

601, Yishun Ring Road, Singapore 768684. Telephone 67534607

31st Mar 2025

Dear Sadh Sangat Ji,

Waheguru Ji Ka Khalsa, Waheguru Ji Ki Fateh

UPDATE ON RECENT EVENTS (March)

Yoga Classes

1. Beginning March 2025, our Gurdwara started Yoga sessions at the Langgar Hall. These are conducted by Nikam Guru Ji Kutir Yoga Singapore, as a part of community service, free of cost. Classes are held weekly, every Tuesday, from 7 to 9 pm and open to all ages. As part of our objectives of promoting racial harmony and integration, the classes are also open to non-Sikhs but with preference to members of Gurdwara Yishun Sanga and capped at 40 participants. To register, please contact Phenji Amarjeet or Giani Angrej Singh Ji at 67534607. You may also visit www.yoganikam.org for more information on the yoga classes.





OTHER MATTERS

Children's Programme

2. First of all, the MC wishes to assure the Sangat that all assistance has been and will continue to be given to any form of children's programmes as long as they are properly conducted in accordance to the norms as practised in all Gurdwaras. The MC has offered whatever time slot options, as available and/or convenient for children to perform kirtan or conduct other activities in whatever acceptable ways as long as they do not impinge on other ongoing activities, in particular the timings of our basic prayers, such as the Reheras.

- 3. It is with much regret, however, that the MC wishes to draw the Sangat's attention to an unfortunate and unpleasant episode regarding issues related to the monthly Children's Programme at the Gurdwara. Without going into details, highlighted here are very brief issues related to the episode. As Sangat is aware, the MC has been fully supporting the Children's Programme so far. However, the MC noticed lately that the children were singing the full Reheras Sahib in Kirtan form during the actual Reheras timings, which is not a practise in any other Gurdwara and well clarified by our Gianis and those of other Gurdwaras as well as Sikhi Lecturers employed by Sikh Missionary Society as well as the Sikhi Hub at Silat Road. This was earlier relayed to the organisers of the programme and agreed to by them. Recently, however, it happened again and the Manager made the necessary announcement in Gurdwara on Sunday 16 March 2025 as to what the practise should be. On the day of announcement, after the main programme was over, one lady member of the Sangat stood up and loudly said that the President was trying to stop the Children's Programme and asked for support from amongst the ladies present to stop him from doing so. She, accompanied by a few other ladies, then barged into the Meeting Room where an MC meeting was about to commence. At the meeting room, in the presence of the MC members present, she was loud and extremely rude not only to the President but also the MC members present, making all sorts of unwarranted comments regarding the President and some others. When the Gianis and the Manager were invited to clarify the matter, she also made unwarranted comments regarding them, which for obvious reasons of sensitivity are best not highlighted here. All we can say is that the whole episode was a rather sad reflection, especially so with regards to unsavoury comments being made of our Gurdwara Gianis.
- 4. It is sad that this episode took place. The same lady has sent out unwarranted messages to others, which have been brought to the attention of the MC by concerned members. Some ladies have also approached the MC to express that they were not aware of the issue at all and now do appreciate that it was unwarranted and that they were misled over the facts. Given the circumstances, and distorted versions of the episode floating around, we are bringing this to attention of the Sangat. We do have the CCTV video recording of the episode as well as full chronology of all the developments till date, including other WhatsApp messages for record.
- 5. Once again, we wish to reiterate that we have been supporting such programmes and will continue to do so. We do wish to emphasise, however, that the MC will not condone any member of the Sangat disrespecting our Gianis in any way whatsoever. The MC would like to emphasise the Gurdwara Sahib Yishun does not belong to any one individual or family. Members are free to criticise the MC for any failings or shortcomings but please do respect our religious leaders as is expected in all Gurdwaras

Gatka Classes

6. There have also been some new developments regarding the Gatka classes for Children. Despite several requests to the trainers to provide their identification details

to the MC for record purposes, they have not done so till now. As this is a basic requirement for all organisations for purposes of responsibility, liability and indemnification etc, it is the MC's responsibility to ensure that we have proper records of trainers as well as trainees. We are awaiting for compliance by the trainers failing which we will bring in other certified trainers and recommence the Gatka classes in the near future.

Staff Changes

7. Giani Prabhjeet Singh (Sewadar) was able to secure a job in Australia and left on 20 Feb 2025. The MC wishes him the very best in his new endeavour. He is succeeded by Giani Paramjit Singh (Sewadar) who joined on 20th March 2025.

Dry Ration Donations

8. The MC extends our heartfelt gratitude to all donors who have been actively contributing dry rations, utensils, and other items. May Waheguru Ji bless them and fulfil their wishes.

Vaisakhi Celebrations

9. Vaisakhi will be celebrated this year from 11 April to 13 April 2025. This auspicious celebration will also kick off the 100th anniversary celebrations of our Gurdwara, tracing our origins in the old Naval Base to our present location. Details of the programme for this Vaisakhi as well as the tentative calendar of events leading up to next Vaisakhi will be issued separately.

Programme For April 2025

10. A copy of the programme for the month of April 2025 is attached.

Yours In Sewa Sewadars Gurdwara Sahib Yishun