

Welcome to the Patkha Presentation 2010



# The Patkha



Why does  
Hirdhe wear a  
Patkha on his  
head?

Hirdhe is a Sikh



- Sikhism originated in Northern India about 500 years ago by Guru Nanak Dev Ji
- Sikhism is currently the 5th largest religion in the world
- The 1st Sikhs settled in the US as early as the 1800s

- Hírdhe's Grandparents came from Northern India to the United States in the 1970s
- Hírdhe's Father was born in White Plains Hospital and attended Greenville/Edgemont Schools
- Hírdhe's Mother was born in India and was raised and educated in America
- Hírdhe's parents practice their Sikh religion and beliefs

## Hírdhe's Family





GREENVILLE  
SCHOOL  
1981-82  
E HOWARD



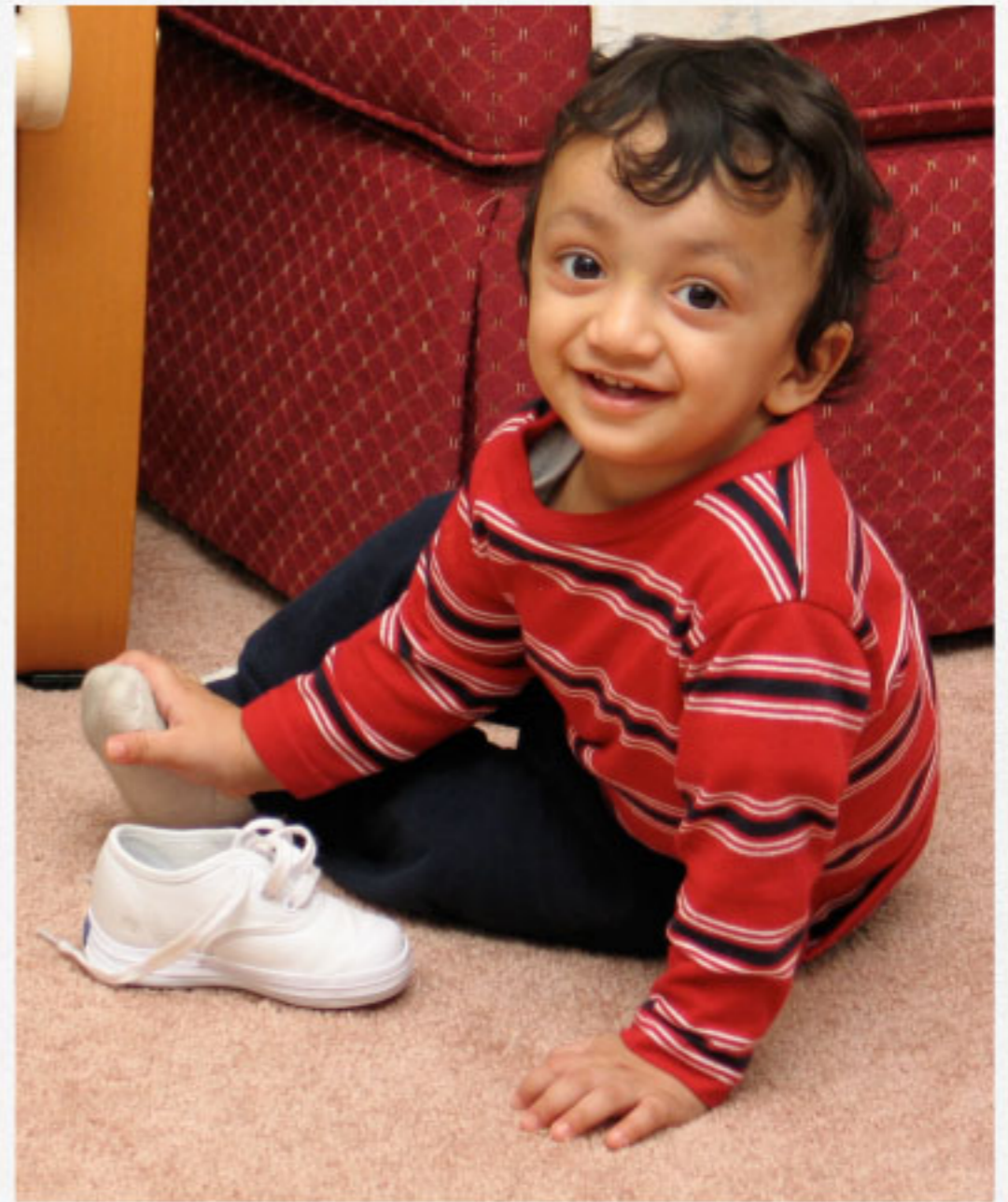


## Core Sikh Beliefs

- Nam Japna - Remember / Believe in One God
- Kirth Karna - Earn an honest living (Do not live your life hurting anyone)
- vand Chhakhna - Help Everyone
- Everyone is equal - No one is better than any other



Hírdhe was born in  
New York



Here he is growing...

# The Many Types of Sikh Head Coverings



Rumal

- Rumal: Small cloth that covers a combed bunch of hair with a rubberband
- Patkha: Covers a Jurha (bun of hair) and is tied at the top of the boy's head



Patkhas





## Keski's and Dastaar



Keski

- Keski: Medium sized cloth for both girls and boys who are older and can tie by themselves
- Dastaar (Sikh Turban): Large sized cloth for girls, boys, men and women



<sup>1</sup> Pauri means stair, i.e., the first few stanzas of the Guru Granth Sahib.

Dastaar

## Who wears them?

- ❑ Only Sikh boys wear Patkhas
- ❑ Girls wear Chunnis to cover their head
- ❑ As they grow both Sikh girls and Sikh boys wear Keskis and Dastaars (Sikh turban)
- ❑ 99% of all people in America wearing turbans are Sikhs
- ❑ Sikhs are peaceful and humble





## Sikhs in Everyday Life

Manmohan Singh -  
Prime Minister of  
India





Fauja Singh  
Marathon runner  
with world record in  
his age bracket

Monty Panesar

Professional cricket player  
(plays for England Cricket  
team)





WE ALL  
WALK IN  
DIFFERENT  
SHOES.

SCARY CAREER.  
FRACKING SHIT  
AND ENTREPRENEUR  
STEERING OUT  
AGAINST RACIAL  
PROFILING.

KENNETHCOLE.COM  
25 YEARS OF  
NON-UNIFORM  
THINKING.

Sandeep Caberwal  
Lawyer, Owner of  
Tavalon Cafe and  
model for Kenneth  
Cole

## Dr. Narinder Singh Kapany



- Widely acknowledged as the father of fiber-optics.
- Dr. Kapany has over one hundred patents. His research and inventions have encompassed fiber-optics communications, lasers, biomedical instrumentation, solar energy and pollution monitoring.

Waris Ahluwalia

Actor in movies "The Inside Man" (starring Denzel Washington), "The Life Aquatic" and "The Darjeeling Limited".





## I.J. Singh

I.J. Singh is a New York based author and speaker on Sikhism in the Diaspora and a Professor of Anatomy at NYU School of Dentistry.



Amric Singh  
NYPD Police Officer



Baltej Singh Dhillon  
First Royal  
Canadian Mounted  
Police



Snatam Kaur  
American singer  
and songwriter.



Meetu Chilana

Currently touring  
with Cirque de sole  
Performer, singer  
and actress.





Manpreet Singh  
Singer and Songwriter  
is Hirdhe's Dad

Drs. Avtar Singh and  
Baldev K. Singh  
Physicians in  
Westchester Hospitals  
and Hirdhe's  
Grandparents



What is a Patkha?

A thin cotton piece of cloth dyed in any color to cover, protect and keep uncut hair clean, together and groomed.

# What does a Patkha look like?

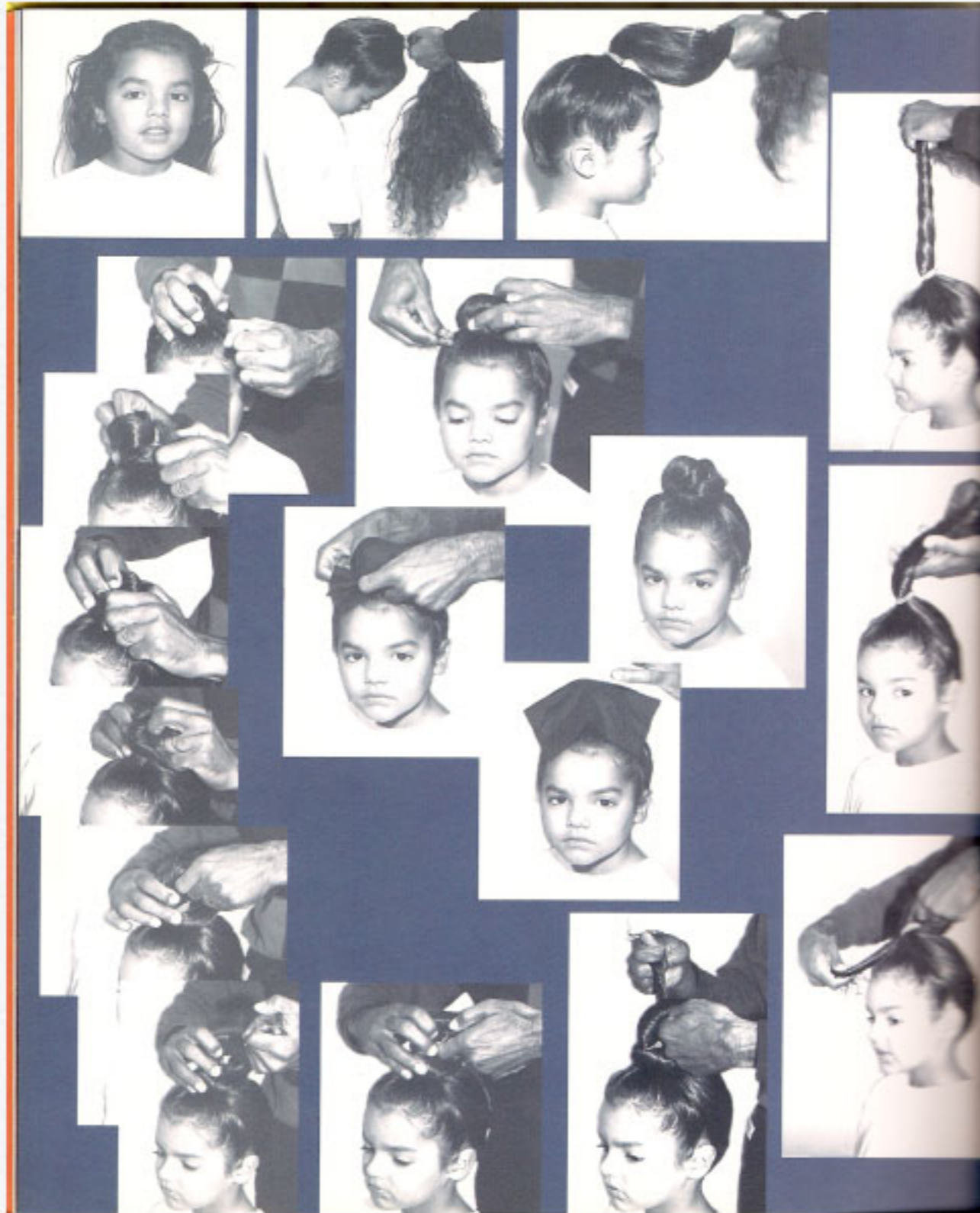
- Rectangular shaped cloth with 4 strings at each corner
- Three of the sides are hemmed and the unhemmed side is placed on the forehead



Hírdne before he tíes patkha









Tying a Dastaar (Sikh Turban)



# Gurpurab Festivities

- Gurpurabs are on days throughout the year. On these days we honor the lives and teachings of the Sikh Gurus (Teachers).
- Gurpurabs are celebrated in similar ways to Christmas, Hanukkah, Easter, Passover, Divali, Ramadan and other religious events in that Sikhs celebrate in their homes and have Gurdwara (Sikh Church) services with special importance given to each Guru's contributions, struggles and philosophy. Some Sikhs also sing Hymns (Shabad Kirtan), share gifts and do community service (sewa).



Here is something sweet for you

Ingredients of Kara : Flour, sugar, butter and water

# More Information

- For more information on Sikh Hate/Bias Crimes the following documentaries are available:
- "Divided We Fall, Introduction to..." available on YouTube
- "US prejudice: 9/11 fears put Sikhs on scare list ..." available on YouTube
- Please visit the PBS website in CA at <http://www.kvie.org/education/default.htm>. "Meet The Sikhs" is a 4-minute video about the Sikh Community
- [www.sikhismguide.org](http://www.sikhismguide.org)

# References

- Aggarwal, Manju. "I am A Sikh", Franklin Watts Ltd., New York, NY, 1985.
- Barrow, Joy. "Sikhism", Whitecap Books, North Vancouver, BC, 2004.
- Coutts, John. "Sikh Festivals", Heinemann Library, Crystal Lake, IL, 1997.
- Singh, Jasprit. "Style of the Lion: The Sikhs", Akal Publications, Ann Harbor, MI, 1998.
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**Thank you!**