

Hazrat Syed Salar Masood Ghazi (R.A.)

Sultan-ush-Shohada: The Warrior-Saint of Bahraich

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Preface

This eBook, presented by Barkateraza.in, narrates the life, legacy, and spiritual significance of Hazrat Syed Salar Masood Ghazi (R.A.), revered as Sultan-ush-Shohada fil Hind. A warrior-saint who attained martyrdom at 18, his Dargah in Bahraich, Uttar Pradesh, attracts thousands of Muslim and Hindu devotees annually. This work aims to honor his contributions to Islam's propagation in India and preserve his enduring legacy, reflecting Barkateraza.in's mission to promote spiritual heritage.

Chapter 1

Introduction

Hazrat Syed Salar Masood Ghazi (R.A.) (405–424 A.H./1015–1032 A.D.), known as Ghazi Miyan, Bale Miyan, and Sultan-ush-Shohada, was an 11th-century Islamic saint and warrior. Born in Ajmer, he arrived in South Asia to propagate Islam, achieving martyrdom at 18 in Bahraich. His Dargah, built by Firoz Shah Tughlaq, is a revered site for its spiritual and healing significance, with his Urs celebrated on 14 Rajab, drawing thousands from across India.

Chapter 2

Lineage and Family

Hazrat Syed Salar Masood Ghazi was a descendant of Hazrat Muhammad ibn al-Hanafiyyah, son of Hazrat Ali (R.A.) and Sitr-e-Mu'alla, sister of Sultan Mahmud Ghaznavi. His father, Hazrat Ghazi Salar Sahu Dawud bin Ataullah, and uncle, Hazrat Salar Saifuddin Surkhru, were notable figures. His lineage continues through his uncle's descendants, notably Hazrat Syed Salim Miyan Alavi, the current Sajjada Nashin of Khanqah-e-Aaliya Qadriya Alviya in Bahraich.

Chapter 3

Birth and Early Life

Born on 22 January 1015 A.D. (Rajab 405 A.H.) in Ajmer, Hazrat Salar Masood was raised in a pious environment. By age nine, under the tutelage of his teacher, Hazrat Syed Ibrahim Mashadi Bara Hazari, he mastered both exoteric and esoteric Islamic sciences. Accompanying his uncle, Hazrat Salar Saifuddin, and teacher, he arrived in South Asia in 1026 A.D. during Sultan Mahmud Ghaznavi's Somnath campaign.

Chapter 4

Education and Spiritual Training

Hazrat Salar Masood received comprehensive education from Hazrat Syed Ibrahim, becoming proficient in Quran, Hadith, Fiqh, and Tasawwuf by age nine. As a mureed of Hazrat Shaikh Ala-ud-Din Husaini Suhrawardi (R.A.), he developed profound spiritual insight, preparing him for his mission to propagate Islam in India. His early mastery of Islamic sciences distinguished him as a scholar-warrior.

Chapter 5

Mission in India

In 422 A.H. (1031 A.D.), Hazrat Salar Masood led a campaign with 100,000 soldiers and 50,000 horses to spread Islam in India, joined by commanders like Meer Husain Arab, Ameer Vazeed Ja'afar, and Hazrat Salar Saifuddin. His forces conquered regions including Mahona, Varanasi, Karra, Manikpur, and Saket. He established deputies, such as Malik Abdullah in Karra and Qutb Haidar in Manikpur, to govern these areas.

Chapter 6

Martyrdom

In 424 A.H. (1032 A.D.), Hazrat Salar Masood advanced towards Bahraich, targeting the Balark Mandir, a significant Hindu temple. Seventeen local Rajput kings, led by Raja Suheldev of Sravasti, opposed him. On 13–14 Rajab 424 A.H. (13–14 June 1032 A.D.), a fierce two-day battle ensued. His companions, including Syed Aziz-ud-Din and Meer Bakhatiar, were martyred, and on the second evening, Hazrat Salar Masood attained martyrdom at 18, earning the title Sultan-ush-Shohada.

Chapter 7

Miracles (Karamat)

1. Healing of Zohra Bi: Hazrat Salar Masood's prayers restored the eyesight of Zohra Bi, a blind woman, who, along with her brothers, remained devoted to him. Their mausoleums are near his Dargah.
2. Anarkali Lake: The lake where he offered his first prayers in Bahraich has never dried in over 1,000 years, a testament to his spiritual presence.

Chapter 8

Dargah and Legacy

The Dargah of Hazrat Syed Salar Masood Ghazi, constructed by Firoz Shah Tughlaq, is a spiritual hub revered by Muslims and Hindus. The water of the Dargah is believed to cure skin ailments. The annual Urs on 14 Rajab attracts thousands, with processions and fairs. His legacy extends to shrines in Salargarh, Faizabad, Satrikh, and Rudauli, and his father's mausoleum in Satrikh (Birdha Baba) is also a pilgrimage site.

Chapter 9

Historical Significance

Hazrat Salar Masood's Dargah has been visited by notable figures, including Sultan Muhammad bin Tughluq, Ibn Battuta (1341), and Firoz Shah Tughlaq (1372), who considered himself his spiritual disciple. Mughal Emperor Akbar (1561) and Nawab Asaf-ud-Daula also honored the shrine. The 17th-century text *Mirat-i-Masudi* by Abdur Rahman Chishti details his life and miracles, cementing his status as a warrior-saint.

Chapter 10

Descendants and Modern Legacy

Although Hazrat Salar Masood did not marry, his lineage continues through his uncle, Hazrat Salar Saifuddin Surkhru, whose descendants settled in Belkhara and Mangraunda, Barabanki. Notable figures include Hazrat Syed Salim Miyan Alavi, the current Sajjada Nashin of Bahraich's Khanqah-e-Aaliya Qadriya Alviya, and Hazrat Sufi Muhammad Yar Ali Alavi (Shoebul Auliya). These descendants, following Qadri, Suhrawardi, and Abul Ulai Jahangiri traditions, continue his spiritual mission.

Chapter 11

Bahraich: The Town

Bahraich, located on the Saryu River, 125 km northeast of Lucknow, derives its name from the Arabic word *bahr* (large body of water). A historic town inhabited since the 10th century, it is known for agriculture, producing pulses, wheat, rice, corn, sugar, and mustard. Its proximity to Nepal and dense forests in Nanpara and Bhinga add to its significance. The Dargah remains its spiritual and cultural heart.

Chapter 12

Other Mausoleums in Bahraich

1. Hazrat Syed Ibrahim: His teacher, who killed Raja Suheldev after his martyrdom.
2. Hazrat Salar Saifuddin Surkhru: His uncle, buried in Satrikh.
3. Hazrat Amir Sahab: A friend and Qutub of Bahraich.
4. Hazrat Khanjar Shaheed: A companion martyr.
5. Hazrat Nasrullah Shah: Located in Dikauli, a taoo (disciple) of Hazrat Salar Ma-sood.

Multimedia References

1. [Life of Hazrat Syed Salar Masood Ghazi](#)
2. [The Dargah of Bahraich: A Spiritual Legacy](#)
3. [Urs Celebrations at Bahraich](#)

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2. Tarikh-i-Firuz Shahi by Ziauddin Barani, 1357.
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5. Ansabe Alviyane Hind by Mufti Wasi Ahmad Alavi Qadri.
6. Tazkira-e-Muhammad bin Hanfia wa Aulade Imam Muhammad bin Hanfia by Maulana Afsar Alavi Qadri.
7. Tarikhe Ghaziyane Bahraich by Mufti Wasi Ahmad Alavi Qadri.
8. Qadimi Qalmi Shajra-e-Nasb Sadate Belkhara wa Mangraunda.

Closing Prayer

May Allah, through the blessings of His Beloved Prophet (PBUH), Hazrat Syed Salar Masood Ghazi, the Ahl-e-Bait, and all Awliya Allah and martyrs, 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.