

# Why I do Chaur Sahib?



*Bhai Bala Ji doing Chaur sahib while Bhai Mardana Ji Doing kirtan with Rabaab.*



*In the picture, Baba Budhaa Ji is shown carrying the Adi Granth to Harmandir Sahib and Guru Arjan Dev Ji is waving the Chaur Sahib as a mark of respect.*

**Chaur Sahib** is respectfully waved over Sri Guru Granth sahib Ji to signify

- ?? Sovereignty
- ?? Royal authority
- ?? Utmost respect for Guru Ji
- And to be in Guru's seva

## History:

It is a well-known fact in Indian civilization that the Chaur was waved over the saints and kings for hundreds and thousands of years as a symbol of royalty and respect. The Gurus emphasized that the true kings are those who love God and help others to do the same. They are the rulers of the hearts of the people. The political kings are temporary kings and their authority ends with their death. The Guru is the true king. Guru Ji teaches us the

Truth and rules our heart and mind. Guru Granth Sahib Ji is our living eternal Guru and has the same Jot (Supreme Spirit) as of Guru Nanak Dev Ji.

Now for Sikhs the Chaur Sahib is used to honor the king of kings, Guru Granth Sahib Ji. No other scripture is worshiped in the Gurdwara with similar respect. Doing Chaur sahib we express our regards and respect for our Guru Granth Sahib Ji, the True King. Guru Ji says:

**idvs rIn qrypnaupl sauks cvr kir Pyl ]1]**

dhivus rain thaerae paa puloso kaes chuvur kar faeree

Day and night, I keep touching your feet gently, Lord; I wave my hair as the chaur ||1||

There are other ceremonial decorations that go along with Chaur sahib in the service of our Guru Granth Sahib Ji. Guru Granth Sahib Ji seats majestically on a throne (called *Manji Sahib*) with pillows all around, *Palkans* on the sides and a *Rumaala* over the top. A canopy (*Chandoa*) is placed above in the same way as it was placed over the crown of a king while he attended his court. During the session (Diwaan), a person, with Chaur Sahib in his hand, is always in attendance doing seva of waving Chaur Sahib.

### How to perform this seva:

- ?? Wash your feet and hands before entering the Gurdwara
- ?? Keep your head covered, make sure your clothes are clean, comfortable and appropriate.
- ?? Bow to Guru Granth Sahib before doing the seva asking the Guru to grant permission to do so.
- ?? Put *hazuria* (a long clean piece of cloth) around your neck and respectfully take the Chaur sahib in your hand.
- ?? Touch the Chaur sahib with your forehead and start waving it over Guru Ji, side to side.
- ?? Do it slowly and steadily and make sure the Chaur Sahib does not touch Guru Sahib Ji or the Paalki.
- ?? In your mind do naam simran "Waheguru"
- ?? When finished, hand over the Chaur sahib to the next sevadaar or place it only at the designated spot
- ?? Matha tek to Guru Granth Sahib Ji and ask for forgiveness for any mistakes during the seva.



### Do not:

- ✘✘ Let the Chaur Sahib touch Guru Sahib or the Palki
- ✘✘ Stare at Sangat or at a particular person
- ✘✘ Laugh, make funny faces, or make any unusual body gestures
- ✘✘ Unnecessarily touch any part of the body.