



Return of Guru Granth Sahib Copies to India

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Recently, two [saroops \(copies\)](#) of the [Guru Granth Sahib](#) were returned to the Indian embassy in Doha, Qatar.

- In December 2023, Qatari authorities **confiscated** two Sikh holy books from individuals accused of operating a [religious establishment](#) without approval.
- **About Saroop:** Saroop is a **physical copy** of Sri Guru Granth Sahib, also called **Bir** in Punjabi.
 - Every Bir has **1,430 pages**, which are referred to as **Ang**.
 - The Sikhs consider the saroop of Guru Granth Sahib a **living guru** and treat it with utmost respect.
 - [Guru Arjan Dev \(5th Sikh guru\)](#) compiled the **first Bir** of the Guru Granth Sahib in **1604**, and installed it at the **Golden Temple** in Amritsar.
 - Later, [Guru Gobind Singh \(10th Sikh guru\)](#) added verses penned by [Guru Tegh Bahadur \(9th Sikh guru\)](#) and compiled the **Bir** for the **second and last time**.
- **About Guru Granth Sahib:** It is a compendium of hymns written by six Sikh gurus, 15 saints, including [Bhagat Kabir](#), [Bhagat Ravidas](#), Sheikh Farid and Bhagat Namdev, 11 Bhattas (balladeers) and four Sikhs.
 - The verses are composed in **31 ragas**.
 - In **1708**, Guru Gobind Singh declared the Guru Granth Sahib the **living Guru** of the Sikhs.

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