



GLOBAL SIKH COUNCIL, INC.

THE VOICE OF THE SIKHS AROUND THE GLOBE

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MEMBER

ORGANIZATIONS

NATIONAL SIKH COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

FEDERATION OF SIKH SOCIETIES OF CANADA

MALAYSIAN GURDWARAS COUNCIL

PAKISTAN SIKH COUNCIL

NETWORK OF SIKH ORGANIZATION, UK

AMERICAN SIKH COUNCIL (FORMERLY KNOWN AS WORLD SIKH COUNCIL, AMERICA REGION)

Date 30 October 2015.

The Global Sikh Council (GSC) condemns the decision of politically appointed 'Jathedhars' to exonerate Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh of Dera Sacha Sauda for religious transgression. Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh is guilty of causing offence to Sikhs by impersonating as Guru Gobind Singh ji. Politically appointed 'Jathedhars', have no authority to dictate or act on behalf of the wider Sikh community.

All Sikhs should be aware that the SGPC, which appoints 'Jathedhars', was created by the British government to manage the financial affairs of the historic Sikh gurdwaras and nothing more. The composition of the SGPC is based on political allegiances and not on a commitment to follow the Guru's teachings.

Over the years, especially after 1947, the SGPC has been dominated by political groups and is being used to further the personal interests of local politicians. During this time, it has arbitrarily, created figures of supposed authority over Sikhs worldwide, like the 'Jathedhar' of the Akal Takht, and the absurdity of supposed 'Sikh High Priests'. Arrogantly, one 'Jathedhar' of the Akal Takht on a visit to the UK, demanded to be introduced as 'the Pope of the Sikhs'.

The GSC urges all Sikhs to condemn the capricious decision of the 'Jathedhars' to exonerate Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh and further urges Sikhs worldwide, to support the GSC in its aim of ensuring sound panthic decisions which are predicated on the teachings of the Gurus and not on questionable political allegiances.