# Podjajaji

NIHANGNAMA (The Nihang Treatise)



व्रिंड: भेंगुष्ठा चवर

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#### Nihangnama

The Nihangnama (Treatise of Nihang Singh Warriors) is an anthology of historical accounts discussing the origin stories related to the Nihang Singhs. The Sikh tradition, following Guru Gobind Singh, would be woefully ignorant of the history of the Nihang Singhs without these seminal texts. These texts unequivocally assert that the Nihang Singhs draw their lineage straight from Guru Gobind Singh. Previously untranslated texts are presented to bring awareness to Sikhs in the diaspora regarding the origins of the Nihang Singhs.

"Nihangs are forever firm in their conviction, character, recitation of Gurbani, and

performance of austerities; such is a true Warrior.

They remain forever in their own discipline, even if kings and royalty walk by."

### भेगुष्ठ

**Salutation**: As per tradition regarding dharmic literary works, a mangal, or salutation is made prior to the commencement of the work. Humbly find the mangal below:

#### विष्ठ ॥ यादीह तान भींड मघ **है** हिंदि मग्रड मुनि, भेष भागिभार नमें भावाम रिधाहरी ।

When the Guru's Wisdom, like the wind, dispersed across the world, it removed the ignorance like clouds, and displayed the Blue [Bana] sky for all to see.

#### निंभ्र दिनेम देम भागि युन्टेम, त्रेम नॅथ्ड भरेड ग्रीव म्म्रेट घुरा दिन ।

The unique uniform [Bana] of the Singhs is now present in foreign countries, and these foreigners are even keeping their Kes [Hair] becoming the highest [Guru's Sikhs].

#### मुमुड् गभेम वॅथे एंठ छंडी मुरा वर्ते, धुँहै रोगं छहे भहें बं हवा हरी।

Always strapped with weapons and reciting the scriptures of Chandi, their [Shahidi] Degh always flows freely and they distribute it to countless people.

#### र्विस्य बुवाहरी युन मुभी उप्रभाहरी, तुमें रह ध्रेष वे भारेतं घुन याहरी।

The slanderers continue to shriek but the wise have understood [this mystery], salutations to the Dal Panth, which grants countless blessings.



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व्रिं : मुणीर वडिं मिं में मुं

#### Pracheen Panth Prakash

1830

The Khalsa Panth's Illumination Shahid Rattan Singh Bhangoo

Shahid Rattan Singh Bhangu who was the grandson of the famed Shahid Mehtab Singh. Much of his knowledge was passed down through his family and thus the text provides an interesting insight into the Misal period [mid to late 1700s]. The text makes consistent mention of the Akali Nihangs and their sacrifices during the Misal period but the passage below specifically describes the story of Gurbaksh Singh Nihang.

गुन्च्यम् भिंभ दिनंग की माथी मुद्रे मुमाद ॥ याटी मुनी डिद नहीं नह भीभूडन भुमुम्द ॥१॥

Oh wise ones listen to this story I will tell of the Nihang Gurbaksh Singh, who attained sublime Shahidi [martyrdom] in the auspicious city of Amritsar.

एडे डुमंगी को घड मंगी ॥ तीष्ठ घमड् वध वीव ववड छंगी ॥ याड ਉठे काव मुंधा यीहे ॥ एटि वम्हणे भुध राउत सीहे ॥ २॥

A great and elite warrior [Bhujangi], he kept the Guru's Code of Conduct [Rehat] very well, as such he wore the blue clothing and would awake early in the morning and drink cannabis. Following this he would cleanse himself and brush his teeth.

मुहा थुरिन दिन बर्ने मुद्राद्ध ॥ घाडी थुन्ने थुन्न थुंग घुपाद ॥ मुन्य हिंग बी थुना बर्ने ॥ दुनुभूवान बन मुन्यन दुने ॥३॥

Daily he would bathe in the early morning, reciting Gurbani while adorning his turban. Worshipping his weapons he would hold his sword and salute it.

मुन्न हैं गह भाष्ट्र भाष्ट्र ॥ व्याह मिभुन्द हैं मुन्हे ॥ हैं मुन्हे ॥

Around his neck he wore an all-iron rosary, even his comb was made of iron and his small rosary. His Chakar [quoit] around his turban was iron, as the iron chain. He would recite "All-Iron is my Protector" [from Akal Ustat].

चमड चमडाहै तम मेटह मिड़ें चेड ॥ महा ग्राम तह भी वमें मेड ॥ में मेरिट हिंग ती भगवम कोंगा ॥ दिभ हादि दिहाद दिन घुँगे दिनेंगा ॥ ५॥

The gauntlets he wore were iron along with his club. Wearing a white Kachera, with cloth measuring up to one and a quarter yard, he also wore iron chain-mail. In holding congregations [at Akal Takht], many Nihangs would also attend.

जिंग रा हिन के कि कि कि कि कि कि में कि कि में कि कि में कि में कि कि में कि कि में कि कि में कि मे

That man is called a Nihang who is indifferent to both pain and pleasure. That person whose body is unaffected by both pain and pleasure, we properly call that person Bidehi [Without a Body, another name for Shahid Singhs].

Nihangs are forever firm in their conviction, character, their recitation of Gurbani and performance of austerities; such is a true Warrior. They remain forever in their own discipline even if kings and royalty walk by.

Wherever an opportunity for warfare arises, they never cower from death. Wherever a great calamity is upon the Panth, they readily offer themselves to combat the threat.

मर्ण मुंय की मागा गृंदि ॥ बझ दिमाद भाग भागे गृंदि ॥ माम दिमाना अवसा माहि ॥ मादि सझाटी भूवते याहि ॥ ६॥

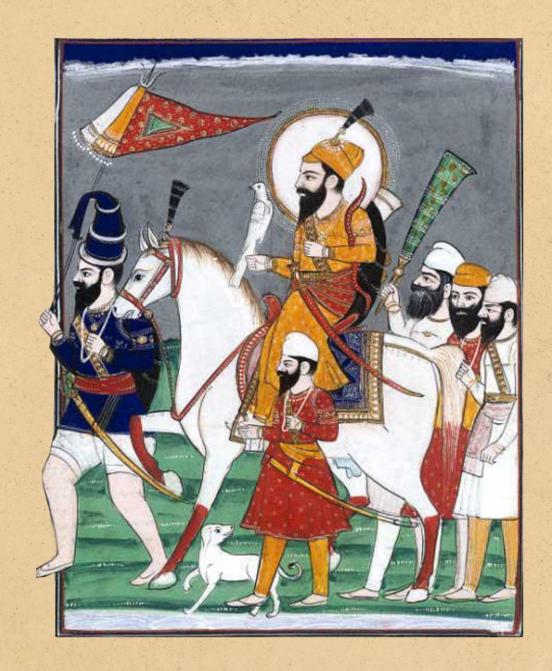
Wherever war is being waged, they press forward holding the battle standards. Wherever they hear the drum beat of war, they run to the front of the lines to fight.

वि म मुणी मुनी मिं जा ही ॥ हिनें गम मी एउन पिहा ॥ भेम वन्त हिन मीम जा ॥ एउँ मार्ब में जिन्ते माम ॥ १०॥

Gurbaksh Singh had taken Khande Ki Pahul from the Shahid Bhai Mani Singh, and hailed from the village named Leel near Khemkaran, a village in the district of Majha.

-Episode 156, Pracheen Panth Prakash

## गुन्यु मुन्न यू यम् मुं मु



व्रिं : भ्रणवही मुंडिय मिं भी

#### Gurpratap Suraj Prakash

1843

The Solar Illumination of the Guru's Glory

Mahakavi Santokh Singh

The Gurpratap Suraj Prakash Granth is the most comprehensive historical text of the Sikh Gurus and was so well received that its daily discourse [katha] was mandated at all Takhts.

The passage below describes the origin story of the Akali Nihangs.

Specifically, events surrounding Guru Gobind Singh leaving

Chamkaur Sahib. After sustaining some injuries to his feet he was met by Maan Singh, Daya Singh and Dharam Singh in an orchard, where they then proceeded to Gulaba Masand's house.

#### म्री भुध डे डिंग मेंग डिंम ग ॥ मुंधा भिनमं भारि डिंस ग ॥ ३६॥

From the auspicious mouth of the Guru, He said to those around him, "Go bring large amounts of cannabis and black pepper.

वित्र निष्ठ वृत्र वृत्र वृत्र ॥ भार वर्षे वृत्र विष्ठ । वित्र ॥ वित्र वृत्र वृत्र वृत्र वृत्र वित्र ॥ वित्र वित्र वित्र वित्र ॥ वित्र वित्र वित्र वित्र ॥ वित्र वित्र वित्र वित्र वित्र वित्र ॥ वित्र वित्र

I have gone a long time without any intoxicants, this beverage brings great happiness to my mind". Gulaba the Masand heard these words and got ready to leave, he went to the market to purchase these items.

### मीं गुन ਉਪव्र वैठे माटि ॥ व्यमा गुम्रुज़ें थुनि मुग्मिट ॥ धुमुळी जनव स्प डे वेटी ॥ वृंहिड जम्ह थिज़िंड वे मेटी ॥ ४९॥

When the Guru was seated in this orchard, the Masand went quickly to the city to complete his task. Guru Gobind Singh had taken the milk of an Ak plant [for medication, commonly called the 'Apple of Sodom'], but it had caused dryness on his feet. He desired an intoxicant to drink [which would remove this pain].

घुष्ट उघि नी मीजी जीज ॥ मुंधा विम वे जिवट वरीज ॥ माज मिंधा वे में व्रह याहे ॥ मुजि विच गुन वे भेषि जिवाहे ॥ ४२॥

He then asked the three Singhs in his company, "Does anyone have cannabis close at hand?" Maan Singh had small amounts of cannabis wrapped up, and hearing this the Guru told him to unwrap it.

में गुड़े उज़ान वीन रज़े ॥ डिया मीगड में थीहर वर्जे ॥ विट यूमें र घन रेहीड मेरे ॥ थ्रम या स्मारमें भीगं उम वेही ॥ ४३॥

Maan Singh had prepared the small amounts of cannabis and gave it to Guru Gobind Singh, the drink was extremely strong and the Guru drinking it was extremely pleased and gave a blessing to Maan Singh – "Within the Khalsa there will be a Panth that belongs to you.

उह्र मुभ घेष मुडाई घिमात्री ॥ उम्भ दिवंग गादेव गावाती ॥ दिम पूरा दिव भूटी चिडाटी ॥ छाव गाभूत सी ववी उराटी ॥ ४४॥

It will be beautifully adorned in your attire and demeanor – countless in number they will be called Akali Nihangs". In this way about half an hour passed, but their desire for more intoxicants remained.

- Rut 6, Chapter 44, Gur Pratap Suraj Prakash Granth

# उदीउ भेंस यूवाम



व्रिड: गिज्र ही गिज्र ही भी

#### Naveen Panth Prakash

The Khalsa Panth's Illumination Giani Gian Singh (Newer Standard)

Foreword: The Naveen Panth Prakash is one of the seminal historical texts relating to Sikh history following the passing of Guru Gobind Singh until the time of Maharaja Ranjit Singh. This text is used as a source for much of the information relating to the Misal period during the early to late 1700s, and as such provides an important insight into the Akali Nihangs. Gyani Gyan Singh, the author of the text, himself a Nirmala Sikh, mentions the Nihangs and their involvement throughout the Misal period. The portion below specifically describes in detail the origin stories of Nihangs, their characteristics, and their identity.

1880

म्री गुंव उन्त्रव भारित मुध स्टि, हाम घात्रव क्यांटि गुजान सन्तर स्थिताटि वें ॥

Guru Nanak, who gave the entire world endless happiness, has kept the honour of the 'Bana' [Nihang uniform], and who illuminated the sun of wisdom. डंगि अम प्रमािट भाष उगिट अँष भाष्ठमें ते, भिंभुत निवंगत की माप भाषि गािट हैं ॥

Meditating upon those lotus-like feet I bow in salutation to the Khalsa Panth, now I will narrate the origin stories of the Nihang Singhs.

विष्युत दिन्न मुना ही मिन, दिन्नी पाटी, उम जम दिने नाटी मुद्दें भुद्र स्ट्रीट वै ॥

I write down these stories as told by the elder Nihang Singhs, so brother, as I narrate this story please listen carefully with attention.

मुड वम गुँछ मां भैं भुभुज उमें गुष्ट वैदि, डिठ से डिउवेग मिंभ गुवू की गुष्ठादि वैदें ॥ १२५॥

Having little essence in Satoguni or Rajoguni qualities, they consist mainly of Tamogun, these are what you call the Nihang Singhs of the Guru.

मुम्भी १॥ Story 1

हेव हिन सम्म गुन मी दिन देन हैंग माहि, सन्द दुन सीन हिम से हिमानी है।

One day the Guru gave great charity to a Brahmin, granting him sesame seeds, oil and iron in an amount that weighed as much as the Brahmin. ਦਵਾਰ ਹੈ ਭਿਖ਼ਾਰੇ ਥੋ ਭੰਗੇਰੇ ਜੋ ਬਧੇਰੇ ਸਿੱਖ, ਬੂਢਯੋਂ ਤਿਨ ਦਵਜ ਲੀਏ ਜਾਤ ਕਾਰਾ ਉਤਾਲੀ ਹੈ ॥

As the Brahmin walked out the door, there were poor Sikhs, cannabis drinking beggars, who asked the Brahmin what he was taking with him with such excitement.

विष्य मिन में एवं सुद्ध का ही हैं मार भें हैं, मुभूष्टिन के निर्दे हैं मुन्य क्या ही हैं ॥

The Brahmin said, "I am taking this charity, which the Guru has blessed me with", the Sikhs did not understand how he had earned this and did not accept this.

डीठ हीठ एडम, चीठ ग्रीट गर्जे ग्रुव याम, मुठि गुव ग्रम व्यम्ने भिंध जे मुक्स ही हैं ॥ १७६॥

The Sikhs snatched the charity from the Brahmin, who then went to the Guru and pleaded, but the Guru laughed and said "these Sikhs are the Akalis."

ठ्रेग ड्रुथ एक्ट, डिडिंड ग्रमिय समा भेट माठ, यम दिन भेरे सी दिखाड़ी है ॥

I have given you this charity to rid the Sikhs of poverty, hunger, laziness and the effect of black magic, but now they have brought these back into the community.

म्भूष म्यून वित्र म्यून न्यून वित्र हैं। वित्र भी मुंग क्रिन कि मार्ग के मार्ग

Without being wise and acting without contentment they stole this charity, and now these [hunger, poverty etc.] will run within the Akalis."

उन्नुं हैंगे बेन गुन घुड़ाटि ब्र बड़ें, घुड़े डेह डहराटि डिन्न हुं धुराही है ॥

Thus the Guru, for the Singhs, made it mandatory for iron weapons and Karas to be worn [to protect from black magic] and fed them many fried sweets.

तीत्र छैत्र एउ मेट्ट्र युग्न के ज्ञान है ॥ १००॥

He made them adopt the blue uniform and thus the Guru said, "these Sikhs are the Guru's Akalis."

मुभी २॥ Story 2

ਫੇਰ ਏਕ ਰੋਜ਼ ਗ਼ਭਾ ਮਾਂਹਿ ਗ਼ੁਰੁ ਕੇ ਹਜ਼ੂਰ, ਫਤੇ ਗ਼ਿੰਘ ਗ਼ੁਰੁ ਗ਼ੁਤ ਗ਼ਵਾਂਗ ਧਾਰਿ ਆਯੋ ਹੈ ॥

One day during the daily congregation held in the Guru's presence, the Guru's son Fateh Singh dressed himself in a particular way.

रेड युव क्ये भीव डिडिंग समुदाव क्वि, विट डिट क्यंड युवि के अक्ष्म मार्जे वै ॥

Holding a club on his shoulder, adorned with a tall turban, with a Kachera across his waist he chanted Akal!

ਪ੍ਰੀਖ਼ ਗੁਰ ਕਹਾਂਗੇ ਅਹਾਂਗੇ ਜਹਾਂਗੇ ਭੀ ਚੜੇ ਹੈ ਪੰਥ, ਫਤੇ ਗਿੰਘ ਜੀ ਕੋ ਦੇਹ ਯਾਹੀ ਤੋਂ ਕਹਾਂਗੇ ਹੈ ॥

Looking at him the Guru said, such a Panth will be started and call themselves the ones of Baba Fateh Singh.

व्या प्रत्येम निष्ण भेम प्रमिम स्वीत स्वी

This is the proper origin story of the Nihang Singhs, the next story I will narrate is also found within the Gurpratap Suraj Prakash Granth.

माथी ३॥ Story 3 भाडी हाड़े ग्रेट मीघ मी ग्रेट घाना भांगि, डाटी भाउ मिंਘ उन् थीडे घठ माटि ਹै॥

When Guru Gobind Singh was in the forests upon reaching Macchiwara, Bhai Maan Singh was following along behind the Guru.

मुंभा घृण भी जिं वित्र स्व वे बला कि कि कि स्व कि

Maan Singh was a great enjoyer of cannabis and served it to the Guru when in the forests of Macchiwara. I narrate to you what then the Guru said to Maan Singh

मैनी डेनी चनुडान धुंघी मैनी गारि गाँघ, डैने डेन थीठ्यान थुंघ डेने माहि है ॥

"A Panth will be erected, adorning a similar turban as you, as filled with happiness as you and as great drinkers of cannabis."

भीमें गुन घुछत है भारत मिंथा सहाता हेतु, छात्रिक दिवार भीम हासी में स्थापित है ॥ १७६॥

Such a blessing passed upon Maan Singh, which oh Brother, started the Nihang Panth which you see today.

मुखी 8 11 Story 4

मंमी माभी मुद्रे ग्रीघ में दिनंग वैने मीन, भाडी हा जे गीघ मुजाभ चैष्ठ पाने वैं॥

Now listen to the fourth origin story that is told about the Nihangs, which relates to when Guru Gobind Singh wore blue clothing in the Macchiwara jungle.

डिंहें ज्ञम गूम डह भाहरे भें गरे छिह, उगं मेरी देह भी है भावन गुमाने हैं॥

When going to the house of Dhillion from Malwa, Sodhi Kaul made a request for the Guru to receive new clothes.

मुवह घुम् युवहाटे ਉडवाटे व्यहे, मुट्टी ढावि बाव भाग भागि माने वैं ॥

The Guru accepted and adorned the new white clothing, taking off his dark blue clothing, ripping it the Guru threw it in the fire.

ਉੱਕ ਲੀਰ क्य गुन चीड़ी भार मिंथ मी दे, यावड डिवंग डिम की दे में ॥१८०॥

The Guru saved one piece and gifted it to Maan Singh, who adorned it on his turban [as a Farla], and thus started the new uniform of dark blue clothing of Nihangs.

मिंपुरी ॥ मांभी टेंग्र सान यम नैमे ॥ मुठी पिंपी डिप्स रीठी डैमे ॥ ग्रीघ नैमे डिसे रमडाने ॥ माने डैमे रेंग्र रिप्स से ॥ १८ १॥

These are the four origin stories of the Nihangs, as I have heard them I write them down as such. Now I will narrate the origin story of the tall turban. When the Panth first joined forces they got together and fought against the Turks, taking away their governance. When the Singhs established their own kingdoms, then many Nihangs became householders.

डिवड घिंगम को म देहे ॥ छुटि मक्टिड हरें गुडेहे ॥ दिन्न किन मुम्दे मंगी ॥ नीडि छुटचे सी मी गुगी ॥१८३॥

The various bands of Nihangs who remained nomadic took to looting crops to excess. They had faith they were entitled to the crops and this habit of looting took form.

ਗਿੰਘ ਤ੍ਰਿਪ ਭੀ ਗ੍ਰਜ਼ਾ ਤ ਦੇਤੇ ॥ ਬ੍ਰਤਕੈ ਖ਼ੁਦ ਭੀ ਗੋ ਝੁਟ ਲੇਤੇ ॥ ਰੋਰ ਰਹਿਤ ਤਬ੍ਰਿ ਮੁਲਕ ਮੁਛਾਰੇ ॥ ਚੋਰੀ ਛਾਕੇ ਪ੍ਰਤ ਅਪਾਰੇ ॥ ੧ ੮ ੪ ॥

The rulers who were Singhs did not punish the Nihangs, they themselves with their strength had looted. When there was no more commotion of war then within the kingdom there arose this widespread of stealing.

हैं हैं मिं प्रियंग डिंग हैं । प्रिटर में नियं हैं । हिन्द में नियं हिन के नियं । हिन हैं वियं हिन के नियं हिन के नियं हिन हैं ।

During this time there was one Nihang, Naina Singh, who was known for his recitation, austerity and keen discerning intellect. He ran a very large Langar [communal kitchen] and practiced very firmly the Nihang Singh conduct.

डिठ चनुडान द्विष्ठ मुनाज़े ॥ गुन्न गुन्न विष्ठ द्विष्ठ हुम हुभाष्ठा ॥ १८६॥

Having a very large turban, he would recite a passage from the Guru Granth Sahib, that which the Great Fifth Guru said, "Upon Meeting the Guru I adorn a tall Dumalla".

भार घ्रम्य गुन हेन दिन हिन्नी ॥ माने स्माने द्विमें पिनी ॥
उिच ने भाषित द्विम समाज हो दिन्नी ॥ १८०॥

The Nihangs have accepted this saying of the Guru and have adorned such beautiful tall Dumallas. From then these very large tall Dumallas were adorned by the Nihangs.

ਤੋਵਾ ਗਿੰਘੀਏ ਦੇਹ ਦਮਾਲੇ ॥ ਕਰਲਾਵਤ ਇਸ ਹੇਤ ਬਿਸਾਲੇ ॥ ਤੀਬ ਤੋਂ ਚਾਲ ਦੇਹ ਹੈ ਚਾਲੀ ॥ ਅਭੀਬ ਸ਼ੁਨ ਬਿਦਤੇ ਜ਼ੈਸ਼ ਅਕਾਲੀ ॥੧੮੮॥

These Dumallas are called the Naina Singh styled Dumalla. It is said that from that time this tradition had been started. Now listsen to how they came to be known as Akalis.

ਰਿਤ ਉਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਤਿਹੰਗ ਵਿਚਰਤੇ ॥ ਹੁਤੇ ਅਕਾਲ ਅਕਾਲ ਉਚਰਤੇ ॥ ਰਿਹੁ ਅਵਾਜ਼ ਸੁਤਿ ਜਨ ਸੰਸਾਰੀ ॥ ਲਗੇ ਅਕਾਲੀ ਕਹਿਨ ਅਪਾਰੀ ॥ १८ ੯॥

Singhs would remain nomadic traveling from place to place, chanting Akal Akal, upon listening to this the people of the world then started to widely call them Akalis.

### बूब भावते हैं नर्जें बूबे ॥ वेम हुबते हे निव हुबे ॥ उम युमारे हिए नग नैमे ॥ उम गुबारी मीर्ड भीमे ॥ १९०॥

In the same way that Kookas [Namdharis] got their name from their Kooks [shrieks], and those who burnt their hair became known as Hair Burners [sirphooke], in the same way their names manifested in the world [due to their actions. As such, the Nihangs were also called Akalis.

ਫੂਲਾ ਸਿੰਘ ਨਿਹੰਗ ਬਹਾਦਰ ॥ ਚੇਲਾ ਨੈਂਡਾ ਸਿੰਘ ਕਾ ਨਾਦਰ ॥ ਬਿਦਤਯੋਂ ਜਗਤ ਧਾੜਵੀ ਭਾਰਾ ॥ ਅੰਗਰੇਜ਼ੀ ਪ੍ਰੀਆ ਉਨ ਮਾਰਾ ॥ १ ੯ ੧ ॥

The great brave Phoola Singh Nihang was a fierce student of Naina Singh. His presence as a raider was known throughout the world, and had killed an English officer in one such encounter.

गिन् भूकीं मन भूत्रव भृष्य । मृष्ठि हित अपूर्वे ग्य प्रमाने ॥

मृ नहमीं अभूगेम घ्रांच्य ॥ नाध्रमें दिन घुत्रांच्य में मास्य ॥ १९२॥

Phoola Singh's influence increased greatly in and around the area of Mukhtsar, as such the brave Ranjit Singh called Phoola Singh [to join his ranks] with great respect.

ਰਚ ਕੀਰ ਰਜ਼ਮੁਟ ਦੇਕ ਅਕਾੜੇ ॥ ਤਿਸ਼ ਕੇ ਤਾਬੇ ਕਰੀ ਬਿਸ਼ਾਣੇ ॥ ਤਿਸ਼ ਮੇਂ ਥੇ ਤੀਬ ਜ਼ਿਤਿਕ ਸ਼ਿਪਾਰੀ ॥ ਤਾਮ ਅਕਾੜੀ ਸ਼ਿਤਿ ਕਾ ਆਹੀ ॥ ੧੯३॥

Ranjit Singh then made a regiment called the Akalis, entrusted soldiers all under the control of Phoola Singh. All of the soldiers of this regiment called themselves Akalis.

म्नड म्डे डिए रम्डा ॥ चॅवर थेंडे वर म्या ॥ म्नामारी मिन भेंने डेंड्रे ॥ युनडे म्नाड् मेंन द स्डे ॥ १९४॥

They all adorned tall turbans, with Khandas, Chakars [quoits], knifes, Gajgah [emblems], iron chains and the five weapons. They also were equipped with many other weapons.

ਰਿਹੁ ਅਕਾਲ ਰਜਮਾਟ ਕੀ ਬਰਦੀ ॥ ਹੁਤੀ ਮੁਕੱਰ੍ ਤਰੋਂ ਗੁਰੁ ਘਰ ਦੀ ॥ ਬੁਸਤਰ ਨੀਲੇ ਰਖ਼ਤੇ ਤੀਬ ਭੀ ॥ ਚਲੀ ਜਾਤ ਰੀਤੀ ਜੋ ਅਬਿ ਭੀ ॥ ੧੯੫॥

This was the uniform of the Akal Regiment, although this tradition had already been established in the Guru's House. The Regiment would now wear blue clothing, and now too [the Akalis] continue this tradition.

हुनि उनवर में ठार उगीरी ॥ यारी हुहा मिंभ म्रीरी ॥
टूट ग्रीरी नम्भट दिन मेरि ॥ विष्ये मिंभ ह्री भ्रय हिर्दे ॥ १९६॥
यीष दिनेग्र मिंभर वेन ॥ नम् मैंम नम् हैने देन ॥ १९१॥

With great determination Phoola Singh attained Shahidi [martyrdom] fighting against the Turks. The Regiment then was dispersed, and the Singhs were then scattered. This is the story of the Panth of the Nihang Singhs, I narrate to you as I have been told it.

विवंद ॥

थुंम नर्जें दिन्ने दिन्ने वा मीर्ज विन चीर्ज

उम घ्यमें गुवू की रिथ्वलि छात बाही हैं॥

This Panth of the Nihangs, I have narrated their four origin stories, how they received the blessings of Guru Gobind Singh.

भुन भीवनन ब्रिष्ठ की मंग डे दिन ही वी ॥

Their diet, dress, speech and mannerisms are all different from other Singhs, and the entire world.

ਗੋਣ ਗਤ ਰਜ ਗੁਣ ਤਮ ਰੋਹੇ ਮੁਖ਼ ਤਾਂ ਮੈਂ ਥੋਰ ਬਾਤ ਪ੍ਰੈ ਬਹੋਰ ਲਰਤ ਬਿਗਾਲੀ ਹੈਂ॥

They remain mainly Tamoguni with little influence of Satoguni and Rajoguni dispositions, and they will fight fiercely over minor issues.

व्यं के हिंग है कों अब है के कि विश्व के कि विश्व कि विश्व कि कि विश्व कि कि विश्व कि कि विश्व कि वि

They do not lower their eyes to anyone, fearing no one, they don't hesitate to fight; this is how people describe the Akalis.

भेगें हिए थाड़ भें मेहन को गें हिए नीवड मनेव महा भेव मैठ गाही वै ॥

Eating out of iron vessels, wearing only iron on their body, they always remain enraged, they have burned away the entire army of Ignorance.

ਊ छ एमुडा वे भेंडे छॅलव त्वर थेंडे वार्षे गुणि रेंडे कों युमात वेंग तारी वै ॥

They adorn tall Dumallas, strapped with Chakars [quoits], knifes and Khandas [double-edged swords], keeping clubs they dress in dark blue clothing.

ਚਾਹਿਤ ਨੁ ਬ੍ਰਿਗ਼ੇ ਗੁਵਾਦ ਰਹਿਤ ਅਜ਼ਾਦ ਗੁਦਾ ਕਰਤ ਬ੍ਰੀਤੰਡੇ ਬਾਦ ਅ੍ਰੀਧਕ ਉਤਾਲੀ ਹੈ ॥

They have no desire for sensuous pleasure they forever maintain their sovereignty, very quickly do they begin arguments and fights.

भुग्या चिर दांगि मार्जि चुन्ह बेर दांगि भिन्ने मेट्टि चांट थांगि जांगी वे अवस्त्री वें ॥१६६॥

They do not recognize the traditions of the Vedas or caste obligations, when eating they always share, such is an Akali.

हीभ डेंग प्रेमंड से समंड हैं डावे प्रजावे गाप्तम दिस्पाप्तम मगीन ड्रुस देंग है ॥

They are great lovers and friends of opium, poppies and cannabis, their property is the land of laziness, hunger and pure poverty.

विद्यान व्यन व्येन वीन वीन है हैन विद्य भुमान वीन यानड कु भीन वीन ॥

They may perform work but even then they do not desire any money in return, they remain ever in bliss and never experience pain in their heart.

मड मुंग दा बने मामडू दा मुदेनें टिल घाडी गुन की यह में मुग्डि डिम्ना में ॥

They do not go into the congregation, nor listening to the ancient scriptures, but take a great thrill in reciting solely the Guru's Bani.

भुव भुँभ भेगें गुव्हहा कों भें बिने हैं हों होत हैं मुक्त हों हैं हिन्न हैं ॥ 200॥

They eat by instilling fear and taking from others, they travel from Gurdwara to Gurdwara, they do not beg like beggars, the people call a Nihang as such. ज़िन्द ते नेथी नहीं जाय ते ज़हेथी भारे मुन ते नियागी नथहाने नाने हेता हैं॥

They call others Pakhandis [fakers] and think of themselves as above all judgment, they are great warriors of keepers of the Guru's Code of Conduct.

भारा अवस्त्र निम वान निम क्षेत वे ॥ त कीयन यूक्मा हेन हिहटी बहुता वे ॥

They do not recognize anyone else other than their Guru and the Deathless [Akal], against [Indic] tradition they do Parkarma [circumambulation] the reverse way [counter-clock wise].

मुंह वंम वुंस् मभुंस् ते हे वें गुंह मुवें उ उवत दिंस हैवें गुनि गुंग वें ॥

They are large fish in the ocean of Rudra rasa [The Ferocious Rasa], they do not endure the objections and slanders from others, they cut the limbs off their enemies.

घंडउ मरीह मेंग भाजुप उनेग हैंग उद्घे डे भाडेग मिंथ गुरू के दिनेग हैं ॥ २०१॥

Forever desiring war, weapons, horses and cannabis, such is the one pointed mind of the Guru's Nihang Singh.

पाष्ठी विंह वंस भेंस युक्त की विवंस मंगिव गाष्ठी मेंस सुंगठ की वंस की बाष्ट्री वै ॥

Those Nihang Singhs who have protected the Hindu Dharma in all areas of India, have killed and thrown away generations of their enemies.

माही में गाही व्यम वेंग वी यूज़ाही माही चीज़डा भहीज़डा व्मीज़डा ज़िवाही है ॥

They have burnt the net of Attachment, destroying all the generations of Anger and Desire, they have removed within the people of India all poverty, impurity, and low level thinking.

ਘਾਲੀ ਹੈ ਗੁ ਭਾਰੀ ਘਾਲ ਤੀਨ ਕਾਲ ਗੁਯਾਨ ਗਿੰਘ ਗੀਤ ਵਾਤ ਆਤਪ ਬ੍ਰਿਗਾਲੀ ਬਾਲ ਬਾਲੀ ਹੈ ॥

Gyan Singh says that, in the past, present and in the future, the Nihang Singhs have earned great achievements, the cooling breeze and pleasant sunlight warmth [of their presence] expands forth quickly!

टाही ਹੈ गुही छा गुड़ी छा घुणही थान चेग डेग दाही निंभ गुड़ वे गुवाही ਹੈ ॥ २०२॥

They were given impurity in big heaps but even still they've been given a high status, these Akalis of the Guru are masters of Tegh [sovereignty] and Degh [benevolence]. भाष्ठी हैं मुयन्भ वे मुबन्भ वे मुंगष्ठी मुंह भूष्ठ वे गुहन्द वे दिवाष्ठी हैं॥

Nurturers of Dharma, and forever the protectors of good action, those who come into their sanctuary are protected, they are the ones who remove the false projection of Maya [the Illusion of the World].

Being pleased with even just a little seva [selfless service], they are as if Shiva, granting wishes and pleasures to people, and to those who are angry against them, they grant them liberation [through death].

हाड़ी र्डिन भेंन वे वैं नड़ी मेंन हैन वे वैं थुज़ाड़ी भेंन सेन वे वैं देव भग सड़ी वैं ॥

They are great possessors of power and happiness, they nurture both the populace and the army and they are mindful of current developments and worldly affairs; they walk on the path of the rightful.

घारी गुन गूँष वे महैं भैष वे भुणाने जाने गुज़ार भिंभ वे साउने भिंभ जे गुवारी हैं ॥ २०३॥

They are great lovers of both the Panth and Gurbani within the Guru Granth, they are the saviors of Gyan Singh, such are the Akali Singhs.

- Naveen Panth Prakash

# म्री गुन्य येभ यूवाम



व्रिं : घृष्य मुभेव मिंभू मी

#### Sri Gur Pad Prem Prakash

1880

The Lovely Illumination of The Guru's Lotus Feet

Baba Sumer Singh

**Foreword**: The Sri Gur Pad Prem Prakash is an exquisite Braj historical text on the life of Guru Gobind Singh, the author was the esteemed Sumer Singh who served as Jathedar of Takht Patna Sahib and also the chairman of the Faridkot Tika committee. Baba Sumer Singh traces his lineage to the Giani Sampradya from Amritsar and the passage describes the origins of Nihangs.

गुष्ठ गुर्ज वित्र गुड्डियम त्या हिन नया भेड यूग्ट त्रे ॥ में मुर्जी गुर्जी मणी मणीमड डाउडे माष्टी युवे ॥

Now I will narrate this beautiful story according to my meager understanding, the truth that I bring before you is exactly as I have listened and understood it from reliable sources.

गुन गुरु गुगम गागम गागमम युनर हु डे युनर है ॥ हिल यूमी मुद्र भुगदी विद्रा हिनिय भुगद वेसद माद है ॥१॥

The stories of the Guru outweigh all the Vedas and the numerous Puranas, this secret though can only be understood and realized by a devoted and fully aware servant of the Guru.

ਕਬਹੂੰ ਚਾਰਹ ਤਾਤ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਸ਼ ਅਸੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਸਿੰਘ ਸੁਝਾਰ ਹੈ ॥ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਸਿੰਘ ਜੋਰਾਵਰ ਬਿਸ਼ਲ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਫਤੇ ਸਿੰਘ ਅਘਾਰਹੈ ॥

At one time, all the four sons of Guru Gobind Singh got together, the respected Ajit Singh, Jujhar Singh, the esteemed and pure Jorawar Singh, and the revered Fateh Singh, who even sin feared.

ਲਾ ਗੁਰਤ ਮਾਹਿ ਪ੍ਰਧਾਨ ਪਾਰਾਰੇ ਪੂਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਫਤੇ ਸਹੀ ॥ ਅਵਤਾਰ ਸੀ ਗੁਰਵਾਰ ਫਤੇ ਉਚਾਰ ਜੋ ਖ਼ਾਲਸ਼ਾ ਕਹੀ ॥ २॥

The youngest of all the sons, Fateh Singh was the most prominent and loved, for he was the one who invoked for the first time the Khalsa Fateh [Vahiguru Ji Ka Khalsa Vahiguru Ji Ki Fateh].

ਮਿਲਤੀਤ ਭੈਯਤੀ ਬੀਤ ਕੀਤ ਤਵੀਤ ਅਤ ਤਿਰਮਾਤ ਹੈ॥ ਉੱਚੋਂ ਦੁਮਾਲਾ ਰੰਗ ਕਾਲਾ ਫਤੇ ਸਿੰਘ ਸ਼ਜ਼ਾਤ ਹੈ॥

The three elder brothers met and carefully set out to create a new path, typing a large dark blue Dumalla on the wise Fateh Singh.

मुमडन है मुन्ड बन विवास जीड़ है मुहे पिड याम्से ॥ भारते युडि मुग्ने विवासड भारते मु विष्ठाम्से ॥३॥

Bedecking Fateh Singh with weapons, the older brothers, all laughing, took him to his father Guru Gobind Singh, the Master of Anandpur, who was residing on His throne in bliss.

ह्रथ हुए हुँ हुन वन्धार वन मुखान की ॥ जुन भीपत युजान भीन हामज़े जुन हुमा है ने मुनी ॥

Guru Gobind Singh looking at this form was pleased and hugged Fateh Singh, and then said, "I really love this uniform with such a beautifully adorned Dumalla

में मेंग मीड गुडीड मुन मुयान मीम दिमाद है ॥ जुन गुनि डमुना हेळाड़िड डिडज़म दिनेंग मुनद है ॥ ४॥

This Farla is the symbol for the entry into heaven, those Singhs who adorned it will be fearless and victorious in battle. This Farla is highest honour given; great are these Nihang Singhs.

ज़ व्य व भभ व्य याहे यूग्ट ज़िड विच वि ॥ ज़ारुर्ज़ मिंभ रिवंग भूवडर में डक्म डज़ सेटि ॥ ५॥

Understand this form to my very own, I will send great love to those who adorn it. Amongst the Singhs none are equal to the Nihang Singhs; liberated, they are free from all doubt and fear."

हिंग बिर्मिय ही के मेरी विवहार ॥ उन्न विभेज निष्म विकास महिंग ॥ उन्न विभेज निष्म विकास महिंग ॥ उन्न विभेज कि महिंग कि महिंग ॥ उन्न विभेज कि महिंग विकास महिंग ॥

When the Guru gave this blessing to Fateh Singh, then Himmat Singh [of the Punj Pyare] were also given this honour [to wear the Bana and Farla]. The Nihang Singhs then expanded greatly in size and two types of Nihangs started to emerge.

ਖਾਹ ਦੁਮਾਲੋਂ ਗੁਰ ਮੁਖ਼ ਰਾਖ਼ਾ ॥ ਕਾਰੂੰ ਕਰਯੋਂ ਊਥ ਅਤਿਲਾਖ਼ਾ ॥ ਛਪ੍ਰਯੋਂ ਪੰਥ ਕੁਊ ਥਲਾ ਨ ਆਗੇ ॥ ਨੈਂ ਲਾ ਗਿੰਘ ਜਥੇ ਜਗ ਜਾਰੀ ॥ ੭॥

Some wore a normal Dumalla keeping the Guru's name on their mouth, some of them desired to wear a tall Dumalla. Some time had passed and there was a lull in the tradition, but this was arisen again with Naina Singh.

हीय मिं जे मायव बहे ॥ घुड़े मुन्घन गीन गुठ गहे ॥ मुठ्यान व्या मघ भीड माठी ॥ मी भीभूडमन भीन मुन ग्यान्ठी ॥ ८॥

Naina Singh was Baba Deep Singh's student, and was a great warrior, filled with virtue. Listen to this narration, which I have understood from listening to the Gyanis in Amritsar.

उथ्र अवरह चैठ मुथ्र पाटी ॥ वन अन्यम मु पान मुमाटी ॥ डूच दिवामों डनम मिन्यन ॥ मीम दिमाद दिमाद मांच यन ॥ ६॥

Arriving at the Akal Takht, Naina Singh did an Ardaas [supplication] and tied a tall Dumalla, with a Farla springing forth from the top and considered this Farla as a Nishan [Battle Standard] of the Panth.

मुक्ति के विवास महार्थि ॥ घुमुद्र मुक्ति मीम मुनार्थि ॥ विद्र के हुहा मिंथ मु मिंथ पूचि मिंथ दिवंग मुद्रार्थ ॥ १०॥

He started the tradition of eating out of Sarbloh [all-iron] vessels, and wore a greyish blue colour Farla on top of his Dumalla. After Naina Singh came Phoola Singh, who spread the word greatly and created many Nihang Singhs.

घुड़े मुन गुन खर कान्डी ॥ चीड़ड़ यन चाजा निरंत नाडी ॥ मजाम घुमड़ मुंड कान्ड कार्ट ॥ कार्निटि डे ने मिंथ मुंग्टे ॥ ११॥

They were great warriors, egoless devotees of the Guru, who would be greatly compassionate to the poor. Many joined into the ranks wearing dark clothing, many people came from all around into the Singhs.

रैंडा मिंभ डे बरे हुमारी ॥ यूग्र वीड ज्य मंब में घारी ॥ वींडा मिंभ हुमारी बरे ॥ मैंविद्यीत घुद्र मम् मग्र रहे ॥ १२॥

Naina Singh thus started this tradition of the tall Dumalla, this tradition came into the world from Naina Singh. Ganda Singh then also wore this tall Dumalla, who was a great warrior and praised throughout the world.

डिठ वे मूरी ग्रामीय प्रियं प्राप्त ॥ भुभीयुं यह धेवम विड या वे ॥ डिठ डे मुठ गुठ युठ युठ वर्ग ॥ व्या म्याभीड भायुठ हरी ॥ १३॥

After them came a beloved Gareeb Singh, my father had great love for their lotus-like feet. From my father I heard this story many times, and as per my meager understanding I have narrated it to you as such.

- Sri Gur Pad Prem Prakash

# ਭਾਈ ਦੇਯਾ ਸਿੰਘ ਸੀ ਰਿਹਤਨਾਮਾ



व्रिड: डाटी रेजा मिंभ मी

#### Bhai Daya Singh Rehatnama

Code of Conduct of the Compassionate Tiger

Bhai Daya Singh Pyara

1700s

The Bhai Daya Singh Rehatnama is dated within the 1700s and outlines the characteristics and traits of an Akali Nihang.

#### में गुला ही वुप वे तीह घुम द् प्रीवताहि॥

म्ये माथु गुनवन गुला मनवहें प्रीवनित ॥

The form of an Akali is thus, wearing dark blue clothes he continually chants the Jaap Sahib, and 'Gurbar Akal' [the Deathless is All Powerful], wearing all iron weapons.

थुंन मुम्य प्रव रिव भे विद्यान गाउने मिश्र ॥ व्यवस् नेट वित्र यात्र तिव भावात्र निर्माणिक मिश्र ॥

Equipped with five weapons he keeps a Kirpan in a baldric [gathra], he does not eat or drink anything without blessing it first with his Karad [knife] and with love reciting 'Akal'.

डिची घुंगा में ममें उभ दिवंग मुमाद ॥ वन्भ भवा ही मुम वर्ग मुद्ध पुनि वाद ॥

Understand that he is called a Nihang who adorns a tall turban, these are the traits of an Akali, oh Sikh listen carefully with your ears.

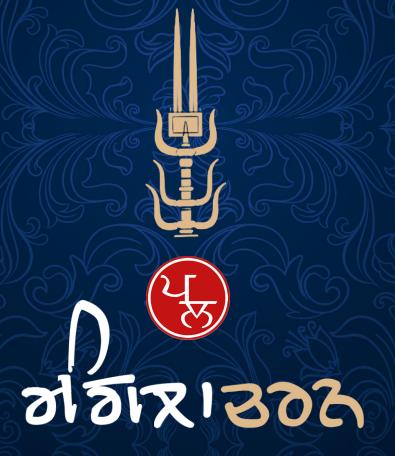
- Bhai Daya Singh Rehatnama

### गुन टिनिउगम टिमिय भींग चर्रा भेंच उँ ग्राटि।

It is clearly established within the Guru's History that the Nihang Dals are continuing from the origin [of the Khalsa].

### चिथु हा विर्वेगु मुभ डें व्या गुमरा माहि ।

[Regardless] the Nihangs are carefree, and their battle drums will continue to roar.



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