

Winners of Essay Writing Competition on Life & Lessons of Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji

GURU TEGH BAHADUR SINGH

“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.”

A learned spiritual scholar, a poet whose 115 hymns are included in shri Guru Granth sahib (the main text of Sikhism) and a fearless warrior- Guru Tegh Bahadur Singh was born on **1 April** in Amritsar Punjab. He was the youngest son of Guru Hargobind: the sixth guru. He was named **Tyag Mal**. Later he was known as Guru Tegh Bahadur.

In his earlier days, he learned several languages such as Gurumukhi, Hindi, Sanskrit and other religious philosophy. At the age of 13, he asked his father to accompany him to battle when his village was attacked by Mughals. After winning the battle, the victorious Sikhs honored their new hero with a new **“warriors”** name. And so Tyag ji Mal was renamed Tegh Bahadur Singh. He spent his time in studies and meditation. Later he was married to Mata Gujri Ji at Kartarpur in 1632.

Soon the responsibility of instructing and **guiding the Sikh** community was on Guru Tegh Bahadur. He taught them in batches to seek inspiration through his teachings and practice.

Guru Tegh Bahadur composed **116 shabads and 15 ragas**. His lessons had message of peace and flee from lust. He defined “it takes to be indifferent to misery and happiness, to get rid of allegations, to master the art of self-control to be spiritual.” To get away from the world or greed, desire, ego and pain.

“One who vanishes ego and beholds the Lord as the sole doer of all things, that person has attained Jivan Mukti. And this is the real truth.”

He guided his followers towards the path of peace and happiness. He taught the world to be happy with his life as everything in the world is done by the god. He revealed the reason the true reason to his human suffering to his follower. He taught his disciplines to protect the one who need protection, even if it comes at the cost of one's own life. He believed the Lord lives within us, and the only one who looks within himself meets god.

The ninth of the tenth guru died on 24th November in the year 1675. He is still known as the man who championed the rights for all religions freedom.

Submitted by:

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