

Editorial

Welcome to the double issue of Vol. 31 (2024) of the *Journal of Sikh and Punjab Studies* which begins our fourth decade of publication. In the past, the Journal has pursued its mission of publishing articles on the three Punjabs: Historical Punjab, Contemporary Punjabs and Transnational Punjab and in the process, we published well over 270 articles along with bringing out over 14 seminal double or single issues focused on a specific theme. This year being the 40th anniversary of the army attack on Darbar Sahib (named Operation Blue Star) in June 1984 and the brutal killing of thousands of Sikhs in Delhi in November, we have three papers attempting to understand the different facets of these events.

In the past years we have published translations of Braj, Farsi and Punjabi writings spanning over the past four centuries and from now on we plan to offer this segment on a regular basis. This would provide us the opportunity bring to the attention of our readers some important but not easily accessible early texts both in their original/facsimile form and translations. We begin this strand with a 'critical' edition and translation of Guru Gobind Singh's *Zafarnama* prepared by Dr. Harpreet Singh.

Entering our fourth decade, we feel grateful to be able to expand the scope of the Journal by welcoming scholars who write in Punjabi. In this issue, we have an article on the articulation of *Gurbanhi*, a review article on Amarjit Chandan's book *Dudh vich Kanji* by Dr. Rajni Bala and a set of comments of graduate students of Punjabi Department, Delhi University. Here are thus three generations of Punjabi speakers reflecting on their native language and we would welcome responses from our readers on the issues raised by them. Two essays at the closing reflect on the two leading figures in Punjabi literature and politics of the past generation. We are publishing the articles as they came and hope to evolve the editorial policy as we go along. We look forward to continuing serving the field of Sikh and Punjab studies to the best of our abilities.

Shinder S. Thandi
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