

Vaisakhi

Information about one of the most special days for Sikhs around the world.

Quick Facts

Vaisakhi [ਵੈਸਾਖੀ] is pronounced "va-SAH-kee".

Vaisakhi is a celebration of the birth of the Khalsa.

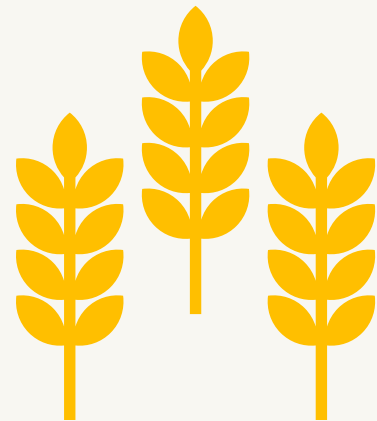
Vaisakhi is the second month of the year for Sikhs.

About Vaisakhi

- According to the Nanakshahi calendar, the Sikh new year begins on March 14th and one month later we celebrate Vaisakhi. Vaisakhi is a great time to celebrate new beginnings and new possibilities.
- During Vaisakhi farmers and laborers celebrate the harvest season - it is a day all Panjabis celebrate.
- Vaisakhi is not just a harvest festival, it is very special day for Sikhs. On this day in 1699, Guru Gobind Singh Ji (our 10th Guru) called for all Sikhs to come together at Anandpur Sahib. Guru Gobind Singh Ji gave us the gift of the Khalsa. On Vaisakhi we come together to remember this moment and think about new opportunities.
- Guru Gobind Singh gifted us the Khalsa, and a new identity: the Panj Kakkars or 5 Ks and they include:
 - kesh (uncut hair)
 - kangha (a wooden comb)
 - kara (iron bracelet)
 - kachera (short pants)
 - kirpan (sword)

Kaur and Singh

During Vaisakhi in 1699, Guru Gobind Singh Ji gave all males the last name "Singh" or lion and all females the last name "Kaur" or lionness. He wanted everyone to be equal and to be free of caste and other social distinctions.



Learn More:

Jakara Movement
www.jakara.org

Sikh Coalition
www.sikhcoalition.org

Playing With Painti
www.playingwithpainti.com