### Is Worshipping Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji Akin To Idol Worship?



#### Is Worshipping Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji Akin To Idol

**Worship?** by Sabine Guhr-Biermann



Language : English File size : 1095 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported Enhanced typesetting: Enabled Word Wise : Enabled Print length : 66 pages Lending : Enabled



Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji, the sacred scripture of Sikhism, holds a central and revered position in the Sikh faith. Devotees treat the scripture with utmost respect and devotion, considering it the embodiment of the divine. However, some non-Sikh observers may question whether this reverence constitutes idol worship, as it involves treating a physical object as sacred and worthy of worship.

#### The Nature of Sikh Scriptures

To understand whether worshipping Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji is akin to idol worship, it is essential to delve into the unique nature of the Sikh scriptures. Unlike other religious texts, which are seen as divinely inspired but authored by humans, the Sikh scriptures are believed to be the direct word

of God. Sikhs believe that every word in the Granth Sahib is sacred and revealed to the Gurus by the divine.

#### The Role of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji

In Sikhism, Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji is considered the eleventh and final Guru, the eternal guide for the Sikh community. Sikhs believe that the Granth Sahib contains the complete teachings of the ten Gurus and that it embodies the divine presence. It is not merely a book but a living Guru, a source of wisdom and guidance for Sikhs worldwide.

#### Reverence as Devotion, Not Idol Worship

The reverence that Sikhs show towards Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji is not a form of idol worship but an expression of deep devotion and respect for the divine teachings it contains. Sikhs believe that bowing before the Granth Sahib is a way of expressing humility and gratitude for the presence of the divine within the scripture.

#### **Distinction from Idol Worship**

Unlike idol worship, where a physical object is believed to possess inherent divine powers, Sikhs do not believe that Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji has any inherent power. The reverence shown towards the Granth Sahib is solely due to its status as the embodiment of the divine teachings. Sikhs do not pray to the Granth Sahib but rather seek guidance and inspiration from its teachings.

, worshipping Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji is not akin to idol worship. The reverence shown by Sikhs towards the Granth Sahib is an expression of

devotion to the divine teachings it contains. The Granth Sahib is considered the eternal Guru, a living embodiment of the divine, providing guidance and inspiration to Sikhs throughout history.



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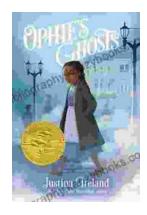
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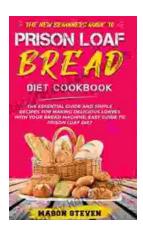


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