

**A WHISTLE-STOP
JOURNEY
THROUGH SIKH
HISTORY**



OVERVIEW

- Guruship period (1469-1708)
- Banda Singh Bahadur/Khalsa Raj (1708-1716)
- Dal Khalsa & Misl Period
- Maharaja Ranjit Singh/Sikh Raj (1799/1801-1839/1849)
- British Raj (1849-1947)
- Singh Sabha Movement (~1880s-mid 1900s)
- Partition (1947)
- Anandpur Sahib Resolution (1973/1980s)
- 1984 & build-up/aftermath
- Mid 1990s to present day



GURU NANAK DEV JI

Factfile

- DOB: 15/04/1469
- Birthplace: Rai Bhoi di Talwandi/Nankana Sahib
- Mother: Mata Tripta
- Father: Mehta Kalu
- Sister: Bebe Nanaki
- Wife: Mata Sulakhni Ji
- Children: Siri Chand, Lakhmi Das



GURU NANAK DEV JI

4/5 Udassis; ~25 years of travelling

- Started aged around 30
- Travelled on foot to places all over India/Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Mecca, Tibet, Afghanistan, (Vatican?)
- Companion: Bhai Mardana (played rabaab)
- Brave & revolutionary
 - Met with & talked to all kinds of people; explained philosophy in novel ways
 - A different image to the one we often see!



Travels of Guru Nanak:

The Puratan Janamsakhi, one of the oldest accounts available regarding Guru NANAK mentions five journeys or Udisi undertaken by him. The important identified places given in each Udisi are as follows:

1. **First Udisi:** (1500-1506 A.D.) Sultanpur, Tulamba (Modern Makhdumpur, District Multan), Panipat, Delhi, Varanasi, Nainikmata (District Nainital), Tanda Vanjara (District Rampur), Kamrup (Assam), Asa Desh (assam), Saidpur (modern Eminabad, Pakistan), Pasrur (Pakistan), Sialkot (Pakistan).
2. **Second Udisi:** (1506-1513 A.D.) Dhanasi Valley, sea and Singladip (Sri Lanka).
3. **Third Udisi:** (1514-1518 A.D.) Kashmir, Sumer Parbat and several other Purbats difficult of identification, Achal Vatala etc.
4. **Fourth Udisi:** (1519-1521 A.D.) Mecca & Arab countries.
5. **Fifth Udisi:** (1523-1524 A.D.) The fifth travel was of the places within the Punjab.



ਗੁਰੂ ਨਾਨਕ ਦੇਵ ਜੀ ਦੀਆਂ ਯਾਤਰਾਵਾਂ

Travels of Guru Nanak Dev Ji



Amrita Singh

GURU NANAK DEV JI

Key teachings

- Oneness of all (Ik Oankar)
- Equality (see all as humans)
- ‘3 pillars’
- Thinking for yourself – don’t follow others blindly!
- Family life
- Activism
- Importance of truth; ਸਚਹੁ ਓਰੈ ਸਭੁ ਕੋ ਉਪਰਿ ਸਚੁ ਆਚਾਰੁ ॥੫॥
- Self-control; banish 5 vices



GURU NANAK DEV JI

What made him unique?

- Teaching style
- Bravery; stood up to thugs, emperors, challenged society
- Did not discriminate; Muslim companion
- Sung his teachings & wrote in poetry!

Legacy

- Sikh philosophy!
- Established town: Kartarpur
- Many shabads & banis:
 - Jap ji sahib
 - Asa ki vaar
 - Baabar Bani
- Collected bhagat bani



GURU ANGAD DEV JI

Factfile

- DOB: 31/03/1504
- Birthname: Lehna
- Birthplace: Matte di Sarai, Muktsar, Ferozpur
- Mother: Ramo (Daya)
- Father: Pheru Mal
- Wife: Mata Khivi Ji
- Children: Daasu, Daatu, Amro, Anokhi



GURU ANGAD DEV JI



How did he meet Guru Nanak Dev ji?

- Heard hymn of Guru Nanak & went to meet its writer at Kartarpur
- Rest of Sakhi?

What is Guru Angad Dev ji's legacy?

- Physical health & exercise; wrestling matches
- Education & literacy; Gurmukhi alphabet, schools
- Langar; Mata Khivi ji – gender equality
- Saloks in SGGS
- Goindwal

What happened when he met Humayun?

GURU AMAR DAS JI

Factfile

- DOB 05/05/1479
- Mother: Mata Lachmi
- Father: Tej Bhan
- Wife: Mata Mansa Devi
- Children: Baba Mohan, Baba Mohri, Bibi Dani, Bibi Bhani
- Birthplace: Baasarke, Amritsar



GURU AMAR DAS JI

Brief Timeline

- Had just returned from Hindu pilgrimage to Haridwar
- Heard shabads by Bibi Amro (Guru Angad Dev ji's daughter) and was deeply moved
- Became devout Sikh (Amru) at age 61
 - Did a lot of seva e.g. carrying water for Guru ji's ishnaan long distances
- Guruship at age 73
- Joti Jot Samai aged 95



GURU AMAR DAS JI

Legacy

- Institutionalised langar
 - “Pehle pangat, paachhe sangat”
- Set up manjhi and piri system
 - 22 manjhis
 - 94 men & 52 women sent around India
- Equality
 - Gender; condemned sati/pardah – even for queens)
 - Status (Akbar sakhi)
 - Religion
- Built town of Goindwal
- Selected site for Amritsar
- 907 shabads, Anand sahib



GURU RAM DAS JI

Factfile

- DOB: 24/09/1534
- Birthplace: Chuna Mandi, Lahore
- Mother: Mata Anup Kaur
- Father: Hari Das
- Wife: Bibi Bhani ji (so he was son-in-law to Guru Amar Das ji)
- Children: Prithi Chand, Maha Dev, Arjun Dev



GURU RAM DAS JI

Life up to meeting Guru Amar Das ji

- Orphaned at young age
- Sold chhole to earn a living
- Very humble – came to attention of Guru Amar Das ji
- Married Bibi Bhani ji



GURU RAM DAS JI

Legacy

- Wrote Laavan; described different stages of union with Vaheguru
 - Part of Anand Karaj ceremony
- Built sarovar at Amritsar
 - previously called Guru ka Chak → Ramdaspur
- Designed Darbar Sahib
- Santokhsar
- Outlined Nitnem;
 - ਗੁਰ ਸਤਿਗੁਰ ਕਾ ਜੋ ਸਿਖੁ ਅਕਾਏ ਸੁ ਭਲਕੇ ਉਠਿ ਹਰਿ ਨਾਮੁ ਧਿਆਵੈ ॥
ਉਦਮੁ ਕਰੇ ਭਲਕੇ ਪਰਭਾਤੀ ਇਸਨਾਨੁ ਕਰੇ ਅੰਮ੍ਰਿਤ ਸਰਿ ਨਾਵੈ ॥



GURU ARJAN DEV JI

Factfile

- DOB 15/04/1563
- Mother: Bibi Bhani ji
- Father: Guru Raam Das Ji
- Wife: Mata Ganga ji
- Children: Hargobind
- Birthplace: Goindwal, Taran Taaran



GURU ARJAN DEV JI

Legacy

- Compiled all previous banis – Pehla Parkash
 - Scribe: Bhai Gurdas ji
 - First Granthi: Baba Budha ji
- Contributed the most number of shabads in SGGS
 - Sukhmani Sahib
- Dasvandh
- Masands – continuation of Manji system
- Darbar Sahib
- Taran Taaran
- Kartarpur
- Seen as a threat by Mughals
 - First Shaheed in Sikh history



GURU HARGOBIND JI

Factfile

- DOB: 19/06/1595
- Mother: Mata Ganga ji
- Father: Guru Arjan Dev Ji
- Wife: Mata Nanaki ji
- Children: Baba Gurditta, Suraj Mal, Anhi Rai, Atal Rai, Dhyag Mal, Bibi Veero
- Birthplace: Guru ki Vaddaali, Amritsar
- Guruship at age 11



GURU HARGOBIND JI

Legacy

- Miri & Piri; political/worldly power + spiritual/religious power
 - “Amir” + “Pir”
- Prepared Sikh army (Guru Arjan Dev ji had started preparations)
- 4 Mughal/Sikh battles
 - Amritsar, Hargobindpur, Gurusar Mehraj, Kartarpur
- Furthered Sikhi parchar
- Imprisoned in Gwalior Fort
 - Bandi Chhorr Divas
- Lohgarh = “Iron fort”
- Kiratpur
- Akal Takht opposite Harmandir Sahib



GURU HAR RAI JI

Factfile

- DOB 16/01/1630
- Mother: Mata Nihal Kaur (Ananti)
- Father: Baba Gurditta
- Wife: Mata Kishan Kaur (Sulakhni)
- Children: Baba Ramrai, Guru Harkrishan
 - Baba Ramrai was a heretic; sent to Delhi to face emperor and represent Sikhs, but yielded and changed gurbani
- Birthplace: Kiratpur,
- Guruship at age 14



GURU HAR RAI JI

Life & Legacy

- Importance of respecting and caring for the natural world
 - Tended to plants & animals
 - Planted gardens
 - Opened animal sanctuaries
- Ran a famous dispensary with medicines sourced from gardens with medicinal plants
- Established more manjis, reformed masand system to replace corrupt masands
- Kept army active
 - Helped Dara Shikhan escape his brother Aurangzeb
 - Didn't fight any battles/wars



GURU HAR KRISHAN JI

Factfile

- DOB: July 1656
- Mother: Mata Kishan Kaur
- Father: Guru Har Rai Ji
- Birthplace: Shish Mahal, Kiratpur
- Guruship at age 5
- Jyoti-jot at age 8



GURU HAR KRISHAN JI

Life & Legacy

- Gurgaddi not given to older brother – “fake” guruship
- Youngest Guru, and for shortest amount of time
 - Nicknamed ‘Bala Pir’ – even Aurangzeb didn’t trouble him
 - Joti-jot samaey while helping people recover from smallpox
- Bangla Sahib built at the place where he stayed in Delhi



GURU TEG BAHADUR JI

Factfile

- DOB 01/04/1621
- Mother: Mata Nanki ji
- Father: Guru Hargobind ji
- Wife: Mata Gujri ji
- Children: Gobind Rai
- Birthplace: Guru ke Mahal, Amritsar



GURU TEG BAHADUR JI



Life & Legacy

- Born Tyag Mal
 - Name given by Guru Hargobind ji after showing valour in battle at young age; brave & skilled warrior
- “Baba Bakaale” – true Guru recognised by Makhan Shah Labana
- Traveled to Assam, Dhaka etc.
- Founded Anandpur
- Wrote gurbani including saloks at end of SGGS
- Shaheedi – “Dharam di Chaadar”
 - Asked for help by Kashmiri Pandits facing religious persecution by Aurangzeb
 - Guruji went to Delhi to publicly make a stand against the emperor
 - 3 companions tortured; Guruji beheaded
 - Gurdwara Sees Ganj at Chandni Chowk; Rakab Ganj where body was cremated; Sees Ganj (Punjab) where head was brought to Guru Gobind Singh ji

GURU GOBIND SINGH JI

Factfile

- DOB 05/01/1666
- Mother: Mata Gujri ji
- Father: Guru Teg Bahadur ji
- Wife: Mata Sahib Kaur (/Jito/Sundari)
- Children: Char Sahibzade
- Birthplace: Patna (Bihar)
- Joti-jot: 1708 in Nanded



GURU GOBIND SINGH JI



Life & Legacy

- Fought many battles
 - Bhangani
 - Anandpur (1st & 2nd)
 - River Sarsa (backstabbed by Mughal army; Sikhs split up; much loss)
 - Chamkaur (siege; vadde sahibzadey shaheed; “sava lakh”)
 - Muktsar (40 mukte; Mai Bhago)
- Vaisakhi – Khalsa, 5Ks, Singh/Kaur
- Added Guru Teg Bahadur ji’s bani to SGGS, gave it final gurgaddi
- Wounded by assassination attempt in Nanded near Godavari river
 - Died of wounds soon after (stiches reopened during 2nd assassination attempt)

REVIEW OF GURUSHIP

- Laid foundations of Sikh state
- Hardships – even internally
- Multi-skilled; poets, musicians, warriors, teachers, politicians



BANDA SINGH BAHADUR

- Born 27th October 1670 as Lachhman Das
- Became an ascetic after shooting a pregnant deer – greatly affected
 - Madho Das bairagi; opened hermitage on banks of river Godavari
- Met Guru Gobind Singh in 1708; greatly impressed
 - Took amrit → Gurbaksh Singh
 - Known as Banda (Guru's slave) Singh Bahadur (brave)
- Given 5 Singhs + 5 arrows + told to continue the fight against Mughal injustices
 - Baj Singh, Binod Singh, Daya Singh, Kahn Singh, Ram Singh
- Stopped corrupt zamindari system; promoted equality
- Shaheed in 1716 (4 year old son also tortured & killed)



KHALSA RAJ

- Banda Singh & Khalsa army helped local communities and gathered support; built a movement & an army
- Many battles; conquered many cities
 - Samana (1709)
 - Mastafabad & Sadhaura
 - Malerkotla & Nahan
 - Sirhind (Battle of Chappar Chiri; 1710)
- Established Khalsa Raj in 1710;
 - Mukhlisgarh → Lohgarh (capital city)
 - Coin not in own name but Guru Nanak/Guru Gobind Singh



MISL PERIOD

- Mughals offered rewards for heads of Sikhs + did public executions
 - Sikhs moved into jungles to survive persecution
- Dal Khalsa; Buddha Dal (>40; older, wiser, support) + Taruna Dal (<40; younger, fighters)
 - Made up of multiple jathas
- Misls – individual confederacies of Punjab/armies of Sikhs
 - Different names...united against Mughals but faced a lot of infighting
- All misls united by Ranjit Singh in 1799



SIKH RAJ

- Maharaja Ranjit Singh
 - Born: 1780; ill with smallpox as baby (lost sight in left eye)
 - Head of Sukkarchakia Misl aged 12 after father's death
 - United misls as a teenager
 - Proclaimed Maharaja of Punjab in 1801
 - 'Sher-E-Punjab'
 - Covered Darbar Sahib in gold
- Nanaksahi coin
- Ranjit Singh died in 1839 of illness – followed by much infighting and assassinations among potential successors.
 - Infiltrated & betrayed by Dogre & British



ਚੀਨ
China

Sikh Empire

سرکار خالصه

ਖਾਲਸਾ ਸਰਕਾਰ

c. 1839 CE

ਚੀਨ
China

افغانستان
ਅਫ਼ਗ਼ਾਨਿਸਤਾਨ
Afghanistan



تیبت
ਤਿੱਬਤ
Tibet

کلات
کلاٹ
Kalat

سیند
Sind

برطانوی ہندوستان
ਬਰਤਾਨਵੀ ਹਿੰਦੁਸਤਾਨ
British India (EIC)



0 100 200 300

میل
Miles

BRITISH RAJ



- 1849-1947
- Punjab was the last state to be taken by British
- Kidnapped Duleep Singh (Last Maharaja of Punjab)
 - Born: 1838
 - Youngest son of Ranjit Singh; heir to throne after death of Kharak Singh
 - Mother = Maharani Jind Kaur; kept apart
 - Made to convert to Christianity
 - Exiled to England aged 15; not told about Sikh Raj or allowed to return to Punjab & closely monitored during the short visits he later made
 - Kohinoor taken
 - Died in Paris in 1893 (had converted back to Sikhi after researching his background)
 - One of his daughters was a suffragette (Sophia Duleep Singh)

SINGH SABHA MOVEMENT



PARTITION



ANANDPUR SAHIB RESOLUTION



1984 & BUILDUP/AFTERMATH

