NATURAL PHILOSOPHERS Nanak is at the Top of the List

ARTICLE

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INTRODUCTION

Before the beginning of Science and during the Period of Renaissance some scholars were prophesying their philosophy based upon their keen observations of Nature and the Universal phenomena occurring in orderly form. Now their philosophy is called Natural Philosophy. Natural Philosophy is defined as follows:

The study of nature and the physical universe before the advent of modern science.

https://www.thefreedictionary.com/natural+philosophy

Guru Nanak is one of those philosophers who promulgated his philosophy also based on his keen observation of the Nature, how the phenomena of Universe are occurring in orderly form and also the observations on the behaviour of humans without involving the God.

Natural Philosophers before Nanak

Gill [1] describes that certain early Greeks — Thales, Anaximander, Parmenides, Anaxagoras, Empedocles, and Xenophanes — tried to describe the world around them without accepting its creation by anthropomorphic gods. The Greek philosophers broke tradition and sought rational explanations of the world around them. Their speculations formed the early basis of Natural Philosophy and Science.

GURU NANAK'S PHILOSOPHY AS COMPARED TO THAT OF GREEK PHILOSOPHERS

The early Greek philosophers described the cosmos and God as follows:

Thales of Miletus (c. 624 – c. 546 BCE). Many, most notably Aristotle (384–322 BCE), regarded Thales as the first philosopher in the Greek tradition. *Historically, he is recognized as the first individual in Western civilization to have entertained and engaged in scientific philosophy.* He

ABSTRACT

Elementary Natural Philosophy started by Greek philosophers from 5th century BCE and continued up to the 14th century CE. During this gap of 19 centuries (from 5th BCE to 14th CE centuries) religions like Christianity, Islam and Hinduism flourished in Europe, Middle East and India. respectively. However, during the period of 14th to 17th century Europe entered in next phase called "Period of Renaissance", a period of cultural, artistic, political and economic "rebirth". During the same period some scholars started to challenge the dogmas and wrong concepts in religion. Nicolaus Copernicus (1473 - 1543),contemporary of Guru Nanak (1469-1539), was the first to challenge the concept of the Bible that the Sun revolves around the Earth. On the other hand, Guru Nanak was the only Natural Philosopher from the South Asia who challenged the wrong concepts in the religions. This article deals with the problems of speaking truth by the Natural philosophers, Copernicus, Galileo and Martin Luther. It also discusses the corruption and supremacy of the Church during that time. This system of supremacy in Christianity has been borrowed by the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC), Amritsar who appoints Jathedar of Akal Takht. Now the Jathedar of Akal Takht acts as final authority on Sikhism.

predicted the solar eclipse of May 28, 585 BCE. Thales is recognized for breaking from the use of mythology to explain the world and the Universe, instead explaining natural objects and phenomena by theories and hypotheses in a precursor to modern science. *Aristotle reported Thales' hypothesis that the originating principle of nature and the nature of matter was a single material substance: water.* [2]

This is very similar to the eastern mythology that the three mythical worlds were created from water.

ਸਾਚੇ ਤੇ ਪਵਨਾ ਭਇਆ ਪਵਨੈ ਤੇ ਜਲੁ ਹੋਇ ॥

Sāchౖe t̪e pavnā bh̪a∘iºā pavnai t̪e jal hOºe.

ਜਲ ਤੇ **ਤ੍ਰਿਭਵਣੂ** ਸਾਜਿਆ

ਘਟਿ ਘਟਿ ਜੋਤਿ ਸਮੋਇ ॥

Jal <u>t</u>e taribhavan sāji∘ā

ghat ghat jOt samOe.

ਨਿਰਮਲੁ¹ ਮੈੈਲਾ² ਨਾ ਥੀਐ ਸਬਦਿ³ ਰਤੇ⁴ ਪਤਿ⁵

ਹੋਇ ∥੩∥

Nirmal mailā nā thī∘ai sabaḏ raṯe paṯ hO∘e. ||3||

It is invariably interpreted/translated by the Sikh scientists and theologian as done by Sant Singh Khalsa: [3]

From the True Lord came the air, and from the air came water.

From water, He created the three worlds; in each and every heart He has infused His Light.

The Immaculate Lord does not become polluted. Attuned to the Shabad, honor is obtained. .3.

AGGS, M 1, p 19.

However, scientifically, water is not an element but rather is a compound of Hydrogen and Oxygen. It never formed any other elements nor created the mythical three worlds (ব্রিত্তবহু

(tribhavens): Upper, the sky where God

and gods live; middle, where the Earth exists; and the lower (nether world), where the dead people live. In fact, water and the Earth were formed simultaneously, and water escaped from the Earth as vapours when it was still hot, falling as rain on the Earth when it cooled down. [4]

After critical study of the above sabd of Guru Nanak, it becomes evident that Guru Nanak is explaining the ancient philosophy of Thales and thereof of eastern philosophy, which is similar to that of Thales, in the first two lines. In the third line, ਨਿਰਮਲ¹ ਮੈਲਾ² ਨਾ ਥੀਐ

ਸਬਦਿ³ ਰਤੇ⁴ ਪਤਿ⁵ ਹੋਇ ॥੩॥ (Nirmal mailā

nā thī•ai sabad rate pat hO•e. .3.), Nanak is saying according to his philosophy that: *Those who have* achieved clean mind⁴ and maintain their honor⁵ by understanding⁴ sabd³, are not polluted² with the above type of Greek and ancient philosophy in India. Nanak strengthen his philosophy in the *Rahao* (Pause):

ਮਨ¹ ਰੇ **ਸਬਦਿ²** ਤਰਹੁ³ ਚਿਤੁ⁴ ਲਾਇ ॥

Man re sabad tarahu chit lā∘e. ਜਿਨਿ ਗੁਰਮੁਖਿ⁵ ਨਾਮੁਾ ਨ ਬੁਡਿਆ⁷ ਮਰਿ⁸

ਜਨਮੈ[°] ਆਵੈ ਜਾਇ ॥१॥ ਰਹਾੳ ॥

Jin gurmukh nām na būjhi•ā mar janmai āvai jā•e. ||1|| rahā•o. ਅਗਗਸ. ਮ: 1. ਪੰਨਾ 19.

Guru Nanak is advising the mind¹:

*Oh Mind!*¹ *You can swim*³ *across the sea of life through understanding*⁴ *the sabd*².

And those, who consider themselves as enlightened persons⁵, intellectually die⁸ and born⁹ again and again unless they understand⁷ Laws of Nature/ Universe⁶. Rahao.

AGGS, M 1, p 19.

Note: The word ਸਬਦਿ² (Sabd) used by

Guru Nanak in the above *Rahau* (pause) and phrase has been explained in stanza (*pauri*) #38 of JAP Bani by Guru Nanak. [5]

It is evident from the above discussion that Guru Nanak has gone beyond Thales of Miletus's philosophy in breaking away from ancient mythology of Greek and that of Vedas and Vedanta.

Xénophanes (c. 570 BCE. - c. 480 BCE.)

Xenophanes of Colophon is best remembered for a novel critique of anthropomorphism in religion, a partial advance toward monotheism, and some pioneering reflections on the conditions of knowledge. He is identified as the founder of Eleatic philosophy (the view that, despite appearances, there is a changeless, motionless, and eternal 'One'). [6]

His thoughts about God are as follows:

But if cattle and horses or lions had hands, or were able to draw with their hands and do the work that men can do, horses would draw the anthropomorphic gods like horses, and cattle like cattle, and they would make their bodies such as they each had themselves.

https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/ xenOphanes 205160

Men create the Gods in their own image. https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/ xenOphanes 205161

But

God is one, greatest of gods and men, not like mortals in body or thought. https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/ xenOphanes 395299

And

Truly the Gods have not from the beginning revealed all things to mortals, but by long seeking, mortals discover what is better.

(From: Fragment B18, from Diels and Kranz Die Fragmente der VOrsokratiker, as translated by Kathleen Freeman in Ancilla to the Pre-Socratic Philosophers (1948, 1983).)

Xenophanes was against God coming into anthropomorphic form. But people in almost all religions accept God appearing in anthropomorphic form since 480 BCE. Guru Nanak is deadly against God coming into anthropomorphic form. In spite of this fact, Sikh scientists and theologians represent the logo, ੴ, designed by Guru Nanak to represent the 'Eternal Entity' (called God), as Ek Oankar, Ek Onkar or Ek Omkar found in Vedanta Philosophies. But Ek Oankar, Ek Onkar or Ek Omkar represents OM (AUM) which occurs in Trinity of Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva in anthropomorphic form. The logo, ੴ, for the Eternal Entity (God) is guite original and unique than all other monotheistic Gods explained by others which does not come into anthropomorphic form.

Anaxagoras (born ca. 500–480), Anaxagoras, a Greek philosopher, was the first of the Pre-Socratic philosophers to live in Athens. He propounded a

physical theory of "everything-ineverything". And claimed that nous (intellect or mind) was the motive cause of the cosmos (meaning denied the divinity of all other gods but his principle, the mind). He was the first to give a correct explanation of eclipses, and was both famous and notorious for his scientific theories, including the claims that the Sun is a mass of red-hot metal, that the Moon is earthy, and that the stars are fiery stones. Anaxagoras maintained that the original state of the cosmos was a mixture of all its ingredients (the basic realities of his system). Anaxagoras was indicted for impiety. [7]

On the other hand, Guru Nanak says 'One' in everything and everything in 'One':

ਏਕ¹ ਮਹਿ ਸਰਬ² ਸਰਬ² ਮਹਿ ਏਕਾ³

ਏਹ ਸਤਿ⁴ ਗ਼ੁਰਿ⁵ ਦੇਖਿ⁰ ਦਿਖਾਈ⁷ ॥੫॥

Ėk mėh sarab sarab mėh ekā eh saṯgur d̯ekʰ d̪ikʰā□ī. ||5∥

Guru Nanak Says:

The True⁴ Enlightener⁵ has given⁷ (me)

the vision⁶ that the One¹ is in everything² and everything² is that One³.

AGGS, M 1, p 907.

Parmenides of Elea (Late 6th century — Mid. 5th century BCE)

Parmenides of Elea was a Pre-Socratic Greek philosopher. As the first philosopher to inquire into the nature of existence itself, he is incontrovertibly credited as the "Father of Metaphysics." Parmenides' only written work is a poem entitled, supposedly, but likely erroneously, *On Nature.* Only a limited number of "fragments" (more precisely, quotations by later authors) of his poem are still in existence, which have traditionally been assigned to three main sections—*Poem, Reality* (*Alétheia*), and *Opinion* (*Doxa*).

Despite making apparently true claims (for example, the Moon gets its light from the Sun), the account offered in *Opinion* is supposed to be representative of the mistaken "Opinions of mortals," and thus is to be rejected on some level. [8]

His important quotes are as follows:

We can speak and think only of what exists. And what exists is uncreated and imperishable for it is whole and unchanging and complete. It was not or nor shall be different since it is now, all at once, one and continuous.

Parmenides

The same philosophy is repeated in different words as follows:

There is one story left, one road: that it is. And on this road there are very many signs that, being, is uncreated and imperishable, whole, unique, unwavering, and complete.

Parmenides

And Let reason alone decide. Parmenides [9]

However, Guru Nanak says that there is "One and Only That is Infinite", which has been further described in his bani as uncreated and imperishable, ineffable, inaccessible (cannot be approached), etc. This "One and Only That is Infinite" is represented in a logo, 96° , pronounced as "*Ek Oh*

Beant" in Punjabi language (One and Only That is Infinite – amount of Energy). It is the logo of Sikhi, which represents the Eternal Entity (God). [10]

Concept of Man as the Image of God Actually, it was the concept of God in the image of man as proposed by Xenophanes (c. 570 BCE. - c. 480 BCE.)

The Image of God (Hebrew: צָּלֶם translit. *tzelem Elohim*; Latin: *I mago Dei*) is a concept and theological doctrine in Judaism, Christianity, and Sufism of Islam, which asserts that human beings are created in the image and likeness of God. However, Philosophers and

theologians have debated the exact meaning of the phrase for millennia. [11]

Hebrew Bible

The phrase "image of God" is found in three passages in the Hebrew Bible, all in the Book of Genesis (1-11):

Gen 1:26-28

And God said: 'Let us make man in our image/b'tsalmeinu, after our likeness/ kid'muteinu; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the Earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the Earth.' And God created man in His image, in the image of God He created him, male and female created He them. And God blessed them; and God said to them: 'Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the Earth, and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that creeps upon the Earth.'

Guru Arjun said the same principle as follows:

ਅਵਰ¹ ਜੋਨਿ² ਤੇਰੀ³ ਪਨਿਹਾਰੀ⁴ ॥

Avar jon terī panihārī. ਇਸ਼⁵ ਧਰਤੀ⁶ ਮਹਿ ਤੇਰੀ⁷ ਸਿਕਦਾਰੀ⁸ ॥

ls dhartī meh terī sikdārī. ਅਗਗਸ. ਮ: 5. ਪੰਨਾ 374.

All other¹ species², animals and plants, are at your³ service⁴ since you, humans, are at the highest order of evolution. Therefore, on this⁵ Earth⁶ you⁷ are the controller⁸.

AGGS, M 5, p 374.

However, Guru Nanak is against that type of control over humans or other living beings:

He says, consider equality in humans and does not say anything about controlling other humans or animals:

ਸਭੁ¹ ਕੋ ਉਚਾ² ਆਖੀਐ³ ਨੀਚੁ⁴ ਨ ਦੀਸੈ⁵ ਕੋਇੰ ॥

Sabʰ ko ūcʰā ākʰī□ai nīcʰ na dīsai ko□e. ਇਕਨੈ⁷ ਭਾਂਡੇ⁸ ਸਾਜਿਐ¹⁰

ਇਕ੍ਰ¹¹ ਚਾਨਸ਼ੂ¹² ਤਿਹੁ ਲੋਇ¹³ ॥

Iknai bʰā'nde sāji•ai ik cʰānaṇ ṯihu lo•e. ਅਗਗਸ, ਮ: 1, ਪੰਨਾ 62.

Guru Nanak says:

*Everybody*⁷ *has been created*¹⁰ *equal from the same matter*⁸ *and same*¹¹ *source of life*^{12,13}.

Therefore, call⁸ everyone¹ as the highest² (belonging to a high class) and do not look⁵ at others⁶ as if they belong to a low class⁴. AGGS, M 1, p 62.

The Siddhas and the Yogis considered themselves to belong to the highest class since they had the highest knowledge and could perform many miracles. Guru Nanak advised them as follows:

ਆਈ¹ ਪੰਥੀ² ਸਗਲ³ ਜਮਾਤੀ⁴

ਮਨਿ⁵ ਜੀਤੈੰ⁰ ਜਗ੍ਹ⁷ ਜੀਤੂ⁸ ∥

Ā॰ī panthī sagal jamāṯī man jīṯai jag jīṯ. ਅਗਗਸ, ਮ: ਜਪੁ #28, ਪੰਨਾ 6.

A certain class of Yogi claims that they belong to the highest¹ class² among the 12 classes of Yogis. But Guru Nanak is advising them that whole humanity of the world³ belongs to highest class⁴. Besides, conquering⁶ one's mind⁵ is equivalent to conquering⁸ the world⁷. AGGS, Jap # 28, p 6.

King James Bible

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. Genesis 1:27

Commentary on the hadeeth explains, "Allah created Adam in "His image" as follows:[12]

Al-Bukhaari (6227) and Muslim (2841) narrated from Abu Hurayrah that the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "Allah created Adam in His image, and he was sixty cubits (One cubit is a length of forearm) tall. When he created him he said, 'Go and greet that group of angels who are sitting and listen to how they greet you, for that will be your greeting and the greeting of your descendants.' so he said, 'Alsalaamu 'alaykum (peace be upon you),' and they said, 'Al-salaamu 'alayka wa rahmat-Allaah (Peace be upon you and the mercy of Allah.' So they added (the words) 'wa rahmat-Allaah.' Everyone who enters Paradise will be in the aura

of Adam, but mankind continued to grow shorter until now." Muslim (2612) narrated that Abu Hurayrah said: The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "When anyone fights his brother, let him avoid the face, for Allah created Adam in His image." [12]

Nevertheless, there is no such indication that God created man as the image of God in the bani of Guru Nanak.

Incarnation of God into different types of Avatars in different Ages in Hinduism:

Dashavatara (Sabskrit – दशावतार -

daśāvatāra) refers to the ten primary avatars of Vishnu, the Hindu god of preservation of Trinity – Brahman, the god of creation; Vishnu, the god of preservation; and Shiva, the god of destruction. Vishnu is said to descend in an anthropomorphic avatar to restore cosmic order. The Word Dashavatara derives from daśa, meaning 'ten', and avatar (avatāra), roughly equivalent to 'incarnation'. [13]

Vishnu appeared in different forms in different Ages as follows:

- 1. Matsya fish (Paleozoic era).
- 2. Kurma amphibious tortoise (Mesozoic era).
- **3.** Varaha boar (Cenozoic era).
- Narasimha man-lion, the last animal and semi-human avatar (Cenozoic era)²
- 5. Vamana growing dwarf and first step towards the human form.
- 6. Parasurama a hero, but imperfect human form.
- 7. Rama another hero, physically perfect, befriends a speaking monkey deity Hanuman.
- 8. Krishna ([sic], Krishna) son of nonvirgin Devanaguy ([sic], Devaki).
- 9. Buddha the Buddhism founder. However, Buddhism does not believe in personal god and Vedas.
- **10.** Kalki yet to happen and the savior, and is like Christian Advent,

which Madame Blavatsky believed Christians "undoubtedly copied from the Hindus".

Blavatsky believed that the avatararelated Hindu texts were an allegorical of Darwinian presentation orientalists evolution. Some and reformists Hindus in India picked up this idea to rationalize Hinduism as being consistent with modern science. [13] Nevertheless, there is no such god in the bani of Guru Nanak and Science which has evolved through Evolution Theory accepted today.

In Hinduism it is accepted that the God is One but It still appears in Trinity – Brahman, the god of creation; Vishnu, the god of preservation; and Shiva, the god of destruction. However, it is evident from the above discussion that one of the Trinity Gods, Vishnu, appeared on this Earth from the lowest body Matsya – a fish etc., imperfect human forms, to Rama and Krishna – perfect human form. Later on Buddha, who does not believe in God, was added as 9th Avatar of Vishnu in the list? Vishnu in Kalki, as the 10th Avatara is still to appear.

Vivekananda about God in the Image of Man [14]

God Himself is your image. "God created man after His own image." That is wrong. Man creates God after his own image. That is right. Throughout the Universe we are creating gods after our own image. We create god and fall down at his feet and worship him; when this dream comes, we love it! The Hindus are following the concept of Parmenides, a Greek Natural philosopher.

Another similar quote is as follows:

There is a story of an ignorant man who was asked to make an image of the god Shiva, and who, after days of hard struggle, manufactured only the image of a monkey. So whenever we try to think of God as He is in His absolute perfection, we invariably meet with the most miserable failure, because as long as we are men, we cannot conceive Him as anything higher than man. The time will come when we shall transcend our human nature and know Him as He is; but as long as we are men, we must worship Him in man and as man. Talk as you may, try as you may, you cannot think of God except as a man.

(The Complete Works Of Swami Vivekananda/Volume 3/Bhakti-Yoga/ Incarnate Teachers and Incarnation)

The above Observations of Swami Vivekananda are similar to that quoted by Xenophanes (c. 570 BCE. - c. 480 BCE.). Vivekananda has confirmed that in Hinduism that, the time will come when we shall transcend our human nature and know Him as He is; but as long as we are men, we must worship Him in man and as man. Talk as you may, try as you may, you cannot think of God except as a man.

This tradition was challenged by Guru Nanak that God cannot come into anthropomorphic form (in human form). [5]

Xenophanes said that *if there was ever a time there was nothing, then it was impossible for anything ever to have come into being.* But Parmenides said the same in his own words as, 'Nothing *comes out of nothing, therefore, it must has always been there'.*

The two other principles are that Anaxagoras *denied the divinity of all* other Gods but his principle, the mind. And that Xenophanes ridiculed polytheism and the idea of human form of God. His eternal deity was the world.

The ancient principles of Xenophanes and Parmenides, 'Nothing comes out of nothing, therefore, it must has always been there', have been discussed in details by Guru Nanak as 近ਨ (Sunn) state of God. The 近ਨ (Sunn) state of God by Guru Nanak is known as "Nothingness" by some scientists and "Singularity" by others. This 近ਨ (Sunn) state (Nothingness) does not mean there is nothing but everything (energy -matter and space-time) exist in a highly concentrated form that looks like "Nothing" since light can also be absorbed in it. Therefore, the Universe sprang out from this Singularity or Nothingness represented as a logo, (\mathfrak{B}), The Internal Entity (which exists forever). [15]

The other principles, 'Denial of other Gods but believing in mind' of Anaxagoras and, 'Rejection of polytheism and accepting the 'world' as an 'Eternal Deity', by Xenophanes, have been discussed in details by Guru Nanak under 96° , the logo designed by Guru Nanak to represent Eternal Entity (God) as 'Singularity', which does not come into anthropomorphic forms. [10]

It becomes evident from the above discussion that some of the elementary Natural Philosophy developed during the 6th to 5th BCE centuries by Greek philosophers remained hidden till the 15th CE century (a period of about 21 centuries). It was Guru Nanak who explained Natural Philosophy during the 15th and 16th CE centuries in simple language which can stand the test of today's science.

NATURAL PHILOSOPHERS CONTEMPORARIES OF NANAK

Nicolaus Copernicus (1473-1543) was born only 4 years after and died also 4 years after Guru Nanak (1469-1439) at the same age of 70. What a similarity

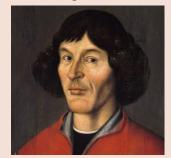


Figure 1. Nicolaus Copernicus (1473-1543) portrait from Town Hall in Toruń - 1580

between them to make them very close contemporaries. On the other hand Copernicus was pioneer in Europe and Guru Nanak was the only pioneer in South Asia of the Period of Renaissance (14th-17th centuries). [16] During the third century B.C., the ancient Greek astronomer Aristarchus of Samos had identified the Sun as a central unit orbited by a revolving Earth. His theory was dismissed because Ptolemy's (127–151 CE) ideas were far more accepted by Roman Catholic Church, which adamantly supported the Earth-based solar system theory, which is similar to that found in the Bible. Thereafter. about 1508. Nicolaus developed Copernicus more sophisticated celestial model of a heliocentric planetary system. Around 1514. shared his he findings in the Commentariolus. His book, De revolutionibus orbium coelestium, was banned by the Roman Catholic Church decades after his May 24, 1543 death in Frombork.

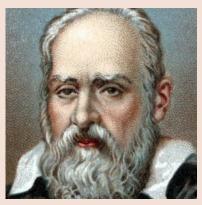


Figure 2. Galileo Galilei, (1564 - 1642)

Galileo Galilei, (born February 15, 1564, Pisa [Italy]—died January 8, 1642, Arcetri, near Florence), Italian natural philosopher, astronomer, and mathematician, is the next important Natural Philosopher of the Period of Renaissance born 25 years after the demise of Guru Nanak in 1539. [17]

Galileo built a telescope in 1609, collected more information to support Copernicus discovery that the Earth and Planets revolve around the Sun, which was challenging the concept of the Catholic Church and of the Aristotle that the Sun revolves around the Earth. The Church Inquisition consultants pronounced Copernican theory heretical. In 1616, Galileo was ordered not to "hold, teach, or defend in any manner" the Copernican theory. Galileo obeyed the order for seven years, partly to make life easier and partly because he was a devoted Catholic.

In 1623 Cardinal Maffeo Barberini, the Pope Urban VIII, a friend of Galileo allowed him to carry on his research. Galileo published *Dialogue Concerning the Two Chief World Systems* in 1632. Galileo's Inquisition proceedings lasted from September 1632 to July 1633. Finally, he was convicted of heresy and spent his remaining years under house arrest.

The Church couldn't deny the truth and in 1758, the ban on most works supporting Copernican theory lifted. The Vatican dropped its opposition to heliocentrism altogether in 1835 after about 193 years (1835- 1642). Finally, in 1992, Pope John Pal II expressed regret about how the Galileo affair was handled after about 350 years (1992-1642). Galileo died on January 8, 1642, in Arcetri, near Florence, Italy. He was bestowed with a title of "The Father of Modern Science." [17]

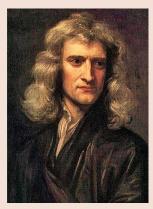


Figure 3. Sir Isaac Newton-(1689-1727)

Sir Isaac Newton, (born December 25, 1642 [January 4, 1643, New Style], Woolsthorpe, Lincolnshire, England died March 20 [March 31], 1727, London), English physicist and mathematician, philosopher and professor who made pioneering observations of nature with longlasting implications for the study of physics. Newton was born 103 year after the demise of Guru Nanak. Newton was the culminating figure of the Scientific Revolution of the 17th work, Philosophiae century. His Naturalis Principia Mathematica (Mathematical Principles of Natural Philosophy, 1687) was one of the most important single works in Natural Philosophy. [18]

Newton's Laws of Motion:

- Newton's first law states that, if a body is at rest or moving at a constant speed in a straight line, it will remain at rest or keep moving in a straight line at constant speed unless it is acted upon by a force. This postulate is known as the law of inertia.
- Newton's second law is a quantitative description of the changes that a force can produce on the motion of a body. It states that the time rate of change of the momentum of a body is equal in both magnitude and direction to the force imposed on it. The momentum of a body is equal to the product of its mass and its velocity.
- Newton's third law states that when two bodies interact, they apply forces to one another that are equal in magnitude and opposite in direction. The third law is also known as the law of action and reaction. [19]

Besides his discoveries about the Laws of Motion and others he studied Christianity extensively. Newton saw a monotheistic God as the masterful creator whose existence could not be denied in the face of the grandeur of all creation. [20] During 1670s Newton came to the view that a simple and authentic form of Christianity had been perverted during the centuries after the life of Jesus Christ to produce a type of religion called orthodox by the Roman Catholic Church. He was of the opinion that the concept of Trinity in Christianity was a fiction that was invented in the early fourth century. He also believed that it was a form of idolatry. However, he accepted Jesus was divine but was not God. Had he published his work during the 17th century he would have lost his position of professor at the University. [21] This was due to the fact those who opposed the Trinity were excommunicated or killed. However, most of Orthodox Christians believed him as an Arian, who believes in Trinity of God. [22]

Just image a famous Natural Philosopher, Newton, was afraid to speak the truth to save his position at the university and honor he received. His discoveries, Christianity was perverted and he did not believe in Trinity, are hidden till today and he is considered as an Arian.

Guru Nanak's ਹੁਕਮ (*Hukam* - Laws of Nature/Universe)

Newton, born 103 year after the demise of Guru Nanak, discovered three laws of Motion. On the other, Guru Nanak observed that every action and reaction in the Nature and the Universe is happening according to some laws. He called these laws as "ਹੁਕਮ (*Hukam*)" in the local language of his time. Now in the Age of Science ਹੁਕਮ (*Hukam*) are called Laws of Nature/Universe). Here a very simple phrase is being quoted to explain his thought about "ਹੁਕਮ

(Hukam)"as follows: [23]

ਹੁਕਮੈ¹ ਅੰਦਰਿ² ਸਭੁ ਕੋ ਬਾਹਰਿ³ ਹੁਕਮ ਨ ਕੋਇ ॥ ਨਾਨਕ ਹੁਕਮੈ⁴ ਜੇ ਬੁਝੈ⁵ ਤ ਹਉਮੈ⁵ ਕਹੈ ਨ ਕੋਇ ॥੨॥

Hukmai andar sabh ko bāhar hukam na ko∘e.

Nānak hukmai je buj<u>h</u>ai <u>t</u>a ha¤umai kahai na ko¤e. ||2||

ਅਗਗਸ, ਜਪੁ # 2, ਪੰਨਾ 1.

Nanak says:

If one can understand⁵ the workings of the Laws of Nature/Universe⁴, then one will not boast⁶ about one's pride because every action and reaction occurs under² these laws¹ and nothing is out³ of them.2.

AGGS, Jap # 2, page 1.

"Natural Philosophy" or "Philosophy of Nature" (from Latin philosophia naturalis) was the philosophical study of Nature and the physical Universe". During the 19th century the concept of "Science" received its modern shape as "biology" and "biologist", "physics" and "physicist". Isaac Newton's book Philosophiae **Naturalis** Principia Mathematica (1687). whose title translates to "Mathematical Principles of Natural Philosophy", is considered as "Natural Philosophy". Even in the 19th century, a treatise by Lord Kelvin and Peter Guthrie Tait, which defines much of modern physics, was also considered as Treatise on Natural Philosophy (1867). Naturphilosophie (Philosophy of Nature) was an attempt to achieve unity of Nature and Spirit during the 18th and 19th century. At older universities, longestablished Chairs of Natural Philosophy are nowadays occupied mainly by physics Professors. [24] Therefore, modern notions of Science and Scientists appeared only during the 19th century.

Guru Nanak (1469-1539)

Guru Nanak (1469-1539) was the only Natural Philosopher in the South Asia during the Period of Renaissance in Europe and a close contemporary of Nicolaus Copernicus (1473-1543). The next important Natural Philosophy was Galileo Galilei, (1564-1642) who was born 25 years after the demise of Guru Nanak. The both Copernicus and Galileo changed the concept of Bible and of Aristotle that the Sun revolves around the Earth. Copernicus observed that it the Earth which revolves around the Sun and later proved logically and experimentally. His work was banned and he was excommunicated for challenging the concept of the Bible.

Galileo did further research on the theory of Copernicus. He too was excommunicated and was kept in house arrest. He died in his house. This is the fate of speaking the truth.

We do not find any reference in bani (philosophy) of Guru Nanak if he has said anything whether it is the Sun that revolves around the Earth or the Earth revolves around the Sun. However, he has great vision to observe that the Sun is moving (revolving around the centre of our galaxy, the Milky Way) at hundreds of millions of miles in his simple language of that time as follows:

ਭੈ¹ ਵਿਚਿ ਸੁਰਜੁ² ਭੈੈ¹ ਵਿਚਿ ਚੰਦੁ³ ॥

Bhౖai vichੁ sūraj bhੁai vichੁ chੁandੁ. ਕੋਹ⁴ ਕਰੋੜੀ⁵ ਚਲਤ⁵ ਨ ਅੰਤੁ⁷ ॥

Koh karor਼ī ch̪alat̪ na ant̪. ਅਗਗਸ, ਮ: 1, ਪੰਨਾ 151.

The Sun² and the *Moon³ (planets) have travelled⁶ (around the center of Milky Way galaxy) about hundreds of millions⁵ of miles⁴ under the Laws of Nature/Universe¹ and still travelling without any limit⁷.

AGGS, M 1, p 151.

Note: The *Moon has been considered as planet of the Sun by Guru Nanak although it is a satellite of the Earth, which is actual planet).

Bhai (ਭੈ): The word Bhai (ਭੈ) in general is interpreted as "fear" by almost all theologians. But in the above phrase Bhai (ਭੈ) appears to mean under certain laws now known as the "Laws of Nature/Universe.

In ancient philosophy there was a concept that a white bull is carrying the Earth on his horns. Guru Nanak challenged this concept with logic and in simple language as follows: [5] ਧੌਲੁ¹ ਧਰਮੁ² ਦਇਆ³ ਕਾ ਪੂਤੁ⁴ ॥ ਸੰਤੋਖੁ⁵ ਥਾਪਿ⁶ ਰਖਿਆ⁷ ਜਿਨਿ ਸੂਤਿ⁸ ॥ ਜੇ ਕੋ⁹ ਬੁਡੈ¹⁰ ਹੋਵੈ ਸਚਿਆਰੁ¹¹ ॥ ਧਵਲੈ¹² ਉਪਰਿ¹³ ਕੇਤਾ ਭਾਰੁ¹⁴ ॥ ਧਰਤੀ¹⁵ ਹੋਰੁ ਪਰੈ ਹੋਰੁ ਹੋਰੁ¹⁶ ॥

ਤਿਸ¹⁷ ਤੇ ਭਾਰੁ ਤਲੈ ਕਵੲੁ ਜੋਰੁ¹⁸ ॥...

Dhoul dharam da∘i∘ā kā pūt. Santokh thāp rakhi∘ā jin sūt. Je ko bujhai hovai sachiār. Dhavlai upar ketā bhār. Dhartī hor parai hor hor. Fis te bhār talai kavaņ jor... ਅਗਗਸ, ਜਪ੍ਰ # 16, ਪੰਨਾ 3.

The mythical white bull⁴ that supports the Earth is, in fact, the mutual gravitational attraction³,⁴ between the Sun and the Earth under the laws of the Universe².

This gravitational attraction⁵ holds^{6,7} the Earth in its place⁸.

The one⁹ who discovers¹⁰ this order (Laws of the Universe) becomes enlightened¹¹ and understands that a mythical white-bull¹² could not carry that much¹³ load¹⁴ of the Earth. This bull will need another Earth¹⁵ to stand on and then another bull is needed to carry that Earth and so on¹⁶. AGGS Jap # 16, p 3.

Note: In ancient philosophy there is a concept that a white bull is carrying the Earth on his horns. Guru Nanak challenged this concept with logic as explained in the above phrases.

ਸੰਤੋਖ਼ (*santokh*): Santokh is usually interpreted as contentment, satisfaction; the one who is content and satisfied settles down in tranquility. Contentment (*santokh*) for the Earth signifies the mystic power with which the Earth stays in orbit. This mystic power has been interpreted as the gravitational attraction, according to present day science, which keeps the Earth in its orbit around the Sun.

It may be difficult for many scholars and theologians to accept this meaning. However, Principal Teja Singh [25] has interpreted almost in the same sense as follows:

"ਲੋਕਾਂ ਨੇ ਜੋ ਮੰਨਆ ਹੋਇਆ ਹੈ ਕੇ ਧਰਤੈ ਨੂੰ ਏਕ ਬਲਦ ਚੁਕੈ ਖੜੋਤਾ ਹੈ, ਉਹ ਬਲਦ ਅਸਲ ਵਿਚ ਰੱਬ ਦੀ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਦਾ ਸਾਜਿਆ ਕਾਨੁੰਨ ਹੈ, ਜਿਸ ਨੇ ਸਾਰੇ ਸੰਨਸਾਰ ਦੇ (ਸਿਸਟਮ) ਪ੍ਰਬੰਧ ਵਿਚ ਸੰਤੋਖ ਨੂੰ ਵਰਤਾਇਆ ਹੋਇਆ ਹੈ। ਅਰਥਾਤ, ਇਸ ਸਰਿਸ਼ਟੀ ਦੀ ਰਚਨਾ ਜੋ ਇਕ ਬੱਧੀ ਹੋਈ ਮਿਰਜਾਦਾ ਵਿਚ ਚਲ ਰਹੀ ਹੈ, ਇਸ ਵਿਚ ਹਰ ਇਕ ਚੀਜ ਕਿਉਂ ਸਰਬ ਸ਼ਾਤੀ ਨਾਲ ਰਹੀ ਹੈ?... ਇਸ ਲਈ ਕੁਦਰਤ ਦਾ ਕਾਨੂੰਨ ਰੱਬ ਦੀ ਦਇਆ ਦਾ

ਨਮੂਨਾ ਹੈ ।"

English:

"The people have accepted that a bull has lifted the Earth: in fact. that bull is the law of the blessing of God, the system with which the whole Universe works under santokh. This means the creation of the Universe is bound to work under those rules. Why does everything work perfectly and peacefully in this? If it is not under specific laws, there will be chaos everywhere. That is why the Law of Nature/Universe is the compassion of God."

There is a similar Greek myth in the West that Atlas, of the second generation of the Titans, carried the Earth on his shoulders. Some say that it was celestial sphere (whole Universe). [26]

Guru Nanak further writes about the Earth and its environment as follows: [5] ਪਵਣੂ¹ ਗੁਰੁ² ਪਾਣੀ³ ਪਿਤਾ⁴

ਮਾਤਾ⁵ ਧਰਤਿ⁶ ਮਹਤੂ⁷ ∥

ਦਿਵਸ⁸ ਰਾਤਿ⁹ ਦਇ¹⁰ ਦਾਈ¹¹ ਦਾਇਆ¹² ਖ

ੇਲੈ¹³ ਸਗਲ¹⁴ ਜਗਤ¹⁵ ||

Pavaņ gurū pāņī pi<u>t</u>ā mā<u>t</u>ā <u>d</u>hara<u>t</u> maha<u>t</u>.

Divas rāt du e dā ī dā i a khelai sagal jagat

ਅਗਗਸ, ਜਪੁ ਸਲੋਕ # 2, ਪੰਨਾ 8.

Air¹ is like a Guru², water³ is like a father⁴ (both represent the environment),

And Earth⁶ is like the great⁷ mother⁵ (Which provides all types of resources

and food). Both¹⁰ day⁸ and night⁹ are like a female nurse¹¹ and a male nurse¹ respectively.

nurse¹¹ and a male nurse¹, respectively, And the whole¹⁴ of humanity¹⁵ plays¹³ in *their laps.* AGGS, Jap Sloka # 2, p 8.

This means humanity enjoys the natural environment and resources provided by the Eternal Entity (God). Therefore, it is the duty of humans to practice righteousness.

Guru Nanak continues to describe the Earth as follows:

ਰਾਤੀ ਰੁਤੀ ਥਿਤੀ ਵਾਰ¹ ॥

ਪਵਣ² ਪਾਣੀ³ ਅਗਨੀ⁴ ਪਾਤਾਲ⁵ ∥

ਤਿਸ ਵਿਚਿ ਧਰਤੀ⁶ ਥਾਪਿ⁷ ਰਖੀ ਧਰਮ ਸਾਲ⁸ ॥

ਅਗਗਸ, ਜਪ 34, ਪੰਨਾ 7.

Rātī rutī thitī vār.

Pavaņ pāņī agnī pā<u>t</u>āl. Ŧis vic<u>h</u> dhar<u>t</u>ī thāp rak<u>h</u>ī dharam sāl. *The Earth⁶ having energy⁴ in its center⁵ is a place⁷, among air² and water³ around it with day, night and different seasons¹, for the humanity to practice righteousness⁸.*

AGGS, JAP 34, p 7.

And

ਧਰਤੀ¹ ਦੇਗ² ਮਿਲੈ ਇਕ³ ਵੇਰਾ ਭਾਗੂ⁴ ਤੇਰਾ⁵ ਭੰ

ਡਾਰੀੰ ∥੨∥

<u>Phartī</u> deg milai ik verā bhāg terā bhandārī. ||2|| ਅਗਗਸ. ਮ:1.ਪੰਨਾ 1190.

*The Earth*¹ *is a great storage*⁶ *of food*² *(including various elements) has appeared only once*³ *for your*⁵ *(humanity) use*⁴. AGGS, M 1, p 1190.

Guru Nanak's Concept of God For Guru Nanak the God is an Eternal Entity which has been represented in as logo: ୧ଟି. It has been decoded as follows:

१ is composed of three parts:

One (1) from numeral, open *oora* ($\overline{\Theta}$) from Punjabi alphabet; and its extend end (\frown) from geometry.

१ (One): Although 'One' is a numeral but it stands for ਏਕੰਕਾਰੁ (*eknakar*) as indicated by Bhai Gurdas which means 'One and Only'. Therefore, the 'One' is different from the numerical 'one'. This 'One' in Physics is equivalent to 'Singularity' in today's science where energy-matter and space-time occur in highly concentrated form to look like 'one point' which becomes invisible because light can be absorbed in it. This state is also called 'Nothingness' in science but Guru Nanak calls it 遊

(sunn) state or ਨਿਰਗੁਨ (nirgun) state.

ਓ (Open Oora): It stands for 'Oh' ('That') in various dictionaries. [3] Extended end of ਓ (^_): It stands for 'Infinite' (ਬੇਅੰਤ).

Therefore, ੴ can be pronounced as ਇਕੁਓ ਬੇਅੰਤ (*Ek Oh Beant*) in Punjabi and as 'The One and Only, That is Infinite' in English. The God of Guru Nanak is Eternal Entity designed in a logo, ੴ, which gave rise to the Universe as is accepted according to Big Bang Theory. For details please go to eBook, *JAP: The Essence of Nanakian Philosophy*. [5]

CHRISTIANITY BEFORE THE PERIOD OF RENAISSANCE

In Christianity the concept of 'two swords' (temporal and spiritual - Miri and Piri) was enunciated by Pope Gelasius during 5th century. According to this doctrine, the church and state were coequal in status [27]. By and by the Pope attained more power and wealth than all the kings and nobles combined. officials His subordinate - the archbishops, bishops, and abbots - were usually great feudal lords, with rich possessions and military strength. The power of the church was rooted in the spiritual force of excommunication. A person guilty of offense against the church was expelled from it, and all Christians, even members of his family, were forbidden to associate with him. **Emperor Henry IV was excommunicated** by Pope Gregory VII in 1076. Populace uprisings soon forced Henry to beg absolution. If an excommunicated noble remained defiant, the church imposed an interdict. This closed the churches

throughout the noble's realm. Marriages could not be performed, nor could the dead be buried in sacred ground. Few nobles dared risk the rebellious fury that such a decree would arouse in their subjects. [28]

By the 13th century Pope Innocent III made extreme claims to the effect that Holy Roman emperor (state) was subordinate to the Pope (church) because of the relative significance of the different jurisdictions given the two institutions. [27] Wilson [27] also reported three types of relationships between church and state: At one extreme is the subordination of politics to religion, as in a 'hierocracy' or rule of priests as the guardians of divine mysteries. The other extreme entails subordination of the religious institutions to the political regime, as in Caesaropapism. Between these extremes are various relationships ranging from an Erastian, or statedominated church, to a theocratic political order, in which rulers are closely monitored by guardians of the dominant religious tradition, as in Iran in the early 1980s.

During Medieval England the framer paid the rent for his land to his lord. This was called a "tithe" by the Church. A tithe means 10% of the value of what is owned by a farmer. A farmer could pay in cash or in kind – seeds, equipment etc. The power of the church was so strong that no-one could break this rule. They were taught at early age that God would punish them for this sin. [28] [29]

Martin Luther (1483-1546), a theologian, was also contemporary of Guru Nanak but he was not a Natural Philosopher. However, he was a freethinker but still believed in anthropomorphism in Christianity. He was an important figure in the great rebellions against the Catholic Church of Rome which controlled Christianity within Europe. Over the centuries, the Church became corrupt, and Popes fathered children with mistresses and lived more like worldly kings than spiritual leaders. The most controversial fund raising technique of the Church was to sell certificates called "indulgences" to church goers which would allegedly reduce the time that they or a loved one would have to spend repenting in purgatory before gaining entrance into heaven. Luther, fed up with corruption in the Roman Church, posted a document containing *95* Theses attacking abuses in the Church. When he disseminated his 95 Theses throughout Europe, the Church ordered him to recant his position, but he refused. In January 1521, Martin Luther was officially excommunicated from the Roman Catholic Church. His followers are called "Protestant Christians". In 1525, Martin Luther married Katharina von Bora, a former nun who had abandoned the convent and taken refuge in Wittenberg. Together, over the next several years, they had six children. He declared that nuns have the right to be married and live a family life. [30, 31]



Figure 4. Martin Luther (1483-1546) by Lucas Cranach the Elder (1529)

THE FATE OF NATURAL PHILOSOPHERS TO SPEAK THE TRUTH

The above discussion indicates that the Natural Philosophers, who discovered or spoke the truth have been excommunicated and punished by banning their research work and keeping them under house arrest till death. Finally, the TRUTH about the Earth revolving around the Sun was recognized by Pope John II after 383 years. Guru Nanak had observed that later or sooner the Truth will be accepted finally:

ਕੂੜ¹ ਨਿਖੁਟੇ² ਨਾਨਕਾ ਓੜਕਿ³ ਸਚਿ⁴ ਰਹੀ⁵ ॥੨॥

Kūṛ nikhute nānkā oŗak sach rahī. ||2|| ਅਗਗਸ. ਮ: 1. ਪੰਨਾ 953.

Nanak says: Falsehood¹ will come to an end² finally³ Truth⁴ will preval⁵. ||2|| AGGS, M 1, p 953.

On the other hand, no clergy of any Eastern religions have ever declared Guru Nanak as heretic or punished for his Natural philosophy differing from some of the concepts of their religions. They ignored considering him as ghost and demon. This fact has been confirmed by Guru Nanak himself in his bani:

ਕੋਈ¹ ਆਖੈ² ਭੁਤਨਾ³ ਕੋ⁴ ਕਹੈ ਬੇਤਾਲਾ⁵ ॥

ਕੋਈ⁶ ਆਖੈ⁷ ਆਦਮੀ⁸ ਨਾਨਕੁ⁹ ਵੇਚਾਰਾ¹⁰ ॥१॥

Ko॰ī ākẖai bẖūṯnā ko kahai beṯālā. Ko॰ī ākẖai āḏmī Nānak vecẖārā. ||1|| ਅਗਗਸ, ਮ: 1, ਪੰਨਾ 991.

Some¹ call² him a ghost³ while the others⁴ say he is a demon⁵. However, some⁶ call⁷ him that Nanak⁸ is a humble¹⁰ man⁸. AGGS, M 1, p 991.

However, according to history Guru Nanak was imprisoned for speaking truth about the cruelty and destruction of Saidpur by Baber during 1521. He was released soon thereafter. Guru Nanak advises his followers to speak truth and at right time otherwise it is of no use saying the truth after many years of happening:

ਸਚ¹ ਕੀ ਬਾਣੀ² ਨਾਨਕੁ ਆਖੈ³ ਸਚੁ⁴ ਸੁਣਾਇਸੀ⁵

ਸਚ[®] ਕੀ ਬੇਲਾ⁷ ॥੨॥੩॥੫॥

Sacʰ kī baṇī Nānak ākʰai sacʰ suṇā∘isī sacʰ kī belā. ||2||3||5|| ਅਗਗਸ, ਮ: 1, ਪੰਨਾ 723.

(Guru) Nanak says³ the truth^{1,2} and spea ks⁵ the truth⁴ at the right time⁷ when the truth⁶ is to be spoken. AGGS, M 1, p 723.

WHO IS SUREME AUTHORITY ON SIKHI (SIKHSIM)?

The system of supremacy of the Jathedar of Akal Takht has been borrowed from Christianity of Medieval Age. Under this system the research work of a Sikh scholar which goes against their type of Sikhism is first declared as blasphemy then his work is banned and finally the scholar is excommunicated. This system of supremacy has been developed under guise of Miri-Piri of Guru Hargobind and the Sikhs at large accept it as the Divine Order (Divine Government).

Miri-Piri in Ancient India

Jai Dev Singh Kohli has explained *Miri-Piri* (spiritual-temporal) concept as follows: [32]

"In India, Code of Manu laid down for Kshatriyas to rule and Brahmins to handle dharma. But **Brahmins** eventually made rituals so complicated that Kshatriyas could still rule but only with the blessings of Brahmins. Brahmins, though not ruling directly, did manage to take control of the rulers. Kshatriyas were content and even happy as long as they ruled. Again Miri and Piri were invested in the spiritual group only."

In Sikhism

The Mir-Piri concept has crept into Sikhism under the name of Guru Hargobind at the time of bestowing Guru-ship by Baba Budda Ji. When Baba Budda ji offered sali and topi coming from the time of Guru Nanak to each succeeding Guru according to some fictitious stories (sali is a woollen thread put around the shoulder and neck or around the topi. (Topi is a cap.) Guru Hargobind refused to wear sali and topi and ordered to wear kirpan (sword) and a royal turban with a royal plume (Kalgi). He ordered to put on a kirpan instead of Sali. By mistake the kirpan was put on wrong side by Budda Ji. However, he kept this kirpan also and wore another kirpan on other side representing both kirpans of Miri and Piri. [33] There is no evidence if any following Guru ever wore two kirpans

nor are wearing any *Amritdhari* Sikhs. After Guru Hargobind no Sikh Guru up to Guru Gobind Singh ever has any control over Akal Takht and Harimandir (Darbar Sahib).

During the time of misls (misals) among various groups of the Sikhs Akali Phula Singh, Jathedar of Misl Shaheedan, was holding Amritsar and was controlling administration during 1800. In 1801 Maharaja Ranjit Singh asked him to join him and he agreed. Thereafter, he remained with Maharaj Ranjit Singh fighting many battles with him and died in a battle in 1823. Therefore, Akali Phula Singh was not the Jathedar of Akal Takht during 1807. There is no information if Akali Phula Singh summoned Maharaja Ranjit Singh at Akal Takht and punished him with 50 lashes for marrying a Muslim girl in1807 according to Wikipedia. However, this fictitious story is found in Sikhiwiki to propagate supremacy of the Akal Takht.

According to Gurdwara Act of 1925 a person is appointed as the care taker of Harimandir (Darbar Sahib) and another person as care taker of the Akal Takht by the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) but with the time this person assumed to be Jathedar of Akal Takht without any army of soldiers like Akali Phula Singh. Thereafter, the so-called Jahedar of the Akal Takht became to be supreme authority on Sikhism. However, there is no such title, Jathedar, of the Akal Takht in Sikhism. [34]

Chahal [33] reported "A struggle between the Sikh clergy (Piri) and the Sikh polity (Miri), started during the celebration of Tercentenary of Khalsa, which is still going on. It is difficult to predict how long this struggle of supremacy of Miri or Piri will continue. Under these circumstances it becomes imperative for the Sikh intelligentsia to work out soon which type of Miri-Piri is applicable to the Sikhs. Is it one of the above three types of relationships reported by Wilson [27] or the Miri-Piri

Concept of Nanakian Philosophy?" [33]

Since the system of *Jathedar* of the Akal Takht has been established the past Jathedars have excommunicated many scholars and politicians who dared to speak truth by declaring their truth as blasphemy. Now some scholars have refused to accept such excommunication. Prof Darshan Singh, Ex Jathedar of the Akal Takht is the best example and he is respected by the Sikhs as before. The system of excommunication, which is against the basic principles of SIKHI founded by Guru, is to be abolished.

Test for Akal Takht

The Times of India of February 16, 2020 reported as if it is a test for supremacy of Akal Takht as follows:

"The conflict is threatening to become a flashpoint within the community over the interpretation of Gurbani and Sikh history. Dhadrianwale's opponents, including two factions of Damdami Taksal, question his interpretation of Gurbani and some historical texts and claim it amounts to blasphemy. However, his followers are quick to disagree, claiming his teachings are contemporary, motivational and very close to reason. Dhadrianwale himself claims that some interpretations by Damdami Taksal chief Baba Harnam Singh Dhuma and Taksal faction led by Bhai Amrik Singh Ajnala along with other traditional Sikh groups are not just eclipsing originality of Sikhism but also run contrary to its basic tenets." [35]

Recently during the last meeting on August 23, 2020 Bhai Harpreet Singh, the Jathedar of Akal Takht, has summoned Bhai Ranjit Singh Dhadrianwale at Akal Takht to repent and also warned the Sikhs not to attend his smaghams and not to watch his Anybody videos. attending his smagham, a serious action will be taken against him.

The *daswand* (the tithe – one-tenth) being preached in Sikhism is also borrowed from Christianity. However, Guru Nanak describes this *daswand*

differently as follows:

ਆਲਿ¹ ਖਾਇ² ਕਿਛ³ ਹਥਹ ਦੇਇ⁴ ∥

ਨਾਨਕ ਰਾਹ⁵ ਪਛਾੲਹਿੰ ਸੇਇ ∥१∥

Ghੁāl khā॰e kichh hathahu de॰e. Nānak rāhu pachhāṇeh se॰e. ||1|| ਅਗਗਸ, ਮ: 1. ਪੰਨਾ 1245.

The one who works to earn¹ for his living and food and shares⁴ some³ with other needy has recognized⁶ the right path⁵ of life (Modus Vivendi). AGGS, M 1, p 1245.

Therefore, it is not necessary to contribute exactly one-tenth of one's income under any force but as much as possibly spared by a person for the welfare of the humanity including the Sikhs.

CONCLUSIONS

Natural Philosophy is defined as "*The study of nature and the physical Universe before the advent of modern science.*"

Elementary Natural Philosophy started by Greek philosopher from 5th century BCE and continued up to the 14th century CE.

During this gap of 19 centuries (from 5th BCE to 14th CE centuries) religions like Christianity, Islam and Hinduism flourished in Europe, Middle East and India, respectively.

During the period of 14th to 17th century Europe entered in next phase called "Period of Renaissance", a period of cultural, artistic, political and economic "rebirth". During the same period some scholars started to challenge the dogmas and wrong concepts in religion. Nicolaus Copernicus (1473-1543) was the first who challenged the concept of the Bible that the Sun revolved around the Earth. He visualized through his natural observation that it is the Earth which revolves around the Sun. He was punished by the Church by banning his book, De revolutionibus orbium coelestium, and excommunicated but after his death. Copernicus was

Galileo Galilei, (1564-1642) was born 25 years after demise of Guru Nanak. He continued to confirm experimentally the discovery of Copernicus. He published Dialogue Concerning the Two Chief World Systems in 1632. Galileo was convicted of heresy and was put under house arrest till he died. The Vatican dropped opposition its to heliocentrism altogether in 1835 after 193 years after his death (1835- 1642). Finally, in 1992, Pope John Pal II expressed regret about how the Galileo affair was handled 350 years after his death (1992-1642). He was bestowed with a title of "The Father of Modern Science."

Is it not strange that it took 350 years to accept the truth? On the other hand, the truth of Guru Nanak's philosophy has not been accepted by his followers, called SIKHS even up to the time of celebration of his 550 Birthday in 2019. New discoveries were still called Natural Philosophy till the time of Isaac (1642-1727). He made Newton. pioneering observations of nature with long-lasting implications for the study of physics. Newton was born 103 year after the demise of Guru Nanak. His work, Philosophiae Naturalis Principia Mathematica (Mathematical Principles of Natural Philosophy, 1687) was one of the most important single works in Natural Philosophy.

Natural Philosophy became to be known as Science during the 19th century.

Luther (1483-1546), Martin а theologian, was also contemporary of Guru Nanak but he was not a Natural Philosopher. He believed in anthropomorphism in Christianity. However, he was the great rebellion against the Catholic Church of Rome which controlled Christianity within Europe and over the centuries, the Church became corrupt, and Popes fathered children with mistresses and lived more like worldly kings than spiritual leaders. Luther, fed up with corruption in the Roman Church, posted a document containing *95 Theses* attacking abuses in the Church. The Church ordered him to recant his position, but he refused. In January 1521, Martin Luther was officially excommunicated from the Roman Catholic Church.

Guru Nanak was unique in his vision to describe Natural Philosophy by observing how every action and reaction in the Nature and the Universe is going on. He was more advanced in explaining his philosophy beyond that of Greek philosophers and his contemporaries in Europe.

Guru Nanak's Natural Philosophy is called 'Nanakian Philosophy', explained somewhere else.[36]

He was not excommunicated by any clergy from Southeast Asia because they did not understand his deep philosophy. However, he was prisoned by Baber when he spoke truth about the cruelty on people of Saidpur and destruction of property.

1

Finally, I sum up, Guru Nanak was the only Natural Philosopher from the South Asia and was at the top of the list of the Natural Philosophers of that time.

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