

ABSTRACTS OF SIKH STUDIES

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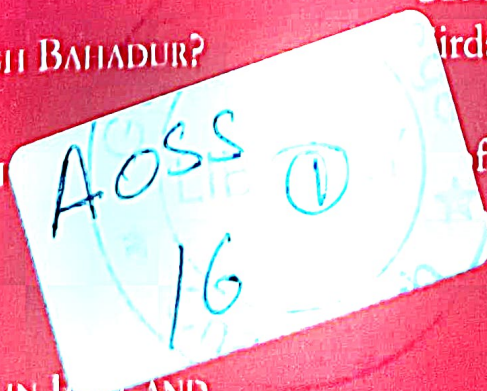
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FROM THE GUEST EDITOR



As I was in the process of compiling this quarterly of the *Abstracts Sikh Studies*, a part of the Panjab was simultaneously being visited by the fury of floods bringing devastation to the standing crops, cattle-wealth and the households. The unprecedented suffering has also brought the resilience and the fightback spirit of the people of Panjab to the fore — a proud heritage of this part of India. The Institute of Sikh Studies stands in solidarity with all those who suffered in the wake of these calamitous circumstances.

I have purposely restricted this issue to the writings in English, though, a couple of scholarly articles were also received in Panjabi. They have been preserved to be included in the proposed Annual Special Number to be brought out by the IOSS.

There has been an encouraging response from the contributors to the present issue. Many scholars have responded to my earnest request by sending their valuable articles for this number. The articles present a wide range of different aspects of Sikh studies. Prof Dhawan has contributed an insightful write-up on the raging controversy arising out of the error-ridden edition of *Mahan Kosb* brought out by the Punjabi University Patiala. It brings the role and responsibilities of our state institutions of higher learning under critical examination.

The great soldiery attributes of Banda Bahadur as the leader of men have been depicted by Gen R.S. Sujlana by bringing forth his genius of command as first military general of the Sikhs. Prof Karamjit Kaur Malhotra and Prof Sheena Paal have jointly worked on two works of fiction -- one each in Panjabi and Hindi. These books, authored respectively by Bhai Vir Singh and Shardha Ram Phillauri, weave among their stories, an emergence of Sikh reform movements and