



## 358th Birth Anniversary of Guru Gobind Singh Ji

**Source: PIB**

Recently, the Prime Minister paid tributes to **Guru Gobind Singh Ji, the 10th Sikh Guru**, on his **358<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary**, celebrated as **Prakash Utsav** (**Prakash Parv** is celebrated on the birth anniversary of **Guru Nanak Dev Ji**).

- His birth anniversary is based on the **Nanakshahi calendar** (follows the solar year) according to which it will fall on **6th January in 2025**.
- **About Guru Gobind Singh Ji:**
  - **Early Life:** He was born on **22nd December 1666**, in **Patna Sahib, Bihar**. He succeeded his father, **Guru Teg Bahadur**, the 9th Sikh Guru.
  - **Contributions:** He established the **Khalsa** in **1699**, a warrior community dedicated to protecting faith and justice.
    - Introduced the **Five K's** as symbols of Sikh identity i.e., **Kangha** (comb), **Kesh** (uncut hair), **Kara** (steel bracelet), **Kirpan** (sword), and **Kachhera** (shorts).
    - His sons **Zorwar Singh (age 7)** and **Fateh Singh (age 9)** were executed by Sarhind's governor **Wazir Khan** after they refused to convert to Islam.
      - His two elder sons **Ajit Singh** and **Jujhar Singh** sacrificed their lives in the **Battle of Chamkaur (1705)** where a **small Sikh force fought the Mughals and hill kings**.
      - **26<sup>th</sup> December** is observed as '**Veer Bal Diwas**' to mark their martyrdom.
    - **Panj Pyare:** Guru Gobind Singh established the **institution of Panj Pyare** where he asked for **five heads for sacrifice** and five men willingly responded to his call.

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