

RELIGION IN LIFE PROGRAM



Sikh

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Membership in the Girl Guides of Canada and Scouts Canada is open to all girls and boys who wish to make the promise, regardless of race, colour or creed. The purpose of the *Guide/Scout* programs is to assist girls and boys in character development by encouraging them to be responsible citizens of their country. An important part of the program is to assist in the spiritual growth of each girl or boy in their own religious community. Girl Guides of Canada and Scouts Canada uphold the principle that specific religious instruction is the responsibility of parents and religious authorities.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this program is to provide *Scouts* or *Guides* with an opportunity to explore their faith, to make it a basic part of their personal life, and to share it with others.

THE EMBLEM

The Khanda is the symbol of the Sikhs. It reflects some of the fundamental concepts of Sikhism. The symbol derives its name from the double-edged sword (also called a Khanda) which appears at the center of the logo. This double-edged sword is a metaphor of Divine Knowledge, its sharp edges cleaving Truth from Falsehood. The circle around the Khanda is the Chakar. The Chakar being a circle without a beginning or an end symbolizes the perfection of God who is eternal. The Chakar is surrounded by two curved swords called Kirpans. These two swords symbolize the twin concepts of Meeri and Peeri - Temporal and Spiritual authority introduced by Guru Hargobind. They emphasize the equal emphasis that a Sikh must place on spiritual aspirations as well as obligations to society.

REQUIREMENTS

The requirements for the program differ in each faith and denomination and are prepared nationally by the church or religious bodies to suit their particular needs.

INSTRUCTION

It is the responsibility of the group/section committee and leadership team to arrange for instruction of candidates with the candidate's own spiritual leader or appointee.

PRESENTATION

Presentation of the emblem is made by the candidate's spiritual advisor, and can form an impressive part of a regular *Guide* or *Scout* meeting, a church service, or a special evening for parents/guardians.

STAGES

The Religion in Life program is in four progressive stages, colour-coded and adapted to the age groups concerned.

Stage 1 - Yellow Border (about 5-6-7)

Stage 2 - Green Border (about 8-9-10)

Stage 3 - Blue Border (about 11-12-13)

Stage 4 - Red Border (14+)

Candidates may start at any stage appropriate to their age and capabilities. Only one emblem - the latest stage earned is worn.

WHERE OBTAINABLE

The emblem may be obtained from provincial offices or through regular badge channels.

WHERE WORN

Girl Guides of Canada - *see Policy, Organization and Rules.*
Scouts Canada - *see By-Law, Policies and Procedures.*

STAGE 1

1. Learn the names of the Sikh Gurus.
2. Learn the names of the Panji Piaras (five beloved ones).
3. Learn the names of the Sahib Zadas (four sons of Guru Gobind Singh Ji).
4. Mool Munter.
5. - Jap Ji Sahib.
- Sohila Sahib.
- Ardass.

STAGE 2

As well as above:

1. Jaap Sahib.
2. Tav Prasaad Sawayias.

3. Patsaahi .10. Kabyo Waach Banti Choupee.
4. Complete Anand Sahib.
5. A Sikh must refrain from adultery, cutting of hair, use of tobacco, use of alcohol or drugs.

STAGE 3

As well as above:

1. Rehrass Sahib.

STAGE 4

As well as above:

1. Banis (prayers).
2. Wars of Bhie Gurdass Ji.
3. Study Sahib Guru Granth Sahib Ji.
4. Have an understanding of Sikh history:
 - Who is founder of the Sikh religion?
 - What is the Khalsa and the Amrit Ceremony?
 - What are five K's and what do they symbolize?



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SCOUTS CANADA