

11/12/24 COUNCIL MEETING

PUBLIC PRESENTATION

SANTA CLARA'S 11TH ANNUAL



SIKH AWARENESS AND APPRECIATION MONTH

November, 2024

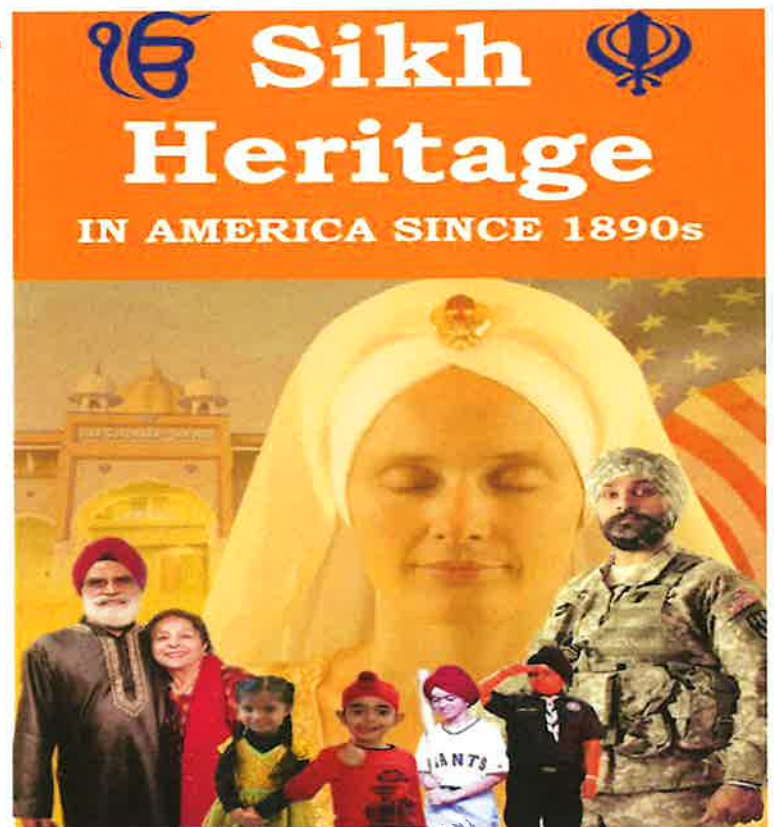
SIKHS ARE GRASS ROOT COMMUNITY

SAAM Instituted In 2012

Sikhs are a **grass root** community of California and North America since the **1890s**.

Sikhs have made significant contributions to all aspects of industry, farming, trucking, science, the military, and more

POST MEETING MATERIAL



**SIKHS
IN
AMERICA**

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Sikh Emigration from the Punjab Region of South Asia



The first gurdwara in the United States was built in Stockton, CA, in 1912.



The first Sikhs came to the United States in the late 1800s to work as farmers and on railroads.



Sikh women built and fostered the Sikh community while also sharing the labor their husbands took on.



Dalip Singh Saund was the first Asian-American Congressman, elected in 1957.

**SIKH
VALUES**

Ik Onkar
One God



Naam Japna
Meditation on God



Vand Chakna
Sharing with Others



Kirat Karna
Earning an Honest Living



Equality



**Fighting
Injustice**



Service

NOTABLE SIKHS

The Sikh who holds over 100 Patents and also known as "Father of Fiber Optics"
Narinder Singh Kapany



First Doctor to arrive at Ground Zero site on 9/11 is a Sikh
avinderdeep Singh Nijher



First Asian American to be elected as member of United States Congress was a Sikh
Dalip Singh Saund



NCAA's first Sikh Basketball Player
Darsh Preet Singh

First Turbaned Pilot hired by a Commercial Airline in the United States
Arpinder Kaur



Most renowned and Grammy Nominated American Kirtan Singer who sings classical Sikh music and hymns
Snatam Kaur Khalsa



The oldest Marathon Runner is a Sikh: 104 years old and still running Marathons
Fauja Singh



Biggest Producer of Raisins in the World is a Sikh
Charanjit Singh Batth

HISTORY

<p>1400s</p> <p>Renaissance Period</p>	<p>1469</p> <p>Birth of Guru Nanak Dev Ji Founder of Sikhism</p>	<p>1492</p> <p>Columbus reaches the Americas</p>	<p>1500s</p> <p>Rule of leaders like Louis XIV</p>	<p>1600s</p> <p>British colonies established in North America</p>	<p>1699</p> <p>The Sikh identity was formalized on Vaisakhi Day</p>	<p>1706</p> <p>Benjamin Franklin is born in Boston</p>	<p>1708</p> <p>Guru Gobind Singh gave eternal Guruship to the Sikh Scriptures</p>
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The eternal living Guru of the Sikhs is the **Guru Granth Sahib** (the sacred scriptures).

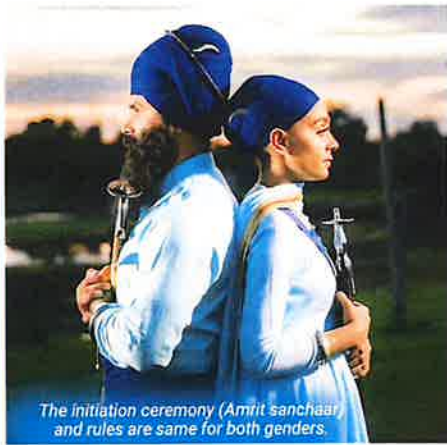


Sikhs live by a code of conduct.

Making a commitment by joining the Khalsa (community of initiated Sikhs, known as Amritdhari Sikhs)

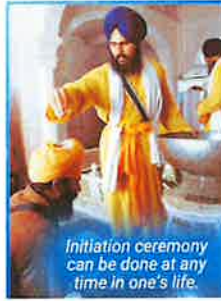
Amritdhari Sikhs have ultimate allegiance to the Sikh way of life.

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The initiation ceremony (Amrit sanchaar) and rules are same for both genders.

Amritdhari Sikhs maintain all five articles of faith.



Initiation ceremony can be done at any time in one's life.

Dastaar

The Sikh Turban

An article of faith that asserts the dignity and sovereignty of the wearer

Can be worn in different styles by men or women

Should not be touched without consent



Chunni

Long, sheer scarf worn by some Sikh women



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Gurdwara

A place of prayer, service and learning



Services in America are typically held on weekends.

Everyone is welcome in the **gurdwara**, regardless of gender, class, or religion!



Gurdwara means "door to Guru"

Nishaan Sahib

Triangular flag of the Sikh faith, featuring the Khanda



The Nishaan Sahib can be seen from afar so that anyone in need knows there is a gurdwara nearby that can provide shelter and nourishment.

ਸਤਿ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਅਕਾਲ

Punjabi

Language spoken by 80+ million people, including many Sikhs living in the United States



CHALLENGES SIKHS FACE IN AMERICA

SCHOOL BULLYING



LACK OF INCLUSION

EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION



XENOPHOBIA AND RACIAL PROFILING



RESPONDING TO CHALLENGES



EDUCATIONAL WINS



POLICY ENGAGEMENT



INCREASED VISIBILITY

SEVA



BAY AREA
&
SANTA CLARA

PARADE OF
CHAMPIONS

2024 Theme

'With unity in community

Everything thrives'

Bay Area -Home of Thousands of Sikhs and their Families

- Santa Clara**
- Sikh Temple-Silicon Valley Gurdwara
 - Khalsa School

COVID Relief

- Provided 100,000s PPE, vaccines, and more
- Silicon Valley Gurdwara provided free supplies and groceries to 1000 households
- Appreciated by City of Santa Clara

