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Q No: 1

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



## 1 Introduction:

Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi was a renowned scholar of his Era. He was born in Sirhind, and he made immense efforts to revive the <sup>Islamic</sup> ~~Islamic~~ ~~principles~~ of Sub-continent. During his Era, the Muslim rulers and the masses were aloof from the Islamic principles and his efforts had left a great impact on the lives of Muslims and Muslim Society.

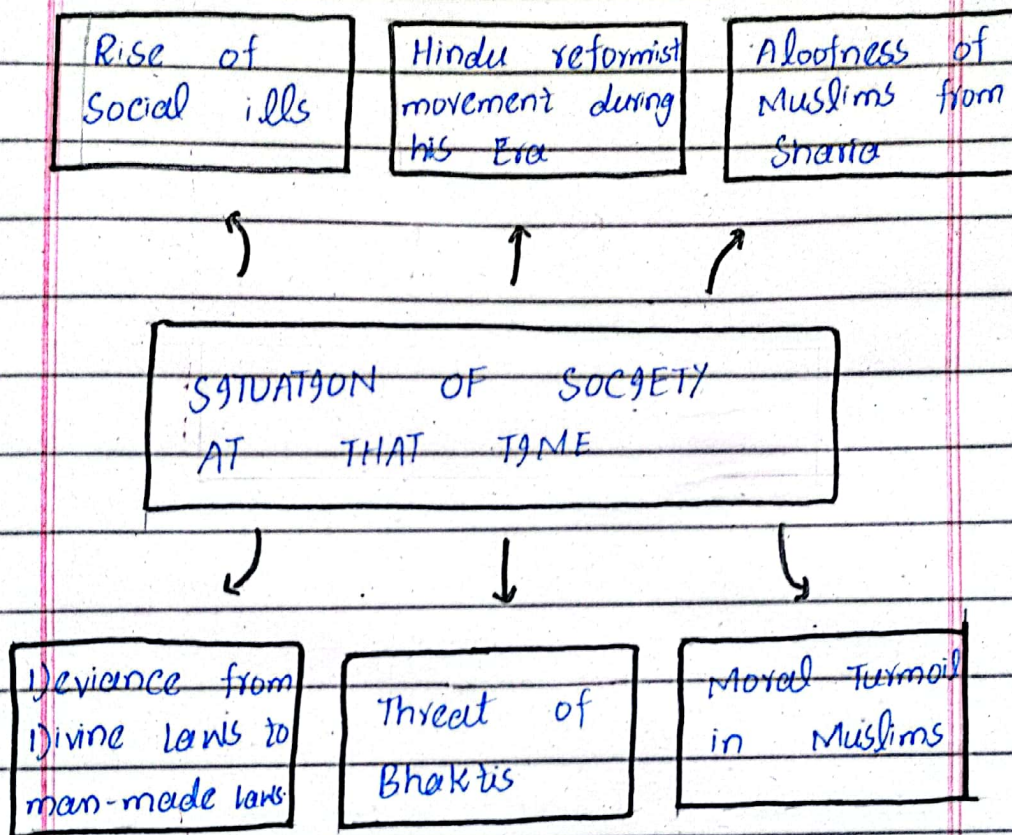
## 2 Life Sketch of Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi:-

Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi was born in Sirhind on 26 May, 1564. He was a descendant of the second pious caliph "Hazrat Umar Bin Khatab", for which he was called



"Farooqi". Due to his efforts for the revival of Islam he got title of "Mujadid Alif Saani"

### 3 The Need for his work:



### 4 Efforts by Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi:

Due to the downfall of Muslims and the rise of Hindu reformist movements



he started the religious reformist movement. First of all he made some literary efforts such as:

**Maktoobat:** He wrote letters to the Islamic rulers of the neighbouring countries and also wrote a book on spirituality which was "Maarfa-e-Raduniya". Moreover he worked for the true betterment of Islam, to end the social evils, to oppose assimilation and

#### 4 Impacts of his Efforts:- <sup>Deen-e-Esah</sup>

His efforts and work left behind long-lasting impacts on the Muslims in political, religious and social impact aspect.

##### (i) Political Impacts:-

→ Emergence of Muslim Nationalism:-

He openly negated the concept of assimilation and urged the Muslims that they



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Should not merge with  
the Hindus and they  
should protect their identities.  
He opposed the concept of  
Syncretism and he was succeeded  
in his efforts and the  
Muslims of that time felt  
that they are a separate  
nation and they should not  
adopt their way of living.

→ **Genesis of Two-nation  
theory:-**

He made the Muslims  
aware of the fact that  
Muslims are a separate  
nation and they should  
live as a separate  
nation. He openly negated the  
concept of "Wahdat-ul-Wajud".  
He was a strong advocate  
of Separateness of Muslims. He  
wanted Jizya to be reimplemented.  
Due to his efforts, Muslims  
maintained distance from Hindus.



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## 2 Religious Impacts:-

### (i) Reformation of mystics:-

To turn the better of society  
 Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi criticized  
 the concept of Bid'at. He  
 tried to convince the people  
 by citing the following verse  
 of Holy Quran;

"Today, I perfected the religion  
 for you and have completed  
 my favor upon you."

As a result the muslims  
 abandoned un-islamic practices  
 and man-made laws.

### (ii) Reformation of Society on true Islamic Principles:-

Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi reformed  
 the society on islamic principles.

He urged the muslims to  
 give up practices such  
 as bribery, riba, gambling etc.

In this way he was able to  
 reform ~~the~~ such a society which



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was free from all the social ills.

### 3 SOCIAL IMPACTS:-

Preserved the Community's faith and Beliefs:-

At his times Akbar promulgated a new belief "Din-e-Elahi". He stood against it and ~~can~~ helped the Muslims to get rid of these beliefs. Due to his efforts, he was imprisoned by the Mughal ruler Akbar. But he continued to work for the betterment of Muslims. It was he, whose efforts played a crucial role in fostering a strong connection between Muslims and Islam. He emphasized the importance of Islamic monotheism and rejected all the other beliefs.