



AN APPEAL

Help in Preserving, Promoting & Propagating
Sikhi & Virasat by Reviving Gatka



Guru Fateh Jio,

As you all are aware that Guru Hargobind Sahib ji (1595-1644) had given utmost importance to 'Shastar Vidya' as he himself was also a great warrior and turned the entire Sikhs into martial race. He wore two swords to symbolise 'Miri and Piri' (Temporal power and spiritual power) and directed every Sikh to learn and practise martial art. He promoted Gatka (Wooden soti) as precursor to get training in the art of swordsmanship.

To-day, the Sikh youth are drifting away very fast from the rich martial traditions of Sikhism and adopting life contrary to the tenets of Gursikhi.

In order to revive and reinforce the rich tents and traditions of Sikhism by reminding the modern youth of the sacrifices made by our revered Gurus, we wish to launch the extensive Gatka training programme in Punjab on 19th June 2021 to commemorate the 426th birth anniversary of Guru Hargobind Sahib Ji and dedicate 19th June every year as the 'International Gatka Day' in honour of our Guru Sahib. On this auspicious day, Gatka players/teams will showcase their martial skills by holding Gatka demonstrations all over the world besides online seminars, virtual competitions, poster competitions etc.

Taking into account the prospective scenario, a wide-ranging project have been chalked out to protect the Sikh youth from the menace of drugs, intoxicants and conversions by imparting them Gatka training, basic learning of Gurbani, Gurmat & Gurmukhi, tying of Dastar & Dumala besides imbibing character/nation building qualities through field practices, virtual meetings, webinars and seminars.

Aiming to attain these humble objectives, National Gatka Association of India (Recognised by Khelo India), an oldest apex registered Gatka organization, in association with 'Global Middas Foundation', envisions to setup 'Gatka Training Centres' for boys and girls in each district of Punjab along with Delhi/NCR where Gursikh Gatka trainers will be deployed for training and other tasks. After its success, similar Gatka training centres can be set up even at block level in the state and Delhi.

Keeping in view the need of the hour, National Gatka Association of India, in association with Global Middas Foundation, a registered NGO, aspire to involve the youth in regular sports activities and learning self-defence skills free of cost thereby developing productive sports culture in state of Punjab so as to build healthy Sikh society.



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During training the practitioners can be provided refreshment based on the nutritional requirement. Gatka being a recognised sport in Punjab, the 'Gatkebaaz' can avail opportunities while recruitment in government jobs or get admissions in professional institutions through sports quota. Besides, the Gatka coaches/trainers will get jobs in such centres and the learners (Gatkai) can also earn livelihood as instructors/trainers after getting this training.

It is needless to mention that such extensive projects cannot be implemented single-handily. We, therefore, seek the co-operation and assistance of all to preserve and promote rich Sikh cultural traditions. It is therefore requested to kindly join in our campaign in whatever manner possible for the sake of stopping of our youth from drifting away from Sikhi.

As proposed, everyone can support/help the endeavour for providing ground/space (Measuring 4,000 Sq/ft or 500 Sq/yard approx) for Gatka training and one small room (Approx 12x12 ft) for storing Gatka equipment in any educational institute, Gurdwara, bhawan, house or can help the children by donating them Dastars, Dumalas, Bana (Chola), sports shoes, Gatka equipment or monthly salary to the Gursikh trainer etc.

We request all like-minded people to extend all support in this regard and looking forward for your response to help in this humble mission.

Thanks & Regards

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