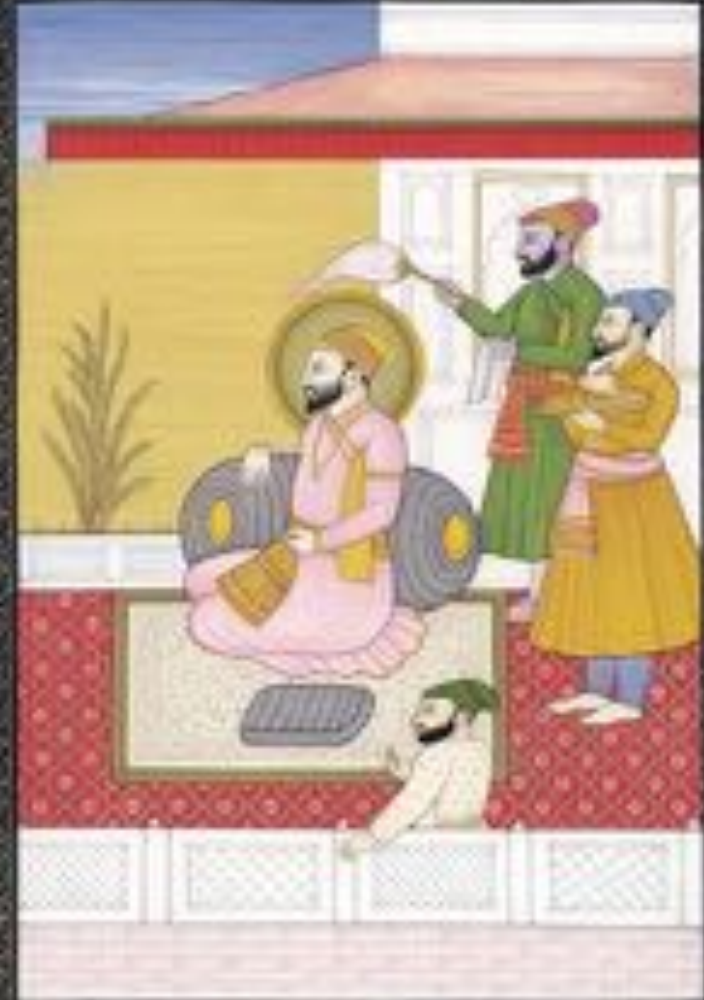


ਅਲਖ ਨਿਰੰਜਨੁ ਆਖੀਐ ਅਕਲ ਅਜੇਨਿ ਅਕਾਲ ਅਪਾਰਾ॥
ਰਵਿ ਸਸਿ ਜੋਤਿ ਉਦੇਤਿ ਲਘਿ ਪਰਮ ਜੋਤਿ ਪਰਮੇਸਰੁ ਪਿਆਰਾ॥

Perkash of Sri Guru Arjan Dev Ji

Guru Arjan Dev Ji is the form of Almighty who is beyond the grasp of knowledge, beyond maya, beyond birth, beyond time and beyond limit. He is the ultimate light of the beloved Almighty which shines brighter than the sun and moon - Varaa Bhai Gurdaas Ji



Saviour of Peace

ਜਬ ਲਉ ਨਹੀ ਭਾਗ ਲਿਲਾਰ ਉਦੈ ਤਬ ਲਉ ਭ੍ਰਮਤੇ ਫਿਰਤੇ ਬਹੁ ਧਾਯਉ ॥
ਕਲਿ ਘੋਰ ਸਮੁਦ੍ਰ ਮੈ ਬੂਡਤ ਥੇ ਕਬਹੂ ਮਿਟਿ ਹੈ ਨਹੀ ਰੇ ਪਛੁਤਾਯਉ ॥
ਤਤੁ ਬਿਚਾਰੁ ਯਹੈ ਮਥੁਰਾ ਜਗ ਤਾਰਨ ਕਉ ਅਵਤਾਰੁ ਬਨਾਯਉ ॥
ਜਪੁਉ ਜਿਨ੍ ਅਰਜੁਨ ਦੇਵ ਗੁਰੂ ਫਿਰਿ ਸੰਕਟ ਜੋਨਿ ਗਰਭ ਨ ਆਯਉ ॥੬॥

(1409-8, ਸਵਈਏ ਮਹਲੇ ਪੰਜਵੇਂ ਕੇ, ਮਥੁਰਾ)

Till the time that my pre-determined fate on my forehead was imperceptible, I wandered around lost in many reincarnations, running in all directions for the search of peace. I was drowning in the dreadful worldly materialistic ocean of this Dark Age of Kalyug, and I could not find any remedy to my sufferings.

Therefore, I was only left with my regret. O Mat'huraa, consider this as the principal truth that the Almighty has personified Himself in human form to save the world. Whoever recites Guru Arjan Dev Ji's Name, shall not have to pass through the painful womb of reincarnation ever again. ||6||



Family Background

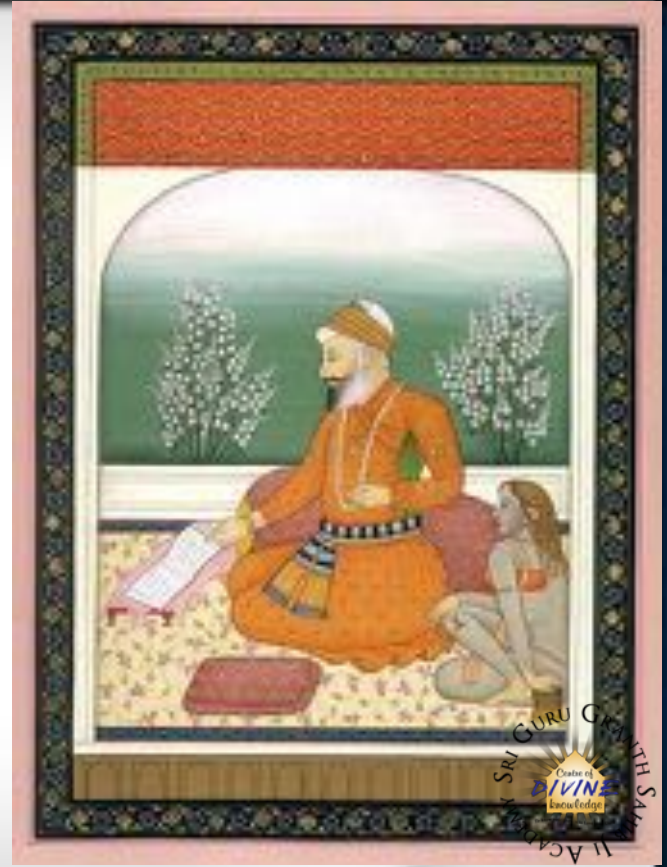
- Guru Arjan Dev Ji is the youngest son of Guru Ram Das Ji and Mata Bhani Ji. Guru Ram Das Ji belonged to the Sodhi clan of Lahore. They were well known for their tolerance and merciful character.
- Mata Bhani Ji was the daughter of Guru Amar Das Ji who has the honour of being the only woman whose father (Guru Amar Das Ji), husband (Guru Ram Das Ji), son (Guru Arjan Dev Ji), grandson (Guru Hargobind Sahib Ji), great-grandson (Guru Tegh Bahadur Sahib Ji), great-great grandson (Guru Har Rai Sahib Ji, Guru Gobind Singh Ji) and great-great-great grandson (Guru Har Krishan Sahib Ji) were Gurus.



Perkash

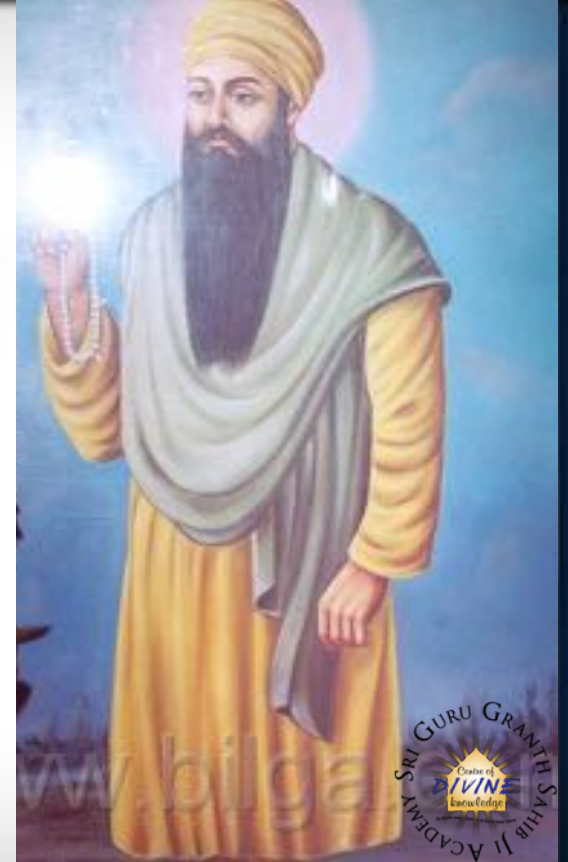
On Tuesday morning of Vesakh Vedi 7, 1620 (Tuesday, 14th April 1563 A.D.), Sri Guru Arjan Dev Ji came onto this world.

He was like the full moon that lighted up the skies at night.



Name

- Guru Amar Das Ji named (Guru) Arjan Dev Ji with his blessings.
- Most of Guru Arjan Dev's formative years were spent in his maternal home, which was in Goindwal. Guru Arjan Dev Ji grew up and married Mata Gangga Ji who was a peace-loving woman, and Guru Arjan Dev Ji loved her dearly.



Siblings

- A few years after the marriage, Mata Bhani Ji gave birth to Baba Prithi Chand in the year 1615 (1558 A.D.) who would unfortunately grow up to be a very conniving and conceited man.
- Three (3) years later, Mata Bhani Ji gave birth to Baba Mahadev in the year 1618 (1561 A.D.) who would grow up as a sage and remained in his meditations.
- They were brought up with a lot of love and attention.



Character



Guru Arjan Dev Ji is the first of the Gurus to be born into a fully practising Sikh household. From the time of His birth, He was fully immersed in the teaching of the Gurus, tutored by Guru Amar Das Ji himself. From very beginning He was very calm, obedient, respectful, loving, polite, soft-hearted, savvy and generous.



Childhood

Guru Arjan Dev Ji childhood was spent with his parents under the direct supervision of his maternal grandfather, Guru Amar Das Ji. He was exposed to the religious environment of the congregation at Goindwal Sahib, the main centre of Sikh activities during the life time of Guru Amar Das Ji. It was an ideal place for learning the Sikh values of love, humility, service, truthfulness, and other teachings of the Gurus (Gurmat).



Education

Guru Arjan Dev Ji received His early education in Gurmukhi from Baba Buddha Ji and Sanskrit from Pandit Keso and Gopal at Goindwal Sahib. He participated in oral recitation of Gurbani in well-established tradition in individual and communal settings since the days of Guru Nanak as part of daily discipline.

Guru Arjan Dev Ji memorised Gurbani by heart in his young age. Guru Arjan Dev Ji also received his education in Persian language from a Muslim teacher.



Blessings from Guru Amar Das Ji

- Every night, Bibi Bhani would clean the room and prepare the bed for Sri Guru Amar Das Ji. No one was allowed to go into the room.
- One day , while Sri Guru Amar Das Ji was sitting on his bed, Arjan Dev Ji crawled into the room and as he got close to the bed he stood up by holding one side of the bed.
- When Bibi Bhani saw she ran quickly to carry her youngest son, but Sri Arjan Dev Ji refused to release his grab. Seeing this, Guru Ji said, “Do not take him, let him stand here.” Guru Ji then held the child in his hands and feeling his heavy weight, Guru Ji said,

“This will be a Great Guru of the world, my grandson is a huge ship of bani who will liberate millions of sinners”.

- At that point, Arjan Dev Ji lifted his feet and placed them on the bed. Seeing this, Guru Ji said,

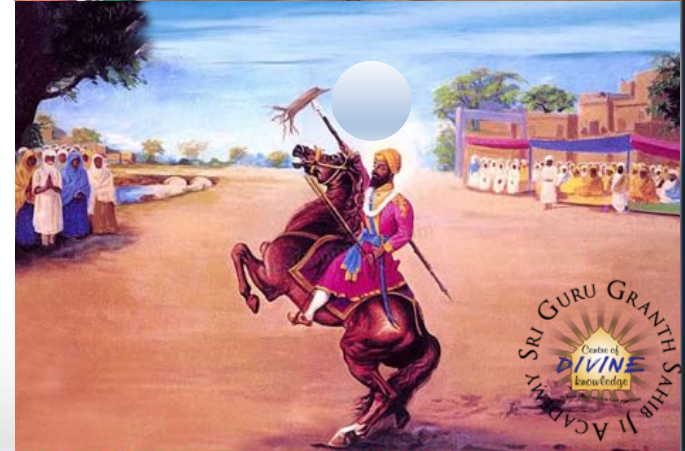
“You are impatient to sit on the throne now itself. You will attain this from your father, be patient.”

- Bibi Bhani was extremely pleased to listen to her father’s uttered words of blessings. She placed her child at Guru Ji’s feet and then carried him to her room. She took care of all her three sons and performed the sewa for her father.



Marriage

- Sri Arjan Dev Ji was married to Mata Gangga Ji from Mao Sahib, Filaur.
- During the wedding, it was a local tradition that the groom is asked to spear out a wooden column buried deep in the ground while riding on a horse.
- Guru Ji's sister-in-law, Harha and her friends arranged a tree to be chopped so that it will look as though it is a column. This was done to mock Guru Ji as she was sure that nobody could pluck a fully-grown tree with deep roots with just a spear.
- To the surprise of all, Guru Ji uprooted the tree with a spear while he was riding on a horse. The entire village came to ask for forgiveness and Guru Ji then uttered Funhe (SGGSJ Ang 1361) to bless them with enlightenment.
- Guru Arjan Dev Ji's marriage was solemnized on the 23rd Harh 1646 Bikrami (first or second week of July 1589 A.D.).



Summary



FATHER	Guru Ram Das Ji
MOTHER	Mata Bhani Ji
GRANDFATHER (father side)	Baba Hardas Ji
GRANDMOTHER (father side)	Mata Dya Kaur Ji (also known as Mata Khem Kaur Ji)
GRANDFATHER (mother side)	Guru Amar Das Ji
GRANDMOTHER (mother side)	Mata Ramo Ji
GREAT GRANDFATHER	Baba Thakur Das
FATHER-IN-LAW	Baba Krishan Chand Ji
MOTHER-IN-LAW	Mata Dhanveti Ji
LINEAGE	Sodhi of Khatri caste
DATE OF BIRTH	Tuesday, Vaisakh Vedi 7, 1620 (B) – 14 th April 1563 A.D
PLACE OF BIRTH	Goindwal Sahib
WEDDING	22 nd Harh 1646 Bikermi (5 th July 1589 A.D.) at Mao Sahib, Filaur
MEHAL (WIFE)	Mata Gangga Ji Jothi Jot : 4 th Magar, 1678 (September 1621 A.D.) at Baba Bekala. Mata Ji's body was consigned to water in River Beas just like Guru Arjan Dev Ji
CHILDREN	Guru Hargobind Sahib Ji (1596 A.D.)