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Recognize the Human Race as One
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To transform underprivileged and minority communities and individuals into informed and vibrant members of society through civic, educational and personal development programs, by fostering active participation in social and economic activity.

UNITED SIKHS Statement in Support of the Sarbat Khalsa 2015

As sevdar of UNITED SIKHS (www.unitedsikhs.org), a UN associated International humanitarian relief and advocacy organisation, we are deeply concerned about the recent incidents of sacrilege in Panjab against the Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji that have hurt Sikh sentiments globally. We are also concerned about the manner in which the authority and stature of Sri Akal Takht Sahib, the temporal seat for Sikhs that was set up to uphold the Miri Piri principle of saint-soldier, has been undermined through political interference and poor leadership.

UNITED SIKHS, which has chapters registered in ten countries, declares and will be present for support for the institution of the Sarbat Khalsa and the spirit of the Sarbat Khalsa 2015 called by the Khalsa Panth on 10th November 2015 in Amritsar, Panjab, India.

To appreciate the need for a global participation in the Sarbat Khalsa, please read UNITED SIKHS' Global Sikh Civil and Human Rights Report that highlights critical issues faced by Sikhs globally that need the support of a robust and independent Sri Akal Takht Sahib. As an organisation, we faced these issues when fighting legal battles for the right to wear kakaar (Sikh articles of faith), against discrimination globally and the need for the Jathedar's representation at International Multifaith events. Click [here](#) to read the report. UNITED SIKHS has conducted global conferences all over the world to advocate for Sikh issues. The aim of these efforts is to shed light onto global Sikh issues impacting the community, and to see the initiation of a movement like Sarbat Khalsa. Click here to learn more about our [Global Sikh Human and Civil Rights Conferences](#).

The UNITED SIKHS team at the Sarbat Khalsa 2015 will participate in deliberations to support the following:

1. The selection of an interim Jathedar of Sri Akal Takht Sahib.
2. The establishment of a global working body to create a transparent and an accountable process for the selection of the Jathedar of Sri Akal Takht Sahib and the governance of the Sri Akal Takht Sahib, to ensure that the Miri Piri principle is upheld with no State or political interference. A fully functional body of Sri Akal Takht is required that will address the global issues of the Sikh community.
3. A Sarbat Khalsa to be convened in 2016 to deliberate on and adopt the recommendations of the working body and to select a Jathedar of the Sri Akal Takht Sahib, with input from the global Sikh community, represented by Sikhs, regardless of age or gender.

Spanning multiple countries, the [Global Sikh Civil Rights report](#) highlights problems that the Sikh community faces across the globe. Referencing human and civil rights lawyers and Sikhs within a given country that have directly faced human or civil rights abuses or have advocated for the right of a fellow Sikh, the report expresses the fact that Sikhs around the world today are often subject to discrimination, and face serious human and civil rights abuses. UNITED SIKHS looks forward to working with the global Sikh community for a successful Sarbat Khalsa 2015.

Gurvinder Singh, Director, UNITED SIKHS (Date 8th Nov 2015)

UNITED SIKHS is associated with the United Nations and is registered: as a non-profit tax exempt organization pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code in the USA; as a Registered Charity in England and Wales under the Charities Act 1993, Charity Number 111 2055; as a registered NGO in Australia, Belgium, Kenya and Pakistan ; as a non-profit organization in Canada; under the Societies Registration Act 1860 in Panjab; under the French Association Law 1901, and as a registered society under the Registrar of Societies in Malaysia (registered as UNITED SIKHS Malaysia Humanitarian Aid Organisation- Regn No: PPM-015-14-06042015).