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PARAGRAPH WRITING

THEME

— GURU TEGH BAHADUR JI —

: Personality, Life & Teachings :

★ Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji:

Life & his Teachings — Propagator of Universal Human Value.

Guru Teg Bahadur Ji was the ninth of ten gurus who founded the Sikh religion & the leader of Sikhs from 1665 until his beheading in 1675. He was born in Amritsar, Punjab, India in 1621 & was the youngest son of Guru Hargobind Sahib, the sixth guru. His childhood name was "Tyagmal". From his childhood, he was a saintly, liberal & powerful minded, brave & bold. His education took place under the umbrella of Guru Hargobind Sahib, the master father of Mithi-Pithi. He received Guribani's education, scriptures, weapons & horse riding. Considered a principled & fearless warrior, he was a learned spiritual scholar & a poet whose 115 hymns are included in "Shri Guru Granth Sahib", the main text of Sikhism. He came to be known by the name "Teg Bahadur", given to him by Guru Hargobind after he had shown his valor in a battle against the Mughals. Guru Teg Bahadur was made a Guru due to the pre-mature death of 8th Sikh Guru Harikrishna Rai Ji. Amritsar at that time was

the center of the Sikh faith. As the seat of the Sikh Gurus, & with its connection to Sikhs in far-flung areas of the country through the chains of Masands or Missionaries, it had developed the characteristics of the state capital. Guru Ji was brought up in the Sikh culture & trained in archery & horsemanship. He was also taught the old classics such as the Vedas, the Upanishads & the Puranas. He preferred prolonged spells of seclusion & contemplation. Tegh Bahadur was married on 3rd Feb. 1632 to Mata Gufari. Guru Tegh Bahadur composed 116 Shabads & 15 ragas, & his teachings have been included in the "ADI GRANTH". Some of their teachings are:

=⁶ One who grieves not in misery & delights not in pleasure, who is free from fear & attachment, & for whom gold & dust are the same & who has renounced both praising & blaming & is immune to greed, worldly attachments & pride. When the all Merciful Guru blesses a disciple with his grace, only then does the disciple attain this blessed spiritual state & blends with the Lord as water with water.

→ Guru Tegh Bahadur preached the conviction it takes to be indifferent to misery & happiness, to get rid of vices (like flattery & allegation, & every other worldly pleasure. It's when one has mastered the art of self-control that he/she can truly be spiritual.

⇒ One who vanquishes his Ego & beholds the Lord as the sole doer of all things, that person has attained "Jiwan Mukti", know this as the real truth, says Nanak.

→ He guided his followers towards the path of peace. Guru Tegh Bahadur taught the world to be content with their life, as everything in the world is "Nanak's Doing". He spread the idea of attaining Jiwan Mukti of making peace with every life-situation.

⇒ Give up your head, but forsake not those whom you have undertaken to protect. Sacrifice your life, but relinquish not your faith.

→ Guru Tegh Bahadur was a merciful saviour of the weak, & that is what he preached. He taught his disciples to protect the ones who need protection, even if it comes at the cost of one's own life.