

CONSTITUTION OF GLOBAL SIKH COUNCIL

1.0 NAME: GLOBAL SIKH COUNCIL

1.1 The name of this organization shall hereinafter be abbreviated as GSC.

2.0 REGISTERED ADDRESS:

2.1 The Registered place for operations of GSC shall be at or at such place or places as may from time to time be decided on by the GSC General Body.

2.2 This Registered place for operations shall not be changed without the prior approval of the General Body of the GSC.

3.0 AIMS and OBJECTIVES:

- 3.1 To be the voice of the Sikhs across the Globe World-Wide
- 3.2 To look after the interests of the Sikh community world-wide with particular reference to religious freedom and rights in accordance with the United Nations Charter and the Human Rights.
- 3.3 To follow and promote belief in the Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji as the only GURU of the Sikhs.
- 3.4 To follow and promote the "SIKH REHET MARYADA" approved by the Panth and the Shromani Gurdwara Parbandak Committee (SGPC) in 1945.
- 3.5 To promote greater understanding, fellowship, mutual respect and co-operation among Sikh organisations and Sikh Gurdwaras for the betterment and service to the Panth and to pass "MATAS" on important issues after due deliberation and consideration.
- 3.6 To support and maintain the Sikh Religion, Sikh Identity, Sikh Culture, Sikh Heritage and Sikh tenets.
- 3.7 To support and help promote the Independence of Sikh Gurdwaras

- 3.8 To support the Guru Granth and the Guru Panth as ordained by Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji.
- 3.9 To hold and promote the holding of conferences, symposiums, forums, workshops, samelans, diwans, etc.
- 3.10 To represent the Sikh Community Globally on all matters pursuant to this constitution.
- 3.11 To consult and work with Government and Non-Government bodies at all administrative levels on matters pursuant to this constitution.
- 3.12 To advise and help settle disputes involving Sikh Gurdwaras and Member Sikh Organisations, with prior consent of the parties concerned.
- 3.13 To raise funds from members and the general public by all lawful means for the purposes of the GSC upon the security of the property of GSC or otherwise.
- 3.14 To make rules, regulations and bye laws.
- 3.15 To acquire moveable and immoveable properties.
- 3.16 To develop programmes, facilities and procedures to fulfill the objectives of the GSC.
- 3.17 To establish, print and distribute newspapers, newsletters, periodicals, pamphlets, journals, magazines, cassettes, video tapes, etc, provided approval of the relevant authorities is obtained where required.
- 3.18 To issue policy and position statements and Press Releases on any matter especially that concerning the Sikh Community. .
- 3.19 To work together with any other body, institution, Society, etc. to advance Sikh interests world-wide and to endeavour for world-peace.
- 3.20 To do any and all things that are consistent with the doctrines and ethics of Sikhism and the Code of conduct as laid down in the "SIKH REHET MARYADA" approved in 1945.

4.0 MEMBERSHIP OF GSC

- 4.1 All National Level Sikh organisations who are legally incorporated or registered in their own country and are membership managed are eligible to become

members of the GSC.

- 4.2 All Member organisations of GSC must accept Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji as the only GURU of the Sikhs.
- 4.3 However, notwithstanding clause 4.1 above, the GSC General Body shall have the power at its absolute discretion to accept as member of the GSC any Sikh Organisation or Sikh body from any country which in the opinion of the General Body represents a substantial number of Sikhs in that Country although it may not be a National Level Sikh Organisation. This is to cater for Countries having a very small Sikh population and not having any National Level Sikh Organisation. Any Sikh Organization to be accepted as a member must have been in existence for at least 5 years before it is able to apply for membership of GSC.
- 4.4 Where there is more than one Sikh Organisation in any one country that qualifies for membership, then all such Organisations may apply to become members. Where there is already a Sikh organization from any one Country which has become a member of GSC, then such Member organisation of GSC must be consulted and its agreement obtained before a new organization is accepted as a member from such a Country.
- 4.5 A National Level Sikh Organisation or any other Sikh Organisation which represents a substantial number of Sikhs in that Country may apply for membership of GSC by completing and submitting a prescribed form to the GSC Executive Committee.
- 4.6 The General Body of GSC shall have the power to approve or reject any application for membership without assigning any reason. The decision of the General Body shall be final.

5.0 ENTRANCE & SUBSCRIPTION FEE

- 5.1 An annual subscription which the General Body Meeting of the GSC may from time to time decide shall be payable on admission and subsequently by the 31st January of each year.
- 5.2 Each **member** shall pay an Entrance fee of US\$ 500.00 or its equivalent. The Executive Committee of the GSC shall be empowered to and may reduce the entrance fee upon written application by any member with a valid reason.
- 5.3 Each **member** shall pay an annual **subscription** of US\$ 200.00 or its equivalent.
- 5.4 Special subscription or levies for particular purposes may be raised from

members by resolution of the General Meeting. If any member fails to pay such subscription within such period as is stipulated, the amount due shall be treated in the same way as arrears of annual subscription.

- 5.5 Any member whose annual subscription is in arrears for more than six(6) months shall be sent a notification by the Hon. Treasurer of his dues. If a member fails to respond within 3 months of the aforesaid notification, then the matter shall be referred to the General Body for deliberation and for any action it deems fit including suspension of such member from GSC. On payment of subscription due and upon satisfactory explanation, the General Body may lift the suspension of such member.
- 5.6 The General Body of the GSC shall be empowered to and reduce the subscription upon application by a member with a valid reason.
- 5.7 The General Body of the GSC shall be empowered to totally wave the arrears of subscription of a member with a valid reason.

6.0 REPRESENTATIVES TO THE GENERAL MEETING

- 6.1 A member is eligible to send 2 representatives to the General Body Meeting. These representatives may be from the Management Committee of the member or any other person duly appointed in writing by the member committee.
- 6.2 However where there are two or more Sikh Organisations from a Single Country who are members of the GSC then such members must co-ordinate amongst themselves to send only 2 representatives jointly to the general body meeting.
- 6.3 A representative can represent one organization/country only.

7.0 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 7.1 The General Body of the GSC shall comprise of up to two(2) representatives nominated by a member subject to clause 6.2 above.
- 7.2 Two(2) representatives from each member country as mentioned in clause 6.1 & 6.2 above shall have the right to attend the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the GSC.
- 7.3 The date for the Annual General Meeting should as far as possible be fixed 6 months in advance and Members informed. The date shall be fixed by the Executive committee.
- 7.4 The Annual General Meeting may be held in any Country as decided by the

Executive Committee and/ or the General Body. If found desirable the AGM can be held in the same country for any number of years without limitation provided the Executive Committee and/ or the General Body consents to it and gives its approval.

- 7.5 Notice convening the meeting shall be sent by the Hon. Secretary together with the Agenda, Annual Report and the Financial Statement of the previous year duly audited to every member at least 28 days before the AGM.
- 7.6 Each member shall submit in writing names of two(2) representatives from any one country to the Executive Committee as soon as possible but not later than 21 days before the Annual General Meeting or at any other date and time acceptable to the Executive Committee. Any late submission of names may be accepted by the Executive Committee at its absolute discretion.
- 7.7 The General Body of the GSC shall comprise of the Representatives of Member Organizations and members of the Executive Committee. However only persons nominated as Representatives by member countries are eligible to be proposed and elected to the Executive committee.
- 7.8 QUORUM:-
- (i) The Quorum of the AGM shall be at least 30% of the total membership of members or the representatives present number at least twelve (12).
 - (ii) If within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting if convened by the requisition of members shall be dissolved; in any other case it shall stand adjourned to the same day for half-an-hour at the same place and if the quorum is still not present, then the members present shall form the quorum.
- 7.9 The Annual General meeting shall be held on or before 31st May of each year and shall transact the following business:-
- (i) To confirm minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting
 - (ii) To receive and adopt the report of the Executive Committee
 - (iii) To receive and adopt Statement of Account for the preceding year ending 31st December
 - (iv) To receive and approve estimates of the receipt and payment and projection of the activities to be undertaken in the following year and the budget required.

- (v) To elect the Executive Committee BIENNIALY for a term of 2 years
- (vi) To appoint not more than 4(four) Honorary Auditors
- (vii) To appoint Trustees who must be 'Sabat Surat Keshadhari Sikhs'
- (viii) To transact any other business of which at least 21 days notice shall have been given to the Secretary in writing.

8.0 EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL BODY MEETING.

- 8.1 The Executive Committee may call an Extraordinary General Body Meeting:
- (i) Whenever the Executive Committee deems it desirable; or
 - (ii) A requisition in writing, signed by not less 10(Ten) members stating the object and reasons for such a meeting is made. Such meeting shall be convened within 90 days.
- 8.2 Notice and Agenda for the Extraordinary General Body meeting shall be forwarded by the Hon. Secretary to all members at least 60 (sixty) days before the date fixed for the meeting.
- 8.3 The Quorum for the Extraordinary General Body Meeting shall be the same as for an Annual General Meeting.
- 8.4 If within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting, if convened upon the requisition of members shall be dissolved; in any other case it shall stand adjourned to the same day for half-an-hour at the same place and if the quorum is still not present, then the members present shall form the quorum.

9.0 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

- 9.1 The Executive Committee shall be elected Biennially (once in 2 years) for a term of 2 years each and consist of the following:-
- (i) President
 - (ii) Deputy President
 - (iii) Honorary Secretary

(iv) Honorary Treasurer

(v) 5(five) Ordinary Committee Members.

- 9.2 The Executive Committee shall be elected by a show of hands or by secret ballot.
- 9.3 All Principal Office bearers of the GSC that is President, Dy. President, Secretary and the Treasurer shall be Saabat Surat Keshadhari Sikhs
- 9.4 The President, Deputy President and the Secretary shall be knowledgeable in Sikh History and religion.
- 9.5 Any Executive Committee member who absents himself without reasonable excuse from three(3) Consecutive Meetings shall be deemed to have resigned and a replacement may be appointed by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may also at its sole discretion re-appoint the member who is deemed to have resigned earlier, provided satisfactory reason is given by him for his earlier absence from Executive Committee Meetings.
- 9.6 The Executive Committee may appoint any Executive Committee member as Assistant Hon. Secretary or as Assistant Hon. Treasurer , whenever deemed necessary.

10.0 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING[EXCO]:

- 10.1 The Executive Committee Meeting shall be held every 2 months or whenever deemed necessary. The Meeting shall be convened upon the declaration of the President. Any five(5) Committee members may request in writing for an EXCO Meeting.
- 10.2 At least fourteen(14) days notice shall be given to all Executive Committee Members before the date fixed for the meeting.
- 10.3 The Quorum for the EXCO Meeting shall be one-half of its Committee Members.
- 10.4 The decision of the EXCO on every question shall be by majority vote provided that in a case of equality of votes the President shall have a second or casting vote
- 10.5 The EXCO Meeting may be held through a suitable means of communication such as video call, video conferencing, skype, etc.

11. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE EXCO

- (i) To appoint sub Committees, standing Committees, ad-hoc Committees as and when necessary and prescribe their duties. It may in addition appoint any person(s) to such committees.
- (ii) To setup a "Think Tank"
The EXCO may set-up a "Think Tank" and appoint persons as members of it who are Academicians, Professionals or Persons with special knowledge, experience or are experts in certain fields. The role of the "Think Tank" is advisory in nature and the EXCO may or may not accept their advise.
- (iii) To setup a "SECRETARIAT"
The EXCO may set-up a Permanent Secretariat or otherwise in any country if it deems desirable. It may further employ suitable staff or "Sewardar" to it including Sikh language experts or any other persons deemed necessary for the Secretariat. The Secretariat may also house a "LIBRARY". If the President, Deputy President and the Secretary are not from the Country where the Permanent Secretariat is situated, then the President, Deputy President and Secretary may set-up a sub-secretariat in their own country with direct communication links with the Permanent Secretariat
- (iv) To approve expenditure
- (v) To fill vacancies in the Executive Committee
- (vi) To engage or dismiss employees, define their duties and fix their remuneration
- (vii) To collect donations, subscriptions and carry out the programme of work approved for the year.
- (viii) To accept resignation(s).
- (ix) To Prepare an annual budget
- (x) To nominate and send delegates, representatives or observers to any National or international meetings, conferences, symposiums, forums, Seminars etc.
- (xi) To hold National or International Meetings, conferences, symposiums, forums, seminars etc.

- (xii) To purchase any land, buildings, or moveable properties in the name of the Trustees and subject to any written or other laws which may be applicable and charge or lease any such land or buildings which may be purchased.
- (xiii) To decide upon all matters not provided for in the Articles of this constitution.
- (xiv) To obtain a majority decision/ approval on any urgent matter by means of a circular letter(s) sent by E-mail, etc.

12.0 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION:-

- 12.1 Any amendment to this constitution shall only be made by the General Body Meeting with a 2/3 majority. If approval of any agency or authority is required for such amendments, then such amendments shall come into force only upon approval by such relevant agency or authority. Otherwise the amendments to come into force immediately or at a date fixed by the General Body Meeting.

13.0 DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE PRESIDENT

- 13.1 The President shall be the highest elected officer of the GSC. He shall be the Chief Administrator and Chairman of the GSC. He shall Preside and conduct all meetings of the Executive Committee and the General Body Meeting.
- 13.2 He shall present annual report(s) at the General Meeting.
- 13.3 He shall countersign minutes of all meetings and reports.
- 13.4 He shall represent the GSC in all dealings with outside persons, organizations and agencies,
- 13.5 He shall have a casting vote
- 13.6 He shall be accountable to the General Body and Executive Committee.
- 13.7 He may himself convene the Executive Committee Meeting or direct the Hon Secretary to convene such Executive Committee Meeting.
- 13.8 He may attend all/ any sub-committee or other meetings.
- 13.9 In General, he shall be responsible for the efficient and effective operations of

the GSC.

14.0 DUTIES AND POWERS OF DEPUTY RESIDENT

- 14.1 The Deputy President shall assist the President in all the affairs of the GSC as requested by the President
- 14.2 In the absence of the President, the Deputy President shall deputize for the President in all matters as required by the President/ Executive Committee.

15.0 DUTIES AND POWERS OF HON. SECRETARY

- 15.1 The Secretary shall keep proper records, prepare minutes of all the meetings of the Executive Committee and the General Body Meeting.
- 15.2 He shall deal with the day to day correspondence relating to the GSC.
- 15.3 He shall prepare the Agenda prior to all Meetings of the General Body and the Executive Committee with the advice and consent of the President and circulate same to the Executive Committee and/ or the General Body.
- 15.4 The Hon. Secretary shall convene the Executive Committee Meeting when directed by the President or in his absence the Deputy President by sending out notification of such meeting to Executive Committee Members.
- 15.5 The Hon. Secretary shall convene the Annual and Extraordinary General Meetings as directed by the Executive Committee
- 15.6 He shall perform any other duties as desired by the President and or the Executive Committee.

16.0 DUTIES AND POWERS OF HON. TREASURER

- 16.1 The treasurer shall be the custodian of financial records, funds, assets and bank accounts.
- 16.2 The Hon. Treasurer shall receive subscription and other monies and issue official receipts therefor.
- 16.3 He shall keep full and accurate accounts of all cash received and expenditure made in books provided for that purpose
- 16.4 He shall submit quarterly statement of accounts to the Executive Committee.

- 16.5 He may hold a sum of US\$ 1,000.00 at any one time as petty cash.
- 16.6 He shall deposit all monies received in a bank account as soon as possible after receipt of same but not later than 7 days of such receipt of monies.
- 16.7 He shall operate the bank account of the GSC jointly with the President, Deputy President, the Honorary Secretary and any other person appointed by the Executive Committee from its members.
- 16.8 He shall draw up balance sheet and the Statement of accounts for auditing before submission to the AGM.
- 16.9 He shall perform all duties as assigned by the President and/ or the Executive Committee.

17.0 DUTIES OF ORDINARY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- 17.1 The Ordinary Committee Members shall perform all such duties as assigned by the President and/ or Executive Committee.
- 17.2 If required, Ordinary Committee Members may be appointed to and participate in sub-Committees.

18.0 FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

- 18.1 The bank account shall be in the name of the GSC.
- 18.2 All cheques or withdrawal notices on the GSC account shall be signed jointly by any two persons from the following: President, Deputy President, Treasurer, Secretary and any other person appointed by the Executive Committee from its members.
- 18.3 No expenditure exceeding US\$ 5,000.00 shall be incurred without prior sanction of the Executive Committee. Expenditure of up to US\$ 5,000.00 may be approved by the President or in his absence the Deputy President.

19.0 AUDITORS OF GSC

- 19.1 Between 2-4 Hon. Auditors may be appointed by the General Meeting.
- 19.2 Any two of such Auditors may be called upon to Audit the GSC accounts and prepare a report for the Annual General Body Meeting.

20.0 DISSOLUTION OF GSC

- 20.1 The GSC shall not be dissolved except with the consent of not less than three-quarters (3/4) of the members of the GSC expressed at an Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Body Meeting convened for that purpose.
- 20.2 In the event the GSC is dissolved as provided at clause 20.1, all debts and liabilities legally incurred on behalf of the GSC shall be discharged and any remaining funds shall be distributed to other Sikh religious organisations or any other charitable Society.
- 20.3 Notice of the dissolution signed by the President, Secretary and the Treasurer shall be submitted as soon as possible to the relevant authority, if any.

21.0 INTERPRETATION OF GSC CONSTITUTION

- 21.1 In the event of any question or matter arising out of any point which is not expressly provided for in this constitution, the Executive Committee shall have power to use its discretion and its decision shall be final unless and until countermanded by a resolution of the General Meeting.
- 21.2 In interpreting this constitution the words importing the masculine gender include females; words in the singular include the plural and words in the plural include the singular.

22.0 DISCIPLINARY ACTION

- 22.1 Any employee serving GSC in any position or capacity may be dismissed by the Executive Committee for any misconduct, unsatisfactory work or for any other valid reason provided such employee has been given an opportunity to be heard first.
- 22.2 Membership of any member of the GSC may be terminated by the General Body Meeting for the following reasons, provided at least 2/3 members present at the General Body Meeting vote for such termination:
 - (a) For bringing Sikhi into disrepute
 - (b) For activities which are deemed Contrary to and undermining the GSC Aims and objectives.

We, whose names and signatures appear in Appendix-A attached, DO
HEREBY Adopt, Enact, Give and Deliver to ourselves THIS
CONSTITUTION at DUBAI, U.A.E., THIS18TH..... day of March,
2018"

Certified correct

.....K. Singh.....
(PRESIDENT)

Dr Kanwaljit Kaur
Lady Singh
UK

.....[Signature].....
(SECRETARY)

S. Jagjit Singh
Malaysia


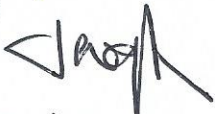
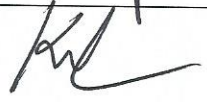




APPENDIX-A

The following representatives of member countries mentioned below were present and ADOPTED, ENACTED, GAVE and DELIVERED TO THEMSELVES THIS CONSTITUTION AT DUBAI, U.A.E. THIS.....18TH..... DAY OF MARCH, 2018.

No.	REPRESENTATIVE NAME	REPRESENTATIVE OF ORGANIZATION/COUNTRY PASSPORT NO:	SIGNATURE
1	JAGIR SINGH ARJAN SINGH	MALAYSIAN GURDWARA COUNCIL MALAYSIA P.NO: 40598852	
2	Prof. Devinder Singh Chahal	Institute for Understanding Sikhism Canada Passport No. H9355988	
3	Ranwaljit K. Singh	Network of Sikh Organisations. PN. 507027854 UK	
4	Karamjit Singh Thind	- ditta -	
5	Surjit Singh Bahwa	GI 435243 Canada Institute of Understanding Sikhism & Sikh Mission	
6	JASBIR Kaur Bhullar	American Sikh Council J6428403	
7	KIRPAL SINGH NITHER NITHER	AMERICAN SIKH Council 488378670 USA	
8	BATRA GULBIR SINGH	SAHIB SRI GURU GOBIND SINGH EDUCATIONAL TRUST - HONG KONG. P.I. NO. 706711356	
9	NAROTAM SINGH NARANG THAILAND	P.P. NO INDIAN J4386436 GURU NANAK CENTER ASP.	
10	BALBIR SINGH FRANCE.	Dasmesh Sikh Academi (FRANCE)	

D. BIRTH
3.3.63.

Appendix-A (Contd.)

No.	REPRESENTATIVE NAME	REPRESENTATIVE OF ORGANIZATION/COUNTRY PASSPORT NO:	SIGNATURE
11	Gurdeep Singh	Dashrath Singh Academy France	
12	JAGJIT SINGH S/O POMMAN SINGH	MALAYSIAN GURDWARAS COUNCIL MALAYSIA 34727022	
13	Karminder Singh Dhillon	Indonesian Gurdwara Council	
14	Balwant Singh Rahal	INDONESIA AR 992625	
15	HARSARAN SINGH	INDIA Z4300225	
16	JASWINDER SINGH Jaswinder SINGH	N-576433	Jaswinder SINGH
17	Ranjit S. RANJITSINGH	L2142766	Ranjit S.
18	 Suresh Kumar	SHERE Punjab	
19			
20			