

QNO: How the reform movement of Shaikh Ahmed Sirhindi influenced the history of Muslim India?

Answer: Introduction:

Shaikh Ahmed Sirhindi was born on 26 June, 1564 (during Akbar Empire Tenure) and died on 1624 (during Jehangir tenure). He was also known as "Mujjid-Atif-Sani". He studied Hadith, Tafseer and Philosophy. He was an Islamic scholar and reformist (started first reform movement). The main purpose of this movement was to protect the identity of Muslims in Sub-Continent.

⇒ "Situation of Society during his time":

- People were engaged in unislamic - false practices.
- Practices against Sunnah was common.
- Akbar established a separate din of his called "Din-e-Fikhi".
- Jurists were not taking guidance from Prophet (P.B.U.H) Life or Quran but Akbar he did not allowed them to practice Islam.

⇒ Objectives of "Mujjid-Atif-Sani":

→ Improve political system during Mughal Empire:
Islam is a natural political system in every time and space.

- Protection of Identity.
- Reforms in Sufism.

"Letters of Mujjid - Alif - Sani":

He wrote Eighty letters to Emperors of that time Akbar and Jehangir.

Because He saw that not only muslims were engaged in false practices, but Hindus and Sikh were putting is check and balance on the growth of Islam via.

"Bhagti Movement":

Mobilizing hindu religious devotes to towns and villeges to check if people had influence towards Islam.

"Wahdat-ul-Shahood":

In response of this, Mujjid - Alif - Sani established his concept that man and God are different entities.

"Mujjid - Alif - Sani FF Posts":

→ He guided Muslims to practice true Islam by giving teachings of prayer and fasting and other practices.

→ He opposed An-e-Flahi.

→ Wrote letters to Jehangir, where he targeted his administrative policies, that its because of his wrong policies, Muslims can not spend life based on Islam. (Example: Banned teaching of Quran and Sunnah).

→ He then proposed a political structure to him, following were main points. (Example: Bowing in front of him).

→ Central Authority, should have rule on the basis of Islamic teachings.

→ Constitution (Based on Islamic preachings).

→ Suggested him to practice Islam and good attributes so, that people can follow Islam.

→ Conclusion :

- Sheikh Ahmed Sirhindi, as a great personality, and his preachings were the reaction of Akbar's propagated practices and his newly promulgated deen. Sheikh Ahmed Sirhindi openly discussed social, political and religious efforts by adopting true Islamic values and helped Muslims have a distinctive identity from Hindus. His efforts impacted the Indian-sub-continent sow the seeds of the "Two Nation Theory".