

HARMADAR SAHIB: the house of god, built by the fifth guru. It is gold plated and is known all over the world as "The Golden Temple".

SEVA: Selfless service.

ARDAS: Final prayer after service.

AKHAND PATH: Continues reciting of the Guru Granth Sahib.

CHANDNI: Decorated Canopy over Guru Granth Sahib.

PALKI: A special or wooden likewise structure on which Guru Granth Sahib is installed.

CHAURI: It is waved over Guru Granth Sahib as a sign of respect.

KAUR: (Princess) - The last name given to every women by Guru Gobind Sahib Ji.

SINGH: (Lion) – The last name from every Sikh man.

KATHA: Commentary or interpretation of Holly Hymns.

HUKAMNAMA: After commandment taken from Guru Granth Sahib by random read of the hymn from left side.

PAG/DASTAR: Turban, every baptized MEN / WOMEN have their heads covered all the time.

ANAND KARAJ: Sikh ceremony solemnised by four LAVANS. (Marriage – bond Hymns).

AKAL TAKHAT: Divine Throne, Sikh seat of Authority. (Spiritual as well as temporal). There are five Takhats in India.

SIKH FESTIVALS

VAISAKHI: (Sikh Festivals) birthday of the Khalsa.

DIWALI: (Festival of Lights) when the 6th master arrived in Amritsar after being released from internment.

GURPURBBS: All birthdays of the guru, martyrdoms and connected occasions.

THE FIVE BELOVED ONES

PANJ-PYARE: The first five ordained into the new order from the Khalsa. Namely: Bhai Daya Singh, Bhai Dharam Singh, Bhai Himat Singh, Bhai Sahib Singh and Bhai Mohkam Singh.

THE FIVE K'S (Punjabi: ਪੰਜ ਕਕਾਰ Pañj Kakār)

KESHKI: Amritdhari Sikhs (those who have been baptized in the Amrit ceremony) are supposed to have their heads covered all the time with KESHKI.

KANGHA: A wooden comb. A special wooden comb, symbol cleanliness and care.

KARA: An iron/steel bangle. Symbol of strength, unity and a bond with a guru on an ideal behavior. A constant reminder of handcuffs if tempted by greed, lust, love, anger or pride.

KIRPAN: A small sword. This is the symbol of righteousness. In first time in history of mankind, Guru Gobind Singh resurrected the use of the sword defence only. Never to be used for offensive. It is to be used only defenseless and the weak.

CACHHEIRA: A special pair of shorts. It is the symbol of high moral character and very comfortable pair of shorts.

FOUR CHIEF VICES:

A baptized Sikh in no way is allowed to indulge in the following four chief vices: -

1. Removing hair from any part of the body.
2. Using intoxicants (cigarette, alcohol, etc.)
3. Eating of meat.
4. Committing adultery.

ੴ ਸਤਿਗੁਰ ਪ੍ਰਸਾਦਿ ॥

EK ONKAR SATGUR PRASAD
(One God realized by the grace of Satguru)

ਮਾਨਸ ਕੀ ਜਾਤਿ ਸਭੈ ਏਕੋ ਪਹਿਚਾਨਬੋ ॥

VISITOR'S GUIDE

Recognized all human race as one.

(Guru Gobind Singh Ji – 10th Master)



THE KHANDA

The Insignia of the Sikhs

Welcome to
Guru Nanak Gurdwara

4487 E Russell Rd.

Las Vegas, NV 89120-2313

Phone: (702) 459-4878

Email: info@lvgurdwara.com Website: www.lvgurdwara.com

This guide is for Visitors/Students from Schools and Collages
Sponsored by AKJ Radio www.akjradio.org

Welcome

WAHEGURU JI KA KHALSA

(Khalsa – A Baptized Sikh, belongs to the Lord)

WAHEGURU JI KI FATEH

(Victory be to the Lord)

VERY IMPORTANT

Please note that everyone is required to adhere to the following:

1. When you are in the Gurdwara building, Please cover your head (scarves are provided) as an uncovered head is considered disrespectful.
2. Please take your shoes off and put them in shoe-racks as shoes are not allowed in the Congregation hall.
3. Cigarettes and alcoholic drinks are under no circumstances allowed on the premises.
4. Smoking is strictly prohibited on any part of the premises.
5. It is forbidden to enter the Gurdwara premises under the influence of any alcohol or any other intoxication.
6. When inside the Congregation hall, please be respectful.
7. Clapping is not allowed in the Congregation hall.

Welcome Guide

1. A guide will be there to welcome you on your arrival.
2. Pre – booked visits are welcomed.
3. Free refreshments and free food from the Guru's community kitchen is available.

Basic information on Sikhism

The fundamental concepts and its philosophy have been expounded by Guru Nanak and elaborated by his successor Gurus.

1. Sikhism in one God, "Fatherhood of God and brotherhood of man. "
2. It is a religion of love, service and sacrifice.
3. It does not believe in any kind of rituals, omens, Superstitions, fast of worship of idols.
4. It rejects all distinctions of region, race, caste, creed color, or status.
5. It believes casteless and classless egalitarian society, guaranteeing equal status to women in every walk of life.
6. Sikhism is a social religion. Ethics, morality, selfless service and sacrifice are the very basis of this religion
7. Evolution of the spirit is not possible without righteous conduct and adherence to social morality.
8. The gospel of Sikhism makes it obligatory to pray for the good of all living beings irrespective of one's religion, race, color or creed.
9. One should be GOD – conscious, leading an active householder's life, earn ones living through honest means and share ones earning with those who are needed.

THE TEN SIKH GURUS

1. Guru Nanak Dev Ji (Founder of Sikhism).....	1469 – 1539
2. Guru Angad Dev Ji	1504 – 1552
3. Guru Amardas Sahib Ji	1479 – 1574
4. Guru Ramdas Sahib Ji	1534 – 1581
5. Guru Arjan Dev Sahib Ji	1563 – 1606
6. Guru Hargobind Sahib Ji	1595 – 1644
7. Guru Harrai Sahib Ji	1630 – 1661
8. Guru Harkrishan Sahib Ji	1656 – 1664
9. Guru Tegbahadur Sahib Ji	1621 – 1675
10. Guru Gobind Singh Ji	1666 – 1708

10. Sikhism does not believe in interaction. According to Guru Nanak, GOD is never born. Nor does he die. He is AJUNI (ever).

The Guru Granth Sahib (divine message) was installed as the permanent Sikh's Guru for all times by Guru Gobind Singh in 1708. From then the Guru Granth Sahib presides over the Sikh Congregations as the living Guru.

GENERAL SIKH GLOSSRY

GURU: The enlightener, the spiritual leader.

SAHIB/JI: Both are used for respect and greatness.

Guru Granth Sahib: Sikhs' permanent Guru from 1708 a.d. Holy Scriptures containing revolutions of enlightened men of God from different castes and creeds along with those of the Sikh Gurus. The Divine light – The living spirit of the Ten Sikh Gurus known as ADI Granth as well (1430 pages) was compiled by the fifth Guru Arjan Dev Ji and installed in Harmandar (God's abode) Sahib in 1604 a.d.

GURDWARA: The door of Guru. Sikh place of worship where both spiritual and body food is available. It is shelter for shelter less and food house for the hungry individuals.

NISHAN SAHIB: Sikh (National) Flag flown above the level of the Gurdwara Building at all the Gurdwara. A saffron colored triangular shaped flag with the Sikh symbol on it.

SIKH SYMBOL: Comprised of three parts:-

1. Outside there are two swords. One for spiritual power and the other for temporal power. Both are the symbol for righteousness.
2. Between the swords is a circle which signifies God's continuity which has no beginning and no end symbol of foreverness.
3. In the center is a two edged Sword called Khanda. It signifies both the spiritual and temporal powers of the almighty God and the symbol of His oneness



GRANTHI SAHIB: One who is entrusted the service of the Guru Granth Sahib.

KARAH PARSHAD: A sacred sweet pudding given to the congregation made with equal quantities flour, ghee (butter), sugar plus water to suit.

SANGAT: Congregation – all those who assemble to sing praises of God in the presence of the Guru Sahib.

KEERTAN: singing of verses in praise of God with the aid of musical instruments.