

GLOBAL ISSUES

New Global Citizens' programs are organized around one or more of the following global issues. NGC Global Issues are based on NGC student input, the UN Millennium Development Goals and the belief that EVERY YOUNG PERSON can play a role in solving them!



EXTREME POVERTY & HUNGER

Extreme Poverty & Hunger: 1.2 billion people live in extreme poverty, earning \$1.25 or less per day.



CHILD MORTALITY

More than 3 million children who die each year could be saved with inexpensive medicine.



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

1 child dies from water-related disease every 21 seconds.



NATURAL DISASTERS

Since 1990, natural disasters have affected about 217 million people every year.



UNIVERSAL EDUCATION

Roughly 57 million children do not attend primary school (from about five to eleven years old) and over half of them are girls.



MATERNAL HEALTH

Every year around 300,000 women die in pregnancy or childbirth. 99% of the deaths occur in the developing world.



ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

Youth comprise 17% of the global population, but 40% of the unemployed.



GENDER EQUALITY

Women perform 86% of the world's work and produce half of the food, but only own 1% of the farmland.



EPIDEMICS

In 2012, malaria caused around 600,000 deaths and an additional 200 million new clinical cases, the majority of which occur in the world's poorest countries.



ARMED CONFLICT

Around the globe, an estimated 11.2 million to 13.7 million children have been internally displaced as a result of armed conflict.

AM I ESTABLISHING BEGAMPURA?



Uphold dignity & respect of all



Address injustice via love



Nonconformist lifestyle



Challenge norms/thought



THANK YOU

Perpetual spring must roll in you. You shall be the moral influence radiating peace, goodwill, friendship, fellowship, life, vigor, vitality, in short, spirituality.

– Prof. Puran Singh

