

SANT NIRANKARI

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Special issue on Youth Power

*Empowered youth embraces new thinking, with full dedication,
Divine glance of the visionary True Master enriches the creation.*





Sant Nirankari

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Editor: **Vinod Behl** (Honorary)
Associate Editor: **Joginder Singh**

Ph: 47660200 Patrika Vibhag
Help Line (Patrika Vibhag) : 011-30993960
Fax: 27608215 / 27604393
Website: <http://www.nirankari.org>
Email: snn@nirankari.org
Patrika Vibhag: patrika@nirankari.org
Editorial : editorial@nirankari.org

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Youth, Spirituality and Society

Ignited mind of the youth is the most powerful resource on the earth. These words of wisdom by the former President of India, Abdul Kalam underscore the significance of youth power. Mahatma Gandhi described youth as the agents of social transformation. He had said, "Youth have to actively participate in the war of good vs evil, virtues vs vices, knowledge of science vs wisdom of soul, material prosperity vs peace of mind, education vs character building, by effectively using the weapon of right conduct, love, co-operation, justice, equality, patriotism, non-violence, peace and truth. Swami Vivekananda had proclaimed that youth of character and intelligence, renouncing all for the service of others, are good to themselves and to the society at large.

Indian youth have the inherent advantage of inheriting priceless wealth of spiritual knowledge expounded in our ancient texts and scriptures while at the same time they are exposed to scientific spirit. But confronted with serious problems of poverty, unemployment, corruption, casteism and communalism, the youth today find themselves at the crossroads. In this highly materialistic society, they are leading a stressful life due to cut throat competition to achieve material goals amidst growing insecurity. As a result of that, they are seeking escape route through ritualistic religious practices - what they call, 'instant spirituality', without

understanding the real meaning of religion or spirituality.

Baba Ji says that development of scientific temperament is necessary to wean away youth steeped in superstitions and rituals which are taking them away from leading a spiritual life. If today we find ourselves in social, political, economical, cultural and moral morass which pose a serious threat to the existence of mankind, it is because we are bereft of spirituality in our life. Rigveda says that the sustainable development of a society, nation and the world as a whole can be achieved only with the integration of material and spiritual life.

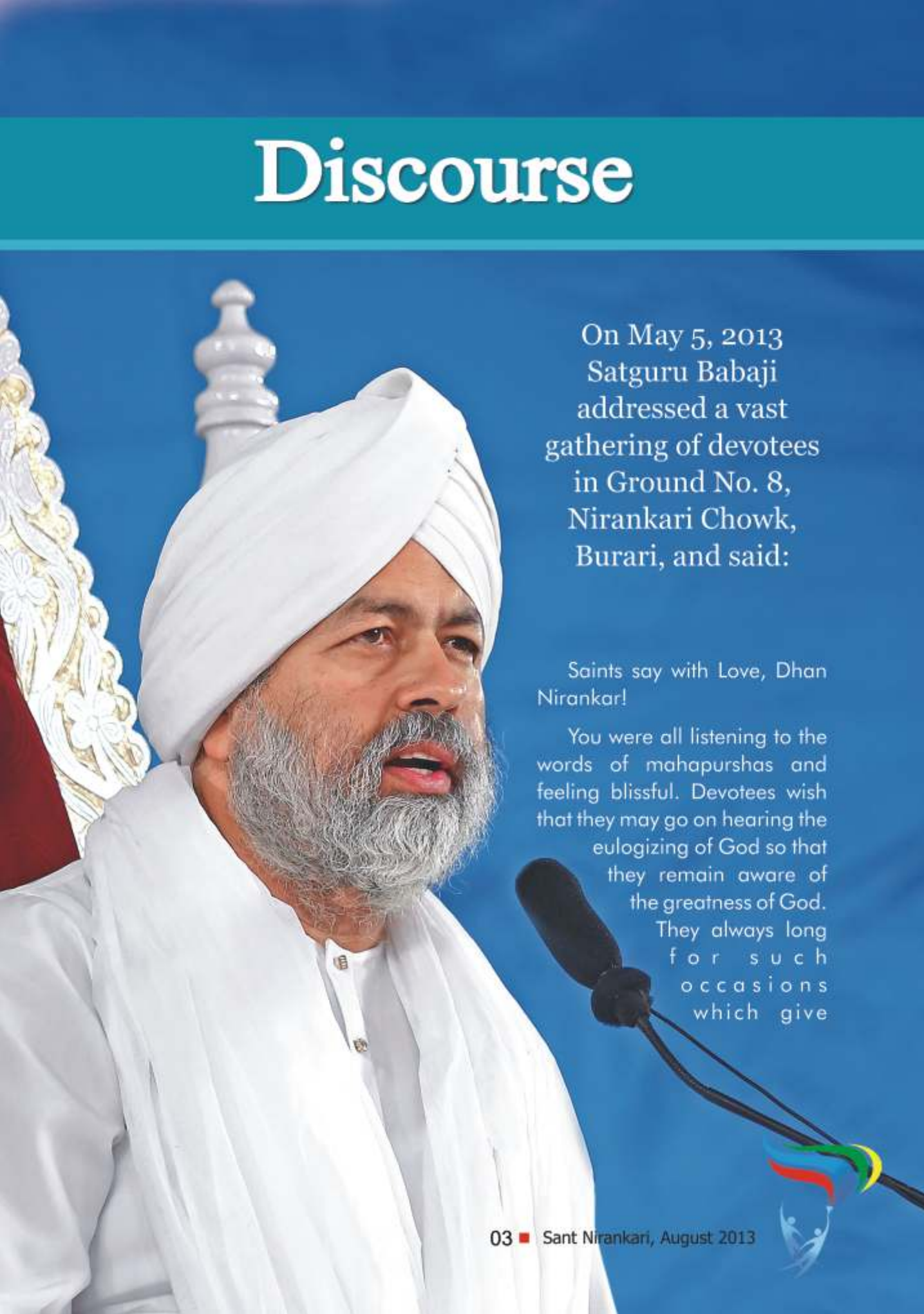
Baba Ji says that enlightened and righteous youth can play a crucial role for the global progress, prosperity and peace. And Nirankari Mission has been playing a great role in the spiritual growth of the youth for the welfare of humanity. Spiritual thoughts and feelings are as much a part of the growth process of children and youth as their physical, mental or emotional development.

Parents have a responsibility to nurture children's spirituality by introducing them to prayer, singing glory of God and guru, spiritual congregations and selfless service..Bible says parents need to instill God's word (Truth) in children's hearts as nothing else will have such a great impact on their character. Nirankari Mission has been rendering great service in fostering values among young children through 'Bal Sangats' and inspiring them to lead a meaningful life. May Baba Ji bless the youth to tread the path of truth so that their immense energy could well be harnessed for the welfare of society, nation and the world as a whole.

— Vinod Behl
vbehl2008@gmail.com



Discourse



On May 5, 2013
Satguru Babaji
addressed a vast
gathering of devotees
in Ground No. 8,
Nirankari Chowk,
Burari, and said:

Saints say with Love, Dhan
Nirankar!

You were all listening to the
words of mahapurshas and
feeling blissful. Devotees wish
that they may go on hearing the
eulogizing of God so that
they remain aware of
the greatness of God.
They always long
for such
occasions
which give



Those who give importance to Guru and lead their life as per His wish, they create impact with their speech because they have lived the 'truth'!



If we consciously think and feel like the True Master, we may lead an enriched life in true sense without getting affected by the worldly trappings.



them an opportunity to listen to the great attributes of God and saints to feel blissful by immersing in devotion. In today's congregation also, an effort was being made to enhance the devotional atmosphere even more so that such thoughts become ingrained in one's mind. Mahapurshas and devotees have always been leading the journey of their life with such feelings. They feel grateful that the True Master bestowed the 'Truth' on them without making any queries about them. Contrary to this, people in the world make great effort to perceive God. Devotees surrender and dedicate themselves to their True Master because of whom they attained redemption and learnt the righteous way to tread in their life. 'Shehanshah' Baba Avtar Singh Ji him led his life as a disciple surrendering himself fully to his True Master, Baba Buta Singh Ji. Avtar Singh concentrated only on his True Master and God without taking his family or society into consideration. As he says in Avtar Bani : Gursikh de bullan te hardam, apne guru di kahani rahe' That disciples always talk about their guru. Baba Avtar Singh Ji gave such great importance to his True Master and led life according to his preachings. The worlds of such a personage have their own impact as he implemented what he preached. In fact, the devotees who tread the righteous path have a great impact on others. If the spoken words and conduct are contradictory, then the followship also becomes limited. Hence a true devotee always remains enthusiastic about singing the glory his True Master.

If a devotee feels the Divine presence of God and True Master everywhere, love will surely find place in his heart. If one is not filled with love, it means that he is perceiving God everywhere not

immersing himself in God). It means that one is eulogizing God and True Master only verbally without establishing communion with Him.

That is why such sayings are popular in the world, like 'Pachon ka kaha sar matthe, lekin parnala vahi ka vahi rahega.' Like this, worldly people also sing praise of God, refraining themselves from doing the needful, at the same time. If, like them, a 'gursikh' (follower of the True Master) also does the same, eulogizing the True Master without having love for all, there will remain no difference between the worldly people and the disciples of the True Master.

'Shahenshah' Baba Avtar Singh Ji is also making one realize that treading the path of Love means being reverential to the True Master and saying his praise in the true sense. A true 'gursikh' leads his life with love. Distributing the wealth of love to all, he will be able to soothe others.

One who only knows to soothe others; who never provokes and instigates others against other fellow humans, in fact, sings the glory of the True Master in true sense. Leading life with love ascertains that one acclaims his True Master as such a way of life proclaims that one has realized God and is fully enlightened. Like this, such words make us inclined towards the righteous path treaded by

mahapurshas since ages. These words are a clarion call for a 'gursikh' that if he is upright and a true follower then he will implement even the slightest hint coming from his True Master. These words from Avtar Bani have been explained quite often by me that:

'Gursikh guru di akh naal vekhe,
guru de kann naal sunda hai'.

That a gursikh is able to immerse himself in divinity, if he develops the divine vision like that of his True Master. Living upto the 'Truth' becomes his way of life. He sees and listens to others in the manner his True Master does. It means a true disciple has an equable vision which does not consider anyone small or full of short-comings. He rather ministers to the goodness in his fellow beings. He reveres even an ordinary person as does his guru. Like his True Master, he does not take any interest in listening to the criticism of others as the True Master is pleased to hear the approbation of his disciples from others. The True Master, who bestows 'God-realisation' on the seeker, applies the same unto Himself and wishes that his devotees also implement the Truth. Otherwise, we all see how people are interested only in fault-finding.

In the world, people leave their important tasks aside to indulge in back biting. Man takes interest in multiplying the criticism of others, thinking that he is getting material to misuse it for



her. He does not make any effort to make things better. Such tendencies are found in people who have no faith in God. It means that one is 'gursikh' only by name, otherwise he is leading a life contrary to it. It means that one is eulogizing God while keeping contrary interests in mind. Like this, a 'gursikh' is cautioned to beware of such extreme contradictions in his speech and conduct. If he does not remain alert, he also gets influenced by worldly tendencies. His attitude, vision and thinking, speech and tone all get modified in a worldly manner creating doubts and causing hurt only. Like this the whole fabric of a person gets changed and becomes worldly and he starts following self-will. Mahapurshas and saints caution 'gursikh' to consciously think and feel like the True Master so that he may lead an enriched life without getting affected by the

worldly ways. Both good and bad people have their influence on others. Here the positive impact is being mentioned which make the whole atmosphere enriched one's thinking is made sublime. When a gursikh sings the heart-felt glory of his guru and leads his life maintaining a sublime status, he is able to make a positive impact on others. Establishing a deep communion with God, he treads the path of Guru-wisdom and imbibes virtues only. There are some who stay in shallowness; There devotion is superficial. How can they attain real wealth (redemption) without taking a deep plunge into the ocean of devotion. The devotion, faith and reverence of such people are merely a show off. As it is written in Avtar Bani: 'Dil wich vair, irshya, nafrat, upro pyar jatande ne.' That there is hostility, jealousy and hatred in the heart but are saying, 'you are very great'. Baba



Gurbachan Singh Ji used to give an example that once some guests came to house of a person and that person says at once : 'We are fortunate that such great people have visited a humble person like me.' But as he goes to the other room, he tells his wife, 'such common people have come to our house.' This is an example of superficial reverence. The spoken words will be contrary to the feelings in heart. The person calls another person great, at the same time thinking of him as low and foolish as compared to himself who is perfect and wise. So one gets pulled by worldly and unsaintly feelings and starts following self-will. That is why there messages have been given to mahapurshas and devotees. These are not meant only for the worldly people. We read the couplets of Kabir Ji where he was the word 'Sadho'. It means Kabir ji has addressed the saints many times

in his couplets.

Saints, there are people who have not yet attained God-knowledge, and they must take this significant step. But there are those who have attained God-knowledge; they must take many more steps to reach a sublime state. That is why devotees pray: 'Dolan te rakho Prabhu.' These words have been said by devotees as they have perceived their destination. These prayers have not been uttered by those who have attained their human status as they have not fulfilled the purpose of human life. So this point of getting astrayed also applies to Mahapurshas. That it is essential to attend congregations because without it guru-wisdom gets weakened and one tends to become worldly. Impurity of mind goes on increasing because one is not leading towards the place where the mind becomes pure. If one does not like the



company of saints, but rather enjoys the company of worldly people, then one will develop the impure worldly tendency only. We read the words of Sufi saints:

'Sach Kamave soi kazi, jo dil sode
ohi hazi.'

Like this, one who attains the truth, becomes truly religious and the one who is soaked in love, has undertaken, a pilgrimage to God. One who is full of humility, love and reverence is truly religious. A true pilgrim is not one who has undertaken a long journey to reach a particular place, but one who has staunch faith in God and has imbibed the teachings of his True Master or Prophet. True devotees bargain Truth. So a truly religious person or pilgrim is one who has realized the Truth because devotion is a state of mind. In Avtar Bani also, it is written:

'Guru di murat mann wich vase
dil wich par-upkar rahe.'

When the True Master dwells in the heart, one attains a sublime state of mind. Then one can't help dedicating oneself to the welfare of others and sacrificing for the cause of humanity. Like this, devotees make contributions of body, mind and wealth. Only those can do the act of beneficence who have immersed themselves in God, and whose heart is full of love. A person full of hatred, great and false and power is not able to work for the

beneficence of others. Similarly, the saints dedicated to the welfare of mankind are those who do not indulge in any kind of 'show off', be it a special position or any responsibility. So, a person is called to be God-realised who has assimilated the Truth. If one has completed the formality of seeking God-knowledge from the True-Master, but is not connected to God, he cannot avail anything. If a gursikh comments that he was not assigned the position of a 'Mukhi' or 'Sanyojak' because of his caste, then where lies the different between a God-realised devotee and a worldly persons. Such people were carrying the same views before seeking 'God-knowledge' and if they are thinking in the same manner even after 'Gyan' then what have they attained? It can be said that such persons have not taken 'gyan' even at the superficial level, not to talk of going deep into it. As I said recently, the progress of the Mission means strengthening of Guru-wisdom i.e. humility, cohesion, tolerance, contentment and broadmindedness. Devotees bring to the fore their spiritual attainment by imbibing these virtues. They prove by their thinking and deeds that they are awakened and slumbering no more. It is important to lead an 'awakened' life because if even after attaining enlightenment, one is still slumbering, then there remains no difference between the ignorant and the enlightened. Enlightenment means



applying spiritual 'Eye' of guru-wisdom 'Gursikh' does not follow self-will. Mahapurshas and saints have been stating it since ages and holy scriptures also mention the Truth time and again. In Avtar Bani also, we are reading and listening that :

'Har vele, har haal de ander judi guru naal taar rahe'.

That devotees remains, connected to God in every situation. They do not let this connection get snapped and keep their inner strength from this spiritual link. They keep their enthusiasm and guru-wisdom intact and go on eugilizing God. No matter if the saints have to interact with lacs of unsaintly people, but they keep their innate saintliness intact. Like an elephant they remain carefree and upright in all situations while meeting lacs of worldly people. They do not let their faith waver and stumble from their sublime status. As it has been said:

'Kabir aai mugh pe anek kare kari bhes
Hun rakhe guru aapne uni kino aades.'

Like this, much has been said regarding 'maya' (the changeable) and its effects, but as has been put for a gursikh: 'Hargiz tapla khaye na'.

This ever-changing world can so delude one that he can stumble and stagger. That is why it has been said: 'Maya maha dhagni mein jaani.'

Kabir Ji has called 'maya' a big deceiver, but it also has been said:

'Maya tau dhagni bhai, dhagat phirat sansar,
Jis dhug ye dhagni dhagi, tis thug ko namaskar.'

That 'maya' is a big deceiver but saints are so aware and awakened that they do not let worldly attractions effect them. Such saints are worthy of

There are those who have not yet attained God knowledge and it is important for such people to take a significant step towards this. But there are others who have attained God knowledge and for such devotees, it is essential to take many steps to reach a sublime state.



It is an act of beneficence to awaken those who have lost 'awareness' due to worldly influences. It becomes the duty of saints to strengthen the wavering faith of devotees. And the beneficent 'mahapurshas' have been performing the task of reconnecting the snapped link between the devotee and the True Master.



reverence. I mean to say that if a devotee's awareness gets weakened, another devotee comes to awaken him. That is why one comes to congregation because it works as a medicine. It is foremost responsibility of saints to keep awakened and make other devotee awake too. As has been said earlier also:

'Soya saadh jagaiye, uth kare
naam ka jaap,
ye teeno sote bhale, sakat, singh
or saamp'.

The conscious efforts made by saints are always welcome as it is their job is to awaken others also. It is an act of beneficence to awaken those who have drifted it. It becomes the duty of saints of strengthen the wavering faith of the other. It is a deed of welfare to reconnect the snapped link between the disciple and the True Master. Like this, the kind saints have always been redeeming mankind.

An unwavering devotee fully imbibes guru-wisdom and does not take anything else into consideration. He places his true Master God and holy congregation on such a high pedestal in his heart which he does not impart to anyone else. Like Kabir Ji, true saints ever remain in communion with God

maintaining their sublime status. May God bestow such spiritual strength to all. Keeping this in mind, mahapurshas say words which impart inner strength to others and they themselves also become spirited and pray that they may keep their devotion intact till they breathe their last.

Shahanshah Baba Avtar Singh Ji has uttered the same words which have been significant since ages. As I said in the beginning, Baba Avtar Singh Ji not only preached guru-wisdom, but also lived his life accordingly. His life was a living example of unwavering faith, humility, dedication, large-heartedness, patience and contentment etc. ray that may God bless us that our thoughts, words and action become one.

Saints, Dhan Nirankar!

Report : Savita Chaudhary
Translation : Kiran Behl



Role of Youth

- Naranjan Singh, IAS (Retd.) Chandigarh

Youth is an extremely important segment of society- the backbone on which the entire social structure is dependent. The strength of any society, its dynamism and power to withstand the pulls and pressures of circumstances depends on its youth power.

In view of this, it is imperative that the youth is properly empowered and evolved to become an instrument of social cohesion, stability and evolution. It is all the more important for the society to take care of its youth as it has the potential to evolve in any which way and if it is not orientated with specific purpose in mind, its energy shall not just fritter away but also create havoc and destruction.

All societies have various ends to achieve, be it social, economic, spiritual or political. The youth being in formative

stage must understand the goals mentioned above and be empowered to achieve these goals.

Youth are the future citizens and it is they who have to lead the society. So their empowerment has to be goal oriented. The education system has to be consciously geared up for making the youth capable of living up to the goals of the society they belong to.

One of the basic postulates of education is that the youth should realise their role in society as well as in this universe. How to integrate the social role with the universal one is what shall make the youth a perfect human and an ideal citizen.

Sant Nirankari Mission is performing a very significant role in this direction. It is teaching as to how a man can be an ideal human and also how he can do his worldly avocations as well. It's a great achievement to be a useful member of a society working for keeping its values intact and at the same time discharging day to day functions and duties.

Sant Nirankari Mandal is the organization that implements the great ideals of the Nirankari Mission such as to bring about oneness, unity and compassion in society. The Nirankari youth



are actively engaged in services like donating blood, helping people in distress and organising functions to spread the message of love and brotherhood. The young volunteers of Sewadal present an example of selflessness and sacrifice. Nirankari youth render their services with humility and discipline, without making any distinction among people they serve. The involvement of youth in serving the people was seen during 2010 Commonwealth Games when the Nirankari youth served the administration for traffic management, doing their duty diligently and silently. Even the administration and those involved in traffic management were all praise for the Nirankari youth who performed their duty round the clock, many a times even missing their meals.

Today, there are about 2.50 billion youth in the world. In India, more than 50% of the population is within the age group of

15 to 40. The Nirankari Mission is particularly alive to the problems faced by the youth. Drug menace, alcoholism and other white collar crimes are the biggest threats which can misguide the youth and channelize their energy in wrong direction. The Nirankari Mission has found a solution to the problem. Following the motto, 'Catch them young', the Mission involves the youth in their early formative years and puts them in the company of saints through Sangats (holy congregations) and Sewa (selfless service) besides making them meditate on the Ultimate Truth of the Cosmos. In this manner, the youth from the very beginning become committed to values which stand them in good stead throughout the life. Rather than becoming problematic and a burden on society, they become its saviour and engines of welfare and stability. Let the world study the evolution and orientation of Nirankari youth that can serve as a role model for youth empowerment in any society whatsoever.

Inviting contributions for 66th Sant Samagam Souvenir 2013

God is one, indivisible and cannot be divided. The whole visible universe is manifestation of the omnipresent and rather an extension of Himself. Connecting oneself with 'One' and becoming one is 'Oneness'. It is only after realisation of 'One', that one comes in communion with 'One' and that leads to 'Oneness'. In today's world, the feeling of oneness is essential to achieve peace, love and amiability.

As usual Magazine Department of the Mandal will be bringing out a Souvenir in English, Hindi and Punjabi on the occasion of the 66th Annual Sant Samagam. The theme for the Souvenir will be '**ONENESS**'. Sant Nirankari (English) invites contributions from devotee writers in the form of articles and poems. The contribution should reach us latest by September 30 and these should be sent to:

Vinod Behl, Editor
Sant Nirankari (English)
Sant Nirankari Mandal, Delhi-9



Investment in Children and Working with Youth

— C.L. Gulati, Secretary (Hqrs.), S.N.M.

The State of the World's Children 1995 Report, contained a special message-cum-caution from an authority no less than James P. Grant, Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), *"Unless the investment in children is made, all of humanity's most fundamental long-term problems will remain fundamental long-term problems."* Mr. Grant recalled that, leaders from 159 countries representing 99% of the world's population made a promise at the World Summit for Children. It was the first time that the needs and problems of children were examined at such a high forum. At that Summit, the world's leaders not only endorsed the lofty principles but also put their signatures to a document committing themselves and their governments to a Plan of Action. A Plan of Action that, in effect, invites the world governments accountable for what they do or do not do for their children. The commitment was intended to be accomplished by the year 2000.

It is admitted at all hands that children's protection and proper upbringing is a prerequisite for prosperity of the humanity at large. Now a question arises how should the children be brought up so that they become ideal citizens and add to the pride of the society. Going by the historical experience and the grotesque picture of the present day society, one can witness the fact that while fulfilling the material needs of the children, it

is essentially required to equip them with righteous thought also. In the absence of purity in thought and action, we cannot anticipate any improvement in the human society. Good and pious thoughts can help solving intriguing problems of society, whereas evil thoughts and deeds can spoil even the best set of circumstances.

Historically speaking, the UN had declared the year 1979 as the International Year of Children. The Govern of India had specifically set in 1978 a Board for the upliftment of children. In the meantime a study was carried out by the Ranchi and Osmania Universities (India) where they have gone to the extent of saying, *"The communal elements in almost all religious groups are gaining ground and unless practical steps are taken immediately, the younger generation will grow up in an environment of hatred, suspicion, external dissensions, unrest and will destroy the society."* The hint is that communalism would reach such proportions that it would not be even under the control of those responsible for unleashing it. These troubles do not churn up overnight. A whole new generation of haters is being prepared for action, as though religious slots are being drilled into little heads. All this is true, but the universities did not suggest a way out of the situation they viewed with serious concern. Human Rights Watch, which has examined children from about 24 countries facing conflict situation has found that *rather than serving as safe havens, schools have come to represent terror and trauma to those children, many of whom refuse to return to them.*

16 years old Malala Yousafzai, the Pakistani School girl, victim of Taliban violence recently made an impassioned appeal at the U.N. for universal education pleading that education for sons and daughters of even the Taliban and children of all terrorists and





extremists. She stressed that *one child, one teacher, one pen and one book can change the world*. When Malala says books and pens are most needed for the younger generation, our leaders can take a cue!

Today, the youth who expected religion to endorse humanity feels frustrated, *"What good is religion if it perpetrates so many innocent murders every day across the globe."* The young people are fast weaning away from religion. Whenever they are required to fill up Application Forms for admission in some institution or seeking job somewhere, most of them are noticed, write the phrase "Not Applicable" in the "Religion" column of the forms.

A question arises what should a properly educated young graduate know? In their searching article, "Reason and Religion at Harvard," John I. Henkins and Thomas Burish of the University of Notre Dame, mentioned. "A Harvard curriculum committee proposed an answer to that question in October 2006 stating that, among other things, such a graduate should take a course to know "the role of religion in contemporary, historical, or future events personal, cultural, national or international." And if Harvard says taking a course in religion is necessary to be an educated person, it's good bet that many other colleges and universities will soon make the same discovery.

The courses it envisions world offer an examination of "The interplay between religion and various aspects of national and

/ or international culture and society. They would deal not so much with the relationship between reason and faith as with reasoning about faith, religion and religious institutions and their impact in the world." Another study reveals that Candaian College students involved with Campus religious ministers are likely to have fewer visits to medical clinic, score high in psychological well-being and experience less stress during difficult life-events.

Empowering youth is crucial. "Half the world is under 25 years of age. Young women and men everywhere want decent jobs. They want dignity. They want a greater say in their own destiny, said Secretary General Ban Ki-moon recently. With the purpose of leveraging the potentials of youth in solving global challenges, ECOSOC argued at a Youth Forum in March 2013. Another Session was held in the first week of July 2013 in Geneva specifically to dilate upon the cross-cutting theme, "Science Technology and Innovation and the Potential of Culture for promoting sustainable development and achieving the Millennium Development Goals." ECOSOC (U.N.) aims to spot light the possibilities available for the world's youth to harness and *the Secretary General has given priority to working with and for the youth in his 5-year Action Agenda with the intention to bring attention to their potential as problem-solvers, innovators and actors for development.*

It is seen here, there and everywhere that the ungrateful children ill-treat their aged parents. They are sent out of their homes and subjected to unspeakable torture. Leaving the parents to the Will of God, sons and daughters are interested in their Will about property. Watching their tears and prayers, Goethe once said, that an aged man is always a "King Lear." When the cruel treatment of his two daughters made his life hell, the King Lear cursed them, "How



sharper than a serpent's tooth it is to have a thankless child." Many parents today are spending sleepless nights in the anxiety and distress over their children's behavior and their changing attitude towards them. Who is responsible for this sorry state of affairs the youth or the parents?

All the scriptures and ideals of society enjoin upon youngsters to be obedient and grateful to parents. The 5th commandment in the Holy Bible expressly lays down, "Thou shall honor and serve thy father and mother." Children are expected to love parents as much as they love the Lord. Describing parent-child-relationship, Islamic Law says that after Allah, parents are the persons who give us innumerable favours. They provide protection, food and clothing to the newly born. It says, "And your Lord has ordained that you shall worship none except Him and shall do your parents, a good turn." Sant Nirankari Mission stresses that 'good turn' means, loving, obeying, speaking softly, caring for their needs, especially in their old age. For harmony in the house and society at large, parents do well to catch their children young for a spiritual touch In turn, children are advised to remember the Hadith, "Paradise lies under the feet of parents."

True Master keeps his fingers on the pulse of the people. What the parents are worried about, the Universities were making the subject matter of their research work, the Govt. of India was feeling concerned about and UN the dire need, was already finding a concrete shape with the blessings of the Nirankari Baba Hardev Singh Ji Maharaj. In a mammoth Children's Samagam, held at

Chandigarh on the New Year Day of 1995 Child-devotees from other States enthusiastically participated in large numbers. The children presented a wide variety of items of spiritual, moral and ethical import: to be fair in doings and dealings, to be obedient to parents and elders, to be conscientious students and to avoid bad company, violence and use of intoxicants.

Starting in 1987; now there are now over 1000 units of functional children / youth Congregation. To ensure their secular and spiritual development, they organize regular congregations, Samagams, competitions etc. The children and youth Samagams activities have become regular feature.

In his concluding discourse, Nirankari Babaji who has always evinced an absorbing interest in the activities of the youth, showered his blessings upon them to sustain the spiritual outlook, "Thinking which is developed in the childhood is pure, pious and innocent because it is free from the sense of high and low; mine and thine. As such, they should be provided with a healthy environment to sustain the same when they grow up.

Youth is cut off from noble values and rich culture. Teachings of His Holiness Nirankari Babaji attracts them to the forum of the Mission and remind them that they should adopt those values without coming into conflict with their environment. Today Nirankari youth is known as model in the society in all respects. The Sant Nirankari Mandal has its Branches across India and overseas where we have infrastructure for empowerment of youth.





The Life and Culture of Nirankari Youth

— H.C. Sirohi, Patna

Human life is divided between time intervals. It is said that life span of living beings is distributed among different behavioural patterns, which are decided by the physical construction of body. It is also said that "youth is the time of life when one is young, but the term is often used in the more restricted sense of the time between childhood and adulthood (maturity). Definitions of the specific age range that constitutes youth vary. An individual's actual maturity may not correspond to his chronological age, as immature individuals can exist at all ages. Youth is also defined as - the appearance, freshness, vigour, spirit, etc., characteristic of one who is young. Youth is a term used for people of both sexes, male and female; and identifies a particular mindset of attitude. The term youth is also related to being young and also refers to individuals between the ages of 16-24".

So, the group of people we are referring to belong to those who enjoy the best of the life span with best of

health and vigour. But, when you live with the highest level of energy or physical power, you create feelings of great expectations, as was said by Robert Kennedy that the 'world demands the qualities of youth: not a time of life but a state of mind, a temper of the will, a quality of imagination, a predominance of courage over timidity, of the appetite for adventure over the life of ease'. It is also said that 'youth is an alternative word to the scientifically-oriented "adolescent" and the common terms teen and teenager. Some social scientists say that "youth is the stage of constructing the self-concept. The self-concept of youth is influenced by several variables such as peers, lifestyle, gender, and culture. It is the time of a person's life in which he makes choices which will shape his future." But, sometimes wrong choices endanger others' lives and security. Research says that a behavior intended to harm or disturb others displays an imbalance of power, with a more powerful person or group attacking a less powerful one.

This 'asymmetry of power may be physical or psychological, and the aggressive behavior may be verbal, physical, or psychological. Seeing its negative outcomes, the issue merits serious attention, both for future research and preventive intervention'. Some youth tend to demonstrate higher levels of conduct problems which may result due to higher levels of insecurity, anxiety, depression, loneliness, unhappiness, physical and mental symptoms, and low self-esteem. These individuals exhibit the poorest psycho-social functioning overall which is an outcome of poor upbringing. The poor upbringing does not signify levels of economic status, but most of the time it relates to inheriting low levels of human values from the parents, guardians, peers, teachers or the leaders of the society.

This again does not mean that the level of mental growth of these set of guardians is



low, but it means that the process of transferring the human traits to the child lacked necessary ingredients of human values, virtues, compassion and tolerance, feelings of equality, equity and large heartedness. When a group of youth errs in taking right judgments in routine life matters in over-enthusiasm, it means they were never taught to use restraint. Some thinkers say that restraint is an outcome of logical thinking, which in turn is a result of reasonable thinking process. The seeds of logical thinking, balanced thoughts and controlled feelings in the mind of youth can only be sown possibly by the group of social guardians with inherent virtues, self-control and self-esteem. These are the human attributes which germinate in the minds of people who have a balanced approach towards life, which, in itself, is very complex and intricate; and has many facets with multifarious conflicting roles simultaneously to perform. The way of life needed to live logically prescribes some higher levels of thought processes, which discovers a journey to search for higher human goals within the human existence. Some call this search a spiritual journey.

Spirituality is commonly defined as the feeling of the presence of a greater being in the universe. This necessarily does not make a person religious, but makes him a reasonable person, who appreciates some authority over and above him; that is to say his or her own existence, and has an urge to enquire about such presence. Such an urge, within oneself, in the long run, forms social behaviour of a person. Nirankaris show a common concern about the presence of such a 'greater being', and after being enlightened by their True Master, try to impose self-control to reform their social behaviour within the groups of such spiritually enlightened people. This social behaviour in due course, is also inherited and imbibed by their dependents, in general.

This does not mean that the dependents of Nirankaris, particularly the youth, attain a mindset of an idealistic person. But, the Nirankari teachings provide them an all-encompassing spiritual environment and social umbrella to guard against the psychological pressures and feelings of insecurity, anxiety, mental depression and low self-esteem. The practice of service to the humanity in groups saves them from self-incriminating sense of unhappiness, mental isolation and loneliness. The activities of the Nirankari Sewadal (an organised group of volunteers engaged in selfless service) are always taken up in groups, where everyone cheers up others, thereby enhancing the self-esteem of the members of the group. The habit of selfless service inculcates in them the feelings of everlasting happiness, which bring them nearer to that 'greater being', whose presence is prime to their life and physical existence. The process of devoting one's life's precious moments in a congregation refreshes them internally and externally as well to face the vagaries and challenges of their mundane duties and daunting tasks of the day-to-day life.

But, these blessings are endowed only to those who submit before the True Master, who acts as a source of inspiration and lighthouse. Those who surrender to the Lord Master are exposed to the holy secrets of that 'Greater Being', whose presence is then incessantly felt all around - over the head, below the feet, on the left and the right, in the front and the rear, in the mind, body, and the soul. When a Nirankari youth attains these golden and saintly virtues of the Sant Nirankari Mission, he or she achieves that higher and pious goal of life for which one should always aspire for.

The writer is a retired IAS officer and is presently working as the State Election Commissioner, Bihar in Patna, and these are his personal views.





Harnessing Youth Power

— Prof. (Dr.) G.S. Popli

In the words of James, "Youth is the joy, the little bird that has broken out of the eggs and is eagerly waiting to spread out its wings in the open sky of freedom and hope". The period of youth is the spring of life in real sense. It is the age of discovery and dreams. Youth is like a dynamite, which can do many great things when put to use in a constructive manner. Young people are agents of social change and as the saying goes "youth are not only the leaders of tomorrow, but also the partners of today". As scholars have stated, "time is not evaluated by what has been harvested, but what has been planted". So one should sow the seeds of righteousness during this golden period of youth or the foundation years of life.

Youth hope for a world free of poverty, unemployment, inequality and exploitation of human beings by the fellow beings. The young generation is the backbone of all the nations. Especially India, consisting of largest youth population in the world i.e. 45 crores, can make a big contribution to the global development. Today, the entire world is eyeing India as a source of technical manpower. They are looking at our youth as competitive talent pool for the future growth of their out source business. Indian youth has the power and courage to transform our country from a developing nation to a developed nation.

Youth Development

The 'youth development' can be defined as: "...the ongoing growth process in which all youth are engaged in attempting to: (a) meet their basic personal and social needs to be safe, feel cared for, be valued, be useful, and be spiritually grounded, and (b) to build skills and competencies that allow them to function and contribute in their daily lives." (Pittman, 1993, p. 8).

This has become a very hot topic today not only in India but all over the world. The idea of tackling this subject also arose at the International Development Conference: Global Meeting of Generations held in Washington DC in January 1999. At this forum, young people from across the world grappled with the issue of the role they should play in the governance process of their societies as well as international bodies such as the United Nations. It is important to note that the priceless resource of any country is its human resource. There is no other resource that matches it because mankind is the foundation or the cornerstone of any development and civilization. Out of the human intellect, a nation is built. This can be confirmed by the fact that many countries are able to attain steady growth and development with limited natural resources through the intelligence and hard work put by their people. Especially youth can play a major role in the development of society and nation.

Problems of Youth

Unfortunately, today we find that many youngsters are not serious about their career or their responsibility towards their family, society and nation. They are more interested in activities which are not useful for them or for the society at large. Believing in the concept of eat, drink and be merry, they indulge in activities which are neither beneficial for them nor for the society at large.



Most of the problems faced by today's youth are not restricted to any one ethnic or religious group, but to the young people at large. Most discussions on youth have focussed on issues such as drug abuse, crime, violence, sexuality and poverty. In addition to these, today's youth are afflicted by new challenges. These include:

An Identity Crisis: Who am I?

Lack of self confidence and low self esteem: I am worthless

A sense of hopelessness: Where am I going?

Confusion and ambiguity about moral issues: What is right and what is wrong?

Youth and Spirituality

The youth of India have great creative energy and potential to attain spiritual heights. Swami Vivekananda stressed on the need for the ideals of 'tyaga' or sacrifice and 'seva' or selfless service, the most imperative aspects of shaping the life of young people. He added that this way of life could well be called 'spiritual pursuit'. The brevity of human triumph and the impermanence of material wealth were of serious thought to this philosophy. What he challenged us to do was to give ourselves a noble reason to live, a lofty ideal to live for and a higher state to reach within the boundaries of human existence. Purity, patience and perseverance are the three great traits of the youth keen to be part of positive change that will impact the entire society. Purity is of thought and achievement. Patience is to understand the dynamic form and need to focus on the area for improvement. Today's youth needs enormous perseverance to take up multifaceted challenges and seriously address socio-political and ethical-moral issues.

Under the able guidance of Satguru Baba Hardev Singh Ji Maharaj, Nirankari Mission is transforming the lives of youngsters by channelizing their energies in the right direction. They learn to be humble in a natural way when they touch the feet of their

elders and other persons around them. They are taught to perform different services which help in making them the true servants of society. They donate blood regularly for the benefit of society at large. They serve the needy persons of the society and render their selfless services at the times of natural calamities and disasters. This way they learn to care and share in the society. It helps in making them sensitive and responsible persons in their life. It is the duty of all the elders to guide the young generation and channelize their energies in the right direction by trusting them and giving them higher responsibilities. It is worthwhile to quote that, "You can take the man out of the army but you can't take the army out of a man". And it's true that training and orientation received during early young days shapes a person's world-view for the rest of his life.

Conclusion

Young people are full of vibrant ideas. When properly motivated and sufficiently guided, they can serve the society in a better way.

The youth can play a vital role in banishing violence and terrorism which are the barriers to nation's development. If the energy, intelligence and resources of youth are fully and properly utilized, the country will prosper.

Young people have energy to try out new things and the patience to learn from mistakes. Drawing from the experience of elders, the young ones can make most of their energy and youthful zest to become a better person.

Spirituality is the key to not only shape the destiny of the youth but also to ensure the well being of the society and the nations at large.

(The author is Director and Professor with Delhi School of Professional Studies and Research, Delhi)





Proclaim Satyug in Kalyug

Live life Satyug-wise, Leaving aside Kalyug's vice

If you are not treacherous or deceitful to any gursikh; then you will always be uplifted. Any person of weak character will not be able to continue attending my congregations. Understand the real value of 'God-knowledge' and proclaim 'Satyug' in the present 'Kalyug'. Do not keep the company of those who deviate you from the righteous path.

Jealousy and back-biting destroy a human-being. Whosoever behaves with Mahapurshas in that manner, is no better than the one who does not believe in God. I emphasise again and again that you must not keep the company of such people.

You are not only supposed to read it but also implement it in practical life.

(Yugpurush Baba Avtar Singh Ji Maharaj)





Contribution of Youth to Society

— R.K. Kapoor, Advocate

Youth have tremendous potential to do great things provided their energy is utilised for constructive activities. Many great revolutions occurred because of the active participation of youth in the freedom activities be it Indian struggle for independence, French Revolution, Russian Revolution or Unification of Italy, etc. Clearly, the potential of youth needs to be tapped and properly streamlined for useful purposes.

Anything can be used for both good and bad purposes. For instance, a knife can be used to cut fruits and vegetables and serve as surgical instrument. Conversely, it can be used to harm or injure somebody. It is not the knife which is responsible for results but the spirit of the hand using it. The need is to raise the moral standard of those who use the knife. Similarly, energy of the

youth can be used for both constructive or destructive purposes. It is therefore imperative to raise the moral standard of the youth and direct their energy towards positive activities to achieve desired results. Youth should be given spiritual orientation through lectures, seminars and discussions to make them so that they realise that unless a positive environment is created in the society, nothing fruitful can be achieved.

The present environment in the society is vitiated with youth increasingly taking to crimes, thereby creating disorder in the society and most of the crimes are committed by the youth in the range of 14 to 40 years, creating disorder in the society. A positive change in society can be brought only if the youth get reformed as upright youth are foundation of the future. When a young man steps into the world, he faces many challenges like fierce competition, unemployment, corruption and growing insecurity.. Where to go? What to do? He is totally confused. He does not have motivation or courage to follow right path.

The outward glamour of modern society lures him to take short-cuts to make fast buck through questionable means. He thanks God for the windfall. But when he finds himself behind bars, he goes to a saint and asks as to why God is so cruel to him?

Saint says: "God has planned a disciplined route for you. If you deviate from it, who is to be blamed for that? Come out of the trap of shortcuts, work hard with honesty and reward will come in due course. Sow seeds of good deeds, nourish them well to reap fruits."

Youth: "But nobody is honest. Why should I work hard and show honesty.. Why should I not take to short-cuts?

Saint: "You have already suffered once when you followed the dubious path of dishonesty. Do not repeat the mistake. Why



do you say society is dishonest? Are you not a part of the society? Can whole be better than its constituents? Can society be better than you as its constituent? Unless you as a unit are not honest, society cannot be honest. Now you have to decide for yourself. Be honest. Others will automatically follow you. Do not wait for others to be honest first. Others are rather waiting for you to take the initiative. Be honest, you are young. Do not undermine your potential. Follow the path shown by great seers and saints before it is too late. Never blame the Society or Nature for your misdeeds".

Once two young men were discussing about Nature and its role. One of them said that Nature is very cruel while the other was saying that Nature is very kind. Discussion led to arguments. Neither of them was ready to surrender or agree with the opinion of the other. They decided to go to a saint and seek his opinion. The saint pondered for a while and then remarked that both of them were correct. After hearing this, both of them were surprised as to how they both could be correct when their opinions were contradictory. They asked the saint to elaborate. The saint explained that Nature is neither cruel nor kind. In fact, Nature doesn't give you anything. It merely returns to you what you have given to it. If you sow seeds of cruelty, it will return cruelty to you, if you have been kind to others, it will return kindness to you. It is for you to decide what you want from the Nature.

Youth should not criticise Society or Nature. They must realise that whatever good or bad happens, it is the result of their (mis)deeds. Bhagwat Gita says: "God has given the man a free will to act. He (God) remains a silent spectator. He has also given people the ability to make various moral choices by bestowing upon them the

faculty of thinking and understanding. Everyone is responsible for his own actions. God does not micromanage everyone's life and destiny. He has given the ability to choose the right or the wrong path. He will simply make you bear the results of your actions."So it is for the youth to tread righteous path for their own benefit and the overall good of the society.



**66th Annual
Nirankari
Sant Samagam
Dates Announced**

With the blessings of His Holiness Baba Hardev Singh Ji Maharaj, the 66th Annual Nirankari Sant Samagam will be held in Delhi on **November 23, 24 and 25, 2013**. The dates were announced in the presence of His Holiness Baba Hardev Singh Ji Maharaj by Rev. K.R, Chadha, Vice-Chairman, Central Planning and Advisory Board during Sunday congregation in Delhi, on July 21, 2013. The mammoth gathering in the Sangat hailed the news with clapping of hands.

— C.L. Gulati
Secretary, S.N.M.





Youth Empowerment

— Lt. Col (Retd.) C S Toor

Today's youth is more aware in comparison to the youth of the earlier generations, be it in the social, economic or scientific field because they are living in the age of digital media. Who could ever imagine that one would be able to talk to anyone, from anywhere on the cell phone and even see his photograph while chatting on the net? Who could dream that man would walk on the moon? Likewise, one just can't count the number of modern facilities which we all are enjoying. But these discoveries and inventions can also act as a double edged weapon, which could be used for constructive as well as destructive purposes. The young brain always gets influenced by the destructive activity, deriving adventure out of it. A very few youngsters are using the modern facilities for human welfare. As such, the old and experienced parents and teachers must motivate the young minds to use their energies for a better and happy future.

Almost 70% of India's population is young and hence it can not only offer a great opportunity but also meet challenges. This vast 'Youth Power' must not be allowed to lie idle or be misused. These young people are the biggest resource of any country and a country of India's stature needs to empower this resource as the youth of today is the future of tomorrow.

It is a pity that as one gradually gains experience, one loses one's youth. But another wise man Ernest Hemingway says, "The error of

youth is to believe that intelligence is a substitute for experience while the error of age is to believe that experience is a substitute for intelligence."

The youth of a nation are the trustees of posterity. They have to be inspired to realize the purpose of human life. Amongst all the species of the world, human beings is supreme as it is not only conscious but also self conscious. That is why, it is said that God has made man in his own image. Hence his activities should be God like. . If one is aware of His omnipresence, one would not indulge in wrong doings as all actions get recorded in the invisible diary of the Almighty. But to guard against such negative thoughts, one has to come face to face with God, that is to have God Knowledge (Gyan), which is only possible with the grace of the Perfect Lord Master (Satguru) of the time, who is present in human form in all the ages like Nirankari Baba Hardev Singh is present today.

In order to learn anything, we require a teacher (Guru). Our parents, school and college teachers and professional tutors have all contributed to our worldly knowledge we possess today. In the same way, the spiritual teacher (Satguru) teaches us the truth (i.e. God knowledge). When one is aware that one is being watched by the omnipresent, one would not do anything wrong deliberately. God forgives if one unknowingly commits some wrong but one has to face consequences if some wrong is committed deliberately.

Ever since there have been human beings on this earth, there have also been Spiritual Masters to enlighten us about the real purpose of life. The great saints came to earth, not just to make the physical world a better place to live, but to reveal to



us the 'Spirit' so as to free us from the bondage of birth and death. There were true spiritual teachers in the past, but we cannot benefit from them now. We need a living teacher of the present day. Just as a sick man has to consult a living doctor and cannot take treatment from a posthumous doctor no matter how famous the doctor was, similarly we need a living Spiritual Master.

A spiritual teacher does not merely show us the way but takes us to our destination. I met my spiritual guide, His Holiness Baba Avtar Singh Ji Maharaj way back in 1957, just after my schooling. There was not an iota of doubt in my mind that He was not the prefect divine master of that time. I realized God by His benevolence and became aware of His omnipresence. This God knowledge (Gyan) motivated me as a young man to be truthful, honest and helpful to all others. I was afraid of doing wrong deeds. I was aware of the watchful eye of Nirankar (God). I had been an average student in the class, but I worked sincerely, got the guidance of the holy congregation (Sadh Sangat) and joined the profession of my choice, whereas my classmates were not so lucky. Likewise I motivated my children and got them attached to the Nirankari Sangat, with the result they also achieved their professional aims.

We elders must become a role model for the youth. As we sow, so shall we reap. Somebody has rightly said that the man is the architect of his own destiny. Our habits and character have to be transparent. Our life style should be an automatic motivating factor for them. We have to inspire, empower and energize youth for the achievement of their vision of a peaceful, sustainable and multicultural



society at a global level and also provide a powerful platform to voice their needs and concerns regarding the future of the coming generations.

Nirankari youth who are studying in foreign countries are the real windows to the outside world. They should set an example for their classmates and play a pivotal role in spreading the message of the Mission. Nirankari Baba Hardev Singh Ji Maharaj has desired at a number of occasions that our youth must be encouraged to take active part in the functioning and spreading of the Mission. This is also a message for the older people of my generation to make way for the young who have the energy and vigour to carry the Mission to greater heights. It is said 'seeing is believing'. The youth have to first see God and then feel His presence all around and remember Him with every breath (Simran). This is the only panacea to control the young brain from taking to evil ways and instead utilize it for positive actions.



Youth and The Mission

Starting from a lane in Peshawar (Pakistan) in 1929, the Sant Nirankari Mission has found its way all over the world during last eight decades. Now, there lies a gigantic but delicate job of carrying message of the Mission to every head and heart through multi-reach methods and studied efforts, on priority basis. When the Mission starts, it is the founder devotees who put their heart and soul in establishing it. Thereafter, it is the Second Line who work for the Mission in unison and globalise it in the interest of all. Identifying the Second Line, it is obviously the youth whose intimate involvement in the Mission has been stressed time and again by Satguru Babaji. While the Mission looks forward to the youth to carry the Mission at every door step, at the same time youth equally needs the Mission to spiritualise their energy for an accomplished and blissful life.

Addressing thousands of young participants in Run of Oneness in Vadodra (Gujrat) on April 7, 2013 Satguru Babaji said that the Mission has been involving the youth in one or the other noble cause for the welfare of humanity, particularly since the

first Nirankari International Samagam held in Birmingham (U.K.) in August, 2012. Today also they are participating in the Run for Oneness of mankind and peaceful co-existence which are need of the day. Winning the race is not that important as the participation itself. The glory and satisfaction of participation remains for ever. We should-therefore run for a cause and not for applause. We win applause when our cause is noble and for the good of all. There is unlimited ignorance across the world and many a run is required with the lamp of Divine Light to wipe out the thick veil of ignorance plaguing the society at large, Babaji added.

There is a reference in the Holy Bible that remembrance of God should begin in youth when he can contribute in the service of mankind also. In case one gets aged, he may not find any interest in God as by then one is fully engaged in worldly life.

Conversely, the impact of attaining knowledge of God by youth is directly to inspire in the very beginning of one's life to vouchsafe pious and meaning life:

"Remember your Creator in the days of your youth before the days of trouble come, and the years approach when you will say, 'I find no pleasure in them.'"

Ecclesiastes 12:1

It is therefore, high time that aging guards of the Mission pointedly focus on the youth and safeguard them from deviating from the path of Truth. On the



other hand, it is the foremost task of youngsters to study the literature of Mission to know its history and imbibe its philosophy. This will not only help them sort out their own queries, but also make them well-versed potential representatives of the Mission. The enlightened and educated youth can successfully make inroads in every strata of society. They can convince the seekers logically and scientifically.

Blessing the Executive Committee members in the meeting dated 29.04.13, Satguru Babaji, interelia stressed, "The youngsters need be brought forward. Involvement of youth should essentially be made a part of our system which is lacking at present. There is a bubbling enthusiasm in youth. During Nirankari International Samagam in U.K. in August, 2012, the youth remarkably participated in socio-welfare activities. The Mission got exposure and became widely known across the world. Eversince our taking up socio-charitable activities, the Mission is getting added exposure which goes to the credit of youth."

In the field, we know that Sanjoyak is designated by Satguru Babaji himself. Respecting him is equivalent to respecting the Satguru. Conversely, Sanyojak like the head of family (Sangat), is to ensure that every able and available devotee is effectively involved in the activities of the

Mission. To make optimum benefit of Divine Knowledge, it has to be linked with Sewa (Service). For gaining sewa one has to start from a scratch and then continue scratching for whole of life. The youth have got to make themselves available to the Mission according to their capabilities. If they have the knowledge of computers, accounts work or other specialization, they have to report their ability and availability to the local Sanyojak / Mukhi to reap the benefits. While assigning specialized assignments to the youth as per their professional qualifications and experience, the youth can also very conveniently be used for raising subscriptions of the Nirankari Magazines in a planned way.

With the blessings of Satguru Babaji, when the maturity of elders is combined with the dynamic energy of the youth, it produces wonderful results. The elders have a major role to play to help the youth to achieve better. Let the sanyojaks and the youth around the world open their close fists for a promising handshake. This would give new dimension to the message of the Mission and prove:-

**"When the Mission and Youth combine,
It promises success of Second Line."**

— C.L.G.





Unique Example Of Energetic Youth

Satguru Baba Hardev Singh Ji

The lives of 'Mahapurshas' with exceptional endowments have been like a Lotus flower in muddy water. They start creating a great impact on society from their childhood, instead of becoming fearful of the discrepancies and distortions prevailing in society. Be it Swami Vivekanand, Adi Shankaracharya or Sant Gyaneshwar; all of them achieved so much in their young age that one couldn't do in centuries. These saints led a meaningful life which was beneficent for mankind in all respects. The divine personage of Baba Hardev Singh Ji, who appeared as the Lord Master at the young age of 26, is marked by such wonderful attributes and

divine energy that leaves people spell-bound. The life of Satguru Baba Ji magnetically attracts the attention of the people and they get filled with pleasant surprises and hopes.

Satguru Baba Hardev Singh Ji was born on February 23, 1954 in Delhi. Now, at the age of 59, he has crores of followers in India and abroad. He is committed to energise the youth and show them the right direction. Baba Ji himself got an enriching guidance from 'Shehanshah' Baba Avtar Singh Ji and Baba Gurbachan Singh Ji. He uttered such sagacious words at the age of 10, which reveal his supremely divine personality. He said, "Only the True Master can bestow God-realisation. We are fortunate that we did not have to wander here and there to attain the Truth as it exists in our conscience, home, family as well as the whole cosmos."

Baba Ji's personality developed on the sound basis of spirituality. Good-will, humility and patience are his natural attributes. He had great reverence for mankind since his childhood. His virtues gained strength as he became an active member of 'Sewadal'. He considered himself most fortunate as he rendered his services to the Mission. He was quite adept in still photography and videography. His interest in mountaineering came handy in further strengthening his will-power.

Baba Ji got married to Reverend Sawinder Kaur Ji on 14, November, 1975. His utmost sincerity in fulfilling his duties towards his parents, wife and family is highly impressive. After Baba Gurbachan Singh Ji's martyrdom in 1980, a great turning point came in Baba Hardev Singh Ji's life. He took over the responsibility as Head of Sant Nirankari Mission at the young age of 26.

Carrying out the enormous task of uplifting humanity, he made innumerable salvation-tours to every nook and corner in





India and abroad. Baba Ji's practical life greatly contributed to spread the 'Truth'. Based on love and empathy, his spiritual realm kept on expanding.



Keeping the ultimate target of promoting oneness intact, he went on ruling over the hearts of all, be it children, youth or elderly people. During this period, he acknowledge the talents of young people and rendered them services for the welfare of mankind.



The gigantic task of leading the youth to the righteous path carries immense possibilities within it. Resultantly, the world scenario is changing for the better day by day. Baba Hardev Singh Ji is a living example of the proper utilization of the energy of youth by accomplishing remarkably memorable deeds in various fields.





Youth Should March Forward

Satguru Baba Gurbachan Singh Ji

Today, the youth are blamed and criticized all over the world. I think that we should listen to what they say. They are enthusiastic to perform the tasks assigned to them and we should encourage this spirit to the maximum. In the world whenever the youth come together to perform welfare duties for the benefit of humanity; people undermine their enthusiasm by calling it just a monetary passion of the youth. People get apprehensive of the change that may be brought by the collective effort of the youth.

Sometimes people think that

if young blood gets involved in social reforms or other welfare activities, it will adversely affect their studies, job or business and may hinder their domestic responsibilities. But it is not like that. A human being is able to perform various roles, like he may be a clerk or boss in his office, a family member in his home, a player in the playground but he behaves in accordance with his role. Similarly, when a person attends congregation, he is a devotee, worshipping God. People carry a wrong notion that young men and women will become altogether different people if they get involved in the welfare of the society or attend holy congregations to worship God. If young people can perform different worldly roles, they can also take part in the activities of social reform and missionary work.

In our Mission also, the youth are already rendering different kinds of services like in Sewadal, Publicity and Publication etc. They are supposed to keep on rendering these services. Besides, they can join their other young fellow-devotees and take part in the campaign to encourage simple marriages and to prevent the use of intoxicants. They can also help out the sick and disabled. They should also take interest in boosting the sale of Mission publications, thereby rendering service to spread the message of the mission. But they have to take care that their performance in rendering the already-assigned services must not get slackened. I do think that the youth must come to the forefront in the congregations to spread the message of the Mission. Some people feel that the youngsters are immature and if young people undertake some task collectively, they will turn things topsy-turvy which may create problems in the existing system. But



nothing as such happens, if the youth are aware, awakened and alert. Rather, the spirit of the young makes the 'seemingly impossible' tasks possible.

When the youngsters observe the old, they feel like sharing their work and help them to solve various problems. They should not be reprimanded or discouraged for doing so. Rather, it becomes the duty of the elderly people to encourage and inspire youth with love to work even more and harder. If some shortcomings are observed on the part of the youth, even then they should be tackled affectionately.

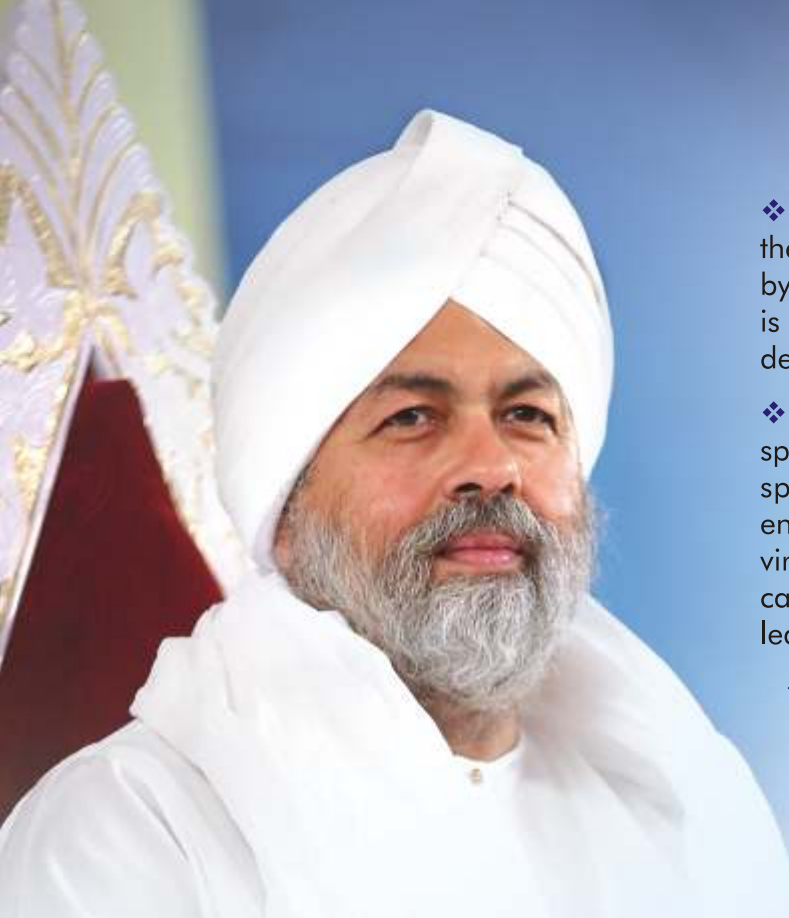
The opinions of the young should not be taken lightly because sometimes we learn a lot from children. Saints imbibe goodness from wherever they can. So the good points of the young should be well-taken. Similarly, youngsters also must not misunderstand and nurture any wrong feelings for the elderly people. Youth should ever be inclined to learn from the



experience of their elders and work under their shelter. The main feeling that should be fostered is that we are all saints dedicated to the cause of the Mission. We must follow our True Master and spread the message of the Mission jointly. Carrying forward this feeling, we should move ahead and perform various tasks besides rendering service, attending congregations, doing 'Simran' (God-remembrance) as well as taking part in welfare-activities.

The youth should move ahead with such feelings and the elders should fully cooperate with them. If we work together with this spirit, even if some shortcomings are there, these will automatically get removed some way or the other by the grace of God.





Energetic Youth should benefit from the experience of elders

❖ When the experience of the elders gets added to the energy of the youth, extraordinary achievements can be made. The knowledge that the youth has is transformed into wisdom and it stands by them till the end. Resultantly, the generation-gap is also bridged.

❖ Elderly people play an important role in strengthening the achievements made by the youth. So the youngsters should always revere their elders and be inclined to learn from them.

❖ Youngsters should remain in touch with their fellow-beings and benefit themselves by sharing their experiences. The purpose is to attain positivity in every action and deed.

❖ Great tasks can be accomplished in all spheres of life, if the foundation is based on spirituality. It fosters morality which enriches one's life. Man imbibes divine virtues and is able to lead a clean life, casting away vices which otherwise don't leave even people of eminence.

❖ It is essential to inspire the young so that they may render service, attend congregation and concentrate on 'God-remembrance'. This confers on them a unique identity and they lead an exemplary life. The discipline and dedication of the young members of Nirankari Sewadal gets credit everywhere.

❖ Young members of Nirankari Mission are being praised for their social service overseas as well like in England, America and Canada. Recently, they organized programmes to bring about awareness to prevent cancer. They also lovingly reached out to old helpless people which had a great impact over there.

❖ It is prerequisite that peace and unity should prevail in the country to make progress of any kind. The outcome of unity is the peaceful atmosphere which further stimulates much cherished progress. Nirankari Mission is making this clarion call today that if we want personal growth as well as the progress of our country, we must carry along the youth with us.

(Satguru Baba Hardev Singh Ji Maharaj)



Satguru Babaji's Salvation tour of Uttarakhand

Make truth the basis of life

— Satguru Baba Ji

Mussoorie, June 6: Satguru Baba Hardev Singh Ji said that all those who make Truth (God) as the basis of their life, they reach its zenith. They only have the spirit of love, goodwill well-being of others and selfless devotion. He was addressing the devotees at Camelback Road congregation Hall.

Satguru Baba Ji added that on the other hand, there are such selfish people whose pride knows no bounds on getting some knowledge, power or popularity. Such people could never attain stature on this basis. Rather, whosoever gained prominence it was because of his modesty. Such people always





give prominence to God in their lives, and attained sublime status. Those who considered power, knowledge, popularity or physical attributes as the means of becoming important, they could never attain that stature. Therefore, saints have always been giving importance to 'Formless' and in the process, they themselves became

human life gets refined and it achieves its sublime status. Whosoever imbibes such pious feelings he becomes a 'moving temple'.

Saints and sages imbibe humility to the core and become devout. People worship them and they are revered. They may be commoners living in a hut, but they have always attained the kind of status which even the kings or scholars could not achieve.

Baba Ji said that our ego becomes a hurdle in achieving these heights in life. Yet all those who shed their ego, they go on attaining the sublime height in true sense.

Life Gets Refined When There Is Purity In Mind

Dehradun, 13th June: Satguru Baba Ji while blessing the devotees at Sant Nirankari Satsang Bhawan said that the beauty of life depends upon refinement of mind.

Baba Ji went on to add that the saints are benevolent and serve humanity physically, mentally and financially. This is why it has been said:

"Tarwar sarvar santjan, chotha barse meh,
parmarth ke karne charo dharein deh."

The trees, rivers, saints and rain always act for the welfare of others. In the present



important.

Saints always have the feelings of welfare of others which is being given importance. Since ages it has been desired that such spirit of welfare of others is imbibed by everybody, so that



scenario the contribution of saints is of utmost importance.

Satguru Baba Ji said that there is darkness of ignorance in the world and the same can be eliminated by spreading the light of knowledge. God knowledge removes misconceptions in life. The mind gets refined with the enlightenment through God-knowledge. It is on account of ignorance that man is bonded in shackles. It is possible to get liberated from these bondages and make life spontaneous through God realisation.

Mussoorie (Uttarakhand) June 23: Blessing the Congregation at Sant Nirankari Satsang Bhawan at Camel Back Road Satguru Baba Ji said that saints imbibe the spirit of well-being of others. So they are always ready for the service of mankind. One should be a boon and not a curse for the society. Rise above selfishness, and consciously perform acts of benevolence.

Satguru Baba Ji added that saints give inspiration for saving and grooming mankind for betterment of life here and hereafter and one gets redemption. This inspiration brings fruitful results whereas the contrarian inspirations bring a bad name. Saints remember the Formless with every breath. One should live a life in a way that it is a boon for others and brings glory to oneself too. Imbibe the spirit of love, compassion, kindness and service.

Satguru Baba Ji informed that the present day June 23, has been declared as 'The Compassion Day' by the UNO. He said the religion signifies compassion. Virtue of compassion only comes when God dwells in the heart:

'Sant hri-dey navneet samana'

The heart of a saint is softer than butter. Butter melts only when heated up, but the heart of saints melt on seeing the misery of others. They feel the pain of other's grief.

Saints render service like flowers. Flowers are useful at all occasions. We have to beautify this world like flowers. We should spread cheerfulness and not gloom; we should be broad-minded and not narrow-minded. We should imbibe humility and kindness. People with negative temperament cause harm to others.

During the time of Tsunami in Andamans, the saints on the call from Baba Ji were anxious to help others, even though their own homes had developed cracks. It has been aptly said:

**'Sant na hotey jagat me
to jal marta sansar'**

What would happen if there is only fire and no water? Saints have the soothing effect like that of water. About 25 years ago there was a fire in the forests of Calgary, Vancouver (Canada). The fire was raging on both sides of the forest but it could not spread as there was a lake in between. There shall be no respite if men with gentle





temperament do not exist. Even saints also need to be sensitized time and again not to forsake compassion, broad mindedness, tolerance, kindness and patience so that humanism survives and does not disappear altogether.

Devotees Are Ever Ready For Acts of Benevolence

Mussoorie July 7: Saints give solace to others by their actions and conduct. Rising above self-interest and worldly desires, they dedicate themselves to the acts of benevolence. Satguru Baba Hardev Singh Ji expressed these thoughts, while addressing a mammoth gathering at Camelback Road Congregation Hall.

Satguru Baba Hardev Singh Ji appreciated the relief operations undertaken by various government agencies as well as Sant Nirankari Mission for those affected by Uttarakhand floods. He said that Sewadal volunteers and officials are significantly contributing towards relieving the pain of victims. "On one hand, we have selfish people, while here acts of benevolence are being performed selflessly with love and compassion. When love dwells in the heart, one is ready to sacrifice everything. That is why such important contributions are being made physically, mentally and financially".

"Wealth and knowledge are worthless if used for self-interests and personal cravings. They are meaningful only if put to use for the welfare of humanity. Spirit of kinship must prevail, irrespective of whether someone comes from Garhwal, Maharashtra, Rajasthan or America. Nobody is an alien. Devotees consider everybody as the member of their own family. But instead of loving each other, men are exploiting one another. The spirit of oneness is missing and people are getting divided. Groupism causes divisions", said Baba Ji.

Satguru Baba Ji added that other than Delhi, his maximum time is spent in Mussoorie. He recalled that he had been visiting Mussoorie since childhood days with Baba Avtar Singh Ji and Baba Gurbachan Singh Ji even before the present Satsang Bhawan had come up. "Almost two months would be spent here. A cottage in Kulhari Bazar would be booked in advance. We would stay there and also hold congregation there with just four or five Nirankari families residing in Mussoorie. Those few families had the privilege of doing all the service. With the passage of time, we got the present Congregation Hall and two Mussoorie conferences were held here in 1965 and 1973".



Homage

J.D. Sharma Ji devoted himself with Complete Surrender

- Satguru Baba Ji

Delhi 28th June, 2013: The devotees surrender themselves completely and through their actions and conduct they connect people to God. Paying tribute to Major J.D. Sharma, Satguru Baba Hardev Singh Ji expressed these thoughts while blessing the congregation at ground no. 8, Burari Road.

Satguru Baba Ji said that everyone was remembering Major J.D. Sharma, with love



and reverence. "After being blessed with God knowledge, he instilled the spirit of service and devotion in each and every member of his family. He would travel with me for 8 hours at a stretch on rough roads but would serve with a smile. He had a passion for spreading message of Truth with enthusiasm and seek pleasure from it.

Satguru Baba Ji recalled that when Major Sharma was in the Army, he was a chain smoker and also used to drink as is the practice in Army. "But after perceiving God he immediately shunned all such habits. He was fond of writing and reciting songs and poems. Even during adverse time for the Mission in 1978 his enthusiasm did not diminish. He had an immense will power so

much so that despite the heart problem, he continued to work with the same enthusiasm for years. Due to these qualities and his resource-



fulness he was made Member Incharge, Public Relations and disseminated the message of truth to intellectuals by arranging seminars. I had the opportunity to attend a seminar in London. The message of the Mission was given from these platforms as well. He had much enthusiasm for the English medium congregations also. His contribution towards security arrangements was also praiseworthy. His passion towards congregation was more than towards his family", said Baba Ji.

The saints who paid their tributes included Sh. JRD Satyarthi (President, Sant Nirankari, Mandal), Sh. Sandip Khinda, Tarun Sharma his son, Col. D.S. Dogra, Gaurav Malhotra, Gyanmani Saxena, Dr. Vinod etc. Jagat Ji presented a song based on the life history of Sharma's life. The stage was conducted by Sulekh Saathi.

Major J.D. Sharma breathed his last on 24th June, 2013. On 26th June, his last rites were performed with honour at local Nigam Bodh Ghat. Major Sharma was born to Pandit Shiv Kumar and Shanti Devi on 18th of December 1936 in Ramba (Karnal), Haryana. He was blessed with divine knowledge in 1973. From 1980 onwards he served faithfully in the capacity of Security officer of Baba Hardev Singh Ji and later as Member Incharge, Security, Public Relations and Member CP&AB.

Report : Harjit Nishad





Service with Humility



Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation's Relief Work for Uttarkhand Calamity

Nirankari devotees from all over India are generously contributing towards relief fund for those affected by the natural calamity in Uttarakhand, under the directions of the Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation. The affected people are being provided food items, clothes and other items of daily use.

According to the Secretary of the Foundation, Sh. C.L. Gulati, the spiritually enlightened Nirankaris who have been actively involved in the service of humanity, are ever ready to extend all kind of help. Relief items have been transported through trucks from Delhi. Rishikesh and Sri Nagar have been made regional centres for receiving and from these centres, relief items are being transported in small vehicles. Thousands of Sewa Dal volunteers are actively involved in distributing relief items including blankets, clothes, Terrapauls, shoes, food items, cooking utensils and medicines, besides offering other services.

In Sri Nagar (Garhwal), all facilities have been made available at the Nirankari Satsang Bhawan for help to affected families at the earliest. A team of doctors and nurses with ambulance is stationed at Kedarghati, Chanderpuri, Phata, Guptkashi, and Kalimat to provide necessary health facilities to the victims.

There are 115 branches of

Sant Nirankari Mandal in Uttarakhand. The volunteers of Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation have been making efforts to evacuate affected people from remote villages and taking them to safe places. The General Secretary of Tehri Vikas Nigam has appreciated the contribution made by Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation and proper distribution of relief material by Nirankari volunteers.

The volunteers under the guidance of Regional Sanchalak of Tehri Garhwal are giving all kinds of services to provide succour to the flood affected families. Community meals are also being provided at various places.

The Muzaffar Nagar Branch of Sant Nirankari Mandal provided 120 quintal of fodder for distribution to feed the flood affected cattle of Shergur Bela (Haridwar). On this occasion, the local MLA Kunwar Pranav Singh was also present.

Sh. C.L. Gulati, ji has given a call to the Nirankari saints as well as common public to contribute towards Uttarakhand relief fund. The donations given to the Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation, are exempt under section 80 G(5)(vi) of the Income Tax Act. The receipt books of the Charitable Foundation are available with all the branches. Those





who don't need exemption under the Income Tax Act, they can give donations and get receipts from the routine receipt books available at the branches.

Special Blood Donation Camp For Uttarakhand Flood Victims



Puja Mata Ji donated blood
Dehradun



, June 30: A blood donation camp was organised for Uttarakhand flood victims. In this camp as many as 335 units of blood were collected. Puja Mata Sawinder Ji also donated blood.

Sant Nirankari Charitable Foundation, and State Blood Access Society organised this camp jointly and many sections of the society participated enthusiastically in the camp along with the volunteers of Nirankari Mission. Uttarakhand State Health Minister,



Sh. Surinder Singh and Sports Minister Sh. Dinesh Agrawal were also present on this occasion. Presiding over holy congregation organised on this occasion, Sh. Kirpa Sagar, Member-Incharge (Press & Publicity) who spoke at the Satsang organized on this occasion said that blood donation is the best form of charity, one can give life to another person by donating blood.



Sh. Piyush Singh IAS; (Project Director), Dr Harleen Kaur Sandhu (Director, SBDC) and Dr Meenakshi Uniyal (Senior Project Director), and Smt. Parvati Pandey (Advisor: Voluntary Blood Donation Programme) contributed significantly towards the success of the camp. Dr Sanjay Kaushik, Dr Anil Rajput, VS Bhardwaj, Arun Singh Negi, Kishore Singh Rawat and other doctors of Mahant Indesh Hospital, the Himalayan Hospital, Doon Hospital made their contribution towards the collection of blood. Zonal Incharge, Sh. Harbhajan Singh and Co-ordinator Kalam Singh thanked them.

Another blood donation camp was organised in Haridwar at Sant Nirankari Satsang Bhawan situated at Jawalapur Road where Union Minister for Water Resources, Sh. Harish Rawat, Mayor, Sh. Manoj Garg and Senior Superintendent of Police Haridwar were also present.

As a part of Foundation's nationwide blood donation camps, 116 units of blood from Gobind Puri, Delhi 97 units from Najafgarh, Delhi 185 units from Sidhgora, 150 units from Bhubaneswar, 150 units from Dadar, 90 units from Rajouri, 200 units from Ludhiana, 55 units from Agartala, 253 units from Chennai, 100 units from Danapur, 128 units from Arjun Nagar, 344 units from Derabassi, 75 units from Chandola, 300 units from Bengaluru, 194 units from Hyderabad, 62 units from Basti, 135 units from Rajkot, 54 units from Surat, 75 units from Sagar, 151 units from Muzzafarnagar, 203 units from Aligarh, 52 units from Banda, 225 units from Sholapur, 61 units from Chitamani, 164 units from Jhumritalaia, 500 units from Taran Taran, 117 units from Bhopal were donated by devotees. Blood donation camps were also organised overseas in Berlin, Kuwait, UAE and Tracy.

English Translation : Asha Kapoor



With the blessings of Satguru
Baba Hardev Singh Ji Maharaj

Mukti Parva Samagam

will be held on

Thursday, 15 August, 2013

at Samagam Ground,
Nirankari Chowk, Burari Road,
Delhi-9

PROGRAMME

Congregation : 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Discourse by Babaji : 4.00 p.m.

Note :

- ❖ Langar will start at 11.00 a.m.
- ❖ Branches of Delhi and Greater Delhi will celebrate the Mukti Parva in Delhi only.

C.L. Gulati
Secretary (Hqrs.)
Sant Nirankari Mandal,
Delhi-110009



Satguru Babaji
blessing the
devotees in Sant
Nirankari Satsang
Bhawan,
Mussoorie
(Uttarakhand)

Huge gathering
of devotees
seeking
blessings of
Satguru Babaji in
Mussoorie
(Uttarakhand)



Satguru Babaji,
flanked by Rev.
Rajmata ji and
Pujiya Mata ji,
addressing and
blessing
devotees in a
mega
congregation
organized in the
premises of
Chhatarpur
Temple,
Meharauli, Delhi



On return from
Uttarakhand
Salvation Tour,
Satguru Babaji
blessing the
devotees in a
Samagam
organized in Ground
No. 8 Nirankari
Chowk, Delhi.
Nirankari Rajmataji
and Pujiya Mataji
also share the dias

Satguru Babaji
blessing devotees
in a Samagam
held in Dehradun,
the capital of
Uttarakhand



Sant Nirankari
Charitable
Foundation
continuously
sending Truck
loads of eatable
material, clothes
and many other
items of daily use
to the victims of
the Uttarakhand
disaster

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Prescribed Dates 5th & 6th
Dates of Publication : 2nd & 3rd
Same Month