Sikh Society, Netherlands JUL-12

BEHOLD ALL HUMAN RACE AS ONE.

ACTIVITIES UPDATE

1. Vaisakhi Nagar Kirtan

DATE: Apr/May 2012

Amsterdam 15 April (around 2500 sangat) Almere 13 May (around 1000 sangat)

Sikh Society in Netherlands actively worked and participated together with the Guru Nanak Gurudwara Sahib, Amsterdam and Gurudwara Sikh Sangat Sahib, Almere along with the local Sangat to celebrate "Vaisakhi". Press Release was sent out to all media contacts in the Netherlands.

By Waheguru jis grace free Literature was distributed to the locals giving brief introduction to Sikhism and explaining the importance of Nagar Kirtan. The Nagar Kirtan was recorded and shown by Sikh Channel TV.

Approximately 10000 new pamphlets were printed and are available for all the Gurughar's.

2. Exploring possibility of establishing a "Chair for Sikh Studies" at Leiden University

Discussing the possibility with Leiden University to establish a 'Chair of Sikh Studies' with the objective of advancing studies and Research on various aspects of Sikhism. An Initial meeting was held between Sikhs and a delegation from Leiden university in Den Haag.

3. Year 2012 marks 10 years of first Sikh portal in Dutch WWW.SIKHS.NL

Immeditely after 9/11 incident in the US, many Sikhs faced problems in various parts of the World including the Netherlands. It was around this time when some Sikh youths who were in one way or the other affected and troubled by the lack of awareness about Sikhism among the Dutch population (many of whom considered Sikhs to be followers or linked to Taliban) came together and started working together to bring awareness through education and thus launched this website <u>WWW.SIKHS.NL</u>

It is only by Waheguru jis grace and with the help and wishes from well wishers that the website has continuously been able to add new information/articles/Gurbani etc and keep improving. **HEARTFELT THANKYOU** to all those who have contributed directly/indirectly.

4. First DUTCH Comic book – Baba Deep Singh ji released in Amsterdam DATE: Jul 12

A beautiful color comic book depicting the life of a true Saint Soldier of Khalsa Panth – Baba Deep Singh ji was released in Sri Guru Nanak Gurudwara Amsterdam. The book was released by Bhai Sahib Baljeet Singh Dadu Sahib waale together with members of Gurudwara committee and Sikh Sangat.

If you like to receive a copy of the book please get in touch with the Gurudwara Committee or <u>WWW.SIKHS.NL</u> Team

5. Boek over religieuze kledingvoorschriften

Working with the author of this book (in Dutch) which covers topics on dress code in various religions including on Sikhism ie. Why Sikhs wear a Turban, Do not cut theier hair (Kesh) etc... It's a ongoing project

6. Book on Sikh Diaspora in Main land Europe

Working with the author of this book (in English) which would cover details on how/When and Where did Sikhs first come to Europe and their current day lifestyle. The book is expected to include details on various Gurudwara's in Netherlands as well.

7. Religion en Toerisme

Attended a 'seminar' on the above topic to explore how well can religion and tourism benifit from each other in the west.

Sikhs In Holland

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WEBSITE : WWW.SIKHS.NL

We are constantly trying to improve the quality of translation on the website and add new articles. If you would like to see something more on the website please do not hesitate to write to us.

Latest Additions :

- 1) <u>Sakhi's Section</u>: Sikhsime → <u>Verhalen</u> < http://sikhs.nl/sakhis.htm >
 - i) Sri Guru Nanak Dev ji en Duni Chand
 - ii) Bhai Pheru Jee Goede Masand
 - iii) Sham Singh Attari Ji
- 2) <u>Gurbani Section : Sukhmani Sahib</u> < http://sikhs.nl/SukhmaniSahib.htm >
 - i) Sukhmani Sahib Asatpadee 10
 - ii) Sukhmani Sahib Asatpadee 11
 - iii) Sukhmani Sahib Asatpadee 12
- *3)* <u>Download</u> → Nederlands < http://sikhs.nl/downloads%20dutch.htm >
 - i) Discover Sikhi Leaflet (Prepared by Amsterdam youths)

FUTURE EVENTS / PLANS / NEWS

Future Programs we are aware of :

- 1. 4th, 6th & 7th Sep : Sikhi Presentations in The Hague Gurudwara < <u>Kijkje in Sikh-tempel</u> >
- 2. 15th Sep : Vredesfeest
- 3. 8th Oct : Kleurijk gesprekken Sikhisme, Geschiedenis, Leer en Gebruiken in Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji, *Rotterdam.* **Details :** 010-4422075
- 4. Sikhs invited for Queens Day.

Sikhs in News (Apr – Jun 12) : <u>http://sikhgemeenschapnieuws.blogspot.com</u>

- 1. Nederlands : Sikhs mogen Kirpan (ceremonieel Dolk) bij zich hebben
- 2. Binnenkort sikh-agenten mét tulband in Washington
- 3. Fauja Singh : 101 jaar oud en drager van de Olympische vlam én een tulband
- 4. <u>Sikhs vochten samen met Vlamingen in Eerste Wereldoorlog</u>
- 5. Sikhs Vieren Vaisakhi

Future Plans:

- 1 Release NEW Titles of Dutch Sikh Comic Books in Benelux
- 2 Print Rehat Maryada in Dutch
- 3 Working on Panj Baniya (Nitnem) Gutkas
- 4 Make Sikhism related books/booklets available in Dutch for the dutch public
- 5 Continue Exploring possibility of establishing a "Chair for Sikh Studies" in one of the Dutch Universities

Sikhs In Holland

Page 2 of 3 EMAIL: <u>SikhsInHolland@gmail.com</u> WEBSITE: WWW.SIKHS.NL

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WHO WE ARE?

Sikh Society Netherlands is een onpartijdige, a-politieke human development groep die nauw samenwerk met de Gurudwara's (Sikh gebedshuizen) en andere organisaties in Nederland aangaande onderwerpen die van belang zijn voor de Sikh gemeenschap en andere minderheden, en ter bevordering van die belangen. Verder richt Sikh Society Netherlands zich op aspecten op het gebied van de ontwikkeling en het welzijn van de gehele mensheid.

Contact : EMAIL : <u>SikhsInHolland@gmail.com</u> Website : <u>WWW.SIKHS.NL</u>

Join us on FACEBOOK

"The supreme religion of all religion is to remember Gods naam and perform serene and pious deeds"

(Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji – Ang 266)