

Waheguru Ji Ka Khalsa, Waheguru Ji Ki Fateh

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Meetings/Events:

3rd January 2015 Education Committee Meeting

3rd January 2015 Media and Communications Committee

4th January 2015 a second meeting of South Region Area took place (summary attached)

10th January 2015 Executive Committee of Sikh Council UK

17th Sikh Leadership Programme at University of Warwick organised by Dr Gurnam and Harjinder S Lalli, representatives of the Sikh Council participated in the event

15th January 2015 the Chair of Safety and Co-ordinator of affiliate organisations attended a briefing meeting by the Uxbridge Police in relation to disturbance that took place at the Noomahal cult Dera in Middlesex. Police are said to have evidence and are charging 3 youth with GBH. Matter was raised by the chair about ongoing concern for Sikhs in UK as per history of Ashutosh sect being offensive to Sikh sentiments. Also it was clarified this it is not a Sikh / Hindu issue.

16th January 2015 The Chair of Community safety attended a training event for the Somerset Police.

Other items:

The Sikh Council UK shares its shock to hear of a vicious attack on a 24 year old male in Mold, North Wales on 14th January 2015. Sarandev Bhambra was attacked in a supermarket by a man armed with a machete and a hammer shouting "white power". The Council is asking the authorities to investigate how this person was radicalised towards extremism to the extent of terrorising the public and committing a horrendous act of violence against an individual.

Sikh council expressed feelings of shock over the barbaric and violent acts relating to the Charlie Hebdo, the French satirical magazine in Paris.

Sikh Council wrote to Cinemas and British Board of Film Classification in objecting to the Ram Rahim film 'messenger of god' This is a controversial film promoting a cult leader in India who is under investigation for alleged murder, rape, promoting suicides and castration amongst followers. Relating links from internet and social media were also sent to the officials in referencing to the concerns



Sikh council notes the delivery of employment appeal tribunal verdict by HJ langstaff in a caste discrimination case which vindicates Sikh council UKs position on the descent being a more appropriate protected category to be named in the Equality Act 2010

Sikh Council UK representative visited India as a delegate on 26th December 2015 and returned 15th January 2015. The primary purpose of the visit was to better understand the legalities behind the campaign to free Sikh political Prisoner and to where ever possible show solidarity with individuals and organisations working on this issue. Report will be attached.

Sikh Council UK supported the submission of a Memorandum by Federation of Sikh Organisations to Indian consulate General, Birmingham on 7th January 2015 while in parallel to this representatives of the Council supported the delivery of a Memorandum by Singh Sabha Gurdwara Sahib to Indian Consulate General London. A further memorandum was also delivered on 11th January 2015 London by Federation of Sikh Organisations which was also supported by the Council.

Sikh Council UK delegation met the High Commission London and also submitted concerns of Sikh Prisoners in writing to the Prime Minister on 27th Dec 2014

Concerns were raised when further cabinet papers were declassified under 30 years rule showed that Sikhs were discussed on a number of occasions with a view to controlling their campaigns to highlight events taking place in India. Concern was expressed that some papers were not disclosed due to their references to the Sikhs - leaving the community to wonder what discussions took place and what decisions were made that affected the British Sikh community.