



S S S A

SIKH SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

<http://www.sikhssa.org.au/>



**UPCOMING  
PROGRAMMES &  
SIGNIFICANT DATES:**

**Kirtan Darbar Daily**

From 6.00pm-7.45pm  
Rehraas (6.00pm-6.30pm)  
Langgar Sewa on Wednesdays,  
Fridays and Saturdays.

**Wednesdays**

**Sukhmani Sahib**

4.00pm -5.30pm  
Break  
5.30pm- 6.00pm  
Rehraas  
6.00pm- 6.30pm  
Sangat Kirtan  
6.30pm-7.00pm  
Jatha Kirtan & Ardaas  
7.00pm-7.45pm

**Sunday**

10:00am -12.00pm

**Gurgaddi Sri Guru Arjan Dev Ji**

1 September 2019

**Joti Jot Guru Ramdas Ji**

1 September 2019

**Gurgaddi Guru Ramdas Ji**

11 September 2019

**Joti Jot Guru Amardas Ji**

14 September 2019

**Sangrand**

17 September 2019

**Gurgaddi Guru Angad Dev Ji**

19 September 2019

**Punjabi School**

Term is in Progress and  
classes are every Sunday

10.00am-12.00pm

September 2019

## President's Message

Waheguru Ji Ka Khalsa

Waheguru Ji Ki Fateh

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2019 and whilst only 31 members attended this significant meeting for the Society, much was discussed and debated.

A topic of discussion was the construction of a covered Veranda from the entry of the Gurdwara to the steps that meet the road and the ramp access for people with a disability. We have commissioned works to start and hope for this to be completed by Guru Nanak's 550<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations. This will cost the society \$24,000.00 and we are looking for grants and financial support from the Sangat to support financing this expense.

It was also shared at the AGM that our Ex-Granthi Kuldeep Singh Roopraj has now decided to take our society to tribunal. We will continue to share any information permitted from the outcome of this with the Society and its members.

I also would like to congratulate all members for working through with us to get our Constitution passed. It has been a long and arduous journey but am very pleased to know that this has now been accepted and will be published on our website soon. The MC has worked hard to get us here and I would like to acknowledge the work they have put in as well.

Thank you all also for providing a positive mandate to the current MC at this AGM.

S.Balwant Singh

## Wanting to Book a Programme

### Langgar Sewa Opportunities Available

We have Wednesday programme's still available to be booked with opportunities for Friday and Saturday as well.

Contact Kiran on 0438 808 757 or

Email [secretary@sikhssa.org.au](mailto:secretary@sikhssa.org.au) for further details.

### "FAITH MATTERS" INTERFAITH ACTIVITY"

On Saturday 20 July 2019 Youth from Glen Osmond Gurudwara Sahib participated in an Interfaith event hosted by "The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints" where various religious faiths came together to make Trauma Dolls for the Women's and Children's Hospital. The Trauma Dolls are used by the Hospital to give young children or children who do not speak English to use as a "safety doll" while in hospital. Children use the dolls to describe / show medical staff where pain is occurring without having to verbally describe this and medical staff use the dolls to explain to the children what treatment / operations are required to get them better. Nearly 300 Trauma dolls were completed as a joint effort by all participants to the event.



Following making the dolls each religion presented what "Service to God" means in their Religion and our Youth presented the concept of Seva in Sikhism and how this is an important aspect in Sikhism to "Service to God".

After the presentations and to end the event all religious faiths shared in a meal prepared by the various faiths.

### The Sikh Society Golf Club

Invites you to join us

For Enquiries Contact  
Gurcharan Dhillon (Guru)  
[gdhillon12@adam.com.au](mailto:gdhillon12@adam.com.au)



2019

NOV

02



SAT<sup>PM</sup>

Save the Date

*The MC is organizing  
an evening to  
celebrate Diwali with a  
change in cuisine and  
music. Come to this  
family friendly event to  
be entertained.*

## The Fourth Master Guru Ram Das Ji (1531–1581)

**Guru Ram Das** (1534–1581) was the fourth of the ten Gurus of Sikhism. He was born on 24 September 1534 in a poor Hindu family based in Lahore, part of what is now Pakistan. His birth name was Jetha, he was orphaned at age 7, and thereafter grew up with his maternal grandmother in a village.

At age 12, Bhai Jetha and his grandmother moved to Goindval, where they met Guru Amar Das. The boy thereafter accepted Guru Amar Das as his mentor and served him. The daughter of Guru Amar Das got married to Bhai Jetha, and he thus became part of Guru Amar Das's family. As with the first two Gurus of Sikhism, Guru Amar Das instead of choosing his own sons, chose Bhai Jetha as his successor and renamed him as Ram Das or "servant or slave of god."

Ram Das became the Guru of Sikhism in 1574 and served as the Sikh leader until his death in 1581. He faced hostilities from the sons of Amar Das, shifted his official base to lands identified by Amar Das as *Guru-ka-Chak*. This newly founded town was eponymous Ramdaspur, later to evolve and get renamed as Amritsar. He is also remembered in the Sikh tradition for expanding the *manji* organization for clerical appointments and donation collections to theologically and economically support the Sikh movement. He appointed his own son as his successor, and unlike the first four Gurus who were not related through descent, the fifth through tenth Sikh Gurus were the direct descendants of Ram Das.

### Death and succession

Of his three sons, Ram Das chose Arjan, the youngest, to succeed him as the fifth Sikh Guru. The choice of successor, as throughout most of the history of Sikh Guru successions, led to disputes and internal divisions among the Sikhs. The elder son of Ram Das named Prithi Chand is remembered in the Sikh tradition as vehemently opposing Arjan, creating a faction Sikh community which the Sikhs following Arjan called as *Minas* ("scoundrels"), and is alleged to have attempted to assassinate young Hargobind.

### Amritsar

Ram Das is credited with founding the holy city of Amritsar in the Sikh tradition. Two versions of stories exist regarding the land where Ram Das settled. In one based on a Gazetteer record, the land was purchased with Sikh donations, for 700 rupees from the owners of the village of Tung. The site was chosen by Guru Amar Das and called Guru Da Chakk, after he had asked Ram Das to find land to start a new town with a man made pool as its central point. After his coronation in 1574, and the hostile opposition he faced from the sons of Amar Das, Ram Das founded the town named after him as "Ramdaspur". He started by completing the pool, and building his new official Guru centre and home next to it. He invited merchants and artisans from other parts of India to settle into the new town with him. The town expanded during the time of Arjan financed by donations and constructed by voluntary work. The town grew to become the city of Amritsar, and the pool area grew into a temple complex after his son built the gurdwara Harmandir Sahib, and installed the scripture of Sikhism inside the new temple in 1604.

### Scripture hymns

Ram Das composed 638 hymns, or about ten percent of hymns in the Guru Granth Sahib. He was a celebrated poet, and composed his work in 30 ancient *ragas* of Indian classical music.



### Wedding hymn

Ram Das, along with Amar Das, are credited with various parts of the *Anand* and *Laavan* composition in *Suhi* mode. The wedding hymn was composed by Ram Das for his own daughter's wedding. The first stanza of the *Laavan* hymn by Ram Das refers to the duties of the householder's life to accept the Guru's word as guide, remember the Divine Name. The second verse and circle reminds the singular One is encountered everywhere and in the depths of the self. The third speaks of the Divine Love. The fourth reminds that the union of the two is the union of the individual with the Infinite.

Source:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guru\\_Ram\\_Das](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guru_Ram_Das)

### Celebrating the birth of Guru Ram Das Ji

"(The following) shabad has been sung at least once a day in the Harimandir Sahib in Amritsar for over 400 years. One can often hear the words of this shabad on the lips of people in and around the Harimandir Sahib as it has become like a frequently-spoken mantra of people who live in Amritsar and visit the Harimandir Sahib every day. There are numerous stories about how the reciting of this shabad has brought a miraculous intervention to seemingly hopeless personal situations.

#### *Dhan Dhan Ram Das Guru Shabad*

*Dhan dhan raam daas gur jin siri-aa tinai savaari-aa  
Pooree hoee karaamaat aap sirajanhaarai dhaari-aa  
Sikhee atai sangatee paarbrahm kar namasakaari-aa  
Atal athaa-o atol too tayraa ant na paaraavaari-aa  
Jinee too sayvi-aa bhaa-o kar say tudh paar utaari-aa  
Lab lobh kaam krodh mo maar kadhay tudh saparvaari-aa  
Dhan so tayraa thaana hai sach tayraa paisakaari-aa  
Nanak too lehanaa toohai gur amar too veechaari-aa  
Gur dithaa taa man saadhaari-aa*



#### **Translation:**

Blessed, blessed is Guru Ram Das; the One who created You has also exalted You.  
Perfect is Your miracle; the Creator has installed You on a throne.  
Sikhs as well as all Conscious people recognize You because you manifest the Creator.  
You are unchanging, unfathomable and immeasurable;  
You have no end or limitation.  
You are unchanging, unfathomable and immeasurable;  
Those who serve You with love are carried across the sea of existence.  
The five obstacles of lust, anger, greed, pride and attachment:  
You have beaten them and driven them out.  
Blessed is Your realm, and True is Your magnificent glory.  
You are Nanak, You are Angad, and You are Amar Daas;  
When I recognize You, my soul is comforted.

Source: <https://www.3ho.org/events/global-meditations/celebrating-birth-guru-ram-das>



## Announcements

### Facilities

Much maintenance work has been done over the past year since we have come into the MC, some by choice and some other being a legacy of our ageing building. Some emergency repairs we have had to do are the replacement of a sump pump in the kitchen that pumps effluent water to the waste water tank located outside the kitchen. Another recent repair as many of you would have noticed is the new dishwasher installed in the kitchen. Some parts of the old machine were not available and the new machine had to be ordered on a very short notice. The previous machine has served us well over a number of years.

A major project on the horizon is the installation of a veranda at the entrance of Gurudwara sahib. This will extend onto the ramp on the side. The veranda will serve the purpose of protecting the sangat from the elements while approaching the entrance.

A couple of things which may have gone unnoticed are the new Gurudwara signboard that has been installed. Additionally, majority of the microphones of our PA system have been replaced. Some building repair work was also done last year to remove salt damp in the office and also to repair woodwork in the Jatha apartment upstairs.

We are also planning on installing a new 20 kW solar generation system and we are checking the financial viability of the system and hope to install it in the near future.

Being an older building, maintenance works are ongoing so while we request you bear with us when there is a breakdown, malfunction to attend to these matters. Please also be generous with your donations where possible.

### Subscriptions

A gentle reminder to all members to make payment for their subscriptions to become financial for FY 2019/2020. Please check with the Treasurer or email the Secretary if unsure of your status.

### Loan Repayments

As per the Treasurers report at the recent AGM, we have an outstanding mortgage of \$261,552.00. Total interest payment for the last financial year was \$12,348.00. It was raised at the AGM for the MC to consider servicing this loan. The MC accept this as a key objective of the Society and are scoping mechanisms on how we can increase repayments. We also encourage the members to come forward and contribute to reduce this loan.

### Ragi Jatha

The MC on behalf of The Society would like to thank Bhai Kulveer Singh, Bhai Jatinder Singh and Bhai Gursewak Singh who complete their service with us on 13 September 2019. We have had an overwhelming positive feedback of their kirtan and katha and we will endeavour to get them to return again. Please note that all visiting Jathas are only provided Room and Board and income for them is earned through Bheta. Your contribution to them is appreciated.

### Returning Officer

Jasbir Kaur Chabra was elected at the AGM to the role of Returning Officer for The Society.

# Sikh Society of South Australia

## Gurdwara Services

Description of Services	Cost	
<b>Gurdwara</b>		
Darbar Sahib Hall	\$100.00	
Kitchen/Langgar Hall	\$200.00	
Eliza Hall	\$100.00	
Granthi Services	\$50.00	
Jatha Services	\$100.00	
Akhand Path (Pathi's only)*	\$750.00	
Sehaj Path	\$500.00	
Sunday Morning Langgar (if organised by MC)*****	\$750.00	
Wednesday Evening Langgar (if organised by MC)*****	\$450.00	
Langgar for all other days in the evening (if organised by the MC)*****	\$250.00	
<b>Home</b>		
Home Programme – Gurdwara Services**	\$100.00	
Granthi for Home Programme	\$50.00	
Jatha for Home Programme	\$100.00	
Refundable deposit for borrowing Utensils***	\$200.00	
<b>Ceremonies</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Non-Member</b>
Weddings	\$550.00	\$750.00
Refundable deposit *****	\$250.00	\$250.00

All monies must be paid in advance to the Management Committee.

\*Langgar is additional to these costs.

\*\* Palki and associated services

\*\*\*Subject to all items cleaned and returned in good condition.

\*\*\*\* If organised by the MC on behalf of sponsoring family/individual.

\*\*\*\*\*premises to be left clean and condition as received.

All and any requests for the above services are via email to the Secretary.

[secretary@sikhsssa.org.au](mailto:secretary@sikhsssa.org.au)