

Tekst 7



Sundeep Tucker and Sanah, blissfully unaware of the problems in choosing her name

Name and Sikh

Ananaya or Sanah? **Sundeep Tucker** has a new baby on his hands

- 1 How long does it take to name a baby? A rather long time if the parents are Sikh Punjabis. The naming of a Sikh child is a good pointer to where power in the clan lies and, among other things, can illustrate how much the parents respect their elders.
- 2 Our second child, a girl, was born two agonising weeks late, on July 1. To the amazement of friends and colleagues, we called her "Princess" for three weeks. It's just as well English law sets a six-week limit on the all-important visit to the register office – or she might have been called Princess for the rest of the summer.
- 3 For any moderately religious family, the naming process begins at the Gurudwara, or temple. The priest looks at the Sikh holy book and fishes out some meaningful initials for the baby. Then the fun begins.
- 4 After a solemn ceremony we were handed the initials R, S and J. The job then was to throw open the event to friends and family. In the old days this would have required sending a letter by ship or screaming down a crackly telephone line. These days, my wife could text message her parents and sisters in India in the car on the way home.
- 5 Within days we had a working list. The suggestions split into various camps. The elders suggested traditional names (each orthodox Sikh name, often unisex, has a meaning). Other ideas fell into the modernist camp, which we favoured.
- 6 Three weeks later, we plumped for Sanah (brilliance). My wife and I felt it was short and sweet, with a pretty meaning and, crucially, neither set of grandparents was aggrieved.
- 7 Some non-Sikh friends saw benefits in our naming process. Many had ploughed through name books and were still at a loss. And when they did find one, they irritated the mother-in-law by naming the grandson after a car dealer.
- 8 Not that we plan to do it again in a hurry. I gave my son the warrior-sounding Sikh name of Sartej (aura). That name game was a more bruising experience and I staggered into a register office with the six weeks' limit all but used up. On second thoughts, perhaps we are getting the hang of it.

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- “How long ... Sikh Punjabis.” (eerste alinea)
- 3p **27** Uit welke *drie* stappen bestaat het naamgevingsproces van een baby bij Sikh Punjabis volgens deze tekst?
- 2p **28** Geef voor elk van de onderstaande uitspraken aan of deze wel of niet juist is volgens de tekst.
- 1 Sundeep Tucker en zijn vrouw hadden hun dochter het liefst Princess genoemd.
 - 2 De grootouders van Sanah accepteerden de naam Sanah zonder problemen.
 - 3 Alleen Sikhs zelf zien de voordelen van hun ingewikkelde naamgevingsmethode.
 - 4 Sanah is het oudste kind van Sundeep Tucker en zijn vrouw.
- Noteer het nummer van elke uitspraak, gevolgd door “wel” of “niet”.