



Guru Gobind Singh

Why in News

Recently, the Prime Minister paid homage to **Guru Gobind Singh** on his birth anniversary.

Key Points



▪ About:

- The **last of the ten Sikh Gurus**, Guru Gobind Singh was born on **22nd December, 1666 in Patna, Bihar**.
 - His birth anniversary is based on the [Nanakshahi calendar](#) according to which it will fall on January 20 in 2021 while for the last year, it was celebrated on January 2.
- He **became the Sikh guru at the age of nine**, following the demise of his father, **Guru Tegh Bahadur, the ninth Sikh Guru**.
- He was **assassinated in 1708**.

▪ Contributions:

◦ Religious:

- He is known for his **significant contributions to the Sikh religion**, including the introduction of the **turban to cover hair**.
- He also founded the **principles of Khalsa or the Five 'K's**.

- The Five K's are **kesh** (uncut hair), **kanga** (wooden comb), **kara** (iron or steel bracelet), **kirpan** (dagger) and **kachera** (short breeches).
- These were the five articles of faith that a **Khalsa must always adorn**.

- He also laid down many other rules for the Khalsa warriors to follow like **abstaining from tobacco, alcohol, halal meat, etc**. The Khalsa warrior was also duty-bound to **protect innocent people from persecution**.
- He named **Guru Granth Sahib**, the religious text of the Khalsas and the Sikhs, as the next Guru of the two communities.

◦ Martial:

- He fought against the Mughals in the battle of Muktsar in 1705.

- In the Battle of Anandpur (1704), the Guru lost his mother and two minor sons who were executed. His eldest son also died in battle.
- **Literary:**
 - His literary contributions include the **Jaap Sahib, Benti Chaupai, Amrit Savaiye, etc.**
 - He also wrote the **Zafarnama** which was a letter to the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb.

[Source:TOI](#)

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