

BHAI JAITA: SEES MARG NAUVI PATSHAHI

¹Ragini Sharma, ² Dr. Sukhjit Kaur Bhullar

¹Research Scholar, ²Assistant Professor

¹Department of History,

¹Guru Kashi University, Talwandi Sabo, Punjab, India

Abstract : Bhai Jaita was the chief attendant and a great General of Guru Teg Bahadur and Guru Gobind Singh. He belonged to Shudra caste. When Guru Teg Bahadur set forth to Delhi for sacrificing his head to save Hindu religion then Rangretta Bhai Jaita was also with him. Guruji got martyrdom by orthodox Mughal emperor when he refused to adopt Muslim religion. He was martyred on 1675 AD at Chandni Chowk, Delhi. Rangretta Bhai Jaita did not allow anyone to do discourtesy to Guru Ji's head. He returned to Anandpur on foot from Delhi to 'Baagpat', then he reached Trawadi, and at last Ambala. From here, Bhai Jaita with the sacred head of Guru Ji reached Nabha Sahib and with great efforts, he reached Kiratpur and afterwards Anandpur. The way through which Bhai Jaita passed by taking the severed head of Guru Ji, gurudwaras are established in the memory of him. Bhai Jaita performed his duty towards Gurus till his end time. Bhai Jaita proved this, when Sikhs of Delhi did not even show courage to say that they were Sikhs of the Guru.

IndexTerms - Bhai Jaita, Guru Teg Bahadur, Sees Marg, Guru Gobind, Martyrdom.

When Mughal rulers put Guru Teg Bahadur in prison then Guru Ji ordered Bhai Jaita to give information of all the activities to Anandpur Sahib. When Bhai Jaita requested to live with Guru Ji then Guru Ji said that you have to further do big tasks (Koer, 1986). The evidence of this talk is given by Harsa Singh Dhooopia in Lothname and he writes that, Guru Teg Bahadur rewarded Bhai Jaita with a boon (Biri Martaba). Sometimes Guru's family became doubtful that what is the secret behind this boon (Martaba). Even the doubt arose in Gobind Rai's own mind. "We used to think about his saying, what will he do that he is known as the hero and after his sacrifices all doubts were cleared (Harsa). When Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb asked Guru Teg Bahadur to be a Muslim then Guruji clearly told him that you are opposing your subjects, which is against Islam. The one follow any religion should do his duty to protect that religion. But due to this orthodox nature, he did not obey Guruji's advise and ordered to give martyrdom to him. Guruji was martyred on 11th November 1675 at Chandni Chowk in Delhi. Emperor had released an order that whoever will pick Guru Ji's head and trunk will be treated in the same manner. Rangrette (father and son) had taken the responsibility to carry the severed head and trunk. Bhai Jaita had already seen everything in disguise of Jamadar. He had conferred with his father "Sada Nand" and uncle "Agya Ram" in Kalyana's Dharamshala that, in place of Guru Ji's head and trunk they would put his own father Sada Nand's head and trunk (Sohanlal, 1976). Bhai Agya hurriedly carried the trunk and had cremated it in Kalyana's Dharamshala. Bhai Jaita wrapped Guru Ji's head in a handkerchief and from Delhi he set forth to Anandpur in the dark night. Bhai Jaita made great efforts to safely bring Guru Ji's head. He when departed from Delhi reached Baagpat (Uttar Pradesh) on 12, November 1675 AD.

Bhai Jaita covered total 52 km from Chandni Chowk to Baagpat on foot. Sufi Saint Shekh Hazrat had fame in area of Baagpat at that time. The followers of this Saint were both Hindu and Muslims. The Chief Officer of Chandni Chowk of Delhi, "Khwaja Abdul" that was present at the time of martyrdom of Guru Teg Bahadur. He was also the disciple of this Saint. Krishanpal was one of the Sewadar of Baba Hazrat. He told Krishan Pal to give shelter to Bhai Jaita. He also gave him food, and after resting for a short period helped him to cross Yamuna river.

From there, Bhai Jaita set forth towards Trawadi, Bhai Jaita was stepping forward very quickly. Through village Sisana, Nivara, Debra, Gaddu, Palda, Paldhi, Khewra, Bhalgarh, Punchi Gujran, Kalyana, Paddi Kalyana, Paunti, Smal Khan, Karhans, Marthali,

Chatipur, Khella, Parlادpur, etc. Bhai Jaita reached Sewah. At this time, it was raining and thunderstorm started, but Bhai Jaita had only one target that he could not allow to do discourtesy to Guruji's head (Rai Bhadur, 1968). From Panipat, Maulana, Haripur Khalsa, Kaimla Hari Singh Pura, Kalheri Barsat, Ghrona, Madhuvan, Kambopura, Karnal, Jhangeri, Bhai Jaita with the head of Guruji reached Dadupur. The soldiers of Aurangzeb were everywhere. But Bhai Jaita bravely and without any fear of death was setting forth to give proof of his Guru love. From here, Bhai Jaita tirelessly, went through Samgarh, reached Trawadi. At Trawadi Bhai Jaita stayed at the house of Deva Ram, disciple of Guru.

The distance of baagpat to Trawadi is about 82 km and Jaita completed this distance on foot. Jaita was a great Sikh of Guruji. From here Bhai Jaita went towards Ambala. Till now, he had covered total 137 km distance. From Trawadi, Bhai Jaita by Jarnaily road set forth towards Ambala. Trawadi where head of Guruji was kept at bhai Dewa Ram's house, there was Gurudwara Sees Asthan Patshahi Nauvi, after that this Gurudwara was named as Manji Sahib.

From there, he went through villages Enginethali, Barthal, Amin Pipali, Brada Baben, Khanpur Kolia, Duglan Masana, Khrindva Mehroli, Kishangarh, Shahbad Markanda, and reached Nawa Gaon. After that, he reached at villages like Jainpur Kalyana, Keski, Mouri, Mohra, Ghasrtpur, etc, from here, he arrived Ambala on 13 November 1675. His body needed rest so, Bhai Jaita rested under Jand Tree near Tangri river. Gurudwara Sat Sangat Sahib is established at this place of Jandawala. After resting for some time, Bhai Jaita reached at the place where Gurudwara Seesh Ganj is established (Fauja, 1976). From Trawadi, Gurudwara Sat Sangat Sahib is present at a distance of 65 km. From here, Bhai Jaita reached Kainth Majri, where he stayed for some time with Pir Sai Tuakal Shah Nakshbandi. On 14 November 1675 AD, Bhai Jaita started new chapter of his journey. Bhai Jaita had crossed the dangerous region and now no one could have doubt that what had been carried by the strange man. The planning of Bhai Jaita was very marvellous. They decided not to cross that regions where Muslim population was more. From Ambala and Devi Nagar, he crossed Ghaggar river. Passing through Rajgarh, Tapela, Basman, Palorchoi Sahib, Banood De Bahar, Bassi Isse Khan, Kurala, Khijhargarh Kanoj, Ajijpur, Rampur, Chatt etc he reached Nabha. On reaching at Nabha, he stayed at the shelter of Peer Dargahi Shah. The distance of Ambala to Nabha was 31 km. The shelter of Peer Dargahi Shah was in dense forest. Bhai Jaita rested in his shelter and guarded Guruji's head. At this place, Gurudwara Nabha Sahib is established (Fauja, 1976) on 15 November 1675, Bhai Jaita took permission from Peer and started their further journey. Peer Dargahi Shah gave message to Bhai Jaita and asked him to tell Guru Ji that he became very old and could not come to see (darshan) him. So, please give me grace by making an appearance before leaving my body. When Bhai Jaita told this to Guru Gobind, then after the war of Bhangani, Guru Ji went to Peer Dargahi Shah and fulfilled his desire. Here, Gurudwara Manji Sahib is established in memory of Guru Ji and nearby is the place of Dargah Peer Dargahi Shah. Bhai Jaita departed with the sacred head from Nabha to Anandpur Sahib. Starting from Nabha, he reached Dialpura, Nadiali. From here passing through Kandala and Budial, Bhai Jaita reached at village Fatehpur Mandarha. Here he stayed under a Peepal tree for some time.

At this place of Peepal, Gurudwara Sheesh Marag Patshahi Nauvi (nowadays, Sector 34 Chandigarh) is established. There he stayed near Kajhedi for some time where nowadays, Gurudwara Sheesh Marag sec 53 is established. From there, passing through Mohali and by crossing Rao river, he reached Balongi. From Balongi, he reached Mundi Kharar. Here, he

stayed for some time. At this place also, Gurudwara Sheesh Marag Patshahi Nauvi is established.

From here, Bhai Jaita outside of Kharad by crossing river Jainti reached village Dao Majra. Bhai Jaita was extremely tired, but his goal did not allow him to stop, due to which he set forth. Here, Dao Majra Gurudwara is established in memory of Ninth Guruji. From here, Bhai Jaita reached Sahorha village, then by passing through Lakhnour, Padijala, Chanalo, he crossed river Seesva outside of Kurali.

Muslim population was more in Kurali. So he walked outside of the village Kurali. Starting from here and passing through Ban Majra and Chitoula he reached Bhago Majra. From here, he reached village Chakla and then Bhagwant Pura. After crossing Budhki river, Bhai Jaita reached Rangeelpur and passing through Bheora, he crossed Sudhrao river and reached Kotla Nihang. After arriving in, he reached Khuaspura.

Next came Roper town, but due to more population of Muslim he did not enter there. He went through Malkpur and then reached Ahmedpur. When Bhai Jaita was near Kiratpur, a new enthusiasm was filled in his body. He began to feel that his desire will be fulfilled to hand over the head of Guruji to Guru Gobind Rai. Now Bhai Jaita by passing through Alipur and Ghanouli village, he crossed the river Sirsa and reached Sirsa Nangal. Then from the west of Bharatgarh, he crossed village Belia, Jhakhian, Ghardala, Banga, Dadhi, Kalyanpur, etc and through dirty roads, he reached Kiratpur in the evening. The distance from Nabha to Kiratpur through these villages was 82 km.

In this way, the journey from Delhi to Baagpat was very dangerous. It was full of danger, wild animals and was very difficult to cross many rivers. This type of journey was from Nabha to Kiratpur. The way from Baagpat to Ambala was little bit easy due to Jarnaili road, but it was not so easy because Bhai Jaita warned from enemies did not taken the easy way but he came through zig-zag, dusty rough roads and reached Kiratpur.

This Rangretta Sikh had not taken any rest and without being afraid from rain, thunder and difficult paths He. got relief on reaching his destination, Kiratpur. Bhai Jaita completed that difficult journey, thanked God and gave message to Guru Gobind Rai that he had reached Kiratpur with the head of "Hind di Chadar", Guru Teg Bahadur.

Bhai Jaita on reaching Kiratpur washed the head of Guru Ji with rose petals. Guru Gobind Rai was waiting for Bhai Jaita to bring the severed head of Guru Ji. This news developed the mourning environment in Anandpur and all started weeping. But, Guru Gobind Rai stopped everyone to do this and told them to stay in Guruji's sayings. From Anandpur Guru Gobind Rai with Mata Gujri and Bebe Nanki and other Sikh Sangat set forth (SK, 2011) toward Kiratpur. After reaching Kiratpur, Guruji took the head of Guru Teg Bahadur from Bhai Jaita and blessed him with the name "Rangretta Guru Ka Beta". The court poet of Guru Gobind Rai explained this time in this way-

"Lai Aaya Satguru Peh Rakhi Kussa Bichaye|
Yodha Sees Gulab sou Preet Kari Adhikaye
Majbi Uppar Satgur, Aisi Kirpa_keej
Shri Amritsar Taal Ke Bahi Chauthi Deen
Ikatha Kar Chandan Adhik Leeni Chita Benaya
Satgur Deena Daag Nij Uppar Sees Dharaye (Gurmukh, 1991)

Guru Gobind Rai was about to think to cremate Guruji's head in Kiratpur. When Bebe Nanki said that, my son had sacrificed his life to protect Hindu religion. So, his cremation should be done in Anandpur Sahib. So, as said by Bebe Nanki, the head was brought to Anandpur respectfully. On the way, Sangat was doing jaap.

Guruji's head was carried in palanquin. The other people were after that palanquin by doing Kirtan, set from Kiratpur to Anandpur. Taking the head of Guruji, passing through villages like Nakiya, Badhal, Medhna, Matour, Lodhipur, etc the whole Sangat reached Anandpur. Maternal uncle Kirpal Chand made reverence to the head of Guruji. After this, with palanquin, the whole Sangat reached Gurudwara Sees Ganj. The palanquin was put down at the place made for it after removing from Bhai Jaita's head. All the people saw the holy head with great reverence. Then the logs of woods were arranged for the cremation ceremony. The head was cleaned in rose water, Chandan woods were used for cremation. Then with full respect, the head was Guruji was cremated. In this gathering, the informer of Aurangzeb was also present. He informed Aurangzeb that a man named Bhai Jaita had taken the severed head from Chandni Chowk, Delhi to Anandpur. This made the emperor very angry. He ordered to bring Bhai Jaita in front of him because he had disobeyed him and insulted him. He himself would cut his head with his own sword.

This incident made Aurangzeb sleepless. He also released an order that whoever helped Bhai Jaita in bringing the head of Guruji from Delhi to Anandpur must be punished severely. He ordered his governors and Ahelkars to keep an eye on every activity of the Sikhs.

In this way, Bhai Jaita proved his dedication for Guru and brought Guruji's head from Delhi to Anandpur. That path was not so easy and was full of difficulties and Mughal informers were present at every nook and corner. But a Sikh had proved himself by obeying his Gurus. In this way, Bhai Jaita covered the distance of 337 km on foot.

REFERENCES

1. Koer Singh, 1986. Gur Bilas Patshahi 10, ed. Shamsheer Singh Ashok, Publication Bureau, Punjabi University, Patiala, , pp 53
2. Harsa Singh Dhoopia, Lothnama , pp 110-111
3. Sohan Lal Suri, 1976. Umdat-ul-Tuarikh: Guru Teg Bahadur Farsi Sarot, ed. Piar Singh, G.N.D University, Amritsar, pp 95
4. Rai Bahadur Khanaiya Lal, 1968. Twarikh-E-Punjab, Publication Bureau, Punjabi University, Patiala, pp 32.
5. Dr Fouja Singh, 1976. Guru Teg Bahadur Yatra Sathan, Parampravan and Yad Chinh, Punjab Itihas Adhyan Vibhag, Punjabi University, Patiala, , pp 271
6. Dr Fouja Singh, 1976. Guru Teg Bahadur Yatra Sathan, Parampravan and Yad Chinh, Punjab Itihas Adhyan Vibhag, Punjabi University, Patiala, , pp 274-275
7. Gyani Gian Singh, 2011. Twarikh Gur Khalsa ed. S.K. Raju Bhasha Vibhag, Punjab, pp 757
8. Kavi Kankan, 1991. Sankshep Gur Katha, ed. Dr Gurmukh Singh, Raghbir Rachna Parkashan, Chandigarh, pp 59