

Q How the reform movement of Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi influenced the history of Muslim India?

### Introduction

Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi was a reformist in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. He was awarded by a title of **Mujadid Alif Sani** from his followers. The reason of why he was so praised was his reviving activities for the Islam. During his time, Islam faced many challenges. The Muslims had forgot the real teachings of Islam. As he was champion of Islam and got education about Quran and Hadiths for a longer period of his life. So, he took the responsibility to revive the real essence of Islam among the Muslims of Sub-continent. The Muslim emperor of the Sub-continent had distracted from the right path and along with him he started to install fake beliefs among his peoples.

Sheikh Ahmad Rakhimji Maududi  
a movement for revival and  
reforming the Society. He expressed  
great grief for this noble till his  
death.

### Life of Mujaddid Ahmadi:

He was born in 1864 in  
Sikind, India. His father  
was Sheikh Ahmad, who was  
an Islamic scholar. He focused  
on the upbringing of Sheikh Ahmad  
and educated him well.

### Education of Sheikh Ahmad

He got his early education  
from Sikind and Sialkot.  
He studied about Quran,  
Hadiths and Tafsir (Interpretation  
of Quran). He also studied  
philosophy and theology.  
Before coming into Delhi, he  
stayed in Lahore and  
became the champion of Islam  
there.

### Conversion of Sheikh Ahmad to Sufi order.

At the age of 36 he joined  
the Sufi order 'Nawshabadiya',  
under the guidance of Sufi



Baqar Billaah. Sheikh Ahmad had many differences with Abu-al-Fatih and said: on educational matters, Baqar Billaah said about him that he would be the light for the world.

### Situation of Sub-continent during 15th time:

During the 16th Century, especially during the tenure of King Akbar, the Islam had faced many problems. The emperor Akbar had announced a self-creating religion called **Deen-E-Ilahi**. It was influenced by Bahai movement started by Hindu religious scholars. Another issue that emerged during his time was **Mahadatul Maqbul**. Henry was so common that time. All these things clearly explained the situation or challenges faced by Islam at that time.

### Deen - E-Ilahi:

Emperor Akbar announced the Deen-E-Ilahi. The muslim scholars had been diverted from the real teachings of Islam. Even some muslim scholars

Keep this part brief because it is not asked

had allowed the gambling and alcohol. Fasting during Ramadan was allowed. Hajj was not considered the pillar of Islam. Hindu began to demolish Mosques and ridicule Islam. Muslims were taken away from affairs of state. Muslims were considered as orthodox and Islam was believed as religion of uneducated.

### Innocent of Mujaddid Alfanni against Deen-Elahi:

After the death of King Akbar. Sheikh Ahmad decided to be a reformist. He wrote letters to royal court about the false beliefs of Deen-Elahi. He was summoned in the court of King Jahangir (son of Akbar). He was asked about his letters and to bow down but he refused and said that bowing down after anyone instead of Allah was against the teaching of Islam. This angered the king and he punished him and imprisoned him for two years. He also wrote Khutbat (letters) and a book called **Asbat-e-Nabuwat** to deny the Deen-Elahi.

Add more arguments in efforts part



## Efforts of his Efforts:

In the prison he continued to preach Islam and consequently convert thousand Non-muslims to Islam. With the inspiration of his writings the King Jahangir ended his punishment and released him.

He gave him the title of **Khilat-e-Fakhira** and also respects. All Mughal Prayers the King would give him audience and he would discuss the issues of Islam with Jahangir. The Emperor advised his son to become a disciple of Sheikh Ahmad Rishidi.

## Mahad-U-Shahed against Mahedatul Kijad

Mokhammad-Ibn-Arabi gave the concept of Mahadulawajud, that means 'Unity of being'. He said that everything that exists is God. But Sheikh Ahmad referred him and proposed the concept of Mahadatul Shahud. For this purpose he wrote **Toheed-e-Shahadi**. He said God and his creation is different.

"To consider Lam and  
Rehman as one is stupidity  
because the Creator cannot  
be one as the creation."

(Sheikh Ahmad  
Sirhindī)

### Opposition to Heresy:

He educated people about  
heresy that every bid'at  
is forbidden in Islam.  
There is no concept of good  
and bad Heresy.

### Concept of Government:

He advised the emperor to stay  
away from politics. He  
considered the emperor as  
caretaker of the nation and  
state.

"King is like heart to the  
body, If heart is pure the  
body will be pure but if  
heart is not pure how the  
body could be pure."

### Oppose the unity of Nationhood

If you want to live like a  
nation, then you have to quit  
the talk of Bid'at and bid'at



and stay away from Hindus.  
If the clear awareness of  
national identity has not  
awakened the Muslims, it is  
feared that they would be  
fleeing away with flood of  
nationalism. Islam would  
be faded like Buddhism  
and Hinduism.

### Books:

Add more arguments

Asbat-Nabuwai  
Risal-e-Nabuwai  
Toheet-Shuhudi

### Conclusion:

Sheikh Ahmad Rihindi paved  
the way for the Muslims  
of sub continent to the right  
path. He opposed all means  
of false beliefs and faiths  
emerged during his time.  
He used his students to  
convey the message of Islam  
to different countries and  
cities of India. He revived  
the true essence of Islam.  
In short, he was a true  
reformer that's why called  
as Mujaddid Alfani - 'revival  
of second millennium!'