



Registered Charity Number 1203748

# **Annual Report for Manchester Samagam**

## **For the Year Ended: 31 March 2024**

### **Governance and Structure**

#### **Trustees:**

Mr Sukhdave Singh Bharat    appointed 1 January 2025

Mr Dalvinder Singh                appointed 1 January 2025

#### **Previous Trustees**

Mr Sangat Partap Singh                resigned 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

Mr Gorbachan Singh Arora                resigned 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

Sardar Sukhvinder Singh Peliya                resigned 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024

#### **Registered Charity Office:**

121 Broughton Lane  
Salford  
M7 1UH

**e-mail:** [manchestersamagam@gmail.com](mailto:manchestersamagam@gmail.com)

#### **Independent Examiner:**

HHK Accountancy Services Ltd  
Suite 212, Oakland House  
21 Hope Carr Road  
Leigh  
WN7 3ET

Manchester Samagam is governed by a dedicated board of trustees, who oversee its operations and ensure compliance with the Constitution and Charity Commission regulations.

### **Trustees for the Reporting Year**

Chair of Trustees	<b>Sukhdave Singh Bharat</b>
Vice Chair	<b>Rashpal Singh Dervish</b>
Treasurer	<b>Gurpralad Singh</b>
Secretary	<b>Dalvinder Singh Sangi &amp; Beant Kaur</b>
Volunteer Co-Ordinators	<b>Prabjot Singh &amp; Kiren Kaur</b>
Communications Co-Ordinator	<b>Ranjeet Singh</b>
Money Laundering Reporting Officer	<b>Gurpralad Singh</b>
Operations Co-Ordinator	<b>Sangat Partap Singh</b>
Operations Co-Ordinator – Health & Safety	<b>Lakhvinder Singh Sangi</b>
Operations Co-Ordinator – Build & de-rig	<b>Manorathpal Singh</b>
Complaints/Grievances Co-Ordinator	<b>Dalvinder Singh Sangi</b>

### **Chair's Statement**

Our purpose is to celebrate, and educate the Sikh and wider community about Sikhism, and share our values amongst the local community.

This involves celebrating historical Sikh festivals and enhancing the lives and knowledge of our congregation.

We also want to integrate with other faith groups and wide community in the Region and promote, equality, respect and friendship.

This is our first year, Manchester Samagam has fulfilled its initial mission of advancing the Sikh religion and supporting the local community in Greater Manchester through the annual Samagam.

This was achieved despite a short time frame from incorporating the charity on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and executing the Samagam in August 2023.

We have successfully delivered impactful programs, fostering a stronger, more inclusive community.

I extend my gratitude to our trustees, volunteers, donors, and partners for their unwavering support.

**Mr Sukhdave Singh Bharat**

**Chair of Trustees**

## **Activities and Achievements**

The Charity was created for the following activities

- **Advancing the Sikh Religion**
- **Recreational and Leisure Facilities**
- **Youth Development**

## **Our Achievements**

Manchester Samagam: A Community-Wide Sikh Awareness Programme

In July 2023, we launched the Manchester Samagam, a landmark three-day Sikh awareness event held in Trafford. As the first event of its kind in the region, it welcomed approximately 7,000 visitors from diverse faiths, backgrounds, and communities across the UK.

Our goal was to foster understanding, dispel misconceptions, and build stronger community ties by introducing the principles and practices of Sikhism in an open and engaging environment.

### **Key Highlights and Achievements**

- **Demonstrating Core Sikh Values:** Visitors experienced the three main pillars of Sikhism sharing, spiritual meditation, and honest living. Through various interactive sessions and displays, we showcased the importance of seva (selfless service), with practical demonstrations and opportunities for attendees to participate.
- **Taking the Gurdwara to the Community:** A central aspect of the Samagam was bringing the Sikh Gurdwara experience into the heart of Trafford. Guests engaged in traditional Sikh practices, including langar (free community meal), kirtan (spiritual singing), and prayer sessions, allowing for genuine immersion and deeper understanding.
- **Dispelling Myths and Misconceptions:** The Samagam served as an educational platform to address and clarify common misunderstandings about Sikhism. Through guided tours, interactive exhibits, and open Q&A sessions, visitors gained a more accurate and meaningful perspective on the Sikh faith.
- **Promoting Community Cohesion:** By offering a free and inclusive event, we encouraged people from all walks of life to come together. This created opportunities for interfaith dialogue and nurtured mutual respect and appreciation. The grassroots nature of these conversations established a strong foundation for ongoing collaboration.
- **A Historic Religious Ceremony:** A highlight of the event was the opportunity for individuals to participate in a Sikh Baptism ceremony, known as Amrit Sanchar,

conducted by the Head of the Sikh Thakat (Seat of Sikh Authority). This significant spiritual experience was both inspiring and unifying for the congregation.

- **Strengthening Faith Among the Next Generation:** Manchester Samagam also focused on empowering the next generation of British Sikhs. Through workshops and storytelling sessions, young attendees explored their heritage, culture, and spiritual identity, deepening their connection to their faith.
- **Expanding Career Horizons:** We collaborated with key organizations, including Cheshire Police and the Home Office, to provide career guidance and networking opportunities for attendees. Representatives engaged in conversations about career pathways, promoting diversity and inclusion within their workforce.
- **Uniting the Sikh Community Nationwide:** The Samagam drew visitors from across the UK, particularly from the Northwest, underscoring its role as a national gathering for the Sikh community. This strengthened community bonds and fostered a shared sense of pride and belonging.

## **Conclusion**

The Manchester Samagam successfully established a welcoming space for dialogue and learning. It exemplified how cultural and religious events can bridge divides, create understanding, and celebrate the richness of diversity. By building on the momentum of this groundbreaking initiative, we hope to continue fostering unity, respect, and collaboration within our communities.

We look forward to making future Samagam's even more impactful, with a continued commitment to sharing the essence of Sikh values and embracing the spirit of togetherness.

## Feedback

“Enjoyed people of all faiths coming together”

“A new experience for us a local”

**“Wonderfully organised event as a non- Sikh...made to feel very welcome and informed about the Sikh religion”**

“Me and my children really enjoyed the atmosphere”

“A must come to event”

“Bringing the Sikh community together in a positive a lifting”

*“Inspiration for youth”* “Very powerful and engaging, best event this year”









MANCHESTER SAMAGAM

## SALANA GURMAT SAMAGAM



PANI PYAREE FROM SRI KESGARH SAHIB  
& SRI DARBAR SAHIB AMRITSAR



SINGH SAHIB JATEHDAR  
BABA BALBIR SINGH JI  
AKAALI 96 GIORI



SINGH SAHIB GIANI  
BALJIT SINGH JI  
(GRANTHI SRI HARMANDIR SAHIB JI)

**FRIDAY 11<sup>TH</sup>**

**SATURDAY 12<sup>TH</sup>**

**SUNDAY 13<sup>TH</sup>**

**AUGUST 2023**

 BHAJ MANPREET SINGH JI KANPURI	 BHAJ ANANTVIR SINGH JI	 BHAJ GAGANDEEP SINGH JI GANGA NAGAR WALE	 BHAJ DAVINDER SINGH JI SODHI	 BHAJ AMARJIT SINGH JI PATIALA WALE	 BHAJ DAVINDER SINGH JI KHALSA KHANNE WALE
 MIRI PURI JATYA YAMUNA NAGAR WALE	 BHAJ MANNOHAN SINGH JI JALALABAD WALE	 BHAJ CHARANJIT SINGH JI CHANNI	 BHAJ SANDEEP SINGH JI UK WALE	 BHAJ MOHINDER SINGH WADHANS SINGH JI KABUL WALE	

**SUPPORTED BY : MANCHESTER SIKH FOUNDATION , SRI GURU NANAK DEV JI GURDWARA, SRI GURU GOBIND SINGH JI GURDWARA  
SRI GURU HARKRISHAN JI GURDWARA, DASHMESH SIKH TEMPLE, SRI GURU SINGH SABHA GURDWARA**

FOR MORE INFO PLEASE CONTACT: PRABJOT SINGH 07803370739, GIANI AMRIK SINGH RATHAUR : 07890609838, RASHPAL SINGH DARVESH : 07411180396, manchestersamagam@gmail.com

Live on  **EDUCATE**  
GURMATH PRATIST  
SUPPORTS ALL SIKH GROUPS

TURN MOSS RD, STRETFORD, MANCHESTER M32 8QD

 **ANAHAD**  
SIKH CHURCH











## Plans for the Future

In the coming year, we aim to:

- Expand our youth programs to include information, support and access to mental health services. This will involve introduction and promotion of support services

available and how to improve health and wellbeing to improve mental wellness. In addition, we are also preparing to incorporate a career's fair to future Samagam events. The careers fair will be aimed at year 15-year-olds plus to introduce them into several professional careers and industries in order to motivate and influence them into pursuing a professional career.

- In order to improve the health, and wellbeing of our congregation and also promote blood donations we have invited NHS Blood Donation Team to our forthcoming event. In addition, we plan to offer free basic health checks to help people understand their own health, and offer information and advice on how to improve and maintain positive health and wellbeing.
- Increase the scale of our community events by attracting visitors from West Yorkshire, Merseyside, Cheshire and Lancashire through social media marketing. In addition, we will work with other faith and community organisations in North West and publicise our event using their platforms.
- Strengthen our financial sustainability through new partnerships and fundraising initiatives.
- Make an application for “gift aid” which will provide the Charity with regular donations and offer tax relief to those who donate.



This community event is fully funded by the Sikh community and celebrates the religious and community element of the Samagam

# MANCHESTER SAMAGAM

**FREE EVENT** at Heaton Park and Hall

**8th to the 11th August 2024**  
Prayers from 6:00am, open to the public from 9:00am-10:30pm

There will be a religious service throughout the 4 days where you will have the opportunity to witness aspects of the Sikh Religion. We will have stewards onsite who will be able to answer any question you may have.

**BOUNCY CASTLE • HENNA TATTOOS • ARTS & CRAFT**  
**FREE FOOD • GATKA DISPLAY • WORKSHOPS**

<b>Recruitment</b> Border Force • GCHQ Greater Manchester Police	<b>Education</b> Kumon	<b>Other</b> Sikh Gallantry • Blood bikes Sikh Artifacts
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FOR MORE INFO:  
07803 370 739

    

## **Financial Review**

The charity received £220,519.50 (2024) in donations.

Our annual expenditure in the year was £215,5910.05 (2024)

These donations were made up of cash donations and donations in kind.

The larger cash donations are donations received from the "Golak" which is the donation box typically placed in front of the Guru Granth Sahib, where visitors deposit their offerings for charitable purposes.

The other cash donations are received over a short period of time before the Samagan took place. These donations are recorded, and the donor is provided with a receipt slip.

Manchester Samagam is not accepting gift aid donations; this is something we are working towards.

To our congregation we are truly honoured.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sukhdave Singh Bharat', written in a cursive style.

Sukhdave Singh Bharat

**Chairperson**



# Statement of Financial Activities

Manchester Samagam

For the year ended 31 March 2024

Account	2024	
<b>Incoming Resources</b>		
Donations recieved and Donations in Kind	£	220,519.50
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>220,519.50</b>
<b>Charitable Activities</b>		
Equipment Hire	£	20,716.40
Food Purchases	£	37,196.00
Religious Leaders	£	51,622.33
Samagam Costs	£	11,787.00
Samagam Marquee	£	82,154.84
Security / Health and Safety	£	10,291.00
<b>Total Charitable Activities</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>213,767.57</b>
<b>Gross Resources</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>6,751.93</b>
<b>Administrative &amp; Support Costs</b>		
Advertising & Marketing	£	583.00
Insurance	£	268.48
Printing & Stationery	£	672.00
Accountancy Fees	£	300.00
<b>Total Administrative &amp; Support Costs</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>1,823.48</b>
<b>Net Resources</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>4,928.45</b>
<b>Total Funds Carried Forward</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>4,928.45</b>

Donations in kind represents donations made directly to the supplier

Equipment Hire represents anixiliary event hire (portable toilets/heaters/screens etc)

Samagam Costs relate to flowers, Live TV streaming and Council costs etc

Security/ Health & Safety includes all medical hire costs

<b>Balance Sheet</b>		
Manchester Samagam		
As at 31 March 2024		
<b>Account</b>		<b>31 Mar 2024</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash at bank and in hand		
Manchester Samagam	£	5,228.45
<b>Total Cash at bank and in hand</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>5,228.45</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>5,228.45</b>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>		
Accruals	£	300.00
<b>Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>300.00</b>
<b>Net Current Assets (Liabilities)</b>		<b>£ 4,928.45</b>
<b>Total Assets less Current Liabilities</b>		<b>£ 4,928.45</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>£ 4,928.45</b>
<b>Capital and Reserves</b>		
Current Year Earnings	£	4,928.45
<b>Total Capital and Reserves</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>4,928.45</b>

## **Independent Examiners**

### **Report to the trustees of Manchester Sikh Foundation - Charity number: 1191992**

We report to the trustees our examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 March 2024.

#### **Responsibilities and basis of the report**

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

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

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



Date: 26 March 2025

Mrs Rupinder Howard  
For an on behalf of  
HHK Accountancy Services Ltd  
Suite 212, Oakland House  
21 Hope Carr Road  
Leigh  
WN7 3ET