



# **Baba Virsa Singh**

## **A Path to Peace**

**“Understand we are all God’s children -  
And Peace will begin Today.”**

# His Holiness Baba Virsa Singh's Path to World Peace

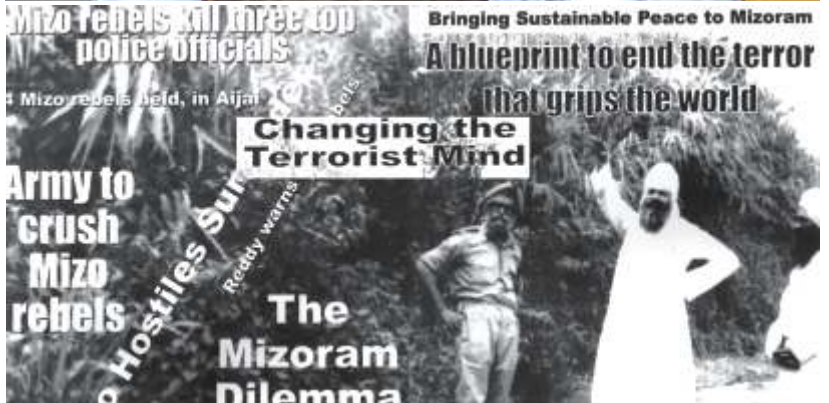
## Chronology

- ▶ **1950's** – Recognized as a great visionary and healer; millions of people touched
- ▶ **1968** – Started development of Gobind Sadan, "God's House without Walls." Plowing the land himself he created the first farm and model of interfaith understanding.
- ▶ **1971** – Opposed corruption within Sikh temples.
- ▶ **1977** – Brought peace to the border state of Mizoram – personally settling the vicious decade-long "terrorist" campaign to drive out India.
- ▶ **1980's** – Began development of major model farm, Shiv Sadan, transforming vast areas of wastelands along the flood plains of the Ganges into productive farms to create an economic base and eradicate poverty in the area.
  - Spoke out against the Sikh fundamentalist violence
  - Began large-scale celebrations of the major holy days of all the prophets
- ▶ **1987** – Established Gobind Sadan USA, north of Syracuse, N.Y. 1st community outside of India.
- ▶ **1989** – Visited Soviet Union for 1st time and predicted dissolution on National Television.
- ▶ **1990** – Founded Gobind Sadan Institute of Advanced Studies in Comparative Religion; held annual seminars to address controversial theological issues in a spiritual context; focused on highlighting "Emerging Trends in World Peace"
- ▶ **2001** – Outspoken against war in the name of religion and "slander" of prophets and defamation of scriptures of other faiths. "War is not a way to bring peace."
- ▶ **2002-3** – Blunted Hindu fundamentalist attacks on Christians and Muslims by convincing them that the vision of Lord Ram was inclusive
  - "Changed the course of history" - Outspoken against slanderous material in government text books that reviled the prophets of many religions – Supported the courageous efforts to revise the curriculum.
- ▶ **2004** – Returned to Russia to bring message of love and healing
- ▶ **2005** – Focused on spreading message to overcome terrorism – "There is no such thing as a terrorist." Settled disputes among religious communities.





**Baba Virsa Singh ji** is a holy person of biblical proportion. A world-class leader who seeks no worldly position, he does not refer to himself as a Guru or a miracle worker. He comes from a mud-brick village in Punjab, does not read or write in any language, but those of great intelligence, wealth and worldly power bow at his feet, seek his guidance, and attribute many miracles in their lives to his influence. He quotes extensively from the scriptures of all religions. His special mission is to bring people of all religious paths closer to God, and bring peace by overcoming the conflicts that plague the world. He has worked hard all his life to set an example of how one can rise out of poverty. When asked, he says only, "I am just trying to be a better human being."





# Gobind Sadan



“Gods House Without Walls”

Rooted in the Sikh tradition and the universal teachings of its Gurus, Gobind Sadan, "God's House Without Walls," is an international interfaith community currently with centers in India, the U.S., and in Russia, which has grown out of Baba Virsa Singh ji's vision for world peace. People from all faiths-and even those with no faith-find spiritual renewal and healing from stress and disease, and are empowered to work harder and more effectively in their own chosen professions. Babaji has demonstrated that civil society can be re-established through a combination of hard work, meditation, and service to those in need. Through these efforts Babaji has restored people's faith in the presence of God and the Power that arises from sincerely following God's teachings.

**Gobind Sadan's main "campus"** is a spiritual oasis on the outskirts of Delhi where you find an image of Jesus with arms outstretched, a Mosque, a place honoring God's covenant with Moses and Abraham, sacred fires (*havans*) and Mandirs, all honoring the teachings enshrined in Guru Granth Sahib. Here volunteers from varied backgrounds live and work side-by-side to maintain the prayer and meditation sites, "healing places," and *langar* - the community kitchen. Guests are welcome but space is limited, so please write ahead.

**Gobind Sadan Institute** - Housed on the main campus the GSI consists of a research library, guest house, and auditorium for our meetings and seminars. Babaji has directed the Institute to focus on highlighting emerging trends in world peace and research to resolve points of controversy or dispute among religious factions. The library while small contains rare, often one of a kind religious and historical texts, ideal for students and research scholars.

**Shiv Sadan** - the model farm developed from wastelands in the floodplains of the Holy River Ganges is a 3 hour ride from Delhi. Its crops provide food and income to run the *langars* and help those in need. The farm provides employment, employability training for thousands, and an economic impact on the surrounding 50 square kilometer radius. Those interested in issues of rural development, eradicating poverty, or pioneer agricultural methods are welcome to visit. At present facilities for overnight stay are extremely limited but seasonal day trips are possible.

**Sarawan-Bodla** - Babaji's village and place of enlightenment, located in Punjab, is a center of immense spiritual power and historic significance. You can sit under the same Beri Tree where Babaji used to sit and heal people and walk the soil of his youth.

**Gobind Sadan, USA** - Babaji's first center outside of India is located in the heart of Central New York. Set on an old dairy farm and based on Gobind Sadan's model, it presently consists of a Gurdwara building and a meditation center which houses the *havan* (sacred fire). The refurbished barn provides additional gathering space. Plans for other sites for prayer are in progress.





# Everyday Miracles

*"Miracles are God's nature"*

At Gobind Sadan, what some may consider miracles are everyday occurrences. Diseases are cured, business and personal problems, and even social conflicts are solved almost immediately through prayer at the various holy places.



## Healing the Human Mind

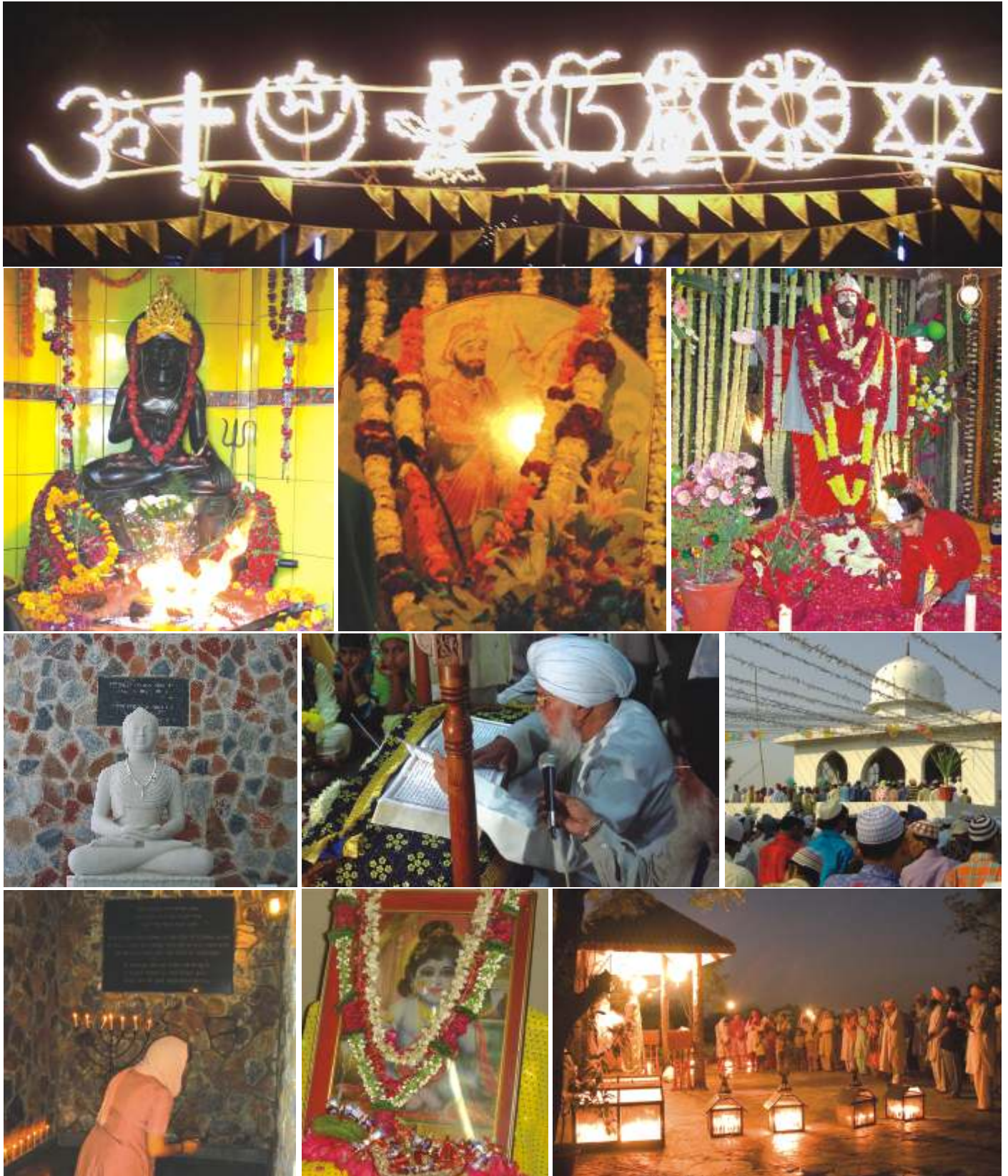
*"When a river overflows its banks it does great damage to the surrounding areas. But when a person's mind is not controlled, he can destroy entire countries. Anger and hatred are out of control. You must control your anger. Leadership must speak responsibly. Media must deliver messages that soothe the people, not pour more oil on the fire. When our thoughts are poisoning us, how will worldly medicine help? First look to God, then look within and find peace. Worry afflicts ninety percent of the world. If this disease is eradicated from the mind, all physical diseases will also end."*





# Overcoming Religious Conflict

"Celebrate each other's holidays and share each other's scriptures." Baba Virsa Singh ji challenges all religious leaders to teach reverence for each other's traditions and prophets. Babaji also defends the good name of all God's messengers and has been publicly outspoken against those who would malign another's religion or prophet. Gobind Sadan is a practical demonstration of interfaith understanding. Not only are the major holy days of all traditions celebrated, but on a daily basis, while Guru Granth Sahib is recited continuously, and prayers are offered round the clock at the sacred fires (*havans*) people of all faiths come to pray at Jesus' Place, the Mosque, the Mandirs, the Sh'ma place and the pavilion of Buddha and Mahavir.





# “There should be no poverty”

*“Poverty is not a permanent state. There is no such class or nation we can call ‘the poor’. Work hard and thank God and He will lift you out of poverty. This is my own personal experience. World policies are wrong.”* For the past 40 years, Babaji has repeatedly transformed barren land into productive farms to show how, through hard work and God’s blessings, poverty can be eradicated. Despite his great spiritual prowess, he at heart considers himself a farmer.



## Overcoming Terrorism

*“When God and the Government work together, the violence will end. Spirituality is the most powerful force in the universe. It strikes peoples’ hearts even when they are in hiding. Where no other weapon can penetrate, and no intelligence can search them out, Dharma will reach its target and turn the terrorist mind towards peace. This is the only way to stop the violence. All other means only increases the pres sure and leads to more violence. But the government must adopt the principles of Dharma; listen to their needs, solve their problems, and peace will come.”*





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