



**Manchester Sikh
Foundation**

Manchester Sikh Foundation (Feed My City) - Statement on the Murder of Henry Nowak

We stand in solidarity with the family and loved ones of Henry Nowak following the senseless and tragic loss of his life. Our thoughts and prayers are with them, and we pray that God grants them strength, comfort and peace during this exceptionally difficult time.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to Henry's family, friends and all those affected by this horrific crime. Alongside hundreds of thousands of Sikhs across the country, we are shocked and deeply saddened by this tragedy and unequivocally condemn the murder of Henry Nowak.

The Sikh faith is founded on peace, compassion, equality and selfless service. Sikhs believe that all humanity is one family and that every human life is sacred. These principles guide Sikhs to treat others with dignity, stand against injustice, and serve communities regardless of faith, race or background. We share in the grief of Henry's family and pray for healing, unity and understanding at this difficult time.

The kirpan is a ceremonial article of faith carried by some Sikhs as a reminder to protect the vulnerable, uphold justice, and act with courage and compassion. It is a symbol of responsibility and service, not a weapon, and has been worn peacefully and responsibly in the United Kingdom for generations.

The murder of Henry Nowak by Vickrum Digwa was a criminal act for which he alone bears responsibility. The courts found him guilty of murder and sentenced him to life imprisonment. His actions must not be used to judge, stigmatise or define an entire Sikh community.

Across the country, Sikh organisations, gurdwaras and community leaders have unequivocally condemned this crime and expressed sympathy for Henry's family. We are also deeply distressed by the circumstances surrounding Henry's death. His family deserve answers, transparency and confidence that lessons will be learned.

At this difficult time, we urge people not to let the actions of one individual divide communities or fuel hostility towards innocent people. We mourn Henry Nowak, stand with his family, and support the pursuit of truth, justice and healing.

As the Nowak family said: "We do not want his death to be used to create further division, hatred or tension."

This weekend, local gurdwaras will offer prayers in Henry's memory and for strength and comfort for his family and friends. Through compassion, understanding and mutual respect, we can honour Henry's memory, support those who loved him most, and stand united against violence, hatred and division.

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