

Candidate Statement

Please email this statement to 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

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|---|---|
| Name: | S.S. Guru Shabad Singh Khalsa |
| City & State/Country: | Espanola, New Mexico |
| Email: | gsk@orowest.com |
| Name of Spouse: | none |
| Occupation: | Retired |
| Length of Participation in 3HO/ Sikh Dharma: | 45 years |
| Length of time as an Ordained Minister of Sikh Dharma: | 30 years |
| Are you a KRI certified teacher or trainer? If so, what is your certification level and when did you acquire your certification? | KRI Level I certified teacher since 1997. |
| Ashram Communities lived in: | Pomona, CA., Eugene, OR., Espanola, NM |
| 3HO/Sikh Dharma Community Positions: | Lead Musician for Yogi Bhajan classes. Regular musician in Gurdwara events. Host for public Kirtan courses. |

Questionnaire

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

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.

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

I am an experienced businessman, financial advisor and professional counselor. I also have 10 years experience previously serving on the management team for Golden Temple, Inc.

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

I feel I'm a respected leader in every community I have lived in. My previous service on the management team of Golden Temple gives me an important familiarity with working as a team.

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

My experience of the Siri Singh Sahib is that he walked his talk. My personal experience of his teachings is that they have brought the best out of me as a person.

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?

In response to both questions, this quotation reminds me of the importance of living and leading from the heart, which I routinely do, and would do as a Board Trustee as well.

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 Board upholds the Mission envisioned by the Siri Singh Sahib. On a practical level, I foresee the SSSC Board passing and executing legislation aligned with his Mission. On a spiritual level, I foresee the SSSC Board making collective decisions guided by and aligned with Siri Guru Granth Sahib.

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?

I would encourage transparency between the Sangat and the SSSC Board, and avoid actions that could be perceived as being driven by self-interest. As a businessman and teacher I stand firm on maintaining confidentiality. I understand the spirit and letter of confidentiality policies, and have the self-discipline to follow them.

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've always practiced and advocated for diversity, equity and inclusion in my personal and professional life. I would incorporate those ideals by speaking on their behalf as a Board Trustee. I foresee advancing these organizational goals by voting in favor of motions to support these ideals.

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?

I believe the three greatest challenges facing the organization and community are:

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. I believe I have the professional experience (business, finance, counseling) and the necessary diplomatic and interpersonal skills to help bring these goals to fruition.

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?

Yes, I can fulfill the time requirements described above. I have balanced my personal and professional responsibilities in the past and foresee no difficulty doing so again.

It will be a challenge to negotiate through the divisions in our community (reflected in our Board make-up), but I believe there is a way through every block, and together we will be guided to make decisions to secure a bright future for our Dharma.

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?

No.