

UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

CNC-II/093/1/EC-1276/25/14

Dated: 30.07.2025

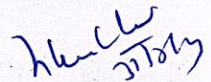
**NOTIFICATION**

**Sub: Amendment to Ordinance V**  
**(ECR 24-6/ dated 12.07.2025)**

Following addition be made to Annexure-II-A to the Ordinance V (2-A) of the Ordinances of the University;

**Add the following:**

The syllabus of a Generic Elective Course namely "Sikh Martyrdom in Indian History (c.1500-1765)" offered by the Centre for Independence and Partition Studies based on Undergraduate Curriculum Framework 2022 is notified herewith for the information of all concerned as per ***Annexure-1***.



**REGISTRAR**

Based on Undergraduate Curriculum Framework 2022

Centre for Independence and Partition Studies (CIPS)

# **UNIVERSITY OF DELHI**

## **UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES OF STUDY**

### **STRUCTURE, COURSE & SYLLABI OF GE COURSE**



Disclaimer: The syllabi are uploaded as provided by the Faculty concerned to the Academic Council.  
The same has been approved by the Academic Council on ..... and Executive Council on ....

**COURSE OFFERED BY CENTRE FOR INDEPENDENCE AND PARTITION  
STUDIES (CIPS)**

**COMMON POOL OF GENERIC ELECTIVES (GE) COURSES**

**(For all the Generic Elective courses)**

**GENERIC ELECTIVES**

**Sikh Martyrdom in Indian History (c. 1500-1765)**

**CREDIT DISTRIBUTION, ELIGIBILITY AND PRE-REQUISITES OF  
THE COURSE**

| Course title &<br>Code                               | Credits | Credit distribution of the<br>course |          |                        | Eligibility<br>criteria                         | Pre-<br>requisite of<br>the<br>course<br>(if any) |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|----------|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
|                                                      |         | Lecture                              | Tutorial | Practical/<br>Practice |                                                 |                                                   |
| Sikh Martyrdom in<br>Indian History<br>(c.1500-1765) | 4       | 3                                    | 1        | 0                      | Class 12 <sup>th</sup><br>pass in any<br>stream | Nil                                               |

| Total<br>No.<br>Credits | Distribution of total credits |                       |                        | No. of<br>Hours of<br>Lectures | No. of<br>Hours of<br>Tutorials | No. of Hours of<br>Practicles | Total Hours of<br>Teaching |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
|                         | Lecture<br>(Credits)          | Tutorial<br>(Credits) | Practical<br>(Credits) |                                |                                 |                               |                            |
| 4                       | 3                             | 1                     | 0                      | 45                             | 15                              | 0                             | 60                         |

**Credits: 4**

**L/T/P= 3/1/0**

**Course Objectives:**

- To understand the historical context entwined with state policies and evolving Sikh community across time and space.
- To understand key historical instances of Sikh martyrdom.
- To throw light on the moral basis of emergent struggle by Sikhs to resist religious persecution and offer resistance through martyrdom.
- To understand ideas that crystalized in instances of resistance against hegemonic state oppression.

**Learning Outcomes:** Upon completion of course, students shall understand:

- Existing gaps in the emergent historiography on the Mughal state and society in particular and Indian history in general.
- Hitherto neglected social-religious history of martyrdom (among/of) Sikhs.
- Develop critical understanding on evolving society in Indian history with specific focus on Sikhs.
- To understand the nature of written and visual sources in constructing historical narratives.

**Unit I: Sikhism: The Historical Context****(12 Hours)**

- (A) Evolution of Sikhism
- (B) Mughal State and Society: Punjab
- (C) Concept of Martyrdom and Martyrdom in Sikhism
- (D) Sikhs under Sikh Gurus: From Guru Nanak Dev to Guru Ramdas

**Unit II: Saga of Martyrdom****(11 Hours)**

- (A) Hegemonic Mughal State and Repression
- (B) Guru Arjan Dev: Life and Martyrdom
- (C) Responses to state Policies: From Guru Hargobind to Guru Harkrishan
- (D) Guru Tegh Bahadur: Life and Martyrdom, Bhai Mati Das, Bhai Sati Das, Bhai Dayala

**Unit III: Path of Struggle****(11 Hours)**

- (A) Life of Guru Gobind Singh: Sant Sipahi
- (B) Battle of Chamkaur: Martyrdom of Sahibzada Ajit Singh and Sahibzada Jujhar Singh
- (C) Martyrdom of Chhote Sahibzadas- Sahibzada Zorawar Singh and Sahibzada Fateh Singh
- (D) Rise of Banda Singh Bahadur: Battles and Martyrdom

## **Unit IV: Other Sikh Warriors, Martyrdoms and Spaces of Devotion and Valour (11 Hours)**

- (A) Bhai Mani Singh, Baba Deep Singh, Bhai Bota Singh
- (B) Bhai Taru Singh and Haqiqat Rai
- (C) Mai Bhago and Bibi Anoop Kaur
- (D) Sri Harmandir Sahib, Anandpur Sahib, Sirhind, Gurdwara Sis Ganj, Gurdwara Rakab Ganj, Lohgarh Fort

- During Tutorials the class room teaching will be supplemented with trip to historical spaces and screening of visual Resources films/documentaries etc.

### **Essential / Recommended Reading List**

#### **Unit I: Sikhism: The Historical Context**

The mentioned sub-rubrics in this unit shall introduce students to hitherto neglected history of Sikh community in context of Mughal State. The focus on historiography of Sikh martyrdom will enrich students with multi-layered dimensions of historiography.

1. Grewal, J. S., The Sikhs of the Punjab, the New Cambridge History of India, II: 3 Cambridge University Press, Revised edition 1999, PP. 63-81
2. Khushwant Singh, A History of the Sikhs Vol 1: 1469-1839, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1999.

#### **UNIT II: Saga of Martyrdom**

This rubric by focusing on historical context shall explore the processes connected with policies of rulers towards Sikh Gurus. The attitude of hegemonic State shall help to contextualize the historic specifics revolving around the martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev And Guru Tegh Bahadur.

3. Ganda Singh, Guru Arjan's Martyrdom: Reinterpreted, Patiala: Guru Nanak Mission, 1969
4. Harbans Singh, Guru Tegh Bahadur, New Delhi: Sterling Publications, 1982.

#### **Unit III: Path of Struggle**

The forging of Sikh identity by Guru Gobind Singh by organising community and by opposing the misdeeds of the Mughal State shall be focused & explored in this unit.

It will help students in understanding the struggle of Sikhs under Guru Gobind Singh, their battles, Martyrdom of Sahibzadas, the rise of Banda Singh Bahadur, his victorious wars and his martyrdom.

5. Ganda Singh, Life of Banda Singh Bahadur based on Contemporary and Original Records, Patiala: Publication Bureau Punjabi University, 1990.
6. Harbans Singh, Guru Gobind Singh: Revised Edition, New Delhi: Bhai Vir Singh Prakashan, 2016.

## Unit IV: Other Sikh Warriors, Martyrdoms and Spaces of Devotion and Valour

This unit by focusing on few prominent Sikh warriors shall delineate nature of their struggle in encountering religious bigotry of Mughal rulers and foreign invaders.

The focus on sacred and historical spaces including oral shall expose students to the evolving historiography on Martyrdom based on lived historical experiences.

7. Data, Piara Singh, *The Great Sikh Martyrs*, Revised and edited by S.P. Sinha, Delhi: National Book Shop, 1988.
8. Malhotra, Karamjit K. *The Eighteenth Century's Sikh History: Political Resurgence, Religion and Social Life and Cultural Articulation*, Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2016, pp. 18-58.

### Suggested Readings

1. Allah Yar Khan Jogi, *Ganj-i-Shaheedan*, sikhiwiki.org
2. Guru Gobind Singh, *Bichitra Natak*, English translation, Source: [www.discover.sikhism.com](http://www.discover.sikhism.com)
3. Grewal, J. S. and Irfan Habib, *Sikh History from Persian Sources*, Khalsa Tercentenary Celebration, New Delhi: Tulika, 2001
4. Harbans Singh, Chief Editor, *The Encyclopaedia of Sikhism*, Vol. I: A-D, Patiala: Punjabi University, 1992.
5. Harbans Singh, Chief Editor, *The Encyclopaedia of Sikhism*, Vol. II: E-L Patiala: Punjabi University, 1996.
6. Harbans Singh, Chief Editor, *The Encyclopaedia of Sikhism*, Vol. III: M-R, Patiala: Punjabi University, 1997.
7. Harbans Singh, Chief Editor, *The Encyclopaedia of Sikhism*, Vol. IV: S-Z, Patiala: Punjabi University, 1996.
8. Narang, Gokul Chand, *Transformation of Sikhism*, 1912, Internet [arcgives.org](http://arcgives.org)
9. *Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri*, Translated by Alexander Rogers and edited by Henry Beveridge, internet [archives.com](http://archives.com)
10. Documentaries on Historical Sikh forts and Gurdwaras.
11. Bhagat Lakshman Singh, *Sikh Martyrs*, Madras: Ganesh & Co., 1923.
12. Fenech, Louis E., *Martyrdom in the Sikh Tradition: Playing the Game of Love*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2002, Chapter 1 (Introduction), pp. 1–33.
13. Gagandeep Singh, *A Short History of the Guru Nanak's Halimi Raj (c. 1469-1716)* New Delhi: Mittal Enterprises, 2024, pp. 1-48.
14. Giani Bhajan Singh, *Sade Shaheed (Biographical Sketches of the Sikh Martyrs)*, Amritsar: Singh Brothers, 1991
15. Sagoo, Dr. Harbans kaur, ed. *Life, Times and Achievements of Banda Singh Bahadur*, Delhi: Manpreet Prakashan, 2012.
16. Manmohan (Ed.), *Guru Tegh Bahadur: The Great Redeemer (Life, Philosophy and Martyrdom)*, Shimla: Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, 2024.
17. Pashaura Singh, *Life and work of Guru Arjan: History, Memory and Biography in the Sikh Tradition*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2006.
18. Trilochan Singh, *Guru Tegh Bahadur: Prophet and Martyr (A Biography)*, Delhi: Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, 1967
19. Gaur, Ishwar Dyal, *Martyrs as Bridegroom: A Folk Representation of Bhagat Singh*, London, Delhi: Anthem Press, 2008, Chapter 2, pp. 24–33.

20. Grewal, J.S., Recent Studies in Debates in Sikh Studies: An Assessment, Delhi: Manohar, 2011, Chapter 9, pp. 188–216.
21. Marwah, Jaswant Singh (Lt. Col. Retd.), Sikhi Ki Hai (What is Sikhism), New Delhi: Gurmat printing Press Paharganj, 1991.
22. Mohinder Singh (Ed.) Sikh Forms and Symbols, Delhi: Manohar Publication, 2024
23. Sangat Singh, Sikhs in History, Amritsar: Singh Brothers, 1995.
24. Sagoo, Harbans Kaur (Ed.) Sikh Shahadat da Sankalap Te Parampra, Delhi: Manpreet Prakashan, 2013
25. Uberoi, J.P.S., Religion, Civil Society and the State, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1999, Chapter 4, pp. 83–111.

**\*(Note: Teachers are free to recommend additional related standard source books, if required so.)**

**Note:** Examination scheme and mode shall be as prescribed by the Examination Branch, University of Delhi, from time to time.