

SIKHISM AND MEMORY MAKING

HERITAGE
MIGRATION
FAMILY HISTORY
2024 > 2027

PROJECT

KADOC-KU Leuven, in collaboration with several heritage and cultural partners, has been granted funding for a three-year (2024-2027) cultural heritage project 'Sikhism and memory making: heritage, migration and family history' by the Flemish government. The project will start in October 2024.

Through memory making with a focus on heritage and conversations with Sikh families, this project aims to provide local Sikh communities in Flanders with tools to record their own family history and to embed the little-known story of Sikh communities in the history of Flanders. In this way, a bridge can be built between Sikh communities and the general public.

MORE INFORMATION?

Contact Mr Harpreet Singh (Belgian National Sikh Organisation) or KADOC-KU Leuven. A more elaborate description of the project is available on request.

KU LEUVEN

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VARIOUS PHASES

1.

Network building: building a relationship of confidence with Sikh communities and gathering information about the history of Sikhs through conversations, participation in social and cultural initiatives, organisation of training sessions, surveys and interviews.

2.

Heritage screening and sensibilisation: mapping the religious and cultural heritage of Sikhs in Flanders and discovering how Sikh communities define, give meaning to and interact with their religious and cultural heritage; knowledge exchange on religious and cultural heritage (archives, publications, audio-visual material, religious or cultural objects, rituals, customs, etc.) and methods of collecting, accessing and preserving heritage.

3.

Memory making: conversations with Sikh families about their history, heritage, identity and daily life. This process of memory making can provide Sikhs with tools to reconstruct their own family and migration history. Afterwards, in cooperation with the Sikhs and local heritage partners, an attractive format (guided tour, interactive exhibition, discussion afternoon, public lecture, workshop, etc.) can be designed to share the history and stories of the Sikhs with a wider audience.

PARTNERS

The project is an initiative of KADOC-KU Leuven in cooperation with the Belgian National Sikh Organisation and local heritage partners. KADOC is KU Leuven's Documentation and Research Centre for Religion, Culture and Society. The centre aims to map the diversity and heritage of the various cultural-religious communities in Flanders and promote connection and sharing of knowledge.

DO YOU WANT TO HELP US?

We are looking for people from local Sikh communities in Flanders who want to be actively involved in the preparation of this project. Are you interested in mapping the heritage of Sikhs and stories of Sikh families and making Flemish Sikhs known to a wider audience? Then do not hesitate to contact us.