

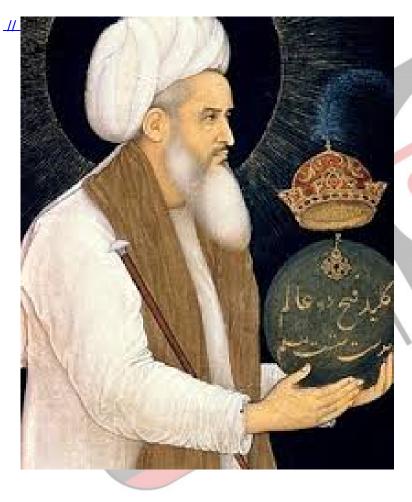
## PM offering to Ajmer Sharif Dargah | Rajasthan | 03 Jan 2025

## Why in News?

Recently, the Prime Minister **presented a 'chadar'** to Minorities Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju to **offer** at the **Ajmer Sharif Dargah** of **Sufi Saint Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti** on the occasion **of 'Urs'.** 

■ The Urs festival is an **annual festival** held at Ajmer in Rajasthan which **commemorates the death anniversary** of Sufi saint Moinuddin Chishti.

The Vision



## **Key Points**

- Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti:
  - Moinuddin Hasan Chishti was born in Sijistan (modern-day Sistan) in Iran in 1141-42
    CE.
  - After Muizuddin Muhammad bin Sam of Ghor had already defeated <u>Prithviraj Chauhan</u> in the <u>Second Battle of Tarain (1192)</u> and established his rule in Delhi, Khwaja <u>Moinuddin Chishti started living and preaching in Ajmer.</u>
  - His instructive discourses, full of spiritual insights, soon drew the local populace as well as kings and nobles and peasants and the poor from far and wide.

- His shrine in Ajmer has been visited by rulers like <u>Muhammad bin Tughlaq</u>, <u>Sher Shah Suri</u>, <u>Akbar</u>, Jahangir, <u>Shah Jahan</u>, <u>Dara Shukoh</u> and <u>Aurangzeb</u>.
- Chishti Order (Chishtiya):
  - Chishtiya Order was founded in India by Khwaja Moin-Uddin Chishti.
  - It emphasised the **doctrine of the unity of being with God** (waḥdat al-wujūd) and members of the order were also pacifists.
  - They **rejected all material goods** as distractions from the contemplation of God.
  - They abstained from connection with the **secular state**.
  - Recitation of the names of God, both aloud and silently (dhikr jahrī, dhikr khafī), formed the cornerstone of Chishtī practice.
  - The Chishty teachings were carried forward and popularized by disciples of Khwaja Moin-Uddin Chishti like Khwaja Qutbuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki, Fareeduddin Ganj-e-Shakar, Nizam uddin Auliya and Naseeruddin Charagh.

## **Sufism**

- Sufism is a mystical form of Islam, a school of practice that focuses on the spiritual search for God and shuns materialism.
- It is a form of Islamic mysticism which **stresses on asceticism**. There is a lot of emphasis on devotion towards God.
- In Sufism, self discipline is considered an essential condition to gain knowledge of God by sense of perception.

Vision

- Unlike orthodox Muslims which emphasise on external conduct, the Sufis lay stress on inner purity.
- Sufis believe service to humanity is tantamount to service to God.

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