Shaheedi Samagam & Sri Guru Teg Bahadur Ji

Prelims: *Current events of national and international importance | History*

Why in News?

Recently, the Prime Minister paid tribute to 'Hind di Chadar' Sri Guru Teg Bahadur Sahib Ji on the ***350th Martyrdom anniversary****.*

- **Shaheedi Samagam -** It typically refers to a religious gathering or congregation held to commemorate the martyrdom (*Shaheedi*) of Sikh Gurus or prominent Sikh martyrs.
- **350th Shaheedi Samagam of Sri Guru Teg Bahadur Ji** - The event, titled "Hind-di-Chadar," honored the 9th Guru's sacrifice for religious freedom.
- It is observed every year on ***November 24,*** major samagams are organized at Gurdwara Sis Ganj Sahib and the Red Fort in Delhi to honor his sacrifice in 1675.
- **Shaheedi Sabha (Fatehgarh Sahib) -** Held annually in late December, this is one of the largest samagams.
- It commemorates the martyrdom of the Chotte Sahibzade (the younger sons of Guru Gobind Singh Ji), Baba Zorawar Singh and Baba Fateh Singh, who were bricked alive at Sirhind.
- **Operation Blue Star Anniversary (June)** - Samagams are held annually at the Akal Takht within the Golden Temple complex to remember those who died during the 1984 military action.
- **Purpose - Spiritual Discourse -** Features Kirtan (devotional singing), Katha (religious discourse), and Dhadi Vaars (heroic ballads).
- **Community Service -** Includes Langar (free community kitchen) and medical camps.
- **Preserving History -** Aims to educate the younger generation about the "Safar-e-Shahadat" (journey of martyrdom) and the principles of standing against oppression.
- **Recent National-level celebrations –** 400th Prakash Purab of Sri Guru Teg Bahadur Ji (commemorative stamp & coin).

- 550th Prakash Purab of Guru Nanak Dev Ji.
- Annual observance of Veer Bal Diwas in honour of Sahibzadas.

Guru Tegh Bahadur
• Guru Tegh Bahadur is the ***9th of 10 Sikh Gurus*** (1664–75). • He was preceded by Guru Har Krishan Sahib and succeeded by Guru Gobind Singh Sahib. • **Born –** He was born on April 1, 1621, in Amritsar as ***Tyag Mal***, the youngest son of Guru Hargobind Ji (6th Sikh Guru). • **Key Contributions – Hymns –** His 115 hymns (Salokas) are included in the Guru Granth Sahib. • He founded the *town of Anandpur* in 1672. • **Nirbhau & Nirvair –** He questioned the tradition of worshipping at the graves of pirs and faqirs and urged his followers to be Nirbhau (fearless) and Nirvair (without envy). • **Religion as Duty –** Emphasised that religion is not merely a belief system but a duty to uphold justice and morality. • He promoted the *principle of "Vasudhaiv Kutumbkam"* (the world is one family). • **Execution –** During Aurangzeb's reign, Guru Tegh Bahadur resisted forced conversions of Kashmiri Pandits. • He was arrested and brought to Delhi, and Aurangzeb ordered the *public execution* of the Guru on November 11, 1675, after he refused to embrace Islam. • **Gurdwara Sis Ganj –** On the *site of his execution*, Gurdwara Sis Ganj was built.

References

1. PIB | 350th Shaheedi Samagam of Sri Guru Teg Bahadur Ji
2. PIB | PM's remarks during the 350th Shaheedi Samagam

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