



EXTENSION DEPARTMENT The University of British Columbia Vancouver 8, Canada Telephone 228-2181

October 8, 1970

Dr. G.S. Gill
85 Mott Crescent
New Westminster, B.C.

Dear Dr. Gill:

I thought you might like to have in writing some of our thoughts about the proposed program, "Understanding East Indian Cultures".

As I explained we have had some contact with professional people - school principals and special counsellors, public health nurses, social workers, and community workers - who are interested in learning more about East Indian cultures and particularly about the Sikh culture.

I think there could be quite a number of people whose work brings them into contact with East Indians who would be interested in attending this kind of program. They would be not only satisfying a personal interest, but hopefully enabled to work more effectively in their jobs. They are interested for example in such topics as religious beliefs, family life and child rearing, attitudes toward education and the general set-up of schools in India, the relationship between castes and effects in communities here, and customs and traditions in Indian homes.

While we have the promise of assistance from Professor Joe Richardson of the Department of Religious Studies, at the University of British Columbia, we feel that it is essential to have direct involvement of Sikhs themselves as speakers and resource persons.

We have been thinking that the program might be organized in a series of 4 or 5 meetings at a time suitable to those taking part. I had hoped that we might, for instance, have 4 weekly meetings during November and early December. This would at least be a start and we could decide then if a further series might be useful in the New Year.

...../2

Dr. G.S. Gill

October 8, 1970

We would be very pleased to have the Center for Continuing Education at U.B.C. sponsor the program in cooperation with the Khalsa Diwan Society if you would like to do this. Details of such an arrangement could readily be worked out. If you are interested I would very much appreciate an opportunity to meet with your representatives to discuss this program further.

Yours sincerely,

Marjorie V. Smith.

(Miss) Marjorie V. Smith, Director
Programs in Aging

MVS/mc