

# NANAK: THE GURU AND HIS PHILOSOPHY RARELY PREACHED AND TAUGHT IN GURDWARAS

SHORT NOTE

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Guru Nanak promulgated scientific and logical philosophy through his bani. But it is being interpreted under the influence of ancient and Vedantic philosophy. Moreover, his bani is not very commonly recited by the *Kirtanias* in the Gurdwaras. First Chahal [1, 2] and Baldev Singh [3] in their research articles have outlined that Nanak was declared as Guru first by Guru Angad and then by Guru Amardas, and Guru Ramdas in their Bani. Finally, Guru Arjan confirmed in his Bani that Nanak is the *Guru*. At the Seminar, *Guru Nanak, His Philosophy and Modern Society*, held on November 22, 2014, I presented my paper, *Nanak: The Guru and his Philosophy Rarely Preached and Taught in Gurdwaras*, based on a booklet, *NANAK: THE GURU – The Founder of Sikhism*, by Chahal, Thind, Dhaliwal and Schell. This booklet was also released by Dr Devinder Pal Singh at this Seminar. It is now available as e-Booklet at [www.iuscanada.com](http://www.iuscanada.com). One can go directly on the e-Booklet on the following site: [http://www.iuscanada.com/books/2015/ebook\\_Nanak\\_The%20Guru\\_The\\_Founder\\_of\\_Sikhism.pdf](http://www.iuscanada.com/books/2015/ebook_Nanak_The%20Guru_The_Founder_of_Sikhism.pdf)

I discussed that although Nanak is widely accepted as the *Guru* but it is rarely known to the Sikhs at large and non-Sikhs that Nanak has been accepted as *Guru* by the Sikh Gurus who succeeded to the ‘House of Nanak’ especially Guru Angad, Guru Amardas, Guru Ramdas and Guru Arjan in their bani. Moreover, many Sikh writers also accept him as a *reformer* and sometimes *rationalist* and *revolutionist*. While others include him as the member of *Bhagati Movement* or *Sophism*.

While I was talking about Nanak that he was not only the ‘*Guru*’ but was also a great ‘*Philosopher*’. Immediately after the presentation of my paper hot discussion started and some were strongly opposing to call Nanak as a ‘*Philosopher*’. In fact even the word ‘*philosophy*’ is not well accepted among many Sikh theologians. There was also great opposition against my use of this word, *philosophy*, on *Gurmat Learning Zone Discussion Group*. It took more than a year that by and by this word was accepted. However, Guru Nanak as a ‘*Philosopher*’ is still not acceptable to many Sikh theologians although he has promulgated a philosophy, which can be easily accepted by the whole human-

ity if explained logically and scientifically. Therefore, I have decided to write a new paper to describe NANAK not only as a PHILOSOPHER but as NATURAL PHILOSOPHER also. This paper will appear in later issues of the *Understanding Sikhism: The Research Journal*.

## REFERENCES

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2. CHAHAL, D. S., THIND, K. S., DHAILWAL, A. .S. AND SCHELL, J (2014) *Nanak: The Guru - The Founder of Sikhism* (Laval, Quebec, Canada, Institute for Understanding Sikhism). [http://www.iuscanada.com/books/2015/ebook\\_Nanak\\_The%20Guru\\_The\\_Founder\\_of\\_Sikhism.pdf](http://www.iuscanada.com/books/2015/ebook_Nanak_The%20Guru_The_Founder_of_Sikhism.pdf)
3. SINGH, B. (2003) *Undermining of Guru Nanak: Are Bhagats Gurus of the Sikhs*, *Understanding Sikhism Res, J.*, 5 (2).

