

# The Conservative Government is Silencing Sikh Voices

- The Prevent strategy and Schedule 7 misused to silence Sikhs exposing human rights offences by India
- Actions indicate undue pressure from India, supported by the Conservative
- Government
   Bloom Report and Oasis Presentation unfairly labelled Sikhs as extremists

## 3 questions to ask your candidates:

- 1. Sikhs are being unfairly targeted by British Law Enforcement under Schedule 7. What steps will you take to address this if elected?
- 2. India is using trade to push its agenda of silencing Sikhs in the UK. Will you stand against this pressure and protect our rights?
- 3. 2024 marks 40 years since the attack on Harmandir Sahib and the Sikh Genocide. Will you campaign for these events to be officially remembered at Parliamentary level?



## Sikhs play a vital role in shaping the United Kingdom. As we approach the 4th July, 2024 General Election, it is crucial to hold Parliamentary Candidates accountable.

### Why are these questions so important?

The Conservative Government has been in power for the last 14 years, and the Sikh community in the UK has faced significant challenges and injustices. Jagtar Singh Johal, a British citizen, has been detained in India for seven years without charge, with minimal efforts by the Conservative **Government to secure** his release. Additionally, Hardeep Singh Nijjar was murdered in Canada shortly after the suspicious death of Avtar Sinah Khanda in the UK, and a plot by the Indian state to assassinate **Gurpatwant Singh Pannu on** US soil was uncovered, with investigations confirming Indian involvement in both Nijjar's and Pannu's cases.

Despite these alarming incidents, the UK government has not adequately addressed the release of Jagtar Singh

or further investigated Avtar Singh Khanda's death. All these individuals are advocates for Sikh self-determination, but the Conservative Party has prioritised trade deals over the safety and rights of its citizens.

Additionally, Sikh activists have been unfairly targeted under the Government's Prevent Strategy, with Schedule 7 legislation being misused to silence those speaking against injustices in India. The misuse of Schedule 7 legislation, which allows British Law Enforcement to detain individuals suspected of terrorism, is being weaponised against our community.

The Bloom Report, commissioned by Boris
Johnson, intended to enhance governmental engagement with faith communities, has instead unfairly labelled Sikhs as extremists without evidence, further marginalising the

Sikh community. Recently,
Oasis Community Learning, a
prominent UK multi-academy
trust, used a presentation
that equated Sikh activist with
extremist groups, highlighting
a growing trend of biased
representations.

In 2023, the Conservative Government announced £95,000 of taxpayers' money to tackle alleged 'pro-Khalistani extremism', further vilifying and unfairly labelling the right to self-determination as extremism. This decision highlights the government's misplaced priorities, focusing on pleasing India while ignoring the pressing concerns and injustices faced by the Sikh community in the UK.

This biased representation, combined with the transnational repression from India, underscores the crucial need to hold Parliamentary Candidates accountable.

Your Sikh vote matters regardless of the party: Conservative, Labour, Liberal Democrat, Green Party, or otherwise. **We will not support candidates who avoid answering these crucial questions.** 

#### Engage with Candidates:

Ask candidates the three questions when they seek your support. Insist on clear, direct answers.

## Mobilize Your Community:

Inform your local Gurdwara and community leaders about the critical questions. Ensure they pose these questions to candidates.

#### **Spread the Word:**

Discuss these issues with family, friends, and community members. Use social media and local events to raise awareness.

## Vote Consciously on 4th July:

Register to vote and encourage others to do the same. Vote for candidates committed to addressing these issues.

