

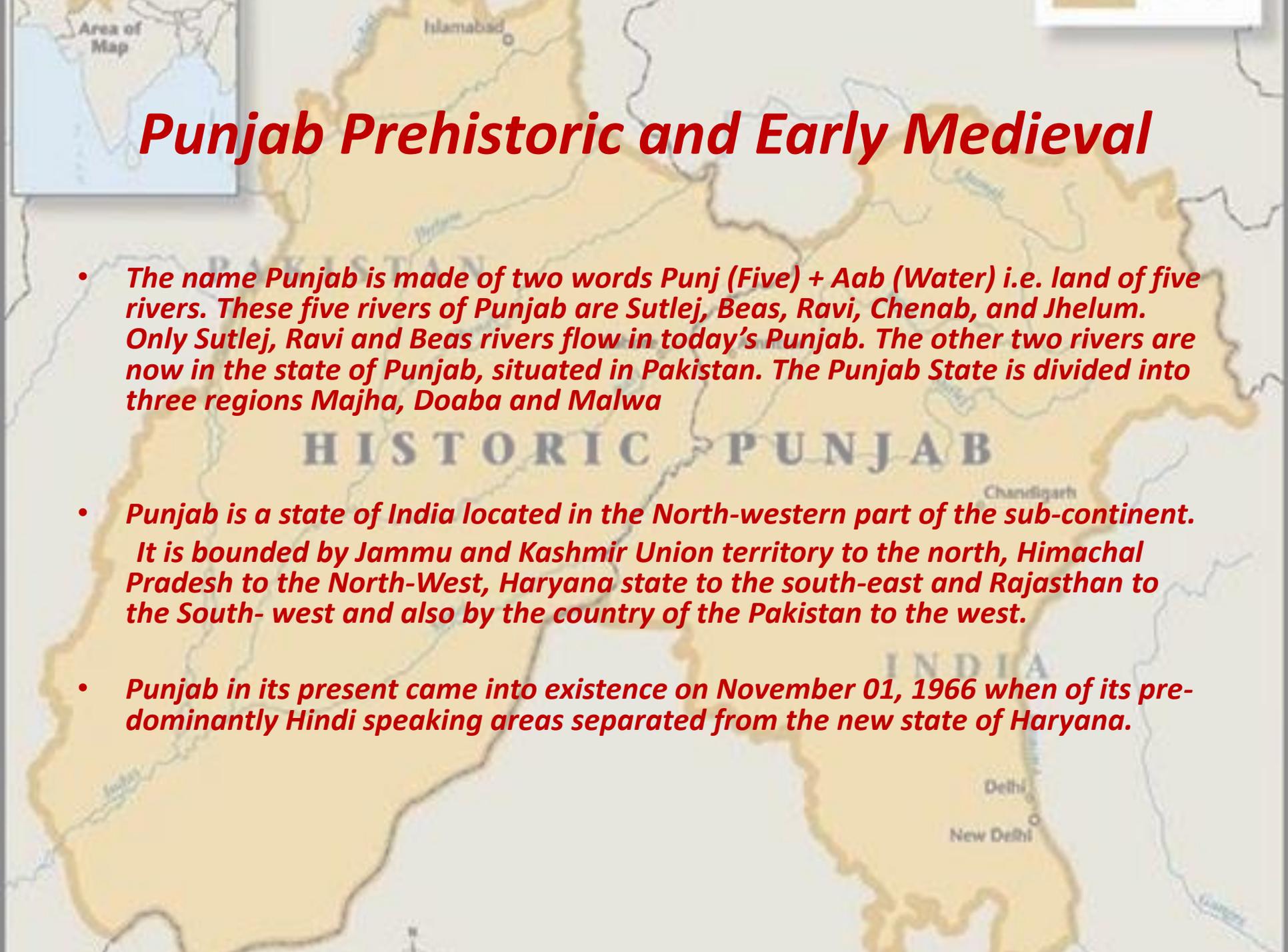
***“Khalsa College Amritsar”
A Heritage Marvel.***

***By Prof. Mandeep Dua
Head of the Department Fine Arts***

Working as Assistant Professor in Government College for Girls Ludhiana, Punjab.

Email : prof.mandeep35@gmail.com

Contact : 9501422004



Punjab Prehistoric and Early Medieval

- The name Punjab is made of two words Punj (Five) + Aab (Water) i.e. land of five rivers. These five rivers of Punjab are Sutlej, Beas, Ravi, Chenab, and Jhelum. Only Sutlej, Ravi and Beas rivers flow in today's Punjab. The other two rivers are now in the state of Punjab, situated in Pakistan. The Punjab State is divided into three regions Majha, Doaba and Malwa***
- Punjab is a state of India located in the North-western part of the sub-continent. It is bounded by Jammu and Kashmir Union territory to the north, Himachal Pradesh to the North-West, Haryana state to the south-east and Rajasthan to the South- west and also by the country of the Pakistan to the west.***
- Punjab in its present came into existence on November 01, 1966 when of its predominantly Hindi speaking areas separated from the new state of Haryana.***

Maharaja Ranjit Singh “Sher-e-Punjab”

- ***Mahajaja Ranjit Singh (1780-1839), built the Punjab region into the powerful Sikh kingdom and attached to the adjacent provinces of Multan Kashmir and Peshawar all in Pakistan.***
- ***Maharaja Ranjit Singh, popularly known as Sher-e-Punjab or "Lion of Punjab", was the first Maharaja of the Sikh Empire, which ruled the northwest Indian subcontinent in the early half of the 19th century. He survived smallpox in infancy but lost sight in his left eye***
- ***A rich and vibrant painting of Maharaja Ranjit Singh also known as the Lion of Punjab in royal attire sitting on his regal throne. The rich upholstery depicts the wealth and status. He successfully United the various Sikh groups and other local kingdoms into one Sikh Kingdom.***

Amritsar “Holly city”

- **Amritsar was founded by Sri Guru Ramdass ji, the fourth guru of the Sikhs in about 1574 A.D. Before the city was founded, the area was covered with thick forests and had several lakes. To start the city the Guru invited 52 traders from different sectors belonging to nearby places like Patti and Kasur to settle here. These families started the first 32 shops in the city which still stand in the street called Batisi Hatta (32 shops). The Guru himself shifted to live among them in the city which came to be called Ramdaspur and has been eulogised in the Guru Granth Sahib.**
- **The best example of Indo-British architecture however, is the Khalsa College, designed by the famous architect Ram Singh, a resident of Cheel Mandi, Amritsar. His works include the Darbar Hall of Queen Victoria at Osborne House, UK the Darbar Hall of Mysore and Kapurthala, Chiefs College at Lahore and several other outstanding examples of Indo-British Architecture. He was the pioneer in taking the exquisite Pinjara Wood work and wooden carvings of Amritsar and making them popular all over the world.**
- **The Heritage Walk show cases some exquisite wood work and traditional architecture. The city is the cultural capital of Punjab today.**

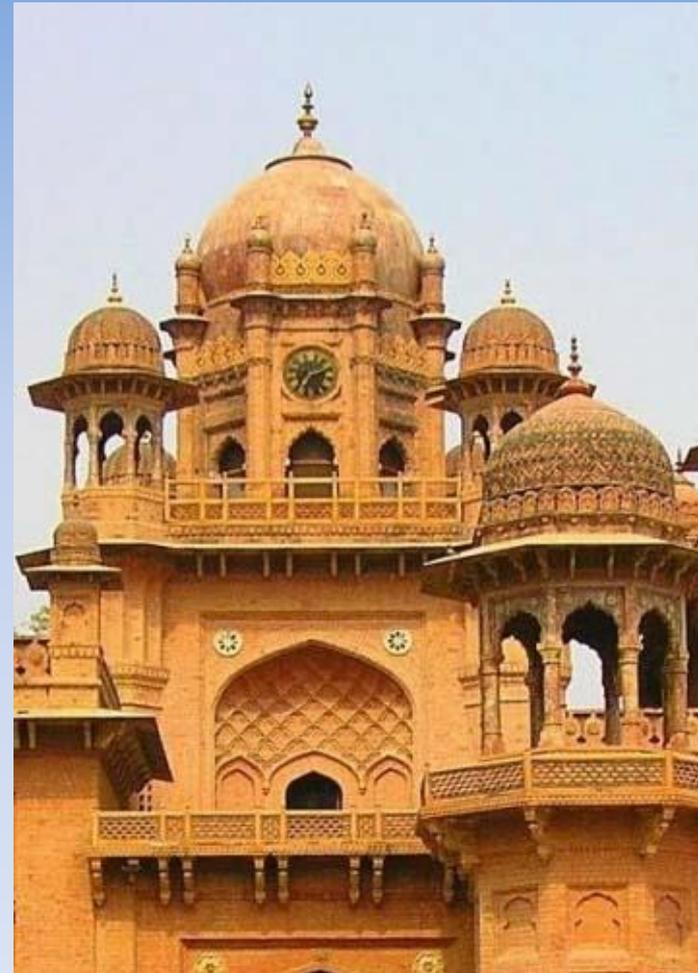
Historic Khalsa College in Amritsar

- The Khalsa College was designed and created by Bhai Ram Singh, a famous architect founded in 1892.
- The construction was started in 1904 and it took seven years to complete the college building (1911).
- The college has Mughal style architecture and is a major attraction for not only locals, but tourists from all over the world.
- It took seven years to build the historic Khalsa College in Amritsar, which is the oldest educational institute in the region.
- The 126-year-old Khalsa College was conferred the status of a heritage institute by the UGC in 2017. The bird-eye view of the building which is a combination of Mughal, Sikh & Victorian architecture.

Architecture of Khalsa College

Dome -upturned lotus

- 1. The main building is considered to be a gem of the Indo- Sarcenic style, which is influence by traditional India and Mughal school of Architecture.*
- 2. College is decorated with dome which is the front of the entrance with upturn lotus and flat from up- words which is similar to the Golden Temple.*



Balconies and Pillars

Balconies are designed with long galleries, in which we can see pillars,

Beautiful carving is done on the pillars

An arch is made on the pillars which is also a British Architecture, further the arch has supported by the railing.



Windows

In Architecture we find window with arched pillars which enhance the beauty.

Windows are supported by brackets and also there is projection in front of these windows.

The windows are in half flower shape.

The entrance is decorated with these windows which are made with Jallies.





Multiple domes Chattries

On the top is decorated with big and small domes at various angles and corners.

It's shape is in form of Lotus further is decorated Chattries and a Spire.

The whole beauty of the architecture of this College is based on those multiple dome and Chattries.

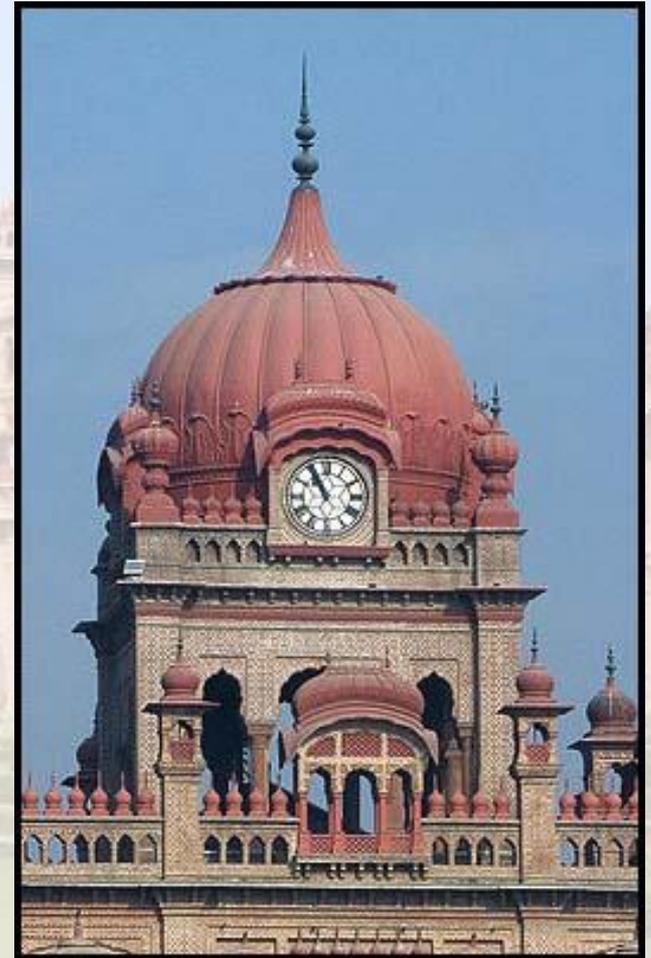
Other Features Library

- **The college library is rich in its collection over 6000 thousand books with new and old manuscripts.**
- **In addition there are 150 artefacts depicting the Sikh history. Including the ancient weapons, picture of Maharaja Ranjit Singh and arrange of painting in a collage.**
- **There is a separate Research and Reference Section, Periodicals and Magazine Section and General Reading Section. It subscribes to 103 Journals, 36 Magazines and 21 daily newspapers. Besides this it has procured 4502 back volumes of the subject journals for Post Graduate and Research Sections. The Library collection is well classified, catalogued and kept on OPEN SHELVES in a systematic way. There is also a vocational guidance centre as an allied branch of the Central Library and sectional libraries for the departments of Agriculture, Biotechnology, Botany, Chemistry, Commerce, Computer Science, English, Physics, Physiotherapy, Political Science and Zoology, Special Collection in Sikh History Research Centre**
- **The library is dedicated to Prof. Gurbachan Singh Talib, The Padma Bhushan awardees, who translate Shri Guru Granth Sahib Ji to English.**

Clock watch

The 83-year-old British clock installed on top of the main building was repaired recently. It has remained non-functional for more than 13 years now. While the central clock has been restored with its original parts, there are two other vintage clocks that have been kept in the museum and converted into digital clocks.

The college also has a British era clock, the oldest cricket stadium in north India and several residential quarters that date back to the British era.



Entertainment

- **Khalsa College has featured in several prominent Bollywood and Hollywood films, including Aishwarya Rai Bachchan's *Bride and Prejudice* and Shahrukh Khan's *Veer-Zaara* and *Rab Ne Bana Di Jodi*.**
- **Some famous alumni of Khalsa College include former leader and Chief Minister of Punjab Partap Singh Kairon, Olympian Balbir Singh Sr, writer Bhisham Sahni, Mulk Raj Anand, freedom fighter and communist leader Sohan Singh Josh. The contemporary alumni include popular Punjabi singers and actors Amrinder Gill and Ranjit Bawa.**
- **The college also has a British era clock, the oldest cricket stadium in north India and several residential quarters that date back to the British era**

Conclusion

- **Khalsa College, Amritsar built as an educational institute during the British raj in India, when Sikh Scholars thought about providing higher education to the Sikh's and Punjabis with in Punjab.**
- **Lastly the Khalsa College Architecture work on the ceiling of the main hall, Italian marble pillars at the entrance and huge French glass frames and rosewood work on the windows.**
- **The stairway in front of the main entrance to the building is over 120 year old and is carved is in Victorian style of Architecture so the Khalsa college Architecture is the combination British and Mughal style.**

Thanks and regards

Prof. Mandeep Dua

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