

## Candidate Statement

Please email this statement to [SSSC\\_Election@armaninoLLP.com](mailto:SSSC_Election@armaninoLLP.com) by midnight Pacific Time on Friday, August 26, 2022. Please include a recent photo of yourself to be displayed to voters.

### Instructions

1. Please respond to each question individually in the boxes provided.
2. Please answer each individual question. A general narrative/essay/story/letter will not be accepted.
3. Armanino will review your statement. If your statement is found to contain incomplete and/or inappropriate content, you will be asked to remove, revise, or update the content. "Inappropriate content" includes, but is not limited to, derogatory and/or inflammatory statements.
4. Several of the questions are identical to those asked of Candidates in previous elections. If you also submitted a statement in a different election, it is permissible to reuse your previous answers to those particular questions.

### Personal Information

Name:	SINGH SAHIB MUKIA JETHEDAR AMRIT SINGH KHALSA
City & State/Country:	EPANOLA, NM
Email:	amrit@lyffoundation.org
Name of Spouse:	Nirbhe Kaur Khalsa
Occupation:	Property Manager
Length of Participation in 3HO/Sikh Dharma:	47 years
Length of time as an Ordained Minister of Sikh Dharma:	9 years
Are you a KRI certified teacher or trainer? If so, what is your certification level and when did you acquire your certification?	No

Ashram Communities lived in:	Montague MA, Dorchester MA, Espanola NM
3HO/Sikh Dharma Community Positions:	Mukia Jethedar Espanola Sangat, Board Chair HGRD Corp, President Guru Amar Das Corporation which runs the Siri Singhasan e Khalsa Gurdwara in Espanola

### Questionnaire

1. Why do you feel called to serve on the SSSC Board?

As a former SSSC Board Director, I know that what we do can be done better. Countless hours are wasted because the system is inefficient. I feel especially called to serve as part of an intentional team of eight highly skilled and passionate candidates, all of whom are openly committed to preserving the reputation, legacy and vision of our teacher, the Siri Singh Sahib Yogi Bhajan. The unity, mutual respect and talent this collective group offers will allow me to serve the Mission with best results. The Future depends on the efforts we make now.

2. What relevant areas of experience and expertise qualify you for this position and will make you an asset to the board?

Having served 7 years on the SSSC Board gives a wealth of experience that is incalculable. **Having served as Mukia Jethedar of the Espanola Sangat for 37 years also gives experience that is beyond measure.**

For eight years in Akal Management, as a team member of Akal's Finance Department, I participated in hundreds of Akal Manager meetings, brainstorming sessions and planning meetings as we engaged in creating and modifying systems to adapt to the constantly changing needs of Akal's business clients. As a team member of Akal's Finance Department, I had access to all the information and familiarity with all the systems used to run the \$600 million dollar company. I had studied Economics and Accounting in College and have some post graduate study in Accounting.

**I have been with LYF Management for 10 years as the property manager and find it as a continuing source of inspiration to nurture and care for the Sadh Sangat's**

**Legacy. I recently had the honor, as a licensed general Contractor, of**

**completing a major building project at Ram Das Puri. Truly a blessing.**

3. Please summarize your prior and current service to the Dharma. If you have served in leadership positions please note them.

Mukia Jethedar of Espanola Sangat and President of Guru Amar Das Corporation which oversees and manages Siri Singhasnan e Khalsa Gurdwara, Espanola.

Board Chair HGRD Corp which guides the Espanola Community.

Eight years in the Finance Dept Akal Security, former Akal Global Board Member. Licensed General Contractor and Property Manager for Legacy of Yogiji Foundation. Seven years as an SSSC Board member and chair of the SSSC Finance Committee.

Member of The International Khalsa Council

4. Please describe your experience of the Siri Singh Sahib as a teacher and your experience of his teachings.

I cannot imagine a day without the gift of chanting the Guru's Shabd or Kundalini Yoga or without cold showers or any of the technologies the Siri Singh Sahib gave us that keep me healthy and smiling. How could I serve anyone? How could I uplift anyone without these gifts? I can't imagine that life. I am absorbed in this process of life like a drop of water in the ocean.

5. Please describe what the Siri Singh Sahib's saying means to you: "If you cannot see God in all, you cannot see God at all." In practical terms:

- a) How would you apply this saying in your day to day service on the board?
- b) How would apply this perspective to help our community and organizations move forward together?

Guru Ram Das can change a destiny in the blink of an eye. I live to serve this process

and there is no pre- qualification. The Golden Temple is open to all. The Guru's Gate in Espanola is open to all. I have taught Yoga in Maximum Security Prison and worked with violent delinquents and junkies. The Soul shines through no matter how bad things seem.

We have been blessed with an intricate and amazing scenario to play out, but trust is earned not bestowed. The actions of this board, by the Grace of Guru Ram Das, will determine if trust is earned. When there is no distrust and suspicion, healing will follow. We are ALL moving forward together. This is the mission of Guru Gobind Singh and it will manifest.

6. What do you understand the Role of the SSSC to be? How do you see the SSSC carrying out that role on a:

- a) Practical level
- b) Spiritual level

The SSSC is tasked with overseeing the non-profit and for profit entities. Data collection and analysis is crucial. Constant communication and idea exchange with all these entities without imposing or demanding is crucial.

This Dharma is the mission of Guru Gobind Singh and Guru Ram Das is steering the vessel. We need to incorporate some recurring group process, beyond the cerebral, that brings us back, or through, or toward the Siri Singh Sahib/Guru Ram Das/Guru Gobind Singh's Mission and brings us to the feet of our Guru, clears the mind and clears the path.

7. As an SSSC Trustee you are accountable to the Sangat.

- a) How would you build and enhance the relationship between the Sangat and the SSSC?
- b) The SSSC is part of a close knit community. Given that board members are likely to have strong connections to that community, explain how you will be able to adhere to the SSSC confidentiality policies that apply to board members?

Personally, my wish and hope is to represent the will of the Sadh Sangat in this process and my prayer is that Guru will guide me totally and completely in that mission. More



communication and feedback from the Sangat will be possible when the veil of secrecy imposed by ongoing litigation is lifted. I look forward to that eventuality.

8. The SSSC strives to practice diversity, equity, and inclusion.

- a) What experience do you have incorporating these practices into your personal and professional life?
- b) How would you incorporate them into our Organizations?
- c) How will you advance the organizational goals of diversity, equity and inclusion?

I am one of the principal architects of the Hacienda de Guru Ram Das Corporation, which while anchored in the Guru's Seva is totally inclusive, transparent and accountable to the Sangat. These principles are no longer choices to be made; they are mandates to be adhered to.

Constant vigilance is required to ensure these principles are included in our organization especially at the SSSC level

9. How do you see the 3HO/Sikh Dharma family of Nonprofit and For-profit organizations serving humanity in these times?

- a) What do you see as the three (3) greatest challenges facing the Sikh Dharma/3HO Community and the family of For-profit and Nonprofit entities?
- b) What would you do as a Trustee to overcome these challenges?
- c) What skills, tools, and techniques will you bring to the SSSC Board of Trustees to help it move toward the vision you described above?

Managing global expansion while maintaining standards.

1. Restoring the Siri Singh Sahib's reputation to the public and in our sangats.
2. Sharing the totality of the Siri Singh Sahib's teachings in their integrated and unadulterated form.
3. Ensuring a successful future for Miri Piri Academy and a healthy relationship with the global Sikh community.

As a Board Trustee I would support legislation advancing these goals.

Acquiring and managing the vast sums of monies needed for this expansion.

Remembering that all things come from God through the Grace of the Guru and maintaining a high level of Gratitude.

As former Chair of SSSC finance committee, I tried to bring a high level of business acumen to all financial issues. As an Akal Global Board member I participated in the ground floor discussions for the creation of new business and revenue streams .

10. Board service regularly requires 20 to 40 hours per month (or more) in evening and weekend board and committee meetings. These meetings are generally held at 8:00 pm Eastern time (20:00 hours). In addition, there may be multiple Face-to-Face meetings per year.

- a. Can you fulfill these requirements?
- b. If so, how will you balance these requirements with your other personal and professional responsibilities?
- c. What do you anticipate being the most difficult part of serving as a Trustee on the SSSC Board?

I fulfilled these duties for 7 years and would continue to do so if chosen to serve on the SSSC Board for an additional term

11. Are you related by blood or marriage to an officer, director, employee, or paid contractor of any of the constituent organizations (nonprofit or for-profit) including all subsidiaries?

- a. If yes, to whom are you related, how are you related to them, and what is their position?

Nirbhe Kaur Khalsa, wife, works part time, seasonally for LYF Manegment