

The Purpose of Manav Kendra

On March 4, 1972, the President of India, Dr. V.V. Giri spent the day in Dehra Dun, during which he graciously consented to visit Manav Kendra. This is Master Kirpal Singh's speech of welcome to President Giri. This was originally published in the May 1972 edition of *Sat Sandesh*.

Your Excellency, I heartily welcome you on your visit to Manav Kendra.

From the very first, as a boy, I was a voracious reader of books — mostly abstract subjects and biographies. From these I have learned that it is God who made all Creation. There is really no East and no West: we have made the East and West. We are all brothers and sisters in God.

I am President of the World Fellowship of Religions, beginning from 1957 up to date. We have been successful in bringing followers of different religions together on one platform, and that has done good work; for most of the narrowmindedness and bigotry has been minimized by explaining that God made man, and man made social religions. These social religions came into being only after the Masters and great Saints appeared, firstly to keep their teachings alive. So long as there were practical people, the right understanding was given, but for want of practical people, the resulting formations which came into being for noble purpose stagnated, and stagnation resulted in deterioration.

Masters have been coming from time to time, to give the right understanding. In the time of Kabir, Guru Nanak, and the Rishis, we find there were two sects at the most, and great narrow-mindedness; but they brought the message that there are no Hindus and no Mohammedans, but all belong to Mankind which inherits all religions and all Creation. So we are the highest in all Creation with the same privileges from God, born the same way with the same outer and inner construction. We have got the

man-body, but we are conscious entities on account of which the body is working. When Masters came from time to time, they gave out the teaching, *Man! Know Thyself*— who you are, what you are. We are conscious entities, a drop of the Ocean of All Consciousness, so as such we are all brothers are sisters in God. As Man we are all one, with the same privileges from God, and as soul we are also of the same essence as that of God, though we worship Him with so many other names.

As soul, as worshipers of the same Power, we are already one: the unity already exists, but we have forgotten. Guru Nanak and Kabir gave these very words, "I am neither Hindu nor Muslim." The people asked, "Who are you?" They said, "My body is made of five elements, and I am the conscious entity working through it." The *Upanishads* ask, "Who is that wonderful Maker, who has made this wonderful house in which we live?" This house has so many apertures, but we cannot run away out of it. The body works as long as we are in the body, but we are in the body as long as we are controlled there by some higher Power. When those Saints who had solved this mystery of life left the scene, the social bodies came into being to keep their teachings alive. As long as there were practical people, the people gained benefit from them; but ever since then, for want of practical people, this great Teaching has stopped in all sects, and that has played havoc.

Times have changed now. I have been to the West twice, first for six months and then for eight months. There I was once invited to a meeting called "East and West." All who were participating gave their talks, and in my talk I said, "Well look here, it is said that East is for the East, and West is for the West, and the two shall never meet, but it is you who have made it. God has only one home: the whole of Creation is His home, where He lives." The biggest temple in the world is the earth below and the sky overhead, and in this small cave of the man-body is the miniature temple of God in which He also resides. God

does not reside in temples made of stone by the hand of man. God lives in the temples which He has made in the womb of the mother by His own hand. So it is a true fact that the body which we are carrying is the true temple of God; but we have forgotten it.

In the West I gave all talks free. People asked me, "Do you not want any money for yourself?" I told them, "No." They asked, "Then what are you after?" I said, "I am here only to revive the truth that the man-body is the true temple of God, and we have forgotten this." I have written a number of books, and they have no rights reserved. When I came back from America they offered me lakhs of dollars, but I refused. I told them, "I am just initiating." So the result is that about 185 centers have grown up in America and other countries, and about 80 or so in India. The main purpose is to bring all children of God together on one platform. We are already one, as man, as soul, as worshipers of the same Power called by different names; but we have forgotten.

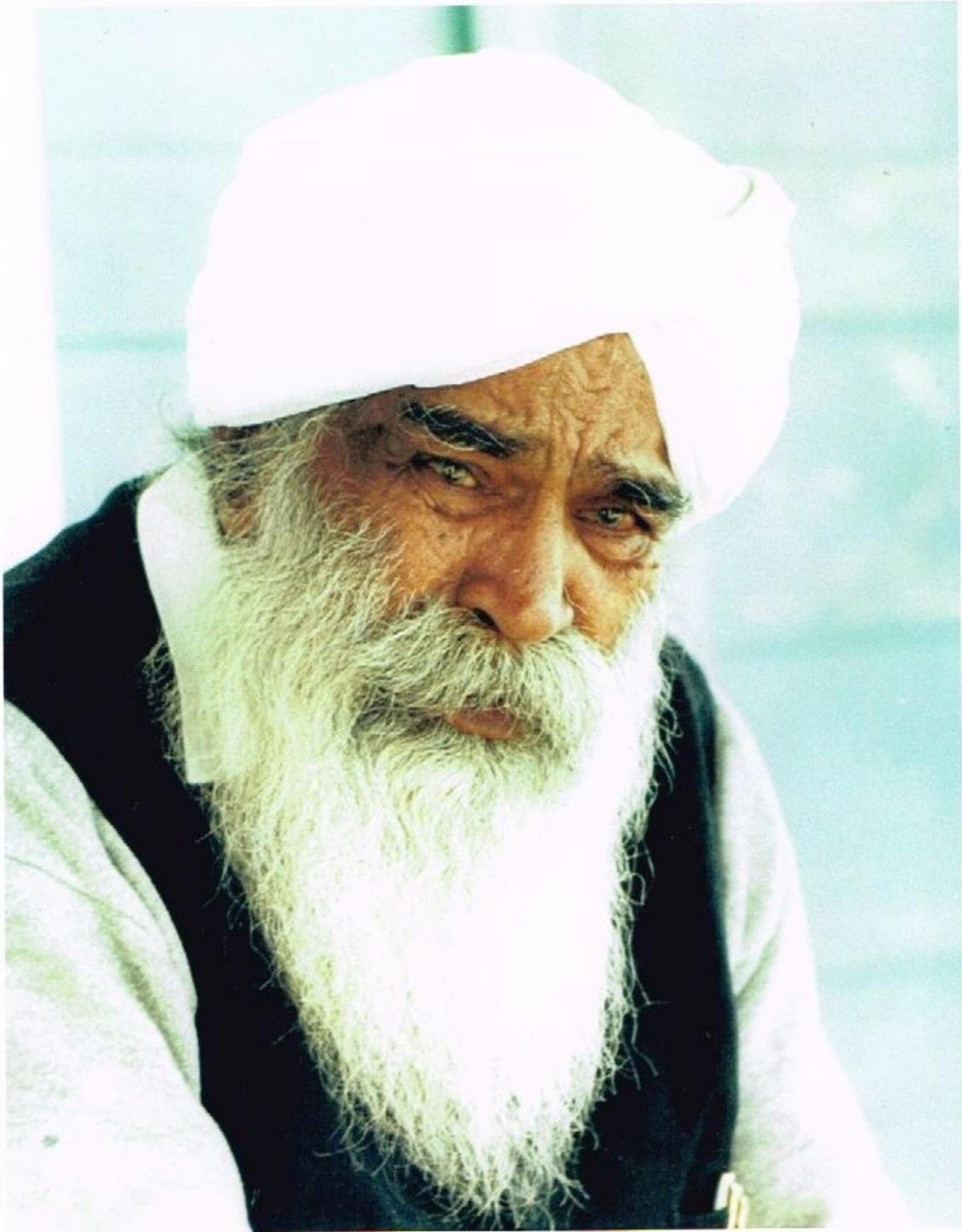
Good work has, of course, been done through the World Fellowship of Religions, both outside and in India: Delhi and Calcutta; in Persia, France, and Germany also; we have brought them together and they have come closer. Now all can mix with others, but one danger is ahead. What is that? Now, all followers of the "isms" — Hinduism, Sikhism, Islam, Christianity, Buddhism, Jainism, etc. — should join together to form pillars. How can there be true integration? How far can we tolerate each other?

This Man Center has started on the lines of Kabir, Guru Nanak, Christ, and all Rishis of old: that we are all men first; God-men first. We are first Man — physically — then we are conscious entities, drops of the Ocean of All-Consciousness, and worshipers of that same God. As man, soul, and God, we are all one. The main purpose of Manav Kendra starts on these lines. Its first purpose is Man-making. I have not touched the social bodies. In the

time of Kabir and Guru Nanak there were only two social bodies; now there are over 700. Man is a social being and must have some social body to live in. Let him remain there, and the purpose for which he has joined — that will bear the fruit of it. That purpose is: to know God. And to know God is to know Man first — who we are, what we are. As bodies, we are all born in the same way. So the first purpose is Man-making.

For this Man-making, I have just a reservoir outside: the earth below has given us — it is very kind of her — she has given us water without pumping, so the big Sarovar is there. This big tank is over 350 feet long and 200 feet wide — oval-shaped. It is overflowing with water, and on the other side is a bathing-ghat. In front and all around it, we have formed sitting places for meditation, and in front of that is the Satsang-ground. So we have got no temple here. The earth below and the sky overhead is the biggest temple, and the man-body is the miniature temple which we have forgotten. There will be no temple here. Along with this, there will be a long library for all the teachings and lives of great men. There is a meeting hall. We have just formed for Man-service a hospital block, and for those men for whom there is really no one to look after them, an old man's home. There is a guest house, a meeting hall, and other places. These are for Man-service, and we are starting a university from the smallest upwards, and God willing, this will include all morals. Along with all this, there will be breeding of animals, and agriculture.

You will be glad to know that Guru Nanak was an ideal farmer toward the end of his life. We have got these same three things before us: Man-making, Man-service, and Land-service. In the West they have appreciated this very much, and have started one or two places like that. So this is all the main purpose for starting Manav Kendra here in India.



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