

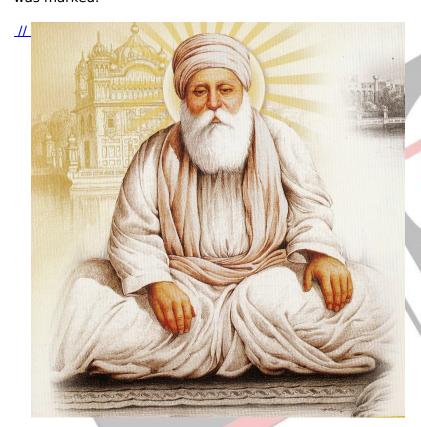
450th Jyoti Jot Diwas of Sri Guru Amardas

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Why in News?

Recently, the **450th Jyoti Jot Diwas** (passing away day) of <u>Sri Guru Amardas Ji</u>, the **third** <u>Sikh Guru</u>, was marked.

The Vision



Who was Sri Guru Amardas Ji?

About:

- Born in 1479 at Basarke in **Amritsar district**, **Sri Guru Amardas Ji** was raised in an orthodox Hindu family.
- He was deeply inspired by the hymns of <u>Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji</u> and adopted **Sri Guru** Angad Dev Ji as his spiritual guide.
- Appointed as the **third Guru** (succeeding Guru Angad Ji) in march 1552 at the age of 73, he established his headquarters in **Goindwal**.

Key Contributions:

- Guru Amardas Ji divided the Sikh community into 22 administrative districts (Manjis) to facilitate the spread of Sikh teachings.
- He reinforced the tradition of 'Guru ka Langar' (communal kitchen) by insisting that

- visitors eat before meeting him, promoting equality and community.
- His interaction with <u>Emperor Akbar</u> led to the abolition of toll-tax (pilgrim's tax) for non-Muslims and solidified a respectful relationship.
- He actively campaigned against social injustices and abolished the custom of Sati and Purdah system among the Sikhs.
- He introduced the ceremony of the **Anand Karaj Marriage**.
- Legacy and Final Years:
- Guru Amardas Ji constructed a Baoli at Goindwal Sahib, making it a significant Sikh pilgrimage site.
- He composed 869 verses (though some accounts state there were 709), including Anand Sahib, and Sri Guru Arjan Dev Ji incorporated all these Shabads into the Guru Granth Sahib.
- He passed away on 1st September 1574, at the age of 95, leaving a profound legacy that continues to inspire the Sikh community today.

Sikh Gurus and		
their Major		
Contributions		
Guru	Period	Key Contributions
Guru Nanak Dev	1469-1539	Founder of Sikhism; started GURU KA LANGAR ; contemporary
		of Babur; 550th birth anniversary commemorated with
		Kartarpur corridor.
Guru Angad	1504-1552	Invented Guru-Mukhi script; popularized GURU KA LANGAR.
Guru Amar Das	1479-1574	Introduced Anand Karaj Marriage; abolished Sati and
		Purdah; contemporary of Akbar.
Guru Ram Das	1534-1581	Founded Amritsar in 1577; initiated construction of Golden
		Temple.
Guru Arjun Dev	1563-1606	Composed Adi Granth in 1604; completed Golden
		Temple; executed by Jahangir.
Guru Hargobind	1594-1644	Transformed Sikhs into a military community; established
		Akal Takht; waged wars against Jahangir and Shah Jahan.
Guru Har Rai	1630-1661	Promoted peace with Aurangzeb ; focused on missionary
		work.
Guru Har Krishan	1656-1664	Youngest guru; summoned by Aurangzeb for anti-Islamic
		blasphemy.
Guru Teg	1621-1675	Founded Anandpur Sahib .
Bahadur		
Guru Gobind	1666-1708	Founded Khalsa in 1699; introduced " Pahul "; last guru to pass
Singh		Guruship to Guru Granth Sahib.

UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)

Prelims:

- Q. Consider the following Bhakti Saints: (2013)
 - 1. Dadu Dayal
 - 2. Guru Nanak
 - 3. Tyagaraja

Who among the above was/were preaching when the Lodi dynasty fell and Babur took over?

- (a) 1 and 3
- **(b)** 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3

Ans: (b)

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