



ੴ ਵਾਹਿਗੁਰੂ ਜੀ ਕੀ ਫਤਿਹ
ਮਲੇਸ਼ੀਅਨ ਗੁਰਦੁਆਰਾ ਕੌਂਸਲ



MAJLIS GURDWARA MALAYSIA
MALYSIAN 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)

8.06.2015

our Ref; MGC/OF/266/05/08-1

PANJ KAKKAR.

President/ secretary,
Gurdwara Sahib,

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Waheguru Ji Ka Khalsa,
Waheguru Ji Ki Fateh.

Sardar/ Sardarni Jio,

Re: **Keeping of "long hair" "Facial Hairs" and wearing of Bangle (Kara)**

We forward herewith a copy of "Surat Pekeliling Ikhtisas Bil 9 Tahun 2015 – Panduan Berkenaan Rambut Dan Pemakaian Steel Bangle (Kara) oleh Murid-Murid Keturunan Sikh" dated 4.06.2015 which is self explanatory. (See Appendix "A")

The circular is issued by Director General of Education Malaysia to all Division Directors and to all State Education Officers.

This Circular dated 4.06.2005 clarifies the earlier circular "Surat Pekeliling K.P.8543/vol II(58) bertarikh 7hb. Januari 1976 (See Appendix "B") which earlier circular had created problems, and **this new circular makes it clear that:**

- i) Male students teachers and staff of Sikh faith are allowed to keep **unshorn hair and facial hair** provided they are wearing turban and having jura (that is unshorn hair)
- ii) that these students, teachers and staff of the Sikh faith are **not subject** to Surat Pekeliling Ikhtisas Bil 2/1976 bertarikh 7.1.1976 (i.e. Appendix "B")
- iii) Para 6 of this new circular also makes it clear that students, teachers and staff of the Sikh faith are allowed to wear bangle (Kara)

We also attach herewith the earlier circular "Surat Pekeliling Ikhtisas Bahagian 3 Tahun 2011" dated 27.04.2011 (Appendix "C") for information.

BACKGROUND

The Malaysian Gurdwaras Council had written to the prime Minister's Department in 2011 a letter dated 18.02.2011 detailing the requirements of the Sikh faith including

keeping unshorn hair, facial hairs and wearing of bangle (kara) and highlighted the problems faced by Sikh students in Schools.

The Prime Ministers's office then wrote letter dated 8.03.2011(Appendix "D") to Y. Bhg Dato' Abd. Ghafar bin Mahmud, Ketua Pengarah Pelajaran Malaysia forwarding a copy of our letter and asking for the matter to be sorted out.

The Ketua Pengarah Pelajaran Malaysia then issued "Surat Pekeliling Ikhtisas Bilangan 3 Tahun 2011 dated 27.04.2011 (Appendix "C") allowing Sikh Students to keep long hair and to wear bangle (Kara). This circular was not clear as to the keeping of facial hairs by Sikh Students.

The Malaysian Gurdwaras Council then took up the matter again vide letter dated 27th February,2015 (Appendix "E") with The Ministry Of Education and Director General of Education Officers.

At a meeting held on 4.03.2015 at the Director General of Education's office, the officers requested the M.G.C. to put up the proposed amendments to rectify the matter.

M.G.C. then put-up the proposed ammendments vide letter dated 5.03.2015 (Appendix "F") which were presented by hand at discussion on 6.03.2015. The M.G.C. was promised at this Meeting by the Director General of Education officers that a **clarification circular would be issued** in due course based on the ammendments sought.

This promised circular has now been issued as "Surat Pekeliling Ikhtisas Bil 9 Tahun 2015". This circular has now further **expressly provided that male Sikh Students can keep facial hairs.**

Conclusion

The M.G.C. hopes that this New Circular 9 of 2015 dated 4.06.2015 will remove the confusion caused by earlier 2011 and 1976 circulars.

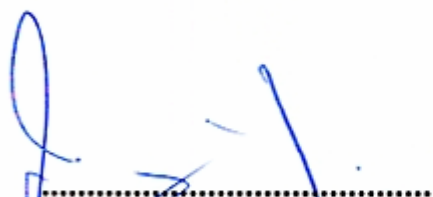
Appendix "A", Appendix "B" and Appendix "C" are 3 circulars issued by the Director General of Education / K.S.U. on this matter. Appendix "A" is the latest circular clarifying the earlier circulars and allowing, amongst others, the keeping of Facial hairs by Sikh Students, etc.

The Gurdwaras are encouraged to keep a copy of this letter and attached circulars in Gurdwara's office so that they are able to assist Sikh Students facing similar problems in Schools.

The M.G.C. believes that with the issue of this latest circular, dated 4th June 2015 the problems arising in the past relating to keeping of long hair by Sikh Students, keeping Facial hairs and wearing bangle (Kara) would be minimal in the future.

For any clarification kindly contact the M.G.C. office.

ਪੰਨਵਾਦ ਸਹਿਤ।
ਪੰਥ ਦੀ ਸੇਵਾ ਵਿੱਚ



Jagir Singh
President
Malaysian Gurdwaras Council