



For Immediate Release
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Leadership, Panjab & Becoming Guru-like

London, UK—Sikh Research Institute (SikhRI) conducted an invigorating tour through the UK recently, speaking to students, community members and city professionals alike on topics ranging from leadership development, rekindling a daily passion and connection to Gurbani, and the ways the homeland and diasporic youth can take action to address current state of the Panjab.



Beginning on 14 March, Harinder Singh presented “Exploring Your Potential” at the London School of Economics to members of university Sikh Student Associations, discussing their role and purpose as global citizens from a Sikhi inspiration. Reflecting on the session, Preety Kaur commented, “I loved the basic idea of becoming Guru-Like. We don’t normally get told about that purpose of Sikhi.”

On 17 March Gurbpreet Kaur, Kamaldeep Kaur, Baldeep Kaur, and Harinder Singh were at Central Gurdwara (Khalsa Jatha) where they presented an all-day workshop alongside local SikhRI facilitators on the topic of “The Guru: Connecting with the Divine Light.” The workshop explored the role and significance of the Guru within Sikhi through interactive sessions and then went on to discuss the contributions of the ten historical guru-prophets as well as the dual Guruship of the Granth-Panth. Manpreet Mann Singh, an attendee, shared his thoughts: “I found the programme invaluable. Very thought-provoking discussion, which clarified the concepts for me and increased my attachment to the Guru.”

That evening, Harinder Singh spoke at Sri Guru Singh Sabha Southall to a gathering of 300 people on the topic “Aj Da Panjab” covering the “five vices” that Panjab had been afflicted by, and how Sikhs worldwide could help effect change. The next afternoon, on 18 March, Harinder Singh presented a version of his popular talk: “[Sikhi Vision for 2020](#)” at Sri Guru Singh Sabha in Derby. The presentation looked at the current state of Sikh institutions and communities around the world and presented a road map for the coming years to make 2020 a benchmark for progress in terms of leadership development, education and inspired activism. This talk was also broadcast live throughout Europe on Sangat TV. The same presentation was later also presented to a packed Darbar at Central Gurdwara in London.



Later that evening, Harinder was [interviewed on "The Last Word"](#) show on the Sikh Channel, hosted by Gurbpreet Singh. The interview touched on topics such as the current issues in Panjab and the Diaspora and also the martyrdom in Sikhi.



The final event of the tour took place on 20 March, where Harinder Singh addressed over 120 professionals and academics gathered in London at PriceWaterhouseCoopers LLP on “[Sikhi Inspired Leadership](#).” He described the qualities required of an ideal leader based on the Mul Mantr, and shared models of leadership as espoused in the Guru Granth Sahib and during the lives of the Gurus. Describing the impact on the attendees, Randeep Singh, a key organizer of the event commented “The excitement and positive ideas that were being shared by attendees after the event speaks volumes about the impact of Harinder Singh’s presentation. We hope to see

Harinder in the City more often providing food for thought and inspiration to young professionals”

Summarizing the tour, Jagdeep Singh, UK Coordinator, commented: “During these five days, SikhRI engaged with a variety of audiences, on a diverse range of topics, but the feedback from all sessions was overwhelmingly positive; we are committed to bringing more events in the near future in coordination with Gurduaras, local organisations and corporations. This tour has also resulted in a surge of interest in SikhRI’s annual Sidak Sikh Leadership program, and we aim to have individuals from the UK attend this summer, and then take up leadership and educational roles in their local communities.”

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