

UNITED SIKHS

Registered Charity No.

1112055

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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UNITED SIKHS

Registered Charity No.

1112055

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Trustees:

Mejindarpal Kaur

Chair

Gurjit Singh

Treasurer

Harjyot Kaur

Registered Office:

United Sikhs

32 Elsham Road

London

W14 8HB

Independent Examiner:

Charles Osei, BSc (Hons), MSc, ACIE, AFA, ATA, MCIPP

Flat 3, 11 Rochdale Way, Deptford London SE8 4LY



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date

01 01 2023

Period end date

31 12 2023

Reference and administration details

Charity name UNITED SIKHS

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any) 1112055

Charity's principal address 32 Elsham Road

London

Postcode

W14 8HB

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Mejindarpal Kaur	Chair		
2	Harjot Kaur			
3	Gurjit Singh	Treasurer		
4				
5				
6				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of advisor Name

Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Unincorporated Association
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Elected by the general body

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees.
- The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works.
- Relationship with any related parties.
- Trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Our Advocacy projects have been supported by:

The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC); The Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee (DSGMC)

Our Human development projects have been supported by:

The Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee (DSGMC); Baba Nanak Education Society, Chandigarh; Sikhs Helping Sikhs (SHS), Sri Guru Singh Sabha Gurdwara Bangkok, the Singh Madan Foundation

Our Humanitarian Relief projects have been supported by:

UN High Commission for Refugees, UNICEF, Sri Guru Singh Sabha Gurdwara Bangkok, UK Sikh Gurdwaras.

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The Charity's objects (the Objects) are:

1. The relief of people and communities who are suffering hardship as a result of drought, earthquake, flood or any other disaster or who by reason of their social and economic conditions are in need of assistance;
2. the relief of sickness, hardship and distress, particularly by the development of education, health and other social services, the improvement of transport infrastructure, water supplies and other communal facilities and the promotion of self-help activities amongst those people or communities;
3. the relief of poverty;
4. the advancement of education;
5. the advancement in life of young people;
6. the promotion of diversity and equality for the benefit of the public by promoting the elimination of discrimination on the grounds of race, gender, sexuality, age, religion or ethnic origin by advancing education in equality and diversity, promoting attitudes, customs and practices in favour of equality by the use of publications, media and public advocacy and relieving the charitable needs of those who have suffered discrimination on those terms; and
7. for the benefit of the community to provide counselling and other advice and assistance to people who are in need of that assistance by virtue of old age, sickness, disability, youth,

addiction, as victims of domestic violence or other crimes or because they are otherwise in charitable need.

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objects

This year we continued with our ongoing global Sikh Aid activities in countries such as Turkey and India. In addition we continued our efforts to focus on Sikh rights advocacy in the UK, Europe as well as USA and Australia (the latter being led by our affiliate registered in the USA and Australia, which is outside the scope of this report).

We have endeavoured, in the light of legal changes to search procedures, to provide Sikhs with complete and clear information about what is legal and what is not. We issued our Global Sikh Civil and Human Rights Report, the only one of its kind, a product of intense research, field observations and surveys.

In 2023 we have continued to support victims of discrimination in the United States (carried out by our USA affiliate) and UK, and have fought discrimination through awareness and advocacy.

Our Sikh Aid projects continued with gusto: We continued to carry out humanitarian aid missions.

Please see below for more details of our projects internationally.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- Policy on grantmaking
- Policy programme related investment
- Contribution made by Volunteers

UNITED SIKHS success in all its endeavours is due primarily to its team of volunteers who provide consistent, dedicated, unpaid service, be it at the frontline of disaster relief or at the cutting edge of international advocacy.

Achievements and performance

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

International Civil and Human Rights Advocacy (ICHRA)

In 2023, UNITED SIKHS continued to carry out new commitments made since 2013 to not only meet the advocacy needs of the Sikh community in the UK but also to continue to provide advocacy support to Sikhs in other parts of Europe, where significant changes to legislation regarding religious expression have been occurring in recent years.

We provide our advocacy support regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, social status, age or ability. However, due to resource limitations, in this area we were able only to serve the Sikh community, where our connections are strongest, in the main. However, our Right To Turban litigation stands to benefit all religious communities. Our main activities in 2023 included:

- **Civil and Human Rights Awareness and Advocacy;**
- **Right to Turban and Sikh Articles of Faith**
- **Hate/Race Crime/Incident and**
- **Minorities and Indigenous Rights.**

Sikh Aid

The Sikh Aid team provides non-partisan global humanitarian relief services, which not only provide immediate aid but also rehabilitation help to the needy. The team also runs projects to help eradicate poverty and works towards creating a healthier and happier world. 2023 was a busy year for Sikh Aid volunteers.

Providing Support to Those Affected by the Earthquake in Turkey and Floods in Punjab

Our teams and volunteers have been on the ground in Turkey to serve the most urgent needs of the victims of the earthquake. In addition we provided support to those that continued to be affected by the floods in Punjab.

Rescue A Family (RAF): Farmer-Suicide Widows Receive Pensions

As a result of poverty, strain on farming land, and debt, every year sees a sad phenomenon in India: farmer suicide. In addition to the loss of life, the family remaining is often left without a bread-winner. With no means of support, and a tiny trickle of government aid if any, children tend to be pulled out of school to help earn a living, their education cast aside, and the cycle of poverty begins again. RAF aims to help families in need by providing a stipend *as long as children remain in school* thus helping to make ends meet and also making a step towards breaking the cycle of poverty. 50 Panjabi farmer suicide widows receive monthly pensions from UNITED SIKHS. Going forward RAF will aim to provide workshops and ongoing support to help women seek micro-loans or other funding and set up their own businesses for a sustainable and empowered future.

A short film has been made on the project which, along with more

Achievements and performance

information is available here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQBL8uGwgBI>

Someone With A Need (SWAN)

UNITED SIKHS continued to provide assistance to needy individual cases in the UK and India.

In the UK, UNITED SIKHS has run a Helpdesk and Immigration Surgery since 2008 at the Singh Sabha Gurdwara, Southall. The helpdesk has been assisting members of the local community and the wider community in general with any issues to alleviate their problems and concerns. The vast majority required advocacy, social and welfare assistance as well as help with immigration-related matters.

Education and Empowerment

Scholarships Extended to Students in Pakistan

The STARAE project was started by UNITED SIKHS in rural Panjab in 2004. STARAE, which stands for Scholarships as Tool to Accelerate and Revive Academic Education, was extended in 2013 to 39 students in Pakistan with support from the Bangkok Singh Sabha Gurdwara Education Fund and the Singh Madan Foundation. UNITED SIKHS' STARAE scholarships aim to promote excellence by providing financial help to motivate students and accelerate their academic performance.

Under the STARAE project in Peshawar UNITED SIKHS pays the fees and other expenses directly to the schools of the sponsored children. The students who do well will also be helped to study at a local university. This project provides an opportunity to deserving students who belong to backward areas and also those who otherwise would not have the financial means to pursue a school or college education

<http://unitedsikhs.org/PressReleases/PRSRLS-04-03-14-01.html>

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

UNITED SIKHS maintains a primary reserve, for funding received on a general non-restricted basis. In addition, a reserve is maintained for projects which receive dedicated, restricted, funding.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:

- The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising).
-

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Gurjit Singh	
Position (e.g. secretary, chair, etc)	Treasurer	
Date	29/10/24	



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
UNITED SIKHS

On accounts for the year
ended

31/12/2023

Charity no
(if any) **1112055**

Set out on pages

9 - 12

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/12/2023**.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date: **30/10/2024**

Name:

Charles Osei, BSc (Hons), MSc, ACIE, AFA, ATA, MCIPP

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Association of Charity Independence Examiners

Address:

Flat 3, 11 Rochdale Way

Deptford

London SE8 4LY

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.



Charity Name UNITED SIKHS		No (if any) 1112055		CC16a
Accruals accounts				
For the period from	Period start 1/1/2023	To	Period end date 12/31/2023	

Section A Income and Expenditure

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Income					
Donations: General	29,334			29,334	24,921
Donations: Sikh Aid		5,014		5,014	3,346
Donations: Scholarships as a Tool to Accelerate and Revive Academic Excellence (STARAE)		6,780		6,780	7,455
Donations: Punjab Projects		3,967		3,967	8,856
Donations: Someone With A Need (SWAN)		1,084		1,084	2,000
Grant: Voice4Change				-	-
Grant: Community Initiatives Fund				-	-
Sub total	29,334	16,845	-	46,179	46,579
A2 Asset and investment sales, etc.		-	-	-	-
Total Income	29,334	16,845	-	46,179	46,579
A3 Expenditure					
Sikh Aid - Ukraine				-	3,471
Sikh Aid - Punjab Flood Relief		7,258		7,258	-
Sikh Aid - Turkey Earthquake		4,208		4,208	-
STARAE (Education & Empowerment)		5,643		5,643	7,560
Punjab Projects (Education & Empowerment)		205		205	4,449
Someone with a Need (SWAN)		487		487	2,947
Covid Support UK (Listening Helpline)				-	3,190
ICHRA	2,709			2,709	63
Media	922			922	742
Fundraising	555			555	1,266
Awareness	2,412			2,412	1,500
Equipment Purchases	1,880			1,880	60
Staff costs	8,189			8,189	-
Administration & Overheads	3,490			3,490	2,082
				-	-
Sub total	20,157	17,802	-	37,958	27,330

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period10

		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Details			
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	Details			
B5 Liabilities	Reserves - Unrestricted	132,757	-	
	Reserves - Restricted	70,185	-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on
behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	GURJIT SINGH	10/29/2024

UNITED SIKHS

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st December 2023

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31st December 2023

Monetary Assets	Unrestricted Funds	Unrestricted Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Totals	
				Year 2023	Year 2022
BANK ACCOUNT	£132,757			£132,757	£123,580
BANK ACCOUNT			£70,185	£70,185	£71,141
Total	£132,757	£0.00	£70,185	£202,942	£194,721

Liabilities					
				£0.00	£0.00
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00

Approved by the Trustees on 29/10/2024

Signed

Treasurer
Gurjit Singh