



SHRI GURU HARGOBIND SAHIB JI

Background of Guru Hargobind Sahib Ji

- **Birth: 5th July 1595 (419 years ago).**
- **Father : Shri Guru Arjan Dev Ji (5th Guru).**
- **Place of Birth: Guru Ki Wadali (district Amritsar) in Punjab.**
- **Guruship: 11th June 1606 at the age of 11.**
- **Joti Jot: 19th March 1644 at the age of 49.**

Guru Hargobind Sahib Ji's Family

- Parents: **Guru Arjan Dev Ji** (5th Guru) & **Mata Ganga Ji**.
- He had no brothers and sisters.
- Children: He had **5 Sons** and **1 Daughter**.
 - Baba Gurditta
 - Baba Suraj Mal
 - Baba Ani Rai
 - Baba Atal Rai
 - Guru Teg Bahadur (9th Guru).
 - Bibi Biro

Facts about the early Life

- Guru Hargobind Sahib was educated by **Baba Budha Ji**.
- He was very interested in Sports, especially Wrestling and Horse Riding.
- He learnt the Bani of the previous Gurus by heart.
- At the age of 13, he built the **Akal Takht Sahib**, the seat of power of the Sikhs.
- He started the sport of Gatka and Wrestling to encourage strong mind in the strong body.

Facts about the early Life

- He trained 500 sikhs who were well equipped with weapons of the time to face any attack on the Sikhs.
- He fought 4 battles and won them all. The first battle he fought was at the age of 19.
- He wore 2 swords of Miri and Piri to symbolise spiritualism and political authority.
- He built 2 Nishan Sahibs in front of the Akal Takht to symbolise spiritualism and political authority.
- He started to use the Nagara (war drum) to raise a spirit of the fighters and to announce the victory.

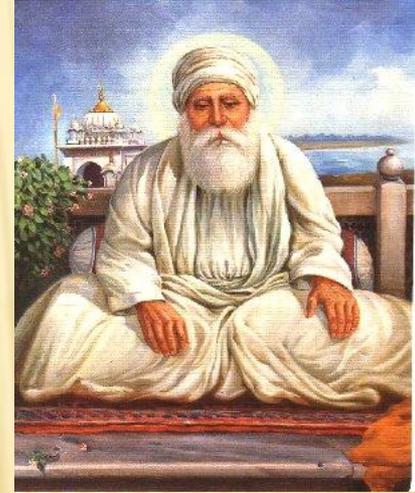
Have a good look at the six pictures of the Gurus and spot the difference between first five and the sixth Guru Ji?.



1) Guru Nanak Dev Ji



2) Guru Angad Dev Ji



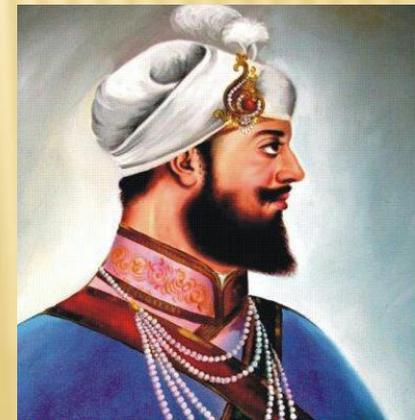
3) Guru Amar Das Ji



4) Guru Ram Das Ji



5) Guru Arjan Dev Ji



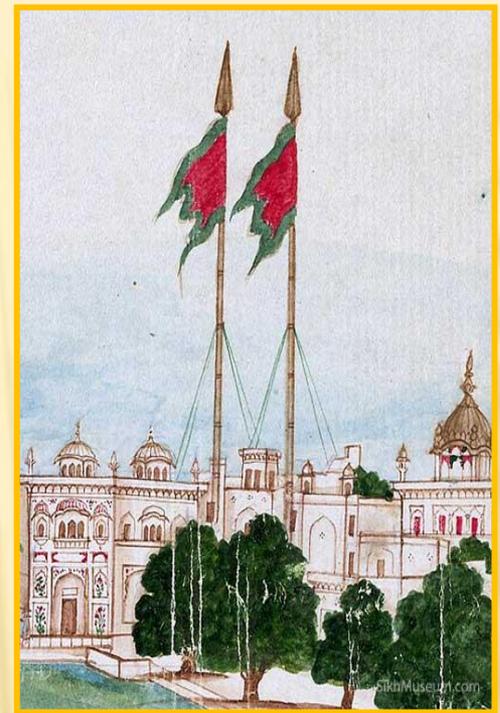
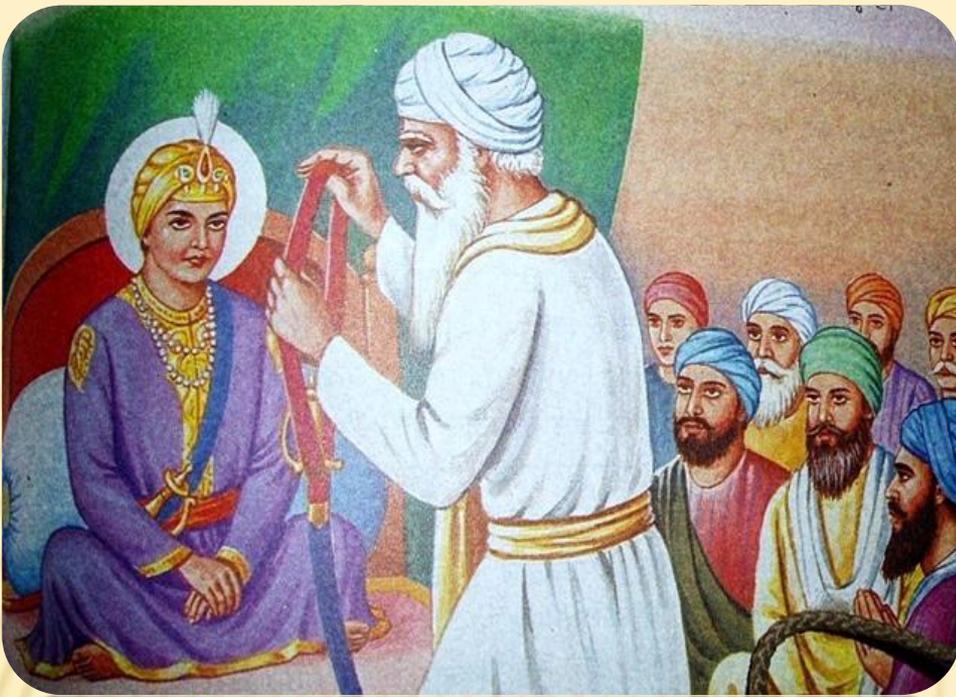
6) Guru Hargobind Sahib Ji

Miri and Piri

- **Miri and Piri** has great significance. At the time of his coronation, Guru Hargobind Sahib asked **Baba Buddha ji** to get him two swords and put the traditional Siali away with great respect.
- The two swords represented **Miri and Piri** .
- 'Miri' symbolizing **temporal power** and 'Piri' symbolizing **spiritual power**.



ਦੋ ਤਲਵਾਰੀ ਬਧੀਆਂ ਇਕ ਮੀਰੀ ਦੀ ਇਕ ਪੀਰੀ ਦੀ



He wore two swords, one on each side, completely separate from each other meeting briefly at one intersection only, symbolizing that the two powers were separate altogether and yet so close they have to exist in life together.

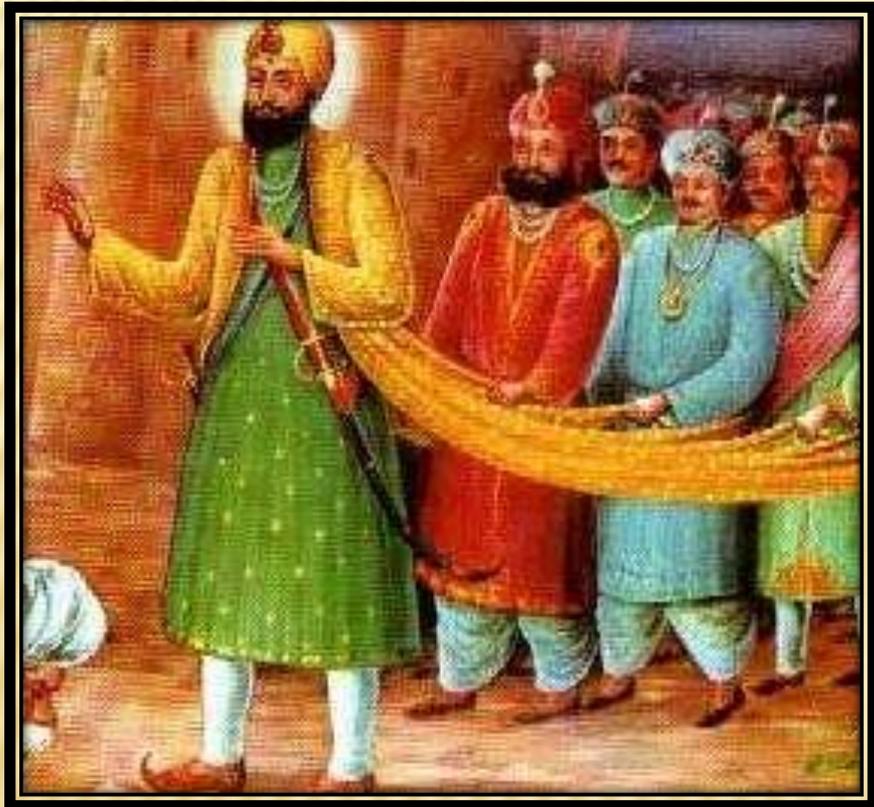
Thus Guru Hargobind Sahib ji separated Miri and Piri, recognising both as the essential integral part of life.

LOHGARH SAHIB

- ❖ After the Martyrdom of **Shri Guru Arjan Dev ji** at Lahore, Baba Budha ji announced Shri Guru Hargobind Sahib as sixth GURU.
- ❖ Guru Hargobind Sahib Ji inserted walls around Amritsar city and constructed a small fort named '**Lohgarh**' (Fortress of steel).
- ❖ On the out skirts of the city. He had his own flag and war-drum which was beaten twice a day.
- ❖ Lohgarh Fort now called **Gurudwara Lohgarh Sahib**. This Gurudwara is situated in City Amritsar, inside Lohgarh Gate Area.



Bandi Chode Diwas



Guru Sahib built a small fort named **Lohgarh** on the out skirts of the city. Guru Sahib constructed **Akal Takht Sahib** just in front of Shri Harmandir Sahib in 1609.

At this place, Guru Sahib used to hold discussions on the issues concerning the Sikhs. The Emperor of the time, Jahangir regarded this policy of Guru Sahib as a threat to his kingdom and ordered to imprison him at **Gwalior Fort**.

Guru Sahib was imprisoned in Gwalior Fort for up to **2 years**.

Guru Sahib Ji was offered freedom but he refused unless the 52 imprisoned Kings, were released as well.

The Emperor cleverly agreed, and said that only those who could hold onto his robe would be free.



Guru Hargobind had a robe made with **52 strings**, so that each king was able to hold onto one of the strings and come out of the prison.

Because he arranged the freedom of the 52 Kings along with him, the Sikhs celebrated this day as **Bandi Chode Diwas**.

Akal Takht Sahib

Akal Takhat means the Throne of the Immortal. It is the highest political institution of the Sikhs.

"Akal" means "The Timeless One" - another term for God. "Takhat" means "throne" .

The original structure of Akal Takht was built by Guru Hargobind Ji, Bhai Gurdas Ji and Baba Buddha Ji, with their own hands in June 15, 1606 . No other person or artist was employed to build the platform.



Punj Takht



**Akaal Takht Sahib
(Amritsar)**



**Hazur Sahib
(Nanded- Maharashtra)**



**Keshgarh Sahib
(Anandpur)**



**Patna Sahib
(Patna District in Bihar)**



**Damdama Sahib
(Talwandi Sabo- Bathinda Punjab)**



- Guru ji remarked that the seat of guru would serve the panth for eternity. The Akal Takht is an impressive building that sits directly in front of the causeway leading to the Golden Temple in Amritsar.
- The Akal Takht was built a fraction lower than the Harimandir Sahib, this is to imply the order of importance, that the search for spiritual grace was always to lead.
- The daily Hukamnama is announced directly from the Akal Takht Sahib to provide guidance or clarification on any point of Sikh doctrine (Adi Granth).

MORNING CHOIRS

The concept of morning choirs, is that Sikhs got together early in the morning and walk around places singing the praises of God.

Later these choirs became a part of religious ceremonies and processions specially at the birth anniversaries of the Gurus.

