

ਤਨੁ ਮਨੁ ਕਾਟਿ ਕਾਟਿ ਸੁਭੁ ਅਰਪੀ ਵਿਚਿ ਅਗਨੀ ਆਪੁ ਜਲਾਈ ॥੪॥

# SAKA

## SRI NANKANA SAHIB

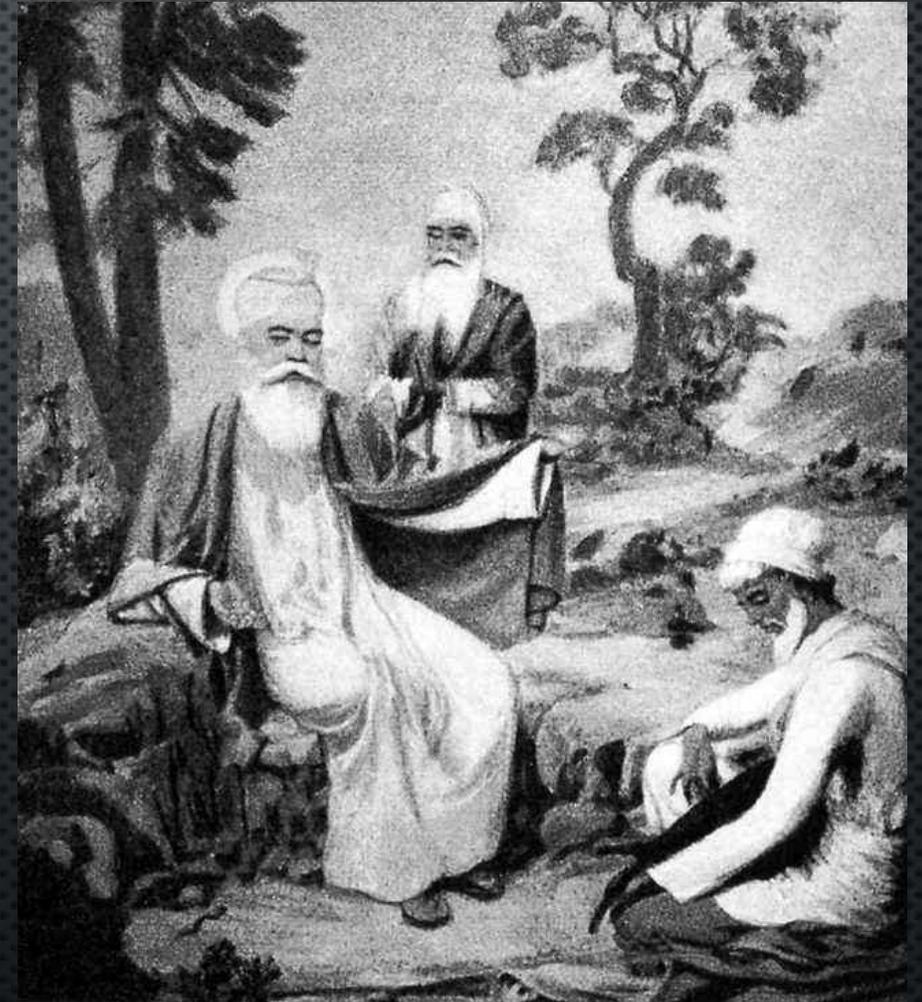
WHERE LOVE FOR THE GURU  
OUTWEIGHED THE FEAR OF DEATH

ਸ਼ਹੀਦਾਂ ਦੇ ਪਾਸ (ਇਕੱਠਾ ਕਰਨ  
ਦੁਆਰਾ ਬਚਾਏ



# HISTORY OF SRI NANKANA SAHIB

- ❖ BIRTH PLACE OF SRI GURU NANAK SAHIB JI IN KETAK SUDI PURANMASI, 1526BK. (1469AD)
- ❖ IT WAS KNOWN AS RAI PUR AND LATER RAI BHOI KI TALWANDI AS IT BELONGED TO RAI BHOI WHO WAS THE FATHER OF RAI BHULLAR JI.
- ❖ RAI BHULLAR JI CHANGED THE NAME TO NANKANA SAHIB (THE HOUSE OF GURU NANAK) TO HONOUR GURU NANAK DEV JI.
- ❖ ON 11 HARH 1670BK (1613CE) - SRI GURU HARGOBIND SAHIB JI APPOINTED BHAJ ALMAST DISCIPLE OF BABA SRI CHAND JI TO BE THE CARETAKER.



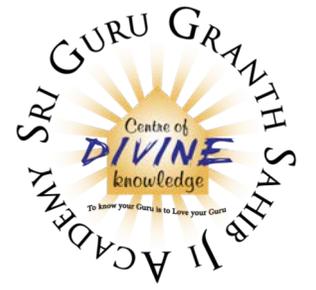
# Mahant Narayan Das

- ❖ Gurdwara Nankana Sahib was managed by Mahant Narayan Das in the early 20th century.
- ❖ This Gurdwara had a huge property of over 19000 acres (77 km<sup>2</sup>) of highly fertile land attached to it, which yielded enormous income per year.
- ❖ It is alleged that the Mahant became corrupted.



# Incidents at Nankana Sahib

- The Mahant was a very dissolute and wicked person who also used Gurdwara premises for immoral and highly objectionable activities.
- He had kept a Muslim girl as his mistress and all kinds of imaginable debauchery was committed within the Gurdwara premises.
- Dance girls were brought to the Gurdwara and dances were held with obscene songs within the holy premises.



ਨੰਬਰ ੧ ਬੁਰਜ ਵਿਚ ਹਥਿਆਰ ਤੇ ਮੰਗਥੀਨ ਸੀ । ਨੰਬਰ ੨, ੩ ਅਤੇ ੪ ਬਖਾਰਚੀਆਂ ਤੇ ਚਰੇਖਿਆਂ ਵਿਚੋਂ ਖੜੋ ਕੇ ਕਾਰਤਲ ।  
ਨੰ ਸਿਧੀਆਂ ਜਨਮ ਅਸਥਾਨ ਵਲ ਗੋਲੀਆਂ ਚਲਾਈਆਂ ਸਨ ।

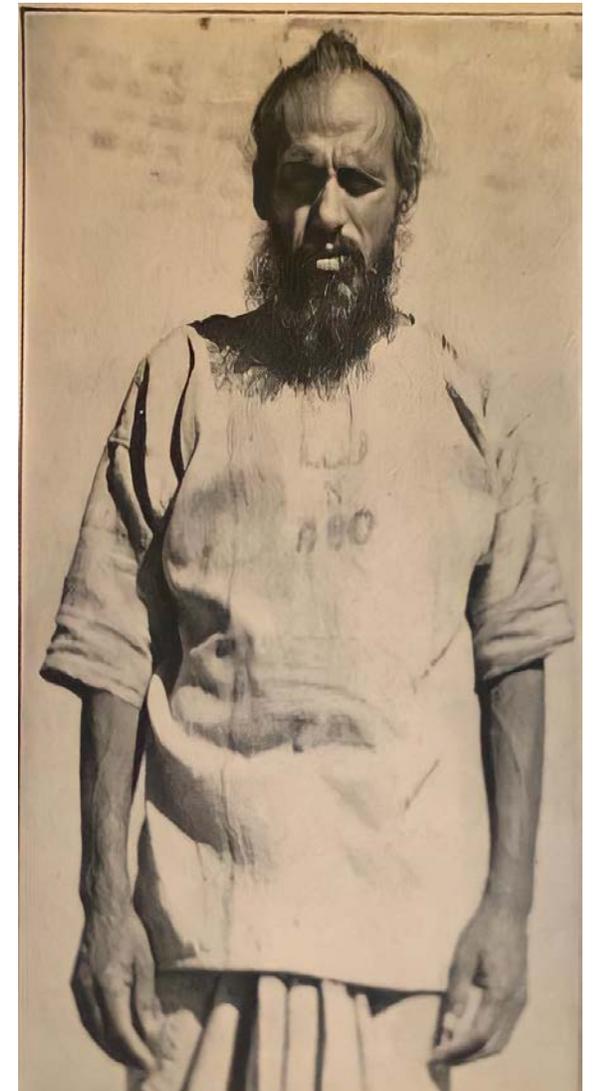
# Sacrilegious Acts



In 1917, it was reported that he arranged a dance-show by a prostitute near the Janam Asthan Gurdwara.

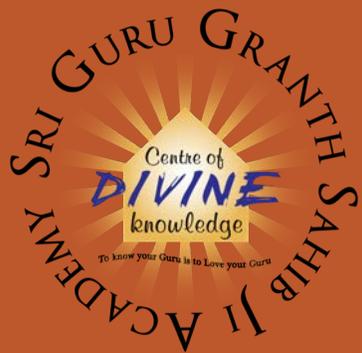
In 1918, a retired A.A.C. officer paid visit to the Gurdwara with his 13-year-old daughter to offer prayers to the Guru. As the Rehraas was being read in the Gurdwara, a mahant was allegedly raping the minor girl in another room within the Gurdwara

In the same year, six (6) young female devotees from Jaranwal village (modern Faisalabad, Pakistan) visited the Gurdawara on Puranmashi (full moon) to pay their offerings at Gurdwara and they too were similarly raped by the mahant in that gurdwara.



*Mahant Narayan Das Photo by Lowell Thomas – American Journalist*

# Panthic Actions



# Protest by Akali

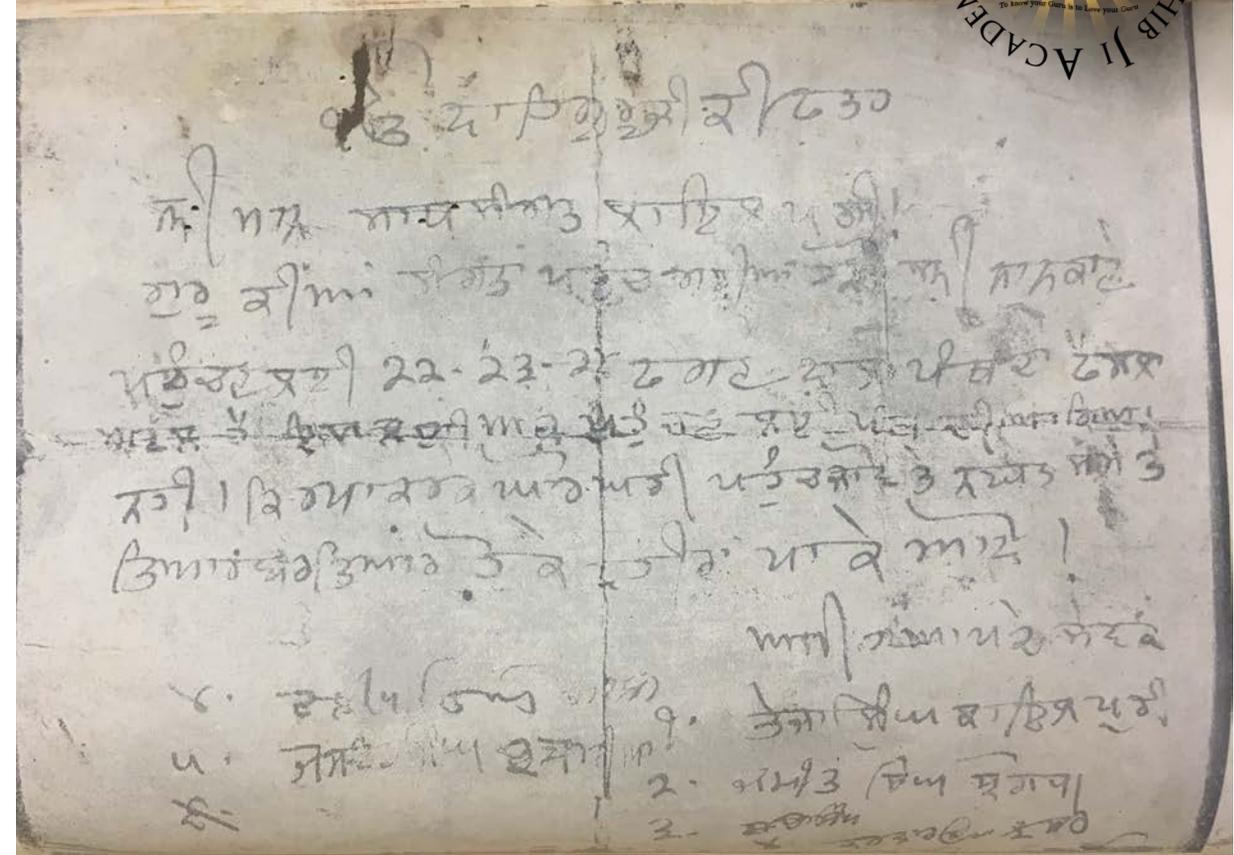
- ❖ The issues in Sri Nankana Sahib were published in 'The Akali' (in Gurmukhi) published in Lahore by Sardar (Master) Sunder Singh Lyallpuri who initiated the Akali and Shiromani Akali Dal.
- ❖ In October 1920, a congregation was held at Dharowal in Sheikhupura (modern day Pakistan) for reform in Gurdwara Nankana Sahib.



# Formation of Committee



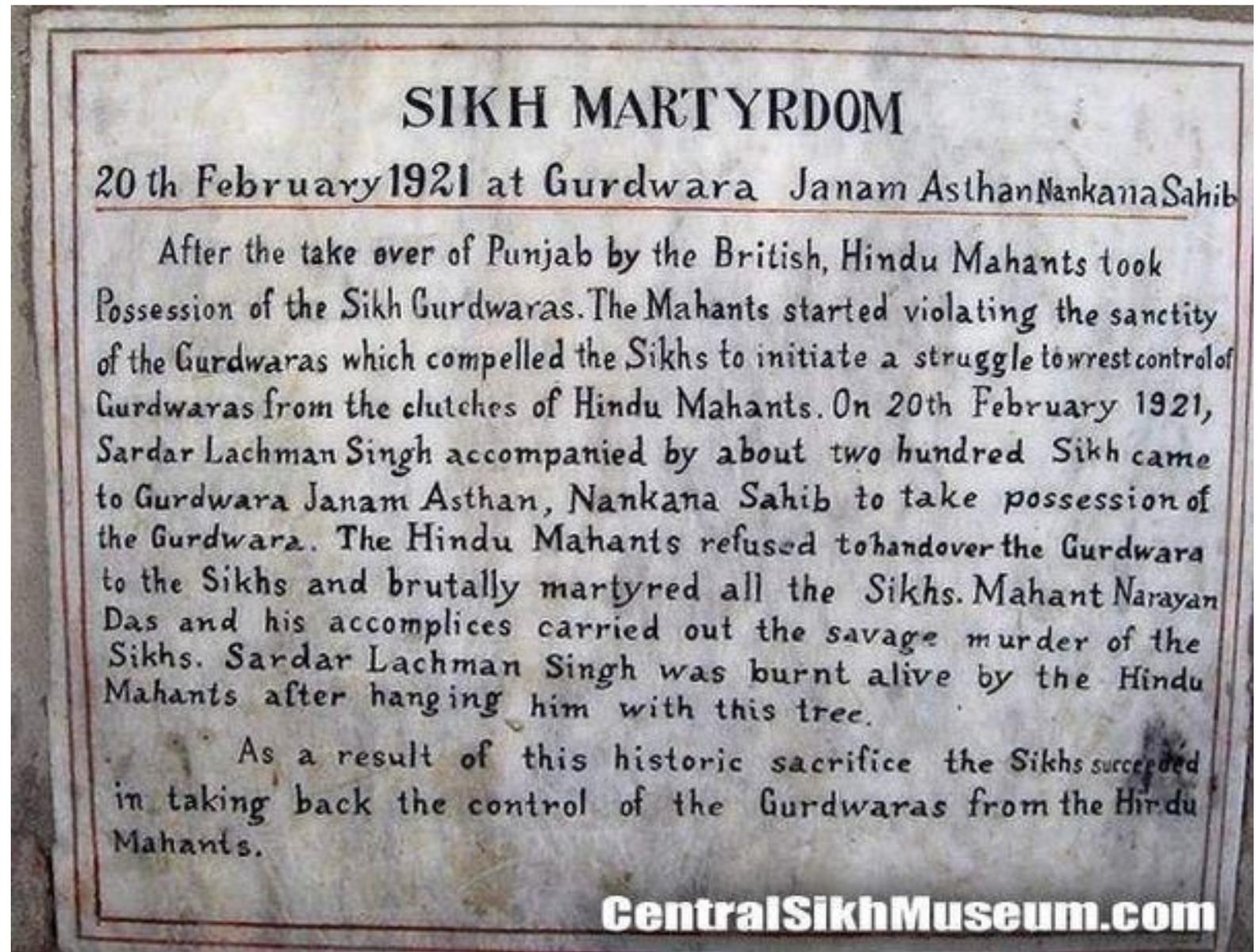
- Shrimonani Gurdwara Prandhak Committee had its first gathering on 16<sup>th</sup> November 1920 and selected 175 members
- The first meeting was held on 12 December 1920 at Sri Akaal Takhat Sahib.
- It was decided during a meeting on 24th January 1921 that a huge gathering of Sangat will held at Sri Nankana Sahib on 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> March 1921.
- On the other hand, Mahant had a meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> February 1921 with his people to kill all Panthic leader during the gathering.



The letter released calling all the sangat to gather at Sri Nankana Sahib

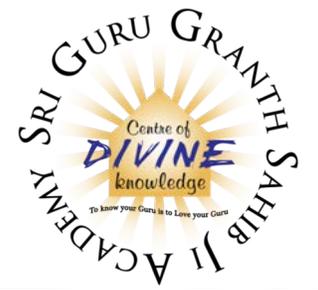
*A saga of pure love & sacrifice to preserve the sanctity of the birth place of Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji while maintaining absolute peace.*

Saka Nankana Sahib



SRI GURU GRANTH SAHIB ACADEMY

# Bhai Lachman Singh - Dharowal

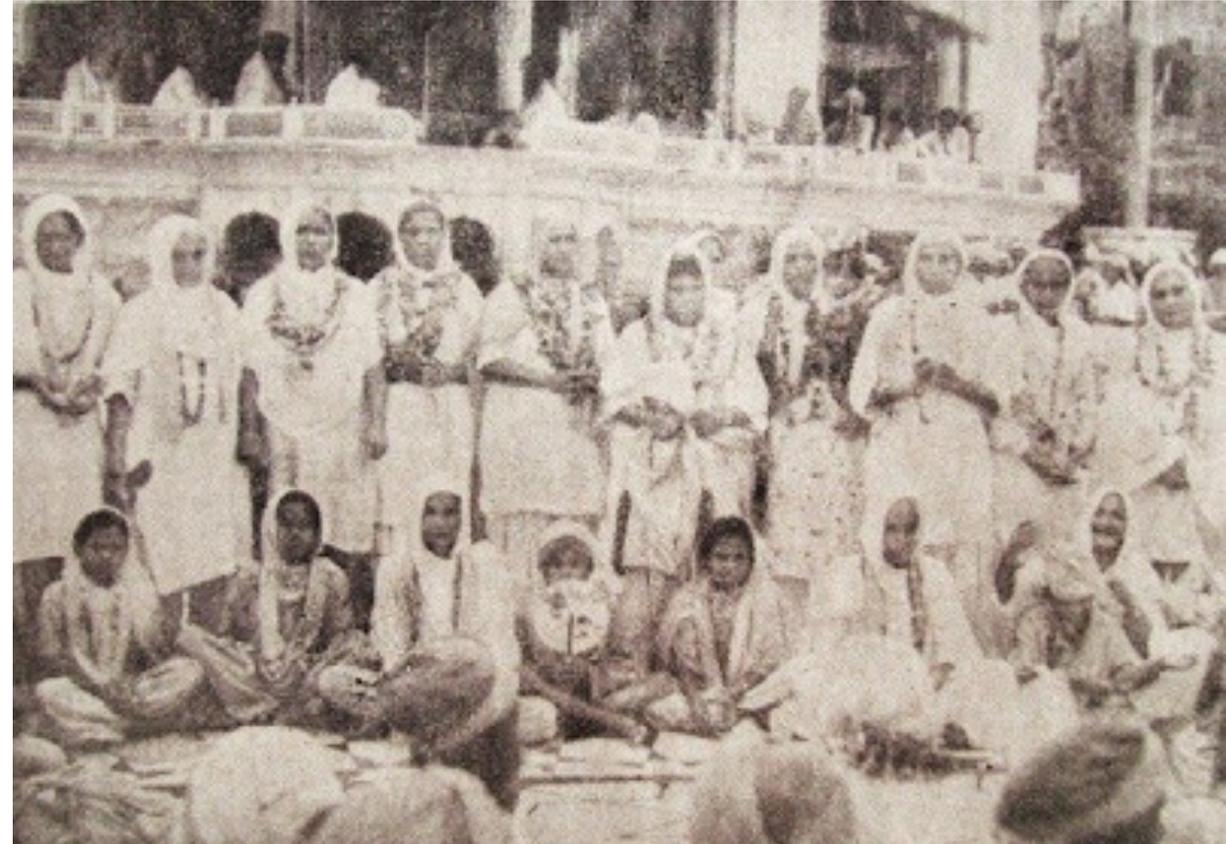


❖ Bhai Lachman Singh Ji (1885-1921) convinced his wife Bibi Inder Kaur to join the Sahidee Jatha to Sri Nankana Sahib

❖ Bibi Inder Kaur persuaded her friends;

❖ Bibi Ranjit Kaur

❖ Bibi Mahinder Kaur – A teacher at Kaniya Pathsala



# 19<sup>th</sup> February 1921



- A telegraph was sent from Chuharkana which was collected by Bhai Mangal Singh Kirpan Bahadur from Sangle (there were no telegraphic centre in Dharowal). The Telegraph read as ‘ਕੰਬਲ ਗੁਆਚੇ ਲਭ ਪਏ ਹਨ।’ which means to proceed to Sri Nankana Sahib with Shaheedi Jatha.
- if otherwise the code word was ‘ਕੰਬਲ ਗੁਆਚੇ ਨਹੀਂ ਲਭੇ।’
- Bhai Lachman Singh was very happy and over-whelmed to proceed immediately.
- He ran to his brother, Bhai Tahil Singh’s house and told him that he will be leaving to Sri Nankana Sahib and hugged him tightly that his pocket hardcover diary fractured Bhai Tahil Singh’s ribs. Bhai Tahil Singh Ji told that he wanted to hug him before he leaved but the first hug already injured him.



# Call to Gather

Bhai Isher Singh went on his horse to call the members of Shaheedi Jatha from various villages to proceed to Sri Nankana Sahib;



1. Shah Kot
2. Dhenu Ana
3. Gheseet Pura
4. Bendala Gujar Singh
5. Bendala Bachan Singh
6. Bendala Nihalo Ana
7. Buraj Chak No.55
8. Iahuke Chak No. 75



1. Bhai Mool Singh Ji was sent to deliver letters to Dhela Nagar, Dhela Jarmi, Venotia Wali, Kotla Kalwa.
2. Bhai Charan Singh cycled to Maarri (ਮਰੜੀ), Kotla and Santa Singh
3. Bhai Mangal Singh Kirpan Bahadur to Chak No. 41, 42 and 45
4. Bhai Harbans Singh Ji to Najampur and they were asked to gather the jatha from nearby surrounding areas.

The Shaheedi Jatha will move at 8pm from Dharowali to Najampur Deva Singh to unite with all other members and have their Dinner in Langgar.

## Shaheedi Jatha



- At sharp 8pm the following Jatha members arrived at Dharowal;

- Three Singhs for Buraj Chak No. 55

- Five Singhs from Bendala Chak No. 64

- Four Singhs from Bendala Chak No. 71

Dharowal had Seven Singhs and Three Bibi's together with Bhai Charan Singh Kotla Santa Singh.

- The Jatha of 23 gathered and performed ardaas and moved to Najampur at sharp 8.30pm while reading Gurbani Shabads.

- The following Hukamnama was blessed by Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji read aloud which depicted the future undertakings.

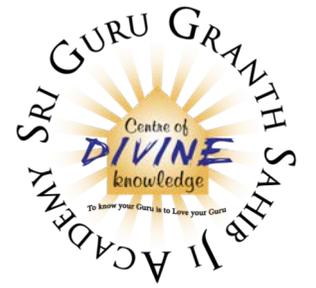
# The Jatha Gathers



# Hukamnama

ਰਾਗੁ ਸੁਹੀ , ਅਸਟਪਦੀਆ ; ਮਹਲਾ ੪ , ਘਰੁ ੨

Raag Suhi, Ashtapadees, Fourth Mahala, Second House:



ੴ ; ਸਤਿਗੁਰ ਪ੍ਰਸਾਦਿ ॥ (757-9)

ਕੋਈ ਆਣਿ ਮਿਲਾਵੈ ਮੇਰਾ ਪ੍ਰੀਤਮੁ ਪਿਆਰਾ ; ਹਉ ਤਿਸੁ ਪਹਿ ਆਪੁ ਵੇਚਾਈ ॥੧॥

If only someone would come, and lead me to meet my Darling Beloved; I would sell myself to him. ||1||

ਦਰਸਨੁ ਹਰਿ ; ਦੇਖਣ ਕੈ ਤਾਈ ॥

I long for the Blessed Vision of Almighty's Darshan.

ਕ੍ਰਿਪਾ ਕਰਹਿ , ਤਾ ਸਤਿਗੁਰੁ ਮੇਲਹਿ ; ਹਰਿ ਹਰਿ ਨਾਮੁ ਧਿਆਈ ॥੧॥ ਰਹਾਉ ॥

When Almighty shows Mercy unto me, then I meet the True Guru; I meditate on Almighty's Name (Naam). ||1||Pause||

ਜੇ ਸੁਖੁ ਦੇਹਿ ਤ ਤੁਝਹਿ ਅਰਾਧੀ ; ਦੁਖਿ ਭੀ ਤੁਝੈ ਧਿਆਈ ॥੨॥

If You will bless me with happiness, then I will worship and adore You. Even in pain, I will meditate on You. ||2||

ਜੇ ਭੁਖ ਦੇਹਿ ਤ ਇਤ ਹੀ ਰਾਜਾ ; ਦੁਖ ਵਿਚਿ ਸੁਖ ਮਨਾਈ ॥੩॥

Even if You give me hunger, I will still feel satisfied; I am joyful, even in the midst of sorrow. ||3||

**ਤਨੁ ਮਨੁ ਕਾਟਿ ਕਾਟਿ ਸਭੁ ਅਰਪੀ ; ਵਿਚਿ ਅਗਨੀ ਆਪੁ ਜਲਾਈ ॥੪॥**

I would cut my mind and body apart into pieces, and offer them all to You; I would burn myself in fire. ||4||

**ਪਖਾ ਫੇਰੀ , ਪਾਣੀ ਢੋਵਾ ; ਜੋ ਦੇਵਹਿ ਸੋ ਖਾਈ ॥੫॥**

I wave the fan over You, and carry water for You; whatever You give me, I take. ||5||

**ਨਾਨਕੁ ਗਰੀਬ ਢਹਿ ਪਇਆ ਦੁਆਰੈ ; ਹਰਿ ਮੇਲਿ ਲੈਹੁ ਵਡਿਆਈ ॥੬॥**

Poor Nanak has fallen at Almighty's Door; please, Dear Almighty, unite me with Yourself, by Your Glorious Greatness. ||6||

**ਅਖੀ ਕਾਢਿ , ਧਰੀ ਚਰਣਾ ਤਲਿ ; ਸਭ ਧਰਤੀ ਫਿਰਿ , ਮਤ ਪਾਈ ॥੭॥**

Taking out my eyes, I place them at Your Feet; after travelling over the entire earth, I have come to understand this. ||7||

**ਜੇ ਪਾਸਿ ਬਹਾਲਹਿ , ਤਾ ਤੁਝਹਿ ਅਰਾਧੀ ; ਜੇ ਮਾਰਿ ਕਢਹਿ , ਭੀ ਧਿਆਈ ॥੮॥**

If You seat me near You, then I worship and adore You. Even if You beat me and drive me out, I will still meditate on You. ||8|| (SGGSJ 757-9)

Bhai Lachman Singh looked back and saw Bhai Isher Singh's son who came crying insisting on joining the jatha. He gave the boy 3 annas and asked him to go back.

He looked back at his village and said,

**“ਅਛਾ ਨਗਰਾ ਸੁਖੀ ਵਸ !**

*May my village continue to live in peace*

and while rubbing his hand on the back of his neck he continued

**ਹੇ ਮਨਾ ! ਜੇ ਤੇਰਾ ਸਿਰ ਗੁਰੂ ਕੇ ਚਰਨਾਂ ਤੇ ਲਗ ਜਾਵੇ ਤਾਂ ਫੇਰ ਹੋਰ ਕੀ ਚਾਹੀਦਾ ਹੈ”**

*Dear Mind, what more can you ask for if your head is accepted by the Guru  
as an offering on His feet*

Sant Pal Singh Nirmala had visited Nankana Sahib earlier and when he met Bhai Lachman Singh at Village Kotla he narrated the whole fortification of Nankana Sahib

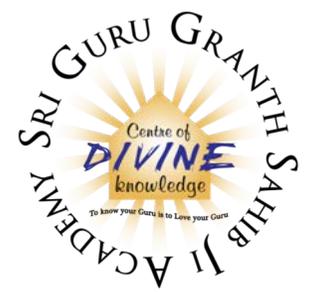
Sant Pal Singh also recommended that SGPC is capable of resolving this issue as at least 2000-3000 Sikhs are required to get hold of the Gurdwara

Bhai Lachman Singh disagreed as he has already promised Kartar Singh Chabbar to proceed.

# Persuasions



# Handing over their possessions

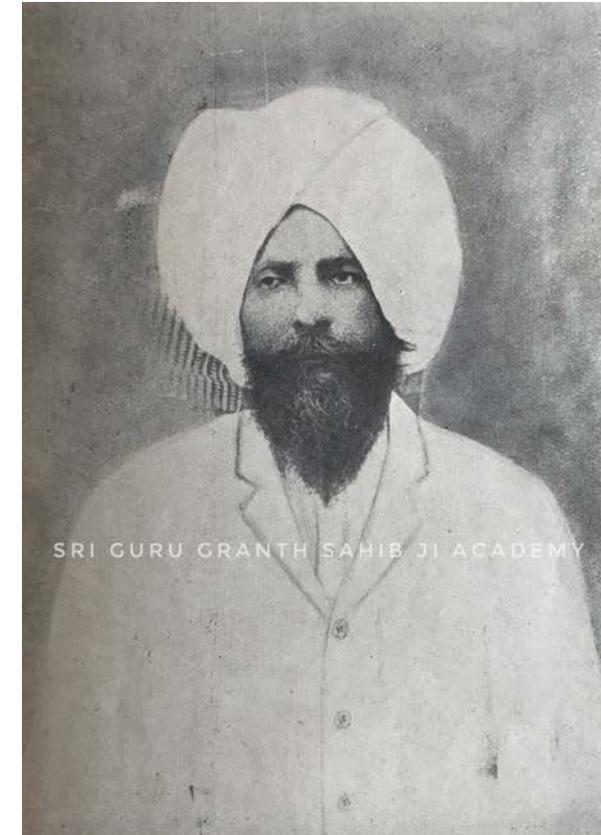
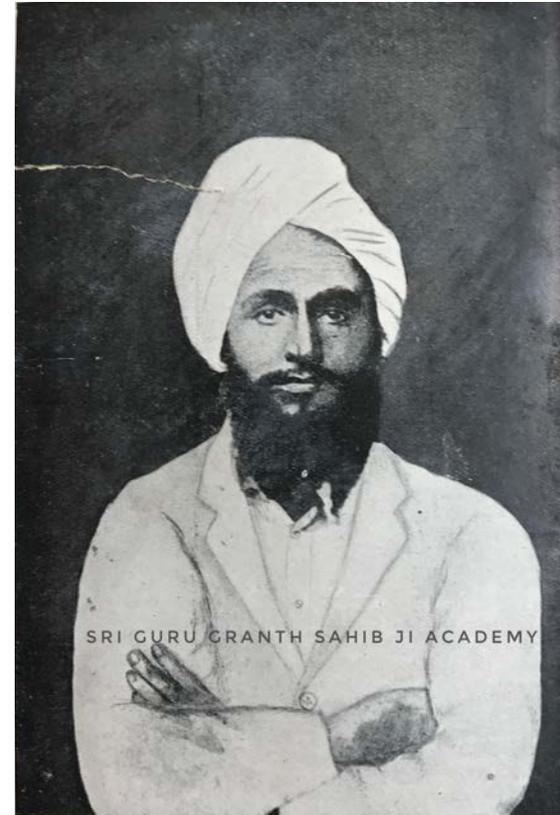


The accompanying 3 ladies were sent to Gurdwara Tamboo Sahib

Bhai Tahil Singh took his blanket and placed it on Bibi Inder Kaur's horse, he took Rs.9 in coins and a note of Rs.10 and placed it Bibi's palm. Bibi Ji said, "Please keep it with you". Bhai Tahil Singh smilingly answered, "Sisters like you will use this money to do Akhand Path after my Shaheedi."

Bhai Waryam Singh handed over Rs.6 and a ring and requested it be sent to his house

Bhai Narayan Singh of Chak No.55 handed over a iron pitcher and to be used to serve water



Tahil Singh (left) & Waryam Singh (Right)

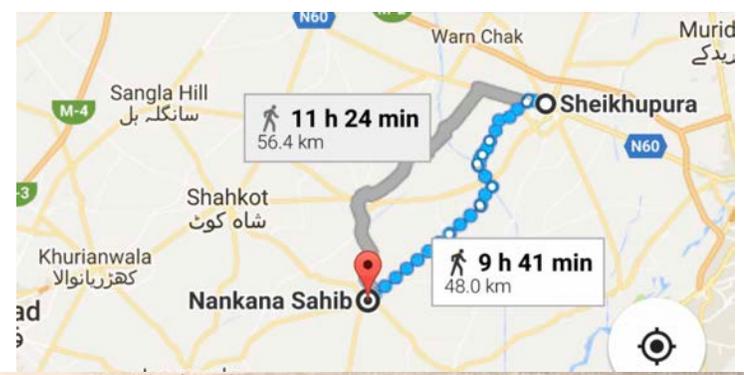
# Drawing the line of Shaheedi

Upon reaching the boundaries of Nankana Town, Bhai Lachman Singh drew a line and said to the Sangat that whomever is willing to die in a peaceful manner cross this line.

All present crossed the line.

Enthused by the speech of Jathedar Tehal Singh, the entire Shaheedi Jatha followed him.

By this time, another horseman messenger, Bhai Ram Singh, arrived. *In vain did he too try to persuade Jathedar Tehal Singh and the Jatha to return.*



Picture shows the Jatha of Singhs with bodies of Shaheeds (Bhai Hajara Singh, Chak 64 and Bhai Mangal Singh Ji Kirpan Bahadur, Dharowal)



Mahant was the owner of the estate attached to the Gurdwara with an income of one hundred thousand rupees besides the offerings of the Gurdwara.

He recruited 400 hooligans (Pathans) as paid employees (Rs. 20/ month) to oppose the Sikhs.

With the help of the government, he bought ***guns, pistols, fourteen tins of highly flammable paraffin*** from Lahore.

He had the Gurdwara's gate strengthened having holes made in it to be used as gun-ports to rain fire on any protesters.

The Government was using every available weapon to insure that the Akali reform movement failed.

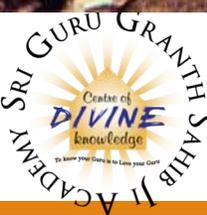
As such, Mr. King, the Commissioner of Lahore, extended every kind of help to the Mahant with promises to him of more in the future as well.

The Mahant was dancing like a puppet whose strings were being skillfully pulled in the hands of the Government.

# Mahant and his devious plans

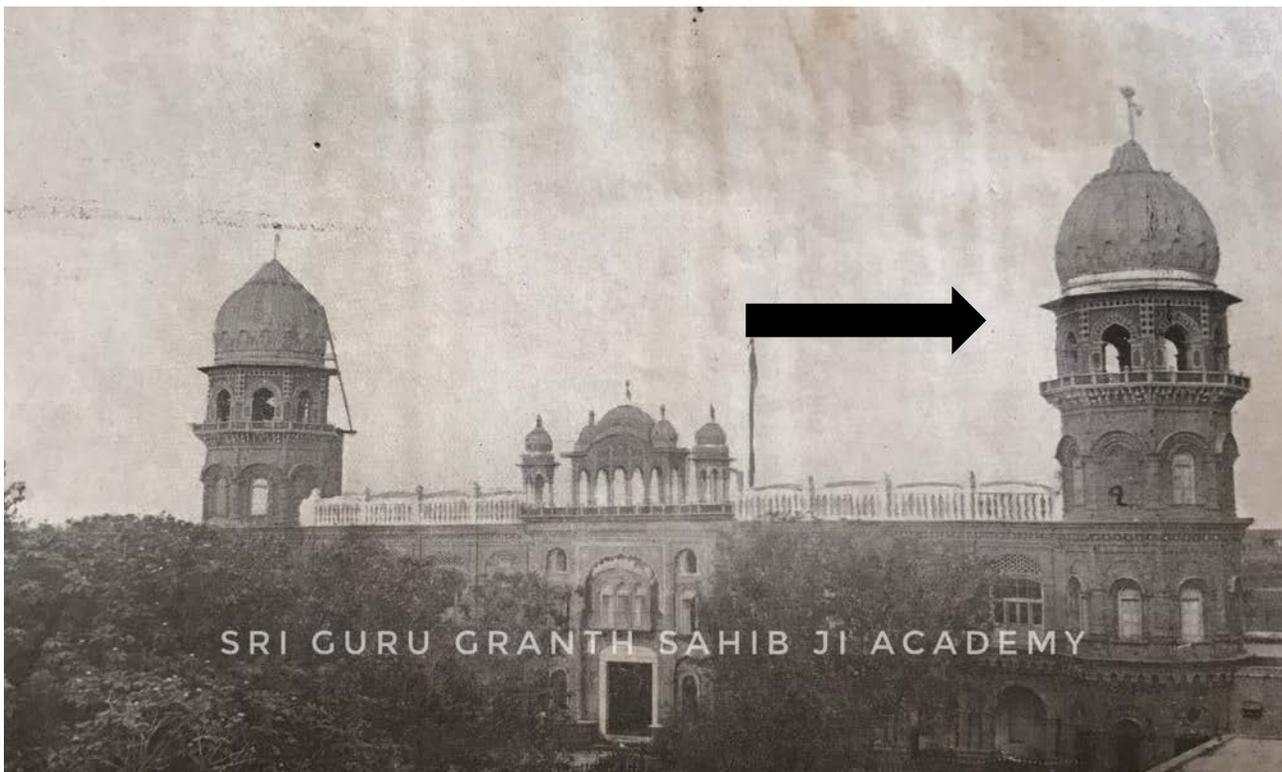


Eh Mera Punjab Facebook



# Gurdwara Janam Asthan

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Darshani Deodi (entrance) of Gurdwara Janam Asthan, Sri Nankana Sahib.

Tower marked with the arrow was used by the Mahant as the storage of weaponry

# Arriving at Nankana Sahib

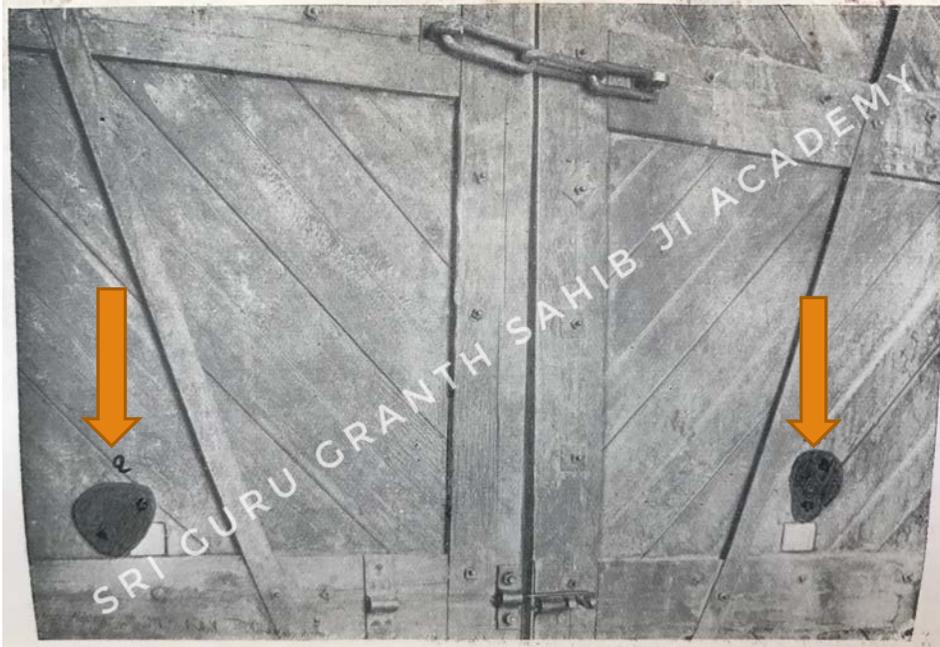
A code word was constructed beforehand that initially few Sikhs will try to enter the Gurdwara compounds and if successful, they will call the remaining Sangat by saying, “Gurmukho Ticket Khul Gyi Hai, Chalo Bhaj Ke Ghadi Chariye”

Bhai Gurbaksh Singh and Isher Singh called the remaining Sangat with the code word.



# Gun ports

# Door to The Entrance

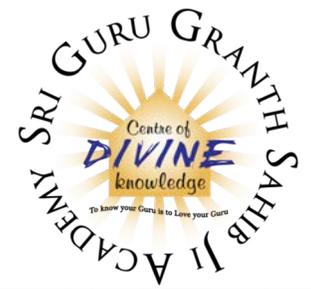


Marked with arrows: holes made in the doors of the entrance for shooting the incoming Sikhs.



This door was also used as a spot to fire shots from the entrance as visible from the two holes for guns (gun ports) in the door. Close up picture on the left.

# Entering Sri Nankana Sahib



The Jatha reached the premises of the Gurdwara at about 5:45 AM with unstoppable zeal and dedication.

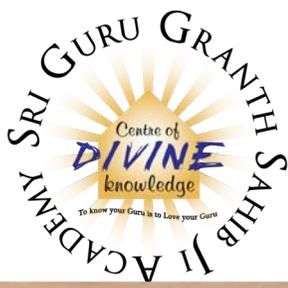
After entering *Darshni Deohri* of the Gurdwara, they shut the main door from the inside.

While some of the devotees took their seats inside the *Prakash Asthan*, others sat on the platform and the *Baran dari*.

Bhai Lachhman Singh Dharowali sat on Guru's Tabia after removing Thakar Das Granthi who was reciting Sukhmani Sahib.



# Hukamnama from Shaheedi Bir in Sri Nankana Sahib Ji



The Mahant had left the main entrance gate, and the gate to the Gurdwara Sahib open on purpose.

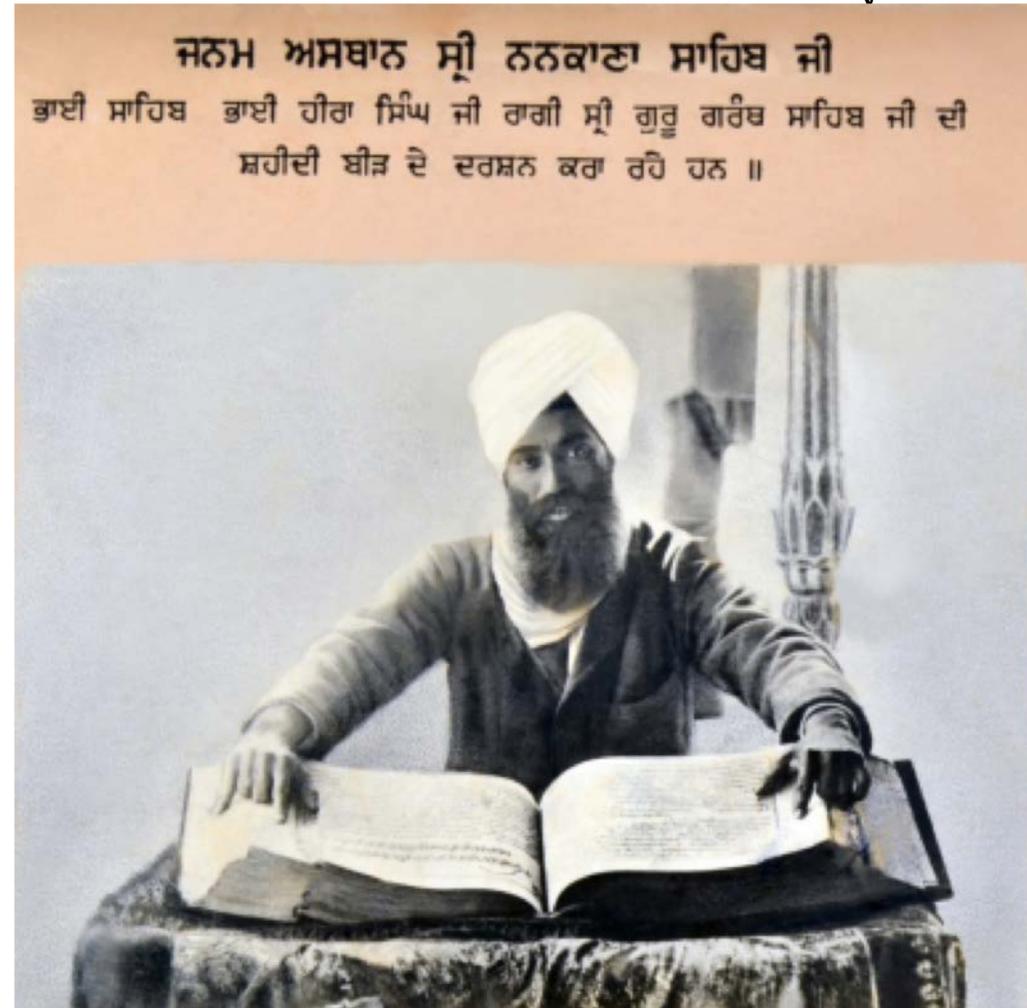
The Sikhs entered the Gurdwara where Guru Granth Sahib had been laid down on a small hard bed at a platform.

Bhai Lachhman Singh read the Hukamnama;

**ਸਲੋਕੁ ॥ ਜੋ ਲੋੜੀਦੇ ਰਾਮ ਸੇਵਕ ਸੇਈ ਕਾਂਢਿਆ ॥**

**ਨਾਨਕ ਜਾਣੈ ਸਤਿ ਸਾਂਈ ਸੰਤ ਨ ਬਾਹਰਾ ॥੧॥**

(SGGS) – 578)



# The First Firing on Peaceful Shaheedi Jatha

As Bhai Lachhman Singh was reciting this holy Shabad melodiously, the whole Congregation was listening with devotion.

Suddenly bullets began to rain on the congregation. The hired goons of the Mahant had made holes in the walls at strategic points just for this purpose.

Even though bullets were raining on the Congregation, nobody moved at all.



# Orientation of Gurdwara Janam Asthan – Southern Side



## Labelled Numbers

1-2: Wall of Gurdwara Janam Asthan

3-4: The wall was 8 feet tall before the Mahant increased it's height to label Number 5 and installed broken pieces of sharp glass on the top.

6-7: Mahant Narain Das' residence where he was arrested

8-9: Southern Wall of Gurdwara Janam Asthan

10: Shots were fired towards Gurdwara Janam Asthan over this wall

11: Stairs

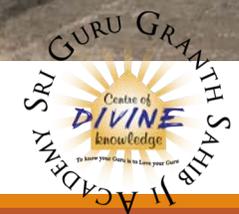
12: Door to the stairs where Bhai Narain Singh's (Chak 55) was martyred and thrown down to the other side

13: Location where Bhai Ram Singh (Chak 64) jumped out

14: Location of Bhai Tahil Singh's Martyrdom

15: Samaadh outside the Gurdwara

16: Nishan Sahib



# The Love for the Guru

Five to Six bullets hit Bhai Lachhman Singh's chest

When Hari Nath Jogi, Gurmukh Das, Ladha and Bagi (goons of Mahant) managed to break the lock of the North Door of Darbar Sahib with Sher Das and Ranjha managing to break the lower portion of the door by kicking it

They then, fired many rounds of bullets and all the bullets were directed towards Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji's Saroop

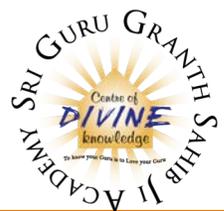
The injured Lachhman Singh was protecting the Saroop by placing his hands and arms so that the bullet does not pierce Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji's Saroop.



# Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji - Shaheedi Bir

Picture shows the saroop of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji that got hit with the bullets fired

- a bullet went through from Ang 1319 to 1430.
- Ang was cut with a knife from Ang 462 (beginning of Asa Dhi Vaar) to 640 the wound was 4.5" long and 1.5" wide also there are 5 different marks of bullets
- 9 bullets dropped out of Saroop which was kept by Bhai Dhanna Singh
- Blood stains of Bhai Lachman Singh from Ang 1132 to 1228
- One bullet mark was obvious in the right side of the binding which penetrated through.
- The top Cover was very badly wounded and Rumala was torn.
- 2 Saroops of Maharaj were thrown out of the main Darbar and pails of water were brought to clean the blood and flesh.



# The Bullets from Shaheedi Bir



Bullets in the container were retrieved from the saroop shot at Nankana Sahib. Bullets currently at Sri Akaal Takhat Sahib

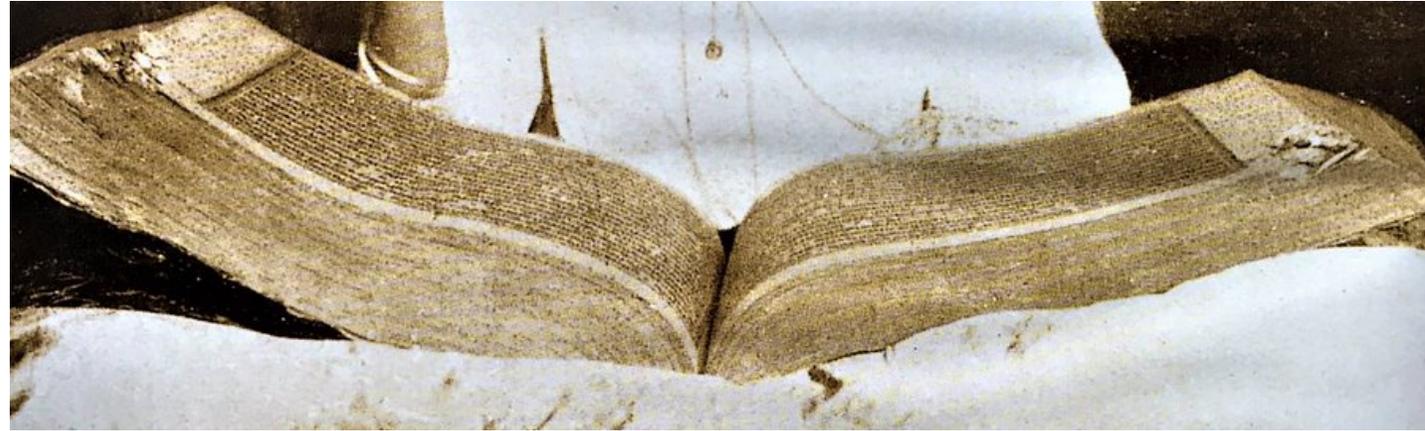
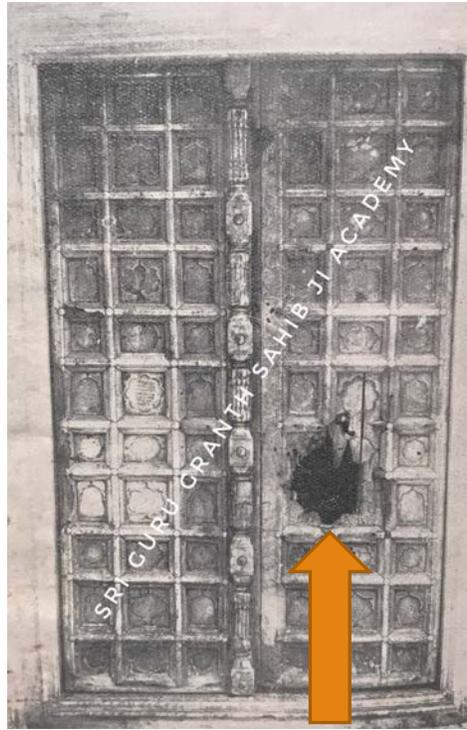


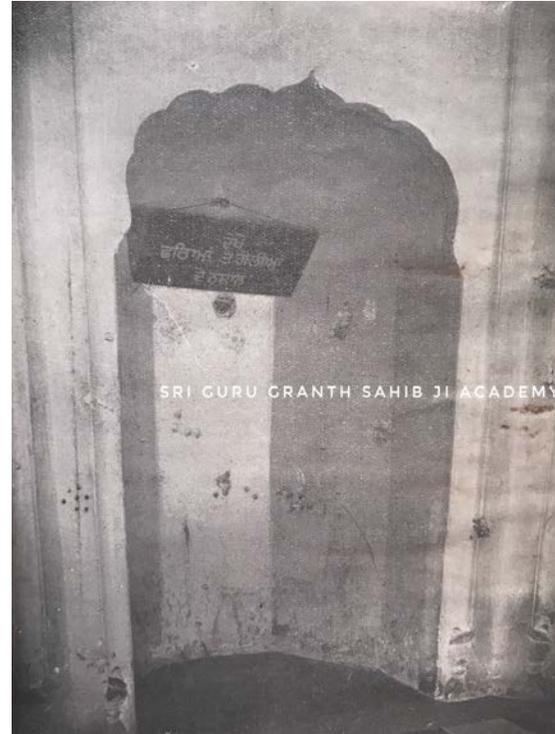
Photo taken on 15<sup>th</sup> May 1936 of Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji. The saroop that was shoot during Saka at Nanakana Sahib

# Entrance to Darbar Sahib



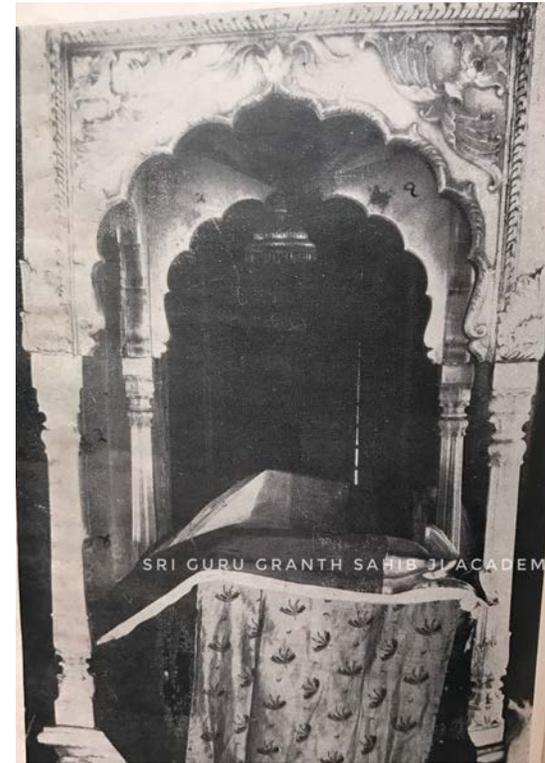
Marked with an arrow is the hole from which shots were fired to martyr the sanggat sitting in Darbar Sahib

# Janam Asthan



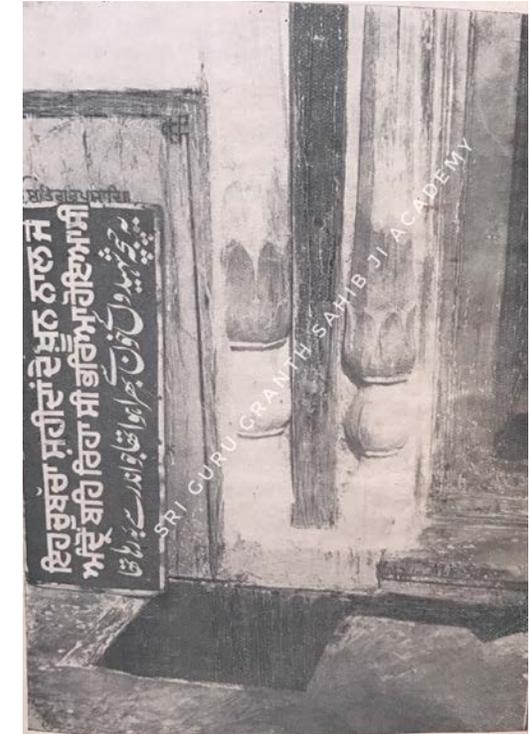
Marks of the bullets fired inside Janam Asthan of Sri Guru Nanak Dev Ji - 150 Bullets marks can be seen on the wall and 454 on the other.

# Manji Sahib



Remains of the bullet marks pointed by the arrows inside Janam Asthan

# Pit



A rectangular drain (16 inches deep, 16 inches long, 15 inches wide) towards the southern side of Janam Asthan overflowed with the blood of Shaheeds flowing out

# The Limits of Peace

When all the Sikhs were either martyred or injured with the gunfire, Sher Das and his accomplices pulled Lachman Singh from the Tabia by his hair and brought him outside.

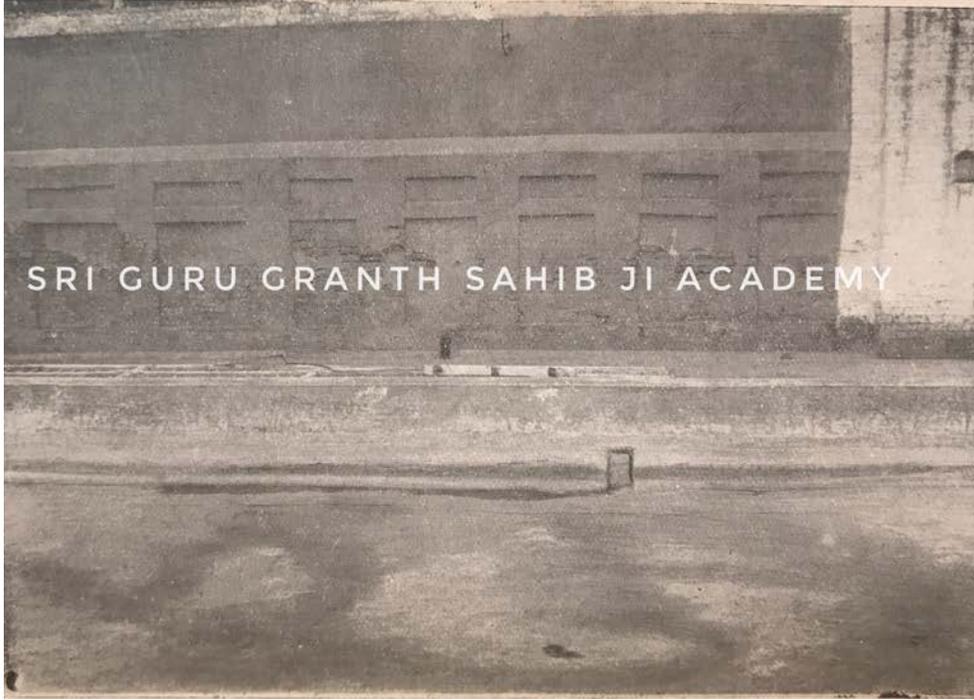
Guru Nanak's photograph and Karah Parshad area were totally damaged by the firing.



# Cruelty

The hired goons wielded swords, spears, hatchets and other lethal weapons to mercilessly slaughter the peaceful, unarmed and unprovocative Sikhs within the very premises of the Gurdwara. Any alive Sikh was hacked to pieces.





# Parkarma

Picture shows the stains of blood in the Parkarma of Sri Nankana Sahib

## Veranda – Sikh were Chopped

Many Singhs were martyred by being chopped into pieces



# Piles of Shaheeds

The dead and dying Singhs were then dragged to a pile of logs which had been collected earlier and consigned to flame.

By the time the police and local Sikhs came on the scene, all the dead men had been consumed by the fire.



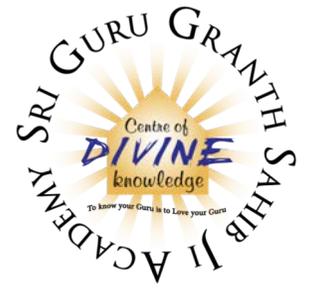
# Burned alive

Bhai Dalip Singh Sangla and Bhai Waryam Singh were resting at Bhai Uttam Singh's shop.

They both ran towards the Gurdwara when they heard gun-shots.

The Mahant wounded Bhai Dalip Singh with his pistol while Bhai Waryam Singh was cut into pieces by the goons.

Bhai Lachhman Singh was still alive. The Mahant ordered that Bhai Lachhman Singh and Bhai Dalip Singh be tied to a Jund tree in the compound and burned alive.

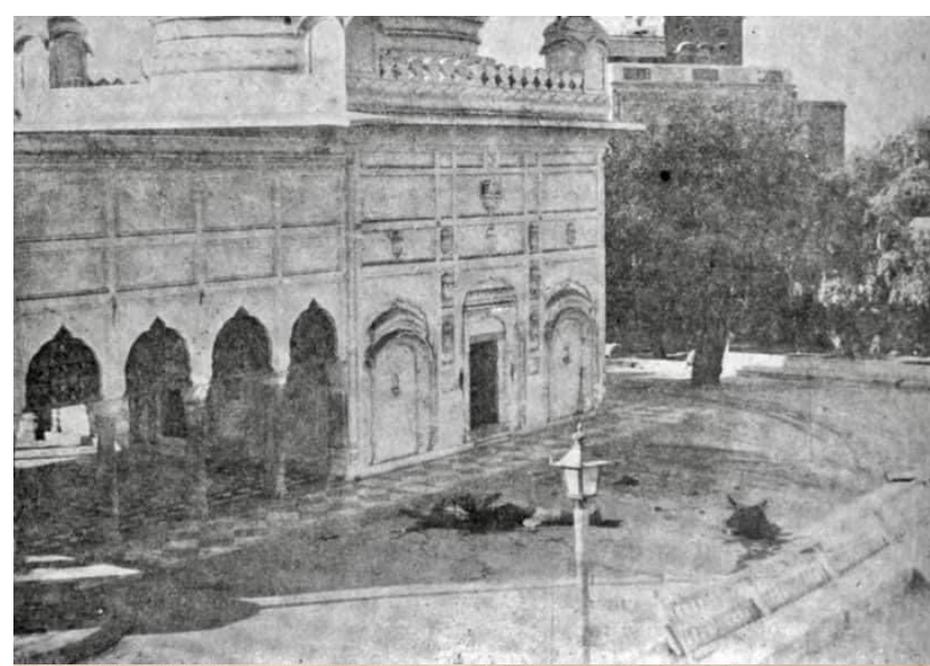


A pile of bodies along with a container of paraffin marked with arrow

# Wiping Evidence from the scene

Immediately after killing all of the Jatha, the rogues started to clean Gurdwara Sahib so that no evidence remains

2 Saroops of Maharaj were thrown out of the main Darbar and pails of water were brought to clean the blood and flesh.



# News & Panthic Action



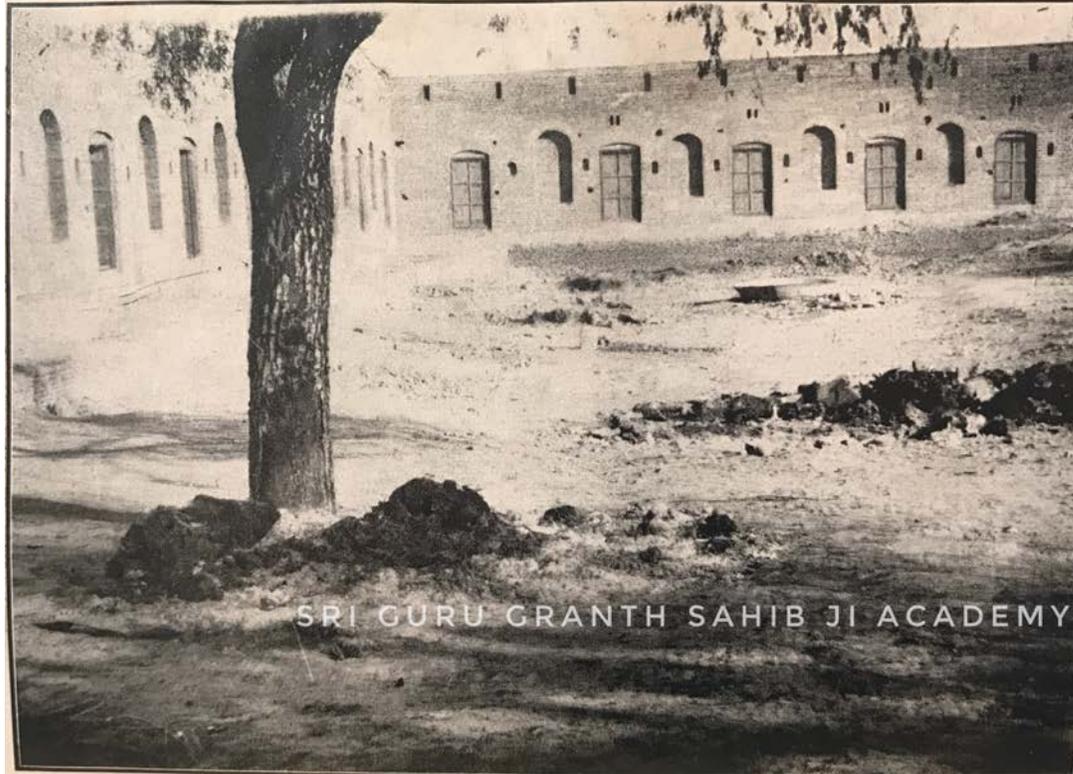
The news spread like wild fire and the Sikhs from every part of Punjab started their march towards Nankana Sahib.

Bhai Kartar Singh Jhabber reached next day with 2200 Singhs armed with shastras (arms).

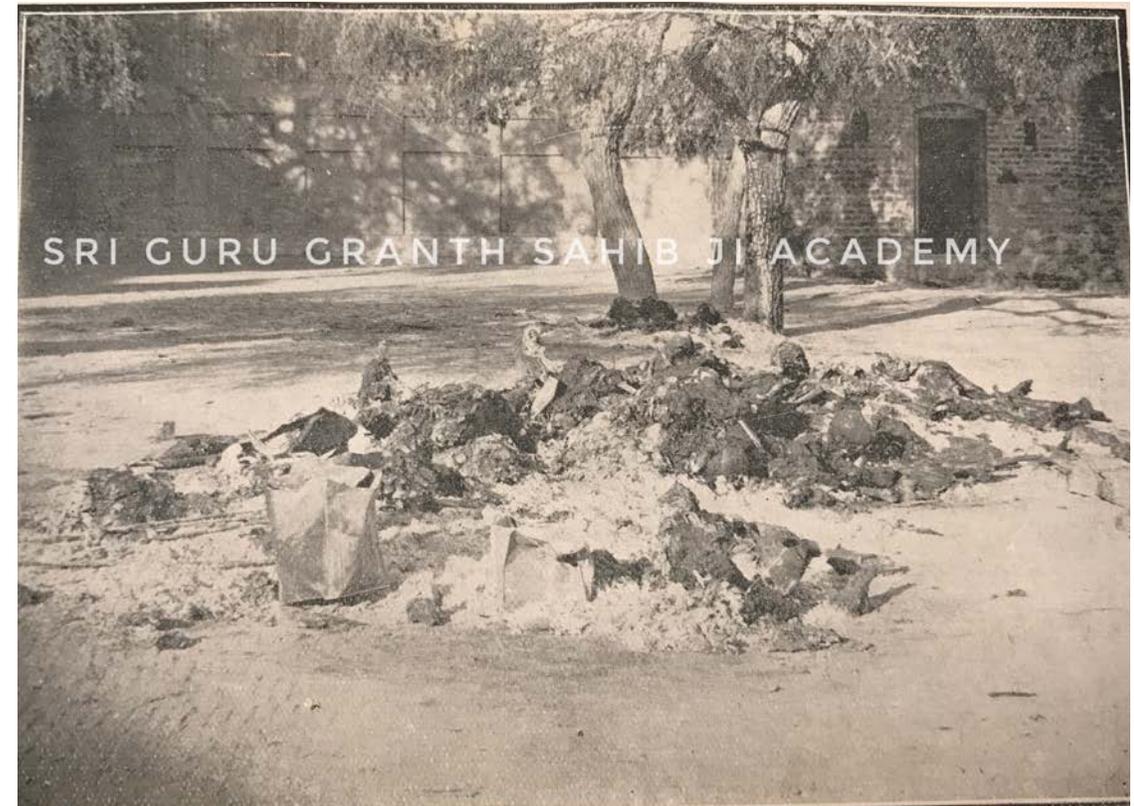
Fearing more trouble, Mr King, Commissioner of Lahore, handed over the keys of Nankana Sahib to Shiromani Committee and arrested Mahant Narayan Das and his hired goons including Pathans and charged them with murder, but only Mahant Narayan Das and a couple of Pathans got the death sentences for this heinous crime of over 126 barbaric murders.



# Bodies of Shaheeds – Burned Alive



Bodies of those who were burned alive by the Mahant and his men



As the Khalsa entered the Gurdwara, they found blood on the floor everywhere and also some remaining body pieces of the Martyrs. They also found many charred and unburnt bodies of the Martyrs on the pyre.

# Unfolding of Events



Next day, on Feb 22, many important Sikh Leaders reached Nankana Sahib and saw the tragic massacre with their own eyes. Under their pressure the Government Officials were forced to arrest the Mahant to be tried for the atrocities.

The Khalsa also cremated all the bodies on Feb 22 with full respects and according to the Sikh Rites.



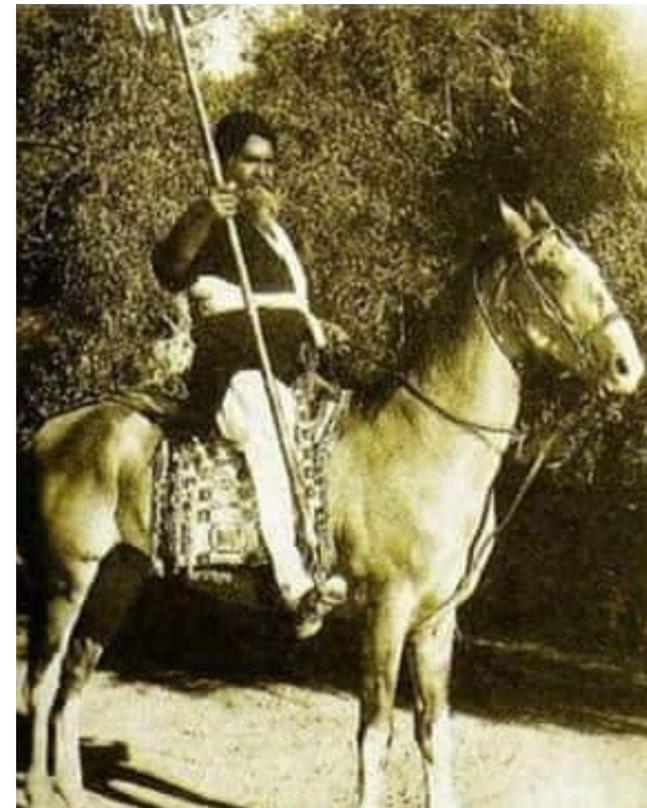
# Jathedar Kartar Singh Virk (Jhabbar)

Sardar Kartar Singh Jhabbar arrived with his squad on February 21. Deputy Commissioner warned him that if he tried to enter city with his squad, army would open fire on them. Kartar Singh Jhabbar and his jatha (squad) of twenty two hundred Sikhs kept moving towards the city.

At last, Deputy Commissioner Mr. Curry handed over the keys of Gurdwara to Bhai Kartar Singh Jhabbar. The bodies of the devotees were cremated according to Sikh tradition at 0730 hrs on February 22. An Urdu newspaper called 'Zamindara' wrote in its editorial of February 23, 1921 that Muslims were shameless as they helped the Mahant.

Muslims were warned that the cup of their shamelessness and impudence was full at that time. Editor felt ashamed as the guns and swords of Muslims were used against the devotees who had gone to Nankana Sahib to perform their religious duty. The editor warned the people that they were not fit to be called Muslims and they were worse than infidels.

Mahant and 20 Pathans were tried by British Government. Mahant and couple of Pathans got death sentence for killing more than 50 peaceful devotees.



# The Tribune.

VOL XLI

Annual Subscription  
Rs 25

Lahore, Tuesday, February 22 1921.

Single copy  
2 Annas.

No. 43

## Tragedy at Nankana Sahib.

VERY sensational and distressing news has been received from Nankana Sahib. We desire to express no definite opinion about the incident pending the report of the official investigation that has already begun. But if the reports that have reached us are even substantially correct, then we have no hesitation in saying that the tragedy perpetrated at the place is one of the blackest and most horrible not only in our own but in all history. We have no doubt the matter will form the subject of the most searching enquiry which it is in the power of the Government to make and that whoever may be found to be responsible for the diabolical crime will be brought to speedy and exemplary justice. Further, in view of the nature of the tragedy the best thing the Government can do is to associate one or two non-officials who enjoy the fullest measure of public confidence with the official investigation. We may add that according to rumours which cannot be rejected as incredible, the number of persons killed is about 130, while Sardar Amar Singh, who is on the spot is responsible for the statement that the casualties amount to 195 killed and 5 wounded.

## THE NANKANA SAHIB TRAGEDY.

### HEAVY CASUALTIES REPORTED.

The following press *communiqué* has been issued:—

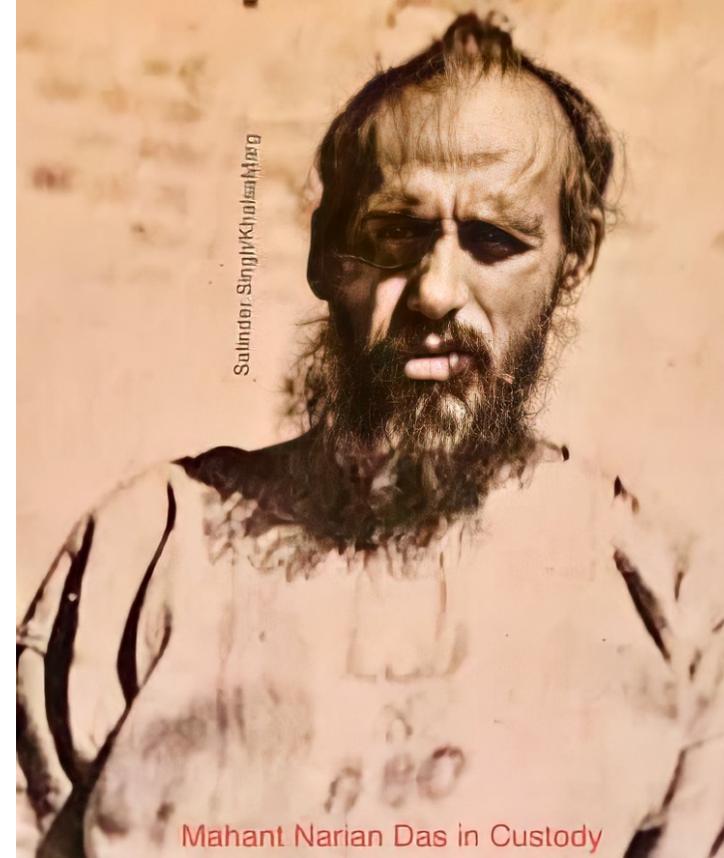
At about 7-30 a. m. on Sunday morning a very serious affray took place in the Janam Asthan Gurdwara at Nankana Sahib. The Deputy Commissioner of Sheikhupura (Mr. Currie) who was on tour in the neighbourhood, went to Nankana as soon as he heard the news, and arrived at about 12-30 p. m. He ascertained that there had been many casualties and that the corpses of the victims, who were apparently Sikhs, were being burnt. He thought there was serious danger of critical developments and wired to Lahore for troops. As soon as his wire was received arrangements were made to isolate Nankana, by running all trains through without stopping, and to send out a small force of 100 British and 100 Indian Infantry. The special train containing the troops, who were accompanied by the Commissioner of Lahore (Mr. C. M. King) and the D. I. G. Police, Central Range (Mr. Mercein) arrived at Nankana at about 8-30 p. m. and was met by Mr. Currie, who reported that all was quiet at that time, but that the air was full of rumour, and it was thought that a large body of Sikhs would attack Nankana

to avenge themselves for the death of their co-religionists. The police force at Mr. Currie's disposal was not enough to enable him to arrest any suspected persons, till the troop train arrived. As soon, however, as troops had been posted to guard the shrine, the Mahant, Narian Das, two of his *challas* and about 20 Pathan chaukidars were arrested. These men were sent by special train to Lahore the same night where they were placed in the Central Jail.

A deputation of six Sikhs, among whom were Sardar Mehtab Singh, M. L. C., Public Prosecutor, the Secretary of the Sikh League, and the Editor of the "Loyal Gazette" went to Nankana in the troop train to assist in the inquiry.

The District Magistrate of Sheikhupura has attached the shrine of Janam Asthan under the provisions of Section 144, C. P. C. and the police are now in possession. A police inquiry has been opened and is being conducted vigorously. Besides the District Magistrate (Mr. Currie) two other Magistrates have been sent to Nankana, and the D. I. G. of Police, Superintendent of Police, of Sheikhupura District and special police officers from the C. I. D., Punjab, are taking part in the investigation.

[We have received a telegram from the Secretary, Singh Sabha, Jarnuwalla, stating that a large number of persons were killed "with chhawis and guns and burnt alive with kerosine oil, and that the loss of life was above 100."—Ed. T.]



Mahant Narian Das in Custody

The Mahant and 9 Pathans were given death sentence, but the Supreme Court commuted the death sentence of the Mahant into life in prison. Only a few Pathans were hanged.

# Shaheeds

Saka Nankana Sahib - 1921



A dome made with cement and glass where the ashes of Shaheeds were kept.

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**LIST OF NAMES OF THOSE MEN WHO WERE  
SHAHEED IN SAKA OF NANKANA SAHIB  
ON 20TH FEBRUARY 1921 (SUNDAY)**

BHAILACHHMAN SINGH JATHEDAR DHAROWALI (SHEKHUPURA)	" SANTA SINGH FATEHGARH SHUKARCHAK (AMRITSAR)
" ISHAR SINGH JI	" ISHAR SINGH JI BEHR CHAK NO 10 (SHEKHUPURA)
" HANGAL SINGH JI KIRPAN BAHADUR "	" GOPAL SINGH JI "
" ATMA SINGH JI "	" MOTA SINGH JI "
" SUNDER SINGH JI "	" NAND SINGH JI CHAK NO 10 THOTHIA "
" ISHAR SINGH JI NO 2 "	" HARI SINGH JI "
" CHARAN SINGH JI V. KOTLA SANT SINGH "	" ARUR SINGH JI "
" HARAYAN SINGH JI BURJ CHAK NO 55 (LAYALPUR)	" TEJA SINGH JI "
" DAYAL SINGH JI "	" BELA SINGH JI KARTARPUR (JALANDHAR)
" KISHAN SINGH JI "	" MULA SINGH JI WALLA SAHIB (AMRITSAR)
" HAJARA SINGH JI BANDALA CHAK NO 64 "	" LACHHMAN SINGH DALLA NANGAL (SHEKHUPURA)
" WARIAM SINGH JI "	" SANTA SINGH JI SHAHKOT "
" CHET SINGH JI "	" HARNAM SINGH JI "
" UJAGAR SINGH JI "	" GURBAKHSH SINGH JI "
" SAMMA SINGH JI BANDALA CHAK NO 17 "	" INDAR SINGH JI "
" BARA SINGH JI "	" GULAB SINGH JI "
" ISHAR SINGH JI "	" KEHAR SINGH JI V. DARG (PATIALA)
" DHARAM SINGH JI "	" DARDARA SINGH JI "
" TEHALSINGH NAZAMPUR DEVA SINGH (SHEKHUPURA)	" GANDA SINGH JI BHASEEN (LAHOR)
" SURAIN SINGH JI "	" BACHINT SINGH DALLA CHANDA SINGH CHAK NO 85 (SHEKHUPURA)
" BAGGA SINGH JI "	" KESAR SINGH VANOTIA WALI CHAK NO 39 "
" HARNAM SINGH JI "	" SOHAN SINGH JI "
" DAL SINGH JI "	" WARIAM SINGH JI "
" KESAR SINGH JI "	" HIRA SINGH JI "
" BHAGWAN SINGH JI "	" SOHAN SINGH JI DHANUANA CHAK NO 91 (LAYALPUR)
" JAWALA SINGH JI "	" SUNDAR SINGH JI JATHEDAR "
" KHUSHAL SINGH JI "	" HUKAM SINGH JI "
" JAWAND SINGH JI "	" WARIAM SINGH JI "
" PUNJAB SINGH JI "	" DIWAN SINGH JI "
" HARAYAN SINGH JI "	" INDAR SINGH JI "
" RAM SINGH JI "	" DASAUNDHA SINGH JI "
" SUNDAR SINGH JI "	" HARI SINGH JI "
" TARA SINGH JI "	" DHERA SINGH JI "
" SEWA SINGH JI NAZAMPUR MULA SINGH "	" THAKUR SINGH MANAK DHUMAN (JALANDHAR)
" BUR SINGH JI "	" BACHINT SINGH JI FARALA CHAK NO 250 (LAYALPUR)
" SURAYAN SINGH JI "	" KANHAYA SINGH JI "
" DUTJAR SINGH JI CHELE WALE "	" BANTA SINGH JI SIHAR (HOSHIARPUR)
" CHANDA SINGH JI "	" BUDH SINGH JI KARTARPUR (SIALKOT)
" SANGA SINGH JI "	" DALIP SINGH JI SANDHAWAL CHAK NO 1288 (LAYALPUR)
" WARIAM SINGH JI NAZAMPUR CHELE WALE "	" WARIAM SINGH JI TIBI JAI SINGH (MINTOUMARI)
	" HARAYAN SINGH LAHUKI CHAK NO 74 (LAYALPUR)
	" KARAN SINGH JI "
	" HEHANGA SINGH JI "
	" JIWAN SINGH JI PARUPKARI SHEHAR (LAYALPUR)
	" CHARAN SINGH JI DINGA (GUJRATI)
	" JAGAT SINGH JI SHABAJPUR (AMRITSAR)