

Q. Give an account of the life and services of Shah Waliullah. How did he save the Indian Muslims from political annihilation and religious degeneration?

Shah Waliullah.

Introduction.

Qutub ud Din, famously known as Shah Waliullah, for his pious habits, was a Sufi who was sent as a shining star just before 4 years before the death of Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb. The death of Aurangzeb brought ahead his incompetent & Shah Waliullah received his early education from his father Shah Abdul Rahim, a famous Sufi, and from his grandfather. The education he received was about spiritualism, mysticism, Hadith, Tafsir and Ilm-ul-Kalam. He became Hafiz-e-Quran at an early age. For higher education, he went to Arabia and learned from the teachers of Makkah and Madina.

Background

The conditions of Muslim society in India after went into decline after the death of Aurangzeb. His incompetent successors could not handle the state. Their indulgence in luxuries of lives made them indifferent to the interest of the state. This impacted the Muslim society bitterly. Moreover, the sectarian issues between Muslims resulted in disunity among them and many religious problems were left unsolved in the sub-continent which was taken into consideration by Shah-Waliullah. His main concern was to remove the religious conflicts of the Muslim Ummah which was the result of their degeneration. The emerging

influence of Hindus and Britisher's power against Muslims was the other issue that Shah Waliullah worked on. He is generally regarded as the eye-witnessed of the Muslim decline.

Services of Shah Waliullah

Shah Wali's services are countless. He made numerous efforts to unite the Muslims and stabilize them in India. His valuable services are collectively called as Shah Waliullah Movements.

These are comprised of political, social, and religious works. For this, he is rightly regarded as Imam-ul-Hind; the leader of the Hind.

Religious Services.

According to Shah Waliullah, the reason behind Muslims' downfall is their departure from the ^{teachings} way of Deen-e-Islam. Muslims were at odds with one another on the basis of different interpretation of the same Book of Allah and His deen. He clearly understood what was needed to unite them again.

Translation Of the Quran into Persian

To Shah Waliullah, the main reason of Muslim's division ~~into~~ was ^{their} lack of Quranic understanding. Blindly following

the scholars blindly whose interpretation varied and resulted in disharmony among Muslim Ummah. So, to solve the issue, he translated the Holy Quran into Persian so that the Muslims could examine themselves where they were actually standing. Shah Waliullah was the first person to translate the Quran into another

Efforts to reunite Muslim Ummah.

The other step he took was his Magnum Opus "Hujatullah Al-Balighah", in which he tried to mitigate the differences by bringing together all the similarities between Shia muslims and Sunni muslims. He explained the rationality of Islam as a universal deen that has panacea for all problems of all times. He showed them the causes of their decline as they have abandoned Islamic teachings, their fall was destined. He moulded the perception of the believers with his multiple books which he wrote.

SM Ikram called him "The original thinker and the first Muslim who identified the cause of Muslims' decline".

Taqlid (introduction to moderation).

Shah Waliullah introduced a moderate approach to make a balance ^{among} between the four schools of thoughts - Hanafi, Hambali, Shafi, and Malaki. Thus, he is titled as "the Father and founder of

"modern Muslim India" A prominent scholar and historian Waleed ud Zaman describes his efforts in the terms of moderation. that "His approach was so liberal that it was difficult to know which school of fiqh he himself belongs". He also resolves the controversies between Wahdat-ul-wujood and wahdat-ul-shuhood, and law and mysticism.

Political Services of Shah Waliullah.

During those days, the political condition of Mughal Empire was unstable. Mughal Princes struggled for power, heavy taxes on the citizens, lack of experience, ~~in~~ ^{and} lack of concern for the state brought about independence of many small states and their separation from the Empire. ^{on the other hand,} The influence of Hindus and Marathas was emerging in the sub-continent.

Role of Crushing Maratha's Power

One of the major threats to the Islamic State of that time was the rise of Marathas and Sikhs, posing a serious threat to Muslim rulers. Due to the internal conflicts of the Princes and their ~~in~~ incompetence, crushing Marathas

and other non-Muslim forces was impossible. Shah Waliullah wrote letters to Ahmed Shah Abdali, the king of Afghanistan, to help them against their emerging power and in the Third Battle of Panipat, ~~the~~ he crushed Marathas' might.

Social services.

- ? The impact of Shah Waliullah services
- ✓ Shah Waliullah saved Muslims from degeneration and political annihilation

Due to Shah Waliullah's efforts, Muslims - who were on the verge of destruction, were saved. The religious conflicts; particularly sectarianism were reduced, disharmony of the Muslims ended into unity. With his Quranic translations, the right path of Islam was shown to them to implement. The state was saved from the threats of Marathas.

Sir/Ma'am, I apologize for this, but I am totally confused about what to write here.

Could you please guide me? I have already told ~~you~~ how his services protected Muslims. Kindly guide my shortcomings.