

Hazrat Syed Usman Marwandi Lal Shahbaz Qalandar (R.A.)

The Falcon of Mysticism: Sultan of Qalandars

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Preface

This eBook, presented by Barkateraza.in, chronicles the life, teachings, and spiritual legacy of Hazrat Syed Usman Marwandi, revered as Lal Shahbaz Qalandar (R.A.), the Falcon of Mysticism. A prominent Sufi saint of the Suhrawardi order, his devotion to Imam Ali (A.S.) and Imam Hussain (A.S.) and his teachings of love, equality, and truth continue to inspire millions. His shrine in Sehwan Sharif, Pakistan, remains a spiritual beacon, attracting devotees globally. This work aims to preserve his legacy and promote his universal message.

Chapter 1

Introduction

Hazrat Syed Usman Marwandi (572–672 A.H./1177–1274 A.D.), known as Lal Shahbaz Qalandar, was a revered Sufi saint, scholar, and poet of the Suhrawardi order. Born in Marwand, Iran, he earned the title "Lal" (red) for his radiant spirituality, "Shahbaz" (falcon) for his boundless freedom, and "Qalandar" for his transcendence of worldly constraints. His shrine in Sehwan Sharif, Pakistan, is a spiritual hub where his Urs, marked by Dhamal, draws thousands annually.

Chapter 2

Lineage and Family

Hazrat Lal Shahbaz Qalandar, also known as Syed Shah Hussain, was a Husaini Syed, descending from Imam Ja'far Sadiq (A.S.) through his father, Syed Ibrahim Kabiruddin Mujab, a pious dervish, and his mother, a high-ranking princess. His ancestors migrated from Iraq to Mashhad, Iran, and later to Marwand, centers of learning in the medieval period. His lineage includes notable figures like Syed Shams-ud-Din and Syed Noor Shah.

Chapter 3

Birth and Early Life

Born in Sha'baan 572 A.H. (1177 A.D.) in Marwand, Iran, Hazrat Lal Shahbaz displayed spiritual depth from infancy. By age seven, he memorized the Quran, showcasing his prodigious intellect. His mother initially taught him, fostering his spiritual inclinations. At 20, he was initiated into the Qalandar order, developing occult powers that marked his divine destiny.

Chapter 4

Education

Hazrat Lal Shahbaz mastered Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Pashto, Sindhi, and Sanskrit. After initial education from his mother, he studied in Medina and served at the shrine of Imam Hussain (A.S.) in Karbala. In Baghdad, he took spiritual guidance (bai'at) from Hazrat Ibrahim (R.A.), becoming a Suhrawardi disciple. His scholarly prowess and multilingual fluency enabled him to connect with diverse communities.

Chapter 5

Spiritual Journey

Hazrat Lal Shahbaz traveled extensively, visiting Mecca, Medina, Karbala, and the shrine of Imam Ali Reza (A.S.) in Mashhad. From Baghdad, accompanied by Hazrat Ali Sar-mast, he reached Sindh via Makran, where he stayed in Panj-Kor, now called Dasht-e-Shahbaz. In 661 A.H. (1263 A.D.), he arrived in Multan, befriending Hazrat Bahauddin Zakariya, and later settled in Sehwan in 666 A.H. (1267 A.D.), establishing a khanqah and madrasa.

Chapter 6

Spreading Islam

Hazrat Lal Shahbaz preached the teachings of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and Ahl-ul-Bayt, emphasizing love for Imam Ali (A.S.) and mourning for Imam Hussain (A.S.). He converted many, including the Raja of Multan, and enlightened communities in Ajmer, Kashmir, Peshawar, and other regions. In Sehwan, he transformed a center of vice into a hub of spirituality, appointing disciples like Boodla Bahaar to preach "Ali Haq."

Chapter 7

Miracles (Karamat)

1. Resurrection of Boodla Bahaar: When Boodla Bahaar was killed and minced by Sehwan's ruler for proclaiming "Ali Haq," Hazrat Lal Shahbaz called his name, and his scattered remains reassembled, reviving him. This miracle was repeated thrice, after which the Qalandar instructed Boodla to invert his staff, overturning the fort.
2. King in a Day: A man passing between two sticks during Hazrat Lal Shahbaz's prayers entered a city through a miraculous door, becoming king for seven years via the Huma bird tradition, only to return and find the Qalandar still praying, demonstrating his control over dimensions.
3. Reviving a Cat: When served cat meat by Sehwan's ruler to test him, Hazrat Lal Shahbaz said, "Kumbi iznillah," reviving the cat, which consumed the food and left, humbling the ruler.

Chapter 8

Teachings

Hazrat Lal Shahbaz emphasized true Islam, devotion to Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), Imam Ali (A.S.), and Ahl-ul-Bayt, and mourning for Imam Hussain (A.S.). His teachings include:

- Love for Ahl-ul-Bayt: Following Imam Ali (A.S.) and mourning Imam Hussain (A.S.) are central to faith.
- Equality and Truth: He advocated love, equality, and truth, transforming communities through spiritual guidance.
- Freedom of Spirit: As a Qalandar, he taught transcendence of worldly boundaries, symbolized by his ability to "fly" beyond gravitational constraints.

His Persian verses, like "Haiderium Qalandram Mastam," reflect his devotion to Imam Ali (A.S.).

Chapter 9

Literary Contributions

Hazrat Lal Shahbaz authored several works, including:

1. Mizan-e-Sarf
2. Kism-e-Doyum
3. Aqd
4. Zubdah

He also composed numerous Persian poems, with his famous verses engraved on his shrine, extolling Imam Ali (A.S.) and his role as a Qalandar.

Chapter 10

Legacy and Disciples

Hazrat Lal Shahbaz's khalifas included Hazrat Syed Ali Zualqi (Sachal Sarmast) and Hazrat Mahdi Raza Shah Sabzwari. His disciples, like Boodla Bahaar and Sachal Sarmast, spread his teachings in Sehwan. His shrine, alongside Hazrat Ali Sarmast's, is a pilgrimage site where the annual Urs on 18 Sha'baan features Dhamal, drawing devotees from Makran and beyond.

Chapter 11

Passing and Mausoleum

Hazrat Lal Shahbaz Qalandar passed away on 18 Sha'baan 672 A.H. (February 1274 A.D.) in Sehwan. His mausoleum in Sehwan Sharif, Pakistan, is a spiritual hub, revered for its sanctity and the annual Urs celebrations. The shrine, a symbol of his boundless spirituality, attracts pilgrims globally, preserving his legacy of love and devotion.

Chapter 12

Sehwan Sharif: The Town

Sehwan Sharif, in Sindh, Pakistan, is a historic town transformed by Hazrat Lal Shahbaz into a spiritual center. Once a hub of vice, it became a beacon of Islam through his teachings. The town's significance lies in its shrines, particularly that of Lal Shahbaz Qalandar, which hosts vibrant Urs celebrations, including the famous Dhamal, drawing diverse devotees.

Multimedia References

1. [Life of Hazrat Lal Shahbaz Qalandar](#)
2. [Teachings and Miracles of the Qalandar](#)
3. [Urs and Dhamal at Sehwan Sharif](#)

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1. Tazkira-e-Lal Shahbaz Qalandar by Traditional Sources.
2. Sufi Saints of Sindh by Local Historians.
3. History of Sehwan Sharif by Regional Scholars.
4. Oral Traditions of Sehwan Sharif, Sindh.

Closing Prayer

May Allah, through the blessings of His Beloved Prophet (PBUH), Hazrat Syed Usman Marwandi Lal Shahbaz Qalandar, the Ahl-e-Bait, and all Awliya Allah, grant us complete love for the Prophet, protect our faith, inspire righteous deeds, and fulfill our noble desires in this world and the hereafter. Ameen.