

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

Introduction:

Shah Waliullah was a noble man. He was proved as a reformist for the Muslims of subcontinent. In his time the Muslims had forgotten their real teaching of Islam. He not only worked for awakening of Muslims but also wrote some books to erode the conflicts of Muslim sects. Shah Waliullah significantly contributed in the religious, political, religious and also economic affairs. He was concerned about the degraded situation of Muslims in the sub-continent. He taught the Muslims to follow the actual teachings of Islam instead of teachings based on reasoning. He woke up the spirit of 'Jihad' among Muslims that had been faded away long time ago. After his death his two sons continued his work.

Life of Shah Waliullah:

Shah Waliullah was born in 1703 in a village near Delhi. He was a son of religious scholar Abdul Rahim. He got his early education from institute of his own father, named as Madrisa-Rahimiya. After getting his education, he went to Hajj with his some companions. There he stayed to get some more education about Quran and Hadees. He knew the situation of muslims in sub-continent, so he decided to work for them. Shah Waliullah always had concerns about muslims. He wanted to preach the real teachings of Islam to muslims, so that muslims could get the benefits of Islamic systems to make their lives better.

Services of Shah Waliullah:

Translation of Quran:

For the first time in the history of sub-continent Quran was translated into persian. and it was done by Shah Waliullah. persian was a common or national language at that time. He translated

The Quran purposely in Persian so that people could understand it easily in their native language and started their lives according to Islam.

Writings of Shah Waliullah

Shah Waliullah wrote many books for the welfare of Muslims.

Books

Al Fauz al Kabir
Mugadma fe Tajumatul Quran
Hajjat al Balighah
Shahrah Musaya
Shahrah Musawa.

His most famous work was:

Aqad-al-Jayid - fi - Akham-al-Ijtihad - wa - al-Tawhid.

Religious Services:

In his times the Muslims were fighting with each other. The situation was very bad. It became worse with the conflict of Shia and Sunni sects. He wrote books to remove the misconceptions between Muslims.

Political Services:

Politically muslims were weak. The Marathas, Sikhs and Jais were used to threaten them. Shah Waliullah made the muslims and gathered them on one page to fight against the atrocities of non-muslims. He started the Jihad.

Economic Services:

To strengthen the economic situation of muslims, he wrote Hujjat-ul-Balaghah. He proposed four principals of economy for its betterment.

Four principals:

It was a saying of Shah Waliullah that produce wealth, use wealth, share wealth and exchange wealth. The four principals were as follows:

The money should be given according to resources by the region.

Everyone should be provided according to their abilities.

The wealth should not be in few hands. It should be exchanged.

All these factors should be taken seriously.

He believed on the tax system but not in burdensome way.

He saved Indian Muslims

Political annihilation:

The Non-muslims like Marathas and Jais used to harm the muslims. Shah Waliullah got help from Nizam-ullah who was chief of Rohilla tribe and Shuja-Dullah, who was nawab of oudh and started Jihad against muslims.

Shah-Waliullah also asked for help from Ahmad Shah Abdali who was ruler of king.

Ahmad Shah Abdali defeated the Marathas in third battle of Panipat.

Religious Degeneration Shia-Sunni Conflict

Shia-Sunni conflict was at its peak during his time. He wrote a book to remove the misconception between these sects. The book was *Izalat-ul-Khaya* and *Khalifat-ul-Khulfa*.

Izalat-ul-Khaya & *Khalifat-ul-Khulfa*

This book was unique writing. There was no one before this in its field. In this book he clearly told about the real teachings and beliefs of *Khulfa*. He denied the misconception created by Shia sect. He proved by authentic references and left no space for sectarian conflicts.

Concept of *Ijtihad*

He also educated people to solve their problems by using *Ijtihad* (based on Islamic teachings) not *Taqleed* (that is merely based on reason).