

British Sikhs decry 'Asian' policy

Not Asian, not brown, they just want to be known as Sikhs. Blaming Thursday's attack on a Sikh youth on Britain's policy of assigning the 'Asian' tag to Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs alike, leaders of the Sikh community said, last month, they were becoming the victims of racial reprisals for crimes committed by a few Muslims.

In a loaded attack on British political correctness, the Sikh leaders blamed the Edinburgh incident on the UK's refusal to identify Asian Muslims as perpetrators of crime. Racist offenders against Whites, instead, are routinely described as "Asian", said the Sikh Federation, Britain's only Sikh political party.

Sikh leaders said the community believed the Edinburgh attack was "directly linked to the conviction in Scotland for the horrific killing of the white man by four Muslims".

They said the 15-year-old Sikh boy may have become the unfortunate scapegoat for white teenagers angry about Donald's racially-aggravated murder at the hands of a brown gang. The federation said, "Sikhs with turbans are the most visible minority in the UK that is facing increased racism as the media and public authorities are adopting general descriptions and avoiding the harsh facts and the reality of the situation."

Sikh leaders, while speaking to TOI, also referred to the racially charged attacks on British Sikh cricketer Monty Panesar. "We have had killings, bombings and mass murder in the UK. What will it take for the media and authorities to start calling a spade a spade and educating the public about Sikhs, who do not want to be called Asians or Indians and are different to Muslims and Hindus?"

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Dr. Harnam Singh Shan honoured

The prestigious Dasmesh Award 2006 has been presented to Dr. Harnam Singh Shan, Professor Emeritus Panjab University, Chandigarh, for his "Academic excellence and a lifetime dedicating to spreading Sikh literature, culture and values through scholaristic studies, lectures and publications," as inscribed on the plaque given to him.

The Award was presented to him at a largely attended Darbar-e-Khlasa organized by the International Institute of Gurmat Studies, Inc. (IIGS), Tustin, California, to celebrate the 340th birth anniversary of Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji.

Courtesy:

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