

Dr. Satnam Singh Bhugra: An Obituary

WE ARE SADDENED TO HEAR the sudden death of our long time colleague, Dr. Satnam Singh on May 16, 2005 while visiting San Jose, California.

Although Satnam Singh was actively involved in all concerns on future of Sikh community and its youth, his contributions to Sikh Studies programs in Michigan and at Santa Barbra California, and the management of Sikh shrines in Pakistan, were among his outstanding services.

Dr. Bhugra was one of the founding members of Sri Nanakana Sahib Foundation. He visited Pakistan several times to help formulate Pakistan Gurdwara Parbhadak Committee and to help arrange for the management of Sikh gurdwaras in Pakistan.

On April 11, 1999, when the Pakistan Prime Minister formally announced the formation of the Pakistan Gurdwara Parbhadhak Committee, Dr. Satnam Singh was there to accept the announcement. Professor Darshan Singh along with other Sikh leaders accepted the proclamation on behalf of the Sikh Panth. He was given a copy of the proclamation and a sword by the Pakistan Prime Minister as a token of gesture from the Pakistan Government.

Dr. Satnam Singh helped write the book "*Sikh Virsa*" for Pakistani children published in Lahore. The book was published first in Urdu, and then translated in Punjabi by Dr. Bhugra. He spent at least a couple of months in Pakistan on this project. On behalf of Sri Nanakana Sahib Foundation, I must acknowledge his services to the Sikh causes in Pakistan.

Satnam Singh finished his high school at B. N. Khalsa Polytechnic and worked at Mahendra College, Patiala, before moving to USA. His support for Sikh student movement for promoting *Sikhee* is well-known to all his class mates in Patiala. In USA he was an outstanding teacher and active in many educational activities in the State of Michigan. He retired in 1999 as Professor of Psychology from Community College of Lansing, Michigan.

Satnam Singh leaves behind his wife, two daughters, and three sons. All of us will miss him sorely. Sri Nanakana Sahib Foundation particularly will find it difficult to replace him.

- Dr. Harbans Lal, (USA)

