

SIKH HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP (SHRG) UK

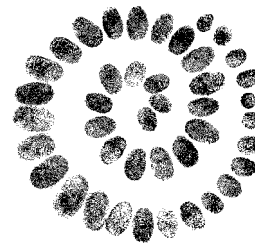
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Promoting pluralism and human rights around the world irrespective of race, ethnicity, religion, gender or any other distinction.

RUNNYMEDE

**PROGRAMME****CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY COHESION ON THE
POST WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST RACISM AGENDA**

Joint SHRG / Runnymede Trust Seminar

Saturday 17 May 2003, 10.00 – 16.45

SOUTHWARK FIRE BRIGADE TRAINING CENTRE, LONDON

94 Southwark Bridge Road

London SE1 0EG

- 10.00 a.m. ***Welcome Remarks***
Michelynn Lafleche, Runnymede Trust
- 10.05 a.m. ***Introduction: Key points on SHRG and Runnymede Views
about Cultural Diversity and Community Cohesion***
Elina Stamou, SHRG and Sarah Isal, Runnymede Trust
- 10.20 – 11.40 ***Community Panel: What are the Issues?***
- Chair:* Patrick Yu, NICEM
Speakers: Zaki Badawi, Sharia Council
 Audrey Adams, 1990 Trust
 Jasdev S. Rai, SHRG
 Vanillal Vaghera, Brent Hindu Council
- 11:40 – 11:50 Tea Break
- 11.50 – 12.50 ***Law, Public Policy and Cultural Diversity***
- Chair:* Richard Stone, Runnymede Trust
Speakers: Manjit Gill, SHRG
 Mohamed Aziz, British Muslim Research Centre
- 12.50 – 13.50 Lunch Break
- 13.50 – 14:50 ***Participation, Consultation and Decision-Making:
Link Between Government and Local Communities***
- Chair:* Claude Moraes MEP
Speakers: Bruce Gill, Head of Race Equality Unit, Home Office
 Professor Gurharpal Singh, Birmingham University
- 14.50 – 15.00 Tea Break

15.00 – 16.00	<i>Institutions and Diversity: Police and Security Services, Media and Education</i>
	<i>Chair:</i> Michelynn Laffèche, Runnymede Trust
	<i>Speakers:</i> Ravi Chand, National Black Police Association Edie Friedman, JCORE
16.00 – 16.30	<i>Community Panel Discussion</i>
16.30 - 16.45	<i>Closing Remarks</i> Jasdev Rai, SHRG

Community Panel Sessions

Members from different communities in London. In the beginning of the conference the community panel will raise and discuss key issues that arise in various communities in relation to cultural diversity – Is it reflected in public policy? What can we do to make sure that it is respected and promoted? Are communities aware of the Home Office's community cohesion policy? At the end of the conference, the conference will invite panel members to discuss the proceedings of the day in relation to the issues raised in the first session and identify action points. Members from some 'ethnic minority' communities, who represent or promote their communities in some way, have been invited to these sessions. The second session will invite panel members to discuss the proceedings of the day in relation to the issues raised in the first session and identify action points.

Law, Public Policy and Cultural Diversity

This session will discuss the importance of law and public policy to address racial discrimination and to promote cultural diversity. It will explore the notions of cultural diversity in public policy and examine to what extent these are based on equality. The successes and failures and the impact of public policy on the lives of those affected by racial discrimination will be discussed

Participation, Consultation and Decision-Making: Link between Government and local communities

The current Labour Government emphasises the importance of community consultation in local and national governmental decision making processes and to promote community cohesion. This session will examine the Government's policy approach and methods of consultation with 'ethnic minority' communities and the impact. It will discuss the nature of contribution this has made on promoting cultural diversity.

Institutions and Diversity: Police and Security, Media and Education

'Promoting diversity' is now a commonly applied phrase by public institutions. But how is diversity understood in major public institutions? Are institutions involved in promoting cultural diversity making any impact? By looking at institutions in three key service areas, this session will examine institutional response to diversity within the WCAR documentation framework.