



Ambedkar Times

Editor-in-Chief: Prem Kumar Chumber

Contact: 001-510-219-8920

Fax: 916-238-1393

E-mail: chumbermedia@yahoo.com

Editors: Takshila & Kabir Chumber

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FIGHT FOR JUSTICE CONTINUES

FABO UK

Report & Picture:
Arun Kumar

The Annual General Meeting of the Federation of Ambedkarite and Buddhist Organisations UK, took place on Sunday 22 September 2013 at the Ambedkar Centre, 12 Featherstone Road, Southall, Middlesex, West London. Five member organisations - : Dr Ambedkar Memorial Trust, London, Buddha Dhamma Association, Southall, Ambedkar Mission Society Bedford, Punjab Buddhist Society UK, Dr Ambedkar Mission Society Glasgow - participated in the meeting.

The Government's delay on the implementation of the legislation to outlaw caste discrimination was discussed. The protracted timetable of two years announced by the Government was agreed as nothing more than a mere ploy to stop the implementation of the legislation agreed by Parliament. This clearly signals that the government does not want to see the implementation of the law during its term. The government's attitude was strongly condemned. FABO UK will continue to support and participate in the campaign



Sitting from left to right: Dhamma Chakravarty, Arun Kumar, Santosh Das, Ram Pal Rahi, Surjit Birdi, Standing from left to right: C. Gautam, Hukam C Mehmi, Sohan Lal Ginda, Madhav Rao Patil, Bakshi Birdi

for early implementation of the legislation to outlaw caste discrimination in the UK.

It has been over six decades since independence, but atrocities on Dalits and especially on Dalit women continue to increase day by day. The India Government must ensure fast track courts that deal with cases of rape work to ensure that timely justice is provided to the victims. The legal system in India must also provide justice for victims of caste oppression.

Dr. Ambedkar was one of the greatest advocates of human rights and equality of treatment. He devoted his life and work to provide justice for victims of discrimination. To maintain the legacy of Dr. Ambedkar, participants in the meeting took a pledge to continue to work against inequality and injustice and raise the concerns of the neglected and suppressed people.

Elections for the key positions in FABO UK were held during the meeting. We are delighted to announce that the following members were elected unanimously under Chairperson of Election Commissioner, Mrs. Hiroo Parmar:

President: Ms. Santosh Dass MBE

Vice President: Ram Pal Rahi

General Secretary: Arun Kumar

Joint Secretary: C Gautam

Treasurer: Sohan Lal Gindha

Public Affairs: Gira Ashok Chakravarty

Executive Members:

Mehar Chand Jassal, Mulkh Raj, Harbans Virdee, Bakshi Birdi, Malind Kaul, Dhanpat Rattu, Pirthi Kaeley, Vidya Mid-dha, Chaman Chahal

Arun Kumar

General Secretary, Federation of Ambedkarite and Buddhist Organisations UK

Buddha Vihara,

12, Featherstone Road, Southall, , Middsex, London UB2 5AA

E: fabo@ambedkar.org.uk

U: www.ambedkar.org.uk

Tel; Tel: 0044 7956 918053/07909828750

AMBEDKAR TIMES & DESH DOABA TRIBUTE TO THE GREAT SAHIB SHRI KANSHI RAM JI

March 15th, 1934 October 09th, 2006

Prem Chumber Editor-in- Chief (www.ambedkartimes.com)

Sahib Kanshi Ram Ji was born on March 15, 1934, in Khawas Pur village of Ropar District of Punjab. He belonged to the Ramdassia community (Ad Dharmi) of the Scheduled Caste group, which is the largest group in Punjab. He was named Kanshi because after his birth the midwife placed him in a tray made of kansa metal. His father owned some land and his uncles were in the armed forces. In Sahib Kanshi Ram's own words, "I was born and brought up amongst those who sacrificed themselves but never betrayed the country..." Despite his low caste background, he earned a bachelor's degree in science from the Government College at Ropar (Punjab). Soon after, he joined the research staff of Kirki's Explosive Research and Development Laboratory (ERDL) in Pune 1957. While working in Pune, he quit his job after becoming involved in the famous Deena Bhan case. Deena Bhan, a Rajasthani Scheduled Caste employee and senior colleague of Kanshi Ram was suspended. His fault was that he protested against the decision of ERDL management for the cancellation of holidays for Ambedkar and Buddha Jayantis and their replacement by the Tilak Jayanti and one additional holiday for Diwali. Sahib Kanshi Ram decided to fight against such a caste ridden and dictatorial behavior of the management. The fighter in Kanshi Ram got the suspension orders of Deena Bhan revoked and Ambedkar and Buddha Jayantis holidays were restored.

This was the beginning of the long battle for the emancipation of the Dalits in the country that Sahib Kanshi Ram had to lead till his last

breath. He resigned from his job and totally dedicated his entire life for the cause of the community. He never married nor visited his home since then. His struggle was not for the home and family. He



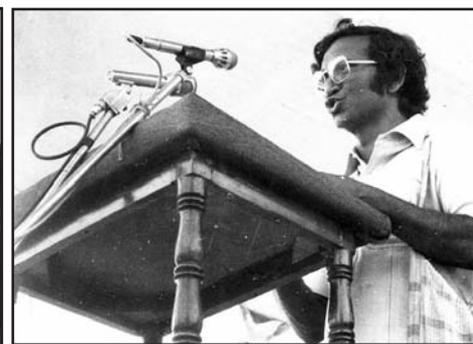
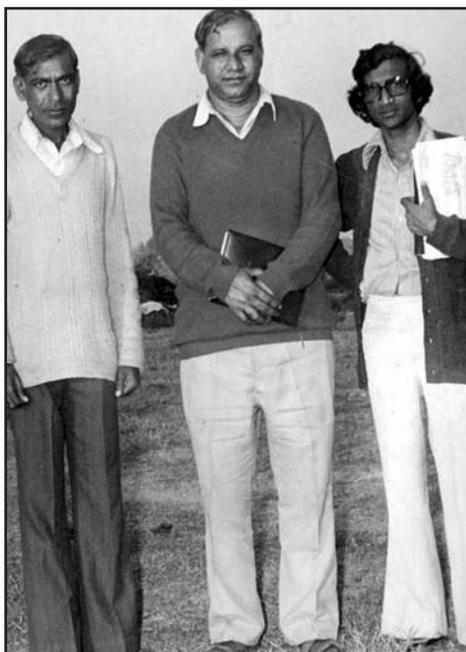
devised a new strategy to regain the lost glory of the original (Adi) inhabitants of Bharat. He gave utmost importance to the culture of work and democratic method of struggle. He also expanded the circle of the Dalits by incorporating other Backward Classes and Minorities into it.

He criticized the post-Ambedkar leadership of Dalits in India. For that he declared Poona Pact as the main reason. He said that "Poona Pact made Dalits helpless. By rejecting separate electorate, Dalits were deprived of their genuine representation in legislatures. Several and various kind of Chamchas were born in the last fifty years. As and when India's high caste Hindu rulers felt the need of Chamchas and when the authority of the upper castes got endangered by real and genuine Dalit leaders, Chamchas were brought to the fore in all other fields". In his "The Chamcha Age", a well-argued and polemical tirade against the pseudo Dalit leaders, Sahib Kanshi Ram sharpen the contradiction for the legitimate acquisition of political power by the downtrodden in electoral democracy in India. In, the Chamcha Age, "he focused very much on the Poona Pact which was a point of a rather decisive Gandhian victory over Dr. Ambedkar after a long duel between the two at the Round Table Conference". Ambedkartimes.com pays tribute to The Great Sahib Kanshi Ram on his second death anniversary.

National Fule Ambedkar Activist Unification Movement

Mumbai (Akshay Khobragade)- The Movement is started by the former comrades of the All India Backward(SC,ST, OBC) And Minority Communities Employees Federation (BAMCEF) who were associated with Mr. Kansiram (founder of BAMCEF, DS-4 and BSP) 1970's.

The first meeting between the activist held in Surat, Gujarat and on 28 & 29th July 2012 National Level meeting was called on Baroda, Gujarat, wherein all the former activists of BAMCEF and activist related to Fule - Ambedkar movement from all over the nation participated in meeting to present their views. Thereafter Second National Meeting was called on 03&04 November 2012 at Delhi and subsequently Thrid National Meeting was called on 16 & 17 March 2013 at Lucknow where in all the points related to the development of movement, past experiences and future planning was done



and views were presented by all the activists participated in Meeting.

The concluding meeting was held in Nagpur on 8, 9 & 10 June 2013, wherein the views of the activist representing from all over the India were taken in consideration and decided to Launch a movement to Unify the all the activist of Fule-Ambedkar from all over the India and

abroad. Any one who wish to join the Movement can contact the below mentioned Activist :

Adv. Ram Khobragade-	09970869665
Rupechand Seth-	09899158144
Ram Dulare-	09979555320
Dadawankede -	09423102300
Mahendra Singh-	09868864683

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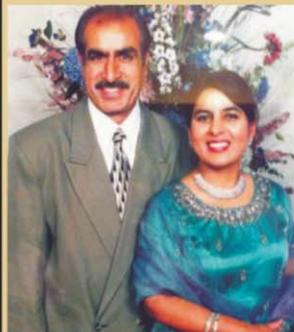
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Ramesh Suman

Sri Guru Ravidass Temple was opened in Pittsburg California in 1985. Founding members started working towards a goal of building our own Gurughar in California. Sidhu family, Jagur family, Bangar Family, Rattu family, Sheemar family, Dharma family, specifically Mr. O.P. Balley, Mr. Sohan Singh Damria, Mr. Hardev Singh, Mr. Mr. Gulzara Jagur, Mr. Deo Raj Sandhu, Mr. Sukhraj Chopra, Mr. Teja Singh, Late Mr. Karma Ram Dalel, late Mr. Lahori Ram, late Mr. Mulkh Raj, late Mr. Sansara Jagur, late Mr. Nasib Chand Jagur, Mr. Satya Pal Bangar and so many other families came together to help build this Gurughar.

Mr. Gulzara 'Charley' Jagur found a church for sale in Pittsburg. He negotiated the deal on behalf of the committee. He even donated his commission for this good cause.

I remember when Mr. Nasib Jagur, Mr. Satya Pal, Mr. Sansara Jagur, Mr. Moti Baru, Late Mrs. Bachani Dalel, Mrs. Seebo Dharama used to cook lungar for the sangat. It used to be a three day event. Most of the people came to Gurughar, worked on building repairs and cooked food. Children used to come and enjoy the festivities while the parents worked tirelessly to start this Gurughar. It took a few years to get this Gurughar ready for Sangat.

Mr. Moti Baru is very dedicated to Gurughar, for years he took care of the landscaping. He drove 50 miles to come to Gurughar every week to cut the grass, trim the bushes and plant flowers all year round. He donated flowers, plants, fertilizer or whatever was needed to make our Gurughar lawns look like a

park. I have seen some people stop in front of the gate and admire the landscaping.

Past committees saved and paid off the loan on this Gurughar. Replaced the old roof, paved the parking lot and built a new kitchen and bathrooms. In 2005 the committee bought the adjacent building. This building used to be a gym. This building was renovated and used for major celebrations because the original Gurughar could not hold all the Sangat on these events. There was a loan on the Gurughar which was paid off by the previous committee when Ram Parkash Raju was the president.

In December 2012, committee decided to remodel this new building for the Gurughar. President Salinder Bhatia headed the project with the help of handful sewadars. Mr. Mohinder Banga was the man to get the blue prints, permits and design this Gurughar. He used his license to purchase most of the material at wholesale cost and saved us a large amount of money. Most of the sewadars worked voluntarily donating their time. Only a few skilled people were hired to do some specific job. Sangat donated for the construction with open heart, may Waheguru bless them all for their contributions.

In addition to Salinder Singh Bhatia and Mohinder Singh Banga, Santokh Madhar painted inside of the building at no charge for labor, Hardial Banga supplied free labor for tile installation and texturing, Sukhdev Banga installed the sound system. Few members lent money to buy materials. Some of the sewadars were, Ajay Chahal, Baljit

Singh, Ramesh Ralh Gian Salhan, Balwinder Kumar, Rajinder Hans, Jaila Jaggi, Ravi Jaggi, Jagtar Bhatia, Shinder Pal Narabut, Raj Kumar, Sanjeev Kumar, Happy Badbhaga, Ronesh Suman, Prem Saroya, Santokh Ralh, Gurdev Singh Sidhu, Assa Ram, Sarbjit Singh, Karnail Heera, Balbir Chand Mall, Dilbag Singh, Hans Raj Raipur and many others. These sewadars worked long hours pretty much every day to get this Gurughar ready for the Sangat., Shane Singh. I must say Gyan Suman was one lady to work with them shoulder to shoulder. Most of the times, Renu Madhar, Babita Chahal and Laxmi Raipur made lungar for the sangat during construction. Unfortunately, there are very few founding members left. Mr. Sohan Singh Damria and Mr. O.P. Balley are still very actively participating in the Gurughar functions. Mr. Balley is always there to offer advice and help with any correspondence.

As soon as you enter the Gurughar, you can't help saying "WOW". This is probably the biggest and the best Guru Ravidass Gurduara in California. This Gurughar can now accommodate large gatherings. It has one of the best design for the stage, the way the CHANANI is suspended from the ceiling, new Sach Khand, about 2 dozen speakers, great lighting system with some chandeliers and led bulb lights, thickest carpet for comfortable sitting, central heating, dual pane windows, new bathrooms and so much more.

Civil Marriages can also be performed at this Gurughar. Our Head Granthi Harjinder Singh Ji Rasia can make the arrangements. This will save time and hassle of going to

Reno or to Courts to get the marriage certificate.

This Gurughar was opened to Sangat on May 5, 2013 on Baba Farid ji's birthday. Sri Guru Granth Sahib was brought respectfully to this Gurughar from the original Gurughar in the presence of hundreds of members and Punj Piare. These celebrations went on until the late hours of the day. Everyone was so appreciative of the workmanship. Committee did not cut any corners, they used the best of everything. There are a few new members in the present committee, they will bring some new ideas and make some positive changes. I look forward to see them succeed.

This grandeur Gurughar is a matter of great pride for our community. This is one of the big milestones in the history of our Gurughar and our sangat deserves the credit for supporting such a large commitment. Board of Directors and the Managing Committee can't do much without the support from all the members. This work is not over yet by any means, we need to continue this momentum and start the other projects like new kitchen and repair of our first Gurughar as soon as possible. We need to donate to this worthy cause as much as we can and frequently as we can.

I am glad to be a part of our community. I know we are not perfect but we are moving in the right direction. May Waheguru Ravidass Ji Maharaj give all of us the strength and ability to continue building our Gurughars & schools, educate our children, develop our community and increase our social and religious awareness.

A glowing Tribute to late Mrs. Kartar Kaur Bains

It is very saddening to know that Mrs. Kartar Kaur Bains, mother of Mr. Avtar Singh Bains and mother-in-law of Mrs. Debho Bains, Chairperson of Sri Guru Ravidass Sabha, Pittsburg (CA), has left for her heavenly abode very peacefully at her home in Pittsburg on September, 16th, 2013.

Mrs. Kartar Kaur Bains, who was 87 years old, is survived by her husband, Mr. Gulzar Singh Bains, three sons, three daughters, 27 grandchildren, 14 great grand children and a long trail of sweet memories of her enriched and abundant life.

Mrs. Kartar Kaur migrated to USA in 1987 to join her son, Mr. Avtar Singh Bains and was a symbol of love and dedication for her family. Because of her sweet and amiable nature she had formed a close affinity among

the entire spectrum of her family and social relationships. Mrs. Kartar Kaur will be greatly missed by all who happened to know her, creating a void which will be difficult to fill for years to come. She will be remembered with grace, dignity and respect for her multiple roles as a loving mother, grandmother and a compassionate person.

The funeral services for Mrs. Bains, attended by a large number of mourners, were performed at Pittsburg



chapel on September 21, 2013 (Saturday) and Bhog ceremony of Akhand Path was performed on September, 29th, 2013, at Shri Guru Ravidass temple, Pittsburg. Besides her entire family, a large number of her relatives and admirers and close friends of the family participated in the religious

services to pay their tributes to the departed soul.

Mr. O.P. Balley, ex-chairman, Shri Guru Ravidass Sabha, Pittsburg

and Dr. Harmesh Kumar, a renowned psychologist, paid their glowing tributes to the sweet and loving memory of Bibi Kartar Kaur for her exceptional roles as an accomplished housewife, a loving mother, grandmother and a good person. Mr. Gurmail Singh, Ex-Education Minister of Punjab, who attended the Bhog ceremony at the temple, also conveyed his condolences and sympathies to the bereaved family.

History will treat Bibi Kartar Kaur with grace, dignity and respect for her accomplishments and will remain as a perpetual source of inspiration to the Bains family and for all those who happened to know her during her long life.

With respects,
O.P. Balley

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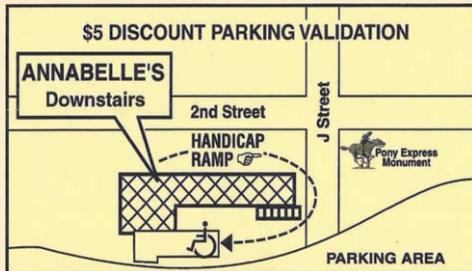
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Late Lahori ram Ji (Commissioner)'s family with Leon Panetta, Secretary of Defense under President Obama, -Director of CIA, -White House Chief of Staff under President Clinton

From left to right: Jagdish Ram, Ramit Ram, Former Head of CIA Leon Panetta, Jasmyne Ram, Jack Ram, Paul Ram



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