

GURDWARA MOVEMENT: 1920-25

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ABSTRACT

The Akali Sikhs Movement in early twentieth century which started as purely religious movement for the reforms of Sikh's Holy Shrines, the Sikh religious historical Gurdwaras, soon attained a political character and became part and parcel of India's freedom struggle. Akali movement variously known as Sikh Gurdwara Reform Movement and sometime called Gurdwara agitations. Akali Movement described how Sikh Community started a long struggle in the early of the twentieth century for the liberation of their Gurdwaras and holy places. The Sikh campaign supported especially from the rural masses, took the form for a peaceful agitation. It was religious gathering for the protest of Sikhs to assert their right to manage their sacred places. Finally the Government had to bow in front of popular pressure and allow the Sikhs to take over the guardianship of their Gurdwaras. Gurudwara act passed in 1925 which made the S.G.P.C a representative body of Sikhs, custodian of all important Sikh holy places.

KEYWORDS: Gurdwara Movement, Akali, Agitation, Morcha Policy, Religious and S.G.P.C