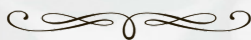




Funeral Service



In loving memory of



Bhai Sewa Singh Mandla Ji O.B.E

04.01.1927 - 06.10.2017 (90 yrs)

on

*Sunday 15th October 2017 at 8.15am in Prayer Darbar 2
at Gurudwara (Gini's Abode) served by Guru Nanak Nishkam Sewak Jatha (GNNSJ)
18-20 Soho Road, Birmingham, B21 9BH*

Programme

Arrival of Cortege

8.15am

Keertan

8.15 - 9.30am

Singing divine praises from 8.15am to 9.30am, followed by

Ardas (Prayer)

*The congregation stands for the final supplication to God,
to invoke His Grace on dearly loved Bhai Sewa Singh Ji, his family and friends*

Hukamnama (Edict)

*God's Divine Edict & Grace received through reading
a verse selected at random from Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji*

Departure of Cortege to Sandwell Crematorium

Newton Road, West Bromwich B71 3SX



Cremation Service

10.00 - 10.30am



Return to Gurudwara for Final Service

11.00am

Alanya Prayers

Reading from Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji of sacred couplets 'Raag Wadhans' by Guru Nanak Dev Ji

Keertan

(An hour and a half of singing divine praises from 11.00pm to 12.30pm)

Sehaj Paath Bhog

Culmination of reading of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji Sacred Scripture and Eternal Guru of the Sikhs.

Reading of the final verses from Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji, commencing with Salok Mahala 9, sacred couplets of the ninth Sikh Guru. This completes the recital of the entire Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji over some 48 hours by devotees, in loving memory of Bhai Sewa Singh Ji.

Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji is regarded by Sikhs as Eternal Guru, the embodiment of the teachings of the preceding ten Sikh Gurus and saints from other faiths. Exalted to the position of a living Guru, the sacred volume of scripture is enthroned on a regal palanquin in the Guru Darbar and lovingly adorned in the finest fabric. When Sikhs prostrate before the Guru, they bow in utter reverence and humility to the message of God.

Panj Pauria Japji Sahib of Guru Nanak Dev Ji (1469- 1539)

First five verses of the Japji Sahib Prayer.

This prayer forms part of the five daily prayers recited by Sikhs, reminding humans of God's Infinite Greatness, Magnanimity, Graciousness, Benevolence and Love.

Ramkali Sudh & Chhah Pauria of Anand Sahib (Prayer of Bliss)

God's calling of the human soul to return to its origin and roots,

followed by the first five verses of the Prayer of Bliss by Guru Amar Das Ji, the third Sikh Guru (1479-1574).

Ardas (Prayer)

*The congregation stands for the final supplication to God,
to invoke His Grace on dearly loved Bhai Sewa Singh Ji, his family and friends*

Hukamnama (Edict)

*God's Divine Edict & Grace received through reading
a verse selected at random from Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji*

Karah Parshad

As a gesture of the Guru's hospitality & blessings, all present will be offered a small portion of sweet Karah Parshad, lovingly cooked to the recitation of prayer using butter, sugar, flour & water. Each person receives it in cupped hands.

Dastar Ceremony

Presenting the heir designate with a turban, emblematic of the continuity of family responsibility from Father to Elder Son.

Guru Ka Langar

Sharing of a blessed, freshly cooked vegetarian meal from the Guru's Kitchen.

*Before partaking Langar, a short grace will be said. After Langar,
volunteers will facilitate the washing of hands. A longer grace will be recited at the end.*

Observing Gurudwara Etiquette

A Gurudwara is the 'gateway to the Guru' or 'Guru's abode'. The Guru Darbar, or Guru's court is where the exalted sacred scripture, known as Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji, is enthroned as the focal point for all prayer services.

On entering the Gurudwara premises, all visitors cover their heads as a mark of reverence and respect. Please have some form of head covering, although a small number of scarves for both men and women are available should anyone forget.

In the entrance foyer, shoes are removed and hands are washed before visitors can step inside the Guru Darbar. Shoe racks are available and volunteers will be on hand to assist visitors to wash and dry hands.

Stepping into the prayer hall, visitors walk respectfully along the central aisle to pay respects to Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji. One may voluntarily place a flower or small donation in front of the enthroned Guru.

Sikh devotees will reverentially bow before Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji, touching their head on the floor. Other visitors may pay respects in a way they personally feel comfortable - they may remain standing, pausing for a moment with folded hands, or give a slight bow.

Ladies will then sit to the left side of the central aisle and gentlemen to the right (as one faces the Guru). Most people sit cross-legged or in a way which avoids positioning one's feet in the Guru's direction, since this is considered disrespectful. For those who are unable to sit on the floor, chairs will be provided in the rear of the Guru Darbar.

At the end of the service, a sweet mixture known as karah parshad is distributed to all whilst they remain seated. It is received by cupping the palms of one's hands together and is offered as a gesture of hospitality, conveying the Guru's blessings and equal welcome to all. Before departing from the Gurudwara, all are invited to partake in langar, a blessed vegetarian meal, which is served to all visitors in egalitarian manner.



Guru Nanak Nishkam Sewak Jatha (GNNSJ) is a faith-led, not-for-profit, benevolent organisation. It is dedicated to practicing and promoting Nishkam (selfless) service in the name of Guru Nanak Dev Ji, the founder of the Sikh dharam, or faith.