



## **Indo-Canadian Studies Centre**

### **A report on Dr. Manpreet's lecture on *Sikh Images: Constructions from Home and Abroad***

The Indo Canadian Studies Centre (ICSC) had organized a talk on the images and stereotypes surrounding the Sikhs and how these impact general perception of the community, with particular reference to India and Canada. The talk was given by Dr. Manpreet J. Singh who is the current Fellow of the South Asia Diaspora Fund, sponsored by the British Columbia Province through the University of the Fraser Valley, B.C., Canada, at the Indo-Canadian Studies Centre (ICSC), University of Mumbai. Dr. Singh teaches at the Delhi University and is currently on study leave for the ICSC Fellowship. Her research project is on the exploration of Sikh Identity in India and in the diaspora. This talk was one of the two public lectures she would be delivering as the ICSC Fellow this year.

Dr. Singh's talk detailed the socio historical contexts through which the images of Sikh identity have evolved and the constructs of 'otherness' within which they are placed. It also analyzed the meta-discourse of Sikh identity within the socio political parameters of the recent past, placed within which, these images sometimes become objectionable.

The talk focussed on how the integration of Sikhs within the country and a visibly positive international presence of the community, aided by an active social media, is gradually helping in new, more positive images taking shape.





The talk was accompanied by a power point presentation showcasing Sikh identity from its inception to present times. It was followed by an interactive question and answer session.

The session was well received and attended by students and members of the faculty.

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