



INTACH

GURUDWARAS OF INDIA
HAZUR SAHIB, NANDED



The Hazur Sahib Gurudwara is located on the banks of the River Godavari in the city of Nanded in Maharashtra. The Gurudwara within this complex is called the Sach-Khand (Realm of Truth). It is visited by lakhs of devotees around the year.

HISTORY



It was in this place where in September 1708, a Bairagi Sadhu Madho Dass was baptized to Sikhism and was given a new name Banda Singh Bahadur. This hero in the next seven years (1709-1715) brought a change in the history of the Sikhs by changing the very foundation of the Mughal Empire in the north-west. This paved the way for the liberation of Punjab in 1764-1765.

One of his disciples Bhai Santokh Singh was asked to stay at Nanded and to start “Guru Ka Langar” for the devotees.

Bhai Daya Singh and Dharam Singh, who were two of the Panj Pyare (five beloved ones) who had offered their heads at the guru’s call when the Khalsa was created in Kesgarh Fort of Anandpur Sahib on the Baisakhi day of 1699 and survived the battle of Chamkaur, had died here.

Maharaja Ranjit Singh commissioned the construction of a Gurudwara at the site where Guru Gobind Singh breathed his last. The completion of this Gurudwara took five years from 1832-1837. It is known as the Sachkhand Sri Hazur Abchal Nagar Sahib. This historical Gurudwara is one of the five Takhts (thrones).



ARCHITECTURE

The Gurudwara is a two-storey building. Its interior is designed in a style similar to that of Harmandir Sahib, Amritsar. The inner room called Angitha Sahib has walls covered with golden plates. The dome is polished and the kalash is made of gold plated copper.



The building is made on a high base and there is a small square room on the second floor which bears the gilded ribbed dome. The dome is topped with a tall pinnacle and umbrella shaped finial. There is also a basement with some rooms.

The Guru Granth Sahib is kept in the room in front of the sanctum only during the day time. At night, it is brought inside and placed on a marbled platform. During the day, some old weapons and relics such as a golden dagger, a matchlock gun, a quiver with thirty five arrows, two bows, a steel shield studded with precious stones and five golden swords are placed on the marble platform.

The entire complex comprises of the Takhat Sahib, two other shrines - Bunga Mai Bhago Ji and Angitha Sahib. The Bunga Mai Bhago Ji is the room where the Guru Granth Sahib is seated and the Angitha Sahib is the place for cremation.

When Guru Gobind Singh conferred Guruship on the holy Book, he named Nanded as Abchnagar (steadfast city). Thus, the word Sachkand (region of truth) was used to imply the abode of God.

ACTIVITY

A. Find the nearest Gurudwara in your region and find out the history behind its construction.

B. Find out how the Gurudwara plays an important role for the community. Have you been to a langar?

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REFERENCES

<https://hazursahib.com/Informations/History.aspx>

<https://www.incredibleindia.org/content/incredibleindia/en/destinations/nanded/sachkhand-sri-hazur-sahib.html>