



# Knowledge Bank Y8 Term 5 U5-Sikhism

## How is the Guru Granth Sahib treated?

- The *Guru Granth Sahib* is given the same **respect** that was shown to the human Gurus during their lifetimes.
- In the *Gurdwara* it is **put to bed** in its own room every evening.
- At the beginning of the day the Granthi (reader), and any other Sikhs present, **form a procession** to carry the *Guru Granth Sahib* to its position on the Manji in the Diwan hall (the room where worship takes place) of the *Gurdwara*.
- **never placed on the ground** and Sikhs never turn their back on it.
- While being read by the appointed reader of the scripture, **a special fan**, called a *chauri*, is waved over the pages.

## What features can be found in a Gurdwara?

<b>Nishan Sahib</b>		This is a flag that shows the Gurdwara is a place of worship. It has the Sikh symbol called the 'Khanda' on it.
<b>Darbar Sahib</b>		This hall contains the Takht where the <i>Guru Granth Sahib</i> is placed during the day. You cannot have your feet facing the holy book or turn your back to it while in this room.
<b>Four Doors</b>		These show that all people are welcome. There are four to represent north, east, south and west.
<b>Chanani</b>		The canopy is made of decorated cloth. It covers the <i>Guru Granth Sahib</i> from above.
<b>Shoe Rack</b>		Shoes are placed here. Wearing shoes in the prayer hall is considered disrespectful.
<b>Palki Sahib</b>		It has four posters. It contains the <i>Manji Sahib</i> .
<b>Head Covering</b>		Hair must be covered before entering the <i>Darbar Sahib</i> (prayer hall). It is normal to cover one's head with a scarf, turban, patka or bandana.
<b>Manji Sahib</b>		This is a raised platform. This is where the <i>Guru Granth Sahib</i> is placed during the day.
<b>Golak</b>		This is placed at the front of the <i>Manji Sahib</i> . It is where worshippers donate money to the temple.

## Who are the 10 Gurus?

**Guru Nanak Dev Ji (1469-1539)**  
The First Guru - he founded the Sikh faith. He proclaimed that the Divine is 'Ik Onkar' and gave the world the holy Mool Mantar. Guru Nanak said that god is One, indivisible and Nirguna (without any attributes). He preached that there was no Hindu and no Muslim and abolished the caste system.

**Guru Angad Dev Ji (1505-1552)**  
Installed as the Second Guru by Guru Nanak Dev Ji, he created and introduced the Gurmukhi script. He started the tradition of 'langar' and expanded the institution of 'langar' (community kitchen).

**Guru Amar Das Ji (1479-1549)**  
The Third Guru - he took up cudgels against the restrictions placed by the caste system and the customs of purdah. He introduced new customs for birth and death ceremonies.

**Guru Ram Das Sahib Ji (1534-1601)**  
Guru ka Chak or Ram Das Pura (now the holy city of Amritsar) which became the focal point for the Sikh tradition, was founded by the Fourth Guru.

**Guru Arjan Dev Ji (1563-1606)**  
The Fifth Guru compiled the *Adi Granth* and also completed the construction of *Harmandir Sahib*. He became the first martyr in the Sikh tradition - he was executed by the Mughal Emperor - Jahangir.

**Guru Hargobind Sahib Ji (1569-1635)**  
The Sixth Guru was the 'Soldier Saint' who took up arms to protect the Sikh faith. He erected the *Akal Takht* (the Throne of the Eternal God) and established the two swords - *Miri* and *Piri* representing the spiritual and the secular domains.

**Guru Har Rai Sahib Ji (1620-1661)**  
The Seventh Guru devoted himself to furthering the teachings of *Guru Nanak* and consolidating the faith.

**Guru Har Krishan Sahib Ji (1629-1667)**  
The Eighth Guru was only five when he was installed and was known as the 'Baba Pir'.

**Guru Teg Bahadur Sahib Ji (1621-1675)**  
The Ninth Guru established the town of Anandpur (Pavon of Bliss). He made the supreme sacrifice to protect the Hindus. He faced execution instead of converting and became a martyr.

**Guru Govind Singh Sahib Ji (1667-1708)**  
The Tenth Guru proclaimed that the *Adi Granth* would henceforth be the Guru for all Sikhs - 'Guru mania Granthi' and created the *Khalsa*. He symbolises buoyant hope (*karhi kala*) and an indomitable spirit to wage a war for *Dharam* (righteousness).

## Key Vocabulary

**Guru**- A Spiritual leader-one of the 10 Gurus

**Guru Granth Sahib**- The holy book for Sikhs

**Gurdwara**- The Sikh place of worship

**Langar**- 'Guru's kitchen' name of meal prepared for the congregation at the Gurdwara

**Khalsa**-Sikh fellowship-men and women go through a special ceremony to belong to the Khalsa

**Nishan Sahib**-Sikh flag

**Vaisakhi**-Spring festival celebrating the founding of the Khalsa

Add more key vocabulary as we work through the unit

## 5 Ks

Kanga	Kesh	Kara	Kirpan	Kachera
	This is the uncut hair which symbolises spiritual power		A Sikh sword, a symbol of respect and justice	
A special comb that represents cleanliness		A steel bangle, symbolising unity, of self and a process of constant learning		A special pair of shorts. These are a symbol of modesty

**FOR: Explain why they are so important**