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MEDIEVAL HISTORY OF PUNJAB

BATTLES OF GURU GOBIND SINGH JI

Battles of Guru Gobind Singh:

Guru Gobind Singh assumed Guruship in 1675 when he was only nine years old. He had to fight many battles against the hill Rajas and Mughals. His battles may be described under the following heads:

A. Battles of the Pre-Khalsa Period (1675-1699)

B. Battles of the Post-Khalsa Period (1699-1708)

Battles of the Pre-Khalsa Period (1675-1699):

1. Battle of Bhangani (1688): Guru Gobind Singh fought his first battle at Bhangani (situated on the bank of river Giri) (about 10kms from Paonta) in 1688. On the one side was Guru Gobind Singh and on the other side Raja Bhim Chand of Kahlur (Bilaspur) & other hill chiefs. Guru Gobind Singh came out victorious. After this battle Bhim Chand and other Rajput Rajas became friends of the Guru.

2. Battle of Nadaun (1690): As the hill Rajas had now refused to pay annual tribute to the Mughals a force was sent against them under Alif Khan. Guru Gobind Singh sided with the hill Rajas. A battle was fought in 1690 at Nadaun (situated on the banks of river Beas, about 30kms in the south of Kangra). In this battle, Alif Khan was defeated and the Guru and his allies carried the day.

Battles of the Post-Khalsa Period(1699-1708):

1.First Battle of Anandpur(1701): Two years after the creation of Khalsa(1699),Raja Bhim Chand and other hill chiefs attacked the fort of Anandpur.Guru Gobind Singh and his Sikhs offered a stout resistance.At last hill Rajas made a compromise with the Guru and later retired to the village Nirmoh.

2.Battle of Nirmoh(1702): In 1702 Raja Bhim Chand,with the assistance of the Mughal forces, suddenly attacked Nirmoh. The Guru Gobind Singh and his Sikhs gave a tough resistance,defeated the invaders and compelled them to retreat.

3.Battle of Basoli(1702): After the battle of Nirmoh,Guru Gobind Singh crossed the Satluj and went to Basoli on invitation from the Raja of that place.Raja Bhim Chand sent a force to pursue the Guru.In the battle that ensued at Basoli the Sikhs defeated the army of Bhim Chand. Now the Sikhs attacked the territory of Bhim Chand and captured **Kalmot**.

4.Second Battle of Anandpur(1704): On appeal from the hill Rajas,Wazir Khan,the Mughal Fauzdar of Sirhind,sent a big force for their assistance. The combined forces of Mughals and the Hill Chiefs undertook siege of the fort of Anandpur. After resisting the enemies for a long time, Guru Gobind Singh and his Sikhs had to leave the fort due to shortage of provisions. In the confusion that followed,the two younger sons of the Guru,Zorawar Singh and Fateh Singh got separated and fell into the hands of the Mughals;on

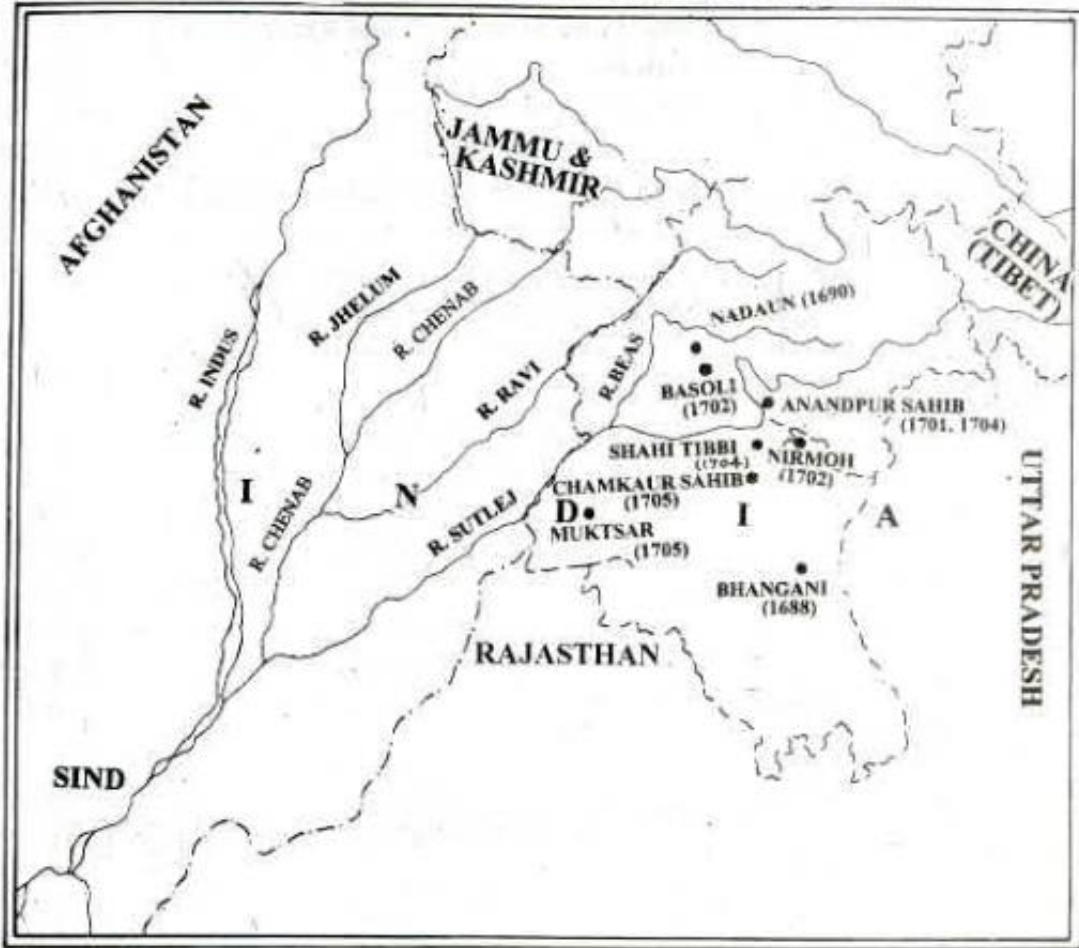
their refusal to embrace Islam they were bricked alive by the order of Wazir Khan.

5. Battle of Shahi Tibbi(1704): Hotly pursuing the enemies, Guru Gobind Singh ordered a Jatha of 50 Sikhs under the Udhai Singh to obstruct their advance. At Shahi Tibbi these Sikhs resisted the enemies and killed hundreds of them but all of them died fighting gallantly.

6. Battle of Chamkaur(1704): Having crossed the river Sarsa, Guru Gobind Singh went to Kotla Nihang Khan and from there to Chamkaur. Here he had to fight with the large Mughal force, while he had only 40 Sikhs on his side. The Sikhs inflicted heavy losses on the enemies but 35 of them, including the two elder sons of the Guru (Ajit Singh and Jhujhar Singh) died fighting heroically against the enemies. The Guru escaped in the darkness of the night.

7. Battle of Khidrana(1705): Traversing the jungles of Machhiwara, Dina and other places, Guru Gobind Singh reached Khidrana where his last battle with the Mughals was fought on 29th December, 1705. In this battle the Sikhs defeated the Mughals and won a grand victory but 40 of them (blessed as "Chali Mukte" by the Guru) lay martyrs at the battle-field. After this victory the Guru went to Talwandi-Sabo and from there proceeded to the Deccan.

**PUNJAB BEFORE 1947 A.D.
BATTLES OF GURU GOBIND SINGH JI**



Name of the Battle	Where	When	Between		Victor	Result
			One side	Other side		
Battle of Bhangani	Bhangani	1688	Guru Gobind Singh Ji	Raja Bhim Chand of Kahlur and other Hill Chiefs	Guru ji and His Sikhs	Bhimchand and other Rajput Rajas became friends of the Guru
Battle of Nadaun	Nadaun	1690	Guru ji and Hill Rajas	Alif Khan (Mughals)	Guru ji and Hill Rajas	Alif Khan was defeated
First Battle of Anandpur	Anandpur	1701	Guru ji and his Sikhs	Raja Bhim Chand of Kahlur and other Hill Chiefs	Guru ji and His Sikhs	Rajas made compromise and the Guru retired to Nirmoh
Battle of Nirmoh	Nirmoh	1702	Guru ji and His Sikhs	Raja Bhim Chand + Mughal Forces	Guru ji and His Sikhs	Defeat of invaders
Battle of Basoli	Basoli	1702	Guru ji and His Sikhs	Raja Bhim Chand	Guru ji and His Sikhs	Sikhs attacked the territory of Raja and captured Kalmot
Second Battle of Anandpur	Anandpur	1704	Guru ji and His Sikhs	Hill Chiefs and Mughal Forces under Wazir Khan	Hill Chiefs and Mughal Forces under Wazir Khan	Guru ji and His Sikhs had to leave fort and Zorawar & Fateh Singh were bricked alive
Battle of Chamkaur	Chamkaur	1704	Guru ji and His Sikhs	Mughal Forces	Mughal Forces	35 Sikhs including two sons Ajit & Jhujhar Singh died fighting heroically
Battle of Khidrana	Khidrana	1705	Guru ji and His Sikhs	Mughal Forces	Guru ji and His Sikhs	Sikhs defeated the Mughals but 40 of them (Chali Mukte) died fighting

QUESTION

Q 1) Battle of Nadaun was fought between?

- A. Guru Gobind Singh ji and Alif Khan
- B. Hill Rajas and Alif Khan
- C. Raja Bhim Chand and Hill Chiefs
- D. None of above

Q 2)."Kalmot'was captured by Sikhs,after defeating Raja Bhim Chand in the battle of?

- A. Battle of Khidranad
- B. Battle of Nirmoh
- C. Battle of Basoli
- D. Battle of Nadaun

Q 3)In which year First Battle of Anandpur was fought?

- A. 1690
- B. 1701
- C. 1688
- D. 1702

Q 4)Which of the following was the last battle of Guru Gobind Singh ji with the mughals?

- A. Battle of Khidranad
- B. Battle of Nirmoh
- C. Battle of Basoli
- D. Battle of Nadaun

ANSWERS

Q 1) – A

Q 2) – C

Q 3) – B

Q 4) – A