



Guru Harkrishan Ji

1656 - 1664



Family and general info

- Born: Jul 7, 1656 at Kiratpur Sahib
- Parents: Guru Harrai Ji and Mata Krishan Kaur Ji
- Siblings: Ramrai
- Declared Guru at the age of 5

Move to Delhi

- When He became the Guru, Ramrai complained to Auranzeb about Him
- The emperor replied in favor issuing orders through Raja Jai Singh to the young Guru to appear before him. Raja Jai Singh sent his emissary to Kiratpur Sahib to bring the Guru to Delhi. At first the Guru was not willing, but at the repeated requests of his followers and Raja Jai Singh, he agreed to go to Delhi.
- At this occasion, a large number of devotees from every walk of life came to bid him farewell until Ambala. From there on he went towards Delhi with a few family members.
- Pandit Lal Chand, a learned scholar of Hindu literature questioned Guru Sahib about the meanings of Gita. Then Guru Sahib called a water-carrier named Chhaju Ram, and with the Guru's grace, this unlettered man was able to expound the philosophy of the Gita. When Pandit Lal Chand listened the scholarly answer from Chhaju, he bent his head in shame and besought the forgiveness of Guru Sahib. Pandit Lal Chand became the Sikh and escorted the Guru Sahib up to Kurukashatra.

Note: We've see this repeatedly in our History. If we believe in our Guru and He blesses us, any thing is possible. Incidents of Bhai Bachitter Singh, Bhai Bidhi Chand, etc are some such examples.

Stay in Delhi

- When Guru Sahib reached Delhi, he stayed at Raja Jai Singh's palace
- In order to test the Guru's intelligence, of which everyone spoke very highly, Raja Jai Singh requested the Guru Sahib to identify the real queen out of the equally and well dressed ladies surrounding Guru Sahib. The Guru at once went to a lady dressed as a maidservant and sat in her lap. This lady was the real queen. There are also many different stories we find in some other Sikh accounts relating to Guru Sahib's mental ability.
- A lot of Sikhs visited Guru Sahib during his stay here
- At the time, a severe epidemic of cholera and smallpox broke out in Delhi. The young Guru attended the sufferers irrespective of cast and creed and led by example
- The local Muslim population was much impressed with the purely humanitarian deeds of the Guru Sahib and nicknamed him Bala Pir
- While serving the suffering people from the epidemic day and night, Guru Sahib himself was seized with high fever.

Joti-jot

- When asked to name his successor, he merely exclaimed 'Baba Bakala'. These words were only meant for the future (Guru) Teg Bahadur Sahib, who was residing at village Bakala near river Beas in Punjab province.
- In the last moment Guru Harkrishan Sahib wished that nobody should mourn him after his death and instructed to sing the hymns of Gurbani.
- He passed away on 30th March, 1664 slowly reciting the word "Waheguru" till the end.

Sources:

- <http://www.gurmatacademy.org/gurus/guru-harkrishan-ji/>
- <http://www.sgpc.net>