

The crew just opens the sail and the ship sails without any effort with added speed with the wind. Whereas, to sail against wind, the crew has to make tireless efforts. The Sikhs happily allow the hair to remain in the most comfortable and natural manner, which does not require any hard effort or expenditure for living according to the will of God, like sailing with the tail wind. To sail against head wind and live against the law of nature one has to remove or to cut hair according to his own wish and size for that purpose one has to spend thousands of rupees and thousands of man hours of his life. People get tired of this exercise, but God does not stop growing the hair, each day and every moment He constantly grows the hair on our body according to His Will.

**Why to keep hair?**

The right question is why shall we cut our hair? There is no convincing answer for it. But there is a logical answer for "why are the Sikhs religiously asked not to remove the hair?" The basic tenet of Sikhism is to abide by the Will of God. (Shri Guru Nanak Sahib Ji - Jap — page No.3 — Shri Guru Granth Sahib). The God in his Will and wisdom has created the complete human being. To interfere with the God given body by circumcision, puffing a hole in the ear or nose and cutting or dyeing the hair are prohibited and treated as disobedience to God's Will. A God fearing person can never prefer his will and wish to prevail over the God's Will and can never make any alterations in the God gifted boon, which could attract His displeasure.

After this explanation, another typical question may be posed. Then why do you cut the nails? Nobody cuts nails of the wild or stray animals. Generally people cut nails of the pets. Nails and hair grow up to a particular size, after that growth is stopped. The nails by constant use, wear out which keeps them trimmed automatically by nature. If the human being also does not cut nails, it would not grow indefinitely as some people preserve and protect them for a show. The nature maintains its size according to individuals' requirement. In the name of cleanliness people do not tolerate the size it grows to. And moreover the dead part of the nail is removed as dead hair is also atomically removed by combing. So the comparison between cutting the hair and nails is not logically correct.

The hairs keep us protected from the hot and cold weather and maintain the body temperature according to the



Now the majority community of the slaves and sycophants of those days is enjoying the fruits of freedom today, but for the Sikhs, only the rulers have changed from the Mughals to the British and then to the present indigenous ones. The difference for us is that then we fought for the nation and others, and now we are struggling for our right of honorable existence. The circumstances have not changed for the Sikhs. We should therefore be ever prepared for everlasting struggle for self-respect and separate and independent identity. Let us pledge, preserve and protect our dignity and individuality from assimilation into the ocean of majority.

individual's body requirement. You can observe the people living in cold countries and hot countries, and they keep moustaches and beards and long hair covered with some or other headgear. Generally a Sikh does not receive any sunstroke as he is fully protected from any fatal injuries, vicissitudes of the climatic extremes due to these both natural hair and artificial protection of turban.

**Hair- a symbol of sovereignty**

The Muslim invaders faced a problem as the conquerors and the conquered both were keeping

and wearing turban. To distinguish by appearance they ordered that no Hindu should keep the hair and wear the turban. This had made the high caste Hindus to keep a bunch of little token hair over the head, hidden in the shaved hair of the head as Choti or Shikha, which is visible even today among the orthodox upper caste Hindus. They cannot give any justification or reason for keeping it. Actually, as far as the historical fact is concerned, the position is that shaving the hair was mark

of slavery for the Indians in those days. They were also not permitted to hold any weapon and ride on the horse.

The 10th Guru, Guru Gobind Singh Ji, has pulled out the Sikhs from the concept of slavery and declared that, the Sikhs henceforth shall be called *Waheguru Ji Ka Khalsa* (People of the Wondrous God) and shall not shave the hair, and will ride the horse and keep a Kirpan (weapon). He took on the mighty

Mughals and declared that the Sikhs (disciples) are a sovereign people and can never be conquered by any human force.

The Sikhism had thereafter sowed the seeds of independence and nurtured it with their sacrifices. Now the majority community of the slaves and sycophants of those days is enjoying the fruits of freedom today, but for the Sikhs, only the rulers have changed from the Mughals to the British and then to the present indigenous ones.

The difference for us is that then we fought for the nation and others, and now we are struggling for our right of honorable existence. The circumstances have not changed for the Sikhs. We should therefore be ever prepared for everlasting struggle for self-respect and separate and independent identity. Let us pledge, preserve and protect our dignity and individuality from assimilation into the ocean of majority community through keeping Kesh (hair), Turban, Kirpan and suffixes of Kaur and Singh with our names.

**WORLD SIKH NEWS**  
Newspapers are unable, seemingly to discriminate between a bicycle accident and the collapse of civilization. —George Bernard Shaw

**Dead Men Walking**  
In Punjab, the number of people killed in road accidents is increasing, and considering how road and air accidents are a vehicle on the total lack of consideration on part of the state at least means that the excessive and uncontrolled competition of figures alone that alone in 1997, India in 2007, the total number of road accidents in India is 1.48 lakh road accidents in India. It is a shame that accident data is not recorded in the same way as it is in other countries. Mistakes that India places on the lives of its citizens are not the only ones that are being committed by announcing a few thousand rupees as compensation for the loss of a life. The number of road accidents in the world, just a little less than in China.

**HAIR-RAISING QUESTIONS**  
The original simplicity, the human nature, the pristine wholeness of human psyche, during through its process of healing and restoration shall exteriorize itself in the untrimmed and unshorn mode of Kesa and the discipline of Khalsa

**KESH**  
The neo-modern liberal approach at redefining Sikhism because of the prevailing wave of the apostasy amongst Sikhs should not and cannot become the basis of maligning the path laid down by the Gurus. Any wavering from the

Grabs from earlier WSN reportage on the issue of keeping unshorn hair