

Worksheet 23 – Current and Future Gurdawara Structures

Take a small group of people to a Gurdwara and explain the significance of the following:

1. Nishan Sahib and its meaning
2. Wear to get head covering and the significance of covering ones head
3. The shoe room and the reasons for taking off ones shoes
4. The Langar hall and its functions
5. The Diwan hall and its functions
6. The structure surrounding the Sikh Holy Scripture
7. The location and purpose of the Chaur Sahib
8. The purpose of the Money Box
9. The contents of the Sikh Holy Scripture

The second part of the exercise is to discuss the design of a Gurdwara for the 22nd century

Facilities

10. What facilities are provided in a typical Gurdwara?
11. Which of the above facilities caters specifically for:
 - Young people
 - Old people
 - Disabled people
 - Men
 - Women
 - Non-Sikhs
12. Which additional facilities/services would you include in a future Gurdwara to specifically cater for each of the above groups?

Management Committee

13. How many people form a typical Gurdwara committee?
14. What is the male/female ratio in current Gurdwara committees? Why is this and is it right?
15. What is the old/youth ratio in current Gurdwara committees? Why is this and is it right?
16. What is the ration of practicing/non-practicing Sikhs in Gurdwara committees? Why is this?
17. Should non-Sikhs be included in Gurdwara management committees?
18. Having answered the above questions what should be the structure of the ideal Gurdwara committee?

Finance

19. How does a current Gurdwara accept financial assistance?
20. In what forms can a Gurdwara currently accept donations i.e. cash, coins, cheque etc.
21. How could we make it easier for the congregation to give a donation to a Gurdwara?

Technology

22. Will it be necessary for a Gurdwara to have a website? How could this improve the functionality of the Gurdwara?
23. Can technology be deployed in any other parts of a Gurdwara? If so where and for what purpose?