



Kartarpur Corridor

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India and Pakistan have signed an **agreement** to operationalise the **Kartarpur corridor**. The agreement is **valid** initially for **five years**.

- Either party can terminate the agreement at any time by giving notice of one month to the other party of its intention to terminate this agreement.
- Also, the pact **could be suspended in case of exigency** or persistent violation of its provisions.
- The **Pakistan** side has agreed to make **sufficient provision for langar** and distribution of prasad in the Gurdwara premises.
- On **Indian side**, all the **required infrastructure**, including the highway and the passenger terminal building are near completion for timely inauguration of the corridor.
 - The **corridor** is expected **to be inaugurated on 9th November 2019**.
 - It would remain open throughout the year.
- The Kartarpur corridor connects the **Darbar Sahib Gurdwara** in Narowal district of **Pakistan** with the **Dera Baba Nanak shrine** in Gurdaspur district in **India's Punjab province**.
- The agreement will facilitate **visa-free movement of Indian pilgrims** who would just need a permit to cross over to Pakistan.
- The corridor was built **to commemorate 550th birth anniversary celebrations of Guru Nanak Dev, founder of Sikhism** on 12th November 2019.

Guru Nanak

- Guru Nanak Dev **Jayanti is observed on the full-moon day in the month of Katak** to celebrate the birth of **Guru Nanak Dev (1469-1539)**.
- He advocated the '**Nirguna**' form of bhakti. He rejected sacrifices, ritual baths, image worship, austerities and the scriptures of both Hindus and Muslims.
- He **set up rules for congregational worship (sangat)** involving collective recitation.

- He appointed one of his disciples, Angad, to succeed him as the preceptor (guru), and this practice was followed for nearly 200 years.
- The **fifth preceptor, Guru Arjan**, compiled Baba Guru Nanak's hymns along with those of his four successors and also other religious poets, like Baba Farid, Ravidas (also known as Raidas) and Kabir, in the **Adi Granth Sahib**.
These hymns, called '**Gurbani**', are composed in many languages.
- Kartarpur gurudwara is the **revered shrine** about 4km across the border where **Guru Nanak Dev spent the last 18 years of his life**.

Source: TH