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Date: 14<sup>th</sup> Sept 2017 MGC/OFF/265/05(05/17)

Singh Sahib Giani Gurbachan Singh Ji, Jathedar, Sri Akal Takht Sahib, Amritsar, Punjab, INDIA

Singh Sahib Ji,

Waheguru Ji Ka Khalsa, Waheguru Ji Ki Fateh.

Subject: <u>Akal Takht Letter Dated 07-07-2017</u> (Ref. No. W: 3/17/3192)

The Malaysian Gurdwaras Council (MGC) with humility refers to Singh Sahib Ji's above letter dated 07-07-2017 which is addressed to Malaysian Gurdwaras Committees.

MGC is the parent registered body of all Gurdwaras in Malaysia. Therefore, following proper protocol this letter should have been addressed to MGC.

The MGC had written a letter to Singh Sahib Ji earlier and now confirms again the following:

- 1) The MGC strictly follows and abides by the Sikh Rehat Maryada (SRM). Almost all Gurdwaras in Malaysia follow and abide by it.
- 2) The Constitution of MGC makes it compulsory for all Gurdwaras to follow and comply with SRM.
- 3) MGC always acts to safeguard the SRM, whereas sometimes Akal Takht Sahib has failed to do so.

A small group in Malaysia had made false allegations against MGC that it had banned Benti Chaupi, changed Ardas and stopped Panj Amrit Sanchar Bani.

An Extra Ordinary Meeting (EGM) was called by MGC on 27-05-2017 of all member Gurdwaras in Malaysia and they overwhelmingly rejected these false allegations against the MGC, as the Gurdwaras know the actual situation.

In-fact this group does not recognise the SRM and says it is only a draft.

The MGC position is that, the SRM is PANTH PARVANAC and is binding on all Sikhs. Not a word can be changed or added to it.

The MGC is aware that Baba Banta Singh of Damdami Taksal and Baba Sukhdev Singh Buchowale were brought in by this group to do Parchar in 5 or 6 Gurdwaras in Malaysia in July/August 2017. It is commonly known that these both Babas do not accept SRM. Thus, Singh Sahib's comments in this letter clearly refer to them, as not complying with SRM.

The MGC had always consulted Akal Takht in the past and were advised to use Missionary Parcharaks as they are trained and comply with SRM. Similarly, MGC was advised to recruit Missionary College students as Granthis. Thus, the present protest against these young Missionary Parcharaks in Malaysia by this small group is misplaced.

The MGC wishes to re-iterate again that it fully acts with 100% compliance of SRM.

We remain PANTH and SRM supporters in full.

ਧੰਨਵਾਦ ਸਹਿਤ

Jagir Singh

President MGC

cc. To All Gurdwaras, Malaysia

The above is for your information. As Gurdwaras are well aware, the MGC and the Gurdwaras fully abide by the SRM.

As far as <u>Amrit Sanchar Bani</u> is concerned, all Amrit Sanchar in Malaysia are conducted by reciting the 5 SRM sanctioned Bani of JAP, JAAP, 10 Sawayyeh, Benti Chaupi and Anand Sahib. No Amrit Sanchar has ever been done in Malaysia without these Bani.

The Missionary Parcharaks are required to follow the SRM. On the other hand, most Parcharaks from Deras, etc do not follow SRM.

Gurdwaras should be cautioned that a message being circulated by this group completely distorts the Akal Takht Sahib letter and they have added their own false version to the Akal Takht letter.

In case of doubt, always tell the Parcharak to comply with SRM.