

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## Taking Sikh Youth in Australia into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

How do you get Sikh Youth in Australia to connect with their community, their religious roots and still move with the times?

This was the challenge thrown out to a group of young Sikhs who had been attending Sikh Youth Australia's annual Summer Camps and more lately its Leadership Camps.

Led by Saranpaal Singh Calais, this group sat down and came up with an idea. That idea was to provide an online platform where Sikh youth could interact, raise issues, exchange views and keep in touch with events happening in the Sikh diaspora worldwide.

At the same time, they wanted to provide a resource for Sikhs and others interested in Sikh matters in Australia - a one-stop-shop for all things Sikh, so to speak, which could answer questions plaguing many Sikh Youths in Australia today.

Their efforts have now come to fruition. Sikh Youth Australia will launch its official website on January 13<sup>th</sup> 2010 in conjunction with their 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Sikh Summer Camp being held from 12-17 January 2010 at the Sydney Academy of Sports and Recreation, Narrabeen.

"We wanted to bring Australian Sikh youth into the new decade by providing a state of the art online platform. Our vision for the new SYA website was to connect our youth to their Sikhi, to each other and to the wider Australian community. How? By creating Australia's premier online Sikh presence, by raising the bar for our community and providing a state of the art platform where our youth could Connect and Be Inspired," said Mr Saranpaal Singh Calais.

It has taken us about a year but the end result is a cutting edge, entertaining, comprehensive and entertaining Sikh website designed to engage our youth. It is integrated directly with social network and showcases the latest in online media functionality. It will also serve as a resource hub for the latest news and commentary relevant for the Sikh youth of Australia," added Mr Singh.

He was full of praise for the talented web designer (Mr Jacob Cass - founder of Just Creative Designs), and developer (KiiDesign is a new, upcoming web development company) who worked hard to take this project from idea to reality.

An undertaking like this is never accomplished by one person alone and Mr Singh had his team -- Ramneek Singh, Devpaal Singh, Symret Kaur, Jaipal Singh, Narveen Kaur, Jasbinder Kaur, Prabpreet Singh and Sundeep Singh – who he was quick to acknowledge for all their effort and commitment.

Mr Singh also said that any Sikh youth in Australia interested in joining the SYA website team or wishing to work with SYA to achieve its goals was more than welcome and should contact him on [saranpaal@sikhyouthaustralia.com](mailto:saranpaal@sikhyouthaustralia.com). If you want to check out the website go to [www.sikhyouthaustralia.com](http://www.sikhyouthaustralia.com)