



**PONTIFICAL COUNCIL
FOR INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE**

CHRISTIANS AND SIKHS: WORKING TOGETHER
FOR RECONCILIATION AND PEACE

**Message for the Feast of Guru Nanak Jayanti
2012**

Vatican City

Dear Sikh Friends,

The Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue most cordially wishes you joy, peace and well-being on the Birth Anniversary of Siri Guru Nanak Dev Sahib which you celebrate on 28th November this year. Being a special moment of divine blessings to you, may this event shower harmony and happiness on you, your friends, families and communities!

Truly, occasions such as this, while offering the much needed opportunity to make an inward journey for spiritual enrichment, invite us to reflect, individually and collectively, upon our responsibility towards making our society ever more humane and peaceful.

On one hand, we admit that the need for our on-going and all-time engagement in forming the men and women of our society to have a true moral profile everywhere that is congruent and consonant with human nature is felt more and more in our times. On the other, we equally realize that religions with the noble values they propound need to show the way and take the lead in transforming human societies.

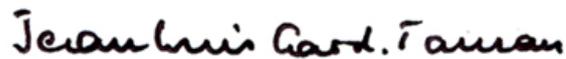
We wish that starting from our own religious convictions, we can always respect more the innate dignity of every human being, including the religiously different other, by acts of compassion and cooperation, and assimilating values like forgiveness, truth, justice and freedom into personal and collective moral fabric so that the present and future generations can live in security, peace and hope.

Conscious, courageous and concerted efforts by all - parents, teachers, socio-religious-political leaders and the media - therefore, are more necessary today than ever to avoid any further erosion of sound moral values. Let us together promote a way of life that respects differences and gives moral cohesion to the society. Equally important is to heal the

wounds and to restore broken relationships in families and communities. Reconciliation leads to peace because it is forgiveness in action that rebuilds human relationships.

Rooted in our respective religious traditions and being aware of the urgency of reconciliation and peace, may we, Sikhs and Christians, while joining hands with others, promote all that is true and good for the transformation of society and become “builders of peace and architects of reconciliation” (*Pope Benedict XVI, Address during General Audience, 12 September 2012*) so that all may live in peace and fellowship everywhere.

Wishing you all a Joyous Prakash Divas of Siri Guru Nanak Sahib!



Jean-Louis Cardinal Tauran
President



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