



## Visa-Free Access to Kartarpur Corridor

Recently, Pakistan has agreed to give year-long visa-free access for Indian pilgrims to the Gurdwara of [Kartarpur Sahib](#).

- It allows visa-free travel for the Indian passport-holders and [Overseas Citizenship of India \(OCI\)](#) card-holders seven days a week.
- India proposed that the holy shrine be open to Indian citizens of all faiths, acceding to this demand Pakistan "in-principle agreed" to allow all people with Indian passport and Overseas Citizenship of India (OCI) card-holders.
- India also asked Pakistan to prevent **Khalistan** supporters from misusing this historic initiative.
- India also urged Pakistan to allow '**Nagar Kirtan**' from Delhi to Nankana Sahib in Pakistan in July and during October-November 2019 as part of the celebrations to mark the **550<sup>th</sup> birth of Guru Nanak dev**, the first Sikh Guru.

### Guru Nanak Dev

- Guru Nanak Dev Jayanti is observed on the full-moon day in the month of Katak to celebrate the birth of Guru Nanak Dev (1469-1539).
- He was the first of the 10 Sikh Gurus and the founder of Sikhism.
- The Kartarpur corridor will be implemented as an integrated development project with Government of India funding. The development comes ahead of the 550<sup>th</sup> Prakash Purab or 550th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak in 2019.

### Nagar Kirtan

- Nagar Kirtan is a Punjabi term which literally means "Neighbourhood Kirtan".
- The term refers to the possession of Sikh Sangat (Congregation) through the town singing holy hymns.
- The concept of a Nagar Kirtan is to bring the message of God to the doorstep of the community.
- It is common during the month of Vaisakhi(April-May) and take place all over the globe.

### Khalistan

- The Khalistan movement is a Khalsa nationalist movement that wants to create an independent state for Sikh people, inside the current north-western region of India.