

# **INSTITUTE FOR UNDERSTANDING SIKHISM (IUS)**

## **CELEBRATING TERCENTENARY OF GURGADI DIVAS TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF IUS**

The year 2008 is very auspicious for the Sikhs since during this year the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of *GURGADI DIVAS* is being celebrated all over the world. The IUS has been invited to present papers at the two great International Conferences: *The International Interfaith Conference*, to be held by the Takht Sach-Khand Sri Hazur Abchalnagar Sahib at Nander, Maharashtra, on September 25-28, 2008 and *Relevance of Sri Guru Granth Sahib and Contributions of Guru Gobind Singh*, to be held by the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, Amritsar with collaboration of Mumbai University, at Mumbai on October 1-2, 2008.

This year is also very auspicious for the *Institute for Understanding Sikhism* (IUS) since it is completing its ten years of study of Gurbani and Sikhism with special reference to Nanakian Philosophy embodied in the Bani of Guru Nanak incorporated in the Aad Guru Granth Sahib. The IUS is celebrating this occasion by holding two seminars: One at Kitchener, Ontario with collaboration of Golden Triangle Sikh Association on September 13, 2008, the second one is being held in Dollard des Ormeaux (DDO) near Montreal, Quebec on September 20, 2008.

Achievements of the IUS during the last 10 years are listed as follows:

### **Seminars held by the IUS**

2004: Philosophy and Teachings of the Aad Guru Granth Sahib

2003: Doctrine of Guru Nanak in JAP.

2002: Sabd Guru, Conscience and Consciousness.

2001: GURDWARA: History, Meaning and Functions of Gurdwara.

Proceedings of all the seminars are available in print as well as online on website:

UNDERSTANDING SIKHISM: [www.iuscanada.com](http://www.iuscanada.com)

### **Books Published by IUS**

1. Chahal, D. S. 2008. *Nanakian Philosophy: Basics for Humanity*. Institute for Understanding Sikhism, 4418 Martin-Plouffe, Laval, Quebec, H7W 5L9, and Singh Brothers, S.C.O. 223-24 City Centre, Amritsar – 143 006.
2. Chahal, D. S. 2005. *Some Salient Principles of Sikhism*. Institute for Understanding Sikhism, 4418 Martin-Plouffe, Laval, Quebec, H7W 5L9.
3. Chahal, D. S. 2004. *Sabd Guru to Granth Guru – An In Depth Study*. Institute for Understanding Sikhism, 4418 Martin-Plouffe, Laval, Quebec, H7W 5L9, and Singh Brothers, S.C.O. 223-24 City Centre, Amritsar – 143 006.
4. Chahal, D. S. 2003. *JAP: The Essence of Nanakian Philosophy*. Institute for Understanding Sikhism, 4418 Martin-Plouffe, Laval, Quebec, H7W 5L9, and Singh Brothers, S.C.O. 223-24 City Centre, Amritsar – 143 006.

### **DVDs**

Thirteen (13) DVDs, about 45 minutes each on '*Discussion on Sikhism*', have been prepared in collaboration with *Jafry Communications*, Toronto. These were broadcasted twice on the *Sikh Virsa TV Program* at OMNI 2, Winnipeg, Manitoba during January to March 2008.

**Seminar Program - On the Back Side.**

## **PROGRAM**

### **Seminar on SABD GURU**

**Venue:** Main Reception Hall, Civic Center,  
12001 boul. de Salaberry, Dollard-des-Ormeaux,  
Qc. H9B 2A7

**9:00 – 9:30 AM: Registration**

**9:30 AM: Welcome by Prof Harjeet Singh  
Bhabra (in English)**

**9:35 AM: Welcome by Dr Jit Arora (in French)**

**9:40 AM: Achievements of the IUS by  
Dr Parminder Singh Chahal**

**9:50 AM: Inaugural Address by Prof  
Devinder Singh Chahal, President, IUS**

**Session 1: 10:30 AM to 1:00 PM**

**10:00AM – 10:30 AM**

**1. The 300<sup>th</sup> Gurgadi Divas**

**Prof Harjeet Singh Bhabra**, PhD, John Molson School  
of Business, Concordia University, Montreal.

**10:30AM – 11:40 AM**

**2. Guru Maneo Granth**

**Gurdev Singh Sangha**, PhD Candidate, Punjabi  
University, Patiala. President, Sikh Social and  
Educational Society of Ontario.

**11:40 AM – 12:20 PM**

**3. Aad Guru Granth Sahib**

**Gurcharan Singh Bhatia**. Retired Superintendent,  
Government Union Territory, Chandigarh, now  
Secretary, IUS, Laval, Quebec.

**12:20 PM – 1:00 PM**

**4. Guru in Sikhism**

**Dr Dharam Singh**, Editor-in-Chief of the Encyclopaedia  
of Sikhism and is currently Professor in the  
Department of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Studies,  
Punjabi University, Patiala. (Sikh Theology and  
Interfaith Dialogue)

**1:00 PM to 2:00 PM: Luncheon Session**

**5. Mystery of Naam Simran**

**Dr Kulbir Singh Thind**, Staff Physician at VA Medical  
Center, San Francisco, USA. Academy of  
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation. Member,  
California Society of Physical Medicine &  
Rehabilitation; American Academy of  
Electrodiagnostic Medicine, California, USA.  
Development of sriganth.org and Gurbani CD,  
which includes data base search engine, Gurbani  
Fonts, major translations of the AGGS, major  
Dictionaries on words in the AGGS, and other  
major work on Gurbani and Sikhism.

**Session 2: 2:00 PM to 3:20 PM**

**2:00 PM – 2:40 PM**

**6. Sabd Guru: Interpretation,  
misinterpretation, implementation in  
life**

**Dr Gurnam Singh Sanghera**, MA (History), MA  
(Sociology), MA (Social Work), B.Ed., PhD.  
Surrey, BC, Canada. Retired Medical Social  
Worker. Patient and Family Counselor. Advisor  
North American Gurdwara Parbandhak  
Committee. Ex-member- Canada's Social Policy  
Forum for two years.

**2:40 PM – 3:20 PM**

**7. Promoting the Unique Significance of Guru  
Sabd**

**Prof Balbir Singh**, PhD, Palo Alto, Calif. Prof of  
Mathematics, Editorial Board, Understanding  
Sikhism, Moderator of Sikh Diaspora Group  
Internet Discussion Group.

**3:20 PM – 3:40 PM: Tea Break**

**Session 3: 3:40 PM to 5:00 PM**

**3:40 PM – 4:20 PM**

**8. Sabd Guru; What is this Sabd**

**Prof Devinder Singh Chahal**, PhD, Retired Professor of  
Microbiology, President of IUS, Laval, Quebec,  
Editor-in-Chief, Understanding Sikhism, and  
Author of four books on Philosophy of Guru  
Nanak.

**4:20 PM – 5:00 PM**

**9. Dhur Ki Bani**

**Dr Avtar Singh Dhaliwal**, MD (Plastic Surgeon),  
Tennessee, USA, Co-editor, Understanding  
Sikhism.

**5:00 PM: Closing Remarks – Prof Devinder  
Singh Chahal**

**5:15 PM – 6:15 PM: Tea**

**6:30 PM – 10:00 PM: Dinner** (Same location -  
Civic Center, DDO).

- a) **Demonstration:** The use and benefits of the  
SriGranth.org by **Dr Kulbir Singh Thind**.
- b) **Poetical symposium** by Mr Pahwa and his associates.
- c) **Displaying** of books and magazine published by the  
IUS
- d) **Displaying** the painting of Guru Gobind Singh about  
bestowing Gurgadi Divas by Mr Dhanjal.

**For further information, please contact:**

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