

# SIKH WEDDINGS



- ▣ The Guru Granth Sahib gives guidance on how Sikhs should live their life.

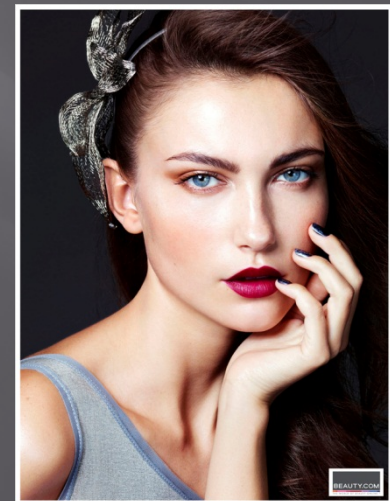


- ▣ Grown-up Sikh boys and girls get married when they are fully able to take on the responsibilities of married life.
- ▣ What do you think the responsibilities of marriage are?

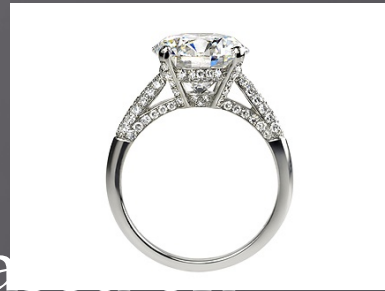


Parents and family may help to 'arrange' a wedding but it doesn't always happen.

You don't choose a husband/wife based on how rich they are, what they look like or what race they are.



▣ An engagement may be done before the wedding but not always.



▣ Sikhs aren't allowed to choose a date based on any superstitions e.g "my star sign says it is a good date for us to get married on June 21<sup>st</sup> because then we will have a long happy marriage."

# The Wedding

The couple get married in the presence of the Guru Granth Sahib.

Where might they get married?



- ❑ *Shabads* (Sikh hymns) are sung and the boy and the girl sit side by side facing Guru Granth Sahib.
- ❑ The girl sits on the left side of the boy.
- ❑ The couple and their parents (or guardians) stand up and an *Ardaas* (prayer) is offered, seeking the Blessing of *Waheguru* (the Wondrous Giver of Knowledge) for the commencement of the Anand mar



- ▣ Any Amritdhari Sikh (man or woman who has practices the prescribed Sikh code in daily life) can perform a marriage ceremony.
- ▣ This person tells the couple of the duties of married life according to the Guru's teachings.



He explains what it is like to be husband and wife.



- ▣ They accept their obligations by bowing before Guru Granth Sahib.
- ▣ The *Anand* marriage is a sacrament and no document is necessary.
- ▣ In the UK we complete a marriage certificate.

  
**CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF MARRIAGE**      **Office of the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE**  
Department for Work and Pensions      GOV.UK

Application Number      DCL Number

19788. Marriage solemnized at		The Register Office		Jin. 616		Jin. 616	
District of		County Name		In. 616		Parish Name	
No.	Who entered	Rank and surname	Age	Condition	Rank or grade	Rank or grade	Rank or grade
No.	Date Month Year	Name and Surname	Age	Condition	Job Title	Address	Father's Name and Surname
No.	Date Month Year	Name and Surname	Age	Condition	Job Title	Address	Father's Name and Surname

Married to the      Register Office      by      Register Office      in the presence of     

Groom Signature      Bride Signature      Witness Signature 1      Witness Signature 2      Register Name      Address

**SAMPLE CERTIFICATE**

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of registers of Marriages in the Register Office of     

The Register Office     

This certificate is issued in accordance with section 2 of the Marriage Act 1949. It is valid for all purposes unless otherwise stated. It is not valid for use as evidence in court proceedings. It is not valid for use as evidence in court proceedings. It is not valid for use as evidence in court proceedings.

MARRIAGE & CERTIFICATE IS NOT STORAGE IN DEPOSIT

- ▣ The main ceremony is very simple.
- ▣ The bridegroom wears a sash over his shoulder.
- ▣ The officiating person reads the four *lavan* (stanzas) from Guru Granth Sahib.

The end of this is placed (by the bride's father, guardian or any other responsible person) in the hands of the bride.



- ▣ Music is played.
- ▣ Hymns are sung.
- ▣ The couple walk slowly around the Guru Granth Sahib with the husband leading the bride.



- ▣ Men and women are seen as equal.

