

## 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 **350<sup>th</sup> 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.
- **350<sup>th</sup> Shaheedi Samagam of Sri Guru Teg Bahadur Ji** - The event, titled "Hind-di-Chadar," honored the 9<sup>th</sup> 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** - 400<sup>th</sup> Prakash Purab of Sri Guru Teg Bahadur Ji (commemorative stamp & coin).

- 550<sup>th</sup> 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 **9<sup>th</sup> 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 (6<sup>th</sup> 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](#)