



ੴ ਵਾਹਿਗੁਰੂ ਜੀ ਕੀ ਫਤਿਹ
ਮਲੇਸ਼ੀਅਨ ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਕੌਂਸਲ
MAJLIS GURDWARA MALAYSIA
MALAYSIAN GURDWARAS COUNCIL



No. 7A, Jalan Haji Salleh, Sentul, 51100 Kuala Lumpur.
Tel: 603-4050 2329 Tel & Fax: 603-4043 5028
Email: gurdwaracouncil@gmail.com (Reg. No: 777/88)

To
President / Chairman,
Gurdwara Sahib

Nº 1244

7th February 2007

Dear Sardar Sahib Ji,

Vaheguru Ji Ka Khalsa, Vaheguru Ji Ki Fateh.

Re: Position of Mixed Marriages

The Malaysian Gurdwaras Council at its EXCO's meeting on 26th November 2006 deliberated at length on the recommendations made by its Sub-Committee on Religious Affairs relating to the question whether a Sikh could marry a Non-Sikh and the recommendations were duly accepted by the Malaysian Gurdwaras Council.

They are as stated below:

1. A Sikh should marry only a Sikh.
2. Marriage of a Sikh should be solemnized in accordance with Anand Karaj Ceremony (ਅਨੰਦ ਕੀਰਤੀ) as defined in the "Sikh Rehat Maryada".
3. From the above, it is clear that a Sikh cannot marry a Non-Sikh in accordance with the Anand Karaj ceremony. However, in very exceptional circumstances, where a Non-Sikh who genuinely wants to become a Sikh and believes in the ten Gurus and the Guru Granth Sahib Ji, and wants to marry a Sikh, then the Parbandhak Committee of a Gurdwara may at their sole discretion allow or disallow such persons to marry in accordance with the Anand Karaj ceremony. If the Anand Karaj ceremony is to be allowed, the following minimum conditions must be fulfilled:

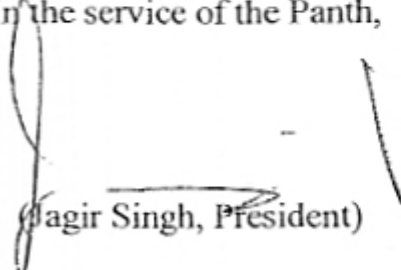
- (i) The intending Non-Sikh to the marriage should take a Sikh name in accordance with "Janam Sanskar" (ie. Baptism and initiation ceremony)
- (ii) The converting Non-Sikh must make the following declaration at the time of the initiation ceremony: "I solemnly affirm that I want to be a Sikh and that I believe in the Guru Granth Sahib Ji and the ten Gurus and the oneness of the ten Gurus". (Note: sample Form "A" is attached).
- (iii) The converting party to execute a Statutory Declaration detailing his / her Sikh name and stating that he / she had adopted the Sikh Faith as per sample Form "B" attached.
- (iv) After taking a Sikh name as per initiation ceremony above, he / she should apply to the Registration Department for change of name, and produce proof of such an Application having been made.
- (v) The converting party to Sikhism to take "Khande Da Amrit" as soon as circumstances permit.

In the event there is inconsistency between the above stated and the Sikh Rehat Maryada, the provisions of the Sikh Rehat Maryada shall prevail.

Lastly the Gurdwaras Committees should ensure that those attending such "mixed marriages" are politely told the protocols involved in a Gurdwara such as covering their head, no intoxication, or tobacco allowed.

Vaheguru Ji Ka Khalsa, Vaheguru Ji Ki Fateh.

In the service of the Panth,


(Jagir Singh, President)

DECLARATION (INITIATION CEREMONY)

I,

(NRIC No.)

OF.....

.....

hereby affirm as follows:

1. I wish to adopt the Sikh faith and Religion and I do so on my own free will and without any compulsion.
2. I solemnly affirm that I believe in Guru Granth Sahib Ji and the Ten Gurus and the oneness of the Ten Gurus.

Affirmed by the said

{Signature:.....} (Date:)

{Name:

Witnesses:

1. {Signature:

{Name:

{NRIC No:

2. {Signature:

{Name:

{NRIC No:

{Note : FOR GURDWARA USE ONLY}

STATUTORY DECLARATION

I,

(NRIC No.)

of

.....
being of full age, hereby solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm as follows :

- 1. I had on the(date) on my own volition adopted the Sikh Religion and Faith.
- 2. I had on the(date) undergone the Sikh Initiation and Baptism Ceremony at Gurdwara Sahib
.....
and have acquired the Sikh name of:

- 3. Hereafter, I sincerely wish to be known by my Sikh name :
.....in all matters that are official or otherwise.
- 4. And I make this solemn declaration voluntarily and without any compulsion from any one believing the same to be true and by virtue of the provisions of the Statutory Declaration Act, 1960.

Subscribed and solemnly declared by the above named

{NAME :.....}

{Onday of(Month).....(Year)} Before me,

{At.....}

(COMMISSIONER OF OATHS)