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# LITERATURE OF PUNJAB

# Punjabi Language

- Gurmukhi script used in writing Punjabi language
- Punjabi is an Indo-Aryan language.
- Indo-Aryan language spoken by over 100 million native speakers worldwide.
- It was introduced as an official language on 13 April 1968, under the Punjab Official Language Act, 1967.
- Eastern Punjabi is the language of Indian Punjabi, which has four sub-dialects:-
- Malvai
- Majhi
- Doabi
- Paudhi

### **CLASSICAL LITERATURE OF PUNJAB**

## SHEIKH FARID (BABA FARID)

Sheikh Farid is also known as 'Shakarganj'or Ganj-I-Shakar

(Treasury of Sugar).

Faridkot and Shekhsar are named after Baba Farid.

The great Arab traveller Ibn Batuta visted Sheikh Farid.

The poetry of Baba Farid is preserved in Guru Granth Sahib with 4 Shabads (hymns) and 112 Shalokas (couplets).

He is considered to be a pioneer of Punjabi literary tradition.

#### **BHAI GURDAS**

Bhai Gurdas completed the Adi Granth in 1604. It took him nearly 19 years to scribe.

His works in Punjabi collectively called Vaaran Bhai Gurdas.

His writings include :-

6 Chhands of 8 Verses each in Sanskrit

672 Kabits and 3 Swayyas in Brij Bhasha

40 Vaars containing 912 Pauris in Panjabi

### **SHAH HUSSAIN**

· He is considered a pioneer of the Kafi form of Punjabi poetry.

The symbols used in his Kafis are taken from the day to day life of a weaver.

· His Contributions include

Aakhir Pachhotanvengi Kuriye,

- · Aakh Ni Maye Aakh,
- · Aakhir Da Dam Bujh Ve Aria,
- · Aap Nu Pachhan Bande,
- · Amlan De Uppar Hon Nibera,
- · Hun Mattin Dendi Haan,

#### **BULLEH SHAH**

- · Punjabi Poetry of Baba Bulleh Shah consists of Kafian, Dohre, Baranmah, Athwara, Gandhan and Siharfian.
  - · His contributions include
  - · Aao Saiyo Ral Dio Ni Vadhai,
  - · Aa Sajan Gal Lag Asade
  - · Ab Lagan Lagi Ki Kariye
  - · Bullha Ki Jana Main
  - · Bullhe Nu Samjhavan Aayian Bhaina Te Bharjayian

#### **WARIS SHAH**

· Waris Shah is honoured as 'Shakespeare of Punjab' because of his greatest poetic love story 'HEER RANJHA'.

## **HASHIM SHAH**

- · Hashim Shah is best known for his story 'sassi punnu'.
- · He wrote three stories"Kissa Kaw" named Sassi Punnu, Sohni Mahiwal, and Shirin Farhad.