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BRITISH SIKHS UNWRAPPED IN NEW GROUNDBREAKING ART EXHIBITION



On Friday 10th June, Niskham Civic Associaton, Birimingham will host the official launch of the “Turbanology: Sikhs Unwrapped” exhibition.

Following the success of the independent documentary “Turbanology: After 7/7”, journalist and filmmaker Jay Singh- Sohal explores the social and political significance of the turban post 9/11, this time through art.

As Exhibition Director, Jay Singh-Sohal says the project aims to be educational, fun but most importantly a hands-on experience: “This groundbreaking art exhibit will provide a unique and colourful insight into what Sikhs consider their crown. Through art and photography the turban will be demystified, unwrapping layer by layer peoples lack of understanding, prejudice or ignorance of this key Sikh symbol in a colourful, informative and interactive way.”

In addition to specially commissioned films and a Q&A with the exhibit team, keynote speakers including Dr Mohinder Singh (Guru Nanak Nishkam Sewa Jatha) and Gurinder Singh Mandla (who fought the turban ban in 1983 aged only 17) will provide in depth knowledge of the turban’s spirtual importance and the Sikh Turban Rights Movement which resulted in the pivotal House of Lords Turban ruling.

The touring exhibition allows children the oppportunity to learn about the Sikh faith through workshops, hosted by Sikh storyteller Roop Singh. The interactive sessions include turban tying and stories from British and Sikh history.

The Arts Council England supported exhibition will be hosted at selected venues from June to October ahead of a national tour in 2012.

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Stills and Footage:

Stills images from the Official Launch event will be available upon request. Broadcast footage will be available via YouTube.

Notes to Editors:

- Event is from 11:15 to 1.30 pm at Nishkam Civic Association, 6 Soho Road, Birmingham, B21 9BH
- Interviews with the exhibition team, young Sikhs and community members available on the day
- Opportunity to film the turban workshop, exhibit and launch
- Access to specially commissioned film footage about Sikh turban tying & the Turban Rights Movement available upon request

2011 Tour Schedule:

Nishkam Civic Association, Birmingham	10 th – 24 th June
Sikh Heritage Centre, Leamington & Warwick	1 st – 29 th July
West Wing Arts Centre, Slough	12 th – 26 th August
Leeds Royal Armouries	TBC September
National Sikh Heritage Museum, Derby	8 th – 21 st October

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