

THE YEAR 2018 IS DEDICATED TO GURU NANAK ON THE EVE OF HIS 550TH BIRTHDAY

EDITORIAL

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Guru Nanak (1469-1539) founded 'SIKHI' which has been defined as 'enlightening philosophy' in his bani. With the passing of time his Sikhi became a very well organized religion, Sikhism. In addition to that the word 'SIKH' as defined by him in his bani means 'the one who researches/ discovers the enlightening philosophy and practices it.' Steadily this 'Sikh' of Guru Nanak was bound to perform and observe certain rituals by the Sikh Gurus, who succeeded to the 'House of Nanak'. Today the population of the Sikhs in the world is around 27 million.[1]

This year, 2018, is dedicated to the articles to explore what was the Sikhi founded by Guru Nanak and what happened to it during 550 years after his demise. The first article by Chahal, *Where Does Sikhi Stand 550 Years after Guru Nanak* is appearing in this issue. It

explains what happened to some important basic terms, SIKHI, SIKH and logo, ੴ, on which his whole philosophy was based, after his demise. It also explains undermining of the philosophy of Guru Nanak by famous scholars. This article further explains the interpolations in some phrases, misinterpretation of his bani and misrepresentation of Sikhi by the Sikh and non-Sikh scholars.

The 'JAP' bani of Guru Nanak is the essence of his philosophy. Therefore, during this year the book, *JAP: The Essence of Nanakian Philosophy*, has been revised by the application of logic and scientific information. Its accessibility is FREE at the following site:

<http://iuscanada.com/books/2018/JAP-2018-%20Final-filtered.html>

One can find the essence of Nanakian Philosophy from this eBook.

The Sikh intelligentsia of the world, who are freethinker, are cordially invited to write articles to expose misrepresentation of Sikhi founded by Guru Nanak and to re-discover the Sikhi (enlightening philosophy) embodied in his bani in its real perspective. The above article and the eBook may give some ideas to the authors to write well-researched articles for this issue and for the conference.

The interested scholars are invited to contact the undersigned for submission of papers to be printed in 2018 and 2019 issues of the *Understanding Sikhism: The Research Journal* and for presentation in the International Conference to celebrate the 550th Birthday of Guru Nanak on May 11, 2019.

1. MINAHAN, J. (2016) Ethnic and National Groups around the World *Encyclopedia of Stateless Nations: Ethnic and National Groups around the World, 2nd Edition*, p. 385.