Sikh Disinformation Lab

FALSE

Repost on Canadian account asserts "Sikhs are Hindus"; Sikh Disinformation Lab finds the claim false

A post amplified by the Canadian account @NareshRaghubeer asserts that Sikhs "were created to protect Hindus from Mughal atrocities" and that "SIKHS ARE HINDUS." The Lab assesses the claim as false: it recasts a distinct religious tradition as a subordinate branch of another.

PUBLISHED
2 September 2026

SOURCE POSTED
31 August 2026

NARRATIVES
Denying Sikhi Is a Distinct Religion

OUR ASSESSMENT

“Sikhs should not forget that they were created to protect Hindus from Mughal atrocities. SIKHS ARE HINDUS.” That is not a neutral description of Sikh history. Sikhi emerged from the teachings of Guru Nanak and the subsequent Sikh Gurus; the Sikh tradition certainly has a major historical relationship with defending people against oppression, including the Mughal state, but saying “Sikhs were created to protect Hindus” reduces a complex religious and historical development to a particular ideological interpretation.

THE CLAIM

RT @fgautier26: Sikhs should not forget that they were created to protect Hindus from Mughal atrocities. SIKHS ARE HINDUS. My wife’ s grandfather was the eldest of a Hindu fa mily, given to Sikhism

THE ANALYSIS

What was published

On 31 August 2026, the account @NareshRaghubeer on X reposted content originating with the account @fgautier26. The reposted text reads: "Sikhs should not forget that they were created to protect Hindus from Mughal atrocities. SIKHS ARE HINDUS. My wife's grandfather was the eldest of a Hindu family, given to Sikhism."

The Lab logged the item as originating in Canada and in English. No additional body text was captured beyond the reposted statement itself.

What it claims

The post makes two linked assertions. First, that Sikhs "were created" for the purpose of protecting Hindus from Mughal-era persecution — that is, that the origin and function of the Sikh community are derivative of another community's needs. Second, stated in capitals, that "SIKHS ARE HINDUS" — a claim of religious identity rather than of historical relationship. A personal anecdote about a family member's conversion is offered in support.

What the review found

The Lab's analyst assessed the item as disinformation, with the verdict nuance recorded as false and severity rated 2 of 5.

The central finding is that the statement is not a neutral description of Sikh history. Sikhi emerged from the teachings of Guru Nanak and the subsequent Sikh Gurus. That origin is doctrinal and revelatory in character; it is not reducible to a defensive function performed on behalf of another religious community.

The analyst notes that the Sikh tradition does have a major historical relationship with defending people against oppression, including oppression by the Mughal state. That relationship is real and is part of the historical record. What the post does is convert that relationship into a founding purpose, and then use the converted claim to

collapse Sikh identity into Hindu identity. In the analyst's terms, saying "Sikhs were created to protect Hindus" reduces a complex religious and historical development to a particular ideological interpretation.

The distinction matters analytically. A claim that Sikhs historically resisted Mughal persecution of others is supportable. A claim that Sikhs exist because of Hindus, and are therefore Hindus, is a different proposition, and it is the one the post advances. The second does not follow from the first.

The personal anecdote in the post does not bear on the claim it is attached to. That an individual moved from one tradition to another is a statement about one family's history; it establishes nothing about whether the two traditions are the same tradition.

Context

The Lab has catalogued the item under the Denying Sikhi Is a Distinct Religion narrative. The framing — that Sikhi is a subset, offshoot or defensive wing of Hinduism rather than an independent faith — recurs in monitored content and is the reason the item was flagged rather than treated as ordinary historical commentary.

The assertion "SIKHS ARE HINDUS" is a claim about the religious identity of a community, made about that community rather than by it. Sikhs have consistently articulated Sikhi as a distinct revealed tradition with its own scripture, Gurus and practice. Content that overrides that self-description does not present a competing historical reading so much as it denies the premise of a separate religious identity.

The Lab's assessment addresses the content of the post. It makes no finding about the intent of the original author or of the account that amplified it, and the reviewed material contains no evidence bearing on motive or coordination.

Verdict: False. The claim that Sikhs "were created to protect Hindus" and that "Sikhs are Hindus" misdescribes the origins of Sikhi, which emerged from the teachings of Guru Nanak and the Sikh Gurus, and substitutes an ideological interpretation for the historical record.

SOURCES

01 https://x.com/NareshRaghubeer/status/2094251333305950461

02 The Lab's analyst review record, flagged item published 2026-08-31, the Denying Sikhi Is a Distinct Religion narrative (verdict: Disinformation / False; severity 2)

Sikh Disinformation Lab

About Sikh Disinformation Lab

Sikh Disinformation Lab is an independent, evidence-based programme founded and hosted by the World Sikh Organization of Canada. It monitors, analyses and publicly documents disinformation affecting Sikhs.

The Lab examines claims against evidence, publishes assessments with that evidence attached, and tracks coordinated campaigns over time. Every published assessment names what was claimed, where it appeared, what the review found, and what that assessment rests on. Where an item makes several distinct claims, each is assessed separately.

Assessments are made against the methodology framework in force at the time of publication. That framework is public, versioned, and reviewed at each phase gate; a material change produces a new version rather than a silent edit. The full method is published at sikhdisinfolab.ca/method.

Corrections are dated entries, never silent edits. Where a published assessment is found to be wrong or incomplete, the correction is recorded against it and listed at sikhdisinfolab.ca/corrections. If you believe something published here is inaccurate, write to the programme and it will be reviewed.

Assessments are the responsibility of Sikh Disinformation Lab.

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