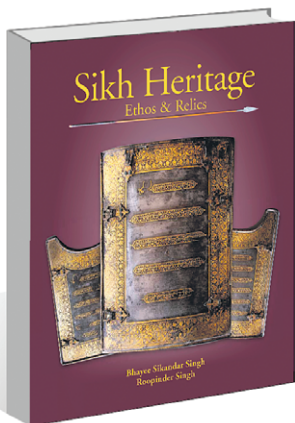


# A mirror to the past

*Sikh Heritage: Ethos and Relics*, a literary work by Bhayee Sikander Singh and Roopinder Singh highlights the essence of Sikh history



## ASHIMA BATISH

Sikh history is rich with the tangible heritage of the Sikh Gurus and their followers, and there are well-preserved relics of the same. They glorify the Sikh heritage, but yet have not been given their place in the sun. *Sikh Heritage: Ethos and Relics* is a sincere effort made by co-authors, Bhayee Sikander Singh and Roopinder Singh to present the Sikh relics against the backdrop of the essence of Sikhism.

The book also unearths the history and lore of the people of Punjab. "*Sikh Heritage: Ethos and Relics* features photographs and descriptions of unseen relics of Sikh heritage that further throws light on the rich Sikh history," says Roopinder, who along with the co-author, Sikander Singh showcased the book at the Government Museum and Art Gallery in Chandigarh on Sunday.

The book also gives the privilege to its readers to know about the artefacts that were looked after by the descendants of Bhai Rup Chand. Bhayee Sikander Singh informs: "Contribution also came in from the Maharajas of Patiala and Nabha, who proudly possess significant relics of the Sikhs." He is a scion of the Bagrian family, whose ancestor Bhai Rup Chand was



**RIGHT NOTES:** (From above) Sikander Singh & Roopinder Singh

blessed by Guru Hargobind, the sixth Guru. He is the co-founder of Nishaan, a journal about Sikhs.

The book will prove to be an encyclopaedia of Sikh Gurus and traditions of Punjab to people who have little insight into the subject. "The in-depth research and details mentioned in the book makes for its unique content, which I am sure will be appreciated by people who are interested in Sikh History," adds Roopinder, who has to his credit Marshal of the *Indian Air Force Arjan Singh DFC* (2002) and *Guru Nanak: His Life and Teachings* (2004). Paul Michael Taylor, Director, Asian Cultural History Program, in his introduction, calls the book as a very important document that has beautifully illustrated the details and yet isn't like a usual piece of history.