

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

Name:	Tarn Taran Singh Khalsa
City & State/Country:	Espanola, NM / USA
Email:	tarntaransingh@hotmail.com
Name of Spouse:	Tarn Taran Kaur Khalsa
Occupation:	Kundalini Yoga Teacher & Trainer
Length of Participation in 3HO/Sikh Dharma:	50 years
Length of time as an Ordained Minister of Sikh Dharma:	Ordained June 1, 1974. 48 years
Are you a KRI certified teacher or trainer? If so, what is your certification level and when did you acquire your certification?	Mentoring Lead Trainer for L1, L2 & 21 Stages I was recognized by Yogi Bhajan as one of the original L1 & L2 Leads in 1981 and then grandfathered in 1995 into newly created KRI Aquarian Trainers Academy
Ashram Communities lived in:	Mahan Deva Ashram, Tuscon AZ 1972 / Guru Ram

	Das Ashram, Amsterdam The Netherlands 1972- 74 / Guru Ram Das Ashram Hamburg Germany 1974-92 / Eugene Oregon USA 1992-2000 / Amsterdam 2000- 2006 / Espanola NM USA 2006 -
3HO/Sikh Dharma Community Positions:	Ashram Leader Guru Ram Das Ashram Hamburg Germany / Mukia Singh Sahib / 3HO European Regional Director / Board Chair 3HO Germany / General Coordinator 3HO European Yoga Festival / Board Chair 3HO Europe / Board Member Stichting 3HO Netherlands / European Khalsa Council Chairperson / International Khalsa Council Chairperson / KRI TTEC (Teacher Trainer Executive Council) Chairperson / KRI Aquarian Trainer Academy Executive Director

Questionnaire

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

It is a time of polarization in the world, and in our community. This tension brings with it the threat of tearing our community apart, but at the same time it provides the opportunity of looking deeply at who we are, where we came from and where we want to go. I have experienced several such critical moments in our evolution as a Dharmic community and always worked to find a way forward together based on our core beliefs and values, but with an expanded awareness. We have grown to become a multi-cultural, multi-generational global community. But that is not reflected in our highest governing body. I want to bring that perspective into our governance structure, as we continue to serve the unfolding of our collective dharmic evolution. So that I, and our first generation, can step aside and open the door for our next generations to bring their talents, experience and vision of the future into our highest leadership positions.

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

Over the years, I have been blessed to be in leadership positions in multiple

aspects of our international community. I have the experience of working: locally in the “field” as Ashram Director in Hamburg Germany; regionally as the 3HO /Sikh Dharma European Director; globally as the KRI International Director of the Aquarian Trainer Academy; in the businesses as founder of Yogi Tea Europe and as Operations of Yogi Tea both in Europe and USA; in our international Dharmic community as Chairperson of Khalsa Council. So I know the depth and breadth of our community. And during these 50 years of service, I have acquired experience and expertise on managerial and executive levels. I believe all of this will be a asset to the board.

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

**Ashram Leader Guru Ram Das Ashram Hamburg Germany / Mukia Singh Sahib / 3HO Regional Director / Board Chair 3HO Germany / General Coordinator 3HO European Yoga Festival / Board Chair 3HO Europe / Board Member Stichting 3HO Netherlands / European Khalsa Council Chairperson / International Khalsa Council Chairperson / KRI TTEC (Teacher Trainer Executive Council) Chairperson / KRI Aquarian Trainer Academy Executive Director
Founder of Yogi Tea Europe / Operations Manager for Yogi Tea Europe and USA**

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

**I have practiced and shared the Kriyas and meditations of Kundalini Yoga around the globe for 50 years and I can attest to their healing and transformative properties.
I have found some of Yogi Bhajan’s unique yogic insights (such as The Ten Bodies, The Functional Minds, The Cycle of Intellect) very helpful in my quest to gain a deeper understanding of my inner workings.
I have come to approach his teaching on Humanology with caution and discernment. I do find some useful insights, but also find them colored with his personal and cultural prejudices.
He always said he was just a “mail man” or a “rusty pipe” and that it was the teachings and not the teacher that was important. And I believe it is important to disassociate the personality of the mailman from the teachings which were in his pouch.**

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?

Ek Ong Kar... that we all arise from the One, are woven together in the One and will return to One.. is our core belief and must be the vantage point from which we must try to perceive and understand everyone and everything we encounter. In a practical sense we must consciously work to create a culture which recognizes and values the spark of Divinity in everyone, and that allows each individual to express themselves honestly and authentically. We need to develop manners and engender an environment where we can listen to one another and dialogue with openness and respect about whatever issues confront us. We must be inclusive and transparent in our dealings.

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

I think the SSSC Mission Statement says it very well: to protect and cultivate the prosperity of the constituent community and its assets. To listen to, serve and support our non-profits, and constituent local, regional organizations and communities in their missions to educate, serve and uplift. And to do so in ways reflecting our spiritual values of selfless service, compassion, kindness, honesty, integrity, trustworthiness and consciousness. Our challenge is not just say it, but do it.

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?

- A) Recognize the global, cultural and generational extent of our Sangat. Communicate with them about important issues in their own languages and engage them in dialogue so they feel recognized and engaged as part of the decision-making process. To do this we need to investigate how can we utilize the tools of social media to support this effort. KRI with its regular newsletters and open regional and international forums can provide a starting good model.**
- B) I have been a board member on several of our non-profit organizations and I understand and have practiced confidentiality policies.**

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 was raised with values which recognized the importance of diversity, equity and inclusion. I have always striven to incorporate them in whatever I do. Over the years I have become aware of how institutional, societal and cultural norms can insidiously stifle and undermine these. My personal awareness has grown through living in the multi-cultural environment of Europe, engaging with diverse societies and cultures around the globe, and interacting with students, teachers and trainers from diverse racial, ethnic, sexual orientation and gender identities. I continue to be challenged and continue to expand my awareness.

In these last years I have seen how our non-profits have become more and more aware of these issues and taken actions to welcome diversity, become more equitable and strive for inclusion. I believe the SSSC should recognize these efforts and provide whatever support, be financial or other, to keep expanding and deepening our institutional and communal awareness in these areas.

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?

- 1. The world is in crisis on political, societal, cultural and environmental levels. We have been blessed with yogic and dharmic tools which can serve humanity to transition through these tumultuous times. But our community has become pulled into our own internal polarized conflicts. How to we rekindle trust; cultivate open, honest, authentic and respectful dialogue; allow for diverse viewpoints; and recognize our diversity as our strength so we can move forward together and turn outward to serve humanity as we move into the Aquarian Age.**
- 2. To ensure we continue the important work of the Compassionate Reconciliation Committee is supporting the reparations and healing programs for those who have been harmed. And in ensuring our organizations and communities provide a safe environment for everyone.**
- 3. The transition of leadership, so that our first generation, can step aside and open the door for the next generations, from our diverse and global community, to bring their talents, experience and vision of the future into our highest leadership positions.**

As a Trustee I would simply do whatever I can to meet these challenges and move our community forward.

I bring with me multiple skills, tools and experience on many levels from my years of dealing with such challenges in our communities, non-profits and businesses.

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 these requirements. I am retired so I have more flexibility with my time and fewer other obligations. I believe the first challenge of the newly constituted board will be to create an environment of mutual trust and respect for the perspectives and opinions of all members in its deliberations and decision making.

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.