

**SS Hari Nam Singh Khalsa
Mazatlan, Mexico**

Candidate Statement



Personal Information

Name:	S.S. Hari Nam Singh Khalsa
City & State/Country:	Mazatlan, Sinaloa, Mexico/Portland, Oregon, USA
Name of Spouse:	Kulwant Kaur Khalsa
Occupation:	Retired, Ambassador for the Dharma
Length of Participation in 3HO/Sikh Dharma:	43 years
Length of time as an Ordained Minister of Sikh Dharma:	25 years
Are you a KRI certified teacher or trainer? If so, what is your certification level and when did you acquire your certification?	I am a KRI certified teacher, acquiring my original certification in 1997. I am Level II certified and currently in the Level III training. I am also currently a Level I Lead Teacher Trainer.
Ashram Communities lived in:	Eugene, Oregon; Portland, Oregon
3HO/Sikh Dharma Community Positions:	Khalsa Council 1995-present; SSSC Board 2012-15

Questionnaire

1. Why do you feel called to serve on the SSSC Board?

I believe the SSSC Board has an essential role in supporting the current work of the

mission and giving conscious direction to the future direction of the mission. I believe that I have the necessary personal and professional qualities to be of service to the work of the Board.

2. What relevant areas of experience and expertise qualify you for this position and will make you an asset to the board?

As the other candidates, I have dedicated significant time and energy in my life to the furtherance of the teachings and mission of our common teacher and Dharma. In addition, I believe I can bring a unique blend of personal and professional experience that can be of great assistance to the workings of the Board. I have had a long career in both law and finance. Over the years, I have spent much time in India and also worked on many issues with the Punjabi community. Most importantly, I was a member of the original SSSC Board, giving me insight and experience in regard to the workings of the Board.

3. Please summarize your prior and current service to the Dharma. If you have served in leadership positions please note them.

I was in a leadership position in the Sangat in Portland, Oregon for many decades. Not only did we build a strong 3HO community there over the years, but we also were instrumental in building bridges and gurdwaras with the Punjabi community. I have served on many inter-faith groups over the years and have had the opportunity to speak at many public forums and on radio/television, I believe representing our faith community in a conscious and uplifting way. I have also been a participating member of the Khalsa Council for 25 years. In the last few years, I have traveled extensively around the globe, sharing the mission of our teacher and our Gurus in many different ways with many different populations.

4. Please describe your experience of the Siri Singh Sahib as a teacher and your experience of his teachings.

a) Please describe how your personal sadhana and spiritual discipline support you to keep up.

Wow, describing my experience of the Siri Singh Sahib as a teacher and my experience of his teachings in my life is well beyond words. I guess what I feel compelled to share in this moment is that I ultimately trusted in his wisdom and his vision, and that in the end, he always came through and that this trust was always rewarded and validated. Thank God, even after all these years, my Sadhana remains strong and continues to give me a daily foundation to support the rest of my day. My daily

discipline, which is really guided by the Rehit Maryada, continues to be the definition of my life and the compass for all that I do and seek to do.

5. Please describe what the Siri Singh Sahib's saying means to you: "If you cannot see God in all, you cannot see God at all." In practical terms:

- a) How would you apply this saying in your day to day service on the board?
- b) How would apply this perspective to help our community and organizations move forward together?

I see that expression as a validation of my own perspective that ultimately we are all brothers and sisters, children of the same God. As applying to my past and perhaps future work on the Board, that perspective would guide me to respect and honor the perspective of all Board members, knowing that everyone's point of view is a unique expression of the larger, non-personal Truth. And I could apply that point of view in how I would interact with a diverse set of communities and entities within the organization, seeing that we are all on the same team and working for the same goals, so to speak.

6. What do you understand the Role of the SSSC to be? How do you see the SSSC carrying out that role on a:

- a) Practical level
- b) Spiritual level

Simply put, on a practical level, providing the necessary support and resources for the entities representing the organization to do their part in furthering the mission. And actually doing so in a way that all the moving parts are working together for the common goal and good. On a spiritual level, infusing the entire organization with purity of intention and clarity in direction, so that all the organization does and stands for is congruent with the mission already set forth by our spiritual teacher and our Guru.

7. As an SSSC Trustee you are accountable to the Sangat. Describe:

- a) How you would like to build and enhance the relationship between the Sangat and the SSSC?
- b) How you will personally deal with the pressure of accountability while maintaining your spirit of service?
- c) How do you traditionally respond in a crisis or high tension situation?

I would like to see the Sangat be more aware of what the SSSC Board is and have more personal interaction with the Board members. Personally, I don't see there being any "pressure" of accountability. I feel the Sangat has the right to accountability and would be happy to do my part to provide that. I actually enjoy being in "the big spot" and feel that I can maintain my cool in the eye of the storm.

8. The SSSC practices inclusion, transparency, and accountability.

- a) What experience do you have incorporating these practices into your personal and professional life, and
- b) How would you incorporate them into our Organizations?

As a person, I count among my friends and associates people representing the full spectrum of humanity. I have been on the front lines politically and otherwise, fighting for the rights of those who are underrepresented in society. I believe these are the values taught by our spiritual teacher and our Gurus and would expect that all those serving this organization in any capacity are aware of the importance of "inclusion, transparency and accountability" and back it up with their actions.

9. How do you see the 3HO/Sikh Dharma family of Nonprofit and For-profit organizations serving humanity in these times?

- a) What do you see as the three (3) greatest challenges facing the Dharma (Sikh Dharma-3HO and the family of For-profit and Nonprofit entities)? What would you do as a Trustee to overcome these challenges?
- b) What skills, tools, and techniques can you bring to the SSSC Board of Trustees to help us move toward the vision you described above?

I would say the three greatest challenges facing "The Dharma" are: 1) making ourselves known to the world in an accurate, helpful and uplifting way, 2) being perceived within and without the organization as a service-first, rather than profit-first organization, 3) maintaining the visibility and relevance of Sikhism to those who find themselves drawn to "The Teachings."

10. Board service regularly requires 10 to 20 hours per month (or more) in evening and weekend board and committee meetings. These meetings are generally held at 8:00 pm Eastern time (20:00 hours). In addition, there are three Face-to-Face meetings per year (two in New Mexico following the International Khalsa Council Meetings (end of April and end of September) and a third in January or February in Los Angeles or one of our Ashram communities). The Face-to-Face meetings are two days in April and September and three days in January/February. *Note: One day of each Face-to-Face meeting period*

is always on Monday.

- a. Can you fulfill these requirements?
- b. If so how will you balance these requirements with your other personal and professional responsibilities?
- c. What do you anticipate being the most difficult part of serving as a Trustee on the SSSC Board?

I can fulfill these requirements without difficulty and did so when I last sat on the Board. I do not see this as a question of "balance," but rather as a question of total integration, which I believe my life already is at peace with. From my past experience on the Board, I believe the most challenging part of serving on the Board is constantly working in harmony with those who are equally committed, but have a very different point of view about what is best for the mission.

11. Are you related by blood or marriage to an officer, director, employee, or paid contractor of any of the constituent organizations (nonprofit or for-profit) including all subsidiaries?

- a. If yes, to whom are you related, how are you related to them, and what is their position?

No.