

~~1407~~ Shaikh Ahmad Sirhindi

Introduction

1st Reformer

- Revival of Islam
- Orthodox theory Elimination
- Baiti Moment

Political Reformer

- Letter to Jahangir
- Advisor on Religious basis.

Conclusion

Introduction:- According to SM Ikram he was "The most forceful and original thinker of Islam, before Shah Waliullah and Iqbal". Shaikh Ahmad Sirhindi was the first reformer of Islam, who eliminated the orthodox theory and introduced heterodox theory. Along with this wrote letter to Jahangir and condemn strongly his administration, ^{who} later on hired as a religious advisor there. Shaikh Ahmad Sirhindi gave renaissance to Islam in the tenure of Jalal-ud-din Akbar who had formed millennium alliances and intermixed both religions. After Shaikh Ahmad Sirhindi subsequent reformers came for Muslim's supreme identity protection. Every reformist demanded for two nation state and promoted the teachings of Shaikh Ahmad Sirhindi.

1st Reformer: Shaikh Ahmad Sirhindi was also known as Mujaddid-Alf-Sani, born in the era of Jalaluddin Akbar; 1564. He followed the practices of Naqshbandi and wrote many books for Muslims of Subcontinent. Jalaluddin Akbar introduced the concept of Zile-Ilahi (descendant of God) and formed millenium alliances in his tenure. He hired the ministers in his court, belonged to every religion (Christians, Jews, Muslims and Hindus) and ordered the practices of every religion. This is because of his Monarchy; did not want for rebellion was in his era against him. Shaikh Ahmad Sirhindi got disappointed from his all religious practices, so he gave theories against him and started preachings of Islam.

Shaikh Ahmad Sirhindi was anti-Suffist, he preached Muslims of Subcontinent to follow the practices of Quran & Sunnah and not to follow Sufism. Because the Muslims of that time ^{it} firmly believed in magics and tricks (Karamat) performed by Sufis and started worships them. Sufis who were very close to God and at the level, where they could feel presence of God everywhere. A lay ~~so~~ man misconcepted it and started

worship of any other thing.

Talaluddin Akbar because of this concept presented a theory called as wahdat-ul-wajood: "God is everywhere and everything is in God". He said declared himself infallible because of his name Akbar and thus ordered to worship everything because according to him God is in everything of this world. Shaikh Ahmed Sirhindi opposed this theory and presented heterodox theory called wahdat-ul-Shahood: "God created everything, but not present in every thing. Creator and creation are distinguished". This theory won the hearts of muslims and they condemn Akbar's theory.

Talaluddin Akbar started a moment "Bakti moment" in which he ordered because of his infallibility he is the descendent of God and his order is the order of God, so follow every religion and accept them so that peace remain maintained. Many scholars of hindus and muslims had not accepted this but were compel to follow - Shaikh Ahmad Sirhindi condemn this moment and demanded for two nation state where muslims and hindus can follow their religions - His preachings and books revived islam there.

Political Role:

He was not much indulged in politics but he was not pleased with the administration, which was run by Jahangir. He wrote letters to Jahangir and said their administration is not according to the teachings of Islam.

There should be an central authority, Constitution on the basis of Quran o Sunnah and Islamic principles. He condemn the corruption and accountability system. His open condemnation made

Jehangir furious and ordered to imprison him. But Shaikh Ahmad Sirhindi remain confident and ~~was~~^{remain} imprisoned for one year. After an year Jehangir felt resentment and ordered to release Shaikh Ahmad Sirhindi. and then hired him in his court as religious advisor.

Conclusion:

Shaikh Ahmad Sirhindi from his teenage life was very much religious this is because of his father somehow who opposed the practices of Jalaluddin Akbar a great king of that time and presented theories to condemn Akbar's theories. Because

of whom islam suppressed from other religions. His objective was to protect muslim supreme identity and to revive islam as a great religion. His theory wahdatus shahood played great role in his career and his books gave confidence to muslims for practicing islam. This is why he known as ist reformer of islam. His preachings paved way for other scholars to spread islam in subcontinent.