

Respect for others and their way of life

July 2005

The bombings on the London underground in July 2005 sparked a series of questions in the minds of the youngsters. The following thoughts are a result of these. They are not intended to criticize or offend.

Why partake in violence when we are all one?

Violence doesn't solve anything. When Baba Gurbachan Singh Ji was assassinated in Delhi, 1980, Baba Hardev Singh Ji made it clear to devotees that revenge should not be taken as it would not solve anything. He declared that:

'Different Mahapursh have different opinions regarding the assassination of Baba Gurbachan Singh Ji. A fraction of the youth feels very agitated and volatile. If somebody feels that we have to take revenge, then I consider that the only way this blood can be avenged is by taking Baba Gurbachan Singh Ji's message of unity to every nook and corner of the world. We should provide cool showers of love to the world smouldering in animosity' (Satguru Baba Hardev Singh Ji, 1980)

The teachings of all religions are similar; it is only interpretation that is different:

'All true religions emanate from one universal God. You will find gold in various parts of the world in ores that reflect the geologic conditions of that area. However, when you refine gold to its pure form, it is always the same' (Rev. Masanobu Taniguchi, 1995).

We do not have the right to take away the gift of body, mind and soul that God has given to others. Only He gives and takes life, we don't have the authority to do this.

Hate plus hate = MORE HATE. The cycle of hatred needs to stop and with the knowledge that we are children of the one, same God, will stop this cycle.

"In the world, there are plenty of evil-minded people who think and do evil; imbibed with evil tendencies. Such beings spread hatred and violence by killing the innocent in the name of caste, creed, language and religion. The parts of a tree, like its leaves, branches and flowers are dissimilar to look at, yet they grow out of one seed. Similarly, though men appear dissimilar because of the colour of their skin, facial or other features, they all are born out of One Light of God. Saints attain the realisation of God who is One and thus look upon all as His children and wish well of all' (Satguru Baba Hardev Singh Ji, 2004)

Simply smile, respect others and live by the teachings of the True Master. It is only the True Master who can guide and help us through these destructive times. We need to look at our actions and be aware that they can have a knock on effect for instance, create more hatred, racism in society and further violence.

Love and humanity overcomes hatred; conversely violence and hatred simply build bigger and stronger barriers between people and religions. People may have a tendency to judge others by the colour of their skin. However, we're all humans with five senses, red blood and a like of different foods, so how can we hate each other?

Religion is about love, dedication, unity and brotherhood. We are all children of one god and need to learn to get on with each other and live in harmony.

'It is love which bestows beauty. Hatred, on the other hand, imparts ugliness, devastation and destruction. This beautiful world created by God will remain beautiful only when there is love in man's heart. Otherwise, even a beautiful place loses its charm with the presence of conflict and tension in it. Thus, it is that by embracing a loving attitude and noble behaviour, man can make and keep this world beautiful' (Satguru Baba Hardev Singh Ji, 2004).