Original Article ISSN (Online): 2350-0530 ISSN (Print): 2394-3629

# SIMRANJIT SINGH MANN

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Received 30 October 2024 Accepted 14 November 2024 Published 30 November 2024

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10.29121/granthaalayah.v12.i11.202 4.6128

**Funding:** This research received no specific grant from any funding agency in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

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### **ABSTRACT**

Simranjit Singh Mann (born 20 May 1945) is a former IPS officer of the 1967 Punjab batch. Mann retired a few days after Operation Blue Star. Due to his Khalistan activities, he was imprisoned for many years first in Bharatpur (Rajasthan), then in Bhagalpur (Bihar), Mumbai (Maharashtra) and finally spent a long time in solitary confinement in Chennai. Shiromani Akali Dal (Amritsar) is a Sikh nationalist olitical movement led by Simranjit Singh Mann and he opposition Shiromani Akali Dal. They are using "Balti" (Punjabi word meaning bucket) as thei lection symbol. Shiromani Akali Dal (Amritsar) was founded on 1 May 1994. Their victory in the Lok Sabha in 2022 after more than two decades was seen as a political vacuum created by the resurgence of Sikhism and the collapse of other parties in Punjab. The last major victory of the Shiromani Akali Dal (Amritsar) was in the 1989 Lok Sabha elections, when the party and its allies won 10 out of 13 seats in Punjab.

He is a member of the Lok Sabha, the lower house of the Indian Parliament, and has been representing the Sangrur constituency since 2022. Mann has been an MP three times; He is considered a supporter of Khalistan and his party is known for its support for Khalistan. Now the leader of Shiromani Akali Dal (Amritsar) has registered with the Election Commission of India as Shiromani Akali Dal (Simranjit Singh Man), who brought peace to Punjab to achieve success in the "unsettled states" between India and Pakistan.

**Keywords:** Shiromani Akali Dal (Amritsar), Member of the Parliament in the Lok Sabha

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Simranjit Singh Mann is a former Indian Police Service officer and a Member of the Parliament in the Lok Sabha, the lower house of the Parliament of India, representing the constituency of Sangrur since 2022. He is the president of the political party Shiromani Akali Dal (Amritsar). Mann has served three-times as an MP; once from Taran Tarn (1989-1991), and twice from Sangrur (1999-2004) and since (2022). He is known as a Khalistani supporter and his party is known for their pro-Khalistan stances The Indian Express (2006)

### 2. EARLY LIFE

Simranjit Singh Mann was born on 20 May 1945 (as of 2023 he is 78 years old) in Shimla, Punjab, British India (now Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, India). His hometown is in Fategarh Sahib. From 1945-1947 he was a British Indian citizen and

from 1947 till present he is an Indian citrizen. His father Sardar Bahadur Joginder Singh Mann MBE (Member of thbe British Empire) was a politician as also an honorary first-class magistrate. He was elected to the first Punjab legislative assembly in 1937, was member of the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC), later becoming MP and speaker of the Punjab Vidhan Sabha in 1967. Mann's paternal grandfather, Sir Aroor Singh, was in charge of the Golden Temple and the 10th Jathedar of the Akal Takht from 1907 to 1920.

He received his education from Bishop Cotton School, Shimla (Himachal Pradesh) and Government College (affiliated with Panjab University) in Chandigarh. He received his BA (Hons) degree and is a gold medalist in History. He is married to Geetinder Kaur, who is a sister of Preneet Kaur, the wife of former Punjab CM Amarinder Singh. They have a son Emaan Singh (who is a politician) and two daughters (Pavit Kaur and Nanki Kaur). Now, the leader of Shiromani Akali Dal (Amritsar) has registered with the Election Commission of India as Shiromani Akali Dal (Simranjit Singh Mann), spearheading peace in Punjab to achieve "statelessness" between India and Paki stan. He visited Austria, France, Germany, Holland, Italy, Switzerland and U.K.

### 3. CIVIL SERVICES

After passing the Central Services Examination in 1966, he joined the Indian Police Service in 1967 and was selected as the "Punjab Cadre". While serving in the Indian Police Service, he held many senior positions, including:

- Assistant Superintendent (ASP), Ludhiana (19767)
- Superintendent of Police (SP)
- Aide-de-camp (ADC) to the Governor of Punjab Sh. D.C Pavate and Sh. M.M. Choudhry (1970-1972)
- Commandant in Punjab Armed Police (Sangrur) in IX Battalion (1973) and in 80th Battalion (1974)
- Superintendent of Police (Hgrs,) Ferozepur (1974)
- Superintendent of Police (Vigilance), Ferozepur (1975)
- Deputy Director of Vigilance Bureau, Chandigarh (1975)
- Senior Superintendent of Police, Ferozepur (1977)
- Senior Superintendent of Police, Faridkot (1978)
- Additional Inspector General of Railways, Patiala (1980)
- Superintendent of Police (CID), Chandigarh (1982)
- Group Commandant in Central IndustrialSecurity Force (CISF), Bombay.

He resigned from the Indian Police Service on 18 June 1984 in response to the Indian Army's attack on Harmandar Sahib, codenamed Operation Blue Star.

#### 4. HISTORY AND IDEOLOGY

Akali politics in post-colonial India was organized around the promotion and defense of Sikh politics and culture and the Punjabi language. By 1973, the Akali's adopted the Anandpur Sahib Resolution a document which advanced a desire for increasing regional autonomy within India's centralized structure of governance, as well as various socio political concerns (Singh (2014)).

From 1975 to 1977, then Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi declared a state of emergency and suspended elections and civil liberties. During the early phases of the emergency, Akali and Sikh parties would meet in Amritsar to resist the "fascist tendency of the Congress" (Grewal (1991)). The Akali Dal would launch the "Campaign to Sa ve Democracy" (Grewal (1991)). However, this period saw human rights violations, including mass arrests of protesters and immigrants, forced sterilizations, constitutional modifications, demolition of homes and displacement of people and suspension of the press.

Following the end of the emergency from 1977 to 1984, the Akali Dal would be re-elected in Punjab and constitute the main opposition to the Indira Gandhi-led Congress government. The period would see an increase in Punjabi nationalism (Singh (2014)). The party will continue to participate at the behest of Anandpur Sahib. The central government viewed the Anandpur Sahib Resolution as a separatist document, ultimately leading to Operation Blue Star, the invasion of Hamidar Sahib on 1 June 1984 and the creation of Khalistan. The Khalistan movement would be brutally suppressed by the central Indian state leading to mass human rights violations including extrajudicial executions, torture, and mass detention (Singh (2014)).

On 1 May 1994, the Shiromani Akali Dal (Amritsar) would split from the traditional Shiromani Akali Dal (Singh (2014)). Despite the overlapping views of the two parties, Shiromani Akali Dal (Amritsar) is still more radical than just its leader. The party continued to support greater independence of Punjab. In addition, the party continued to advocate the Anandpur Sahib Resolution, which proposed various religious, economic and political goals for Punjab. The party has opposed the construction of the Sutlej Yamuna Link Canal, saying the canal violates the state's riverine water rights and will lead to permanent desertification. The party also criticizes government officials for killing, torturing and killi ng Sikhs in the 1980s and 90s. Upon winning the seat in 2022, Simranjit Singh Mann gave credit to Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale (News18(2022)).

### 5. POLITICS

Present). Shiromani Akali Dal (Amritsar) (SAD (A)) (1989-Present). Shiromani Akali Dal (Amritsar) is a Sikh Nationalist political party led by Simranjit Singh Mann Vasudeva (2022), it is a splinter group of the Shiromani Akali Dal. They use 'Balti', the Punjabi term for bucket as their official election symbol. Shiromani Akali Dal (Amritsar) was formed on 1 May 1994. The party has seen a resurgence in support after the deaths of Deep Sidhu and Sidhu Moose Wala who were supporters and seen as sympathetic to the cause of Simranjit Singh Mann (The Indian Express (2022)). Their 2022 Lok Sabha victory after more than two decades has been viewed as a resurgence in Sikhism, and a political vacuum due to collapse of other traditional political parties in Punjab (Dey (2022)). The last major victory for Shiromani Akali Dal (Amritsar) was in the 1989 Lok Sabha elections, where the party and their allies won 10 out of 13 seats from Punjab (Sandhu, 1989).

### 2) Party Symbol:



### 3) Political Journey:

- Founded and became President of SAD (M) in 1989
- Elected as MP from Tarn Taran in 1989
- Resigned his seat in the Parliament on 12 October 1990 in protest when he was denied entry into the Sansad Bhavan (Parliament House) bearing his Kirpan (a large sword), a religious rite in the Sikh Faith
- Contested and lost Sangrur Lok Sabha seat in 1996
- Contested and lost Sangrur Lok Sabha seat in 1998
- Elected as MP from Sangrur in 1999
- Contested and lost Sangrur Lok Sabha seat in 2004
- Contested and lost Dhanaula Assembly seat in 2007
- Contested and lost Fatehgarh Sahib Assembly seat in 2012
- Contested and lost Sangrur Lok Sabha seat in 2019
- Contested and lost Amargarh Assembly seat in 2022
- Elected as MP from Sangrur in 2022 by-elections

## 4) Electoral Performance

Election Type	Party	Result	Candidate
1989 Indian general election: Tarn Taran	SAD (A)	Winner	Simranjit Singh Mann
General Election 1996: Sangrur	SAD (A)	Second	Simranjit Singh Mann
Punjab Assembly election, 1997: Qila Raipur	SAD (A)	Third	Simranjit Singh Mann
General Election 1998: Sangrur	SAD (A)	Second	Simranjit Singh Mann
General Election 1999: Sangrur	SAD (A)	Winner	Simranjit Singh Mann
General Election 2004: Sangrur	SAD (A)	Third	Simranjit Singh Mann
Assembly Election, 2007: Dhanaula	SAD (A)	Third	Simranjit Singh Mann
General Election 2009: Sangrur	SAD (A)	Fifth	Simranjit Singh Mann
Assembly Election, 2012: Fatehgarh Sahib	SAD (A)	Fourth	Simranjit Singh Mann
General Election 2014: Khadoor Sahib	SAD (A)	Second	Simranjit Singh Mann
Assembly Election, 2017: Barnala	SAD (A)	Fourth	Simranjit Singh Mann
General Election 2019: Sangrur	SAD (A)	Fourth	Simranjit Singh Mann
Assembly Election, 2022: Amargarh	SAD (A)	Second	Simranjit Singh Mann
2022 By-Election: Sangrur	SAD (A)	Winner	Simranjit Singh Mann

### 6. POLITICAL POSITION

### 1) Khalistan

He constantly fought for justice for ethnic and religious minorities. Meanwhile, Mr. Mann was arrested or imprisoned nearly 30 times, but was never convicted of a crime. Mr. Mann was arrested in 1984 after resigning as head of the Central Industrial Security Force (I.P.S.) in Mumbai. He was accused of plotting to assassinate Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Although he was severely tortured and isolated, he was released without incident after five years in prison and all charges were dropped. His release indicated that he had been released "in the interests of the State". Like Nelson Mandela, Mr. Mann is one of India's

prisoners of conscience. If they return to India, they will face death. Today, thousands of Sikhs are in Indian jails without charge, bail or legal representation.

### 2) General Reginald Dyer

In 1919, after General Reginald Dyer's Jallianwala Bagh massacre, Mann's maternal grandfather Arur Singh, then Sarbarah (in-charge) of the Golden Temple and the 10th Jathedar of the Akal Takht from 1907 to 1920. He had honoured General Dyer with a "Siropa" at Akal Takht. Singh was a British government appointee. Arur Singh's act hurt Sikh psyche and is considered a "Black chapter" in Sikh history. In July 2022, Mann defended the act of his grandfather saying he did it to pacify Dyer's anger (Tribuneindia (2022)).

### 3) Assassination Attempt

In May 1993, while campaigning for a candidate during the Jalandhar by election, a gunman with links to politicians from the opposition Indian National Congress tried to kill Mr. Mann. However, no charges were filed against the alleged killer. Mann has some powerful political opponents, and Amnesty International says some of them have committed numerous human rights abuses, including murder, torture and rape.

### 7. CONTROVERSIES

## Booked for Protesting against Installation of Beant Singh's Statue (2007)

In May 2007, Mann protested against the erection of a statue of former Punjab Chief Minister Beant Singh at BMC Chowk in Jalandhar. Mann and SAD leader Wasan Singh Zafarwal hung the picture of assassin Dilawar Singh around the neck of CM Beant Singh's statue, blackening the image of the statue. After this incident, police arrested Mann, Zafarwal and 18 of his supporters at the Chowk for about 45 minutes and subsequently booked them under Sections 107 and 151 of the Penal Code as a precautionary measure. The opposition accused Beant Singh, who was sworn in as Punjab Chief Minister after Operation Blue Star and the assassination of Indira Gandhi, of allowing fake assassinations, kidnappings and secret funerals during the Sikh uprising in Punjab. In June 2007, the court rejected Mann's bail application and his trial was postponed for a further two weeks and resumed in August 2007.

### • Criticized for Calling Bhagat Singh a Terrorist

In 2007, Mann was arrested for calling Bhagat Singh a "petty terrorist". He was arrested by the Patiala police for allegedly causing har m to people under Section 153-A of the IPC. The prosecution failed to prove its case and he was acquitted by a

civil court in 2013. After coming out of the court, Mann said, "My acquittal has vindicated my words that Bhagat Singh was a terrorist and not a martyr...Now, I reaffirm that Bhagat Singh indulged in violence and killed innocent persons, John Saunders and head constable Chanan Singh. And our party doesn't support violence of terrorism. My acquittal has upheld my viewpoint." In 2015, he again stirred controversy when he objected to the naming of the Chandigarh airport after Bhagat Singh.

#### • Calling Controversial Sikh Assembly "Sarbat Khalsa" (2015)

In 2015, Mann came under public scrutiny for holding a review conference called "Sarbat Khalsa", which raised the issue of creating an independent Sikh state called Khalistan of the Sikhs. Sarbat Khalsa was held on 10 November 2015 in Chabba village on the outskirts of Amritsar. He was acquitted for blasphemy.

Mann claimed that it was Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal who convinced the Akal Takht to pardon the Dera Sacha Sauda leader. Sarbat Khalsa passed 13 resolutions, including the election of Jagtar Singh Hawara as Akal Takht Jathedar. Hawara, the convicted murderer of former Punjab chief minister Beant Singh, was sent to Tihar jail after being found guilty. Following the attack, Chattiwind police booked 20 people, including Mann and Mohkam Singh, for a nationwide rampage during the attack. However, Amritsar police quashed the FIR in 2018 on the recommendation of Justice Mehtab Singh Gill.

## • Claiming that Sikhs Cannot Chant'Bharat Mata ki Jai'

In 2016, Mann claimed that "Sikhs cannot chant the slogan 'Bharat Mata ki Jai' (Hail, Mother India) as they don't worship women in any form." He also said, "According to the BJP, one who doesn't say 'Bharat Mata ki Jai' is not a patriot and can be tried for sedition... Sikhs should say 'Waheguru ji ka Khalsa, Waheguru ji ki Fateh'." He also claimed that "Sikhs can't say 'Vande Matram' either." While making the statements before the media, he also stressed that Hindu religious scripture like the Geeta should not be imposed on people from other religions. He said so in reference to the introduction of the Bhagwad Gita in the school curriculum of Haryana, a BJP- ruled state. Mann spoke up regarding the issues after Waris Pathan of the All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) came under public scrutiny for refusing to chant "Bharat Mata Ki Jai," although he was ready to say 'Jai Hind'.

## • Demanding a 'Jat-land' State (2016)

Two days after Mann declared that Sikhs cannot chant 'Bharat Mata ki Jai,' he passed a resolution seeking a separate state of 'Jat -land' by increasing the size of Punjab. The resolution was passed in aftermath of violent agitation by Jats for job reservation in Haryana.

### 8. REVIEWS

Ram (28 June, 2022) says that the drubbing of both the Aam Aadmi Party and the Congress in the Sangrur Lok Sabha bypoll has created a vacuum that now serves as the perfect entry point for Simranjit Singh Mann and his brand of religious politics. That religion will play a key role in Punjab's mercurial political landscape is evident in Mann's post - victory speech. The former IPS officer and president of Shiromani Akali Dal (Amritsar), who defeated AAP's Gurmail Singh by a margin of 5,822 votes, attributed his victory to the martyrdom of Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale and his young militant brigade. "It is a win of our party workers and the teachings that Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale has given," Mann told the media. The contested phenomenon of Bhindranwale is perceived differently by different people. For some, he is a freedom fighter; for others, he could be a militant.

Another possible factor behind Mann's victory could be the emotional mass appeal generated in the aftermath of the murder of internationally known rapper and songwriter Sidhu Moose Wala by channeling people's anger against the AAP government seemingly compromising his security despite regular threats to his life. Simra njit Singh Mann had reportedly promised to pay the rapper a visit at his native village Moosa in Mansa district just a few days before his murder. Mann eventually went there on his Antim Ardas (last prayer ceremony). The emotional mass appeal was further intensified by several law and order-related incidents and the AAP government's failure to resolve the Bargari sacrilege cases as well as the police firing in Kotkapura and Behbal Kalan. Simranjit Singh Mann also put on record his gratitude to Deep Sidhu, another notable emerging figure on the

political turf of the Punjab politics, who died under mysterious circumstances in a car accident on his way from Delhi to Punjab.

### 9. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

For every comprehensive research a proper research methodology is indispensable & it has to be properly conceived. This chapter includes comprehensive objectives of the study and hypothesis of the study. This chapter will also include the methodology adopted for the research – it will include the objective of the study – Research design -Sample area – Sample technique – Sample size – Method of data collection and analysis tools adopted for the study etc.

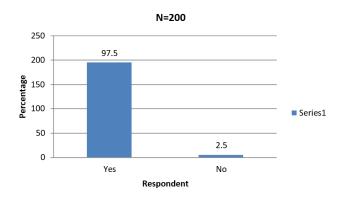
A total of 200 respondents (100 males and 100 females) were selected at random from the village Sangrur, Punjab for the present study. An interview schedule was used for the collection of the primary data.

## 10. ANALYSIS & INTERPRETATION

Table 1

Table 1 Did You Join Simranjit Singh Mann's Party at Your Own Will?		
Response	No. of respondents (N=200)	Percentage (%)
Yes	195	97.5
No	5	2.5
Total	200	100

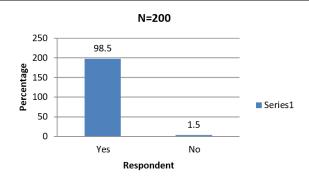
Primary data



It is seen from Table 1 that out of 200 respondents, 195 (97.5%) respondents says they have joined Simranjit Singh Mann's party at their own will and 5 respondents (2.5%) did not joined the party at their own will.

Table 2

Table 2 Do You Agree Simranjit Singh Mann Is Known as A Patriot Person?		
Response	No. of respondents (N=200)	Percentage (%)
Yes	197	98.5
No	3	1.5
Total	200	100

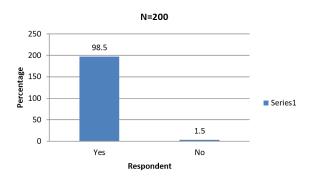


It is seen from Table 2 that out of 200 respondents, 197 (98.5%) respondents says they knew Simranjit Singh Mann's as a patriot person and 3 respondents (1.5%) did not know Simranjit Singh Mann's as a patriot person.

Table 3

Table 3 As a Social Worker Does Simranjit Singh Mann Provide Service?		
Response	No. of respondents	Percentage (%)
Yes	197	98.5
No	3	1.5
Total	200	100

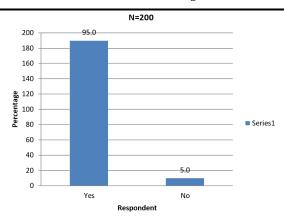
Primary data



It is seen from Table 3 that out of 200 respondents, 197 (98.5%) respondents says that as a social worker Simranjit Singh Mann do provides services and 3 respondents (1.5%) say that as social worker Simranjit Singh Mann do not provide any services.

Table 4

Table 4 He Constantly Offers Consolation to Grieving Members of the Community		
Response	No. of respondents (N=200)	Percentage (%)
Yes	190	95
No	10	5
Total	200	100

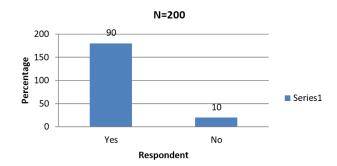


It is seen from Table 4 that out of 200 respondents, 190 (9%) respondents says that he constantly offers consolation to grieving members of the community and 10 respondents (5%) say that he do not offers consolation to grieving members of the community.

Table 5

Table 5 He is Constantly Working to Preserve Sikhism's Culture and Civilization		
Response	No. of respondents (N=200)	Percentage (%)
Yes	180	90
No	20	10
Total	200	100

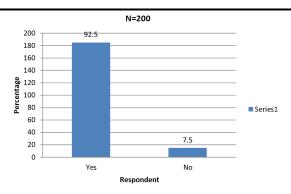
Primary data



It is seen from Table 5 that out of 200 respondents, 180 (90%) respondents says that he is constantly working to preserve Sikhism's culture and civilization and 20 respondents (10%) say that he is not constantly working to preserve Sikhism's culture and ci vilization.

Table 6

Table 6 He is Always Willing to Assist Anyone in Need		
Response	No. of respondents (N=200)	Percentage (%)
Yes	185	92.5
No	15	7.5
Total	200	100

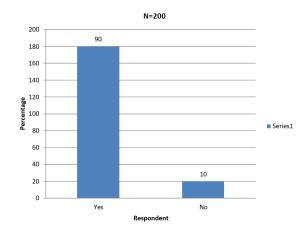


It is seen from Table 6 that out of 200 respondents, 185 (92.5%) respondents says that he is always willing to assist anyone in need and 15 respondents (76.5%) say that he is not always willing to assist anyone in need.

Table 7

Table 7 Always voice your opposition to social ills in society			
Response	No. of respondents (N=200)	Percentage (%)	
Yes	180	90	
No	20	10	
Total	200	100	

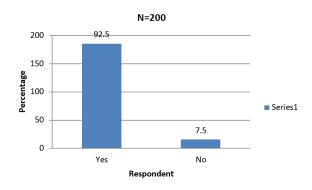
Primary data



It is seen from Table 7 that out of 200 respondents, 180 (90%) respondents says that he always voice our opposition to social ills in society and 20 respondents (10%) say that he always voices our opposition to social ills in society.

Table 8

Table 8 Always Attach Importance Toward Social Contribution		
Response	No. of respondents (N=200)	Percentage (%)
Yes	185	92.5
No	15	7.5
Total	200	100

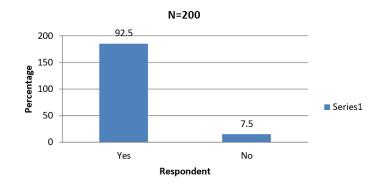


It is seen from Table 8 that out of 200 respondents, 185 (92.5%) respondents says that he always attach importance toward social contribution and 15 respondents (7.5%) say that he does not always attaches importance toward social contribution.

Table 9

Table 9 Always Talk About National Integration		
Response	No. of respondents (N=200)	Percentage (%)
Yes	185	92.5
No	15	7.5
Total	200	100

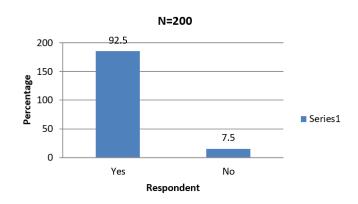
Primary data



It is seen from Table 9 that out of 200 respondents, 185 (92.5%) respondents says that he would always talk about national integration and 15 respondents (7.5%) say that he does not talk about national integration.

Table 10

Table 10 Always Talk About International Integration		
Response	No. of respondents (N=200)	Percentage (%)
Yes	185	92.5
No	15	7.5
Total	200	100

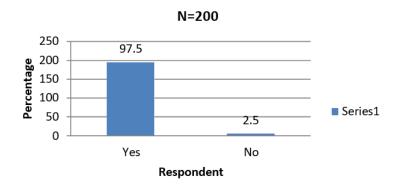


It is seen from Table 10 that out of 200 respondents, 185 (92.5%) respondents says that he would always talk about international integration and 15 respondents (7.5%) say that he does not talk about international integration.

Table 11

Table 11 Always Talk About Good Human Beings		
Response	No. of respondents (N=200)	Percentage (%)
Yes	195	97.5
No	5	2.5
Total	200	100

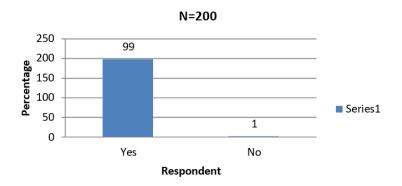
Primary data



It is seen from Table 11 that out of 200 respondents, 185 (92.5%) respondents says that he would always talk about good human beings and 15 respondents (7.5%) say that he does not talk about good human beings.

Table 12

Table 12 Always Talk About Respect of All Religions				
Response	No. of respondents (N=200)	Percentage (%)		
Yes	198	99		
No	2	1		
Total	200	100		

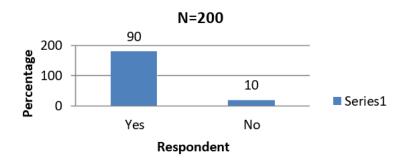


It is seen from Table 12 that out of 200 respondents, 198 (99%) respondents says that he would always talk about respect of all religions and 2 respondents (1%) say that he does not talk about respect of all religions.

Table 13

Table 13 Always Talk About Prohibition of Violence				
Response	No. of respondents (N=200)	Percentage (%)		
Yes	180	90		
No	20	10		
Total	200	100		

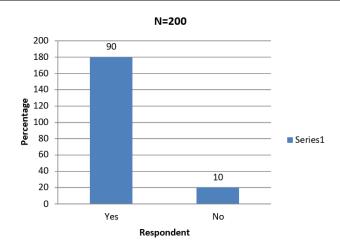
Primary data



It is seen from Table 13 that out of 200 respondents, 180 (90%) respondents says that he would always talk about prohibition of violence and 20 respondents (10%) say that he does not talk about prohibition of violence.

Table 14

Table 14 Always Talk About Best Political Leadership				
Response	No. of respondents (N=200)	Percentage (%)		
Yes	180	90		
No	20	10		
Total	200	100		

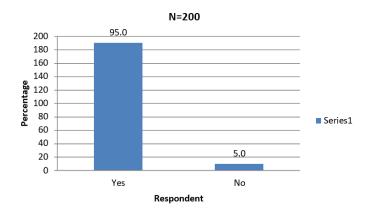


It is seen from Table 14 that out of 200 respondents, 180 (90%) respondents says that he would always talk about best political leadership and 20 respondents (10%) say that he does not talk about best political leadership. .

Table 15

Table 15 Always talk about good behaviour in society				
Response	No. of respondents (N=200)	Percentage (%)		
Yes	190	95		
No	10	5		
Total	200	100		

Primary data



It is seen from Table 15 that out of 200 respondents, 190 (95%) respondents says that he would always talk about good behaviour in society and 10 respondents (5%) say that he does not talk about good behaviour in society.

### 11. CONCLUSION

The Shiromani Akali Dal (Amritsar) was founded on 1 May 1994. The party saw a revival in support after the death of Deep Sidhu and Sidhu Moose Wala, who were supporters and believed to be sympathetic to the cause of Simranjit Singh Mann.

Shiromani Akali Dal is a political party formed on the basis of democratic principles and to create an environment through democratic and peaceful means to ensure better standard of living, equality and justice for all sections of the society and especially to protect the interests of the national minority.

The party's biggest success was in the 1989 Indian general elections, when it won 6 out of 13 seats in Punjab. The party adopts the ideology of Punjabi and Sikh nationalism. Moreover, the party also won the Sangrur assembly in 1999 and 2022 (by -election). Additionally, Mann said his first priority would be to "work with the Punjab government" to "improve the economy of the poor in Sangrur, including indebted farmers." The party also contested the same National Policy Council election and won three seats. The only time MLAs belonging to SAD (A) were elected to the Punjab Legislative Assembly was in the 1997 elections when Sardar Ajit Inder Singh's won from the Sadurgarh constituency defeating the Shiromani Akali Dal candidate by 3,117 votes.

Majority of the respondents have joined Simranjit Singh Mann's party at their own will. All knew that he is a patriot person. As a social worker he provides services and constantly offers consolation to grieving members of the community. He is constantly working to preserve Sikhism's culture and civilization and always willing to assist anyone in need. He always voices our opposition to social ills in society. He always attaches importance toward social contribution and he would always talk about national integration, international integration, and good human beings. He would always talk about respect of all religions, prohibition of violence, political leadership and good behaviour in society.

### **CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**

None.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

None.

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