

## MRS SONIA GANDHI LAYS THE FOUNDATION FOR SECULARISM

-----Original Message-----

From: Devinder Singh Chahal  
[mailto:sikhism@chahal.info]  
Sent: May 20, 2004 10:05 AM  
To: Sikh-Diaspora@yahoogroups.com  
Subject: RE: [Sikh-Diaspora] Mrs Sonia Gandhi lays the foundation for secularism.

The recent decision of Sonia Gandhi to decline the post of Prime Minister and offering it to Dr Manmohan Singh is the best for India to re-establish Secularism in its real spirit in India. Her decision will be the first in the history of India where a post of Prime Minister has been refused.

Some Sikhs are considering it as a favour to the Sikhs and compensation for an attack on the Harmandar Sahib and massacre of the Sikhs in 1984. However, Ms Sonia Gandhi has recommended Dr Manmohan Singh as the Prime Minister of India entirely on his qualifications and his ability in steering the economy of India. She followed the principle of Nanakian philosophy, "*Takht bheh Takhtay layak*" AGGS, M 1, p 1039. This decision has also given another defeat to the BJP who were starting to humiliate her by presenting her as a foreigner and her lack of patriotism to India. This decision will also help Ms Sonia Gandhi to groom his son Rahul Gandhi as the future Prime Minister.

The other reason appears to be that Ms Sonia Gandhi wants to re-establish secularism in its real spirit. This is due to the fact that although Mrs Indra Gandhi won the sympathy votes of majority Hindus by attacking on the Harmandar Sahib in 1984, the BJP failed to win by killing Muslims to please the majority votes of Hindus. This time it was different since the Muslim population is more than 12% in India and the Muslims voted against BJP en mass.

The present election has clearly given a verdict that to play with religions to win election to rule India is not going to succeed in future. It has been realized by Ms Sonia Gandhi that the best solution for India is to re-establish secularism in Congress party, its main objective when this party was formed for liberation of India and many Sikhs sacrificed their lives.

This is the first time that a Prime Minister of India, Dr Manmohan Singh, is a highly qualified Economist on one hand and the President, Dr Abdul Kalam, highly

qualified Physicist, is on the other hand. Dr Manmohan Singh belongs to a minority religion (Sikhism) while Dr Abdul Kalam also belongs to another minority religion, Islam. The both personalities are highly acclaimed not only in India but also globally. India will definitely become an example of secular and democratic country in the world. The people of India expect them to use their education and expertise for the welfare of the humanity, another principle of Nanakian philosophy:

*vidia vichari tan parupkari.* AGGS, M 1, p 356.

Nanak Says:

*That education is worth that is applied to the welfare of the humanity.*

In this respect Dr Singh has already done so when he was Finance Minister and reiterated to do so as follows: "Singh said among his priorities as Prime Minister would be social and economic development, a healthy capital market, strong emphasis on agriculture and creation of job opportunities."

The IUS wishes all success to Dr Singh in his ambition to serve for the welfare people of India.

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-----Original Message-----

From: Devinder Singh Chahal  
[mailto:sikhism@chahal.info]  
Sent: May 20, 2004 9:12 PM  
To: Sikh-Diaspora@yahoogroups.com  
Subject: RE: [Sikh-Diaspora] Mrs Sonia Gandhi lays the foundation for secularism.

Dr Onkar Singh Bindra comments:

"Ref your statement 'She followed the principle of Nanakian philosophy, "*Takht bheh Takhtay layak*" AGGS, M 1, p 1039." Sonia may not even heard of the above.

Yes. You are right. Same way many others (including many Sikhs) have not heard any principle of Nanakian

philosophy, but many right-thinking people accept many principles of Nanakian philosophy without knowing that it is Nanakian philosophy. For examples, Einstein, A Nobel Laureate, accepts some principles of Nanakian philosophy, but he has never heard about it.

Had the Sikhs explained it in its real perspective to the humanity then Nanakian philosophy would have been known to everybody in these days? You know very well that even the name of Sikhism is not known to many college and university students in their courses on Religions. This is our weakness.

There is another example of a principle of Nanakian philosophy; God does not come into anthropomorphic form (*Ajooni*). This is accepted by Einstein and when this question was posed to people in USA, 27% accepted that God does not come into anthropomorphic form. If you pose this question to Indians I think not more than 1% will accept this principle of Nanakian philosophy.

Is it not an irony that many people in USA accept some principles of Nanakian philosophy without knowing that it is philosophy promulgated by Guru Nanak more than 500 years ago.

Devinder Singh Chahal, IUS. Camp Moorpark, California.

-----Original Message-----

From: Teja Singh [mailto:shrine.fellowship@shaw.ca]  
Sent: May 22, 2004 7:38 AM  
To: Sikh Diaspora  
Cc: Devinder Singh Chahal  
Subject: Re: [Sikh-Diaspora] Mrs Sonia Gandhi lays the foundation for secularism.

<<< The recent decision of Sonia Gandhi to decline the post of Prime Minister and offering it to Dr Manmohan Singh is the best for India to re-establish Secularism >>>

Thanks for a well-presented analysis. You have put everything in proper perspective. Congratulations and best wishes to the new Prime Minister of India.  
Teja Singh  
Edmonton, Canada

A lecture on, *Universal Acceptability of Nanakian Philosophy*, was delivered to the Students of the University of California San Diego (UCSD) on May 3, 2004. This lecture was arranged by the Sikh Students of the UCSD at the University Lecture Theatre.

A copy of *JAP: The Essence of Nanakian Philosophy* and a copy of the latest issue of *UNDERSTANDING SIKHISM – The Research Journal* were deposited in the library through Miss Sheena Sidhu on behalf of the IUS.

A lecture on the celebration of *Quadricentennial of Compilation and Installation (Parkash Divas) of the Aad Guru Granth Sahib* was delivered in the Gurdwara Sahib, Powal, California on May 4, 2004. The Sangat was also introduced to the book, *JAP: The Essence of Nanakian Philosophy* and *UNDERSTANDING SIKHISM – The Research Journal* and the contributions of the IUS.

SD strives to provide an exceptional platform to achieve thought provoking debates; let your likeminded friends know about Sikh-Diaspora.

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## Celebration of Quadricentennial of Compilation and Installation (*Parkash Divas*) of the Aad Guru Granth Sahib by the IUS and the American Gurdwara Management Committee, BC.

-----Original Message-----

From: Devinder Singh Chahal [mailto:sikhism@chahal.info]  
Sent: June 26, 2004 2:04 PM  
To: Sikh-Diaspora@yahoogroups.com  
Subject: RE: [Sikh-Diaspora] Re: IUS Activities about Celebration of Quadricentennial of AGGS

It is my pleasure to inform the SD members about the IUS's activities that joint celebration of Quadricentennial of Compilation and Installation (*Parkash Divas*) of the Aad Guru Granth Sahib was inaugurated on June 6, 2004 at the Gurdwara Sahib, Ross Street, Vancouver with the inaugural lecture, '*Sabd Guru to Granth Guru*', by Prof Devinder Singh Chahal, PhD. These