

## Dedicated to Shabad Guru

*By: Raja Singh, Secretary, The Sikh House (USA), Indian chapter*

Bhai Jasbir Singh Ji Khalsa, did much in a short span of life for the spread of Sikhism living within the framework of Shabad Guru, the spirit of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji. He sacrificed nearly two decades of his life reciting Keertan/Katha and gave a number of projects to Sikh Sangat. Although Bhai Sahib never had any formal education for music but could in-tune thousands of listeners through Keertan. The philosophical explanation of various Shabads of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji reflected true Gurmat. Is it not a God gift?

Above all, all this was done as **Sewa**. I used to see heaps of money offered by Sikh Sangat during his Keertan sessions, and Bhai Ji always used to say "Use this Maya (money) for any noble cause". He also started Bhai Mardana Gurmat Sangeet Academy in 2005.

In a number of towns he inspired Sangat for weekly Keertan programmes. The timings for this programmes are 7.00 pm to 9.30 pm every Tuesdays.

Similarly Istri Satsang (Path/Keertan by ladies) was also started for every Fridays (3 to 5 pm) which is also going on un-interrupted.

**Naam Simran** is the key point in Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji for which one gets this human form. Bhai Sahib Ji never missed Simran in ambrosial hours every day irrespective of any circumstances. Not only himself, it was his first priority to advise Sangat the need for Naam Simran. In 1992/1993 Bhai sahib Ji encouraged the Sangat to assemble for Naam Simran as daily routine. Such Simran Samagams started in Jalandhar, Ludhiana, Rajpura, Sohana, Patiala, Amritsar etc. The time for such Samagam is 4 to 5 am

everywhere. Except Karah Parshad nothing else (tea, milk) etc. would be served after the Samagam. With Waheguru's blessings any circumstance or weather – may be a rainy season, winter or what not, has ever come in the way of Sikh Sangat. Bhai Sahib always started Keertan with Naam Simran.

Guru Gobind Singh Ji ordered every Kesha-dhari to be baptized (Amrit Chhak). At every programme Bhai Sahib ji persuaded people to discard intoxicants, lead a pure life after take Khande Di Pahul.

In 1999, with the persuasion of Bhai Sahib, 1200 Sikhs took Khande di Pahul and in 2005, Waheguru Ji blessed 2500 Sikhs with Amrit.

At Akal Ashram Sohana, Amrit Chhak ceremony is done every Sunday whereas at Gurdwara 9<sup>th</sup> Patshahi, Central Town Jalandhar, it is done every second Sunday of the month. The Kakars are provided free of cost.

In addition to the above, Bhai Sahib ji gave slogan for

a number of other projects which gathered very encouraging response from every corner. Some of such projects were:-

**G HAR V APSI:-** For sometimes past, a number of youth have fallen prey to "Patit-puna" About 80% in country side and 60% of sikh populace of the cities have discarded sikh tenets. This caused a deep concern. Bhai Sahib allotted duties to Sewadars in various cities to identify such youths, educate them the Sikh values so as to bring them back to mainstream of Sikhism. This worked well and a large number of youngsters who had gone astray came back to Sikhi Saroop. He suggested to approach people of fame like some film-stars, players or some people enjoying high offices, who hail from Sikh families but become Patits (shaved or trimmed hair). Coming back of such people to Sikh fold will inspire many more.

**CHARNI- LAUNA:** The popularization of International and convent schools have taken our

children away from Gurmukhi script and Punjabi language thereby depriving them of Gurbani and reading/understanding of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji. Special efforts should be taken to encourage students to start reading of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji. On one such occasion, 120 people joined this campaign at Gurdwara Singh Sabha Model Town Jalandhar and on a second such attempt 300 joined at Gurdwara 6<sup>th</sup> Patshahi, Basti Sheikh, Jalandhar (Punjab).

**SEHAJ PATH:-** Another slogan was to recite complete Sri Guru Granth Sahib by Sikh Sangat. This campaign was also started at Jalandhar from 1.3.2006. In three months One Sehaj Path was completed. The path would be done for one hour in the

evening in different homes where Sikh Sangat would attend to listen.

**SIMPLE MARRIAGES:-** The Sikh Gurus wanted all ceremonies to be simple and inexpensive but now a days the trend of show off has taken us to the other side. Bhai Sahib persuaded large number of Sikhs and many followed his advice for simple marriages for their children.

The above is a pick from the ice-burg of the works done by Bhai Jasbir Singh Ji. These are what the writer witnessed. Above all Waheguru Ji blessed Bhai Sahib, the greatest virtue of humility. He was very kind and humble and liked to be called Veer Ji. He never used the word Sant or Baba and never allowed anyone to touch his feet.

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