



**Bhai Sahiba Bibiji Inderjit Kaur Khalsa Awarded
Sikhs In Education at the Sikh Awards 2017 in Toronto.**

Eighth Annual Sikh Awards took place in Toronto, Honoring Global Sikh Excellence

TheSikhAwards.com

Sunday, 22nd October 2017, Canada: **Bhai Sahiba Bibiji Inderjit Kaur Khalsa**, was honored with the **Sikhs In Education Award** at the eighth annual Sikh Awards 2017, which took place at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel, Toronto. This award is bestowed to any Sikh educational establishment, teacher or individual that is taking a strategic approach to recognizing, educating and developing the talent and skills within the community.

The Sikh Awards 2017 Winners are:

The Special Recognition Award

RT HON PRIME MINISTER JUSTIN TRUDEAU PC MP - (CANADA)

Justin Trudeau is Canada's 23rd Prime Minister. He also serves as Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and Minister of Youth. He was born on 25th December 1971. Justin studied literature at McGill University, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts. He went on to complete the University of British Columbia's education program, and spent several years teaching French, math and other subjects in Vancouver. In 2005 he married Sophie Grégoire and they are now the proud parents of Xavier, Ella-Grace and Hadrien. Justin was elected Leader of the Liberal Party in April 2013. On 19th October 2015, Justin led his party to victory and was sworn in on 4th November 2015. One of his first public appearances, as Prime Minister was a visit to the Gurudwara in Ottawa to celebrate Diwali. Last year, he also attended the Vaisakhi celebrations in Parliament and the first Akhand Paath that was held in Centre Block where Kirtan was performed and Langar was served by the MP's. Punjabi has become the third most spoken language by Members of the House of Commons. The current Cabinet consists of 17 Sikh members, 4 cabinet ministers and this year he also appointed the first Sikh to the Canadian Senate.

Sikhs in Education

For any Sikh educational establishment, teacher or individual that is taking a strategic approach to recognising, educating and developing the talent and skills within the community.

BHAI SAHIBA BIBIJI INDERJIT KAUR KHALSA - (USA)

Panth Rattan Bhai Sahiba Bibiji Inderjit Kaur, PHD is the Chief Religious Minister of Sikh Dharma International and the wife of late Yogi Bhajan. Thousands of students' lives around the world have been changed by the lifelong work and mission of Bibiji and Yogi Bhajan to spread the Guru's teachings. Many of their students have started practicing the Sikh faith and these new western Sikhs have built Gurudwaras, throughout the U.S.A. and other countries. Bibiji's outstanding work for humanity has brought recognition globally. She was given the title of Bhai Sahiba by the Sri Akal Takhat Sahib in 2004, the Jewel of the Nation in 2005, Ambassador of Peace in 2006, the Pride of India award in 2007, named the Governor's Representative to India in 2007 and the Jewel of the Punjab in 2017, There are many students from diverse countries who study at the Miri Piri Academy, a boarding school they founded in Amritsar. Bibiji has authored numerous of books on Sikh education.

Karen Johnson-Basra, who currently serves as a weather anchor/reporter for CBC Toronto and CBC Windsor, hosted the event. The Sikh Awards recognizes the pivotal contributions made by the Sikh community across a variety of fields, from business, charity, education, entertainment, professional services, selfless service and sport, with winners selected across the globe from Asia, USA, Canada, Australia, Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

This year's winners included:

- **Right Honorable Prime Minister Justin Trudeau (Canada)** - Special Recognition Award
- **Bhai Sahiba Bibiji Inderjit Kaur Khalsa (USA)** - Sikhs in Education
- **Mrs Balwinder Kaur Takhar (Canada)** – Women in Business Award
- **Mr Balbir Singh Kakar (India)** – Men in Business Award
- **Mr Harmeek Singh (UAE)** - Entrepreneur Award
- **Sardar Ramesh Singh Khalsa - Pakistan Sikh Council (Pakistan)** - Sikhs in Charity
- **Mrs Gurinder Kaur Chadha MBE (UK)** - Sikhs in Entertainment
- **Mr Jagmeet Singh (Canada)** - Sikhs in Profession
- **Mr Navdeep Singh Bhatia (Canada)** - Sikhs in Seva
- **Mr Jinder Mahal (Yuvraj Singh Dhese) (Canada)** - Sikhs in Sport
- **Mr Jaspreet Singh Nyotta (UK)** - The Sikh People's Choice Award
- **Sardarni Mann Kaur Ji (India)** - The Sikh Lifetime Achievement Award

This prestigious event saw over 500 guests in attendance from elite international dignitaries to public figures, community heroes, sports stars and celebrities. Esteemed guests at the event included Minister Badish Kaur Chagger, Patrick Brown, Maxime

Bernier, Randeep Sarai, Adrienne Batra, Peter MacKay, Bob Saroya, Dr. Ruby Dhalla and David Mirvish.

Each year, The Sikh Awards takes a theme as the central focus for the evening's celebrations. This year the event highlighted the 150th anniversary of Canada, also known as 150th anniversary of Confederation. 2017 marks a significant moment in the History of Canada.

This event also recognized and honored the 350th birth anniversary of Guru Gobind Singh Ji that took place on 5th January 2017 at Takhat Sri Harimandir Ji, Patna Sahib, one of the five seats of spiritual and temporal authority of Sikhism. The paramount purpose of celebrating Guru Gobind Singh Ji's 350th birth anniversary was to pay loving tribute to the Saint-Soldier Guru, who not only created the Khalsa fraternity, but also blessed Sikhs with the highest exalted spiritual authority - Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji.

Another highlight of the event, hosted by the media organization The Sikh Directory, was the launch of the 6th edition of The Sikh 100 Power List, profiling the world's most prominent Sikhs in the global community

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Sikhism is a religion founded by Guru Nanak Dev Ji and has over 26 million followers worldwide. It is ranked as the world's fifth largest religion.

About the founder Navdeep Singh

Navdeep Singh, founder and publisher is dedicated towards serving and connecting businesses around the world. He has been honoured, by the former Prime Minister of India, Sardar Manmohan Singh for his services to the Sikh community throughout the world. Navdeep Singh has created three established and trusted global brands 'The Sikh Directory', 'The Sikh Awards' and 'The Sikh 100'. Navdeep is one of most networked individuals who is extremely active in the South Asian business community. In January 2015 he was selected to form a part of delegation that attended The Vibrant Gujarat Summit lead by Lord Livingston the Minister of State for Trade and Investment in the UK. Navdeep glorifies Sikhism and emphasises on embracing Sikh values and business ethics including excellence, elegance, loyalty and spirituality. On noticing Navdeep's holistic approach towards Sikhism, other faiths have approached him for guidance on organising similar events for their community. Navdeep is being recognised and supported by major brands, governments and dignitaries from around the world.

About The Sikh Awards

The awards will be presented to individuals or organisations who have surpassed exceptional standards in their chosen field of activity. They recognise those people who have an understanding of a community's needs and can further show examples of selfless voluntary service (sewa).

The Sikh 100

The Sikh 100 profiles some of the most influential contemporary individuals of Sikh heritage from around the world and crosses all sectors including business, education, profession, media, entertainment, sport and charity. With over 26 million Sikhs worldwide, the Sikh Dharam is the 5th largest religion in the world. One of the main aims of The Sikh 100 is to share real success stories which are a source of inspiration encouraging individuals to aim high, be passionate and excel in all aspects of their lives. This venture is inspiring all generations to draw strength from their Sikh heritage and empower them to excel in their professional, academic and spiritual paths. The Sikh 100 list is compiled by The Sikh Directory which examines contributions and impact that individuals have made from many hundreds of online applications received. Further consultations are made within industry and esteemed experts fully analysing all the information received before deciding to include any application into The Sikh 100. The 6th edition of The Sikh 100 will be released at the awards ceremony on 21st October 2017.

The successful entrepreneur, Navdeep Singh, who founded the Sikh Awards, speaking about the event, said: "The Sikh Awards is now in its 8th glorious year. Our purpose with the awards is to recognize, honor and celebrate the enormous achievements of the Sikh community who continue to contribute immensely to the social, cultural, and economic fabric of societies globally, as well as making a difference to people's lives through philanthropy. I would also like to congratulate all of this year's winners. May they continue to be a beacon that shines out to future generations, who will continue to strive for excellence in their chosen professions".





Randeep Singh Sarai, Member of Parliament and Sardar Kulbir Singh, son of Bibiji and Yogi Bhajan escort Bibiji to the Podium