



ਸਰਬਤ ਖ਼ਾਲਸਾ

Sarbat Khalsa

ਗੁਰਮਤਿ ਸਿਧਾਂਤ

ਪੰਚ-ਪ੍ਰਧਾਨੀ ਜੁਗਤਿ

Date: 1 September 2025

Subject: Printing of erroneous copies of Mahan Kosh by Punjabi University Patiala and opposing their destruction – both harmful to Sikhi

Dear Sikh Sangat,

Bhai Kahn Singh Nabha Ji's Mahan Kosh (1930) is a priceless work, which has been regularly published by Bhaasha Vibhaag. However, due to unnecessary competition, Punjabi University Patiala published a new edition filled with errors, which could seriously mislead Sikh students and the Sangat.

From 2016, through the High Court's order (14.3.2018), and later the Expert Committee's report (20.9.2020), it was made clear that this edition with over 30,000 errors could neither be corrected nor rectified through any appendix. For the past seven years, the University kept delaying the destruction of these erroneous copies.

Yet, during these seven years, no major Sikh institution or student organization protested against the University. Now, when after continuous efforts, the final decision was taken on 5 August 2025 that these copies be immediately destroyed, these very institutions and student groups have come forward under the pretext of "disrespect to sacred texts." The right approach would be to demand an independent inquiry to determine who was responsible for these errors and to ensure culprits are punished. Unfortunately, instead of raising their voice against guilty, these institutions are opposing the destruction of error-ridden books. This raises serious questions about their intent and understanding.

The fact remains that Mahan Kosh is a Punjabi language dictionary, not a religious scripture. The decision to take its copies to Goindwal and burn them is manmat (anti-gurmat) and will set a wrong precedent. At the same time, there is no transparent guidelines in Goindwal to ensure that all copies are destroyed.

Sarbat Khalsa Jathebandi fully commends scholars of Panthic Taalmel Committee, Lok Bhalai Insaaf Welfare Society, and Kendri Sri Guru Singh Sabha who consistently kept up pressure on University authorities from the very beginning. S. Kultar Singh Sandhwan (Speaker, Punjab Vidhan Sabha) also played an active role by holding repeated meetings with Punjabi University officials.

Sarbat Khalsa demands that there be an independent judicial inquiry under the supervision of the High Court to identify those responsible for these blunders and to punish them strictly. This printing has not only wasted public money but is also part of conspiracy of a continuing pattern of tampering with Sikh sources. Punjabi University must also give a full public accounting of the erroneous copies published in Punjabi, English, and Hindi, and ensure their immediate destruction in a transparent manner.

In the interest of the Kaum, guided by Gurmat,

Panch-Pardhani Council:

S. Nirmal Singh (Victoria Canada), S. Gurpreet Singh GP (Bahrain), Dr. Khushhal Singh (Chandigarh), Giani Amritpal Singh (Ludhiana), S. Satbir Singh (Delhi)

CC:

Vice Chancellor, Punjabi University Patiala
Speaker, Punjab Vidhan Sabha
President, SGPC, Amritsar