# What happens during a Sikh naming ceremony

During the naming of a Sikh baby, the Granthi (person who reads from the Guru Granth Sahib) will open the Guru Granth Sahib and read the hymn at the top left side.

The first letter of this hymn will be the first letter of the baby’s name.

The parents will have time to think about this before they decide what the baby’s name will be.

When they have decided on the name, they tell the Granthi who tells everyone else in the Gurdwara.

Once the name is chosen, the Granthi will also add the name Singh (lion) for a boy and Kaur (princess) for a girl. This was a practice introduced at Amrit (a Sikh ceremony of confirming one’s faith) in 1699 by Guru ji, but is now usually given as the new baby is named, to signify that they are Sikh.